

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

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012
OR

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

For the transition period from to
Commission file number 1-10804

XL GROUP

Public Limited Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ireland
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)
No. 1 Hatch Street Upper, 4th Floor,
Dublin 2, Ireland
(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

98-0665416
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

+353 (1) 405-2033
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:

| Title of each class | Name of each exchange on which registered |
|---|--|
| Ordinary Shares, Par Value \$0.01 per Share | New York Stock Exchange |
| XLIT Ltd. 5.75% Senior Notes due 2021 | New York Stock Exchange |

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT:

None

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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

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.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of the voting common equity of the registrant held by non-affiliates of the registrant on June 30, 2012 was approximately \$6.4 billion computed upon the basis of the closing sales price of the ordinary shares on June 30, 2012. For purposes of this computation, ordinary

shares held by directors and officers of the registrant have been excluded. Such exclusion is not intended, nor shall it be deemed, to be an admission that such persons are affiliates of the registrant.

As of February 25, 2013, there were outstanding 294,958,080 Ordinary Shares, \$0.01 par value per share, of the registrant.

Documents Incorporated By Reference

Portions of the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this report relating to the annual meeting of ordinary shareholders to be held on April 26, 2013 are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

XL GROUP PLC
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This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains “Forward-Looking Statements” as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such Forward-Looking Statements are set forth herein under Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” and Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” under the caption “Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.”

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

History

XL Group plc, through its subsidiaries, is a global insurance and reinsurance company providing property, casualty and specialty products to industrial, commercial and professional firms, insurance companies and other enterprises on a worldwide basis. We were incorporated with limited liability under the Cayman Islands Companies Act on March 16, 1998, as EXEL Merger Company. XL Capital Ltd was formed as a result of the merger of EXEL Limited and Mid Ocean Limited on August 7, 1998, and the company was named EXEL Limited on that date. At a special general meeting held on February 1, 1999, the shareholders of EXEL Limited approved a resolution changing the name of the company to XL Capital Ltd.

EXEL Limited and Mid Ocean Limited were incorporated in the Cayman Islands with principal operations in Bermuda in 1986 and 1992, respectively. On June 18, 1999, XL Capital Ltd merged with NAC Re Corp. (“NAC”), a Delaware corporation organized in 1985, in a stock merger.

On July 25, 2001, we acquired certain Winterthur International insurance operations (“Winterthur International”) to extend its predominantly North American-based large corporate insurance business globally.

Effective January 1, 2002, we increased our shareholding in Le Mans Ré from 49% to 67% in order to expand our international reinsurance operations. On September 3, 2003, we exercised our option to buy the remaining 33% from Les Mutuelles du Mans Assurances (“MMA”) and changed the name of Le Mans Ré to XL Re Europe S.A. On October 18, 2006, we received approval to form a new European company, XL Re Europe Ltd, based in Dublin, Ireland, which is licensed to write all classes of reinsurance business. XL Re Europe Ltd is the headquarters of the company’s European reinsurance platform with branch offices in France and the United Kingdom (the “U.K.”).

On August 4, 2006, we completed the sale of approximately 37% of our then financial guarantee reinsurance and insurance businesses through an initial public offering of 23.4 million common shares of Syncora Holdings Ltd. (“Syncora”) (formerly Security Capital Assurance Ltd. or “SCA”). On June 6, 2007, we completed the sale of an additional portion of Syncora’s common shares still owned by the company through a secondary offering and thereby reduced its ownership of Syncora’s outstanding common shares further from approximately 63% to approximately 46%. On August 5, 2008, we closed an agreement (the “Master Agreement”) with Syncora and its subsidiaries, as well as certain counterparties to credit default swap agreements, in connection with the termination of certain reinsurance and other agreements. As part of the Master Agreement, we transferred all of the shares we owned in Syncora to a trust and, as a result, have no further ownership interest in the company.

On July 1, 2010, XL Group plc, a newly formed Irish public limited company (“XL-Ireland”) and XL Capital Ltd (now known as XLIT Ltd.), an exempted company organized under the laws of the Cayman Islands (“XL-Cayman”), completed a redomestication transaction in which all of the ordinary shares of XL-Cayman were exchanged for all of the ordinary shares of XL-Ireland (the “Redomestication”). As a result, XL-Cayman became a wholly-owned subsidiary of XL-Ireland. On July 23, 2010, the Irish High Court approved XL-Ireland’s creation of distributable reserves, subject to the completion of certain formalities under Irish Company law. These formalities were completed in early August 2010. For further detailed information on this transaction and its impacts on shareholder rights, shareholders’ equity, debt and notes then outstanding and employee stock plan awards, see the company’s Report on Form 8-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on July 1, 2010.

For periods prior to July 1, 2010, unless the context otherwise indicates, references herein to the “Company”, “we”, “us” or “our” are to, and the Consolidated Financial Statements herein include the accounts of, XL-Cayman and its consolidated subsidiaries. For periods on and subsequent to July 1, 2010, unless the context otherwise indicates, references herein to the “Company”, “we”, “us” or “our” are to, and the Consolidated Financial Statements herein include, the accounts of, XL-Ireland and its consolidated subsidiaries.

See further information under Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

Segments

We are organized into three operating segments: Insurance, Reinsurance and Life operations. Our general investment and financing operations are reflected in Corporate.

We evaluate the performance of both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments based on underwriting profit and the performance of the Life operations segment based on its contribution to net income. Other items of our revenue and expenditure are not evaluated at the segment level for reporting purposes. In addition, we do not allocate investment assets of our property and casualty (“P&C”) operations to the other segments. Investment assets related to our Life operations and certain structured products included in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments are held in separately identified portfolios. As such, net investment income from these assets is included in the contribution from each of these operations.

The following table sets forth an analysis of gross premiums written by segment for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010. Additional financial information about our segments, including financial information about geographic areas, is included in Item 8, Note 4, “Segment Information,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Gross Premiums Written | | | Percentage Change | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Insurance | \$ 5,166,974 | \$ 4,824,665 | \$ 4,418,380 | 7.1 % | 9.2 % |
| Reinsurance | 2,008,156 | 2,073,619 | 1,842,951 | (3.2)% | 12.5 % |
| Life operations | 355,754 | 394,555 | 411,938 | (9.8)% | (4.2)% |
| Total | <u>\$ 7,530,884</u> | <u>\$ 7,292,839</u> | <u>\$ 6,673,269</u> | <u>3.3 %</u> | <u>9.3 %</u> |

Insurance Segment

General

Our insurance operations are organized into four business groups: International Property and Casualty, North America Property and Casualty, Global Professional Lines and Global Specialty Lines.

Our insurance operations provide customized insurance policies for complex corporate risks that may require large limits and are marketed and distributed through a wide variety of local, national and international producers. Large deductibles and self-insured retentions are incorporated into these policies to further manage risk along with stringent underwriting guidelines. While our insurance operations are known for insuring large complex risk, certain of our products are targeted to small and midsize companies and organizations, such as our professional liability and program business. We focus on those lines of business that we believe will provide the best return on capital over time.

The Insurance segment’s most significant operating legal entities in 2012 based on revenues were as follows: XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Specialty Insurance Company, Indian Harbor Insurance Company, Greenwich Insurance Company and XL Insurance America, Inc., as well as certain Lloyd’s syndicates.

The excess nature of many of our insurance products, coupled with historically large policy limits, results in a book of business that can have losses characterized as low frequency and high severity. As a result, large losses, though infrequent, can have a significant impact on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. We attempt to mitigate this risk by, among other things, using strict underwriting guidelines, effective risk management practices (e.g., monitoring of aggregate exposures) and various reinsurance arrangements, as discussed below.

International Property and Casualty (“IPC”)

IPC includes the following lines of business: property, primary and excess casualty and environmental liability.

Property and casualty products are typically written as global insurance programs for large and medium sized multinational companies and institutions and include property and liability coverages. Property and casualty products generally provide large capacity on a primary, quota share or excess of loss basis. Global insurance programs are targeted to large multinational companies in major industry groups including aerospace, automotive, consumer products, pharmaceutical, pulp and paper, high technology, telecommunications, transportation and basic metals. The primary casualty programs generally require customers to take large deductibles or self-insured retentions. For the excess business, our liability attaches after large deductibles, including self insurance or insurance layers provided by other companies. Policies are written on an occurrence, claims-made and occurrence reported basis. Our property business, which also includes construction projects, is short-tail by nature and written on both a primary and excess of loss basis. Property business includes exposures to man-made and natural disasters, and generally, loss experience is characterized as low frequency and high severity.

Environmental liability products include pollution and remediation legal liability, general and project-specific pollution and professional liability, and commercial general property redevelopment and contractor's pollution liability. Business is written for both single and multiple years on a primary or excess of loss, claims- made or, less frequently, occurrence basis. Targeted industries include environmental service firms, contractors, healthcare facilities, manufacturing facilities, real estate development, transportation and construction.

North America Property and Casualty ("NAPC")

NAPC includes the following lines of business: property, primary and excess casualty, environmental liability, excess and surplus lines, construction, surety and program business.

In addition to the property, casualty and environmental products described under IPC, the NAPC business unit also includes 100% property products for the large account risk engineered markets and general liability, U.S. workers' compensation and auto liability for the risk management accounts, which require customers to take large deductibles or self-insured retentions.

Excess and surplus lines products include general liability property, excess auto and excess liability coverages where most Insurance Services Office, Inc. ("ISO") products are written. Targets include a variety of classes, including rail roads with focus on "one-off" risks generated by contracted wholesale brokers.

Construction products include property coverages (builders risk, contractors equipment, property and inland marine), general liability, U.S. workers compensation and commercial auto, as well as professional liability for contractors and owner, excess umbrella, subcontractor default insurance and primary casualty wrap ups.

Surety products include contract bonds, including bid, performance, payment and contractor qualification bonds, as well as commercial surety bonds, including appeal, court and qualification bonds. Products in general provide large capacity and are written on a sole surety, co-surety or shared surety basis.

Our program business specializes in insurance coverages for distinct market segments in North America, including program administrators and managing general agents who operate in a specialized market niche and have unique industry backgrounds or specialized underwriting capabilities. Products encompass mostly property and casualty coverages.

Global Professional Lines ("Professional")

Professional includes directors' and officers' liability, errors and omissions liability, employment practices liability and technology and cyber liability coverages. Policies are written on both a primary and excess of loss basis. Directors' and officers' coverage includes primary and excess directors' and officers' liability, employment practices liability and company securities and private company directors' and officers' liability. Products are targeted at a variety of different sized companies, with a heavy concentration on small to medium-sized firms when written on a primary basis. Employment practices liability is written primarily for very large corporations on an excess of loss basis and covers those firms for legal liability in regard to the treatment of employees. Errors and omissions coverage is written on a primary and excess basis.

Errors and omissions insurance written on a primary basis is targeted to small and medium-sized firms and coverage is provided for various professional exposures, including, but not limited to, architects and engineers, insurance brokers, consultants, lawyers, public entities and real estate agents.

Global Specialty Lines (“Specialty”)

Specialty includes the following lines of business: aviation and satellite, marine and offshore energy, fine art and specie, equine, product recall, political risk and trade credit and North America inland marine.

Aviation and satellite products include comprehensive airline hull and liability, airport liability, aviation manufacturers’ product liability, aviation ground handler liability, large aircraft hull and liability, corporate non-owned aircraft liability, space third party liability and satellite risk including damage or malfunction during ascent to orbit and continual operation, and aviation war. Aviation liability and physical damage coverage is offered for large aviation risks on a proportional basis, while smaller general aviation risks are offered on a primary basis. Satellite risks are generally written on a proportional basis. The target markets for aviation and satellite products include airlines, aviation product manufacturers, aircraft service firms, general aviation operators and telecommunications firms.

Marine and offshore energy coverage includes marine hull and machinery, marine war, marine excess liability, cargo and offshore energy insurance. Fine art and specie coverages include fine art and other collections, jewelers block, cash in transit and related coverages for financial institutions. Equine products specialize in providing bloodstock and livestock insurance. Product recall coverages include product contamination for the food and beverage sector and end-product consumer goods and product guarantee aimed at component part manufacturers.

In 2011, we launched underwriting capabilities for political risk and trade credit as well as North America inland marine business.

Also included as part of the Insurance segment is XL Global Asset Protection Services (“XL GAPS”), a fee for service loss prevention consulting service that offers individually tailored risk management solutions to risk managers, insurance brokers and insurance company clients operating on a global basis. Services are offered on an “unbundled” (services not tied to an insurance contract) and “bundled” basis.

Underwriting

We underwrite and price most risks individually following a review of the exposure and in accordance with our underwriting guidelines. Most of our insurance operations have underwriting guidelines that are industry-specific. We seek to serve our clients while controlling our exposure on individual insurance contracts through terms and conditions, policy limits and sublimits, attachment points and facultative and treaty reinsurance arrangements on certain types of risks.

Our underwriters generally evaluate each industry category and subgroups within each category. Premiums are set and adjusted for an insured based, in large part, on the industry group in which the insured is placed and the perceived risk of the insured relative to the other risks in that group. Rates may vary significantly according to the industry group of the insured as well as the insured’s risk relative to the group. Our rating methodology for individual insureds seeks to set premiums in accordance with claims potential as measured by past experience and future expectations, the attachment point and amount of underlying insurance, the nature and scope of the insured’s operations, exposures to loss, including natural hazard exposures, risk management quality and other specific risk factors relevant in the judgment of our underwriters to the type of business being written.

Underwriting and loss experience is reviewed regularly for, among other things, loss trends, emerging exposures, changes in the regulatory or legal environment as well as the efficacy of policy terms and conditions.

As our insurance products are primarily specialized coverages, underwriting guidelines and policy forms differ by product offering as well as by legal jurisdiction. Liability insurance is written on both a primary and excess of loss basis, on occurrence, occurrence reported and claims-made policy forms. Occurrence reported policies typically cover occurrences causing unexpected and unintended personal injury or property damage to third parties arising from events or conditions that commence at or subsequent to an

inception date, or retroactive date, if applicable, and prior to the expiration of the policy provided that proper notice is given during the term of the policy or the discovery period. Claims-made policies typically cover only claims made during the policy period or extended reporting period and are generally associated with professional liability and environmental coverages. Traditional occurrence coverage is also available for restricted classes of risk and is generally written on a follow-form basis for excess of loss coverage, where the policy adopts the terms, conditions and exclusions of the underlying policy. Property insurance risks are written on a lead or follow-form basis that usually provides coverage for all risks of physical damage and business interruption. Maximum limits are generally subject to sublimits for coverage in critical earthquake and flood zones, where we seek to limit liability in these areas.

Engineering

Property engineering for our insurance operations includes conducting on-site inspections and consulting services related to loss prevention, reviews of building plans for fire protection design, Computer Assisted Drawings (diagrams) of facilities, recommendations on how to improve site protection, reviews of existing loss prevention reports/information for underwriters, summarizing multiple sources of information into an account summary, and providing underwriters an opinion on the risk to assist with risk selection, pricing and other underwriting decisions. The property engineering team consists of staff located in over 20 countries.

Other engineering resources support casualty, environmental, specialty and construction lines and serve as internal consultants to their respective underwriting teams, assisting them with making underwriting decisions, as well as helping their customers improve their local site or account protection.

Reinsurance Ceded

In certain cases, the risks assumed by us in the Insurance segment are partially reinsured by third party reinsurers. Reinsurance ceded varies by location and line of business based on a number of factors, including market conditions. The benefits of ceding risks to third party reinsurers include reducing exposure on individual risks, protecting against catastrophic risks, maintaining acceptable capital ratios and enabling the writing of additional business. Reinsurance ceded does not legally discharge us from our liabilities to the original policyholder in respect of the risk being reinsured.

We use reinsurance to support the underwriting and retention guidelines of each of our subsidiaries as well as to control our aggregate exposure to a particular risk or class of risks. Reinsurance is purchased at several levels ranging from reinsurance of risks assumed on individual contracts to reinsurance covering the aggregate exposure on a portfolio of policies issued by groups of companies. See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," for further information.

Premiums

Premium rates and underwriting terms and conditions for all lines of business written vary by jurisdiction principally due to local market conditions, competitor product offerings and legal requirements.

The following table provides an analysis of gross premiums written, net premiums written and net premiums earned for the Insurance segment for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | | | 2011 (1) | | | 2010 (1) | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned |
| Professional | \$ 1,460,025 | \$ 1,395,704 | \$ 1,350,328 | \$ 1,377,560 | \$ 1,278,724 | \$ 1,287,231 | \$ 1,412,131 | \$ 1,306,441 | \$ 1,316,173 |
| Casualty | 1,726,226 | 1,238,280 | 1,157,909 | 1,504,203 | 1,035,458 | 998,326 | 1,317,203 | 888,045 | 879,287 |
| Property | 782,337 | 483,682 | 489,743 | 858,839 | 499,622 | 464,576 | 699,453 | 414,140 | 416,806 |
| Specialty | 892,086 | 738,650 | 708,564 | 871,562 | 723,048 | 702,604 | 828,101 | 709,793 | 682,518 |
| Other (2) | 306,300 | 216,197 | 218,096 | 212,501 | 170,812 | 210,990 | 161,492 | 142,731 | 234,354 |
| Total | \$ 5,166,974 | \$ 4,072,513 | \$ 3,924,640 | \$ 4,824,665 | \$ 3,707,664 | \$ 3,663,727 | \$ 4,418,380 | \$ 3,461,150 | \$ 3,529,138 |

(1) Certain reclassifications have been made to conform to current year presentation.

(2) Other includes excess and surplus, surety, structured indemnity and certain other discontinued lines.

Competition

We compete globally in the property and casualty insurance markets. Our competitors include the following companies and their affiliates: The ACE Group of Companies (“ACE”); Allianz SE (“Allianz”); American International Group, Inc. (“AIG”); Factory Mutual Global (“FMG”) for property only; The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. (“Hartford”); Lloyd’s of London Syndicates (“Lloyd’s”); The Chubb Corporation (“Chubb”); The Travelers Companies (“Travelers”); and Zurich Financial Services Group (“Zurich”).

Our major geographical markets for our property and casualty insurance operations are North America, Europe and Bermuda. Our main competitors in each of these markets include the following:

North America – AIG, ACE, Chubb, FMG, Zurich, Travelers, CNA Financial Corporation, Hartford, Liberty Mutual Group, Arch Capital Group Ltd (“Arch”), W.R. Berkley Corporation, Markel Corporation and Lloyd’s.

Europe – Allianz, AIG, FMG, Zurich, AXA Insurance Ltd. (“AXA”), ACE, Lloyd’s, Assicurazioni Generali, HDI-Gerling Industrie Versicherung AG and MAPFRE S.A.

Bermuda – ACE, Allied World Assurance Company, Axis Capital Group, Alterra Capital, Endurance Specialty Insurance Ltd and Arch.

Marketing and Distribution

The majority of business in our Insurance segment originates via a large number of international, national and regional producers, acting as the brokers and representatives of current and prospective policyholders. This channel is supported by our Global Distribution and Network Unit, which consists of sales and marketing representatives in key markets throughout the world, representing all of our products in collaboration with the four business groups. A portion of Insurance segment business is also marketed and underwritten by general agents and a portion by independent agents acting on our behalf. Typically, all such producers, general agents and independent agents receive commission payments from us for their services, which are calculated as a percentage of the gross premium paid by the policyholder on an account-by-account basis. A certain portion of business originating from producers is submitted on a fee basis under which the producer is compensated by a fee paid to it by its policyholder client. From time to time, we also consider requests for commissions from a producer, with disclosure by the producer to the policyholder-client, where the producer receives a fee from the policyholder-client. We evaluate such requests on a case-by-case basis.

We consider requests for contingent commission arrangements where such additional commissions are based upon the volume of bound business originated from a specific producer during a prior calendar year where legal and appropriate. Such arrangements are distinct from program business where additional commissions are generally based on profitability of business submitted to and bound by us.

With regard to excess and surplus lines business, we receive submissions from licensed wholesale surplus lines brokers.

We have no implied or explicit commitments to accept business from any particular broker, and neither producers nor any other third party have the authority to bind us, except in the case where underwriting authority may be delegated contractually to selected general agents. Such general agents are subject to a financial and operational due diligence review prior to any such delegation of authority and we conduct ongoing reviews and audits as deemed necessary with the goal of assuring the continuing integrity of underwriting and related business operations. See Item 8, Note 17(a), “Commitments and Contingencies – Concentrations of Credit Risk,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for information on our major producers.

Apart from compensation arrangements established with producers in connection with insurance transactions, we also have engaged, and may in the future engage, certain producers or their affiliates in consulting roles pursuant to which such producers provide access to certain systems and information that may assist us with our marketing and distribution strategy. In instances where we engage producers in such consulting roles, we may compensate the relevant producers on a fixed fee basis, a variable fee basis based

upon our usage of the systems and information proffered, or through a combination of fixed and variable fees.

Claims Administration

Claims management for our insurance operations includes the review of initial loss reports, administration of claims databases, generation of appropriate responses to claims reports, identification and handling of coverage issues, determination of whether further investigation is required and, where appropriate, retention of claims counsel, establishment of case reserves, payment of claims and notification to reinsurers. With respect to the establishment of case reserves, when we are notified of insured losses, our claims personnel record a case reserve as appropriate for the estimated amount of the exposure at that time. The estimate reflects the judgment of claims personnel based on general reserving practices, the experience and knowledge of such personnel regarding the nature of the specific claim and, where appropriate, advice of counsel. Reserves are also established to provide for the estimated expense of settling claims, including legal and other fees and the general expenses of administering the claims adjustment process.

Claims in respect of business written by our Lloyd's syndicates are primarily notified by various central market bureaus. Where a syndicate is a "leading" syndicate on a Lloyd's policy, its underwriters and claims adjusters will work directly with the broker or insured on behalf of itself and the following market for any particular claim. This may involve appointing attorneys or loss adjusters. The claims bureaus and the leading syndicate advise movement in loss reserves to all syndicates participating on the risk. Our claims department may adjust the case reserves it records from those advised by the bureaus as deemed necessary.

Certain of our product lines have arrangements with third party administrators to provide claims handling services to us in respect of such product lines. These agreements set forth the duties of the third party administrators, limits of authority, protective indemnification language and various procedures that are required to meet statutory compliance. These arrangements are also subject to audit review by our relevant claim department.

Reinsurance Segment

General

Our Reinsurance segment is structured geographically into Bermuda operations, North American operations, European/Asia Pacific operations and Latin American operations.

This segment provides casualty, property risk, property catastrophe, marine, aviation, treaty and other specialty reinsurance on a global basis with business being written on both a proportional and non-proportional basis and also on a facultative basis. Our lines of business within the reinsurance segment continue to focus on those that provide the best return on capital. For our Reinsurance segment, given challenging market conditions and the changing economic environment experienced since 2008 this resulted, in certain instances, in a greater emphasis being placed on short-tail lines of business.

Business written on a non-proportional basis generally provides for an indemnification by us to the ceding company for a portion of losses, both individually and in the aggregate, on policies with limits in excess of a specified individual or aggregate loss deductible. For business written on a proportional basis, including on a "quota share" or "surplus" basis, we receive an agreed percentage of the premium and are liable for the same percentage of each and all incurred loss. For proportional business, the ceding company normally receives a ceding commission for the premiums ceded and may also, under certain circumstances, receive a profit commission based on performance of the contract. Occasionally this commission could be on a sliding scale depending on the loss ratio performance of the contract. Our casualty reinsurance includes general liability, professional liability, automobile and workers' compensation. Professional liability includes directors' and officers', employment practices, medical malpractice and environmental liability. Casualty lines are written as treaties or programs and on both a proportional and a non-proportional basis. The treaty business includes clash programs, which cover a number of underlying policies involved in one occurrence or a judgment above an underlying policy's limit, before suffering a loss.

Our property business, primarily short-tail in nature, is written on both a portfolio/treaty and individual/facultative basis and includes property catastrophe, property risk excess of loss and property proportional. A significant portion of the underwritten property business consists of large aggregate exposures to man-made and natural disasters and, generally, loss experience is characterized as low frequency and high severity. This may result in volatility in our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. See Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

We seek to manage our reinsurance exposures to catastrophic events by limiting the amount of exposure written in each geographic or peril zone worldwide, underwriting in excess of varying attachment points and requiring that contracts exposed to catastrophe loss include aggregate limits. We also seek to protect our total aggregate exposures by peril and zone through the purchase of reinsurance programs.

Our property catastrophe reinsurance account is generally “all risk” in nature. As a result, we are exposed to losses from sources as diverse as hurricanes and other windstorms, earthquakes, freezing, riots, floods, industrial explosions, fires and many other potential natural or man-made disasters. In accordance with market practice, our policies generally exclude certain risks such as war, nuclear contamination or radiation. Following the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001 (collectively, “the September 11 event”), terrorism cover, including nuclear, biological, radiological and chemical has been restricted or excluded in many territories and classes. Some U.S. states require some cover for “Fire Following” terrorism and some countries make terrorism coverage mandatory. Our predominant exposure under such coverage is to property damage.

Property catastrophe reinsurance provides coverage on an excess of loss basis when aggregate losses and loss adjustment expenses from a single occurrence of a covered event exceed the attachment point specified in the policy. Some of our property catastrophe contracts limit coverage to one occurrence in any single policy year, but most contracts generally enable at least one reinstatement to be purchased by the reinsured.

We also write property risk excess of loss reinsurance. Property risk excess of loss reinsurance covers a loss to the reinsured on a single risk of the type reinsured rather than to aggregate losses for all covered risks on a specific peril, as is the case with catastrophe reinsurance. Our property proportional account includes reinsurance of direct property insurance. We seek to limit the catastrophe exposure from our proportional and per risk excess business through extensive use of occurrence and cession limits.

Other specialty reinsurance products include energy, marine, aviation, space, engineering, fidelity, surety, trade credit and political risk. We underwrite a small portfolio of contracts covering political risk and trade credit. Exposure is assumed from a limited number of trade credit contracts.

The segment’s most significant operating legal entities in 2012 based on revenues were as follows: XL Reinsurance America Inc., XL Re Europe Limited, XL Re Ltd and XL Re Latin America Ltd.

Underwriting

Underwriting risks for the reinsurance property and casualty business are evaluated using a number of factors including, but not limited to, the type and layer of risk to be assumed, the actuarial evaluation of premium adequacy, the cedant’s underwriting and claims experience, the cedant’s financial condition and claims paying rating, the exposure and/or experience with the cedant, and the line of business to be reinsured.

Other factors we assess include the reputation of the proposed cedant, the geographic area in which the cedant does business and its market share, a detailed evaluation of catastrophe and risk exposures, and historical loss data for the cedant, where available, and for the industry as a whole in the relevant regions in order to compare the cedant’s historical loss experience to industry averages. On-site underwriting and claim reviews are performed where it is deemed necessary to determine the quality of a current or prospective cedant’s underwriting operations, with particular emphasis on casualty proportional and working excess of loss placements.

For property catastrophe reinsurance business, our underwriting guidelines generally limit the amount of exposure we will directly underwrite for any one reinsured and the amount of the aggregate exposure to catastrophic losses in any one geographic zone. We believe that we have defined geographic and peril

zones such that a single occurrence, for example, an earthquake or hurricane, should not affect more than one peril zone. While the exposure to multiple zones is considered remote for events such as a hurricane, we do manage our aggregate exposures for such a scenario where we consider it appropriate to do so. The definition of our peril zones is subject to periodic review. We also generally seek an attachment point for our property catastrophe reinsurance at a level that is high enough to produce a low frequency of loss. We seek to limit our aggregate exposure in the proportional business through extensive use of occurrence and cession limits.

Reinsurance Retroceded

We use third party reinsurance to support the underwriting and retention guidelines of each reinsurance subsidiary as well as to seek to limit our aggregate exposure to a particular risk or class of risks. Reinsurance is purchased at several levels ranging from reinsurance of risks assumed on individual contracts to reinsurance covering aggregate exposures. The benefits of ceding risks to other reinsurers include reducing exposure on individual risks, protecting against catastrophic risks, maintaining acceptable capital ratios and enabling the writing of additional business. Reinsurance ceded does not legally discharge us from our liabilities in respect of the risk being reinsured. Reinsurance ceded varies by location and line of business based on factors including, among others, market conditions and the credit worthiness of the counterparty.

Our traditional catastrophe retrocession program was renewed in 2012 to cover certain of our exposures. These protections, in various layers and in excess of varying attachment points according to the territory exposed, assist in managing our net retention to an acceptable level. We have co-reinsurance retentions within this program.

We continue to buy additional protection for our marine and offshore energy exposures and in 2012 increased our retentions for these lines. We continue to buy specific reinsurance on our property and aviation portfolios to manage our net exposures in these classes.

See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and Item 8, Note 9, "Reinsurance," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information.

Premiums

The following table provides an analysis of gross premiums written, net premiums written and net premiums earned for the Reinsurance segment for the last three years ended December 31:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Gross Premiums Written | 2012 Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | 2011 (1) Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | 2010 (1) Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Casualty - professional lines | \$ 221,357 | \$ 221,357 | \$ 213,322 | \$ 217,389 | \$ 217,389 | \$ 213,949 | \$ 218,301 | \$ 222,133 | \$ 222,720 |
| Casualty - other lines | 332,561 | 330,715 | 311,160 | 292,507 | 290,962 | 256,853 | 229,535 | 222,351 | 219,154 |
| Property catastrophe | 537,086 | 473,373 | 463,977 | 461,742 | 404,447 | 387,523 | 370,266 | 326,758 | 323,588 |
| Other property | 653,514 | 622,853 | 613,295 | 847,816 | 583,100 | 587,611 | 802,494 | 562,416 | 534,422 |
| Marine, energy, aviation & satellite | 169,889 | 153,954 | 147,370 | 156,161 | 141,924 | 130,855 | 117,438 | 103,926 | 88,855 |
| Other (2) | 93,749 | 82,256 | 92,218 | 98,004 | 87,902 | 86,594 | 104,917 | 100,854 | 113,260 |
| Total | \$ 2,008,156 | \$ 1,884,508 | \$ 1,841,342 | \$ 2,073,619 | \$ 1,725,724 | \$ 1,663,385 | \$ 1,842,951 | \$ 1,538,438 | \$ 1,501,999 |

(1) Certain reclassifications have been made to conform to current year presentation.

(2) Other includes whole account contracts, surety and other lines.

Additional discussion and financial information about the Reinsurance segment are set forth in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and Item 8, Note 4, "Segment Information," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Competition

We compete globally in the property and casualty markets.

Our reinsurance operations are structured geographically into business groups: Bermuda, North America, International (Europe and Asia Pacific) and Latin America. The main competitors in each of these markets include the following:

Bermuda – ACE Tempest Reinsurance Ltd, AXIS Specialty Limited, Arch Reinsurance Limited, Renaissance Reinsurance Limited, Montpelier Reinsurance Ltd, Platinum Underwriters Bermuda Ltd, PartnerRe Ltd and Validus Reinsurance Ltd.

North America – Berkshire Hathaway Inc., Munich Re Group (“Munich Re”), Swiss Reinsurance America Corporation (“Swiss Re”), Alleghany Corporation, Everest Re Group Ltd, Hannover Re Group (“Hannover Re”) and PartnerRe Ltd.

Europe and the rest of world – Munich Re, Swiss Re, Lloyd’s, SCOR Reinsurance Company, Hannover Re and PartnerRe Ltd.

Latin America – Munich Re, Swiss Re, Mapfre Re and IRB-Brazil Re.

Marketing and Distribution

See “Insurance Segment – Marketing and Distribution” and Item 8, Note 17(a), “Commitments and Contingencies – Concentrations of Credit Risk,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for information on our marketing and distribution procedures and information on our major brokers.

Claims Administration

Claims management for the reinsurance operations includes the receipt of loss notifications, review and approval of claims through a claims approval process, establishment of loss reserves for reported claims and approval of loss payments. Case reserves for reported claims are generally established based on reports received from ceding companies with additional case reserves being established when deemed appropriate. Additionally, claims audits are conducted for specific claims and claims procedures at the offices of selected ceding companies, particularly in the United States and the U.K.

Life Operations Segment

During 2009, we completed a strategic review of our life reinsurance business. In relation to this initiative, during 2009 we sold the renewal rights to certain of our businesses, sold our U.S. life reinsurance business and announced that we would run-off our existing book of U.K. and Irish traditional life and annuity business, and not accept new business. In addition, in 2010, we consummated various transactions to novate and recapture U.K. and Irish term assurance and critical illness treaties and U.S. mortality retrocession pools. In addition, during the fourth quarter of 2012, we entered into an agreement to recapture two small U.S. life reinsurance treaties.

The Life operations segment provided life reinsurance on business written by life insurance companies, principally to help them manage mortality, morbidity, survivorship, investment and lapse risks.

Prior to the decision to run-off the U.K. and Irish business, products offered included a broad range of underlying lines of life insurance business, including term assurances, group life, critical illness cover, immediate annuities and disability income. In addition, prior to selling the renewal rights, the products offered included short-term life, accident and health business. Notwithstanding these sales, the Life operations still covers a range of geographic markets, with an emphasis on the U.K., U.S., Ireland and Continental Europe.

The portfolio has three particularly significant components:

(1) The portfolio includes a small number of large contracts relating to closed blocks of U.K. and Irish fixed annuities in payment. In relation to certain of these contracts, we received cash and investment assets at the inception of the reinsurance contract, relating to the future policy benefit reserves assumed. These contracts are long-term in nature, and the expected claims payout period can span up to 30 or 40 years

with average duration of around 10 years. We are exposed to investment and survivorship risk over the life of these arrangements.

(2) The second component of the portfolio relates to life risks (in the U.S., the U.K. and Ireland), income protection risks (in the U.S.) and critical illness risks (in the U.K. and Ireland) where we are exposed to the mortality, morbidity and lapse experience from the underlying business, over the medium to long-term.

(3) The third component relates to the annually renewable business covering life, accident and health risks written in Continental Europe. These contracts are short-term in nature and include both proportional and non-proportional reinsurance structures. While the renewal rights for this business have been sold, the existing business remains with us.

Underwriting & Claims Administration

While the Life operations segment was closed to new business in March 2009, the pricing information below reflects how new business was acquired prior to that date and hence is relevant to the in-force portfolio of business.

Life reinsurance transactions fall into two distinct forms. The first relates to the reinsurance of an existing and closed block of risks (“in-force deal”), where the nature of the underlying exposure is known at the date of execution. The second relates to the reinsurance of liabilities that are yet to be written by the ceding company (“new business treaty”) where, provided the subsequent risks are within the agreed treaty parameters, these risks may be added to the portfolio.

The underwriting of an in-force deal is highly actuarial in nature, requiring detailed analytical appraisal of the key parameters that drive the ultimate profitability of the deal. This includes analysis of historic experience (claims, lapses, etc.) as well as the projection of these assumptions into the future.

When new business was written, in addition to the actuarial analysis required to set the terms, there was also a requirement to establish medical underwriting criteria that will apply to the new risks that may be added to the treaty. Once a treaty was accepted, there was then an ongoing need to monitor the risk selection by the medical underwriters at the ceding company and to ensure that the criteria were being met.

The Life operations team includes many members with specialized actuarial knowledge. Claims administration also relies on experienced team members and specific medical expertise, supported where required by third party medical underwriters and claims managers.

Reinsurance Retroceded

We purchase limited retrocession capacity on a “per-life” basis in the United States in order to cap the maximum claim arising from the death of a single individual. Cover is purchased from professional retrocessionaires that meet our criteria for counterparty exposures. Limited retrocession of fixed annuity business has been arranged to manage aggregate longevity capacity on specific deals. Limited retrocession of life, accident and health business on specific treaties written in Continental Europe has also been arranged to manage mortality and morbidity risks.

Premiums

The following table is an analysis of the Life operations gross premiums written, net premiums written and net premiums earned for the year ended December 31, 2012.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | | | 2011 | | | 2010 | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned |
| Annuity | \$ 155,255 | \$ 126,912 | \$ 126,912 | \$ 161,800 | \$ 132,232 | \$ 132,232 | \$ 155,235 | \$ 127,019 | \$ 127,019 |
| Other Life | 200,499 | 197,520 | 197,547 | 232,755 | 230,130 | 230,786 | 256,703 | 255,056 | 255,905 |
| Total | <u>\$ 355,754</u> | <u>\$ 324,432</u> | <u>\$ 324,459</u> | <u>\$ 394,555</u> | <u>\$ 362,362</u> | <u>\$ 363,018</u> | <u>\$ 411,938</u> | <u>\$ 382,075</u> | <u>\$ 382,924</u> |

Additional discussion and financial information about the Life operations is set forth in Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” and Item 8, Note 4, “Segment Information,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Competition

In regards to the Life operations segment, the core activity is in the United States, the U.K., Ireland and Continental Europe. While we no longer compete for new business, we retain an in-force portfolio and hence view companies with similar portfolios as competitors.

For the fixed annuity business, market participants include less traditional reinsurance entities, such as Canada Life and Prudential (U.K.) together with Swiss Re, Partner Re Ltd., Scor Global Life and Pacific Life Re, among others, who have entered or re-entered this market.

Marketing and Distribution

We no longer market or distribute new products in this segment.

Life Operations – Collateral Requirements

For certain blocks of Life operations' business, we are required, under the terms of the relevant treaties, to hold collateral in favor of the underlying cedants. The amount of the collateral is typically determined in relation to the level that would be necessary to satisfy requirements in either the U.K. or U.S. regulatory regimes. These requirements are higher than is required under U.S. GAAP accounting requirements and hence the amounts are generally higher than the reserves reported herein. For the closed blocks of U.K. and Irish fixed annuities, under which assets were transferred to us, those assets are maintained in segregated investment portfolios subject to security and account control agreements in favor of the cedant. For the U.S. term life and income protection business, collateral is provided through a combination of letters of credit and assets held in trust to the benefit of the client.

Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses

Loss reserves are established due to the significant periods of time that may lapse between the occurrence, reporting and payment of a loss. To recognize liabilities for unpaid losses and loss expenses, we estimate future amounts needed to pay claims and related expenses with respect to insured events. Our reserving practices and the establishment of any particular reserve reflect our judgment concerning sound financial practice and do not represent any admission of liability with respect to any claim. Unpaid losses and loss expense reserves are established for reported claims ("case reserves") and incurred but not reported ("IBNR") claims.

The nature of our high excess of loss liability and catastrophe business can result in loss payments that are both irregular and significant. Similarly, adjustments to reserves for individual years can be irregular and significant. Such adjustments are part of the normal course of business for us. Certain aspects of our business have loss experience characterized as low frequency and high severity. This may result in volatility in our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

The tables below present the development of our unpaid losses and loss expense reserves on both a net and gross basis. The cumulative redundancy (deficiency) calculated on a net basis differs from that calculated on a gross basis. As different reinsurance programs cover different underwriting years, net and gross loss experience will not develop proportionately. The top lines of the tables show the estimated liability, net of reinsurance recoveries, as at the year end balance sheet date for each of the indicated years. This represents the estimated amounts of losses and loss expenses, including IBNR, arising in the current and all prior years that are unpaid at the year end balance sheet date of the indicated year. The tables show the re-estimated amount of the previously recorded reserve liability based on experience as of the year end balance sheet date of each succeeding year. The estimate changes as more information becomes known about the frequency and severity of claims for individual years. The cumulative redundancy (deficiency) represents the aggregate change with respect to that liability originally estimated. The lower portion of the first table also reflects the cumulative paid losses relating to these reserves. Conditions and trends that have affected development of liabilities in the past may not necessarily occur in the future. Accordingly, it may not be appropriate to extrapolate redundancies or deficiencies into the future, based on the tables below. See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|
| REDUNDANCY (DEFICIENCY) | (3,572) | (1,342) | 1,011 | 2,412 | 2,778 | 2,348 | 1,406 | 1,135 | 662 | 414 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----|

The following table presents an analysis of our paid, unpaid and incurred losses and loss expenses and a reconciliation of beginning and ending unpaid losses and loss expenses for the years indicated.

Year ended December 31,
(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses at the beginning of the year | \$ 20,613,901 | \$ 20,531,607 | \$ 20,823,524 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 3,629,928 | 3,649,290 | 3,557,391 |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses at the beginning of the year | 16,983,973 | 16,882,317 | 17,266,133 |
| Increase (decrease) in net losses and loss expenses incurred in respect of losses occurring in: | | | |
| Current year | 4,081,377 | 4,363,258 | 3,584,662 |
| Prior years | (315,895) | (284,867) | (372,862) |
| Total net incurred losses and loss expenses | 3,765,482 | 4,078,391 | 3,211,800 |
| Exchange rate effects | 156,206 | (130,533) | (125,107) |
| Less net losses and loss expenses paid in respect of losses occurring in: | | | |
| Current year | 416,844 | 589,870 | 442,262 |
| Prior years | 3,366,398 | 3,256,332 | 3,028,247 |
| Total net paid losses | 3,783,242 | 3,846,202 | 3,470,509 |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses at the end of the year | 17,122,419 | 16,983,973 | 16,882,317 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 3,361,702 | 3,629,928 | 3,649,290 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses at the end of the year | \$ 20,484,121 | \$ 20,613,901 | \$ 20,531,607 |

Our net unpaid losses and loss expenses relating to our operating segments at December 31, 2012 and 2011 were as follows:

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Insurance | \$ 11,384,855 | \$ 11,374,315 |
| Reinsurance | 5,737,564 | 5,609,658 |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses | \$ 17,122,419 | \$ 16,983,973 |

Current year net losses incurred

Current year net losses incurred decreased by \$281.9 million in 2012 as compared to 2011. This was mainly as a result of the current year loss ratio excluding prior year development decreasing by 11.1 loss percentage points due to lower losses from natural catastrophes as compared to 2011. In addition, the current year loss ratio excluding natural catastrophes improved in both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments due to lower large property risk losses, as well as business mix changes and other underwriting improvements.

Current year net losses incurred increased by \$778.6 million in 2011 as compared to 2010. This was mainly as a result of the current year loss ratio excluding prior year development increasing by 10.7 loss percentage points due to higher losses from natural catastrophes as compared to 2010, but also from the following: (i) the Insurance segment in 2011 experienced higher large loss activity in the energy, property and marine businesses, as compared to 2010; and (ii) the Reinsurance segment in 2011 experienced higher levels of large loss events in U.S. property, including a deterioration in the performance of a large U.S. agricultural program, higher attritional losses as well as business mix changes, as compared to 2010.

See the Income Statement Analysis at Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," for further information regarding the current year loss ratios for each of the years indicated within each of our operating segments.

Prior year net losses incurred

The following tables present the development of our gross and net losses and loss expense reserves. The tables also show the estimated reserves at the beginning of each fiscal year and the favorable or adverse development (prior year development) of those reserves during such fiscal year.

Gross*(U.S. dollars in thousands)*

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses at January 1 | \$ 20,613,901 | \$ 20,531,607 | \$ 20,823,524 |
| Gross (favorable) adverse development of those reserves during the year | (413,764) | (273,444) | (314,809) |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses reserves re-estimated at December 31 | <u>\$ 20,200,137</u> | <u>\$ 20,258,163</u> | <u>\$ 20,508,715</u> |

Net*(U.S. dollars in thousands)*

| | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses at January 1 | \$ 16,983,973 | \$ 16,882,317 | \$ 17,266,133 |
| Net (favorable) adverse development of those reserves during the year | (315,895) | (284,867) | (372,862) |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses reserves re-estimated at December 31 | <u>\$ 16,668,078</u> | <u>\$ 16,597,450</u> | <u>\$ 16,893,271</u> |

As different reinsurance programs cover different underwriting years, contracts and lines of business, net and gross loss experience do not develop proportionately. In 2012, gross prior year favorable development exceeded net prior year favorable development in the Insurance segment due primarily to a significant reduction in a single large event in the International energy book that was heavily ceded. In 2011, gross prior year favorable development was in line with net prior year favorable development in total. However, during 2011, the Insurance segment experienced favorable net prior year development of \$76.5 million compared to adverse gross prior year development of \$23.1 million. The difference between net and gross development was driven primarily by adverse development related to large excess casualty claims associated with the Deepwater Horizon event in the 2010 accident year totaling \$135.6 million on a gross basis, while the net impact was \$33.4 million due to the offsetting impact of reinsurance protections. In addition, \$150.0 million gross and \$65.0 million net excess casualty IBNR reserves were reallocated to the 2010 accident year in respect of Deepwater Horizon exposures. These IBNR movements were entirely offset by reserve reductions in older accident years. This activity largely explains the difference between the gross and net prior year development for the Insurance segment in 2011 as well as the overall strengthening of the 2010 accident year reflected in the loss reserve development tables shown on the previous pages. During 2010, net prior year favorable development exceeded gross prior year favorable development due primarily to the Insurance segment from a single large claim in excess casualty that was heavily ceded.

The following table presents the gross and net (favorable) adverse prior year loss development of our loss and loss expense reserves by operating segment for each of the years indicated:

Gross:*(U.S. dollars in thousands)*

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Insurance | (247,232) | 23,125 | (31,387) |
| Reinsurance | (166,532) | (296,569) | (283,422) |
| Total | <u>\$ (413,764)</u> | <u>\$ (273,444)</u> | <u>\$ (314,809)</u> |

Net:

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Insurance | \$ (140,067) | \$ (76,516) | \$ (127,411) |
| Reinsurance | (175,828) | (208,351) | (245,451) |
| Total | <u>\$ (315,895)</u> | <u>\$ (284,867)</u> | <u>\$ (372,862)</u> |

We had net favorable prior year reserve development in property and casualty operations of \$315.9 million, \$284.9 million and \$372.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. See the Income Statement Analysis at Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and Item 8, Note 10, "Losses and Loss Expenses," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information regarding the developments in prior year loss reserve estimates for each of the years indicated within each of our operating segments.

Net loss reserves (disposed) acquired

We did not dispose of or acquire net loss reserves in the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

Exchange rate effects

Exchange rate effects on net loss reserves in each of the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 related to our global operations primarily where reporting units have a functional currency that is not the U.S. dollar. In 2012, the U.S. dollar was weaker against the major currencies to which we are exposed, including the U.K. sterling, the Euro and the Swiss franc. In 2011, the U.S. dollar was stronger against U.K. sterling, the Euro, the Brazilian real and the Swiss franc, which more than offset losses that were driven by a stronger Australian dollar. In 2010, the U.S. dollar was stronger against the Euro, while weaker against the Swiss franc, Canadian dollar and Brazilian real. These movements in the U.S. dollar gave rise to translation and revaluation exchange movements related to carried loss reserve balances of \$156.2 million, \$(130.5) million and \$(125.1) million in the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Net paid losses

Total net paid losses were \$3.8 billion, \$3.8 billion and \$3.5 billion in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. See Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” for further information.

Other loss related information

Our net incurred losses and loss expenses include actual and estimates of potential non-recoveries from reinsurers. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the reserve for potential non-recoveries from reinsurers was \$107.9 million and \$99.2 million, respectively. For further information, see Item 8, Note 9, “Reinsurance,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Except for certain workers’ compensation (including long term disability) liabilities and certain U.K. motor liability claims, we do not discount our unpaid losses and loss expenses.

We utilize tabular reserving for workers’ compensation (including long-term disability) unpaid losses that are considered fixed and determinable, and discount such losses using an interest rate of 5% in 2012 and 2011. The interest rate approximates the average yield to maturity on specific fixed income investments that support these liabilities. The tabular reserving methodology results in applying uniform and consistent criteria for establishing expected future indemnity and medical payments (including an explicit factor for medical inflation) and the use of mortality tables to determine expected payment periods. Tabular unpaid losses and loss expenses, net of reinsurance, at December 31, 2012 and 2011 on an undiscounted basis were \$645.2 million and \$612.9 million, respectively. The related discounted unpaid losses and loss expenses were \$343.0 million and \$290.3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The Company records specific reserve allowance for Periodical Payment Orders (“PPO”) in the U.K. motor liabilities. This allowance includes the unpaid losses for claims already settled and notified as PPO at December 31, 2012, as well as the unpaid losses for claims to be settled in the future. The future care element of the unpaid losses were discounted using an interest rate of 1.5% at December 31, 2012 reduced from 2% at December 31, 2011 to reflect the increased reserve and the yields obtained on the additional purchase of assets. Unpaid losses and loss expenses, net of reinsurance, at December 31, 2012 and 2011 on an undiscounted basis were \$240.0 million and \$52.8 million, respectively. After discounting of the future care element the unpaid losses and loss expenses were \$148.6 million and \$29.6 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The increase in net undiscounted unpaid losses and loss expenses between December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2012 is explained in part by the identification of a proportion of the overall UK motor reserves that will settle as Periodical Payment claims in the future. This is in addition to a revision of the assumptions underlying the PPO reserve calculation and the worse than expected settlement of claims as PPOs during 2012.

Investments

Investment structure and strategy

Our investment operations are managed centrally by our Investment Group. The Risk and Finance Committee (the “RFC”) of the Board of Directors of XL-Ireland approves overall investment policy and guidelines, and reviews the implementation of the investment strategies on a regular basis.

Strategic Asset Allocation

The investment strategy for the investment portfolio is based on the strategic asset allocation (“SAA”) process, which establishes a benchmark for the aggregate investment portfolios supporting P&C investment operations and a separate benchmark for the aggregate investment portfolio supporting Life operations. These two benchmarks (“SAA Benchmarks”) are constructed to maximize company value subject to risk tolerance of management and various constraints, e.g., liability profile, local regulatory requirements, business needs, collateral management and insurance regulation. This process involves an integrated and stochastic model that includes our financial condition, reserve volatility and loss payout patterns, premium expense and loss ratio projections and correlations among asset, liabilities and economic variables.

As part of the implementation of our SAA Benchmarks, we employ a comprehensive framework of investment decision authorities (“Authorities Framework”). The objective of the Authorities Framework is to ensure that the risk profile of our investment portfolio is consistent with management’s risk tolerance as reflected in the SAA Benchmarks. The Authorities Framework controls active or tactical deviations from the SAA Benchmarks. As the magnitude of these deviations increases or the resulting impact on the risk profile of the investment portfolio reaches certain predetermined thresholds, additional levels of authority and approval are required, up to and including the RFC.

The RFC reviews and approves the SAA Benchmarks for P&C and Life operations and the Authorities Framework as part of the investment policy. Management approves further detailed investment authorities which integrate the Authorities Framework into our risk governance processes. We have an ongoing process that focuses on optimizing the composition of the P&C and Life portfolios relative to the SAA Benchmarks. See “Investment Portfolio Structure” for more details.

Investment Portfolio Structure

Our investment portfolio consists of fixed income securities, equities, alternative investments, private investments, derivatives and other investments and cash. These securities and investments are denominated in U.S. dollar, U.K. sterling, Euro, Swiss franc, Canadian dollar and other foreign currencies.

Our direct use of investment derivatives includes futures, forwards, swaps and options that derive their value from underlying assets, indices, reference rates or a combination of these factors. Our current investment policy allows derivatives to be used in the investment portfolio to reduce risk and enhance portfolio efficiency. Derivatives may not be used if they materially increase our investment risk.

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, total investments, cash and cash equivalents, accrued investment income, and net receivable (payable) for investments sold (purchased), were \$36.9 billion and \$35.9 billion, respectively.

Functionally, our investment portfolio is divided into two principal components:

1) *P&C investment portfolio*: The larger component is the P&C investment portfolio and its principal objective is to support our insurance and reinsurance operations, the liabilities of which have some uncertainty as to the timing and/or amount. In addition, a smaller portion of the P&C investment portfolio supports corporate operations as well as run-off financial lines business, in which the liabilities have a greater level of certainty and much longer durations than typical P&C business.

The investment strategy for the P&C investment portfolio is based on the SAA process with a constrained total return mandate. The primary performance objective is for the total return of the P&C portfolio to meet or exceed the return of the SAA Benchmark with realized loss constraints. The second performance objective is capital preservation through managing the risk profile of the investment portfolio within management’s risk tolerance. The third performance objective is achieving the budget for net investment income.

2) *Life operations investment portfolio*: The second component of the investment portfolio is the Life operations investment portfolio. The principal objective of the Life operations investment portfolio is to support our Life operations, which are now in run-off. The largest portion of the Life operations investment portfolio supports the policy benefit reserves associated with asset annuity transactions, with limited uncertainty as to the timing or amount of the liability cash flows. A smaller portion of the Life operations investment portfolio supports life annuity liabilities that were assumed without portfolio asset transfer.

As discussed above, the investment strategy for the Life operations investment portfolio is based on the SAA process. The Life operations investment portfolio SAA process incorporates an additional overlay of the regulatory capital model and a more extensive focus on asset-liability management, which is possible due to the lower volatility of life liabilities relative to P&C liabilities.

The primary performance objective for the investments supporting the asset annuity transactions is to achieve a steady credit-adjusted book yield of the Life operations investment portfolio in order to maximize the embedded value and minimize statutory capital needs (owing to unique technical requirements of the statutory capital model). For the investments supporting the other portions of the Life operations investment portfolio, which do not have this unique capital model, the performance objective is for the constrained total return to at least match the total return of the benchmark, similar to that used in the P&C investment portfolio.

Implementation of investment strategy

Although our management within the Investment Group is responsible for implementation of the investment strategy, the day-to-day management of our investment portfolio is outsourced to investment management service providers in accordance with detailed investment guidelines provided and monitored by us. This approach gives us access to top investment talent with specialized skills across a broad range of investment products and provides flexibility to actively manage the structure of the portfolio as dictated by our business needs. Investment management service providers are selected directly on the basis of various criteria including investment style, track record, performance, risk management capabilities, internal controls, operational risk management and diversification implications. The vast majority of our investment portfolio is managed by large, well-established asset management institutions, while a small portion of the portfolio is managed by asset management specialist firms or boutiques. Each investment management service provider may manage one or more portfolios, each of which is generally governed by a detailed set of investment guidelines, including overall objectives, risk limits (where appropriate) and diversification requirements that fall within our overall investment policies and guidelines, including but not limited to exposures to eligible securities, prohibited investments/transactions, credit quality and general concentration limits. The Investment Group has a surveillance program to manage the aggregation of individual manager portfolios relative to the SAA Benchmarks.

Investment performance

See Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Investment Performance,” for discussion of our investment performance.

Investment portfolio credit ratings, duration and maturity profile

It is our policy to operate the combined P&C and Life (“aggregate”) fixed income portfolio with a minimum weighted average credit rating of Aa3/AA-. See Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” for discussion on ratings downgrades. The aggregate credit rating is determined based on the weighted average rating of securities, where the average credit rating, where available, from Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”), Moody’s Investors Service (“Moody’s”) and Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”) is allocated to each security. The weighted average credit rating of the aggregate fixed income portfolio was Aa2/AA at December 31, 2012 and 2011. U.S. agencies and Agency RMBS paper, whether with implicit or explicit government support, reflect the credit quality rating of the U.S. government for the purpose of these calculations.

We did not have an aggregate direct investment in a single corporate issuer in excess of 5% of shareholders’ equity at December 31, 2012 or 2011. Corporate issuers represent our direct exposure to fixed maturities and short-term investments of the parent issuer and its subsidiaries. These exposures exclude

asset and mortgage-backed securities that were issued, sponsored or serviced by the parent and government-guaranteed issues, but does include covered bonds. The Company invests in covered bonds issued by financial institutions (“Covered Bonds”). Covered Bonds are senior secured debt instruments issued by financial institutions and backed by over-collateralized pools of public sector or mortgage loans.

The overall duration and currency denomination of the aggregate fixed income portfolio is managed relative to the respective SAA Benchmarks for the P&C and Life operations investment portfolios, both of which incorporate matching currency and duration within a range relative to liabilities. Duration measures bond price volatility and is an indicator of the sensitivity of the price of a bond (or a portfolio of bonds) to changes in interest rates, assuming a parallel change in all global yield curves reflecting the percentage change in price for a 100 basis point change in yield. Management believes that the duration of the aggregate fixed income portfolio is the best single measure of interest rate risk for the aggregate fixed income portfolio.

The maturity profile of the aggregate fixed income portfolio is a function of the maturity profile of estimated loss payments from our liabilities, our capital and expected operating cash flows and, to a lesser extent, the maturity profile of common fixed income benchmarks. For further information on the maturity profile of the fixed income portfolio, see Item 8, Note 5, “Investments,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Enterprise Risk Management

Risk Management Framework

We face strategic and operational risks related to, among others: underwriting activities, financial reporting, changing macroeconomic conditions, investment risks, reserving estimates, changes in laws or regulations, information systems, business interruption and fraud. Our global P&C business, Life operations (which is in run-off) and investment portfolios each have their own set of risks (see Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” for a discussion of such risks). From time to time, these risks may exhibit greater levels of correlation than might be expected over the longer term due to the presence of, to a greater or lesser degree, some common internal or external risk drivers embedded in our businesses that may manifest themselves simultaneously. An enterprise view of risk is required to identify and manage the consequences of these common risks and risk drivers on our profitability, capital strength and liquidity.

Our enterprise risk management (“ERM”) initiatives are led by the Chief Enterprise Risk Officer (“CERO”), who is a member of our leadership team, and who reports to our Chief Executive Officer. The CERO also acts as a liaison between our Enterprise Risk Committee (“ERC” - see below) and the XL-Ireland Board (or its committees), with respect to risk matters. All of our employees are expected to assist in the appropriate and timely identification and management of risks and to enhance the quality and effectiveness of ERM.

Our ERM framework is designed to allow us to identify and understand material risk concentrations, including concentrations that have unattractive risk/reward dynamics so that prompt, appropriate, corrective or mitigating actions can be taken. To do this, we have risk management committees and processes to serve as points of managerial dialogue and convergence across our businesses and functional areas, to create risk aggregation methodologies and to develop specific risk appetites to coordinate the identification, vetting and discussion of risk topics and metrics. As part of our ERM activities, we apply a suite of stress tests, tools, risk indicators, metrics and reporting processes that examine the consequences of low probability/high severity events (including those related to emerging risks) in order to take mitigating actions where required.

Risk Governance

Risk governance relates to the processes by which oversight and decision-making authorities with respect to risks are granted to individuals within the enterprise. Our governance framework establishes accountabilities for tasks and outcomes as well as escalation criteria. Governance processes are designed to ensure that transactions and activities, individually and in the aggregate, are carried out in accordance with our risk policies, philosophies, appetites, limits and risk concentrations, and in a manner consistent with expectations of excellence of integrity, accountability and client service.

The RFC of the XL-Ireland Board oversees ERM matters. With respect to the responsibilities relating to ERM, the RFC:

- Oversees ERM activities, including the risk management framework employed by management. In light of the overall risk management framework, the RFC (i) reviews the methodology for establishing our overall risk capacity; (ii) reviews the policies for the establishment of risk limit frameworks, and adherence to such limits; and (iii) reviews and approves enterprise risk limits.
- Oversees our compliance with any significant enterprise risk limits, authorities and policies. The RFC evaluates what actions to take with respect to such enterprise limits, authorities and policies, and approves any exceptions thereto from time to time as necessary.
- Reviews our overall risk profile and monitors key risks across our organization as a whole, which may involve coordination with other committees of the Board from time to time as appropriate.
- Reviews our process controls over model use and development with respect to model risk and model effectiveness, accuracy, and propriety.
- Monitors our risk management performance and obtains reasonable assurance from management that our risk management policies are effective and are being adhered to.

The review of our overall risk appetites and the evaluation of the risk impact of any material strategic decision being contemplated, including consideration of whether such strategic decision is within the risk profile established by us, is conducted by the full Board. “Risk appetites,” as referred to above, are broad statements used to guide our risk and reward preferences over time, all consistent with, among other factors, business prudence, market opportunities, the underwriting pricing cycle and investment climate. Risk appetites are regularly monitored and can change over time in light of the above. See “Risk Appetite Management” below.

Management oversight of ERM is performed, in part, via a centralized management ERC, which is chaired by the CERO. The ERC is comprised of senior management from our businesses and functions and is charged with developing and monitoring enterprise risk policies, risk appetites, risk limits (and compliance with such limits) and risk aggregations, and identifying key emerging risks and ways to mitigate such risks.

In addition to the ERC, we have established a framework of separate yet complementary ERM subcommittees, each focusing on particular aspects of ERM. These subcommittees include:

- Economic Capital Model Subcommittee: This subcommittee oversees the development of economic capital models that support ERM activities, and helps set priorities and manage resources related to such models. It reviews assumptions and related methodologies used within our economic capital models, including assessments of model validation, model control and model risk.
- Liability Subcommittee: This subcommittee supports and assists the ERC’s identification, measurement, management, monitoring and reporting of key underwriting liability and emerging risks.
- Asset Risk Subcommittee: This subcommittee assists the ERC in its responsibilities in relation to governance and oversight of asset-related risks across the Company, including the investment portfolio. Among its activities are (a) involvement in policy decisions on modeling and quantification of risk measurements; and (b) providing an interpretation and assessment of asset-related risks, with a particular focus on market-related risks. Further, the subcommittee is responsible for coordinating on a regular basis with the Credit Subcommittee of the ERC on asset-related credit risks.
- Credit Subcommittee: This subcommittee develops and implements the metrics and supporting framework for allocation of credit risk capacity across major business units and functions, including the amount and types of credit exposure.
- Operational Risk Subcommittee: This subcommittee supports the ERC’s identification, measurement, management and oversight of key operational risks through its oversight of key operational risk management processes and through its review of related operational risk indicators, trends and metrics.

In addition to the above, risk management subcommittees within each of our businesses function to ensure that risk is managed in accordance with the risk limits, guidelines and tolerances that we have allocated to them.

Risk Appetite Management

Our risk appetite framework guides our strategies relating to, among other things, capital preservation, earnings volatility, capital at risk, operational loss, liquidity standards, claims paying rating and capital structure. This framework also addresses our tolerance to risks from material individual events (e.g., natural or man-made catastrophes such as terrorism), our investment portfolio and realistic disaster scenarios that cross multiple lines of business (and risks related to some or all of the above that may occur concurrently).

In relation to event risk management, we establish net underwriting limits for individual large events as follows:

1. We impose limits for each natural catastrophe peril region at a 1% tail value at risk (“TVaR”) probability. This statistic indicates the average amount of net loss expected to be incurred given that a loss above the 1% exceedance probability level has occurred.
2. For each event type other than natural catastrophes, we impose limits at a 1% exceedance probability. If we were to deploy the full limit, for any given event type, there would be a 1% probability that an event would occur during the next year that would result in a net underwriting loss in excess of the limit.
3. We also impose limits for certain other event types at a 0.4% exceedance probability as described in further detail below. If we were to deploy the full limit, for any such given event type, there would be a 0.4% probability that an event would occur during the next year that would result in a net underwriting loss in excess of the limit.

For planning purposes and to calibrate risk tolerances for business to be written from September 30, 2012 through September 30, 2013, we set our underwriting limits as a percent of September 30, 2012 Tangible Shareholders’ Equity (hereafter, “Tangible Shareholders’ Equity”). Tangible Shareholders’ Equity is defined as Total Shareholders’ Equity less Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. These limits may be recalibrated, from time to time, to reflect material changes in Total Shareholders’ Equity that may occur after September 30, 2012, at the discretion of management and as overseen by the Board.

Tier 1 event types (“Tier 1 Events”), which include natural catastrophes, terrorism and other realistic disaster scenarios, and Tier 2 event types (“Tier 2 Events”), which include country risk, longevity risk and pandemic risk, are internal risk classifications for the purposes of defining our risk tolerances. In determining Tier 1 and Tier 2 Events we consider such factors as:

- Anticipated risk adjusted returns;
- Strategic risk preferences;
- Relativity to peers;
- Shareholder expectations;
- Robustness of exposure assessment methodology; and
- Projected enterprise loss potential.

Per event 1% TVaR underwriting limits for North Atlantic Windstorm are set at a level not to exceed approximately 22% of Tangible Shareholders’ Equity. Per event 1% TVaR underwriting limits for North American Earthquake are set at a level not to exceed approximately 20% of Tangible Shareholders’ Equity. Per event 1% TVaR underwriting limits for all other natural catastrophe peril regions are set below the per event 1% TVaR limits described above.

Per event 1% exceedance probability underwriting limits for terrorism and other realistic disaster scenarios are set at a level not to exceed approximately 15% of Tangible Shareholders’ Equity.

Per event 1% exceedance probability underwriting limits for Tier 2 Events are set at a level not to exceed 7.5% of Tangible Shareholders’ Equity.

Per event 0.4% exceedance probability underwriting limits for certain Tier 2 Events are set at a level not to exceed 10% of Tangible Shareholders' Equity. The 0.4% exceedance probability limit is used for Tier 2 Events rather than a TVaR measure due to the difficulty in estimating the full distribution of outcomes in the extreme tail of the distribution for these risk types as required for the TVaR measure.

In all instances, the above referenced underwriting limits reflect pre-tax losses net of reinsurance and include inwards and outwards reinstatement premiums related to the specific events being measured. The limits do not contemplate underwriting profits expected to be generated in the absence of catastrophic loss activity.

In setting underwriting limits, we also consider such factors as:

- Correlation of underwriting risk with other risks (e.g., asset/investment risk, operational risk, etc.);
- Model risk and robustness of data;
- Geographical concentrations;
- Exposures at lower return periods;
- Expected payback period associated with losses;
- Projected share of industry loss; and
- Annual aggregate losses for natural catastrophes at various return periods including a 1% exceedance probability and a 1% TVaR level on both a peril region basis and a portfolio basis.

Loss exposure estimates for all event risks are derived from a combination of commercially available and internally developed models together with the judgment of management, as overseen by the XL-Ireland Board. Actual incurred losses may vary materially from our estimates. Factors that can cause a deviation between estimated and actualized loss potential include:

- Inaccurate assumption of event frequency and severity;
- Inaccurate or incomplete data;
- Changing climate conditions that may add to the unpredictability of frequency and severity of natural catastrophes in certain parts of the world and create additional uncertainty as to future trends and exposures;
- Future possible increases in property values and the effects of inflation that may increase the severity of catastrophic events to levels above the modeled levels;
- Natural catastrophe models that incorporate and are critically dependent on meteorological, seismological and other earth science assumptions and related statistical relationships that may not be representative of prevailing conditions and risks, and may therefore misstate how particular events actually materialize, causing a material deviation between forecasted and actual damages associated with such events; and
- A change in the judicial climate.

For the above and other reasons, the incidence, timing and severity of catastrophes and other event types are inherently unpredictable and it is difficult to estimate the amount of loss any given occurrence will generate. As a consequence, there is material uncertainty around our ability to measure exposures associated with individual events and combinations of events. This uncertainty could cause actual exposures and losses to deviate from those amounts estimated, which in turn can create a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations and may result in substantial liquidation of investments, possibly at a loss, and outflows of cash as losses are paid. For this reason, we carry capital in addition to that required by the specific limits described even if it is in excess of rating agency and regulatory required capital.

For a further discussion on risk appetite management see Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Other Key Focuses of Management."

Impact of ERM Processes

We believe that our ERM processes improve the quality and timeliness of strategic decisions, enhance the integration of strategic initiatives with the risks related to such initiatives and act as catalysts to improve risk awareness and informed action by us. We believe that the integration of ERM with existing business processes and controls optimizes the risk/reward characteristics of business strategies, enhances our overall risk management culture, and is central to our capital allocation process.

In addition, our ERM processes complement our overall internal control framework by helping to manage the complexity that is inherent within an organization of our size and with the variety of our businesses, investment activities and geographical reach. However, internal controls and ERM can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that control objectives will be met. As a result, the possibility of material financial loss remains in spite of our ERM activities. An investor should carefully consider the risks and all information set forth in this report including the discussion included in Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” Item 7A, “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk,” and Item 8, “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.”

Regulation

Our operating subsidiaries are subject to regulation and supervision in each of the jurisdictions in which they are domiciled and licensed to conduct business. Generally, regulatory authorities can have broad supervisory and administrative powers over such matters as licenses, fitness of management, standards of solvency, material transactions between affiliates, premium rates, policy forms, investments, security deposits, methods of accounting, form and content of financial statements, reserves for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, claims handling, reinsurance, minimum capital and surplus requirements and/or risk based capital standards, dividends and other distributions to shareholders, periodic examinations and annual and other report filings or notifications. See Item 8, Note 23, “Statutory Financial Data,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein. In general, such regulation is for the protection of policyholders rather than shareholders. We cannot predict the potential effect that any new regulations would have on our operating subsidiaries or on our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition. See “Risk Factors – The regulatory regimes under which we operate, and potential changes thereto, could have a material adverse effect on our business.” A summary of certain regulatory requirements in the key jurisdictions in which we operate follows.

In addition, XL-Ireland, our ultimate holding company, is domiciled in Ireland. Although XL-Ireland is not an Irish regulated operating entity, the Central Bank of Ireland, or CBI, has informed us that it will be our group supervisor under Solvency II. Adopted by the European Parliament in April 2009, Solvency II is an E.U. directive covering the capital adequacy and risk management of, and regulatory reporting for, European-based (re)insurers. Several steps must be taken by the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (“EIOPA”) to implement Solvency II. The final date of implementation and key elements of the framework remain under discussion, but it is widely accepted that the envisaged implementation date of January 1, 2014 will not be met. In October 2012, the European Parliament rescheduled the plenary vote of the Omnibus II Directive from November 2012 to March 2013. The Omnibus II directive sets the date of entry into force of the Solvency II regime and amends the Solvency II framework directive on capital requirements for insurance companies. Following adoption, there are multiple rounds of consultation and publication prior to implementation.

As an Irish public company, XL-Ireland is subject to reporting requirements and certain restrictions under Irish company law. See “Management’s Discussion & Analysis of Financial Condition—Holding Company Liquidity” and Item 8, Note 23, “Statutory Financial Data,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Ireland

Our Irish regulated operating subsidiary, XL Re Europe public limited company, is subject to the regulatory framework established by the CBI. It is required to, among other matters:

- maintain an adequate solvency margin and guarantee fund;

- submit quarterly and annual regulatory returns as well as ad hoc reporting of certain material transactions; and
- obtain regulatory pre-approval of certain transactions, such as payment of dividends or acquisitions and disposals in the ownership/voting rights of (re)insurance companies.

The CBI has minimum competency and fitness and probity codes that seek to ensure that regulated entities are run by those with appropriate professional qualifications or experience within the CBI's view, with regulatory pre-approval required for certain key roles. The CBI's code of corporate governance includes prescriptive rules regarding board role and composition, establishment and operation of board sub-committees and requirements around the approval of risk appetites and the monitoring and reporting of risks. In addition, the CBI has broad supervisory and administrative powers over capital and surplus requirements and the declaration of and payment of dividends or other distributions. Our Irish operating subsidiary is required to seek prior approval from the CBI to reduce its share capital or to pay dividends.

United Kingdom

Our U.K. regulated operating subsidiaries are regulated by the Financial Services Authority ("FSA"). The FSA's Handbook of Rules and Guidance (the "FSA Rules") covers all aspects of regulation including capital adequacy, financial and non-financial reporting, the payment of dividends and certain other activities of U.K. regulated firms. Our Lloyd's managing agency, its managed syndicates and its associated corporate capital vehicles are subject to additional Lloyd's requirements. The FSA's Approved Persons regime also subjects certain of our employees and directors to FSA regulation regarding their "fitness."

In 2010, the U.K. government released plans to abolish the FSA and separate its responsibilities between a number of new agencies and the Bank of England. This is expected to occur in the Spring of 2013. In 2013, the FSA will be replaced by two new regulatory bodies: the Prudential Regulation Authority ("PRA") and the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"). Both the PRA and FCA will have regulatory oversight of our U.K. regulated operating subsidiaries.

Other European Union

Our network of offices in the European Union consists mainly of branches of Irish and U.K. companies and these offices are principally regulated under European directives from their home states of Ireland and the U.K., respectively, rather than by each individual jurisdiction.

Bermuda Operations

The Insurance Act 1978 of Bermuda and related rules and regulations, as amended (the "Bermuda Act"), regulates our Bermuda (re)insurance operating subsidiaries, which must be registered as (re)insurers by the Bermuda Monetary Authority (the "BMA"). The Bermuda Act imposes on Bermuda (re)insurance companies, solvency and liquidity standards, certain restrictions on the declaration and payment of dividends and distributions, certain restrictions on the reduction of statutory capital, auditing and reporting requirements, and grants the BMA powers to supervise and, in certain circumstances, to investigate and intervene in the affairs of (re)insurance companies.

Certain of our Bermuda regulated (re)insurance companies are required to prepare and file annual audited GAAP or International Financial Reporting Standards financial statements, as well as annual statutory financial returns, annual capital and solvency returns and quarterly financial returns.

Our Bermuda regulated general business (re)insurers are required to maintain available statutory capital and surplus at a level equal to or in excess of their enhanced capital requirement ("ECR"). The applicable ECR is established by reference to either the Bermuda Solvency Capital Requirement ("BSCR"), which employs a standard mathematical model that can relate more accurately the risks taken on by (re) insurers to the capital that is dedicated to their business, or a BMA-approved internal capital model. The BMA has also established a target capital level ("TCL") for each (re)insurer equal to 120% of its ECR. While (re)insurers are not required to maintain their statutory capital and surplus at this level, the TCL acts as an early warning tool for the BMA and failure to maintain statutory capital at least equal to TCL will likely result in increased BMA regulatory oversight. Our Bermuda regulated (re)insurers use the BSCR model to calculate their solvency requirements.

Under the Bermuda Companies Act 1981, as amended, a Bermuda company may not declare or pay a dividend or make a distribution out of contributed surplus if there are reasonable grounds for believing that: (a) the company is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due; or (b) the realizable value of the company's assets would thereby be less than its liabilities. Under the Bermuda Act, a Class 4 (re)insurer is prohibited from declaring or paying any dividends of more than 25% of its total statutory capital and surplus unless it certifies to the BMA that it will continue to meet its minimum solvency margin and minimum liquidity ratio.

In addition, neither Class 4 (re)insurers nor certain long-term (re)insurers may reduce their total statutory capital by 15% or more unless they have received the prior approval from the BMA.

United States

In the United States, we are subject to extensive regulation in the jurisdictions in which we conduct our business. The state legislatures and/or state (re)insurance regulators consider or enact laws or regulations that may alter or increase the regulation of (re)insurance companies and (re)insurance holding companies. State laws and regulations that are adopted or amended may be more restrictive than current laws and regulations and may affect our operations, financial condition through lower revenue and/or higher costs of compliance and could adversely affect our results of operations and limit our growth. For example, regulators may choose to restrict the ability of subsidiaries to make payments to their parent companies, reject rate increases or increase the statutory capital requirements of our operating subsidiaries.

There are a number of proposals to amend state insurance laws and regulations in ways that could affect our insurance operating subsidiaries. The National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("NAIC") has recently adopted or amended model laws on holding company regulation that would provide for supervision of insurers at the corporate group level. Although such changes are only beginning to be considered or adopted by individual state regulators, it can be expected that most state regulators will ultimately adopt them in some form. The various proposals to implement group supervision include uniform standards for insurer corporate governance, group-wide supervision of insurance holding companies, adjustments to risk-based capital calculations to account for group-wide risks and additional regulatory and disclosure requirements for insurance holding companies.

Additionally, the NAIC has undertaken the Solvency Modernization Initiative ("SMI"), which focuses on a review of insurance solvency regulations throughout the U.S. financial regulatory system and will lead to a set of long-term solvency modernization goals. SMI is broad in scope, but the NAIC has stated that its focus will include the U.S. solvency framework, group solvency issues, capital requirements, international accounting and regulatory standards, reinsurance and corporate governance.

Currently, our U.S. regulated operating subsidiaries are required to file detailed annual and, in most states, quarterly reports with state insurance regulators in each of the states in which they are licensed or accredited. In addition, these subsidiaries' operations and accounts are subject to financial condition and market conduct examination at regular intervals by state regulators. In June of 2012, all three states in which the U.S. insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are domiciled (New York, Delaware and North Dakota) issued reports on their examination of the financial condition of each of the subsidiaries for the five year period ended December 31, 2010. The reports concluded that all findings from the prior examination had been effectively addressed, and no new findings were reported.

Our U.S. regulated operating subsidiaries are subject to various state statutory and regulatory restrictions that limit the amount of dividends that may be paid from earned surplus without prior approval from regulatory authorities. These restrictions differ by state, but are generally based on a calculation of the lesser of 10% of statutory surplus or 100% of "adjusted net investment income" to the extent that it has not previously been distributed.

While the U.S. federal government currently does not directly regulate the insurance business in the U.S. (other than for flood, nuclear and reinsurance of losses from terrorism), federal legislation and administrative policies can affect the insurance industry. In July 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank") was passed into law. Dodd-Frank requires the creation of a Federal Insurance Office within the Treasury Department that will be focused on national coordination of the insurance sector, systemic risk mitigation and international regulatory cooperation. Although the Federal

Insurance Office currently does not directly regulate the insurance industry, under Dodd-Frank it has the power to preempt state insurance regulations that are inconsistent with international agreements regarding insurance regulation, subject to certain exceptions. In addition, Dodd-Frank provides that the Federal Insurance Office must submit a report to Congress on improving U.S. insurance regulation, which must cover the feasibility of future federal regulation of the U.S. insurance industry.

Other International Operations

We have a number of regulated operating subsidiaries outside of the European Union, Bermuda and the United States. The degree of regulation in foreign jurisdictions can vary and licenses issued by foreign authorities are subject to modification or revocation for cause by such authorities. Our subsidiaries could be prevented, for cause, from conducting business in certain of the jurisdictions where they currently operate. While each country imposes licensing, solvency, auditing and financial reporting requirements, the type and extent of the requirements differ substantially. Key areas where country regulations may differ include: (i) the type of financial reports to be filed; (ii) a requirement to use local intermediaries; (iii) the amount of reinsurance permissible; (iv) the scope of any regulation of policy forms and rates; and (v) the type and frequency of regulatory examinations.

In addition to these requirements, our foreign operations are also regulated in various jurisdictions with respect to currency, amount and type of security deposits, amount and type of reserves, amount and type of local investment and limitations on the share of profits to be returned to policyholders on participating policies. A summary of certain regulatory requirements in Switzerland, Latin America and China follows.

Switzerland

Supervision of our Swiss regulated operating subsidiaries is carried out by the Federal Financial Market Supervisory Authority (“FINMA”). The supervisory regime currently comprises both Solvency I requirements and Solvency II type requirements (“Swiss Solvency Test”), the latter of which impose higher capital requirements. Furthermore, direct insurers and insurance branches operating in Switzerland have to comply with “tied assets” requirements. Reinsurance branches of foreign legal entities are exempt from supervision by FINMA and are supervised by the country in which they are domiciled.

The Swiss supervisory regime was considered in EIOPA’s first wave of third country equivalence assessment for Solvency II. EIOPA advised that Switzerland meets the criteria set out in EIOPA’s methodology for equivalence assessments for Article 172 (equivalence for reinsurance supervision) and Article 260 (equivalence for third country group supervision), with certain caveats. For Article 227 (Calculating group solvability), the Swiss regulatory regime was assessed as equivalent, with no caveats.

In September 2012, FINMA and EIOPA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) regarding cooperation in supervision, in particular for insurance groups with international activities in the European Economic Area and Switzerland. The MoU creates a formal basis for cooperation in the following areas: group supervision, assistance in the work of EEA and FINMA colleges of supervisors, action required in emergency situations, safeguarding financial stability by monitoring and assessing risks, interconnectedness and conducting stress tests. This MoU will not modify or supersede any laws or regulatory requirements in force and will not affect any arrangements under the MoU that have previously been signed between FINMA and other national supervisory authorities of the EEA.

Latin America

We have both insurance and reinsurance operations in the Latin America region, with local companies in Brazil and Mexico and representative offices in Argentina and Colombia. Other than the Colombia representative office, all the legal entities in the region are subsidiaries, and there are no branches. Where we do not have a legal entity, we act as a foreign reinsurer. Nearly all regulators in the Latin America region require foreign reinsurers to be registered or licensed to accept reinsurance business.

The extent of regulation in the region varies significantly in the countries in which we conduct business. Typically, each country has regulations relating to solvency, auditing, internal controls and financial reporting, but the type and extent of the requirements differs substantially. Other regulations in the region that impact our operations but are not specific to insurance or reinsurance include those relating to

foreign currency exchange control, data protection legislation, anti-money laundering legislation and sanctions.

China

Our Chinese regulated operating subsidiary is regulated by the China Insurance Regulatory Commission (the “CIRC”) under the People’s Republic of China Insurance Law. CIRC’s regulatory regime includes requirements relating to licensing, capital, premium and liability, disclosure and periodic reporting and approval or filing of policy wordings and rates.

Employees

At December 31, 2012, we had 4,007 employees. At that date, 232 of our employees were represented by workers’ councils and 418 of our employees were subject to industry-wide collective bargaining agreements in several countries outside the United States.

Available Information

The public can read and copy any materials we file with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) at the SEC’s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The public can obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers, including us, that file electronically with the SEC. The address of the SEC’s website is <http://www.sec.gov>.

Our website address is <http://www.xlgroup.com>. The information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this Annual Report on Form 10-K or any other of our documents filed with or furnished to the SEC.

We make available free of charge, including through our website, our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13 (a) or 15(d) of 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.

We have adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, written charters for each of the Audit Committee, the Management Development and Compensation Committee, the Nominating, Governance and External Affairs Committee and the Risk and Finance Committee, as well as a Code of Conduct and a related Compliance Program. Each of these documents is posted on our website at <http://www.xlgroup.com>, and each is available in print to any shareholder who requests it by writing to us at Investor Relations Department, XL Group plc, Harbor Point, 100 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06902, United States of America.

We intend to post on our website any amendment to, or waiver of, a provision of our Code of Conduct that applies to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Controller or persons performing similar functions and that relates to any element of the code of ethics definition set forth in Item 406 of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

We intend to use our website as a means of disclosing material non-public information and for complying with our disclosure obligations under Regulation FD. Such disclosures will be included on the website in the “Investor Relations” section. Accordingly, investors should monitor such portions of our website, in addition to following our press releases, SEC filings and public conference calls and webcasts.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Any of the following risk factors could have a significant or material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and/or liquidity, in addition to the other information contained in this report. Additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The occurrence of disasters could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, cashflows and prospects.

We have substantial exposure to losses resulting from natural and man-made disasters and other catastrophic events. Catastrophes can be caused by various events, including hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, hailstorms, explosions, severe weather, fires, war and acts of terrorism. Changing climate conditions may add to the unpredictability and frequency of natural disasters in certain parts of the world and create additional uncertainty as to future trends and exposures. The incidence and severity of catastrophes are inherently unpredictable, and it is difficult to predict the timing of such events with statistical certainty or estimate the amount of loss any given occurrence will generate.

The occurrence of claims from catastrophic events is likely to result in substantial volatility in our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows for the fiscal quarter or year in which a catastrophic event occurs, as well as subsequent fiscal periods, and could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations and our ability to write new business. This risk is exacerbated due to accounting principles and rules that do not permit (re)insurers to reserve for such catastrophic events until they occur. We expect that future possible increases in the values and concentrations of insured property, the effects of inflation and changes in cyclical weather patterns may increase the severity of catastrophic events in the future. Although we attempt to manage our exposure to catastrophic events, a single catastrophic event could affect multiple geographic zones and lines of business and the frequency or severity of catastrophic events could exceed our estimates, in each case potentially having a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, while we may, depending on market conditions, purchase catastrophe reinsurance and retrocessional protection, the occurrence of one or more major catastrophes in any given period could result in losses that exceed such reinsurance and retrocessional protection. This could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations and may result in substantial liquidation of investments, possibly at a loss, and outflows of cash as losses are paid.

The failure of any of the underwriting risk management strategies that we employ could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and/or liquidity.

We seek to limit our loss exposure by, among other things, writing a number of our reinsurance or retrocession contracts on an excess of loss basis, adhering to maximum limitations on reinsurance written in defined geographical zones, limiting program size for each client and prudently underwriting each program written. In addition, in the case of proportional treaties, we generally seek to use per occurrence limitations or loss ratio caps to limit the impact of losses from any one event. We cannot be sure that all of these loss limitation methods will have the precise risk management impact intended. For instance, although we also seek to limit our loss exposure by geographic diversification, geographic zone limitations involve significant underwriting judgments, including the determination of the area of the zones and the inclusion of a particular policy within a particular zone's limits. Underwriting involves the exercise of considerable judgment and the making of important assumptions about matters that are inherently unpredictable and beyond our control, and for which historical experience and probability analysis may not provide sufficient guidance. The failure of any of the underwriting risk management strategies that we employ could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Also, we cannot provide assurance that various provisions of our policies, such as limitations or exclusions from coverage or choice of forum, will be enforceable in the manner that we intend and disputes relating to coverage and choice of legal forum may arise, which could materially adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

The insurance and reinsurance industries are historically cyclical and we may experience periods with excess underwriting capacity and unfavorable premium rates.

The insurance and reinsurance industries have historically been cyclical, characterized by periods of intense price competition due to excess underwriting capacity as well as periods when shortages of capacity permitted favorable premium levels. An increase in premium levels is often followed by an increasing supply of insurance and reinsurance capacity, either by capital provided by new entrants or by the commitment of additional capital by existing insurers or reinsurers, which may cause prices to decrease. Either of these factors could lead to a significant reduction in premium rates, less favorable policy terms and conditions and fewer submissions for our underwriting services. In addition to these considerations, changes in the frequency and severity of losses suffered by insureds and insurers may affect the cycles of the insurance and reinsurance industries significantly.

A downgrade or potential downgrade in our financial strength and credit ratings by one or more rating agencies could materially and negatively impact our business, financial condition, results of operations and/or cash flows.

As our ability to underwrite business is dependent upon the quality of our claims paying and financial strength ratings as evaluated by independent rating agencies, a downgrade by any of these institutions could cause our competitive position in the insurance and reinsurance industry to suffer and make it more difficult for us to market our products.

A downgrade below “A-” of our principal insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries by either Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) or A.M. Best Company (“A.M. Best”), which is two notches below the current S&P and A.M. Best financial strength ratings of “A” (Positive) and “A” (Stable), respectively, for our principal insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, may trigger termination provisions in a significant amount of our assumed reinsurance agreements and may potentially require us to return unearned premium to cedants. Whether a client would exercise its termination rights after such a downgrade would likely depend on, among other things, the reasons for the downgrade, the extent of the downgrade, prevailing market conditions, the degree of unexpired coverage, and the pricing and availability of replacement reinsurance coverage. Based on premium value, approximately 70% of our in force reinsurance contracts at January 1, 2013 contained provisions allowing clients to terminate those contracts upon a decline in our ratings to below “A-.” In the event of such a downgrade, we cannot predict whether or how many of our clients would actually exercise such termination rights or the extent to which any such terminations would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or future prospects or the market price for our securities. A downgrade could also result in both a substantial loss of business for us as ceding companies and brokers that place such business may move to other insurers and reinsurers with higher ratings and the loss of key employees. In addition, due to collateral posting requirements under our letter of credit and revolving credit facility agreements, such a downgrade may require the posting of cash collateral in support of certain “in use” portions of these facilities (see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Liquidity and Capital Resources” under Part II, Item 7 of this report). Specifically, a downgrade below “A-” by A.M. Best would constitute an event of default under the Company’s three largest credit facilities and may trigger such collateral requirements. In certain limited instances, such downgrades may require us to return cash or assets to counterparties or to settle derivative and/or other transactions with the respective counterparties.

In addition to the financial strength ratings of our principal insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, various rating agencies also publish credit ratings for XL-Cayman. Credit ratings are indicators of a debt issuer’s ability to meet the terms of debt obligations in a timely manner, are part of our overall funding profile and affect our ability to access certain types of liquidity. Downgrades in our credit ratings could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations and cash flows in a number of ways, including adversely limiting our access to capital markets, potentially increasing the cost of debt or requiring us to post collateral.

Downgrading of the United States’ credit rating could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services lowered its long-term sovereign credit rating on the United States from “AAA” to “AA+” in August 2011. In addition, Standard & Poor’s Rating Services and Moody’s

Investor Services maintain a negative outlook on U.S. debt, and both Fitch Ratings and Moody's Investors Services have warned that they may downgrade the U.S. government's sovereign credit rating if future budget negotiations to raise the debt ceiling fail, or if steps are not taken to decrease the U.S.'s debt load. Because of the unprecedented nature of negative credit rating actions with respect to U.S. government obligations, the impact of a further downgrade to the U.S. government's sovereign credit rating or any other further rating actions by any rating agency is inherently unpredictable. Such actions could have material adverse impacts on financial markets and economic conditions in the United States and throughout the world. In turn, this could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations, including with respect to assets in our investment portfolio, as well as assets in trusts or other collateral arrangements posted by or to us. In addition, further downgrades of the United States' credit rating could create broader financial turmoil and uncertainty, and could negatively impact the average credit rating quality of our investment portfolio, which could require us to change our minimum average credit quality target.

The sovereign debt crisis in Europe and concerns regarding the instability of Euro-zone countries could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Global markets and economic conditions have been negatively impacted by the uncertainty relating to the level of sovereign debt of numerous E.U. member states, the ability of those countries to service their sovereign debt obligations and the stability of financial institutions operating within those E.U. member states. This uncertainty has and could in the future result in volatile bond yields on the sovereign debt of E.U. member states and on other European-related corporate debt held within our investment portfolio and could have material adverse impacts on financial markets and economic conditions in the E.U. and throughout the world. In addition, continuing downgrades of sovereign debt could bring down the average credit rating quality of our investment portfolio.

The interdependencies among European economies and financial institutions and between such European economies and financial institutions and those of the rest of the world have also exacerbated concern regarding the stability of European financial markets generally and certain institutions in particular. One or more Euro-zone countries could come under increasing pressure to leave the European Monetary Union or the European Union, or the Euro as the single currency of the Euro-zone could cease to exist if the European Monetary Union were dissolved. These or other actions could ultimately result in the European Union ceasing to exist. Any of these developments, or the perception that any of these developments are likely to occur, could lead to severe economic recession or depression. If one or more countries abandon the Euro or the European Monetary Union dissolves, it may result in uncertainty with respect to the terms, value or enforceability of these bonds, instruments or contracts, which could result in a material loss to us. Similarly, if a country leaving the Euro-zone imposes currency controls, such controls may have a material adverse impact on the value of and our ability to withdraw funds from that country.

Given the extent of our European operations, including that XL-Ireland is domiciled in Ireland, and our European investment holdings, clients and counterparties, persistent volatility in the European financial markets, or the failure of any significant European financial institution arising from the wider implications of the crisis, even if not an immediate counterparty to us, could have a material adverse impact on our business, investment portfolio, liquidity or financial performance. If the current Euro-zone sovereign debt crisis persists or worsens, it could lead to further political uncertainty, material changes to tax policies of Euro-zone countries, financial turmoil and social unrest, affecting the successful implementation of stability measures. Sovereigns, financial institutions and companies may become subject to liquidity shortages and be unable to obtain refinancing or new funding, leading to an increased risk of a default on their existing debt, and measures to reduce debt levels and fiscal deficits could result in a further slowdown of or negative economic growth.

For a discussion of the risks to our business during or following a financial market disruption and risks to our investment portfolio, see the risk factor entitled "We are exposed to significant capital markets risk related to changes in interest rates, credit spreads, equity prices and foreign exchange rates as well as other investment risks, which may adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows." For a discussion of risks associated with the United States' credit rating, see the risk factor entitled "Downgrading of the United States' credit rating could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations."

Our efforts to develop new products or expand in targeted markets may not be successful and may create enhanced risks.

A number of our recent and planned business initiatives involve developing new products or expanding existing products in targeted markets. This includes the following efforts, from time to time, to protect or profitably grow market share:

- We may develop products that insure risks we have not previously insured or contain new coverage or coverage terms.
- We may refine our underwriting processes.
- We may seek to expand distribution channels.
- We may focus on geographic markets within or outside of the United States where we have had relatively little or no market share or operating history.

We may not be successful in introducing new products or expanding in targeted markets and, even if we are successful, these efforts may create enhanced risks. Among other risks:

- Demand for new products or in new markets may not meet our expectations.
- To the extent we are able to market new products or expand into new markets, our risk exposures may change, and the data and models we use to manage such exposures may not be as sophisticated as those we use in existing markets or with existing products. This, in turn, could lead to losses in excess of our expectations.
- Efforts to develop new products or markets have the potential to create or increase distribution channel conflict.
- In connection with the conversion of existing policyholders to a new product, some policyholders' pricing may increase, while the pricing for other policyholders may decrease, the net impact of which could negatively impact retention and margins.
- To develop new products or markets, we may encounter unanticipated operational issues or we may need to make substantial capital and operating expenditures, which may also negatively impact results.

If our efforts to develop new products or expand in targeted markets are not successful, our results could be materially and adversely affected.

We are exposed to significant capital markets risk related to changes in interest rates, credit spreads, equity prices and foreign exchange rates as well as other investment risks, which may adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

Our operating results are affected by the performance of our investment portfolio. Our assets are invested by a number of investment management service providers under the direction of the Company's management within the Investment Group in accordance, in general, with detailed investment guidelines set by us under the oversight of the RFC, and established in accordance with our SAA framework for our P&C and Life operations investment portfolios. Although our investment policies stress diversification of risks and conservation of principal and liquidity, our investments are subject to market-wide risks, as noted below, and fluctuations, as well as to risks inherent in particular securities. We are exposed to significant capital markets risks related to changes in interest rates, credit spreads and defaults, market liquidity, equity prices and foreign currency exchange rates. If significant continued market volatility, changes in interest rates, changes in credit spreads and defaults, a lack of pricing transparency, a reduction in market liquidity, declines in equity prices, and the strengthening or weakening of foreign currencies against the U.S. dollar occur, individually or together, this could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated results of operations, financial condition or cash flows through realized losses, impairments, and changes in unrealized positions. Levels of write-down or impairment are impacted by our assessment of the intent to sell securities that have declined in value as well as actual losses as a result of defaults or deterioration in estimates of cash flows. We periodically review our investment portfolio structure and strategy. If, as a result of such review, we determine to reposition or realign portions of the investment portfolio and sell securities in an unrealized loss position, we will incur an other than temporary impairment charge. Any such charge may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and business.

For the year ended December 31, 2012, as a result of the prolonged and continued volatility and disruptions in the public debt and equity markets, we incurred realized and unrealized investment losses, as described in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” under Part II, Item 7 of this report. We continue to closely monitor current market conditions and evaluate the long term impact of this market volatility on all of our investment holdings. Depending on market conditions, we could incur additional realized and unrealized losses in future periods, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company’s results of operations, financial condition and business.

Our exposure to interest rate risk relates primarily to the market price and cash flow variability of fixed income instruments that are associated with changes in interest rates. Our investment portfolio contains interest rate sensitive instruments, such as fixed income securities, which have been and may continue to be adversely affected by changes in interest rates from central bank monetary policies, domestic and international economic and political conditions and other factors beyond our control. A rise in interest rates would increase the net unrealized loss position of our investment portfolio, offset by our ability to earn higher rates of return on funds reinvested over time. Conversely, a decline in interest rates would decrease the net unrealized loss position of our investment portfolio, offset by lower rates of return on funds reinvested. We maintain a P&C investment portfolio with diversified maturities that has a weighted average duration that is determined in accordance with its SAA Benchmark based on a dynamic financial analysis of investment assets and liabilities, and that is intended to maximize the Company’s enterprise value subject to accounting, regulatory, capital and risk tolerances. The SAA Benchmarks and portfolios supporting our Life operations are rebalanced regularly to reflect an explicit asset-liability management process. However, for both the P&C and Life operations investment portfolios our estimates of the time and size of our estimated loss payment profile may be inaccurate and despite stochastic investment portfolio modeling, we may be forced to liquidate investments prior to maturity at a loss in order to cover liabilities. In sum, we are economically exposed to interest rate risk on our capital and to the extent that our investment portfolio maturities are a poor hedge of actual liability loss payments.

Our exposure to credit spread risk relates primarily to the market price associated with changes in prevailing market credit spreads and the impact on our holdings of spread products such as corporate and structured and credit-sensitive government-related securities. Approximately 2.8% of our aggregate fixed income portfolio consists of below investment-grade high yield fixed income securities. These securities have a higher degree of credit or default risk and a greater exposure to credit spread risk. Certain sectors within the investment and below investment grade fixed income market, such as structured and corporate credit, may be less liquid in times of economic weakness or market disruptions. While we have put in place procedures to monitor the credit risk and liquidity of our invested assets in general and those impacted by recent credit market issues specifically, it is possible that, in periods of economic weakness or periods of turmoil in capital markets, we may experience default losses in both our investment grade and below investment grade corporate and structured holdings. This may result in a material reduction of net income, capital and cash flows.

We invest a portion of our investment portfolio in common stock or equity-related securities, including alternative funds, private equity funds and other funds. The value of these assets fluctuates, due to changes in the equity and credit markets along with other factors. In times of economic weakness, the market value and liquidity of these assets may decline, and may impact net income, capital and cash flows. In addition, certain of the products offered by our Life operations offer fixed guaranteed returns while debt and equity yields may continue to decline. In addition, the amount of earnings from alternative funds, private investment funds and other funds are not earned evenly across the year, or even from year to year. As a result, the amount of earnings that we record from these investments may vary substantially from quarter to quarter. The timing of distributions from such private investment funds depends on particular events relating to the underlying investments. The ability of an alternative fund to satisfy any redemption request from its investors depends on the underlying liquidity of the alternative fund’s investments. As a result, earnings, distributions and redemptions from these two asset classes may be more difficult to predict, and, if such funds are unable to satisfy our redemption requests, our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows may be adversely impacted. As alternative and private investment funds are collective investment vehicles managed by third parties, we do not control the proceeds once we make our investments, thus subjecting us to a higher level of fraud risk than is the case with our fixed income and equity holdings.

The functional currencies of our principal insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries include the U.S. dollar, U.K. sterling, the Euro, the Swiss franc and the Canadian dollar. Exchange rate fluctuations relative to the functional currencies may materially impact our financial position, results of operations and cash flows. Many of our non-U.S. subsidiaries maintain both assets and liabilities in currencies different than their functional currency, which exposes us to changes in currency exchange rates.

In addition, locally-required capital levels are invested in local currencies in order to satisfy regulatory requirements and to support local insurance operations regardless of currency fluctuations. Foreign exchange rate risk is reviewed as part of our risk management process and we utilize derivative instruments such as futures, options and foreign currency forward contracts to, among other things, manage our foreign currency exposure. It is possible that these instruments will not effectively mitigate all or a substantial portion of our foreign exchange rate risk, which could adversely impact the Company's results of operations.

Certain of our investments may be illiquid or are in asset classes that have in times of market stress experienced significant market valuation fluctuations.

We hold certain investments that may lack liquidity or for which the availability of prices or inputs may be reduced in periods of market dislocation, such as non-agency residential mortgage-backed and collateralized debt obligations securities. Even some of our high quality assets have been more illiquid during periods of challenging market conditions. Generally, securities classified as Level 3 pursuant to the fair value hierarchy set forth in authoritative accounting guidance over fair value measurements may be less liquid, may be more difficult to value, requiring significant judgment, and may be more likely to result in sales at materially different amounts than the fair values determined by management.

If we require significant amounts of cash on short notice in excess of normal cash requirements or are required to post or return collateral in connection with certain of our reinsurance contracts, credit agreements, derivative transactions or our invested portfolio, we may have difficulty selling these investments in a timely manner, be forced to sell them for less than we otherwise would have been able to realize, or both.

The reported values of our relatively illiquid types of investments and, in certain circumstances, our high quality, generally liquid asset classes, do not necessarily reflect the lowest current market bid price for the asset. If we were forced to sell certain of our assets in the market, there can be no assurance that we will be able to sell them for the prices at which we have recorded them and we may be forced to sell them at significantly lower prices, particularly at times of extreme market illiquidity. Any such sales could adversely impact the Company's financial position.

If actual claims exceed our loss reserves, or if changes in the estimated levels of loss reserves are necessary, our financial results and cash flows could be adversely affected.

Our results of operations and financial condition depend upon our ability to assess accurately the potential losses associated with the risks that we insure and reinsure. We establish reserves for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expense ("LAE") liabilities, which are estimates of future payments of reported and unreported claims for losses and related expenses with respect to insured events that have occurred. The process of establishing reserves for property and casualty claims can be complex and is subject to considerable variability, as it requires the use of informed estimates and judgments. Actuarial estimates of unpaid loss and LAE liabilities are subject to potential errors of estimation, which could be significant, due to the fact that the ultimate disposition of claims incurred prior to the date of such estimation, whether reported or not, is subject to the outcome of events that have not yet occurred. Examples of these events include the accuracy of the factual information on which the estimates were based, especially as estimates develop, jury decisions, court interpretations, legislative changes, changes in the medical condition of claimants, public attitudes, and economic conditions such as inflation.

Recent deficit spending by governments in the Company's major markets exposes the Company to heightened risk of inflation. Inflation in relation to medical costs, construction costs and tort issues in particular impact the property and casualty industry. However, broader market inflation also poses a risk of increasing overall loss costs. The impact of inflation on loss costs could be more pronounced for those lines of business that are considered "long tail" such as general liability, as they require a relatively long period of time to finalize and settle claims for a given accident year. Changes in the level of inflation also result in an increased level of uncertainty in our estimation of loss reserves, particularly for long tail lines of business. The estimation of loss reserves may also be more difficult during times of adverse economic

conditions due to unexpected changes in behavior of claimants and policyholders, including an increase in fraudulent reporting of exposures and/or losses, reduced maintenance of insured properties or increased frequency of small claims.

Similarly, the actual emergence of claims for life business may vary from the assumptions underlying the policy benefit reserves, in particular, the future assumed mortality improvements on the blocks of in-payment annuities.

We have an actuarial staff in each of our operating segments and a Chief Actuary who regularly evaluates the levels of loss reserves, taking into consideration factors that may impact the ultimate losses incurred. Any such evaluation could result in future changes in estimates of losses or reinsurance recoverable and would be reflected in our results of operations in the period in which the estimates are changed. Losses and LAE, to the extent that they exceed the applicable reserves, are charged to income as incurred. The reserve for unpaid losses and LAE represents the estimated ultimate losses and LAE less paid losses and LAE, and comprises case reserves and IBNR. During the loss settlement period, which can span many years in duration for casualty business, additional facts regarding individual claims and trends often will become known and case reserves may be adjusted by allocation from IBNR without any change in the overall reserve. In addition, application of statistical and actuarial methods may require the adjustment of the overall reserves upward or downward from time to time. Accordingly, the ultimate settlement of losses may be significantly greater than or less than reported loss and loss expense reserves.

The effects of emerging claim and coverage issues on our business are uncertain.

As industry practices and legal, judicial, social, political and other environmental conditions change, unexpected issues related to claims and coverage may emerge. These issues may adversely affect our business by either extending coverage beyond our underwriting intent or by increasing the number or size of claims, such as the effects that disruptions in the credit markets could have on the number and size of reported claims under directors and officers liability insurance (“D&O”) and professional liability insurance lines of business. In some instances, these changes may not become apparent until some time after we have issued the insurance or reinsurance contracts that are affected by the changes. Historically such claims and coverage issues have occurred at heightened levels during periods of very soft market conditions which often reflect an inflection point in the typical cycle of insurance industry market conditions. In addition, our actual losses may vary materially from our current estimate of the loss based on a number of factors, including receipt of additional information from insureds or brokers, the attribution of losses to coverages that had not previously been considered as exposed and inflation in repair costs due to additional demand for labor and materials. As a result, the full extent of liability under an insurance or reinsurance contract may not be known for many years after such contract is issued and a loss occurs.

There can be no assurance as to the effect that governmental and regulatory actions will have on the marketplace generally or on us in particular.

In response to the financial crises affecting the banking system and financial markets and going concern threats to financial institutions, there have been numerous regulatory and governmental actions in the United States, the U.K. and the Euro-zone, among other countries. The purpose of these legislative and regulatory actions is to stabilize the U.S. and international financial markets, improve the flow of credit, increase employment levels and foster an economic recovery.

Under the Dodd-Frank Act, the Financial Stability Oversight Council (“FSOC”) has issued rules establishing the process and criteria by which companies may be designated as nonbank systemically important financial institutions (“SIFIs”) subject to the examination, enforcement and supervisory authority of the FSOC. Similarly, the Financial Stability Board (“FSB”), consisting of representatives of national financial authorities of the G20 nations, has issued a series of frameworks and recommendations intended to produce significant changes in how financial companies, particularly global systemically important financial institutions (“G-SIFIs”), should be regulated. These frameworks and recommendations address issues such as financial group supervision, capital and solvency standards, systemic economic risk, corporate governance including compensation, and a host of related issues associated with responses to the financial crisis. In addition, the FSB has directed the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (“IAIS”) to create standards relative to these areas for global systemically important insurers (“G-SIIs”) and incorporate them within that body’s Insurance Core Principles. While we do not expect that we will be designated as a SIFI,

G-SIFI or G-SII, certain of our competitors may be so designated, which may impact market behavior and/or access to capital.

With respect to our investment portfolio, we own a number of Tier 1 and Upper Tier 2 hybrid securities issued by financial institutions including those based in the U.S., Europe and the U.K. There is a risk that, if the capital positions of financial institutions deteriorate further government intervention, particularly nationalization of such institutions, could occur. There is also a risk of regulatory imposed deferral of coupons or decisions by bank management not to call the capital or defer the coupon payments. This may result in losses on the hybrid securities we hold. There is also the risk of further downgrades of these or other securities as rating agencies re-evaluate their rating methodologies, which would negatively impact the regulatory capital of the Life operations or the valuation of our investment portfolio assets generally.

In particular, the current sovereign debt crisis concerning European countries, including Greece, Italy, Ireland, Portugal and Spain, or GIIPS, and related European financial restructuring efforts, may cause the value of the European currencies, including the Euro, to further deteriorate, which in turn could adversely impact Euro-denominated assets held in our investment portfolio or our European book of business. In addition, the European crisis is contributing to instability in global credit markets, as well as the widening of bond yield spreads. Rating agency downgrades on European sovereign debt and continuing concern about the potential default of government issuers or a possible break-up of the European Union has further contributed to this uncertainty. Should governments default on their obligations, there will be a negative impact on both our direct holdings, as well as on non-government issues and financials held within the country of default. See Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations–Balance Sheet Analysis–European Sovereign Debt Crisis” for an analysis of our fixed maturity portfolio’s exposure to GIIPS.

There can be no assurance as to the effect that any such governmental actions or future regulatory initiatives may have on certain investment instruments in our investment portfolio, or on our competitive position, business or financial position. If global economic and market conditions remain uncertain and volatile, or deteriorate further, we may experience material adverse impacts on our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

We may be unable to purchase reinsurance and, even if we are able to successfully purchase reinsurance, we are subject to the possibility of being unable to collect reinsurance when due.

We purchase reinsurance for our own account in order to mitigate the volatility that losses impose on our financial condition. Our clients purchase reinsurance from us to cover part of the risk originally written by them. Retrocessional reinsurance involves a reinsurer ceding to another reinsurer, the retrocessionaire, all or part of the reinsurance that the first reinsurer has assumed. Reinsurance, including retrocessional reinsurance, does not legally discharge the ceding company from its liability with respect to its obligations to its insureds or reinsureds. A reinsurer’s or retrocessionaire’s insolvency, inability or refusal to make timely payments under the terms of its agreements with us, therefore, could have a material adverse effect on us because we remain liable to our insureds and reinsureds. For further information regarding our reinsurance exposure, see Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

From time to time, market conditions may limit or prevent us from obtaining the types and amounts of reinsurance that we consider adequate for our business needs such that we may not be able to obtain reinsurance or retrocessional reinsurance from entities with satisfactory creditworthiness in amounts that we deem desirable or on terms that we deem appropriate or acceptable.

The impairment of other financial institutions could adversely affect us.

We have exposure to counterparties in various industries, including banks, hedge funds and other investment vehicles, and in reinsurance and other transactions, including derivative transactions. Many of these transactions expose us to credit risk in the event our counterparty fails to perform its obligations. Even if we are entitled to collateral when a counterparty defaults, such collateral may be illiquid or proceeds from such collateral when liquidated may not be sufficient to recover the full amount of the obligation. We also have exposure to financial institutions in the form of secured and unsecured debt instruments and equity securities. See Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.”

Since we depend on a few brokers for a large portion of our revenues, loss of business provided by any one of them could adversely affect us.

We market our insurance and reinsurance products worldwide primarily through insurance and reinsurance brokers. AON Corporation, Marsh & McLennan Companies and the Willis Group and their respective subsidiaries each provided significant portions of our gross written premiums for property and casualty operations. Loss of all or a substantial portion of the business provided by one or more of these brokers could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our reliance on brokers subjects us to credit risk.

In certain jurisdictions, when an insured or ceding insurer pays premiums for policies of insurance or contracts of reinsurance to brokers for further payment to us, such premiums might be considered to have been paid and the insured or ceding insurer will no longer be liable to us for such amounts, whether or not we have actually received the premiums from the broker. In addition, in accordance with industry practice, we generally pay amounts owed on claims under our reinsurance contracts to brokers, and these brokers, in turn, pay these amounts over to the clients that have purchased reinsurance from us. Although the law is unsettled and depends upon the facts and circumstances of the particular case, in some jurisdictions, if a broker fails to make such a claims payment to the insured or ceding insurer, we might remain liable to the insured or ceding insurer for that non-payment. Consequently, we assume a degree of credit risk associated with the brokers with whom we transact business. Due to the unsettled and fact-specific nature of the law governing these types of scenarios and our lack of historical experience with such risks, we are unable to quantify our exposure to this risk.

We are subject to a number of risks associated with our business in emerging markets.

Our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries conduct business outside the United States, primarily in the U.K., Bermuda, and Europe. We have also continued to pursue opportunities in other countries, including in emerging markets such as Asia, Africa and Latin America. In conducting such business we are subject to a number of significant risks. These risks include restrictions such as price controls, capital controls, exchange controls, ownership limits and other restrictive governmental actions, which could have an adverse effect on our business and our reputation. In addition, some countries, particularly emerging economies, have laws and regulations that lack clarity and, even with local expertise and effective controls, it can be difficult to determine the exact requirements of the local laws. Failure to comply with local laws in a particular market could have a significant and negative effect not only on our business in that market but also on our reputation generally.

Our holding company structure and certain regulatory and other constraints affect our ability to pay dividends, make payments on our debt securities and make other payments.

Our ability to pay dividends or return capital from shareholders' equity is limited by applicable laws and regulations of the various jurisdictions in which our principal operating subsidiaries operate, certain additional required regulatory approvals and financial covenants contained in our letters of credit and revolving credit facilities.

As holding companies, XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman have no operations of their own and their assets consist primarily of investments in subsidiaries. Accordingly, XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman rely on the availability of dividends and other permissible payments from subsidiaries to make principal and interest payments on debt, to pay operating expenses and ordinary and preferred shareholder dividends, to make capital investments in subsidiaries and to pay other obligations that may arise from time to time. The payment of dividends to us by our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries is regulated under the laws of the various countries and states, including Bermuda, the U.K., Ireland, Switzerland and in the other jurisdictions where we have regulated subsidiaries, by certain insurance statutes of various states in the United States in which our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are licensed to transact business and by the Society of Lloyd's. For further information regarding regulatory restrictions governing the payment of dividends by the Company's significant property and casualty subsidiaries in Ireland, Bermuda and the U.S., see Item 8, Note 23, "Statutory Financial Data," to the Consolidated Financial Statements, and Item 1, "Business – Regulation."

XL-Ireland is subject to certain legal constraints that affect its ability to pay dividends on or redeem or buyback our ordinary shares. While XL-Ireland's articles of association authorize its board of directors to

declare and pay dividends as justified from the profits, under Irish law, XL-Ireland may only pay dividends or buyback or redeem shares using distributable reserves. On July 23, 2010, the Irish High Court approved XL-Ireland's conversion of share premium to \$5.0 billion of distributable reserves, subject to the completion of certain formalities under Irish Company law. These formalities were completed in early August 2010. As of December 31, 2012, XL-Ireland had \$3.6 billion in distributable reserves. In addition, no dividend or distribution may be made unless the net assets of XL-Ireland are not less than the aggregate of its share capital plus undistributable reserves and the distribution does not reduce XL-Ireland's net assets below such aggregate.

In addition, XL-Cayman is subject to certain constraints that affect its ability to pay dividends on its preferred shares. Under Cayman Islands law, XL-Cayman may not declare or pay a dividend if there are reasonable grounds for believing that XL-Cayman is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due in the ordinary course of business. Also, the terms of XL-Cayman's preferred shares prohibit declaring or paying dividends on the ordinary shares unless full dividends have been declared and paid on the outstanding preferred shares.

The ability to declare and pay dividends may also be restricted by financial covenants in our letters of credit and revolving credit facilities. We were in compliance with all covenants by significant margins at December 31, 2012, and currently remain in compliance.

We may require additional capital in the future, which may not be available to us on satisfactory terms, on a timely basis or at all.

Our future capital requirements depend on many factors, including our ability to write new business successfully and to establish premium rates and reserves at levels sufficient to cover our losses. To the extent that the funds generated by our ongoing operations are insufficient to fund future operating requirements and cover claim payments, or that our capital position is adversely impacted by mark-to-market changes on the investment portfolio, catastrophe events or otherwise, we may need to raise additional funds through financings or curtail our growth and reduce our assets. As a result of the current severe economic conditions that persist in the capital markets, any future financing may not be available on terms that are favorable to us, if at all. Our letter of credit facilities are needed to a significant extent for U.S. cedants, and are effective for such cedants only if the banks issuing letters of credit are on the list of National Association of Insurance Commissioners ("NAIC") approved banks. If some or all of the issuing banks under our credit facilities cease to be NAIC approved, whether arising from macroeconomic or bank specific events, and we are unable to replace non-approved banks with NAIC approved banks, our letter of credit facility capacity could be significantly diminished. In addition, in the case of a macroeconomic event, such as dissolution of the European Monetary Union, the availability of alternative lending sources may be significantly reduced or non-existent, and the cost of replacement facilities may be significantly increased or prohibitive. Any future equity financings could be dilutive to our existing shareholders or could result in the issuance of securities that have rights, preferences and privileges that are senior to those of our other securities. Our inability to obtain adequate capital could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Competition in the insurance and reinsurance industries could reduce our operating margins.

The insurance and reinsurance industries are highly competitive. We compete on an international and regional basis with major U.S., Bermudian, European and other international insurers and reinsurers and with underwriting syndicates, some of which have greater financial and management resources and higher ratings than we have. We also compete with new companies that continue to be formed to enter the insurance and reinsurance markets and with alternative products that are intended to compete with reinsurance products, such as insurance/risk-linked securities, catastrophe bonds and derivatives. In recent years capital market participants have been increasingly active in the reinsurance market and markets for related risks. Increased competition could result in fewer submissions, lower premium rates and less favorable policy terms and conditions, which could reduce our margins.

Operational risks, including human or systems failures, are inherent in our business.

Losses can result from operational risk such as, among other things, fraud, errors, failure to document transactions properly or to obtain proper internal authorization, failure to comply with regulatory requirements, information technology failures, failure to appropriately transition new hires or external events. Areas of operational risk can be heightened in discontinued or exited businesses as a result of

reduced overall resource allocation and the loss of relevant knowledge and expertise by departing management.

We operate globally, and have two office locations in India that currently provide large portions of our back office support. Our global operations present significant operational risk due to the possibility of disruptions in communication or information processes, whether due to technical difficulties, power failures or destruction or damage to our offices for any reason. If any disruption occurs, our business continuity and disaster recovery plans may not be effective, particularly if natural or man-made catastrophic events occur, and such disruption could harm our results of operations or our reputation in the marketplace.

We believe that our modeling, underwriting and information technology and application systems are critical to our business, as our operations rely on the secure processing, storage and transmission of confidential and other information in our computer systems and networks. Moreover, our information technology and application systems have been important to our underwriting process and our ability to compete successfully. Our business depends on effective information systems and the integrity and timeliness of the data we use to run our business. Our ability to adequately price products and services, to establish reserves, to provide effective and efficient service to our clients, and to timely and accurately report our financial results also depends significantly on the integrity of the data in our information systems and processes supporting them. Failure of any of these systems or inaccuracies in the data stored therein may jeopardize our ability to service and interact with clients, which could result in significant losses or reputational damage. In addition, we have licensed certain systems and data from third parties. We cannot be certain that we will have access to these, or comparable, service providers, or that our information technology or application systems will continue to operate as intended. We also have outsourced the day-to-day management, custody and record-keeping of our investment portfolio to third-party managers and custodians that we believe to be reputable. A major defect in those investment managers' investment management strategy, or decision-making could result in management distraction and/or significant financial loss. We also rely on a few brokers for a large portion of our revenues. A major defect in our brokers', investment managers' or custodians' internal controls or information and technology systems could result in management distraction or significant financial loss.

Any ineffectiveness in our internal controls, information technology, application systems, investment management or custody and record keeping could have a material adverse effect on our business.

System security risks, data protection breaches and cyber-attacks could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Our internal control and information technology and application systems may be vulnerable to threats from computer viruses, natural disasters, unauthorized access, cyber attack and other similar disruptions. Experienced computer programmers and hackers may be able to penetrate our network's system security measures and misappropriate or compromise confidential information, create system disruptions or cause shutdowns. In addition to our own confidential information, as a (re)insurer, we receive and are required to protect confidential information from clients and other third parties. To the extent any disruption or security breach results in a loss or damage to our data, or inappropriate disclosure of our confidential information or that of others, it could cause significant damage to our reputation, affect our relationships with our customers and clients, lead to claims against us, result in regulatory action and ultimately have a material adverse effect on our business. In addition, we may be required to incur significant costs to mitigate the damage caused by any security breach, or to protect against future damage.

Unanticipated losses from terrorism and uncertainty surrounding the future of the TRIPRA could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

The U.S. Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 ("TRIA"), as amended, established the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program ("TRIP"), which became effective on November 26, 2002 and was a three-year federal program effective through 2005. On December 22, 2005, President George W. Bush signed a bill extending TRIA ("TRIAE") for two more years, continuing TRIP through 2007. On December 26, 2007, President George W. Bush signed the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 ("TRIPRA") which further extended TRIP for seven years until December 31, 2014 and also eliminated the distinction between foreign and domestic acts of terrorism.

In response to the tightening of supply in certain insurance and reinsurance markets resulting from, among other things, the September 11 event, the TRIP was created upon the enactment of the TRIA of

2002 to ensure the availability of commercial insurance coverage for certain terrorist acts in the U.S. This law established a federal program, that has now been extended to December 31, 2014, to help the commercial property and casualty insurance industry cover claims related to future terrorism-related losses and required that coverage for terrorist acts be offered by insurers.

TRIA voided in force terrorism exclusions as of November 26, 2002 for certified terrorism on all TRIA specified property and casualty business. TRIA required covered insurers to make coverage available for certified acts of terrorism on all new and renewal policies issued after TRIA was enacted. TRIA along with further extensions to TRIP, as noted above, allows us to assess a premium charge for terrorism coverage and, if the policyholder declines the coverage or fails to pay the buy-back premium, certified acts of terrorism may then be excluded from the policy, subject, however, to state specific requirements. Terrorism coverage cannot be excluded from workers' compensation policies. Subject to a premium-based deductible and provided that we have otherwise complied with all the requirements as specified under TRIPRA, we are eligible for reimbursement by the Federal Government for up to 85% of our covered terrorism-related losses arising from a certified terrorist attack. Such payment by the government will, in effect, provide reinsurance protection on a quota share basis. The maximum liability during a program year, including both the Federal Government's and insurers' shares, is capped on an aggregated basis at \$100 billion. While regulations have been promulgated by the Department of the Treasury ("Treasury") requiring that Treasury advise participating insurers, such as the Company, in advance of reaching the \$100 billion aggregate limit that such aggregate limit could be reached during the program year, there is a risk that the Company will not be given adequate notice of the potential exhaustion of that aggregate limit. Accordingly, the Company could overpay with regard to such losses, and it is unlikely Treasury would reimburse the Company for such losses; moreover, it is unclear whether the Company, in the event of an overpayment, would be able to recover the amount of any such overpayment.

We believe that TRIP and the related legislation have been an effective mechanism to assist policyholders and industry participants with the extreme contingent losses that might be caused by acts of terrorism. Nevertheless, we cannot provide assurance that TRIPRA will be extended beyond 2014, and its expiration or a significant change in terms could have an adverse effect on us, our clients or the insurance industry.

The regulatory regimes under which we operate, and potential changes thereto, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries operate in more than 20 countries around the world as well as in all 50 U.S. states. Our operations in each of these jurisdictions are subject to varying degrees of regulation and supervision. The laws and regulations of the jurisdictions in which our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are domiciled require, among other things, these subsidiaries to maintain minimum levels of statutory capital, surplus and liquidity, meet solvency standards, submit to periodic examinations of their financial condition and restrict payments of dividends, distributions and reductions of capital in certain circumstances. Statutes, regulations and policies that our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are subject to may also restrict the ability of these subsidiaries to write insurance and reinsurance policies, make certain investments and distribute funds.

In recent years, the U.S. insurance regulatory framework has come under increased federal scrutiny. In July 2010, the Dodd-Frank Act was signed into law. The Dodd-Frank Act requires many federal agencies to adopt new rules and regulations that will apply to the financial services industry and also calls for many studies regarding various industry practices. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Act created a Federal Insurance Office within the Treasury that is focused on national coordination of the insurance sector, systemic risk mitigation and international regulatory cooperation. Although the Federal Insurance Office currently does not directly regulate the insurance industry, under the Dodd-Frank Act it has the power to preempt state insurance regulations that are inconsistent with international agreements regarding insurance regulation, subject to certain exceptions. In addition, the Dodd-Frank Act provides that the Federal Insurance Office must submit a report to Congress on improving U.S. insurance regulation, which must cover the feasibility of future federal regulation of the U.S. insurance industry. This study or one of the various other studies required by the legislation could result in additional rulemaking or legislative action, which could negatively impact our business and financial results. While we have not yet been required to make material changes to our business or operations as a result of the Dodd-Frank Act, due to the complexity and broad scope of the Dodd-Frank Act and the time required for regulatory implementation, it is not certain what the scope of

future rulemaking or interpretive guidance from the SEC, CFTC or other regulatory agencies may be, and what impact this will have on our compliance costs, business, operations and profitability.

In addition, some state legislatures have considered or enacted laws that may alter or increase state regulation of insurance and reinsurance companies and holding companies. Moreover, the NAIC, which is the organization of insurance regulators from the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and the four U.S. territories, as well as state insurance regulators, regularly reexamine existing laws and regulations.

In addition to these proposals and initiatives in the United States, new capital adequacy and risk management regulations, called Solvency II, were expected to be implemented throughout the European Union by January 1, 2014. However, due to a delay in the vote on the Omnibus II directive by the European Parliament from October 22, 2012, then to November 20, 2012 to the current schedule of March 2013, it is widely accepted that this implementation date will not be met. The Central Bank of Ireland has informed us that it will be our group supervisor under Solvency II. See “Business – Regulation”. Regulations and legislation relating to capital adequacy and risk management are also in the process of being developed or implemented in other jurisdictions. There remains significant uncertainty as to the impact that these various regulations and legislation will have on us; however, such impact could include constraints on our ability to move capital between subsidiaries or require that additional capital be provided to subsidiaries in certain jurisdictions, which may impact our profitability.

Our Bermuda-based operating subsidiaries are subject to the BMA’s risk-based capital standards for (re)insurance companies, which impose required levels of statutory capital and surplus on our Bermuda-based operating standards. While our Bermuda-based operating subsidiaries currently have excess capital and surplus under these requirements, there can be no assurance that such requirements or similar regulations, in their current form or as may be amended in the future, will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We may not be able to comply fully with, or obtain desired exemptions from, revised statutes, regulations and policies that govern the conduct of our business. Failure to comply with, or to obtain desired authorizations and/or exemptions under, any applicable laws could result in restrictions on our ability to do business or undertake activities that are regulated in one or more of the jurisdictions in which we operate and could subject us to fines and other sanctions. In addition, changes in the laws or regulations to which we are, or may become subject, or in the interpretations thereof by enforcement or regulatory agencies, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Potential government intervention in our industry as a result of recent events and instability in the marketplace for insurance products could hinder our flexibility and negatively affect the business opportunities that may be available to us in the market.

Government intervention and the possibility of future government intervention have created uncertainty in the insurance and reinsurance markets. Government regulators are generally concerned with the protection of policyholders to the exclusion of other constituencies, including shareholders of insurers and reinsurers. While we cannot predict the exact nature, timing or scope of possible governmental initiatives, such proposals could adversely affect our business by, among other things:

- providing insurance and reinsurance capacity in markets and to consumers that we target, e.g., the creation or expansion of state or federal catastrophe funds such as those in Florida;
- requiring our participation in industry pools and guarantee associations;
- expanding the scope of coverage or altering the enforceability of deductibles under existing policies;
- regulating the terms of insurance and reinsurance policies;
- ordering the suspension of or otherwise altering the application of insurance laws or regulations; or
- disproportionately benefiting the companies of one country over those of another.

The insurance industry is also affected by political, judicial and legal developments that may create new and expanded theories of liability, which may result in unexpected claims frequency and severity and delays or cancellations of products and services by insureds, insurers and reinsurers which could adversely affect our business.

For further information regarding government regulation and/or intervention in response to the financial and credit crises, see risk factor entitled “There can be no assurance as to the effect that governmental actions will have on the marketplace generally or on us in particular” above.

Consolidation in the insurance industry could adversely impact us.

Insurance industry participants may seek to consolidate through mergers and acquisitions. Continued consolidation within the insurance industry will further enhance the already competitive underwriting environment as we would likely experience more robust competition from larger, better capitalized competitors. These consolidated entities may use their enhanced market power and broader capital base to negotiate price reductions for our products and services, and reduce their use of reinsurance, and, as such, we may experience rate declines and possibly write less business.

The loss of one or more key executives or the inability to attract, motivate and retain qualified personnel could adversely affect our ability to conduct business.

Our success depends on our ability to attract new, highly skilled individuals and to motivate and retain our existing key executives and qualified personnel. The loss of the services of any of our key executives or the inability to attract, motivate and retain other highly skilled individuals in the future could adversely affect our ability to conduct our business. In addition, we do not maintain key man life insurance policies with respect to our employees.

A decrease in the fair values of our reporting units may result in future goodwill impairments.

When we acquire an entity, the excess of the purchase price over the net identifiable assets acquired is allocated to goodwill. We conduct impairment tests on our reported goodwill at least annually or more frequently if impairment indicators exist. In performing a goodwill impairment test, we use various methods and make various assumptions to determine the fair value of our reporting units, including the determination of expected future cash flows and/or profitability of such reporting units, and we take into account market value multiples and/or cash flows of entities that we deem to be comparable in nature, scope or size to our reporting units. However, expected future cash flows and/or profitability may be materially and negatively impacted as a result of, among other things, a decrease in renewal activity and new business opportunities, a decrease in retention or our underwriting teams, lower-than-expected yields and/or cash flows from our investment portfolio or higher-than-expected claims activity and magnitude of incurred losses and general economic factors that impact the reporting unit. In addition, previously determined market value multiples and/or cash flows may no longer be relevant as a result of these potential factors. As a result of these potential changes, the estimated fair value of one or more of our reporting units may decrease, causing the carrying value of the net assets assigned to the reporting unit to exceed the fair value of such net assets. If we determine an impairment exists, we adjust the carrying value of goodwill to its implied fair value. The impairment charge is recorded in our income statement in the period in which the impairment is determined. If we are required in the future to record additional goodwill impairments, our financial condition and results of operations would be negatively affected. In connection with fair value measurements and the accounting for goodwill, the use of generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions. Significant judgment is required in making these estimates and assumptions, and actual results may ultimately be materially different from such estimates and assumptions.

Provisions in our Articles of Association may reduce the voting rights of our ordinary shares.

Our Articles of Association generally provide that shareholders have one vote for each ordinary share held by them and are entitled to vote, on a non-cumulative basis, at all meetings of shareholders. However, the voting power that may be exercised by certain persons or groups may not equal or exceed 10% or more of the voting power conferred by our shares.

In particular, our Articles of Association provide that if, and for so long as, the votes conferred by the Controlled Shares (as defined below) of any person constitute 10% or more of the votes conferred by all our issued shares, the voting rights with respect to the Controlled Shares of such person shall be limited, in the aggregate, to a voting power equal to approximately (but slightly less than) 10%, pursuant to a formula set forth in the our Articles of Association. "Controlled Shares" of a person (as defined in our Articles of Association) include (1) all of our shares owned directly, indirectly or constructively by that person (within the meaning of Section 958 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "IRS Code")), and (2) all of our shares owned directly, indirectly or constructively by that person or any "group" of which that person is a part, within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act.

Provisions in our Articles of Association may restrict the ownership and transfer of our ordinary shares.

Our Articles of Association provide that our Board of Directors shall decline to register a transfer of shares if it appears to our Board of Directors, whether before or after such transfer, that the effect of such transfer would be to increase the number of Controlled Shares of any person to 10% or more of any class of our voting shares, of our total issued shares, or of the total voting power of our total issued shares.

Certain provisions in our charter documents could, among other things, impede an attempt to replace our directors or impose restrictions with respect to a change of control, which could diminish the value of our ordinary shares.

Our Articles of Association contain provisions that may make it more difficult for shareholders to replace directors and could delay or prevent a change of control that a shareholder may consider favorable. These provisions include a staggered board of directors, limitations on the ability of shareholders to remove directors, limitations on voting rights and certain transfer restrictions on our ordinary shares.

As an Irish company, we are subject to the Irish Takeover Rules, under which our Board of Directors is not permitted to take any action that might “frustrate” an offer for our shares once the Board of Directors has received an offer or has reason to believe an offer is or may be imminent without the approval of more than 50% of shareholders entitled to vote at a general meeting of shareholders and/or the consent of the Irish Takeover Panel. This could limit the ability of the Board of Directors to take defensive actions even if the Board of Directors believes that such defensive actions would be in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

The Irish Takeover Rules also could discourage an investor from acquiring 30% or more of our outstanding ordinary shares unless such investor was prepared to make a bid to acquire all outstanding ordinary shares. Further, it could be more difficult for us to obtain shareholder approval for a merger or negotiated transaction because of heightened shareholder approval requirements for certain types of transactions under Irish law.

In addition, insurance regulations in certain jurisdictions may also delay or prevent a change of control or limit the ability of a shareholder to acquire in excess of specified amounts of our ordinary shares.

Irish shareholder voting requirements may limit flexibility with respect to certain aspects of capital management.

Irish law allows shareholders to authorize a board of directors to issue shares subsequent to receipt of authorization without further shareholder approval, but this authorization must be renewed after five years. Additionally, subject to specified exceptions, Irish law grants statutory pre-emption rights to existing ordinary shareholders to subscribe for new issuances of shares for cash, but allows such shareholders to authorize the waiver of such statutory pre-emption rights for five years. Our Articles of Association currently provide authority to the Board of Directors to issue shares without further shareholder approval and to waive ordinary shareholders’ statutory pre-emption rights. However, these authorizations expire in 2015, unless renewed by XL-Ireland’s shareholders, and we can provide no assurance that these authorizations and waivers will always be renewed, which could limit our ability to issue equity in the future.

It may be difficult to enforce judgments against XL-Ireland, XL-Cayman or their directors and executive officers.

XL-Ireland is incorporated pursuant to the laws of Ireland. In addition, certain of our directors and officers reside outside the United States and a substantial portion of our assets and the assets of such directors and officers are located outside the United States. As such, it may be difficult or impossible to effect service of process within the United States upon those persons or to recover on judgments of U.S. courts against us or our directors and officers, including judgments predicated upon civil liability provisions of U.S. federal securities laws. We have been advised that there is no treaty between Ireland and the United States providing for the reciprocal enforcement of foreign judgments. The following requirements must be met before the foreign judgment will be deemed to be enforceable in Ireland:

- the judgment must be for a definite sum;
- the judgment must be final and conclusive; and
- the judgment must be provided by a court of competent jurisdiction.

An Irish court will also exercise its right to refuse judgment if the foreign judgment was obtained by fraud, if the judgment violated Irish public policy, if the judgment is in breach of natural justice or if it is irreconcilable with an earlier foreign judgment.

In addition, XL-Cayman is incorporated pursuant to the laws of the Cayman Islands and is an Irish tax resident. Requirements for enforceability of foreign judgments in Ireland are summarized above. We have been advised that there is doubt as to whether the courts of the Cayman Islands would enforce:

- judgments of U.S. courts based upon the civil liability provisions of U.S. federal securities laws obtained in actions against XL-Cayman or its directors and officers who reside outside the United States; or
- original actions brought in the Cayman Islands against these persons or XL-Cayman predicated solely upon U.S. federal securities laws.

We have also been advised that there is no treaty in effect between the United States and the Cayman Islands providing for such enforcement and there are grounds upon which Cayman Islands courts may not enforce judgments of U.S. courts. Some remedies available under the laws of U.S. jurisdictions, including some remedies available under U.S. federal securities laws, may not be allowed in Cayman Islands courts as contrary to public policy.

Current, pending or future lawsuits against us, including putative class action lawsuits, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations in a particular fiscal quarter or year.

We are subject to lawsuits and arbitrations in the regular course of our business. An adverse resolution of one or more lawsuits or arbitrations could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations in a particular fiscal quarter or year.

Changes in current accounting practices and future pronouncements may materially impact our reported financial results.

Unanticipated developments in accounting practices may require us to incur considerable additional expenses to comply with such developments, particularly if we are required to prepare information relating to prior periods for comparative purposes or to apply the new requirements retroactively. The impact of changes in current accounting practices and future pronouncements cannot be predicted but may affect the calculation of net income, net equity and other relevant financial statement line items and the timing of when impairments and other charges are tested or taken. In particular, recent guidance and ongoing projects put in place by standard setters globally have indicated a possible move away from the current insurance accounting models toward more “fair value” based models which could introduce significant volatility in the earnings of insurance industry participants.

There is a possibility that the Master Agreement entered into at the time of the sale of Syncora and the related commutations and releases could be challenged or that we could be subject to litigation as a result of the Master Agreement. Any such challenge could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations, liquidity or the market price of our securities.

We provided certain reinsurance protections (the “Reinsurance Agreements”) with respect to adverse development on certain transactions as well as indemnification under specific facultative and excess of loss coverages for subsidiaries of Syncora: Syncora Guarantee Re and Syncora Guarantee. At June 30, 2008, our total net exposure under facultative agreements with Syncora subsidiaries was approximately \$6.4 billion of net par value outstanding. Pursuant to the closing of the Master Agreement, all of these Reinsurance Agreements were commuted.

In addition, through one or more of our subsidiaries, we entered into certain agreements with subsidiaries of Syncora pursuant to which we guaranteed certain obligations of Syncora Guarantee Re and Syncora Guarantee under specific agreements (the “Guarantee Agreements”). At June 30, 2008, the total net par value outstanding of business written by subsidiaries of Syncora which fell under the Guarantee Agreements was approximately \$60 billion. Pursuant to the terms of, and required conditions under, the Master Agreement, Syncora Guarantee Re’s facultative quota share reinsurance agreement with Syncora Guarantee, and all individual risk cessions thereunder, and the Financial Security Master Facultative

Agreement, and all individual risk cessions thereunder, were commuted, thereby rendering the Syncora Guarantee Re guarantee and Financial Security guarantee of no further force and effect.

Following the closing of the Master Agreement, Syncora and its applicable subsidiaries were required to use commercially reasonable efforts to commute the underlying financial guarantees that we had issued to the European Investment Bank (“EIB”) in connection with financial guaranty policies between certain subsidiaries of Syncora Holdings and EIB. This was completed in June 2010.

Under federal bankruptcy laws and comparable provisions of state fraudulent transfer laws (including those applicable in any state insurance insolvency proceeding), Syncora’s commutation and release of our obligations pursuant to the Master Agreement and related agreements would constitute a voidable fraudulent transfer if it was determined that Syncora or any applicable subsidiary thereto, at the time it entered into the Master Agreement or such related agreement:

- intended to hinder, delay or defraud its creditors; or
- received less than “reasonably equivalent value” or “fair value consideration” for such release; and either:
 - was insolvent or rendered insolvent by reason of such occurrence; or
 - was engaged in a business or transaction for which its remaining assets constituted unreasonably small capital; or
 - intended to incur, or believed that it would incur, debts beyond its ability to pay such debts as they mature.

Among other regulatory approvals obtained in connection with the Master Agreement and the commutation of the Syncora Guarantee Re/Syncora Guarantee Quota Share, the New York Department of Financial Services (“NYDFS”) issued an approval letter to Syncora Guarantee under Section 1505 of the New York Insurance Law and the Delaware Insurance Department (“DID”) issued an approval letter to Syncora Guarantee Re under Section 5005(a) of the Delaware Insurance Code (effective upon Syncora Guarantee Re’s redomestication to Delaware) (both of which require that the terms of a transaction between an issuer and one or more of its affiliates be fair and equitable) stating, in the case of NYDFS, that the terms of the Master Agreement and each of the commutations are fair and equitable to Syncora Guarantee and do not adversely affect policyholders of Syncora Guarantee and, in the case of the DID, stating that the terms of the Master Agreement and the commutation of the Syncora Guarantee Re/Syncora Guarantee Quota Share were fair and equitable to Syncora Guarantee. The BMA (the domiciliary regulator of Syncora Guarantee Re) also issued an approval letter approving the Master Agreement and each commutation to which Syncora Guarantee Re is a party, including the Syncora Guarantee Re/Syncora Guarantee Quota Share.

There can be no assurance that a court would agree with our, the NYDFS’s, the DID’s, the BMA’s or Syncora’s conclusions, or as to what law or standard a court would ultimately apply in making any such determination or as to how such court would ultimately rule. Further, there can be no assurance that the enforceability of the Master Agreement, the agreements relating thereto and the transactions contemplated thereunder will not be challenged, including under applicable fraudulent transfer laws and/or by asserting any number of other theories for recovery, including third-party beneficiary rights, or that other litigation will not be commenced against us as a result of the Master Agreement and such related agreements and transactions. Additionally, in the event of any liquidation or rehabilitation or similar proceeding of any insurance subsidiary of Syncora, there can be no assurance that any insurance regulator or regulators responsible for such proceedings, in their capacity as liquidator or rehabilitator, would respect the insurance regulatory approvals obtained in connection with the Master Agreement.

We and our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries may become subject to U.S. tax, which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and your investment.

We take the position that neither we nor any of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries are engaged in a U.S. trade or business through a U.S. permanent establishment. Accordingly, we take the position that none of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries should be subject to U.S. tax (other than U.S. excise tax on insurance and reinsurance premium income attributable to insuring or reinsuring U.S. risks and U.S. withholding tax on some types of U.S. source investment income). However, because there is considerable uncertainty as to the activities that constitute being engaged in a trade or business within the United States, we cannot be certain that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the “IRS”) will not contend successfully that

we or any of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries are engaged in a trade or business in the United States. If we or any of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries were considered to be engaged in a trade or business in the United States, any such entity could be subject to U.S. corporate income and additional branch profits taxes on the portion of its earnings effectively connected to such U.S. business, in which case our financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

Changes in U.S. tax law might adversely affect an investment in our shares.

Legislation may be introduced in the U.S. Congress attempting to eliminate certain perceived tax advantages of companies (including insurance companies) that have legal domiciles outside the U.S. but have certain U.S. affiliates. For example, one legislative proposal could impose additional limits on the deductibility of interest by foreign-owned U.S. corporations. Another legislative proposal could modify the standards that indicate when a non-U.S. corporation might be treated as a U.S. corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if it were considered to be primarily managed and controlled in the U.S. In addition, legislation has been proposed in the U.S. that would severely restrict the ability of a company to utilize affiliate reinsurance to manage its U.S. risks and its capital position. Various proposals have been made that would effectively disallow (in some cases permanently and in others temporarily) part or all of the deduction for premiums ceded to affiliates. If any of these proposals, or a similar proposal using the same underlying principles, is enacted, the resulting impact to the Company could have an adverse impact on us or our shareholders. It is possible that other legislative proposals could emerge in the future that could also have an adverse impact on us or our shareholders.

Additionally, the U.S. federal income tax laws and interpretations, including those regarding whether a company is engaged in a trade or business (or has a permanent establishment) within the United States or is a Passive Foreign Investment Company (“PFIC”), or whether U.S. holders would be required to include in their gross income “subpart F income” or the related person insurance income, which we refer to as “RPII” of a Controlled Foreign Corporation (“CFC”), are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. There are currently no regulations regarding the application of the PFIC rules to insurance companies and the regulations regarding RPII are still in proposed form. New regulations or pronouncements interpreting or clarifying such rules may be forthcoming. We cannot be certain if, when or in what form such regulations or pronouncements may be provided and whether such guidance will have a retroactive effect.

We cannot assure you that future legislative action will not increase the amount of U.S. tax payable by us. If an increase occurs, our financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

There is U.S. income tax risk associated with reinsurance between U.S. insurance companies and their Bermuda affiliates.

As discussed above, Congress has periodically considered legislation intended to eliminate certain perceived tax advantages of non-U.S. insurance companies and U.S. insurance companies with non-U.S. affiliates, including perceived tax benefits resulting principally from reinsurance between or among U.S. insurance companies and their non-U.S. affiliates. In this regard, section 845 of the IRS Code was amended in 2004 to permit the IRS to reallocate, recharacterize or adjust items of income, deduction or certain other items related to a reinsurance agreement between related parties to reflect the proper “amount, source or character” for each item (in contrast to prior law, which only covered “source and character”). If the IRS were to successfully challenge our reinsurance arrangements under section 845, our financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected and the price of our ordinary shares could be adversely affected.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has implemented measures and may implement further measures that might change the manner in which we are taxed.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (the “OECD”) published its current tax agenda in May 2012. In this report, the OECD refers to a number of ongoing initiatives. Any measures implemented as a result of these initiatives could have an impact on how we and other multinational organizations are taxed. We are not able to predict the impact on our tax position from the implementation of any such measures.

The OECD’s “Report on the Attribution of Profits to Permanent Establishments” (the “Report”), issued in 2008, summarized the OECD’s initiative to establish a broad consensus regarding the interpretation and

practical application of Article 7 of the OECD Model Tax Convention on Income and Capital (“Article 7”). Article 7 sets forth international tax principles for attributing profits to a permanent establishment and forms the basis of an extensive network of bilateral income tax treaties between OECD member countries and between many OECD member and non-member countries. Part IV of the Report addresses the attribution of profits to a permanent establishment of an enterprise that conducts insurance activities. In 2010, a new version of Article 7 and related commentary was adopted to be used in the negotiation of new treaties and amendments to existing treaties. Although provisions of this new version of Article 7 and related commentary have not and are not expected to change materially the manner in which we are taxed, there can be no assurance that future OECD recommendations related to the Report may not have an adverse impact on us.

If an investor acquires 10% or more of our ordinary shares, it may be subject to taxation under the “controlled foreign corporation” rules.

Under certain circumstances, a U.S. person who owns 10% or more of the voting power of a foreign corporation that is a CFC (a foreign corporation in which 10% U.S. shareholders own more than 50% of the voting power of the foreign corporation or more than 25% of a foreign insurance company) for an uninterrupted period of 30 days or more during a taxable year must include in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes such “10% U.S. Shareholder’s” pro rata share of the CFC’s “subpart F income,” even if the subpart F income is not distributed to such 10% U.S. Shareholder, if such 10% U.S. Shareholder owns (directly or indirectly through foreign entities) any shares of the foreign corporation on the last day of the corporation’s taxable year. “Subpart F income” of a foreign insurance corporation typically includes foreign personal holding company income (such as interest, dividends and other types of passive income), as well as insurance and reinsurance income (including underwriting and investment income) attributable to the insurance of risks situated outside the CFC’s country of incorporation.

While provisions in our organizational documents serve to limit voting power on our ordinary shares, it is possible, that the IRS could challenge the effectiveness of these provisions and that a court could sustain such a challenge, in which case an investor’s investment could be materially adversely affected, if the investor is considered to own 10% or more of our shares.

U.S. Persons who hold shares will be subject to adverse tax consequences if we are considered to be a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

If we are considered a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a U.S. person who owns any of our shares will be subject to adverse tax consequences, including a greater tax liability than might otherwise apply and tax on amounts in advance of when tax would otherwise be imposed, in which case an investor’s investment could be materially adversely affected. In addition, if we were considered a PFIC, upon the death of any U.S. individual owning shares, such individual’s heirs or estate would not be entitled to a “step-up” in the basis of the shares that might otherwise be available under U.S. federal income tax laws. We believe that we are not, have not been, and currently do not expect to become, a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. We cannot provide assurance, however, that we will not be deemed a PFIC by the IRS in the future. If we were considered a PFIC, it could have material adverse tax consequences for an investor that is subject to U.S. federal income taxation. There are currently no regulations regarding the application of the PFIC provisions to an insurance company. New regulations or pronouncements interpreting or clarifying these rules may be forthcoming. We cannot predict what impact, if any, such guidance would have on an investor that is subject to U.S. federal income taxation.

There are U.S. income tax risks associated with the related person insurance income of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries.

If (i) the related person insurance income, which we refer to as “RPII,” of any one of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries were to equal or exceed 20% of that subsidiary’s gross insurance income in any taxable year and (ii) U.S. persons were treated as owning 25% or more of the subsidiary’s stock (by vote or value), a U.S. person who owns any ordinary shares, directly or indirectly, on the last day of such taxable year on which the 25% threshold is met would be required to include in its income for U.S. federal income tax purposes that person’s ratable share of that subsidiary’s RPII for the taxable year, determined as if that RPII were distributed proportionately only to U.S. holders at that date, regardless of whether that income is distributed. The amount of RPII earned by a subsidiary (generally premium and related investment income from the direct or indirect insurance or reinsurance of any direct or indirect U.S. holder

of shares of that subsidiary or any person related to that holder) would depend on a number of factors, including the identity of persons directly or indirectly insured or reinsured by that subsidiary. Although we do not believe that the 20% threshold will be met in respect of any of our non-U.S. insurance subsidiaries, some of the factors that may affect the result in any period may be beyond our control. Consequently, we cannot provide absolute assurance that we will not exceed the RPII threshold in any taxable year.

The RPII rules provide that if a holder who is a U.S. person disposes of shares in a non-U.S. insurance corporation that had RPII (even if the 20% gross income threshold was not met) and met the 25% ownership threshold at any time during the five-year period ending on the date of disposition, and the holder owned any stock at such time, any gain from the disposition will generally be treated as a dividend to the extent of the holder's share (taking into account certain rules for determining a U.S. holder's share of RPII) of the corporation's undistributed earnings and profits that were accumulated during the period that the holder owned the shares (possibly whether or not those earnings and profits are attributable to RPII). In addition, such a shareholder will be required to comply with specified reporting requirements, regardless of the amount of shares owned. We believe that these rules should not apply to dispositions of our ordinary shares because XL- Ireland is not itself directly engaged in the insurance business. We cannot provide absolute assurance, however, that the IRS will not successfully assert that these rules apply to dispositions of our ordinary shares.

We and our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries may become subject to taxes in Bermuda in the future, which may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and your investment.

Our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries have received from the Ministry of Finance in Bermuda exemptions from any Bermuda taxes that might be imposed on profits, income or any capital asset, gain or appreciation until March 31, 2035. The exemptions are subject to the proviso that they are not construed so as to prevent the application of any tax or duty to persons who are ordinarily residents in Bermuda (the Company and our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries are not so currently designated) and to prevent the application of any tax payable in accordance with the provisions of The Land Tax Act 1967 or otherwise payable in relation to the land leased to us and our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries. XL-Ireland and other Bermuda-based subsidiaries not incorporated in Bermuda have also received similar exemptions as permit companies under the Companies Act of 1981 of Bermuda. These exemptions are expected to be extended to 2035. Our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries are required to pay certain annual Bermuda government fees and certain business fees as an insurer under The Insurance Act 1978 of Bermuda. Currently there is no Bermuda withholding tax on dividends paid by our Bermuda insurance subsidiaries to us. There can be no assurance that the tax rules as presently applied may not change in the future.

XL-Cayman may become subject to taxes in the Cayman Islands after June 2, 2018, which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and your investment.

For tax purposes, XL-Cayman is resident in Ireland by virtue of central management and control. In the event Cayman introduces a corporate income tax based on place of incorporation, XL-Cayman would be a dual resident company and potentially subject to tax in both Ireland and Cayman. As there is no double tax treaty between the Cayman Islands and Ireland, XL-Cayman could become subject to taxation in both Ireland and Cayman. Under current Cayman Islands law, we are not obligated to pay any taxes in the Cayman Islands on our income or gains. We have received an undertaking from the Governor-in-Council of the Cayman Islands pursuant to the provisions of the Tax Concessions Law, as amended, that until June 2, 2018, (i) no subsequently enacted law imposing any tax on profits, income, gains or appreciation shall apply to us and (ii) no such tax and no tax in the nature of an estate duty or an inheritance tax shall be payable on any of our ordinary shares, debentures or other obligations. Given the limited duration of the undertaking from the Governor-in-Council of the Cayman Islands, we cannot be certain that we will not be subject to any Cayman Islands tax after June 2, 2018. Such taxation could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and your investment.

Our tax position could be adversely impacted by changes in tax laws, tax treaties or tax regulations or the interpretation or enforcement thereof.

Our tax position could be adversely impacted by changes in tax laws, tax treaties or tax regulations or the interpretation or enforcement thereof by the tax authorities in Ireland, the United States and other jurisdictions, and such changes may be more likely or become more likely in view of recent economic

trends in such jurisdictions, particularly if such trends continue. For example, Ireland has suffered from the consequences of worldwide adverse economic conditions and the credit ratings on its debt have been downgraded. Such tax law changes could cause a material and adverse change in our worldwide effective tax rate and we may have to take further action, at potentially significant expense, to seek to mitigate the effect of such changes. Any future amendments to the current income tax treaties between Ireland and other jurisdictions, including the United States, could subject us to increased taxation and/or potentially significant expense.

Dividends you receive may be subject to Irish dividend withholding tax and Irish income tax.

Dividend withholding tax (currently at a rate of 20%) may arise in respect of dividends paid on the Company's ordinary shares. However, a number of exemptions from dividend withholding tax exist such that ordinary shareholders resident in the United States and ordinary shareholders resident in other specified countries (listed in Annex F attached to the Redomestication Proxy Statement filed with the SEC on March 10, 2010) may be entitled to exemptions from dividend withholding tax if they complete and file certain dividend withholding tax forms. Ordinary shareholders resident in the U.S. that hold their ordinary shares through the Depository Trust Company ("DTC") will not be subject to dividend withholding tax provided the addresses of the beneficial owners of such ordinary shares in the records of the brokers holding such ordinary shares are in the United States (so that such brokers can further transmit the relevant information to a qualifying intermediary appointed by the Company). Similarly, ordinary shareholders resident in the U.S. that hold their ordinary shares directly instead of beneficially through DTC are not subject to dividend withholding tax if such ordinary shareholders held ordinary shares in the Company on January 12, 2010 and they provided a valid Form W-9 showing a U.S. address to the Company's transfer agent. However, other ordinary shareholders may be subject to dividend withholding tax, which could adversely affect the price of our ordinary shares.

In addition, ordinary shareholders entitled to an exemption from Irish dividend withholding tax on dividends received from the Company should not be subject to Irish income tax in respect of those dividends, unless they have some connection with Ireland other than their ordinary shareholdings in the Company. Ordinary shareholders who receive dividends subject to Irish dividend withholding tax will generally have no further liability to Irish income tax on those dividends unless they have some connection with Ireland other than their ordinary shareholding in the Company.

A future transfer of your ordinary shares, other than one effected by means of the transfer of book entry interests in DTC, may be subject to Irish stamp duty.

Transfers of our ordinary shares effected by means of the transfer of book entry interests in DTC will not be subject to Irish stamp duty. The majority of our ordinary shares will be traded through DTC, either directly or through brokers who hold such ordinary shares on behalf of customers through DTC. However, if you hold your ordinary shares directly rather than beneficially through DTC (or through a broker that holds your ordinary shares through DTC), any transfer of your ordinary shares could be subject to Irish stamp duty (currently at the rate of 1% of the higher of the price paid or the market value of the ordinary shares acquired). Payment of Irish stamp duty is generally a legal obligation of the transferee. The potential for stamp duty could adversely affect the price of our ordinary shares.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

We operate in Bermuda, the United States, Europe and various other locations around the world. In 1997, we acquired commercial real estate in Hamilton, Bermuda for the purpose of securing long-term office space for our worldwide headquarters. The development was completed in April 2001. The total cost of this development, including land, was approximately \$126.6 million. We have subsequently sub-leased portions of this property as a part of our broader expense reduction initiatives.

In July 2003, we acquired new offices at 70 Gracechurch Street, London, which have become our London headquarters. The acquisition was made through a purchase, sale and leaseback transaction. The move to the new offices was completed in 2004 and consolidated our London businesses in one location. The capital lease asset and liability associated with this transaction totaled \$98.5 million at December 31, 2012.

In June 2012, we acquired new offices at 8 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, Ireland as our new global headquarters. The acquisition purchase price was \$9.6 million. Completion of the new office and consolidation of our existing Dublin locations are expected in mid-2013.

Each of our reporting segments uses the properties described above. All other office facilities throughout the world that are occupied by us and our subsidiaries are leased.

Total rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was \$35.6 million, \$32.9 million and \$31.8 million, respectively. See Item 8, Note 17(d), "Commitments and Contingencies – Properties," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for discussion of our lease commitments for real property.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are subject to litigation and arbitration in the normal course of its business. These lawsuits and arbitrations principally involve claims on policies of insurance and contracts of reinsurance and are typical for us and for the property and casualty insurance and reinsurance industry in general. Such claims proceedings are considered in connection with our loss and loss expense reserves. Reserves in varying amounts may or may not be established in respect of particular claims proceedings based on many factors, including the legal merits thereof. In addition to litigation relating to insurance and reinsurance claims, we are subject to lawsuits and regulatory actions in the normal course of business that do not arise from or directly relate to claims on insurance or reinsurance policies. These types of actions typically involve, among other things, allegations of underwriting errors or misconduct, employment disputes, actions brought by or on behalf of shareholders or disputes arising from business ventures. The status of these legal actions is actively monitored by management.

Legal actions are subject to inherent uncertainties, and future events could change management's assessment of the probability or estimated amount of potential losses from pending or threatened legal actions. Based on available information, it is the opinion of management that the ultimate resolution of pending or threatened legal actions other than claims proceedings, both individually and in the aggregate, will not result in losses having a material adverse effect on our financial position or liquidity at December 31, 2012. For further information in relation to legal proceedings, see Item 8, Note 17(g), "Commitments and Contingencies – Litigation," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

In August 2005, plaintiffs in a proposed class action (the "Class Action") that was consolidated into a multidistrict litigation in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, captioned *In re Brokerage Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1663, Civil Action No. 04-5184 (the "MDL"), filed a consolidated amended complaint (the "Amended Complaint"), which named as new defendants approximately 30 entities, including Greenwich Insurance Company, Indian Harbor Insurance Company and XL-Cayman (the "XL Defendants"). In the MDL, the Class Action plaintiffs asserted various claims purportedly on behalf of a class of commercial insureds against approximately 113 insurance companies and insurance brokers through which the named plaintiffs allegedly purchased insurance. The Amended Complaint alleged that the defendant insurance companies and insurance brokers conspired to manipulate bidding practices for insurance policies in certain insurance lines and failed to disclose certain commission arrangements and asserted statutory claims under the Sherman Act, various state antitrust laws and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("RICO"), as well as common law claims alleging breach of fiduciary duty, aiding and abetting a breach of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment. By Opinion and Order dated August 31, 2007, the District Court dismissed the Sherman Act claims with prejudice and, by Opinion and Order dated September 28, 2007, the District Court dismissed the RICO claims with prejudice. The plaintiffs then appealed both Orders to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. On August 16, 2010, the Third Circuit affirmed in large part the District Court's dismissal. The Third Circuit reversed the dismissal of certain Sherman Act and RICO claims alleged against several defendants including the XL Defendants but remanded those claims to the District Court for further consideration of their adequacy. In light of its reversal and remand of certain of the federal claims, the Third Circuit also reversed the District Court's dismissal (based on the District Court's declining to exercise supplemental jurisdiction) of the state-law claims against all defendants. On October 1, 2010, the remaining defendants, including the XL Defendants, filed motions to dismiss the remanded federal claims and the state-law claims. The motions were fully briefed in November 2010. In May 2011, a majority of the remaining defendants, including the XL Defendants, executed a formal Settlement Agreement with the Class Action plaintiffs to settle the Class Action and dismiss all claims with prejudice. The settlement was approved by the District Court by Order

dated March 30, 2012. The XL Defendants' portion of the defendants' aggregate settlement payment is \$6.75 million. Certain objectors filed, but then withdrew, their appeals from the District Court's March 30, 2012 Order approving the settlement.

Various XL entities have been named as defendants in three of the many tag-along actions that were consolidated into the MDL for pretrial purposes. The complaints in these tag-along actions make allegations similar to those made in the Amended Complaint but do not purport to be class actions. On April 4, 2006, a tag-along complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia on behalf of New Cingular Wireless Headquarters LLC and several other corporations including Greenwich Insurance Company, XL Specialty Insurance Company, XL Insurance America, Inc., XL Insurance Company Limited and XL- Cayman. On or about May 21, 2007, a tag-along complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey on behalf of Henley Management Company, Big Bear Properties, Inc., Northbrook Properties, Inc., RCK Properties, Inc., Kitchens, Inc., Aberfeldy LP and Payroll and Insurance Group, Inc. against multiple defendants, including "XL Winterthur International." On October 12, 2007, a complaint in a third tag-along action was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia by Sears, Roebuck & Co., Sears Holdings Corporation, Kmart Corporation and Lands' End Inc. against many named defendants including X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance America, Inc., XL Specialty Insurance Company and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd ("XLIB"). On October 17, 2011, the District Court lifted the stay of the tag-along actions, including the three in which the XL entities were named as defendants. On April 30, 2012, the District Court set (and subsequently amended) a pre-trial litigation schedule governing the tag-along actions. The parties are currently engaged in discovery, and the defendants have filed various threshold motions directed to plaintiffs' complaints. In connection with the settlement mediation ordered by the District Court, the XL defendants reached settlements with the respective plaintiffs in the New Cingular and Henley tag-along actions, and those actions have been dismissed with prejudice. Three XL entities remain as defendants in the Sears tag-along action; XL Insurance America, Inc. and XL Specialty Insurance Company have moved to dismiss the Sears Amended Complaint, while XLIB has moved to compel arbitration of the Sears Plaintiffs' claims against it pursuant to the arbitration clauses contained in the XLIB insurance policies purchased by the Sears Plaintiffs.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

The table below sets forth the names, ages and titles of the persons who were the executive officers of the Company at February 25, 2013:

| Name | Age | Position |
|----------------------|------------|--|
| Michael S. McGavick | 55 | Chief Executive Officer and Director |
| Susan L. Cross | 52 | Executive Vice President and Global Chief Actuary |
| Kirstin Gould | 46 | Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary |
| Gregory S. Hendrick | 47 | Executive Vice President and Chief Executive of Insurance Operations |
| W. Myron Hendry | 64 | Executive Vice President and Chief Platform Officer |
| Peter R. Porrino | 56 | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer |
| Jacob D. Rosengarten | 57 | Executive Vice President and Chief Enterprise Risk Officer |
| Sarah E. Street | 51 | Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer |
| James H. Veghte | 56 | Executive Vice President and Chief Executive of Reinsurance Operations |
| Eileen Whelley | 59 | Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer |

Michael S. McGavick, was appointed as Director of the Company in April 2008 and shortly prior to his commencement as the Company's Chief Executive Officer on May 1, 2008. Previously, Mr. McGavick was President & CEO of the Seattle-based Safeco Corporation from January 2001 to December 2005. Prior to joining Safeco, Mr. McGavick spent six years with the Chicago-based CNA Financial Corporation, where he held various senior executive positions before becoming President and Chief Operating Officer of the company's largest commercial insurance operating unit. Mr. McGavick's insurance industry experience also includes two years as Director of the American Insurance Association's Superfund Improvement Project in

Washington D.C., where he became the Association's lead strategist in working to transform U.S. Superfund environmental laws.

Susan L. Cross was appointed to the Company's leadership team in August 2008, serving as Executive Vice President and Global Chief Actuary. Ms. Cross has served as Global Chief Actuary since 2006 and previously was Chief Actuary of the Company's reinsurance operations from 2004 to 2006 and Chief Actuary of XL Re Bermuda from 2002 to 2004. She also held various actuarial positions in the insurance and reinsurance operations of the Company from 1999 to 2002. Prior to joining the Company, Ms. Cross was Principal and Consulting Actuary at Tillinghast Towers Perrin.

Kirstin Gould was appointed Executive Vice President, General Counsel in September 2007, which position includes her prior responsibilities as General Counsel, Corporate Affairs and Corporate Secretary. In 2008, Ms. Gould also assumed leadership of the Communications, Marketing and Public Affairs department. Ms. Gould was previously Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate Affairs from July 2006 to September 2007 and also served as Chief Corporate Legal Officer from November 2004 to July 2006, and Associate General Counsel from July 2001 to November 2004. Prior to joining the Company in 2000, Ms. Gould was associated with the law firms of Clifford Chance and Dewey Ballantine in New York and London.

Gregory S. Hendrick was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Executive of Insurance Operations in January 2012. From October 2010 to January 2012, Mr. Hendrick served as Executive Vice President, Strategic Growth. From 2004 to October 2010, Mr. Hendrick served as President and Chief Underwriting Officer of XL Re Ltd. Previously, he served as Lead for U.S. Property Treaty underwriting at XL Re Ltd and Vice President responsible for U.S. Property Underwriting for XL Mid Ocean Reinsurance Ltd. Prior to joining XL, Mr. Hendrick was Assistant Vice President of Treaty Underwriting for the Winterthur Reinsurance Corporation of America.

W. Myron Hendry joined the Company's leadership team upon his appointment as Executive Vice President, Chief Platform Officer in December 2009. Prior to joining the Company, from 2006 to December 2009, Mr. Hendry served as Business Operations Executive of Bank of America's Insurance Group, joining there from a merger with Countrywide Insurance Services Group. Prior to the merger, Mr. Hendry served as Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer for Countrywide and prior to this, from 2004 to 2006, Mr. Hendry served as Senior Vice President, Property and Casualty Services at Safeco. From 1971 to 2004, Mr. Hendry held various leadership roles with CNA Insurance, with his last assignment being the Senior Vice President of Worldwide Operations.

Peter R. Porrino was appointed Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer in August 2011. Previously, Mr. Porrino served as Ernst & Young's Global Director of Insurance Industry Services from 1999 to August 2011. Mr. Porrino first joined Ernst & Young in 1978 and served in the firm's New York and National insurance practices for 15 years before leaving to serve in senior management positions with several insurance companies. This experience includes Zurich Financial Services, where Mr. Porrino served as CFO of Zurich's NYSE-listed subsidiary, Zurich Reinsurance Centre, Inc. He rejoined Ernst & Young in 1999.

Jacob D. Rosengarten joined the Company's leadership team and was appointed Executive Vice President, Chief Enterprise Risk Officer in September 2008. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Rosengarten served as Managing Director of Risk Management and Analytics for Goldman Sachs Asset Management from 1998 to 2008. From 1993 to 1997, Mr. Rosengarten served as Director of Risk and Quantitative Analysis at Commodities Corporation and prior to this, from 1983 to 1992 held progressively senior finance positions at Commodities Corporation.

Sarah E. Street was appointed to the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer in October 2006. Ms. Street has also served as the Chief Executive Officer of XL Capital Investment Partners Inc. since April 2001. Prior to joining XL in 2001, Ms. Street held numerous leadership positions at JPMorganChase and its predecessor organizations, working in a number of corporate finance units as well as in the capital markets business of the bank.

James H. Veghte was appointed Executive Vice President, Chief Executive of Reinsurance Operations in January 2006. Mr. Veghte had served as the Chief Executive Officer of XL Reinsurance America Inc. (XLRA) since 2004, having previously served as Chief Operating Officer of the Company's reinsurance operations and President, Chief Operating Officer & Chief Underwriting Officer of XL Re Ltd. Additional previously held roles with the Company include President of XL Re Latin America Ltd., Chief Operating

Officer of Le Mans Re (now the French branch of XL Re Europe Ltd.), General Manager of XL Re Ltd's London branch and Executive Vice President and Underwriter of XL Mid Ocean Reinsurance Ltd in Bermuda. Prior to joining XL, Mr. Veghte was Senior Vice President and Chief Underwriting Officer of Winterthur Reinsurance Corporation of America.

Eileen Whelley was appointed to the Company's leadership team in June 2012, serving as Executive Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer, where she is responsible for global talent acquisition, leadership and professional development, succession planning, compensation and benefit program design and administration, employee relations, organizational effectiveness, performance management, HR information systems and payroll. Prior to joining the Company, from 2006 to 2012, Ms. Whelley served as Executive Vice President, Human Resources, for The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. Prior to that, Ms. Whelley spent 17 years at General Electric, where she held a number of human resources leadership roles, including Executive Vice President of Human Resources for NBC Universal and Vice President of Human Resources Excellence for GE Capital. She also served in various HR roles at Citicorp and Standard Oil of Ohio.

Non-Employee Directors of the Registrant

Robert R. Glauber has been the non-executive Chairman of the Board since April 2009 and a director since September 2006, having originally served on our Board from 1998 to May 2005. Mr. Glauber is presently a Lecturer at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Ramani Ayer has been a director since February 2011. Previously, Mr. Ayer served as the Chairman of the board and Chief Executive Officer of The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc., a leading provider of insurance and wealth management services.

Dale Comey has been a director since November 2001. Previously, Mr. Comey was Executive Vice President of ITT Corporation, where he was responsible for directing the operations of several business units, including ITT Hartford and ITT Financial Corporation.

Herbert N. Haag has been a director since June 2006. Previously, Mr. Haag was the founding President and CEO of the Bermuda-based reinsurer PartnerRe Ltd.

Suzanne B. Labarge has been a director since October 2011. Previously Ms. Labarge served as the Vice Chairman and Chief Risk Officer of Royal Bank of Canada (RBC Financial Group), a diversified financial services company.

Joseph Mauriello has been a director since January 2006. Previously, Mr. Mauriello was the Deputy Chairman, Chief Operating Officer and a director of KPMG LLP (United States) and KPMG Americas Region, a leading provider of audit, tax and advisory services.

Eugene M. McQuade has been a director since July 2004. Mr. McQuade currently serves as the CEO and a director of Citibank, N.A., the commercial banking arm of Citigroup, and is a member of Citigroup's Operating Committee.

Clayton S. Rose has been a director since December 2009. Mr. Rose is presently a Professor of Management Practice at the Harvard Business School.

Sir John M. Vereker has been a director since November 2007. Previously, Sir John Vereker was the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bermuda.

PART II

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

Our ordinary shares, \$0.01 par value per share, are listed on the NYSE under the symbol "XL."

The following table sets forth the high, low and closing sales prices per share of our ordinary shares per fiscal quarter, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape:

| | High | Low | Close |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2012: | | | |
| 1st Quarter | \$ 22.03 | \$ 18.86 | \$ 21.69 |
| 2nd Quarter | \$ 22.64 | \$ 19.52 | \$ 21.04 |
| 3rd Quarter | \$ 24.89 | \$ 19.90 | \$ 24.03 |
| 4th Quarter | \$ 25.78 | \$ 23.15 | \$ 25.06 |
| 2011: | | | |
| 1st Quarter | \$ 24.82 | \$ 21.17 | \$ 24.60 |
| 2nd Quarter | \$ 25.43 | \$ 20.53 | \$ 21.98 |
| 3rd Quarter | \$ 22.65 | \$ 17.94 | \$ 18.80 |
| 4th Quarter | \$ 23.00 | \$ 17.69 | \$ 19.77 |

The number of record holders of ordinary shares at February 25, 2012 was 171. This figure does not represent the actual number of beneficial owners of our ordinary shares because such shares are frequently held in "street name" by securities dealers and others for the benefit of individual owners who may vote the shares.

In 2012, four quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per share were paid to all ordinary shareholders of record as of March 15, June 15, September 14 and December 14. In 2011, four quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per share were paid to all ordinary shareholders of record as of March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. On February 22, 2013, the XL-Ireland Board of Directors announced a quarterly dividend of \$0.14 per share, payable to all ordinary shareholders of record as of March 15, 2013.

The declaration and payment of future dividends will be at the discretion of the XL-Ireland Board of Directors and will depend upon many factors, including our earnings, financial condition, business needs, consideration of other methods of returning capital to shareholders, capital and surplus requirements of our operating subsidiaries and regulatory and contractual restrictions.

As a holding company, our assets consist primarily of investments in subsidiaries. Accordingly, we rely on the availability of dividends and other permissible payments from our subsidiaries to pay ordinary and preferred dividends. Our subsidiaries payment of dividends to us are regulated under the laws of various jurisdictions including Bermuda, the U.K., Ireland, Switzerland, the Society of Lloyd's and certain insurance statutes of various states in the United States in which our principal operating subsidiaries are licensed to transact business and the other jurisdictions where we have regulated subsidiaries. In addition, under Irish law, XL-Ireland may only pay dividends or buyback or redeem shares using distributable reserves. In addition, no dividend or distribution may be made unless the net assets of XL-Ireland are not less than the aggregate of its share capital plus undistributable reserves and the distribution does not reduce XL-Ireland's net assets below such aggregate. See Item 1, "Business – Regulation," Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and Item 8, Note 23, "Statutory Financial Data," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further discussion.

The following table summarizes our equity compensation plan information at December 31, 2012:

| Plan Category | Number of Securities to be Issued Upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a) | Weighted Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (b) | Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Share-Based Compensation Plans (Excluding Securities in column (a)) (c) |
|---|--|--|---|
| Share-based compensation plans approved by security holders (1) | 12,091,017 | 38.50 | 15,694,705 |
| Share-based compensation plans not approved by security holders (2) | – | – | – |
| Total | 12,091,017 | 38.50 | 15,694,705 |

(1) Pertains to our 1991 Performance Incentive Program and the Directors Stock & Option Plan. Includes for the 1991 Performance Incentive Program, 11,813,517 securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights, a \$38.34 weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights, and 15,556,359 securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column a). Includes for the Directors Stock & Option Plan, 277,500 securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights, a \$45.34 weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights, and 138,346 securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column a).

(2) In relation to the 1991 Performance Incentive Program (the “Program”), of such maximum number of ordinary shares at December 31, 2012, shares can be issued as any form of award, except that, for each restricted stock, restricted stock unit, stock appreciation rights, or performance share award issued, the number of ordinary shares available under the Program will be reduced by two shares. In the event that an award issued under the Program expires or is terminated unexercised as to any shares covered thereby, or shares are forfeited for any reason under the Program, such shares shall thereafter be again available for issuance under the Program. At the Management Development and Compensation Committee’s discretion, these shares may be granted as stock options, performance shares, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights or any combination of these provided that the combined total number of shares granted does not exceed either the overall share authorization described within the Program for performance shares, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock and restricted stock units.

Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliate Purchasers

The following table provides information about purchases by us during the quarter ended December 31, 2012 of equity securities that are registered by us pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act:

| | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Approximate Value of Shares that May Yet Be Under the Plans or Purchased Programs (1) (2) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| October 1, 2012 to October 31, 2012 | – | \$ – | – | \$ 400.0 million |
| November 1, 2012 to November 30, 2012 | 2,750 | 24.59 | – | 400.0 million |
| December 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 | 2,085,149 | 24.78 | 2,085,149 | 348.4 million |
| Total | 2,087,899 | \$ 24.78 | 2,085,149 | \$ 348.4 million |

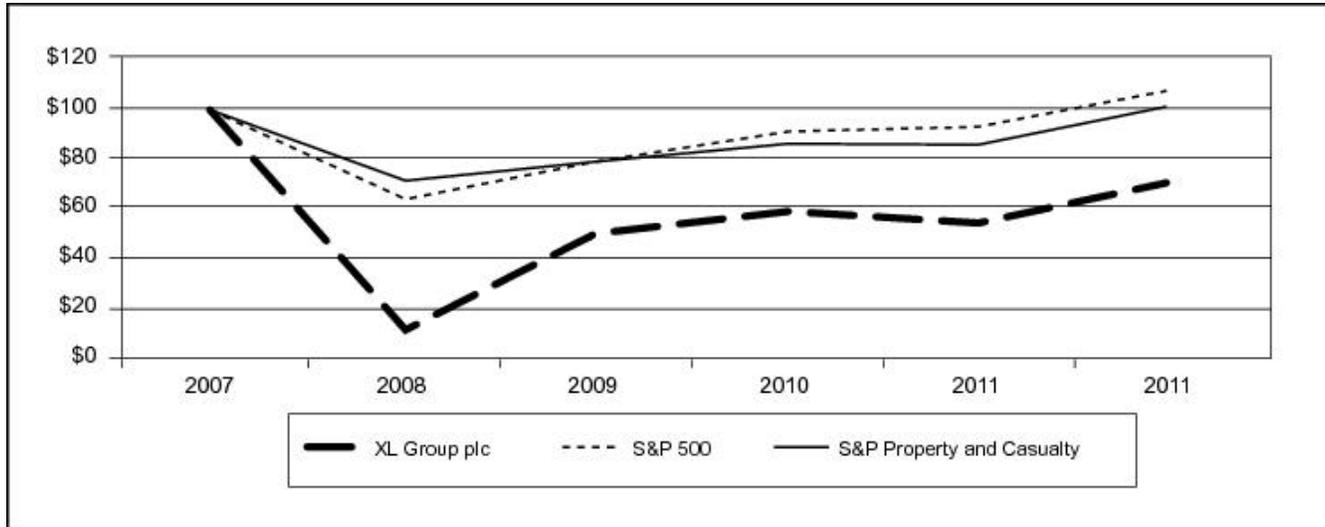
(1) Shares purchased in connection with the vesting of restricted shares granted under our restricted stock plan do not represent shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs. All such purchases were made in connection with satisfying tax withholding obligations of those employees. These shares were not purchased as part of our share buyback program noted below.

(2) On February 27, 2012, we announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved a share buyback program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$750 million of our ordinary shares (the “February 2012 Program”). This authorization replaced the approximately \$190 million remaining under the share buyback program that was authorized in November 2010. During 2012, we purchased and canceled 18.3 million ordinary shares under the February 2012 Program for \$401.6 million. At December 31, 2012, \$348.4 million remained available for purchase under this program. Between January 1 and February 22, 2013 we purchased and canceled an additional 3.8 million shares for \$98.4 million. All share buybacks were carried out by way of redemption in accordance with Irish law and XL-Ireland’s constitutional documents. All shares so redeemed were canceled upon redemption. On February 22, 2013, we announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved a new share buyback program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$850 million of our ordinary shares. This replaced the approximately \$250 million remaining under the February 2012 Program.

Ordinary Share Performance Graph

Set forth below is a line graph comparing the yearly dollar change in the cumulative total shareholder return over a five-year period on our ordinary shares from December 31, 2007 through December 31, 2012 as compared to the cumulative total return of the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index and the cumulative total return of the Standard & Poor's Property & Casualty Insurance Index. The companies included in these indices or noted as competitors under Item 1, "Business," may not be included in our compensation peer group.

The graph shows the value on December 31, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012, of a \$100 investment made on December 31, 2007, with all dividends reinvested.



The remaining information required by this Item is omitted because a definitive proxy statement that involves the election of directors will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year pursuant to Regulation 14A, which information is incorporated by reference.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The selected consolidated financial data below is based upon our fiscal year end of December 31. The selected consolidated financial data should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the Notes thereto presented under Item 8.

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 |
|---|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)</i> | | | | |
| Income Statement Data: | | | | | |
| Net premiums earned | \$ 6,090,441 | \$ 5,690,130 | \$ 5,414,061 | \$ 5,706,840 | \$ 6,640,102 |
| Net investment income | 1,012,348 | 1,137,769 | 1,198,038 | 1,319,823 | 1,768,977 |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments | 14,098 | (188,359) | (270,803) | (921,437) | (962,054) |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | 5,221 | (10,738) | (33,843) | (33,647) | (73,368) |
| Net income (loss) from investment fund affiliates (1) | 58,504 | 26,253 | 51,102 | 78,867 | (277,696) |
| Fee income and other | 49,868 | 41,748 | 40,027 | 43,201 | 52,158 |
| Net losses and loss expenses incurred (2) | 3,765,482 | 4,078,391 | 3,211,800 | 3,168,837 | 3,962,898 |
| Claims and policy benefits – life operations | 486,198 | 535,074 | 513,833 | 677,562 | 769,004 |
| Acquisition costs, operating expenses and foreign exchange gains and losses | 2,097,989 | 1,869,688 | 1,751,060 | 1,996,052 | 1,924,908 |
| Interest expense | 172,205 | 205,592 | 213,643 | 216,504 | 351,800 |
| Loss on settlement of guarantee | – | – | 23,500 | – | – |
| Extinguishment of debt | – | – | – | – | 22,527 |
| Impairment of goodwill | – | 429,020 | – | – | 989,971 |
| Income (loss) before non-controlling interests, net income from operating affiliates and income tax expense | 708,606 | (420,962) | 684,746 | 134,714 | (872,989) |
| Income (loss) from operating affiliates (1)(2) | 55,810 | 76,786 | 121,372 | 60,480 | (1,458,246) |
| Preference share dividends (3) | | | 74,521 | 80,200 | 78,645 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | 651,134 | (474,760) | 585,472 | 206,607 | (2,632,458) |

- (6) The loss and loss expense ratio related to the property and casualty operations is calculated by dividing the losses and loss expenses incurred by the net premiums earned for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.
- (7) The underwriting expense ratio related to the property and casualty operations is the sum of acquisition expenses and operating expenses for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments divided by net premiums earned for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments. See Item 8, Note 4, "Segment Information," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information.
- (8) The combined ratio related to the property and casualty operations is the sum of the loss and loss expense ratio and the underwriting expense ratio. A combined ratio under 100% represents an underwriting profit and over 100% represents an underwriting loss.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

This "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" contains forward-looking statements which involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about our beliefs and expectations, are forward-looking statements. These statements are based upon current plans, estimates and expectations. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements, and therefore undue reliance should not be placed on them. See "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements," for a list of additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement.

This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto presented under Item 8.

Certain aspects of our business have loss experience characterized as low frequency and high severity. This may result in volatility in both our results of operations and financial condition.

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Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (“PSLRA”) provides a “safe harbor” for forward-looking statements. Any prospectus, prospectus supplement, Annual Report to ordinary shareholders, proxy statement, Form 10-K, Form 10-Q or Form 8-K or any other written or oral statements made by us or on our behalf may include forward-looking statements that reflect our current views with respect to future events and financial performance. Such statements include forward-looking statements both with respect to us in general, and to the insurance and reinsurance sectors in particular (both as to underwriting and investment matters). Statements that include the words “expect,” “intend,” “plan,” “believe,” “project,” “anticipate,” “will,” “may” and similar statements of a future or forward-looking nature identify forward-looking statements for purposes of the PSLRA or otherwise.

All forward-looking statements address matters that involve risks and uncertainties. Accordingly, there are or will be important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in such statements. We believe that these factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- changes in the size of our claims relating to natural or man-made catastrophe losses due to the preliminary nature of some reports and estimates of loss and damage to date;
- trends in rates for property and casualty insurance and reinsurance;
- the timely and full recoverability of reinsurance placed by us with third parties, or other amounts due to us;
- changes in ratings or rating agency policies or practices;
- changes in the projected amount of ceded reinsurance recoverables and the ratings and creditworthiness of reinsurers;
- the timing of claims payments being faster or the receipt of reinsurance recoverables being slower than we anticipated;
- our ability to successfully implement our business strategy;
- increased competition on the basis of pricing, capacity, coverage terms or other factors, which could harm our ability to maintain or increase our business volumes or profitability;
- greater frequency or severity of claims and loss activity than our underwriting, reserving or investment practices anticipate based on historical experience or industry data;
- changes in general economic conditions, including the effects of inflation on our business, including on pricing and reserving, and changes in interest rates, credit spreads, foreign currency exchange rates and future volatility in the world’s credit, financial and capital markets that adversely affect the performance and valuation of our investments or access to such markets;
- developments, including uncertainties related to the future of the Euro-zone, the ability of Euro-zone countries to service existing debt obligations and the strength of the Euro as a currency and to the financial condition of counterparties, reinsurers and other companies that are at risk of bankruptcy;
- the potential impact on us from government-mandated insurance coverage for acts of terrorism;
- the potential for changes to methodologies, estimations and assumptions that underlie the valuation of our financial instruments that could result in changes to investment valuations;
- changes to our assessment as to whether it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell, or have the intent to sell, available for sale debt securities before their anticipated recovery;
- the availability of borrowings and letters of credit under our credit facilities;
- the ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends to XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman;
- the potential effect of regulatory developments in the jurisdictions in which we operate, including those which could impact the financial markets or increase our business costs and required capital levels;
- changes in regulations or laws applicable to XL-Ireland or our subsidiaries, brokers or customers;
- acceptance of our products and services, including new products and services;
- changes in the availability, cost or quality of reinsurance;

- changes in the distribution or placement of risks due to increased consolidation of insurance and reinsurance brokers;
- loss of key personnel;
- changes in accounting policies or practices or the application thereof;
- legislative or regulatory developments including, but not limited to, changes in regulatory capital balances that must be maintained by our operating subsidiaries and governmental actions for the purpose of stabilizing the financial markets;
- the effects of mergers, acquisitions and divestitures;
- developments related to bankruptcies of companies insofar as they affect property and casualty insurance and reinsurance coverages or claims that we may have as a counterparty;
- changes in applicable tax laws, tax treaties or tax regulations or the interpretation or enforcement thereof;
- the effects of business disruption or economic contraction due to war, terrorism or other hostilities;
- our ability to realize the expected benefits from the Redomestication; and
- the other factors set forth in Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” and our other documents on file with the SEC.

The foregoing review of important factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included herein or elsewhere. We undertake no obligation to update publicly or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as required by the federal securities laws.

Executive Overview

Background

We are, through our subsidiaries, a global insurance and reinsurance company providing property, casualty and specialty products to industrial, commercial and professional firms, insurance companies and other enterprises on a worldwide basis. We operate in markets where we believe our underwriting expertise and financial strength represent a relative advantage. We earn revenue primarily from net premiums written and earned. For further information regarding our operations, see Item 1, “Business.”

Impact of Recent Natural Catastrophes

In both 2011 and 2012, the global insurance and reinsurance markets experienced significant losses from natural catastrophes. See “Significant Items Affecting Results of Operations—1) The impact of significant large loss events” below for a discussion of our loss estimates for the year ended December 31, 2012 from natural catastrophes.

Underwriting Environment and Outlook for 2013

The property and casualty insurance and reinsurance markets have historically been cyclical, meaning that based on market conditions, there have been periods where premium rates are high and policy terms and conditions are more favorable to us (a “hard market”) and there have been periods where premium rates decline and policy terms and conditions are less favorable (a “soft market”). Market conditions are driven primarily by competition in the marketplace, the supply of capital in the industry, investment yields and the frequency and severity of loss events. Our goal is to build long-term shareholder value by capitalizing on current opportunities and managing through any cyclical downturns by reducing our property and casualty book of business and exposures if and when rates deteriorate during soft market periods.

In 2012, we continued to focus on strategic growth initiatives, building on the significant investments we have made in recent years to achieve greater efficiency from improved systems, to create a platform from which we can grow as markets allow and to expand our margins. The following outlines some of these growth initiatives as well as recent renewal activity and January 2013 rate indications for each of our Insurance and Reinsurance segments together with any potential trends relevant to our P&C operations.

Insurance

The trading environment for the core lines of insurance business that we write remains competitive. However, the favorable pricing trends that we began seeing in late 2011 have continued throughout 2012. While we continue our disciplined underwriting approach to grow on a very selective basis and exit lines where margins are unacceptable, our retention ratios and new business development continue to remain strong as we move premium rates upward in nearly all of our businesses.

We continue to develop new business opportunities in several areas, including our North American construction and surety businesses, which were announced in 2010, and our political risk and trade credit, and North America inland marine businesses, which were announced during the fourth quarter of 2011. We also continue to expand existing businesses such as adding property, excess auto and excess liability to our excess & surplus business and expanding local underwriting in our North America excess casualty business by adding underwriters in Dallas, Atlanta and Exton, PA. Geographic expansion also continues with the opening of an office in China in April 2011 and an office in Brazil in June of 2012 —complementing the Reinsurance operation with an Insurance segment branch offering Casualty, Property, Professional and Specialty products.

With regard to market conditions, within the Insurance segment's core lines of business, fourth quarter and full year 2012 renewals reflected sustainable rate increases both in aggregate and across nearly all business lines. For the full year, we experienced positive pricing of over 3%, and in our North America P&C business unit the increase was more than 6%. Professional pricing was also positive for the year where there was material improvement in the U.S. D&O book where rate increases exceeded 5% during the fourth quarter and nearly 4% for the full the year. International P&C and Specialty also finished the year with positive rate increases in the low single digits, with a very strong fourth quarter for IPC, but a flat quarter for Specialty due to the competitive December airline renewals.

We continue to focus on those lines of business that we believe provide the best return on capital, including the writing of selective new business and remaining committed to the underwriting actions necessary to improve our margins. For 2013, initial indications are consistent with current market conditions described above.

Reinsurance

As noted above, the pricing environment on the primary side is showing rate growth but both the primary and reinsurance markets remain highly competitive with substantial capacity available in both traditional and non-traditional forms. In general, January 1 renewals saw pricing in line with management's expectations, with positive pricing across the loss impacted catastrophe books of business and certain specialty lines, while casualty lines remained highly competitive.

In property catastrophe lines we saw loss impacted programs from Storm Sandy experience 10 to 15% rate increases while renewal rates for non-loss impacted U.S. programs were flat. In Europe, with the exception of Italy where we saw double digit increases as a result of the earthquake, prices decreased in the 3 to 5% range. For specialty lines, there were significant price increases in the marine lines due to Storm Sandy, which was the latest in a series of significant losses into that market, while rates in the aviation lines were flat to down 5% due to continued good experience. The casualty markets in both the U.S. and International still remain highly competitive. We saw certain ceding companies increasing their retention levels, a pattern we have seen repeatedly in recent years, while reinsurers that tried to increase their line size at renewal, did so with limited success.

The Reinsurance segment continues to develop new business opportunities in several areas and in 2013, we expect to continue to build upon the strategic growth achieved in recent years and will utilize our broad market relationships and experience to seek opportunities to achieve this.

There can be no assurance, however, that such (re)insurance rate conditions or growth opportunities will be sustained or further materialize, or lead to improvements in our books of business. See "Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Investment Environment

We seek to generate book value growth and investment income from investment activities through the total returns on our investment portfolio. During the year ended December 31, 2012, credit spreads tightened and interest rates declined in the majority of the currencies in which we hold assets. Net investment income yields were negatively impacted by lower interest rates and spreads, which in turn reduced prevailing yields on reinvestment income. Net realized gains resulted from sales transactions primarily from a repositioning of the Agency RMBS portfolio and sales of equity and non-U.S. Sovereign Government securities. The impact of tightening credit spreads and decreasing interest rates during 2012 was the primary reason for the improvement in the net unrealized position on fixed maturities and short-term investments over the course of the year. For further information, see "Investment Activities" below.

Results of Operations and Key Financial Measures

Results of Operations

The following table presents an analysis of our net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders and other financial measures (described below) for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except share and per share amounts)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|------------|--------------|------------|
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 585,472 |
| Earnings (loss) per ordinary share – basic | \$ 2.12 | \$ (1.52) | \$ 1.74 |
| Earnings (loss) per ordinary share – diluted | \$ 2.10 | \$ (1.52) | \$ 1.73 |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares and ordinary share equivalents – basic | 307,372 | 312,896 | 336,283 |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares and ordinary share equivalents – diluted | 310,282 | 312,896 | 337,709 |

Key Financial Measures

The following are some of the financial measures management considers important in evaluating our operating performance:

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|------------|--------------|------------|
| Underwriting profit (loss) – P&C operations | \$ 216,138 | \$ (397,353) | \$ 262,494 |
| Combined ratio – P&C operations | 96.3 % | 107.5 % | 94.8 % |
| Net investment income – P&C operations | \$ 712,906 | \$ 819,708 | \$ 884,866 |
| Operating net income | \$ 614,102 | \$ 89,464 | \$ 809,650 |
| Operating net income per share | \$ 1.98 | \$ 0.28 | \$ 2.40 |
| Return on average ordinary shareholders' equity | 6.5 % | (5.0)% | 6.5 % |
| Operating return on average ordinary shareholders' equity | 6.2 % | 0.9 % | 9.0 % |
| Book value per ordinary share | \$ 35.18 | \$ 29.81 | \$ 30.33 |
| Fully diluted tangible book value per ordinary share | \$ 33.35 | \$ 28.31 | \$ 27.14 |

The following are descriptions of these key financial measures and a brief discussion of the factors influencing them:

Underwriting profit – property and casualty ("P&C") operations

One way that we evaluate the performance of our insurance and reinsurance operations is by underwriting profit or loss. We do not measure performance based on the amount of gross premiums written. Underwriting profit or loss is calculated from premiums earned less net losses incurred and expenses related to underwriting activities. Our underwriting profit (loss) in the year ended December 31, 2012 was consistent with the combined ratio discussed below.

Combined ratio – P&C operations

In the P&C industry, the combined ratio is a widely used measure of underwriting profitability. The combined ratio is calculated from the net losses incurred and underwriting expenses as a ratio of the net

premiums earned for our insurance and reinsurance operations. A combined ratio of less than 100% indicates an underwriting profit and greater than 100% reflects an underwriting loss.

Our combined ratio of 96.3% for the year ended December 31, 2012 was lower than the 107.5% combined ratio in 2011, primarily due to a decrease in the loss and loss expense ratio while the underwriting expense ratio was flat. The loss and loss expense ratio, which is the ratio of losses and loss expenses incurred to net premiums earned, has decreased as a result of lower levels of catastrophe losses and other large loss events as compared to 2011. The underwriting expense ratio, which was flat year on year, is the ratio of the sum of acquisition costs and operating expenses to the net premiums earned.

Our combined ratio of 107.5% for the year ended December 31, 2011 was higher than the 94.8% combined ratio in 2010, primarily as a result of an increase in the loss and loss expense ratio while the underwriting expense ratio was flat. The loss and loss expense ratio increased in 2011 as a result of higher levels of catastrophe losses and other large loss events in both the insurance and reinsurance segments. For further information on our combined ratio, see "Income Statement Analysis" below.

Net investment income – P&C operations

Net investment income related to P&C operations, which includes interest and dividend income together with the amortization of premium and discount on fixed maturities and short-term investments, net of related investment expenses, is an important measure that affects our overall profitability. Our largest liability relates to our unpaid loss reserves, and our investment portfolio provides liquidity for claims settlements of these reserves as they become due. As a result, a significant part of the investment portfolio is invested in fixed income securities. Net investment income is influenced by a number of factors, including the amounts and timing of inward and outward cash flows, the level of interest rates and credit spreads and changes in overall asset allocation. See the segment results at "Investment Activities" below for a discussion of our net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Operating net income and Operating net income per share

Operating net income is a non-GAAP financial measure defined as net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders excluding: (1) our net realized gains and losses on investments, net of tax, (2) our net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivatives, net of tax, (3) our share of items (1) and (2) for our insurance company affiliates for the periods presented, (4) goodwill impairment charges, net of tax, (5) the gains recognized on our repurchase of XL-Cayman's preference ordinary shares and (6) foreign exchange gains or losses, net of tax. We evaluate the performance of and manage our business to produce an underwriting profit. In addition to presenting net income (loss), we believe that showing operating net income (loss) enables investors and other users of our financial information to analyze our performance in a manner similar to how we analyze performance. In this regard, we believe that providing only a GAAP presentation of net income (loss) makes it more difficult for users of our financial information to evaluate our underlying business. We also believe that the equity analysts and certain rating agencies that follow us (and the insurance industry as a whole) exclude these items from their analyses for the same reasons and they request that we provide this non-GAAP financial information on a regular basis. A reconciliation of our net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders to operating net income (loss) is provided at the end of "Key Financial Measures" below.

Operating net income per share is derived from the non-GAAP operating net income measure by dividing operating net income by the weighted average number of ordinary shares and ordinary share equivalents outstanding for each period.

Return on average ordinary shareholders' equity ("ROE")

ROE is another non-GAAP financial measure that we consider important in evaluating our operating performance and view as a key measure of return generated for ordinary shareholders. ROE is calculated by dividing the net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders for any period by the average of the opening and closing ordinary shareholders' equity. We establish minimum target ROEs for our total operations, segments and lines of business. If our minimum ROE targets over the longer term are not met with respect to any line of business, we seek to modify and/or exit this line. In addition, among other

factors, compensation of our senior officers is dependent on the achievement of our performance goals to enhance ordinary shareholder value as measured by ROE (adjusted for certain items considered to be “non-operating” in nature).

In 2012, ROE was 6.5%, which was 11.5 percentage points higher than 2011 when it was negative 5.0%. In 2011, ROE was negative due to the net loss from the significant catastrophe losses and the impairment of goodwill and other large loss events which are discussed under “Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations.”

Operating return on average ordinary shareholders’ equity (“Operating ROE”)

Operating ROE is another non-GAAP financial measure that we consider important in evaluating our operating performance. Operating ROE is derived from the non-GAAP operating net income measure by dividing the operating net income for any period by the average of the opening and closing ordinary shareholders’ equity.

In 2012, Operating ROE was 6.2%, which was 5.3 percentage points higher than 2011 when it was 0.9%. This was the result of the lower operating net income in 2011 due to the significant catastrophe losses and other large loss events, both discussed under “Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations.” A reconciliation of Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders to operating net income (loss) is provided at “Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures” included herein.

Book value per ordinary share

We view the change in our book value per ordinary share as an additional measure of our performance, representing the value generated for our ordinary shareholders each period, and we believe that this measure (along with the diluted measures described below) is a key driver of our share price over time. Book value per ordinary share, a non-GAAP financial measure, is calculated by dividing ordinary shareholders’ equity (total shareholders’ equity less non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries) by the number of outstanding ordinary shares at the applicable period end. Book value per ordinary share is affected primarily by net income (loss), by any changes in the net unrealized gains and losses on our investment portfolio, by currency translation adjustments and by the impact of any share buyback or issuance activity. Ordinary shareholders’ equity was \$10.5 billion and \$9.4 billion and the number of ordinary shares outstanding was 298.7 million and 315.7 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Ordinary shares outstanding include all ordinary shares legally issued and outstanding (as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet) as well as all director share units outstanding.

Book value per ordinary share increased by \$5.37 in 2012 as compared to a decrease of \$0.52 during 2011. The increase in 2012 was primarily due the net income attributable to ordinary shareholders, an increase in net unrealized gains on investments and the benefit of share buyback activity.

The decrease in 2011 was primarily due to the net loss attributable to ordinary shareholders of \$474.8 million and the impact of the settlement of the forward purchase contracts associated with the 10.75% equity security units (the “10.75% Units”), which resulted in the issuance of an aggregate of 30,456,600 ordinary shares, partially offset by an increase in net unrealized gains on available for sale investments and the benefit of share buyback activity.

Fully diluted tangible book value per ordinary share

Fully diluted tangible book value per ordinary share is a non-GAAP financial measure and is calculated by dividing ordinary shareholders’ equity excluding intangible assets (as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet) by the number of outstanding ordinary shares at any period end combined with the impact from dilution of share-based compensation and certain conversion features where dilutive. Fully diluted tangible book value per ordinary share increased by \$5.04 and \$1.17 during the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as a result of the factors noted above.

Reconciliation of Non-GAAP Measures

The following is a reconciliation of net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders to operating net income (loss) and also includes the calculation of return on average ordinary shareholders' equity (based on operating net income (loss)) for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except percentages)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 585,472 |
| Impairment of goodwill, net of tax | – | 417,566 | – |
| Net realized losses (gains) on investments, net of tax | (38,235) | 178,432 | 270,803 |
| Net realized and unrealized losses (gains) on derivatives, net of tax | (5,216) | 3,914 | 29,932 |
| Net realized and unrealized losses (gains) on investments and derivatives related to the Company's insurance company affiliates | (301) | (322) | (52,623) |
| Foreign exchange (gains) losses, net of tax | 6,720 | (34,016) | (7,318) |
| Gain on repurchase of non-controlling interest preference ordinary shares | – | (1,350) | (16,616) |
| Operating net income (loss): | \$ 614,102 | \$ 89,464 | \$ 809,650 |
| Per ordinary share results: | | | |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | \$ 2.10 | \$ (1.52) | \$ 1.73 |
| Operating net income (loss) | \$ 1.98 | \$ 0.28 | \$ 2.40 |
| Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding: | | | |
| Basic | 307,371,726 | 312,896,165 | 336,282,630 |
| Diluted – Net income | 310,282,466 | 312,896,165 | 337,708,643 |
| Diluted – Operating net income | 310,282,466 | 316,318,339 | 337,708,643 |
| Operating return on average ordinary shareholders' equity: | | | |
| Closing ordinary shareholders' equity | \$ 10,510,072 | \$ 9,411,658 | \$ 9,597,473 |
| Average ordinary shareholders' equity | \$ 9,960,865 | \$ 9,504,565 | \$ 9,007,152 |
| Operating net income (loss) | \$ 614,102 | \$ 89,464 | \$ 809,650 |
| Operating ROE | <u>6.2%</u> | <u>0.9%</u> | <u>9.0%</u> |

Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations

Our net income and other financial measures as shown above for the year ended December 31, 2012 have been affected by, among other things, the following significant items:

- 1) The impact of significant large loss events;
- 2) Continuing competitive factors impacting the underwriting environment;
- 3) Net favorable prior year loss development; and
- 4) Market movement impacts on our investment portfolio.

1) The impact of significant large loss events

Natural Catastrophe Losses

The following table outlines the underwriting losses and loss ratio impact for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments from natural catastrophes for the years ended December 31:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)</i> | Natural Catastrophe Underwriting Losses | | | Natural Catastrophe Loss Ratio Impact | | |
|---|---|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Insurance | \$ 223,148 | \$ 355,256 | \$ 135,771 | 5.5% | 9.6% | 3.8% |
| Reinsurance | 241,169 | 405,870 | 158,574 | 13.8% | 25.2% | 10.6% |
| Total P&C | <u>\$ 464,317</u> | <u>\$ 761,126</u> | <u>\$ 294,345</u> | 8.2% | 14.4% | 5.8% |

Notable natural catastrophes during 2012 included Storm Sandy (“Sandy”), U.S. tornadoes and the large earthquake in Italy.

Notable natural catastrophes during 2011 included the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, the earthquake that struck Christchurch, New Zealand on February 22, 2011, the 2011 flooding events in Australia, the severe weather occurrences, including tornado activity, in the United States during April and May 2011, the Atlantic Hurricanes (Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee) and the Thailand floods.

Notable natural catastrophes during 2010 included the Chilean Earthquake, European Windstorm Xynthia, U.S. tornadoes and hailstorm activity, the New Zealand Earthquake and floods in Central Europe, China, Poland and Queensland, Australia.

Our loss estimates are based on combinations of our review of individual treaties and policies expected to be impacted, commercial model outputs, client data received to the date the estimates are made, and consideration of expectations of total insured market loss estimates if available, both from published sources and our internal analysis. Our loss estimates involve the exercise of considerable judgment due to the complexity and scale of the insured events, and are, accordingly, subject to revision as additional information becomes available. Actual losses may differ materially from these preliminary estimates.

The following are analyses of the financial impact on our results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2012 from natural catastrophes:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)</i> | 2012 | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Insurance | Reinsurance | Total |
| Operating data: | | | |
| Catastrophe reinstatement premium earned: | | | |
| Sandy | \$ (11,813) | \$ 25,560 | \$ 13,747 |
| Other natural catastrophes (1) (2) | (958) | 3,503 | 2,545 |
| Total net premiums earned | \$ (12,771) | \$ 29,063 | \$ 16,292 |
| Gross losses and loss expenses: | | | |
| Sandy | \$ (207,106) | \$ (242,622) | \$ (449,728) |
| Other natural catastrophes (1) (2) | (89,528) | (41,352) | (130,880) |
| Total gross losses and loss expenses | \$ (296,634) | \$ (283,974) | \$ (580,608) |
| Losses and loss expenses recoverable: | | | |
| Sandy | \$ 68,379 | \$ 12,305 | \$ 80,684 |
| Other natural catastrophes (1) (2) | 17,878 | 1,437 | 19,315 |
| Total losses and loss expenses recoverable | \$ 86,257 | \$ 13,742 | \$ 99,999 |
| Underwriting loss – P&C Operations: | | | |
| Sandy | \$ (150,540) | \$ (204,757) | \$ (355,297) |
| Other natural catastrophes (1) (2) | (72,608) | (36,412) | (109,020) |
| Total underwriting loss | <u>\$ (223,148)</u> | <u>\$ (241,169)</u> | <u>\$ (464,317)</u> |
| Loss ratio impact for year ended December 31, 2012 | <u>5.5%</u> | <u>13.8%</u> | <u>8.2%</u> |

(1) For the Insurance segment, for the year ended December 31, 2012, Other natural catastrophes include Italy snow storm, U.S. Tornadoes, Italy earthquake, Hurricane Isaac, Costa Rica Earthquake and New South Wales floods.

(2) For the Reinsurance segment for the year ended December 31, 2012, Other natural catastrophes include U.S. Tornadoes, Italy earthquake, Hurricane Isaac, and Calgary hailstorm.

For further details see the segment results in the “Income Statement Analysis” below.

Large Non-Catastrophe Loss Events

In the year ended December 31, 2012, our results from operations were impacted by significant losses from large non-catastrophe loss events in both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments. In 2012, the impact was mainly related to a single large marine loss during the first quarter. Management’s loss estimate for this large marine loss at December 31, 2012, net of reinsurance recoveries and reinstatement premiums, was \$58.5 million, of which \$26.4 million was attributable to the Insurance segment and \$32.1 million to the

Reinsurance segment. In addition, the results from operations during the year ended December 31, 2012 were affected by crop losses attributable to the severe drought conditions in the United States in 2012. Our preliminary loss estimate for these drought and crop losses net of reinsurance recoveries and reinstatement premiums was \$30.8 million, all attributable to the Reinsurance segment.

See “Income Statement Analysis,” herein for further information regarding these large loss events within each applicable operating segment.

2) Continuing competitive factors impacting the underwriting environment

Soft market conditions were experienced across most lines of business throughout 2010, 2011 and 2012. This resulted in an overall decrease in gross and net premiums written in 2010 but these amounts increased in 2011 and 2012 due to new strategic initiatives and certain rate improvements. For further information in relation to the underwriting environment, including details relating to rates and retention, see “Executive Overview – Underwriting Environment and Outlook for 2013,” above.

3) Net favorable prior year loss development

Net favorable prior year loss development occurs when there is a decrease to loss reserves recorded at the beginning of the year, resulting from actual or reported loss development for prior years that is less than expected. Net prior year adverse loss development occurs when there is an increase to loss reserves recorded at the beginning of the year, resulting from actual or reported loss development for prior years exceeding expected loss development.

The following table presents the net (favorable) adverse prior year loss development of our loss and loss expense reserves for our property and casualty operations, which include the Insurance and Reinsurance segments for each of the years indicated:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Insurance | \$ (140,067) | \$ (76,516) | \$ (127,411) |
| Reinsurance | (175,828) | (208,351) | (245,451) |
| Total | <u>\$ (315,895)</u> | <u>\$ (284,867)</u> | <u>\$ (372,862)</u> |

See Item 7, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” and Item 8, Note 10, “Losses and Loss Expenses,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information regarding the developments in prior year loss reserve estimates for each of the years indicated within each of our operating segments.

4) Market movement impacts on the Company’s investment portfolio

During the year ended December 31, 2012, credit spreads tightened and interest rates declined in the majority of the currencies in which we hold assets. The net impact of the market conditions on our investment portfolio was favorable and resulted in a positive mark to market change of \$942.7 million on available for sale investments. This represents an approximately 2.1% appreciation in average assets for the year ended December 31, 2012.

The following table provides further detail regarding the movements in relevant credit markets, as well as in government interest rates using selected market indices:

| | Interest Rate Movement for the year ended December 31, 2012 (1) (‘+’/‘-’ represents increases / decreases in interest rates) | Credit Spread Movement for the year ended December 31, 2012 (2) (‘+’/‘-’ represents widening / tightening of credit spreads) |
|----------------|---|---|
| United States | -11 basis points (5 year Treasury) | -104 basis points (US Corporate A rated) -35 basis points (US Mortgage Master Index) -120 basis points (US CMBS, AAA rated) |
| United Kingdom | -15 basis points (10 year Gilt) | -72 basis points (UK Corporate, AA rated) |
| Euro-zone | -46 basis points (5 year Bund) | -170 basis points (Europe Corporate, A rated) |

(1) Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P.

(2) Source: Merrill Lynch Global Indices.

Net realized gains on investments in the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled \$14.1 million, including \$94.8 million from sales activities partially offset by net realized losses of approximately \$80.7 million related to other-than-temporary declines in investment (“OTTI”) charges on certain of our fixed income investments. For further analysis of this, see “Results of Operations” below.

Other Key Focuses of Management

We remain focused on, among other things, managing capital, enhancing enterprise risk management capabilities and monitoring regulatory change. Details of these initiatives are outlined below.

Capital Management

Fundamental to supporting our business model is our ability to underwrite business, which is largely dependent upon the quality of our claims paying and financial strength ratings as evaluated by independent rating agencies. As a result, in the event that we are downgraded, our ability to write business, as well as our financial condition and/or results of operations, could be adversely affected.

Buybacks of Ordinary Shares

On February 27, 2012, we announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved the February 2012 Program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$750 million of our ordinary shares. This authorization replaced the approximately \$190 million remaining under the share buyback program that was authorized in November 2010. During 2012, we purchased and canceled 18.3 million ordinary shares under the February 2012 Program for \$401.6 million. At December 31, 2012, \$348.4 million remained available for purchase under this program. Between January 1 and February 22, 2013 we purchased and canceled an additional 3.8 million shares for \$98.4 million. All share buybacks were carried out by way of redemption in accordance with Irish law and XL-Ireland’s constitutional documents. All shares so redeemed were canceled upon redemption. On February 22, 2013, we announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved a new share buyback program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$850 million of our ordinary shares. This replaced the approximately \$250 million remaining under the February 2012 Program.

Repayment of the 6.5% Guaranteed Senior Notes due January 2012 (the “XLCFE Notes”)

On January 15, 2012, the \$600 million principal amount outstanding on the XLCFE Notes, which were issued by XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc, was repaid at maturity. For further detail, see Item 1, Note 13, “Notes Payable and Debt Financing Arrangements,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Risk Management

Our risk management and risk appetite framework is detailed in Item 1, “Business – Enterprise Risk Management,” included herein. The table below shows our estimated per event net 1% and 0.4% exceedance probability exposures for certain peak natural catastrophe peril regions. These estimates assume that amounts due from reinsurance and retrocession purchases are 100% collectible. There may be credit or other disputes associated with these potential receivables.

| Geographical Zone (U.S. dollars in millions) | Peril | Measurement Date of In-Force Exposures (1) | 1% Exceedance Probability | | 0.4% Exceedance Probability | |
|---|------------|--|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| | | | Probable Maximum Loss (2) | Percentage of Tangible Shareholders’ Equity at December 31, 2012 | Probable Maximum Loss (2) | Percentage of Tangible Shareholders’ Equity at December 31, 2012 |
| North Atlantic | Windstorm | October 1, 2012 | \$ 1,283 | 11.2% | \$ 1,708 | 14.9% |
| North America | Earthquake | October 1, 2012 | 838 | 7.3% | 1,371 | 12.0% |
| Europe | Windstorm | October 1, 2012 | 509 | 4.4% | 708 | 6.2% |
| Japan | Earthquake | October 1, 2012 | 284 | 2.5% | 358 | 3.1% |
| Japan | Windstorm | October 1, 2012 | 195 | 1.7% | 265 | 2.3% |

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- (1) Detailed analyses of aggregated in-force exposures and maximum loss levels are done periodically. The measurement dates represent the date of the last completed detailed analysis by geographical zone.
 - (2) Probable maximum losses, which include secondary uncertainty that incorporates variability around the expected probable maximum loss for each event, do not represent our maximum potential exposures and are pre-tax.

See “Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations – 1) The impact of significant large loss events” above.

Regulatory Change

Management continues to actively monitor and assess the various regulatory initiatives and legislation that impacts us or in the future could impact us. For example, management has been focused on Solvency II, which was adopted by the European Parliament in April 2009. This is an E.U. directive covering the capital adequacy and risk management of, and regulatory reporting for, European-based (re)insurers, as well as a new supervisory regime for the insurance industry. Several steps must be taken by the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council of Ministers and EIOPA to implement Solvency II. The final date of implementation and key elements of the framework remain under discussion, but it is widely accepted that the envisaged implementation date of January 1, 2014 will not be met. However, management currently continues to prepare for potential Solvency II implementation at a future date. See Item 1, “Business – Regulation.”

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The following are considered to be our critical accounting policies and estimates due to the judgments and uncertainties affecting the application of these policies and/or the likelihood that materially different amounts would be reported under different conditions or using different assumptions. If actual events differ significantly from the underlying assumptions or estimates applied for any or all of the accounting policies (either individually or in the aggregate), there could be a material adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity. We have discussed these critical accounting policies with the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.

Other significant accounting policies are nevertheless important to an understanding of our Consolidated Financial Statements. Policies such as those related to revenue recognition, financial instruments and consolidation require difficult judgments on complex matters that are often subject to multiple sources of authoritative guidance. See Item 8, Note 2, “Significant Accounting Policies,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for further information.

1) Unpaid Loss and Loss Expenses and Unpaid Loss and Loss Expenses Recoverable

As we earn premiums for the underwriting risks we assume, we also establish an estimate of the expected ultimate losses related to the premium. Loss reserves for unpaid loss and loss expenses are established due to the significant periods of time that may elapse between the occurrence, reporting and settlement of a loss. The process of establishing reserves for unpaid property and casualty claims can be complex and is subject to considerable variability, as it requires the use of informed estimates and judgments. These estimates and judgments are based on numerous factors, and may be revised as additional experience and other data become available and are reviewed, as new or improved methodologies are developed or as current laws change. Loss reserves include:

- a) Case reserves – reserves for reported losses and loss expenses that have not yet been settled; and
- b) IBNR reserves – reserves for incurred but not reported losses or for reported losses over and above the amount of case reserves.

Case Reserves

Case reserves for our property and casualty operations are established by management based on amounts reported from insureds or ceding companies and consultation with legal counsel, and represent the estimated ultimate cost of events or conditions that have been reported to or specifically identified by us. The method of establishing case reserves for reported claims differs among our operations.

With respect to our insurance operations, we are notified of insured losses and record a case reserve for the estimated amount of the settlement, if any. The estimate reflects the judgment of claims personnel based on general reserving practices, the experience and knowledge of such personnel regarding the nature of the specific claim and, where appropriate, advice of legal counsel. Reserves are also established to provide for the estimated expense of settling claims, including legal and other fees and the general expenses of administering the claims adjustment process. With respect to our reinsurance operations, case reserves for reported claims are generally established based on reports received from ceding companies. Additional case reserves may be established by us to reflect the estimated ultimate cost of a loss. The uncertainty in the reserving process for reinsurers is due, in part, to the time lags inherent in reporting from the original claimant to the primary insurer to the reinsurer. As a predominantly broker market reinsurer for both excess-of-loss and proportional contracts, we are subject to a potential additional time lag in the receipt of information as the primary insurer reports to the broker who in turn reports to us.

Since we rely on information regarding paid losses, case reserves and IBNR provided by ceding companies in order to assist us in estimating our liability for unpaid losses and LAE, we maintain certain procedures in order to help determine the completeness and accuracy of such information. Periodically, management assesses the reporting activities of our ceding companies on the basis of qualitative and quantitative criteria. In addition to conferring with ceding companies or brokers on claims matters, our claims personnel conduct periodic audits of specific claims and the overall claims procedures of our ceding companies at their offices. We rely on our ability to effectively monitor the claims handling and claims reserving practices of ceding companies in order to help establish the proper reinsurance premium for reinsurance agreements and to establish proper loss reserves. Disputes with ceding companies have been rare and generally have been resolved through negotiation.

In addition to information received from ceding companies on reported claims, we also utilize information on the pattern of ceding company loss reporting and loss settlements from previous catastrophic events in order to estimate our ultimate liability related to catastrophic events such as hurricanes. Commercial catastrophe model analyses and zonal aggregate exposures are utilized to assess potential client loss before and after an event. Initial cedant loss reports are generally obtained shortly after a catastrophic event, with subsequent updates received as new information becomes available. We actively request loss updates from cedants periodically while there is still considerable uncertainty for an event, often for the first year following an event. Our claim settlement processes also incorporate an update to the total loss reserve at the time a claim payment is made to a ceding company.

While the reliance on loss reports from ceding companies may increase the level of uncertainty associated with the estimation of total loss reserves for property catastrophe reinsurance relative to direct property insurance, there are several factors which serve to reduce the uncertainty in loss reserve estimates for property catastrophe reinsurance. First, for large natural catastrophe events, aggregate limits in property catastrophe reinsurance contracts are generally fully exhausted by the loss reserve estimates. Second, as a reinsurer, we have access to information from a broad cross section of the insurance industry. We utilize such information in order to perform consistency checks on the data provided by ceding companies and are able to identify trends in loss reporting and settlement activity and incorporate such information in our estimate of IBNR reserves. Finally, we also supplement the loss information received from cedants with loss estimates developed by market share techniques and/or from third party catastrophe models applied to exposure data supplied by cedants.

IBNR Reserves

IBNR reserves represent management's best estimate, at a given point in time, of the amount in excess of case reserves that is needed for the future settlement and loss adjustment costs associated with claims incurred. It is possible that the ultimate liability may differ materially from these estimates. Because the ultimate amount of unpaid losses and LAE is uncertain, we believe that quantitative techniques to estimate these amounts are enhanced by professional and managerial judgment. Management reviews the IBNR estimates produced by our actuaries who determine the best estimate of the liabilities to record in our financial statements. We consider this single point estimate to be the mean expected outcome.

IBNR reserves are estimated by our actuaries using several standard actuarial methodologies including the loss ratio method, the loss development or chain ladder method, the Bornhuetter-Ferguson ("BF")

method and frequency and severity approaches. IBNR related to a specific event may be based on our estimated exposure to an industry loss and may include the use of catastrophe modeling software. On a quarterly basis, IBNR reserves are reviewed by our actuaries, and are adjusted as new information becomes available. Any such adjustments are accounted for as changes in estimates and are reflected in the results of operations in the period in which they are made.

Our actuaries use one set of assumptions in calculating the single point estimate, which includes actual loss data, loss development factors, loss ratios, reported claim frequency and severity. The actuarial reviews and documentation are completed in accordance with professional actuarial standards with reserves established on a basis consistent with GAAP. The selected assumptions reflect the actuary's judgment based on historical data and experience combined with information concerning current underwriting, economic, judicial, regulatory and other influences on ultimate claim settlements.

When estimating IBNR reserves, each of our insurance and reinsurance business units segregate business into exposure classes. Within each class, the business is further segregated by either the year in which the contract inception ("underwriting year"), the year in which the claim occurred ("accident year"), or the year in which the claim is reported ("report year"). The majority of the Insurance segment is reviewed on an accident year basis. Professional lines insurance business is reviewed on a report year basis due to the claims made nature of the underlying policies. The majority of the Reinsurance segment is reviewed on an underwriting year basis. In each case we believe the selected method most accurately represents the economic condition of the business.

Generally, initial actuarial estimates of IBNR reserves not related to a specific event are based on the loss ratio method applied to each class of business. Actual paid losses and case reserves ("reported losses") are subtracted from expected ultimate losses to determine IBNR reserves. The initial expected ultimate losses involve management judgment and are based on historical information for that class of business; which includes loss ratios, market conditions, changes in pricing and conditions, underwriting changes, changes in claims emergence, and other factors that may influence expected ultimate losses.

Over time, as a greater number of claims are reported, actuarial estimates of IBNR are based on the BF method and loss development techniques. The BF method utilizes actual loss data and the expected patterns of loss emergence, combined with an initial expectation of ultimate losses to determine an estimate of ultimate losses. This method may be appropriate when there is limited actual loss data and a relatively less stable pattern of loss emergence. The chain ladder method utilizes actual loss and expected patterns of loss emergence to determine an estimate of ultimate losses that is independent of the initial expectation of ultimate losses. This method may be appropriate when there is a relatively stable pattern of loss emergence and a relatively larger number of reported claims. Multiple estimates of ultimate losses using a variety of actuarial methods are calculated for each of our classes of business for each year of loss experience. Our actuaries look at each class and determine the most appropriate point estimate based on the characteristics of the particular class and other relevant factors, such as historical ultimate loss ratios, the presence of individual large losses, and known occurrences that have not yet resulted in reported losses. Once our actuaries make their determination of the most appropriate point estimate for each class, this information is aggregated and presented to management for review and approval.

The pattern of loss emergence is determined using actuarial analysis and judgment and is based on the historical patterns of the recording of paid and reported losses by us, as well as industry information. Information that may cause historical patterns to differ from future patterns is considered and reflected in expected patterns as appropriate. For property, marine and aviation insurance, losses are generally reported within 2 to 3 years from the beginning of the accident year. For casualty insurance, loss emergence patterns can vary from 3 years to over 20 years depending on the type of business. For other insurance, loss emergence patterns fall between the property and casualty insurance. For reinsurance business, loss reporting lags the corresponding insurance classes often by at least one quarter due to the need for loss information to flow from the ceding companies to us generally via reinsurance intermediaries. Such lags in loss reporting are reflected in the actuary's selections of loss reporting patterns used in establishing our reserves.

Such estimates are not precise because, among other things, they are based on predictions of future developments and estimates of future trends in claim severity, claim frequency and other issues. In the process of estimating IBNR reserves, provisions for economic inflation and changes in the social and legal

environment are considered, but involve considerable judgment. When estimating IBNR reserves, more judgment is typically required for lines of business with longer loss emergence patterns.

Due to the low frequency and high severity nature of some of the business underwritten by us, our reserve estimates are highly dependent on actuarial and management judgment and are therefore uncertain. In property classes, there can be additional uncertainty in loss estimation related to large catastrophe events. With wind events, such as hurricanes, the damage assessment process may take more than a year. The cost of claims is subject to volatility due to supply shortages for construction materials and labor. In the case of earthquakes, the damage assessment process may take several years as buildings are discovered to have structural weaknesses not initially detected. The uncertainty inherent in IBNR reserve estimates is particularly pronounced for casualty coverages, such as excess liability, professional liability coverages and workers' compensation, where information emerges relatively slowly over time.

Our three types of property and casualty reserve exposure with the longest tails are:

- (1) high layer excess casualty insurance;
- (2) casualty reinsurance; and
- (3) discontinued asbestos and long-tail environmental business.

Certain aspects of our casualty operations complicate the actuarial process for establishing reserves. Certain casualty business written by our insurance operations is high layer excess casualty business, meaning that our liability attaches after large deductibles, including self insurance or insurance from sources other than us. We commenced writing this type of business in 1986 and issued policies in forms that were different from traditional policies used by the industry at that time. Initially, there was a lack of industry data available for this type of business. Consequently, the basis for establishing loss reserves by us for this type of business was largely judgmental and based upon our own reported loss experience, which was used as a basis for determining ultimate losses and, therefore, IBNR reserves. Over time, the amount of available historical loss experience data has increased. As a result, we have obtained a larger statistical base to assist in establishing reserves for these excess casualty insurance claims.

High layer excess casualty insurance claims typically involve claims relating to (i) a "shock loss" such as an explosion or transportation accident causing severe damage to persons and/or property over a short period of time, (ii) a "non-shock" loss where a large number of claimants are exposed to injurious conditions over a longer period of time, such as exposure to chemicals or pharmaceuticals or (iii) a professional liability loss such as a medical malpractice claim. In each case, these claims are ultimately settled following extensive negotiations and legal proceedings. This process typically takes 5 to 15 years following the date of loss.

Reinsurance operations by their nature add further complications to the reserving process, particularly for casualty business written, in that there is an inherent lag in the timing and reporting of a loss event from an insured or ceding company to the reinsurer. This reporting lag creates an even longer period of time between the policy inception and when a claim is finally settled. As a result, more judgment is required to establish reserves for ultimate claims in our reinsurance operations.

In our reinsurance operations, case reserves for reported claims are generally established based on reports received from ceding companies. Additional case reserves may be established by us to reflect our estimated ultimate cost of a loss.

Casualty reinsurance business involves reserving methods that generally include historical aggregated claim information as reported by ceding companies, combined with the results of claims and underwriting reviews of a sample of the ceding company's claims and underwriting files. Therefore, we do not always receive detailed claim information for this line of business.

Discontinued asbestos and long-tail environmental business was contained within certain policies previously written by NAC Re Corp. (now known as XL Reinsurance America Inc.), prior to its acquisition by us; from business of Winterthur purchased by us from AXA Insurance in 2001; and from a loss portfolio transfer in 2006. At December 31, 2012, total gross unpaid losses and loss expenses in respect of this business represented less than 1% of unpaid losses and loss expenses. See Note 10(f), "Losses and Loss Expenses – Discontinued Asbestos and Run-Off Environmental Related Claims," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for further information.

Except for certain workers' compensation (including long-term disability) and certain U.K. motor liabilities, we do not discount our unpaid losses and loss expenses. We utilize tabular reserving for workers' compensation unpaid losses that are considered fixed and determinable. The unpaid losses for the annuity component of U.K. motor claims are discounted to reflect the long tail nature of the structured settlements. For further discussion, see Note 10, "Losses and Loss Expenses," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Loss and loss expenses are charged to income as they are incurred. These charges include loss and loss expense payments and any changes in case and IBNR reserves. During the loss settlement period, additional facts regarding claims are reported. As these additional facts are reported, it may be necessary to increase or decrease the unpaid losses and loss expense reserves. The actual final liability may be significantly different than prior estimates.

The amount of our net unpaid losses and loss expenses relating to our operating segments at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was as follows.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Insurance | \$ 11,384,855 | \$ 11,374,315 |
| Reinsurance | 5,737,564 | 5,609,658 |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses | <u>\$ 17,122,419</u> | <u>\$ 16,983,973</u> |

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions)</i> | Net Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Case Reserves | 2012 IBNR Reserves | Total Reserves | Case Reserves | 2011 IBNR Reserves | Total Reserves |
| Insurance: | | | | | | |
| Professional | \$ 1,399 | \$ 3,040 | \$ 4,439 | \$ 1,244 | \$ 3,175 | \$ 4,419 |
| Casualty | 1,362 | 3,014 | 4,376 | 1,395 | 2,919 | 4,314 |
| Property | 367 | 199 | 566 | 473 | 299 | 772 |
| Specialty | 674 | 568 | 1,242 | 734 | 559 | 1,293 |
| Other (1) | 243 | 518 | 761 | 196 | 380 | 576 |
| Total | \$ 4,045 | \$ 7,339 | \$ 11,384 | \$ 4,042 | \$ 7,332 | \$ 11,374 |
| Reinsurance: | | | | | | |
| Casualty (2) | \$ 1,490 | \$ 2,039 | \$ 3,529 | \$ 1,501 | \$ 1,999 | \$ 3,500 |
| Property catastrophe (3) | 166 | 248 | 414 | 180 | 197 | 377 |
| Other property | 462 | 538 | 1,000 | 410 | 467 | 877 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | 387 | 119 | 506 | 399 | 71 | 470 |
| Other (1) | 180 | 109 | 289 | 163 | 223 | 386 |
| Total | 2,685 | 3,053 | 5,738 | 2,653 | 2,957 | 5,610 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$ 6,730</u> | <u>\$ 10,392</u> | <u>\$ 17,122</u> | <u>\$ 6,695</u> | <u>\$ 10,289</u> | <u>\$ 16,984</u> |

(1) Other within the Insurance segment includes: excess and surplus, surety, structured indemnity and certain other discontinued lines. Other within the Reinsurance segment includes: whole account contracts, surety, structured indemnity and other lines.

(2) Within the Reinsurance segment, casualty-other and casualty-professional lines of business are shown in the aggregate.

(3) Property catastrophe IBNR includes event specific reserves for losses that our insureds and cedants have informed us they expect to incur but have not yet had reported known claims.

As noted above, management reviews the IBNR estimates produced by our actuaries who determine the best estimate of the liabilities to record in our financial statements. We consider this single point estimate to be the mean expected outcome. Management believes that the actuarial methods utilized adequately provide for loss development.

Management does not build in a provision for uncertainty outside of the estimates prepared by our actuaries.

While the proportion of unpaid losses and loss expenses represented by IBNR is sensitive to a number of factors, the most significant ones have historically been accelerated business growth and changes in business mix. Other factors that have affected the ratio in the past include additions to prior period

reserves, catastrophic occurrences, settlement of large claims and changes in claims settlement patterns. The ratio of IBNR to total reserves was consistent from year-end 2011 to year-end 2012.

IBNR reserves are calculated by our actuaries using standard actuarial methodologies as discussed above. Since the year ended December 31, 2003, we adopted a methodology that provides a single point reserve estimate separately for each line of business and also a range of possible outcomes across each single point reserve estimate. This is discussed further below.

The following table shows the recorded estimate and the high and low ends of the range of our net unpaid losses and loss expenses for each of the lines of business noted above at December 31, 2012:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions)</i> | Net Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses Recorded | Range of Net Unpaid Losses & Loss Expenses Estimated HIGH | Range of Net Unpaid Losses & Loss Expenses Estimated LOW |
|--|---|--|---|
| Insurance | | | |
| Professional | \$ 4,439 | \$ 4,935 | \$ 3,963 |
| Casualty | 4,376 | 4,909 | 3,866 |
| Property | 566 | 648 | 490 |
| Specialty | 1,242 | 1,349 | 1,140 |
| Other (1) | 761 | 888 | 642 |
| Total (2) | \$ 11,384 | 12,359 | 10,442 |
| Reinsurance | | | |
| Casualty (3) | \$ 3,529 | \$ 3,935 | \$ 3,141 |
| Property catastrophe | 414 | 531 | 308 |
| Other property | 1,000 | 1,241 | 779 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | 506 | 602 | 418 |
| Other (1) | 289 | 328 | 250 |
| Total (2) | \$ 5,738 | 6,353 | 5,147 |
| Total | \$ 17,122 | | |

(1) Other within the Insurance segment includes: excess and surplus, surety, structured indemnity and certain other discontinued lines. Other within the Reinsurance segment includes: whole account contracts, surety, structured indemnity and other lines.

(2) The range for the total Insurance and Reinsurance segment reserves is narrower than the sum of the ranges for the lines of business shown in the table due to diversification benefits across the lines of business.

(3) Within the Reinsurance segment, casualty-other and casualty-professional lines of business are shown in the aggregate.

There are factors that would cause reserves to increase or decrease within the context of the range provided. The magnitude of any change in ultimate losses would be determined by the magnitude of any changes to our assumptions or combined impact of changes in assumptions. Factors that would increase reserves include, but are not limited to, increases in claim severity, increases in expected level of reported claims, changes to the regulatory environment that expand the exposure insured by us, changes in the litigation environment that increase claim awards, filings or verdicts, unexpected increases in loss inflation, and/or new types of claims being pursued against us. Factors that would decrease reserves include, but are not limited to, decreases in claim severity, reductions in the expected level of reported claims, changes to the regulatory environment that reduce the exposure insured by us, changes in the litigation environment that decrease claim awards, filings or verdicts, and/or unexpected decreases in loss inflation.

Our methodology in 2012 for calculating reserve ranges around our single point reserve estimate is consistent with that used in 2011. We modeled a statistical distribution of potential reserve outcomes over a one year run-off period for each of the approximately 35 lines of business. Where appropriate, lines of business were evaluated at a more granular level and then aggregated to appropriately reflect differing levels of volatility within each line of business, for example, in respect of attritional, large, catastrophe and clash losses. In doing so we evaluated a number of alternative models, and for each line of business our actuaries selected the distribution parameters deemed to be most appropriate. Factors affecting this decision included an assessment of the model fit, availability and relevance of data and the impact of changes in business mix. We used the modeled statistical distribution to calculate an 80% confidence interval for the potential reserve outcomes over this one year run-off period. The high and low end points of the ranges set

forth in the above table are such that there is a 10% modeled probability that the reserve will develop higher than the high point and a 10% modeled probability that the reserve will develop lower than the low point.

The development of a reserve range models the uncertainty of the claim environment as well as the limited predictive power of past loss data. These uncertainties and limitations are not specific to us. The ranges represent an estimate of the range of possible outcomes over a one year development period. A range of possible outcomes should not be confused with a range of best estimates. The range of best estimates will generally be much narrower than the range of possible outcomes as it will reflect reasonable actuarial best estimates of the expected reserve.

Reserve volatility was analyzed for each line of business (excluding structured indemnity) within both the Reinsurance and Insurance segments using our historical data, supplemented by industry data. These ranges were then aggregated to the lines of business shown above taking into account correlation between lines of business. The practical result of the correlation approach to aggregation is that the ranges by line of business disclosed above are narrower than the sum of the ranges of the individual lines of business. Similarly, the range for our total reserves in the aggregate, is narrower than the sum of the ranges for the lines of business disclosed above.

On an annual basis, we review the correlation assumptions between our various lines of business. Since 2006, we have utilized a simplified approach of assigning ratings of low, medium or high to its correlation assumptions for each line of business pairing based on the judgment of the reserving actuaries. This simplified approach has been utilized due to the limited amount of historical experience within our portfolio as well as limited applicable industry data. However, our actual historical experience and industry data were used to judgmentally select a range of values for the low, medium and high correlations, respectively, of 15%, 30% and 50%. It should be noted that both our own experience and the industry data exhibit negative correlations in reserve developments between certain lines of business. However, as a measure of prudence in evaluating the reserve ranges, we have used a minimum of 15% correlation between any two lines of business. The analysis of correlations and the reflection of potential diversification benefits across lines of business represent another area of uncertainty in the development of estimated reserve ranges.

We are not aware of any generally accepted model to perform the reserve range analysis described above. However, other models may be employed to develop these ranges.

See “Segments” below for further discussion on prior year development of loss reserves.

Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable

The recognition of unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable requires two key judgments. The first judgment involves our estimation of the amount of gross IBNR to be ceded to reinsurers. Ceded IBNR is generally developed as part of our loss reserving process and, consequently, its estimation is subject to similar risks and uncertainties as the estimation of gross IBNR (see “Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – Unpaid losses and loss expenses and unpaid loss and loss expense recoverable”). The second judgment involves our estimate of the amount of the reinsurance recoverable balance that we will ultimately be unable to recover from related reinsurers due to insolvency, contractual dispute, or for other reasons. Amounts estimated to be uncollectible are reflected in a bad debt provision that reduces the reinsurance recoverable balance. Changes in the bad debt provision are reflected in net income. See Item 8, Note 9, “Reinsurance,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information.

We use a default analysis to estimate uncollectible reinsurance. The primary components of the default analysis are reinsurance recoverable balances by reinsurer, net of collateral, estimated recovery rates and default factors used to determine the portion of a reinsurer’s balance deemed uncollectible. The definition of collateral for this purpose requires some judgment and is generally limited to assets held in trust, letters of credit, and liabilities held by us with the same legal entity for which we believe there is a right of offset. Default factors require considerable judgment and are determined using the current rating, or rating equivalent, of each reinsurer as well as other key considerations and assumptions.

2) Future Policy Benefit Reserves

Future policy benefit reserves relate to our Life operations and are estimated using assumptions for investment yields, mortality, expenses and provisions for adverse loss deviation. Uncertainties related to interest rate volatility and mortality experience make it difficult to project and value the ultimate benefit payments.

Most of our future policy benefit reserves relate to annuity portfolio reinsurance contracts under which we make annuity payments throughout the term of the contract for a specified portfolio of policies.

The future policy benefit reserves for annuity portfolio reinsurance contracts amounted to \$4.0 billion at both December 31, 2012 and 2011. The requirement to unlock assumptions used to value these reserves arising from changes to assumptions on investment yield and mortality is discussed below along with sensitivities for changing mortality and investment yield assumptions.

For certain of these contracts, a single premium is paid at inception of the contract by way of a transfer of cash and investments to us.

The reserving methodology for these annuity portfolio reinsurance contracts is described in the authoritative guidance issued by the FASB for accounting and reporting by insurance for certain long-duration contracts as well as authoritative guidance over realized gains and losses from the sale of investments. These contracts subject us to risks arising from policyholder mortality over a period that extends beyond the periods in which premiums are collected. Liabilities for future policy benefit reserves are established in accordance with the provisions of this guidance.

Claims and expenses for individual policies within these annuity reinsurance contracts are projected over the lifetime of the contract to calculate a net present value of future cash flows. Assumptions for each element of the basis (mortality, expenses and interest) are determined at the issue of the contract and these assumptions are locked-in throughout the term of the contract unless a premium deficiency exists. The assumptions are best estimate assumptions plus provisions for adverse deviations on the key risk elements (i.e., mortality and interest). Provisions for adverse deviation are designed to cover reasonable deviations from the best estimate outcome of the contract. As the experience on the contracts emerges, the assumptions are reviewed. This occurs at least annually and includes both an analysis of experience and review of likely future experience. If such review would produce reserves in excess of those currently held then lock-in assumptions will be revised and a loss recognized. Such a loss could be significant relative to the net income of the Life operations segment for the year, but would not be expected to be significant relative to shareholders' equity. The future policy benefit reserves provisions for adverse deviation in excess of best estimate assumptions consistent with the underlying pricing that amounted to approximately \$52 million and \$36 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The reduction in 2012 has arisen due to the narrowing of credit spreads on the underlying assets over the year.

The future policy benefit reserves would only be increased if these provisions for adverse deviation no longer existed in the light of emerging claims experience. The present value of future claims would increase by approximately \$17 million if mortality rates were to decrease by 1% in all future years, relative to the reserving assumptions. We hold the investment assets backing these liabilities. These investments are primarily fixed income securities with maturities that closely match the expected claims settlement profile. A 0.1% decrease in the investment yield assumption would result in approximately a \$32 million increase in the value of future claims related to annuity portfolio reinsurance.

During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, there were no adjustments to the locked-in assumptions for these annuity reinsurance contracts.

We also provide reinsurance of disability income protection, for an in-force block of business. The future policy benefit reserves for these contracts amounted to approximately \$101 million and \$99 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Future policy benefit reserves include the lock-in of assumptions at inception with periodic review against experience. The liabilities relate to in-force blocks of business, comprising underlying insurance policies that provide an income if the policyholder becomes sick or disabled. The liabilities are therefore driven mainly by the rates at which policyholders become sick (where sickness is defined by the policy conditions) and by the rates at which these policyholders recover or die. A 1% increase in the incidence rate would increase the value of future claims by approximately \$2.3 million, while a 1% decrease in the termination rate would increase the value of future claims by

approximately \$4.1 million. While no changes to the locked-in assumptions were made in 2012 or in 2011, a review of lapse experience in 2010 led to an increase in the reserve of \$2.2 million.

We also provide reinsurance of term assurance and critical illness policies written in the U.K., Ireland and the United States. The future policy benefit reserves for these contracts amounted to approximately \$271 million and \$241 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. This increase was caused by ageing of the portfolio, combined with movements of the U.K. sterling and Euro against the U.S. dollar over 2012. Future policy benefit reserves include the lock-in of assumptions at inception with periodic review against experience. The provisions for adverse deviation in these reserves amounted to approximately \$24 million and \$22 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The liabilities relate to in-force blocks of business and to treaties that accepted new business up until the end of 2009, comprising underlying insurance policies that provide mainly lump sum benefits if the policyholder dies or becomes sick. For term assurance, the liabilities are therefore driven by the rates of mortality and for critical illness cover, the liabilities are driven predominantly by the rates at which policyholders become sick, where sickness is defined by the treaty conditions (i.e., the morbidity rates). A 1% increase in the mortality rate relative to the reserving assumption would increase the value of future claims by approximately \$2.7 million, and a 1% increase in the morbidity rate would increase the value of future claims by approximately \$1.0 million.

The term assurance and critical illness treaties were written using a variety of structures, some of which incur acquisition costs during an initial period. For such treaties, a deferred acquisition cost (“DAC”) asset has been established and an increase in future lapse rates could impact the recoverability of such costs from future premiums. The recoverability will also be influenced by the impact of lapses on future claims. An increase in the annual lapse rates by 1% could lead to a 5%-10% reduction in future margins available for amortizing the DAC asset.

We also provided reinsurance of a block of U.S. based term assurance, which was novated to us from an insurance affiliate in December 2002. The future policy benefit reserves for these contracts amounted to approximately \$257 million and \$258 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Future policy benefit reserves are established in accordance with the provisions of general authoritative guidance on accounting for insurance enterprises, including the lock-in of assumptions at inception with periodic review against experience.

The liabilities relate to in-force blocks of business, which are comprised of underlying insurance policies that provide mainly lump sum benefits if the policyholder dies. The liabilities are therefore driven by the rates of mortality, and a 1% increase in the mortality rate relative to the reserving assumption would increase the value of future claims by approximately \$7 million. The liabilities are also affected by lapse experience, and a 1% decrease in lapse rates relative to the reserving assumption would increase the reserve by approximately \$0.8 million. No changes to the locked-in assumptions were made in years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

For further information see Item 8, Note 12, “Future Policy Benefit Reserves,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

3) Other-Than-Temporary Declines in Investments (“OTTI”)

Our process for identifying declines in the fair value of investments that are other-than-temporary involves consideration of several factors. These primary factors include (i) an analysis of the liquidity, business prospects and financial condition of the issuer including consideration of credit ratings, (ii) the significance of the decline, (iii) an analysis of the collateral structure and other credit support, as applicable, of the securities in question, and (iv) for debt securities, whether we intend to sell such securities. In addition, the authoritative guidance requires that OTTI for certain asset backed and mortgage backed securities are recognized if the fair value of the security is less than its discounted cash flow value and there has been a decrease in the present value of the expected cash flows since the last reporting period. Where our analysis of the above factors results in our conclusion that declines in fair values are other-than-temporary, the cost of the security is written down to discounted cash flow and a portion of the previously unrealized loss is therefore realized in the period such determination is made.

If we intend to sell an impaired debt security, or it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, the impairment is other-than-temporary and is recognized in earnings in an amount equal to the entire difference between fair value and amortized cost.

There are risks and uncertainties associated with determining whether declines in the fair value of investments are other-than-temporary. These include subsequent significant changes in general economic conditions as well as specific business conditions affecting particular issuers, our liability profile, subjective assessment of issue-specific factors (seniority of claims, collateral value, etc.), future financial market effects, stability of foreign governments and economies, future rating agency actions and significant disclosure of accounting, fraud or corporate governance issues that may adversely affect certain investments. In addition, significant assumptions and management judgment are involved in determining if the decline is other-than-temporary. If management determines that a decline in fair value is temporary, then a security's value is not written down at that time. However, there are potential effects upon our future earnings and financial position should management later conclude that some of the current declines in the fair value of the investments are other-than-temporary declines. See "Investment Activities" herein for further information on other-than-temporary declines in the value of investments and unrealized loss on investments.

Key Assumptions used in determination of credit losses related to fixed maturities

We review, on a quarterly basis, the entirety of the fixed maturity securities in our investment portfolio that are in a gross unrealized loss position to assess whether we believe a credit loss, relative to the current amortized cost of the security, exists. We utilize specific screening criteria to identify securities at risk for a credit loss, and if any of these conditions exists, subject the individual security to a detailed review to determine if a credit loss exists. The screening criteria used by us include the absolute degree of impairment of the security as a percentage of amortized cost, the credit rating of the security and the market yield-to-maturity of the security. Any securities that have previously been identified as impaired due to credit losses are at elevated risk of further impairments. In addition, on a quarterly basis, we review any current market developments and identify any new issues that may adversely impact our investment portfolio, and review any impacted holdings and any pending sales programs.

Credit loss methodology – structured securities

Credit loss on structured securities is determined through a comparison of the security's discounted cash flow to the amortized cost of the security. To the extent that the discounted cash flow is estimated to be lower than the amortized cost of the security, the security is impaired to the discounted cash flow value of all security cash flows, including both coupon and principal repayment, discounted using the forward curve.

We, in conjunction with our third-party investment management service providers, make significant assumptions in our impairment analysis and these assumptions are subject to changes in both economic fundamentals and management's estimates in future periods.

(1) Non-Agency RMBS

We utilize assumptions specific to our individual holdings and, accordingly, individual assumptions will differ on a security by security basis depending on the quality of the collateral and the performance of the underlying pools. In general, we project that future defaults will develop based on the performance of the underlying collateral, measured by the number of loans currently in arrears.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Loans < 30 days in arrears | 50% will ultimately default |
| Loans 30-60 days in arrears | 60% will ultimately default |
| Loans 60-90 days in arrears | 75% will ultimately default |
| Bank held | 100% default rate |
| Loans in foreclosure | 100% default rate |

We estimate that the cumulative losses on the mortgage structures we own will vary depending on the vintage and collateral of the underlying loans in the holdings. Cumulative deal loss expectations are projected based on the number of loans expected to take a loss and the severity of loss upon default. Loan

loss severities depend on the borrower, geographic location and loan to value characteristics of the underlying collateral. We estimate that loss severities will range from 50-75% for sub-prime and Alt-A loans and 40-50% for Prime loans. These cumulative losses results are then compared to the level of subordination within our holdings to measure if impairment exists.

| | Average Cumulative Losses by Vintage | | | |
|------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
| Alt-A – Non Option ARM | 38 % | 26 % | 12 % | 4 % |
| Alt-A Option ARM | 36 % | 33 % | 16 % | 5 % |
| Prime | 20 % | 13 % | 6 % | 2 % |
| Subprime | 48 % | 35 % | 20 % | 7 % |

(2) Core CDOs

In conjunction with our investment managers, we utilize a scenario-based approach to reviewing the majority of our CDO portfolio, which consists primarily of collateralized loan obligations. The five significant scenarios utilized in the model consist of:

- 2 base cases assuming asset defaults are equivalent to either the expected corporate default probabilities, or the cumulative default rates for similar time frames from the period of 1983 to 2010.
- Optimistic/pessimistic cases assuming assets have a default rate equivalent to 1 rating notch higher/ lower than their current rating and if on positive/negative watch then 2 notches higher/lower than their current rating.
- A market implied scenario based on the current asset market price, assuming that lower priced loans have a higher default rate.

The weighted scenario of the five scenarios above is used for the determination of a potential impairment. If losses are forecast to be below the subordination level for the tranche held by us, the security is determined not to be impaired. The weighting between these scenarios varies over time depending on market conditions, but the weighting used for the year end 2012 evaluation consisted of 40% to the base cases noted above, 10% to the optimistic case, 10% to the pessimistic case, and 40% to the market implied case. For the non-CLO portion of the core CDO portfolio, we utilize specific default scenarios related to the particular underlying assets.

(3) Other structured security classes

The remainder of the gross unrealized losses related to our structured securities portfolio are concentrated in the following significant asset classes:

- Other ABS, which is a mix of mostly investment grade credit card, auto and non-U.S. ABS structures that have risk and performance characteristics unrelated to the U.S. housing market. In cases where these sectors have met Company screens, the individual securities are evaluated based on fundamental credit analysis of the underlying structure.
- CMBS, which are dominated by AAA rated holdings which generally have high levels of credit subordination, are highly diversified and priced reasonably close to par. The gross unrealized losses on CMBS are spread evenly across the credit ratings. We review these holdings on an individual security basis to the extent they meet the screens noted above, but generally do not believe these securities have a high risk of credit loss given their high subordination levels.

Credit loss analysis – corporate sector securities

Credit losses on corporate securities are determined on an individual security basis. We review the circumstances and conditions associated with credit issuers, including considering credit rating and forecasted operating and financing activities of the issuer, and will make a determination as to whether we believe the issuer is likely to fully meet its contractual principal and interest obligations. To the extent we do not believe the issuers will meet these obligations, we recognize a credit loss as the difference between amortized cost and the estimated present value of cash flows expected to be received. We review the ability

to pay at the lowest tier (i.e., most subordinated) of the capital structure at which we hold securities, and, to the extent we are satisfied in the performance of the lower tier, conclude that any more senior tiers are also likely to meet obligations.

We evaluate the credit losses associated with medium term notes, which generally represent notes backed primarily by investment grade European credit. We evaluate the cash flows expected from the notes over their remaining expected life, including an evaluation of the likelihood of current holdings to meet their principal and interest obligations, and incorporate current reinvestment assumptions on any security maturities or reinvestment of cash flows. These cash flows are discounted at the current yield, adjusted for changes in interest rates for floating rate securities expected from these securities, and, to the extent the discounted cash flow value is below the amortized cost, we recognize an impairment charge.

4) Income Taxes

We utilize the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under this method, deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. We had net operating tax loss carry forward balances of \$83.1 million and \$263.6 million against which a valuation allowance of \$73.8 million and \$239.1 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, was established. We had realized capital loss carry forward balances of approximately \$196.5 million and \$237.2 million against which a valuation allowance of approximately \$196.5 million and \$237.2 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, was established. Included within these realized capital losses are \$97.6 million and \$117.9 million of losses arising from the intercompany sale of investments, against which a valuation allowance of \$97.6 million and \$117.9 million has been established. The deferral of benefits from tax losses is evaluated based upon management's estimates of the future profitability of our taxable entities based on current forecasts, the character of income and the period for which losses may be carried forward. A valuation allowance may have to be established for any portion of a deferred tax asset that management believes will not be realized. Should the future income of these entities fall below expectations, a further valuation allowance would have to be established, which could be significant. In addition, if any further losses are generated by these entities, these losses may not be tax affected.

For further information see "—Other Revenues and Expenses" and Item 8, Note 22, "Taxation," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

5) Reinsurance Premium Estimates

We write business on both an excess of loss and proportional basis. In the case of excess of loss contracts, the subject written premium is generally outlined within the treaty and we receive a minimum and/or deposit premium on a quarterly basis, which is normally followed by an adjustment premium based on the ultimate subject premium for the contract. We estimate the premium written on the basis of the expected subject premium and regularly review this against actual quarterly statements to revise the estimate based on the information provided by the cedant. An estimate of premium is recorded at the inception of the contract.

On proportional contracts, written premiums are estimated based on expected ultimate premiums using information provided by the ceding companies. The ceding company's premium estimate may be adjusted based on its history of providing accurate premium estimates. When the actual premium is reported by the ceding company, normally on a quarterly basis, it may be materially higher or lower than the estimate. Adjustments arising from the reporting of actual premium by the ceding companies are recorded at the earliest point in time that the supporting information indicates an adjustment is appropriate.

Written premiums on excess of loss contracts are earned in accordance with the loss occurring period defined within the treaty, normally 12 months following inception of the contract. Written premiums on proportional contracts are earned over the risk periods of the underlying policies issued and renewed, normally 24 months. For both excess of loss and proportional contracts, the earned premium is recognized ratably over the earning period, namely 12-24 months. The portion of the premium related to the unexpired portion of the policy at the end of any reporting period is reflected in unearned premiums.

Reinstatement premiums are recognized at the time a loss event occurs where coverage limits for the remaining life of the contract are reinstated under pre-defined contract terms and are fully earned when recognized. Recognition of reinstatement premiums is based on our estimate of loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, which involves management judgment.

Reinsurance business by its nature can add further complications since, generally, the ultimate premium due under a specific contract will not be known at the time the contract is entered into. As a result, more judgment and ongoing monitoring is required to establish premiums written and earned in our reinsurance operations.

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the amount of premiums receivable related to our reinsurance operations amounted to \$1.2 billion and \$1.1 billion, respectively.

A significant portion of amounts included as premiums receivable, which represent estimated premiums written, net of commissions, are not currently due based on the terms of the underlying contracts. Management reviews the premiums receivable balance at least quarterly and provides a provision for amounts deemed to be uncollectible. We recorded a provision for uncollectible premiums receivable related to our reinsurance operations at December 31, 2012 and 2011 of \$0.9 million and \$1.9 million, respectively.

The amount of proportional and excess of loss reinsurance gross premiums written and gross acquisition expenses recognized by our reinsurance operations for each line of business for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was as follows:

| | 2012 | | 2011 | | 2010 | |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Gross Premiums Written | Gross Acquisition Expenses | Gross Premiums Written | Gross Acquisition Expenses | Gross Premiums Written | Gross Acquisition Expenses |
| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | | | | | | |
| Proportional Contracts: | | | | | | |
| Casualty – professional lines | \$ 64,061 | \$ 17,512 | \$ 65,492 | \$ 19,422 | \$ 51,922 | \$ 14,604 |
| Casualty – other lines | 120,830 | 32,013 | 115,835 | 30,657 | 38,671 | 9,945 |
| Other property | 484,610 | 133,640 | 693,825 | 145,367 | 651,733 | 168,981 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | 51,257 | 13,233 | 50,438 | 12,556 | 49,105 | 14,106 |
| Other (1) | 76,593 | 10,342 | 90,846 | 25,796 | 86,303 | 22,745 |
| Total proportional contracts | <u>\$ 797,351</u> | <u>\$ 206,740</u> | <u>\$ 1,016,436</u> | <u>\$ 233,798</u> | <u>\$ 877,734</u> | <u>\$ 230,381</u> |
| Excess of Loss Contracts: | | | | | | |
| Casualty – professional lines | \$ 157,296 | \$ 29,439 | \$ 151,897 | \$ 28,055 | \$ 166,379 | \$ 30,969 |
| Casualty – other lines | 211,731 | 36,843 | 176,672 | 26,602 | 190,864 | 30,764 |
| Property catastrophe | 537,086 | 52,762 | 461,742 | 43,705 | 370,266 | 37,720 |
| Other property | 168,904 | 11,238 | 153,991 | 17,659 | 150,761 | 16,363 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | 118,632 | 10,359 | 105,723 | 9,267 | 68,333 | 6,066 |
| Other (1) | 17,156 | 7,585 | 7,158 | 4,656 | 18,614 | 8,741 |
| Total excess of loss contracts | <u>\$ 1,210,805</u> | <u>\$ 148,226</u> | <u>\$ 1,057,183</u> | <u>\$ 129,944</u> | <u>\$ 965,217</u> | <u>\$ 130,623</u> |

(1) Other includes whole account, credit, surety, structured indemnity and other lines.

6) Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

We have recorded goodwill in connection with various acquisitions in prior years. Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of net assets acquired. We test goodwill for potential impairment annually as of June 30 and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that may indicate that potential exists for the fair value of a reporting unit to be reduced to a level below its carrying amount. We test for impairment at the reporting unit level in accordance with the authoritative guidance on intangibles and goodwill. For the reinsurance segment, a reporting unit is one level below the business segment, while for insurance, the segment is also the reporting unit. The first step is to identify potential impairment by comparing the estimated fair value of a reporting unit to the estimated book value, including goodwill. The fair value of each reporting unit is derived based upon valuation techniques and

assumptions we believe market participants would use to value the business and this is then compared to the book value of the business. We derive the net book value of our reporting units by estimating the amount of shareholders' equity required to support the activities of each reporting unit. The estimated fair values of the reporting units are generally determined utilizing methodologies that incorporate price-to-net-tangible-book and price-to-earnings multiples of certain comparable companies, from an operational and economic standpoint. If such estimated fair value, combined with an estimate of an appropriate control premium, indicates a "close call" or potential impairment, further analysis using discounted cash flows is performed and the results of the various valuation methodologies are weighted to arrive at the estimated fair value for each reporting unit. A control premium represents the value an investor would pay above minority interest transaction prices in order to obtain a controlling interest in the respective company. If the estimated fair value exceeds the book value, goodwill at the reporting unit level is not deemed to be impaired. If the book value exceeds the estimated fair value, the second step of the process is performed to measure the amount of impairment.

We had goodwill of \$392.9 million at December 31, 2012, all relating to the Reinsurance segment. The estimated fair values of the reporting units carrying goodwill exceeded their estimated net book values at December 31, 2012 and therefore no impairments were recorded during 2012. We completed an interim impairment test during the fourth quarter of 2011 that resulted in a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$429.0 million representing the full amount of goodwill relating to the insurance segment. The impairment was determined using the methodologies as described above, which included discounted cash flow analyses and comparison with similar companies using their publicly traded price multiples as the basis for valuation. Continued low valuations in the insurance industry as a whole combined with several years of poor underwriting performance in the segment impacted the technical valuations resulting in the impairment; however, management continues to see significant value in our global insurance platform.

For further detailed information, see Item 8, Note 8, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Segments

We are organized into three operating segments: Insurance, Reinsurance and Life operations. Our general investment and financing operations are reflected in Corporate.

We evaluate the performance of both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments based on underwriting profit and the performance of the Life operations segment based on its contribution to net income. Other items of our revenue and expenditure are not evaluated at the segment level for reporting purposes. In addition, we do not allocate investment assets by segment for our P&C operations. Investment assets related to our Life operations and certain structured products included in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments and in Corporate are held in separately identified portfolios. As such, net investment income from these assets is included in the contribution from each of these segments. See Item 8, Note 4, "Segment Information," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for a reconciliation of segment data to our consolidated financial statements.

In the following "Income Statement Analysis" discussion, the following ratios are used to explain the underwriting profit (loss) from our Insurance and Reinsurance segments:

- The combined ratio related to the P&C operations is the sum of the loss and loss expense ratio and the underwriting expense ratio. A combined ratio under 100% represents an underwriting profit and over 100% represents an underwriting loss.
- The loss and loss expense ratio related to the P&C operations is calculated by dividing the losses and loss expenses incurred by the net premiums earned for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.
- The underwriting expense ratio related to the P&C operations is the sum of acquisition costs and operating expenses for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments divided by net premiums earned for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.
- The acquisition expense ratio related to the P&C operations is calculated by dividing the acquisition costs incurred by the net premiums earned for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.

- The operating expense ratio related to the P&C operations is calculated by dividing the operating expenses incurred by the net premiums earned for the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.

Income Statement Analysis

Insurance

As outlined in Item 1, “Business,” our Insurance operations provide commercial property, casualty and specialty insurance products on a global basis. Products generally provide tailored coverages for complex corporate risks and include the following lines of business: property, casualty, professional liability, environmental liability, aviation and satellite, marine and offshore energy, equine, fine art and specie, surplus lines, political risk and trade credit, product recall, surety and other insurance coverages, including those mentioned above, through our programs, middle market and construction businesses. We focus on those lines of business within our insurance operations that we believe provide the best return on capital over time. These lines of business are divided into the following business groups: North America Property and Casualty (“NAPC”), International Property and Casualty (“IPC”), Global Professional Lines (“Professional”) and Global Specialty Lines (“Specialty”).

The following table summarizes the underwriting profit (loss) for the Insurance segment:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage change | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Gross premiums written | \$ 5,166,974 | \$ 4,824,665 | \$ 4,418,380 | 7.1 % | 9.2 % |
| Net premiums written | 4,072,513 | 3,707,664 | 3,461,150 | 9.8 % | 7.1 % |
| Net premiums earned | 3,924,640 | 3,663,727 | 3,529,138 | 7.1 % | 3.8 % |
| Net losses and loss expenses | (2,691,056) | (2,951,413) | (2,505,502) | (8.8)% | 17.8 % |
| Acquisition costs | (504,227) | (461,965) | (418,146) | 9.1 % | 10.5 % |
| Operating expenses | (754,306) | (683,814) | (642,103) | 10.3 % | 6.5 % |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | \$ (24,949) | \$ (433,465) | \$ (36,613) | NM* | NM* |
| Net results – structured products | 20,980 | 10,976 | 14,696 | 91.1 % | (25.3)% |
| Net fee income and other (1) | (1,071) | (16,370) | (15,564) | (93.5)% | 5.2 % |

(1) Net fee income and other includes operating expenses from our loss prevention consulting services business.

* NM – Not Meaningful

Gross Premiums Written

The following table summarizes our gross premiums written by business group for the Insurance segment:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions except percentages)</i> | 2012 | | 2011 | | 2010 | | Percentage Change | |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | 2012 | Percentage | 2011 | Percentage | 2010 | Percentage | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| IPC | \$ 1,215.9 | 23.5 % | \$ 1,243.0 | 25.8 % | \$ 1,111.7 | 25.2 % | (2.2)% | 11.8 % |
| NAPC | 1,599.1 | 30.9 % | 1,333.0 | 27.6 % | 1,066.8 | 24.1 % | 20.0 % | 25.0 % |
| Professional | 1,460.0 | 28.3 % | 1,377.6 | 28.6 % | 1,412.1 | 32.0 % | 6.0 % | (2.4)% |
| Specialty | 892.0 | 17.3 % | 871.1 | 18.1 % | 827.8 | 18.7 % | 2.4 % | 5.2 % |
| Total | \$ 5,167.0 | 100.0 % | \$ 4,824.7 | 100.0 % | \$ 4,418.4 | 100.0 % | 7.1 % | 9.2 % |

2012 vs. 2011: Gross written premiums increased by 7.1%. The following is a summary of the premium movements by business group:

- IPC – decrease of 2.2% mainly due to lower retention and new business in property as a result of underwriting actions for business that did not meet our return requirements and the unfavorable impact of foreign exchange rates in all lines. Partially offsetting this decrease was improved retention levels and positive amendments to prior year premium estimates in primary casualty and middle market lines.
- NAPC – increase of 20.0% largely driven by new business growth across most lines including surplus lines, construction and primary casualty, improved retention for property, construction, and

primary casualty, and improved pricing in all lines over the prior year, partially offset by lower multi-year transactions in excess casualty.

- Professional – increase of 6.0% largely driven by improved pricing and retention as well as new business in the U.S. professional business, and favorable retention in the Select and International businesses, partially offset by lower new business in International.
- Specialty – increase of 2.4% due to the new political risk business and new business and favorable amendments to prior year premium estimates in marine, partially offset by lower retention levels and adverse amendments to prior year premium estimates in aerospace.

Foreign exchange rate movements also impacted our gross premiums written. When evaluated in local currency, our gross written premiums increased by 8.8%, compared to the 7.1% shown above.

2011 vs. 2010: Gross written premiums increased by 9.2%. The following is a summary of the premium movements by business group:

- IPC – increase of 11.8% largely driven by new business growth in property and middle market lines and the renewal of long term policies as annual policies in primary casualty, partially offset by a large multi-year program in primary casualty written in the fourth quarter of 2010 with gross written premiums of \$126.5 million.
- NAPC – increase of 25.0% largely driven by new business growth across all lines, including the new surety and construction initiatives, and improved pricing in all lines over the prior year including property, partially offset by lower multi-year transactions in excess casualty.
- Professional – decrease of 2.4% due to lower multi-year deals, lower new business in U.S. Professional partially offset by growth in new business in International and Select professional., and lower retention in US professional, partially offset by favorable retention in International.
- Specialty – increase of 5.2% largely driven by new business growth in general aviation and specie lines and favorable amendments to prior year premium estimates in discontinued lines.

Foreign exchange rate movements also impacted our gross premiums written. When evaluated in local currency, our gross written premiums increased by 6.8%, compared to the 9.2% shown above.

Net Premiums Written

2012 vs. 2011: The increase of 9.8% resulted from the gross written premium increases outlined above together with a decrease in ceded written premiums. The decrease in ceded premiums primarily relates to:

- Decreased utilization of facultative reinsurance, primarily in IPC property, following the cancelation of a large general property program in 2011 and lower gross premiums written as a result of underwriting actions for business that did not meet our return requirements;
- Changes in the structure and reinsurer participation of certain NAPC casualty and professional reinsurance treaties;
- Lower cessions as a result of lower level of premiums subject to the Professional treaty; and
- Favorable impact of foreign exchange rates.

Partially offsetting these were ceded premium increases as a result of:

- Changes in the structure, protection layers and costs of certain property and IPC casualty reinsurance treaties;
- A new reinsurance cover in NAPC programs; and
- Additional reinstatement premiums in 2012 as a result of marine and Sandy losses.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase of 7.1% resulted from the gross premiums written increases described above partially offset by an increase in ceded premiums written of 16.7%. The increase in ceded premiums written primarily relates to:

- Increased utilization of facultative reinsurance, primarily in IPC property;
- Unfavorable impact of foreign exchange rates;

- Higher cost on certain excess of loss treaties and additional reinsurance placements on new business initiatives; and
- Reinstatement premiums related to catastrophe, property and marine losses.

Net Premiums Earned

2012 vs. 2011: The increase of 7.1% primarily resulted from higher net written premiums earned in NAPC, Professional and Specialty and favorable amendments to certain prior year premium estimates, partially offset by lower production in IPC property as a result of underwriting actions for business that did not meet our return requirements and from ceded reinstatement premiums for marine and Sandy losses.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase of 3.8% primarily resulted from higher net written premiums earned through primary casualty, property, programs and middle markets and favorable foreign exchange impacts, offset by the ceded catastrophe, property and marine reinstatement premiums noted above and the earn-out of lower net premiums written in U.S. Professional and certain discontinued lines.

Net Losses and Loss Expenses

Combined Ratio

The following table presents the ratios for the Insurance segment:

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage Point Change | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Loss and loss expense ratio | 68.6% | 80.6% | 71.0% | (12.0) | 9.6 |
| Acquisition expense ratio | 12.8% | 12.6% | 11.8% | 0.2 | 0.8 |
| Operating expense ratio | 19.2% | 18.6% | 18.2% | 0.6 | 0.4 |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 32.0% | 31.2% | 30.0% | 0.8 | 1.2 |
| Combined ratio | <u>100.6%</u> | <u>111.8%</u> | <u>101.0%</u> | <u>(11.2)</u> | <u>10.8</u> |

The loss and loss expense ratio includes net losses incurred for both the reported year and any favorable or adverse prior year development of loss and loss expense reserves held at the beginning of the year. The following table summarizes these components of the loss ratio for the Insurance segment for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage Point Change | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Loss ratio | 68.6% | 80.6% | 71.0% | (12.0) | 9.6 |
| Prior year reserve development | 3.5% | 2.0% | 3.6% | 1.5 | (1.6) |
| Loss ratio excluding prior year development | <u>72.1%</u> | <u>82.6%</u> | <u>74.6%</u> | <u>(10.5)</u> | <u>8.0</u> |

Loss Ratio – excluding prior year development

2012 vs. 2011: The 10.5 percentage point decrease in the loss ratio excluding prior year development was predominantly due to lower levels of catastrophe losses occurring in 2012. Losses net of reinsurance recoveries and reinstatement premiums related to natural catastrophe events were \$132.1 million lower in 2012 as compared to 2011. For further details on catastrophe losses in 2012 and 2011, see “Results of Operations – Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations – 1) The impact of significant large loss events.” Excluding prior year development, net catastrophe losses and related reinstatement premiums in both years, the loss ratio decreased by 6.4 points to 66.6%, due to large loss activity in the IPC and NAPC energy and property units in 2011, as well as business mix changes and underwriting improvements.

2011 vs. 2010: The 8.0 percentage point increase in the loss ratio excluding prior year development was predominantly due to the high levels of catastrophe losses occurring in 2011. Losses net of reinsurance recoveries and reinstatement premiums related to natural catastrophe events were \$219.5 million higher in 2011 as compared to 2010. Excluding prior year development, net catastrophe losses and related

reinstatement premiums in both years, the loss ratio increased by 2.2 points from 2010 to 2011 due to higher large loss activity during 2011 in energy, property and marine businesses.

Prior Year Development

The following table summarizes the net (favorable) adverse prior year development by business group relating to the Insurance segment for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

(U.S. dollars in millions)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Property | \$ (46,733) | \$ (8,922) | \$ (23,525) |
| Casualty | (61,633) | 34,500 | 28,987 |
| Professional | (106,368) | (87,520) | (118,552) |
| Specialty | (61,761) | (71,285) | (66,278) |
| Other (1) | 136,428 | 56,711 | 51,957 |
| Total | <u>\$ (140,067)</u> | <u>\$ (76,516)</u> | <u>\$ (127,411)</u> |

(1) Other includes excess and surplus, surety, structured indemnity and certain other discontinued lines.

For further information on the net favorable prior year reserve development for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, see Item 8, Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, "Losses and Loss Expenses."

Acquisition Costs and Operating Expenses

Underwriting Expense Ratio

2012 vs. 2011: The increase of 0.8 points was due to an increase in the operating expense ratio of 0.2 points combined with an increase in the acquisition expense ratio of 0.6 points, as follows:

- Acquisition expense ratio increase – largely from the impact of reinstatement premiums and other earned premium adjustments, lower ceding income in IPC, NAPC and Professional and a change in the mix of direct business in Professional.
- Operating expense ratio increase – mainly due to higher compensation expenses resulting from higher variable compensation costs and certain severance costs in 2012.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase of 1.2 points was due to an increase in the acquisition expense ratio of 0.8 points combined with an increase in the operating expense ratio of 0.4 points, as follows:

- Acquisition expense ratio increase – primarily from a favorable adjustment to guaranty fund assessments in 2010, higher commissions and lower amounts of fee-based business in U.S., Bermuda and International professional, as well as excess casualty and aerospace and the impact of the catastrophe, property and marine reinstatement premiums on the ratio in 2011.
- Operating expense ratio increase – mainly as a result of increased compensation costs from certain severance costs, higher number of employees, partially offset by lower variable compensation costs and unfavorable foreign exchange impacts.

Net Results – Structured Products

Net results from structured insurance products include certain structured indemnity contracts that are accounted for as deposit contracts.

2012 vs. 2011: The increase was mainly due to a lower interest expense as a result of an accretion rate adjustment recorded in the second quarter of 2012 based on changes in expected cash flows and payout patterns on certain structured indemnity contracts combined with an increase in net investment income as a result of a larger invested asset base.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease reflects the overall run-off nature of this line of business combined with a change in the interest rate hedging strategy on one of the larger transactions during 2010.

Fee Income and Other

2012 vs. 2011: The increase was a result of higher income related to our loss prevention consulting services as well as lower expenses in professional lines related to the cost of an endorsement facility with National Indemnity Company, which ended in 2011. For further information about this facility, see Item 8, Note 7, "Other Investments," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease was due to higher expenses related to our loss prevention consulting services partially offset by higher fee income in Specialty.

Reinsurance

As already outlined in Item 1, "Business," the Reinsurance segment provides casualty, property risk, property catastrophe, marine, aviation and other specialty reinsurance on a global basis, with business being written on both a proportional and non-proportional treaty basis and also on a facultative basis. Our reinsurance operations are structured into geographical business groups: Bermuda, North America, International (Europe and Asia Pacific) and Latin America.

The following table summarizes the underwriting profit (loss) for the Reinsurance segment:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage change | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Gross premiums written | \$ 2,008,156 | \$ 2,073,619 | \$ 1,842,951 | (3.2)% | 12.5% |
| Net premiums written | 1,884,508 | 1,725,724 | 1,538,438 | 9.2% | 12.2% |
| Net premiums earned | 1,841,342 | 1,663,385 | 1,501,999 | 10.7% | 10.7% |
| Net losses and loss expenses | (1,074,426) | (1,126,978) | (706,298) | (4.7)% | 59.6% |
| Acquisition costs | (368,172) | (324,128) | (321,008) | 13.6% | 1.0% |
| Operating expenses | (157,657) | (176,167) | (175,586) | (10.5)% | 0.3% |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | \$ 241,087 | \$ 36,112 | \$ 299,107 | NM* | NM* |
| Net results – structured products | (15,882) | 12,053 | 3,075 | NM* | NM* |
| Net fee income and other | 2,493 | 3,903 | 2,488 | (36.1)% | 56.9% |

* NM – Not Meaningful

Gross Premiums Written

2012 vs. 2011: Gross premiums written decreased by 3.2%. The following is a summary of the premium movements by business group:

- Bermuda – there was premium growth through favorable property catastrophe and other property renewals with price, share, line and capacity increases and new business.
- North America – there was a decrease primarily as a result of changes in the structure of a U.S. agricultural program that renewed as reinsurance rather than as primary business, as well as a reduction in volume, shares and price for certain renewed property quota share and property excess of loss contracts, partially offset by new business.
- International – premiums increased, attributable to casualty lines through significantly higher renewals and new business and increased property catastrophe shares and rates in Continental Europe.
- Latin America – there was a decline in premiums due to the non-renewal of certain significant property and surety treaties as a result of the re-underwriting of the business within this region.

Foreign exchange rate movements also impacted our gross premiums written. When evaluated in local currency, our gross written premiums decreased by 1.6%, compared to the 3.2% decrease shown above.

2011 vs. 2010: Gross premiums written increased by 12.5%. The following is a summary of the premium movements by business group:

- Bermuda – there was premium growth from new business in the year, growth in the property catastrophe line through price and capacity increases and from natural catastrophe reinstatement premiums, partially offset by the non-renewal of certain property treaties.

- North America – there was premium growth mainly from the property line on a U.S. agricultural program due to rising commodity prices in 2011, partially offset by decreases in casualty due to current market conditions and the non-renewal of certain treaties.
- International – there was premium growth due to new motor and marine business, as well as positive amendments to prior year premium estimates.
- Latin America – there was a decline in premiums mainly due to the non-renewal of certain significant property treaties.

Foreign exchange rate movements also impacted our gross premiums written. When evaluated in local currency, our gross written premiums increased by 8.9%, compared to the 12.5% increase shown above.

Net Premiums Written

2012 vs. 2011: The increase of 9.2% resulted from the International and Bermuda groups' gross written premium increases described above coupled with a reduction in ceded written premiums in the North America business group. The decrease in ceded written premiums was mainly the result of the changes in the structure of a U.S. agricultural program, partially offset by higher prior period ceded reinstatement premiums in the International business group related to the 2011 Thailand flood loss.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase of 12.2% is a reflection of the overall growth in net premiums written in 2011 described above partially offset by an increase in ceded premiums written. The increase in ceded premiums written was mainly due to an increase in volume in 2011 associated with a U.S. agricultural program of which a significant portion was retroceded.

Net Premiums Earned

2012 vs. 2011: The increase of 10.7% is a reflection of the overall growth in net premiums written in recent quarters from the Bermuda and International businesses.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase of 10.7% is a reflection of the overall growth in net premiums written in 2011 combined with catastrophe loss related reinstatement premiums earned in 2011.

Net Losses and Loss Expenses

Combined Ratio

The following table presents the ratios for the Reinsurance segment:

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage Point Change | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Loss and loss expense ratio | 58.4 % | 67.8 % | 47.0 % | (9.4) | 20.8 |
| Acquisition expense ratio | 20.0 % | 19.5 % | 21.4 % | 0.5 | (1.9) |
| Operating expense ratio | 8.5 % | 10.5 % | 11.7 % | (2.0) | (1.2) |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 28.5 % | 30.0 % | 33.1 % | (1.5) | (3.1) |
| Combined ratio | 86.9 % | 97.8 % | 80.1 % | (10.9) | 17.7 |

The loss and loss expense ratio includes net losses incurred for both the reported year and any favorable or adverse prior year development of loss and loss expense reserves held at the beginning of the year. The following table summarizes these components of the loss ratio for the Reinsurance segment for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage Point Change | |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Loss ratio | 58.4 % | 67.8 % | 47.0 % | (9.4) | 20.8 |
| Prior year reserve development | 9.5 % | 12.5 % | 16.4 % | (3.0) | (3.9) |
| Loss ratio excluding prior year development | 67.9 % | 80.3 % | 63.4 % | (12.4) | 16.9 |

Loss Ratio – excluding prior year development

2012 vs. 2011: The 12.4 percentage point decrease in the loss ratio excluding prior year development was predominantly due to lower levels of catastrophe losses occurring in 2012. Losses net of reinsurance recoveries and reinstatement premiums related to natural catastrophe events were \$164.7 million lower in 2012 as compared to 2011. For further details on catastrophe losses in 2012 and 2011, see “Results of Operations – Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations – 1) The impact of significant large loss events.” Excluding prior year development, net catastrophe losses and related reinstatement premiums in both years, the loss ratio decreased by 1.0 points to 54.1%, due mainly to business mix changes.

2011 vs. 2010: The 16.9 percentage point increase in the loss ratio excluding prior year development was predominantly due to higher levels of catastrophe losses occurring in 2011, noted above. Losses net of reinsurance recoveries and reinstatement premiums related to natural catastrophe events were \$247.3 million higher in 2011 compared to 2010. Excluding prior year development, net catastrophe losses and related reinstatement premiums in both years, the loss ratio increased by 2.3 points from 2010 to 2011 mainly due to higher levels of large loss events in U.S. property including a deterioration in the performance of a large U.S. agricultural program, higher attritional losses and business mix changes.

Prior Year Development

The following table summarizes the net (favorable) adverse prior year development by line of business relating to the reinsurance segment for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Property and other short-tail lines | \$ (107,613) | \$ (64,267) | \$ (145,768) |
| Casualty and other | (68,215) | (144,084) | (99,683) |
| Total | \$ (175,828) | \$ (208,351) | \$ (245,451) |

For further information on the net favorable prior year reserve development for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, see Item 8, Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, “Losses and Loss Expenses.”

Acquisition Costs and Operating Expenses

Underwriting Expense Ratio

2012 vs. 2011: The decrease of 1.5 percentage points was due to a reduction in the operating expense ratio of 2.0 points partially offset by an increase in the acquisition expense ratio of 0.5 points, as follows:

- Operating expense ratio decreased with reduced compensation costs due to decreased headcount and lower professional fees, while net earned premiums increased compared to 2011.
- Acquisition expense ratio increase – the acquisition expense ratio was largely in line with 2011, with a slight increase from Latin America due to a favorable movement on sliding scale commissions in the prior year.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease of 3.1 percentage points was due to a decrease in the acquisition expense ratio of 1.9 points combined with a decrease in the operating expense ratio of 1.2 points, as follows:

- Acquisition expense ratio decrease – primarily due to a U.S. agricultural program, where fees received were higher and profit commissions paid were lower in 2011.
- Operating expense ratio decrease – mainly as a result of lower compensation costs in 2011, partially offset by increased information technology expenses associated with certain strategic initiatives.

Net Results – Structured Products

Net results from structured reinsurance products include certain structured indemnity contracts that are accounted for as deposit contracts.

2012 vs. 2011: The decrease relates to a higher interest expense recorded in the second quarter of 2012, due to an accretion rate adjustment from changes in expected cash flows and payout patterns on one

of the larger structured indemnity contracts combined with lower net investment income reflecting lower investment yields and the run-off nature of this line of business.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase relates to a higher interest expense recorded in the third quarter of 2010, due to an accretion rate adjustment from changes in expected cash flows and payout patterns on one of the larger structured indemnity contracts.

Fee Income and Other

2012 vs. 2011: The decrease was a result of fees earned in Latin America on some treaties which were not renewed.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase was due in part to the amendment to the sales proceeds for the renewal rights of the European life, accident and health business, resulting in a charge for the prior year period. In addition, fees earned in Latin America increased during 2011 due to the extension in duration for some treaties.

Life Operations

The following table summarizes the contribution from the Life operations segment, which has been in run-off since 2009:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage change | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Gross premiums written | \$ 355,754 | \$ 394,555 | \$ 411,938 | (9.8)% | (4.2)% |
| Net premiums written | 324,432 | 362,362 | 382,075 | (10.5)% | (5.2)% |
| Net premiums earned | 324,459 | 363,018 | 382,924 | (10.6)% | (5.2)% |
| Claims and policy benefits | (486,198) | (535,074) | (513,833) | (9.1)% | 4.1% |
| Acquisition costs | (41,093) | (40,318) | (49,104) | 1.9% | (17.9)% |
| Operating expenses | (9,336) | (9,311) | (10,470) | 0.3% | (11.1)% |
| Net investment income | 299,442 | 318,061 | 313,172 | (5.9)% | 1.6% |
| Net fee income and other | 426 | 219 | 249 | 94.5% | (12.0)% |
| Realized gains (losses) on investments | (21,003) | (89,999) | (54,444) | (76.7)% | 65.3% |
| Contribution from Life operations | \$ 66,697 | \$ 6,596 | \$ 68,494 | NM* | (90.4)% |

* NM – Not Meaningful

Gross Premiums Written

The following table is an analysis of the Life operations' gross premiums written, net premiums written and net premiums earned for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | 2012 | | | 2011 | | | 2010 | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned | Gross Premiums Written | Net Premiums Written | Net Premiums Earned |
| Annuity | \$ 155,255 | \$ 126,912 | \$ 126,912 | \$ 161,800 | \$ 132,232 | \$ 132,232 | \$ 155,235 | \$ 127,019 | \$ 127,019 |
| Other Life | 200,499 | 197,520 | 197,547 | 232,755 | 230,130 | 230,786 | 256,703 | 255,056 | 255,905 |
| Total | \$ 355,754 | \$ 324,432 | \$ 324,459 | \$ 394,555 | \$ 362,362 | \$ 363,018 | \$ 411,938 | \$ 382,075 | \$ 382,924 |

2012 vs. 2011: The 9.8% decrease was driven predominantly by the Other Life business and was in line with the run-off expectations, as well as being impacted by unfavorable foreign exchange movements. Gross premiums written relating to annuity business and ceded premiums written also decreased due to foreign exchange movements.

2011 vs. 2010: The 4.2% decrease was mainly from the Other Life business and was in line with the run-off expectations following the recapture of a number of term assurance treaties during the first and fourth quarters of 2010, partially offset by favorable foreign exchange movements. Gross premiums written relating to annuity business increased due to favorable foreign exchange rate movements. Ceded premiums written increased due to foreign exchange movements.

Net Premiums Written and Net Premiums Earned

2012 vs. 2011: The 10.5% decrease in net premium written and the 10.6% decrease in net earned premiums were consistent with the movements in total gross premiums written and the reduction in ceded written premiums already noted.

2011 vs. 2010: The 5.2% decrease in both net written and net earned premiums resulted from the gross written premium decreases outlined above, partially offset by an increase in ceded written premiums due to foreign exchange movements.

Claims and Policy Benefits

2012 vs. 2011: The 9.1% decrease was due to the run-off nature of the Life operations business, combined with favorable foreign exchange impacts during 2012.

2011 vs. 2010: The 4.1% increase was primarily due to adverse foreign exchange impacts and reserve increases during the year combined with 2010 experiencing reserve releases on recaptured treaties that were not repeated in 2011.

Acquisition Costs

2012 vs. 2011: The 1.9% increase was largely due to a revision to profit commission estimates on the short-term life, accident and health business more than offsetting lower acquisition costs on the term and critical illness business.

2011 vs. 2010: The 17.9% decrease was largely due to the recaptured treaties in 2010 and run-off expectations.

Operating Expenses

2012 vs. 2011: Operating expenses were largely flat year on year; however, higher compensation expenses resulting from higher variable compensation costs in 2012, was offset by a reduction in information technology expenses.

2011 vs. 2010: The 11.1% decrease was mainly due to lower compensation expenses as a result of severance costs in 2010 following the decision to place the Life operations business into run-off.

Net Investment Income – Life Operations

Net investment income is included in the calculation of contribution from Life operations, as it relates to income earned on portfolios of separately identified and managed life investment assets and other allocated assets.

2012 vs. 2011: The 5.9% decrease was due to unfavorable foreign exchange movements, lower investment yields and a lower invested asset base, reflecting the run-off nature of the Life operations business.

2011 vs. 2010: The 1.6% increase was primarily due to positive foreign exchange impact, but was broadly in line with expected returns in underlying currencies.

Investment Performance

We manage our fixed income portfolio in accordance with investment guidelines approved by the RFC. The following is a summary of the investment portfolio returns, which are calculated by dividing the sum of gross investment income or net income from investment affiliates, realized gains (losses) and unrealized

gains (losses) by the average market value of each portfolio, for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 of the fixed income portfolio and non-fixed income portfolios:

| | 2012 (1) | 2011 (1) |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Total Return on Investments | 6.7% | 5.5% |
| P&C fixed income portfolio | 5.5% | 4.6% |
| Life fixed income portfolio | 11.5% | 9.1% |
| Other Portfolios (2) | | |
| Alternative portfolio (3) | 5.6% | 3.4% |
| Equity portfolio | 15.5% | (6.4)% |
| High-Yield fixed income portfolio | 9.6% | 1.5% |

(1) The performance of investment portfolios is measured on a local currency basis and is not annualized. For aggregate performance calculation, respective local currency balances are translated to U.S. dollars at quarter end rates to calculate composite portfolio results.

(2) Performance on Other Portfolios is included in the Total Return on Investments.

(3) Performance on the alternative portfolio reflects the year ended November 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Investment Activities

The following table illustrates the net investment income from P&C operations, net income from investment fund affiliates, net realized (losses) gains on investments and net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investment and other derivative instruments for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage change | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Net investment income – P&C operations (1) | \$ 712,906 | \$ 819,708 | \$ 884,866 | \$ (13.0)% | (7.4)% |
| Net income (loss) from investment fund affiliates (2) | 58,504 | 26,253 | 51,102 | 122.8% | (48.6)% |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments | 14,098 | (188,359) | (270,803) | NM * | (30.4)% |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investment and other derivative instruments (3) | 5,221 | (10,738) | (33,843) | NM * | (68.3)% |

(1) Net investment income relating to P&C operations includes the net investment income related to the net results from structured products.

(2) The Company generally records the income related to alternative fund affiliates on a one-month lag and the private investment fund affiliates on a three-month lag based upon the availability of the information provided by the investees.

(3) For a summary of realized and unrealized gains and losses on all derivative instruments, see Item 1, Note 14, “Derivative Instruments,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

* NM – Not Meaningful

Net Investment Income – P&C Operations

2012 vs. 2011: The decrease of 13.0% was primarily due to decreasing portfolio yields and cash outflows from the investment portfolio. Overall, portfolio yields have decreased due to declining interest rates across our major jurisdictions.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease of 7.4% was due to decreasing portfolio yields and cash outflows from the investment portfolio. Overall, portfolio yields have decreased due to declining interest rates across our major jurisdictions.

Net Income (Loss) from Investment Fund Affiliates

Net income from investment fund affiliates includes earnings from our investments in closed-end investment funds and partnerships and similar vehicles that are accounted for under the equity method.

2012 vs. 2011: The increase was attributable to better performance from both alternative fund affiliates and private fund affiliates. Capital markets were moderately more supportive of our fund affiliates’

investment strategies in 2012 vs. 2011, and our alternative fund affiliate managers in particular navigated market volatility better in 2012 as against the prior year.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease of 48.6% was attributable to weaker performance from our alternative and private investment portfolios given difficult market conditions in 2011. Performance in alternative and private funds in 2011 was challenged by volatile capital markets and the generally weaker returns to risk assets during 2011 as compared to the prior year.

Net Realized Gains and Losses on Investments and Other-than-Temporary Declines in the Value of Investments

Net Realized Gains and Losses on Investments

Net realized gains on investments of \$14.1 million included the following:

- Net realized gains of \$94.8 million resulted from sales transactions primarily from a repositioning of the Agency RMBS portfolio and sales of equity and non-U.S. Sovereign Government securities.
- Realized losses of approximately \$80.7 million related to the write-down of certain of the Company's AFS investments. The significant components of the net impairment charges were:
 - \$48.7 million for structured securities, principally non-Agency RMBS, where we determined that the likely recovery on these securities was below the carrying value and, accordingly, recorded an impairment of the securities to the discounted value of the cash flows expected to be received on these securities.
 - \$19.1 million related to medium term notes backed primarily by European investment grade credit. On certain notes, management concluded that expected future returns on the underlying assets were not sufficient to support the previously reported amortized cost. We also adjusted the estimated remaining holding period of certain notes resulting in a shorter reinvestment spectrum.
 - \$3.7 million related to certain equities as the holdings were in a loss position for more than 11 months.
 - \$5.3 million related to currency losses primarily arising on Swiss franc and U.K. sterling denominated securities held in U.S. dollar portfolios.

Net realized losses on investments in 2011 included net realized losses of \$160.2 million related to the write-down of certain of our fixed income, equity and other investments with respect to which we determined that there was an other-than-temporary decline in the value of those investments, as well as \$28.2 million of net realized losses from sales of investments principally on European financials and non-Agency RMBS, partially offset by gains on Agency RMBS and Government and Government Related and Supported securities.

Net Realized and Unrealized Gains and Losses on Derivative Instruments

Net realized and unrealized gains on derivatives of \$5.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2012 resulted from our investment strategy to manage interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and credit risk, and to replicate permitted investments. For a further discussion, see Item 1, Note 14, "Derivative Instruments," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Other Revenues and Expenses

The following table sets forth our other revenues and expenses for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage Change | |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Net income (loss) from operating affiliates (1) | \$ 55,810 | \$ 76,786 | \$ 121,372 | (27.3)% | (36.7)% |
| Exchange gains (losses) | (10,546) | 40,640 | 10,161 | NM* | NM* |
| Corporate operating expenses | (204,500) | (160,596) | (92,544) | 27.3% | 73.5% |
| Interest expense (2) | (105,766) | (154,084) | (159,118) | (31.4)% | (3.2)% |
| Impairment of goodwill | — | (429,020) | — | NM* | NM* |
| Loss on settlement of guarantee | — | — | (23,500) | NM* | NM* |
| Income tax expense | (34,028) | (59,707) | (162,737) | (43.0)% | (63.3)% |

(1) We generally record the income related to certain operating affiliates on a three-month lag based upon the availability of the information provided by the investees.

(2) Interest expense excludes interest expense related to deposit liabilities recorded in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.

* NM – Not meaningful

Net Income (Loss) from Operating Affiliates

The following table sets forth the net income (loss) from operating affiliates for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | Percentage Change | |
|---|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | | | | 2012 to 2011 | 2011 to 2010 |
| Net income (loss) from financial operating affiliates | \$ — | \$ (1,018) | \$ 53,031 | (100.0)% | (101.9)% |
| Net income (loss) from investment manager affiliates | 28,777 | 56,913 | 40,180 | (49.4)% | 41.6% |
| Net income (loss) from strategic operating affiliates | 27,033 | 20,891 | 28,161 | 29.4% | (25.8)% |
| Total | <u>\$ 55,810</u> | <u>\$ 76,786</u> | <u>\$ 121,372</u> | (27.3)% | (36.7)% |

Net Income (Loss) from Financial Operating Affiliates

The financial operating affiliate loss in 2011 is wholly attributable to a write down in the value of one investment following a restructuring.

Net Income from Investment Manager Affiliates

2012 vs. 2011: 2012 net income from investment manager affiliates was solid, but was significantly lower than 2011 results. The significant decrease in 2012 compared to 2011 results was due to the positive impact of the sale of our ownership stake in Finisterre in 2011 and especially strong performance by the investment manager affiliates (including Finisterre prior to the closing of the sale transaction). There were no sales of any stakes in 2012, and performance was solid but not especially strong during the period.

2011 vs. 2010: The substantial increase in 2011 as compared to 2010 reflected the positive impact of the sale of our ownership stake in Finisterre, strong results from certain investment manager affiliates in 2011 and, the achievement of results that surpassed certain performance fee hurdles by various funds under management in the second quarter of 2011, compared to solid broad-based results in 2010.

Net Income from Strategic Operating Affiliates

2012 vs. 2011: The net income from strategic operating affiliates was generally in line with 2011. The year on year increase of 29.4% was primarily due to losses from an insurance affiliate catastrophe bond fund in 2011.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease of 25.8% was due to losses from an insurance affiliate catastrophe bond fund in 2011 combined with higher income in 2010 from our Brazilian joint venture ITAÚ XL Seguros Corporativos S.A. (“ITAÚ”), which was sold during the second quarter of 2010.

Foreign Exchange Gains (Losses)

The foreign exchange losses in 2012 were a result of an overall weakening of the value of the U.S. dollar against the Company’s major currency exposures, which include the U.K. sterling, the Euro and the Swiss franc. In 2011, foreign exchange gains were produced as a result of a stronger U.S. dollar against the U.K. sterling, the Brazilian real and the Swiss franc, which more than offset losses that were driven by a stronger Australian dollar. In 2010, foreign exchange gains were marginal as a result of a limited overall movement in the value of the U.S. dollar.

Corporate Expenses

2012 vs. 2011: The increase of 27.3% was a result of performance-based compensation costs and certain strategic corporate initiatives taking place in 2012.

2011 vs. 2010: The increase of 73.5% was primarily as a result of certain strategic corporate initiatives taking place in 2011.

Interest Expense

Interest expense includes costs related to the Company’s debt and collateral facilities and does not include deposit liability accretion which is included in Net investment results – structured products.

2012 vs. 2011: The decrease of 31.4% was a result of the overall reduction in our debt following the repayment at maturity on January 15, 2012 of \$600 million 6.5% XLCFE Notes and the purchase and retirement of the \$575 million 8.25% Senior Notes in August 2011, partially offset by the issuance of \$400 million 5.75% Senior Notes in September 2011.

2011 vs. 2010: The decrease of 3.2% was primarily as a result of the overall reduction in the Company’s debt following the purchase and retirement of the \$500 million 8.25% Senior Notes in August 2011 and the sale of \$400 million 5.75% Senior Notes in September 2011.

For further information about these debt financing transactions see Item 8, Note 13, “Notes Payable and Debt Financing Arrangements,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Impairment of Goodwill

2012 vs. 2011: There were no goodwill impairments recorded during 2012. In 2011, a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$429.0 million was recorded representing a write-off of all goodwill associated with the Insurance segment. For further information, see Item 8, Note 8 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, “Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets,” and see further discussion under “Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates.”

Loss on Settlement of Guarantee

2010: As part of the continued management of certain legacy financial businesses, which were put into runoff in 2008, in the second quarter of 2010, management was successful in commuting our exposure to EIB. For further information on the loss on settlement of this guarantee, see Item 8, Note 17(h) to the Consolidated Financial Statements, “Financial and Other Guarantee Exposures.”

Income Tax Expense

2012 vs. 2011: The tax charge of \$34.0 million recognized in 2012 was lower than 2011 mainly as a result of the recognition in 2012 of a tax benefit of \$24.5m arising on the release of valuation allowances held against capital loss carry-forwards that were utilized to offset 2012 realized gains and other discrete tax benefit items in 2012 which totaled \$19.8 million. The 2011 tax charge was impacted by a number of items including the adverse global distribution of profits and losses as detailed below.

2011 vs. 2010: The tax charge of \$59.7 million recognized in 2011 was lower than 2010 mainly as a result of a benefit of \$11.9 million arising as a result of a change in an overseas tax rule adopted in the

quarter ended June 30, 2011. We incurred a tax charge in 2011 notwithstanding reporting net losses due to the distribution of operating profits across the organization and the impact of internal reinsurance. In addition, net profits were recorded in certain jurisdictions due to the distribution of prior year development. A tax benefit of \$11.5 million was recognized in the fourth quarter of 2011 in respect of the non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$429.0 million.

Balance Sheet Analysis

Investments

We seek to generate book value growth and investment income from investment activities through the total returns on our investment portfolio. Our investment strategy, (see Item 1. "Business – Investments,") strives to balance investment returns against market and credit risk. Our overall investment portfolio is structured to take into account a number of variables including liability profile, local regulatory requirements, business needs, collateral management and risk tolerance.

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, total investments, cash and cash equivalents, accrued investment income and net receivable/(payable) for investments sold/(purchased) were approximately \$36.9 billion and \$35.9 billion, respectively. The following table summarizes the composition of our invested assets at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|---|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| | Carrying Value (1) | Percent of Total | Carrying Value (1) | Percent of Total |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 2,618,378 | 7.1 % | \$ 3,825,125 | 10.7 % |
| Net receivable/ (payable) for investments sold/ (purchased) | (86,110) | (0.2)% | 1,233 | 0.0 % |
| Accrued investment income | 342,778 | 0.9 % | 331,758 | 0.9 % |
| Short-term investments | 322,703 | 0.9 % | 359,063 | 1.0 % |
| Fixed maturities – AFS: | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported (2) | 2,034,617 | 5.5 % | 1,990,983 | 5.5 % |
| Corporate – Financials (3) (4) (5) | 3,240,399 | 8.8 % | 3,038,398 | 8.5 % |
| Corporate – Non Financials (4) | 7,241,601 | 19.6 % | 7,070,224 | 19.7 % |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,255,493 | 14.3 % | 5,379,406 | 15.0 % |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 647,733 | 1.8 % | 641,815 | 1.8 % |
| CMBS | 1,077,251 | 2.9 % | 974,835 | 2.8 % |
| CDO | 709,816 | 1.9 % | 658,602 | 1.8 % |
| Other asset-backed securities (5) | 1,470,711 | 4.0 % | 1,340,249 | 3.7 % |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 1,911,017 | 5.2 % | 1,797,378 | 5.0 % |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported (2) | 4,258,282 | 11.6 % | 3,298,135 | 9.2 % |
| Total fixed maturities – AFS | \$ 27,846,920 | 75.6 % | \$ 26,190,025 | 73.0 % |
| Fixed maturities – HTM: | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported (2) | 10,788 | 0.0 % | 10,399 | 0.0 % |
| Corporate – Financials (3) (4) (5) | 266,565 | 0.7 % | 305,122 | 0.9 % |
| Corporate – Non Financials (4) | 1,158,755 | 3.1 % | 985,087 | 2.7 % |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 83,205 | 0.2 % | 80,955 | 0.2 % |
| CMBS | 12,751 | 0.0 % | – | 0.0 % |
| Other asset-backed securities (5) | 222,340 | 0.6 % | 288,741 | 0.8 % |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported (2) | 1,060,043 | 2.9 % | 998,674 | 2.8 % |
| Total fixed maturities – HTM | \$ 2,814,447 | 7.5 % | \$ 2,668,978 | 7.4 % |
| Equity securities (6) | 649,359 | 1.8 % | 468,197 | 1.3 % |
| Investments in affiliates | 1,126,875 | 3.1 % | 1,052,729 | 2.9 % |
| Other investments | 1,219,879 | 3.3 % | 985,262 | 2.8 % |
| Total investments and cash and cash equivalents | \$ 36,855,229 | 100.0 % | \$ 35,882,370 | 100.0 % |

- (1) Carrying values represents the fair value for AFS fixed maturities and amortized cost for HTM securities.
- (2) U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported and Non U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported include government-related securities with an amortized cost of \$1,912.7 million and \$1,878.3 million and fair value of \$1,988.5 million and \$1,915.6 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, and U.S. Agencies with an amortized cost of \$404.3 million and \$494.0 million and fair value of \$446.7 million and \$541.2 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.
- (3) Included in Corporate – Financials are gross unrealized losses of \$23.7 million and \$108.8 million on Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities of financial institutions (“Hybrids”) with fair values of \$308.5 million and \$386.1 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as well as gross unrealized losses of \$11.8 million and \$70.1 million on subordinated debt (including lower Tier Two securities) with fair values of \$649.4 million and \$701.3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.
- (4) Included within Corporate are certain floating rate medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. The notes have a fair value of \$194.3 million and \$266.0 million and an amortized cost of \$194.8 million and \$297.7 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. These securities have been allocated ratings based on the average credit rating of the underlying asset pools backing the notes. These notes allow the investor to participate in cash flows of the underlying bonds including certain residual values, which could serve to either decrease or increase the ultimate values of these notes.
- (5) At December 31, 2012, Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – AFS with a carrying value of \$647.1 million and Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – HTM with a carrying value of \$8.6 million have been included within Other asset-backed securities to align our classification to market indices. Covered Bonds were included in Corporate prior to January 1, 2012. At December 31, 2011, Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – AFS with a carrying value of \$353.9 million and Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – HTM with a carrying value of \$7.7 million were reclassified from Corporate to Other asset-backed securities to conform to the current period presentation.
- (6) Included within Equity securities are investments in fixed income funds of \$101.9 million and \$91.6 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

We review our corporate debt investments on a regular basis to consider their concentration, credit quality and compliance with established guidelines. At both December 31, 2012 and 2011, the average credit quality of our total fixed income portfolio (including fixed maturities, short-term investments, cash and cash equivalents and net receivable/(payable) for investment sold/(purchased)) was “Aa2/AA”. Included in the table below are the credit ratings of the fixed income portfolio excluding operating cash at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions)</i> Investments by Credit Rating (1)(2) | December 31, 2012 | | December 31, 2011 | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | Carrying Value | Percent of Total | Carrying Value | Percent of Total |
| AAA | \$ 15,631 | 47.0 % | \$ 16,276 | 51.1 % |
| AA | 5,954 | 17.8 % | 5,266 | 16.6 % |
| A | 7,436 | 22.3 % | 7,098 | 22.3 % |
| BBB | 3,317 | 10.0 % | 2,418 | 7.6 % |
| BB and below | 934 | 2.8 % | 718 | 2.3 % |
| Not rated | 19 | 0.1 % | 39 | 0.1 % |
| Total | \$ 33,291 | 100.0 % | \$ 31,815 | 100.0 % |

- (1) At December 31, 2012 and 2011, \$194.3 million and \$266.0 million or 0.6% and 0.8% of the fixed income portfolio, respectively, represents medium term notes rated at the average credit rating of the underlying asset pools backing the notes.
- (2) The credit rating for each asset reflected above was principally determined based on the weighted average rating of the individual securities from Standard & Poor’s, Moody’s Investors Service and Fitch Ratings (when available). U.S. Agency debt and related mortgage backed securities, whether with implicit or explicit government support, reflect the credit quality rating of the U.S. government for the purpose of these calculations.

Gross and Net Unrealized Gains and Losses on Investments

We had gross unrealized losses totaling \$282.8 million on 1,223 securities out of a total of 7,331 AFS securities held at December 31, 2012 and \$2.7 million on 5 securities out of a total of 206 HTM securities, which we consider to be temporarily impaired or with respect to which reflects non-credit losses on OTTI. Individual security positions comprising this balance have been evaluated by management, in conjunction with our investment managers, to determine the severity of these impairments and whether they should be considered other-than-temporary.

Gross unrealized losses can be attributed to the following significant drivers:

- gross unrealized losses of \$87.2 million related to the P&C portfolio of Core CDO holdings (defined by us as investments in non-subprime CDOs), which consisted primarily of collateralized loan obligations (“CLOs”) and had a fair value of \$709.8 million at December 31, 2012.
- gross unrealized losses of \$76.9 million related to the P&C portfolio of Non-Agency RMBS holdings (which consists of our holdings of sub-prime Non-Agency RMBS, second liens, ABS CDOs with sub-prime collateral, Alt-A and Prime RMBS), which had a fair value of \$741.4 million at December 31, 2012. We incurred realized losses, consisting of charges for OTTI and realized losses from sales, of approximately \$1.4 billion since the beginning of 2007 through December 31, 2012 on these asset classes.
- gross unrealized losses of \$55.3 million related to our Life operations investment portfolio, which had a fair value of \$6.9 billion at December 31, 2012. Of these gross unrealized losses, \$22.6 million related to \$1.2 billion of exposures to corporate financial institutions, including \$266.7 million related to Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities.

At December 31, 2012, this portfolio had an average interest rate duration of 8.8 years, primarily denominated in U.K. sterling and Euros. As a result of the long duration, significant gross losses have arisen as the fair values of these securities are more sensitive to prevailing government interest rates and credit spreads. This portfolio is generally matched to corresponding long duration liabilities. A hypothetical parallel increase in interest rates and credit spreads of 50 and 25 basis points, respectively, would increase the unrealized losses related to this portfolio at December 31, 2012 by approximately \$307.9 million and \$119.4 million, respectively, on both the AFS and HTM holdings in the Life operations investment portfolio.

Given the long-term nature of the Life operations investment portfolio, the level of credit spreads on financial institutions at December 31, 2012 relative to historical averages within the U.K. and Euro-zone and our liquidity needs at December 31, 2012, we believe that these assets will continue to be held until such time as they mature, or credit spreads on financial institutions revert to levels more consistent with historical averages.

- gross unrealized losses of \$51.3 million related to the corporate holdings within our non-Life fixed income portfolios, which had a fair value of \$8.2 billion at December 31, 2012. Of the gross unrealized losses, \$21.6 million relate to financial institutions. In addition, \$5.2 million relate to medium term notes primarily supported by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. These had a fair value of \$194.3 million at December 31, 2012. Management believes that expected cash flows from these bonds over the expected holding period will be sufficient to support the remaining reported amortized cost.

The following shows the security type and length of time that AFS securities were in a continual gross unrealized loss position at December 31, 2012:

| Security Type and Length of Time in a Continual Unrealized Loss Position <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| | Amount of Unrealized Loss | Fair Value of Securities in an Unrealized Loss Position |
| Fixed Maturities and Short-Term Investments | | |
| Less than 6 months | \$ (15,663) | \$ 1,843,335 |
| At least 6 months but less than 12 months | (6,761) | 163,750 |
| At least 12 months but less than 2 years | (19,862) | 193,930 |
| 2 years and over | (240,464) | 1,839,561 |
| Total | <u>\$ (282,750)</u> | <u>\$ 4,040,576</u> |
| Equities | | |
| Less than 6 months | \$ (62) | \$ 615 |
| At least 6 months but less than 12 months | – | – |
| Total | <u>\$ (62)</u> | <u>\$ 615</u> |

The following is the maturity profile of the AFS fixed income securities that were in a continual gross unrealized loss position at December 31, 2012:

| Maturity profile in years of AFS fixed income securities in a gross unrealized loss position <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| | Amount of Unrealized Loss | Fair Value of Securities in an Unrealized Loss Position |
| Less than 1 year remaining | \$ (14,133) | \$ 319,874 |
| At least 1 year but less than 5 years remaining (1) | (43,621) | 1,030,581 |
| At least 5 years but less than 10 years remaining (1) | (13,823) | 327,528 |
| At least 10 years but less than 20 years remaining (1) | (16,936) | 199,971 |
| At least 20 years or more remaining (1) | (4,955) | 101,543 |
| RMBS – Agency | (5,535) | 589,958 |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | (76,868) | 455,229 |
| CMBS | (4,288) | 116,479 |
| CDO | (87,156) | 694,594 |
| Other asset-backed securities | (15,435) | 204,819 |
| Total | \$ (282,750) | \$ 4,040,576 |

(1) Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments senior to the common and preferred equities of the financial institutions, are allocated based on the call date unless such security is not called on such date, in which case it is allocated the final or longest expected maturity. Medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage are allocated on contractual maturity.

The following is the maturity profile of the HTM fixed income securities that were in a gross unrealized loss position at December 31, 2012:

| Maturity profile in years of HTM fixed income securities in a gross unrealized loss position <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| | Amount of Unrealized Loss | Fair Value of Securities in an Unrealized Loss Position |
| Less than 1 year remaining | \$ (1) | \$ 3,692 |
| At least 5 years but less than 10 years remaining | (31) | 876 |
| At least 10 years but less than 20 years remaining | (127) | 11,321 |
| At least 20 years or more remaining | (2,355) | 22,202 |
| Other asset-backed securities | (167) | 1,239 |
| Total | \$ (2,681) | \$ 39,330 |

Factors considered in determining that additional OTTI charges were not warranted include management's consideration of current and near term liquidity needs along with other available sources of liquidity, and in certain instances an evaluation of the factors and time necessary for recovery. For further information, see Item 1, Note 5, "Investments," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

As noted in Item 8, Note 2, "Significant Accounting Policies," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, the determination of the amount of OTTI varies by investment type and is based upon management's periodic evaluation and assessment of known and inherent risks associated with the respective asset class. Such evaluations and assessments are revised as conditions change and new information becomes available. Management considers a wide range of factors about the securities and uses its best judgment in evaluating the cause of the decline in the estimated fair value of the security and in assessing the prospects for near-term recovery. Inherent in management's evaluation of the security are assumptions and estimates about the operations of the issuer and its future earnings potential. Management updates its evaluations regularly and reflects additional impairments in net income as determinations are made. Management's determination of the amount of the impairment taken on investments is highly subjective and could adversely impact our results of operations. There can be no assurance that we have accurately assessed the level of OTTI taken and reflected in our financial statements. Furthermore, additional impairments may need to be taken in the future. Historical trends may not be indicative of future impairments.

Levels of write down or OTTI are also impacted by our assessment of the intent to sell securities that have declined in value prior to recovery. If, due to changes in circumstances, we determine to reposition or realign portions of the portfolio and we determine not to hold certain securities in an unrealized loss position to recovery, we will incur OTTI charges, which could be significant.

Gross Unrealized Gains and Losses

Management, in our assessment of whether securities in a gross unrealized loss position are temporarily impaired, considers the significance of the impairments. At December 31, 2012, we had corporate financial sector securities with gross unrealized losses of \$44.5 million and we did not hold any corporate securities which had a cumulative fair value decline of greater than 50% of amortized cost.

At December 31, 2012, we had structured securities with gross unrealized losses of \$76.9 million on non-Agency RMBS, \$87.2 million on Core CDOs and \$4.3 million on CMBS holdings. These securities included gross unrealized losses of \$26.0 million, which had a fair value of \$10.3 million and a cumulative fair value decline of greater than 50% of amortized cost. All of these are mortgage and asset-backed securities. We have evaluated each of these securities in conjunction with our investment manager service providers and believe it is more likely than not that the issuer will be able to fund sufficient principal and interest payments to support the current amortized cost.

Net Unrealized Gains and Losses – Corporate Financial Sector Securities

At December 31, 2012, approximately \$1.2 billion of our \$3.5 billion in corporate financial sector securities was held in the portfolio supporting our Life operations investment portfolio representing 20.4% of the net unrealized gains on this asset class. The assets associated with that business are more heavily weighted towards longer term securities from financial institutions, including a significant portion of our Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments senior to the common and preferred equity of the financial institutions. Financials held in the Life operations investment portfolio accounted for \$22.8 million of our net unrealized loss at December 31, 2012. At December 31, 2012, approximately 42.3% of the overall sensitivity to interest rate risk and 35.5% of the overall sensitivity to credit risk was related to the Life operations investment portfolio, despite this accounting for only 20.3% of the fixed income portfolio.

Net Unrealized Gains and Losses – Structured Securities

The following table details the current exposures to structured securities excluding Agency RMBS within our fixed income portfolio as well as the current net unrealized (loss) gain position at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | | | December 31, 2011 | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Carrying Value | Percent of Fixed Income Portfolio | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) | Carrying Value | Percent of Fixed Income Portfolio | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) |
| RMBS – Non-Agency: | | | | | | |
| Sub-prime first lien mortgages | \$ 306,795 | 1.0 % | \$ (35,893) | \$ 295,498 | 1.0 % | \$ (136,981) |
| Alt-A mortgages | 136,965 | 0.4 % | (1,267) | 114,506 | 0.4 % | (39,659) |
| Second lien mortgages (including sub-prime second lien mortgages) | 28,661 | 0.1 % | 2,912 | 26,461 | 0.1 % | (6,076) |
| Prime RMBS | 139,974 | 0.5 % | 1,452 | 158,264 | 0.5 % | (26,328) |
| Other assets | 118,543 | 0.4 % | 2,060 | 128,041 | 0.4 % | 5,790 |
| Total exposure to Non-Agency RMBS | 730,938 | 2.4 % | (30,736) | 722,770 | 2.4 % | (203,254) |
| CMBS | 1,090,002 | 3.6 % | 66,457 | 974,835 | 3.3 % | 47,152 |
| Core CDOs (1) | 709,816 | 2.3 % | (75,183) | 662,949 | 2.3 % | (185,611) |
| Other Structured | 1,693,051 | 5.5 % | 44,228 | 1,635,162 | 5.6 % | 7,732 |
| Total Non-Agency Structured Securities | \$ 4,223,807 | 13.8 % | \$ 4,766 | \$ 3,995,716 | 13.6 % | \$ (333,981) |

(1) We define Core CDOs as investments in non-subprime collateralized debt obligations, which primarily consisted of CLOs.

At December 31, 2012, our sub-prime, Alt-A and CDO exposures had adequate underlying asset characteristics and we believe at such date that the current amortized cost levels were at or below the discounted cash flow value of the holdings, based on an analysis of subordination levels relative to current expectations of prepayment rates, probability of default and loss severity in the event of default. Approximately \$289.8 million of our Non-Agency RMBS were downgraded during the year ended December 31, 2012. However, 45.4% of our holdings in Non-Agency RMBS remained rated investment grade at December 31, 2012.

Refer to “Significant Items Affecting the Results of Operations” above for further discussion surrounding the impact of credit market movements on our investment portfolio.

European Sovereign Debt Crisis

The ongoing global financial crisis has led to the deterioration of economies globally, as sovereign governments have reacted to the crisis by further increasing public expenditures in order to provide stimulus and security, which has created significant budgetary shortfalls. Several key nations within the European Union – particularly Greece, Italy, Ireland, Portugal and Spain (“GIIPS”) – have suffered a high level of fiscal distress and economic vulnerability due to overreliance on external credit sources and imprudent borrowing and other monetary practices. This has raised doubts within the global financial community as to whether these sovereign nations will remain able to service their own debt obligations both at a national and local level and as to whether the Euro will remain the currency for the European Union.

Our primary exposure to this European sovereign debt crisis is from direct investment in fixed maturity securities issued by GIIPS national and local governments, as well as from fixed maturity securities issued by certain financial and non-financial corporate entities operating within GIIPS. During the year we actively reduced our exposures to these securities. We continue to monitor our financial exposure to this crisis, and continually assess the impact of a potential default by any of GIIPS on their respective debt issuances, including the associated impact on non-sovereign entities in these five nations in the event of such a default. In reaction to mounting pressure from financial markets, the European Union and its members implemented several key initiatives in 2012 that helped alleviate concern over Europe’s long term debt sustainability. These included 1) ongoing measures to reduce deficits and lower debt to sustainable levels, 2) pan-European emergency funding vehicles such as the European Financial Stability Fund (“EFSF”) and later the European Stability Mechanism (“ESM”) to support new bond issuance, 3) the promise of Outright Monetary Transactions from the ECB to support near-term peripheral yields, and 4) implementation of Long Term Repo Operations to provide financial institution liquidity. These events helped calm credit markets and led to a string of successful bond auctions and lower sovereign yields for the GIIPS nations, although these programs have not been finalized or implemented. Yet despite these positive developments Europe faces growing social unrest over its austerity programs and a challenging economic environment with public sector spending eclipsing private sector growth. National elections scheduled in Italy for the first quarter of the year and Germany in the third or fourth quarter of the year adds to the uncertainty and depending on the outcome could lead to changes in Europe’s approach to the sovereign debt crisis. In addition, Greece, following a 2012 restructuring continues to need monetary support and remains at risk of default, further restructuring and/or exit from the Eurozone.

We currently have no unfunded investment exposures or commitments to either sovereign or non-sovereign entities within these EU nations. We do invest in various alternative and private investment funds that from time to time may invest in securities or investments related to these five EU nations. Currently, these are not material exposures.

The following is an analysis of our AFS and HTM fixed maturity investment exposures related to GIIPS at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 and the contractual maturities of these securities. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | December 31, 2012 | | December 31, 2011 | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Amortized Cost | Fair Value | Amortized Cost | Fair Value |
| Fixed maturities GIIPS – AFS | | | | |
| Government and government related – National Governments | \$ 5,350 | \$ 4,896 | \$ 6,601 | \$ 5,927 |
| Government and government related – Local Governments | – | – | – | – |
| Corporate investments – Financial Institutions | 372 | 374 | 6,001 | 4,626 |
| Corporate investments – Non-Financial Institutions | 57,032 | 57,720 | 138,834 | 131,890 |
| Structured Securities (1) | 7,942 | 9,618 | 22,172 | 19,417 |
| Total fixed maturities GIIPS – AFS | \$ 70,696 | \$ 72,608 | \$ 173,608 | \$ 161,860 |
| Due less than one year | \$ 5,392 | \$ 5,431 | \$ 13,824 | \$ 14,028 |
| Due after 1 through 5 years | 16,144 | 15,744 | 32,992 | 31,050 |
| Due after 5 through 10 years | 14,924 | 15,111 | 72,988 | 70,651 |
| Due after 10 years | 34,236 | 36,322 | 53,804 | 46,131 |
| | \$ 70,696 | \$ 72,608 | \$ 173,608 | \$ 161,860 |
| Fixed maturities GIIPS – HTM | | | | |
| Government and government related – National Governments | \$ 12,237 | \$ 10,518 | \$ 11,738 | \$ 8,739 |
| Government and government related – Local Governments | – | – | 9,360 | 7,649 |
| Corporate investments – Non-Financial Institutions | 59,757 | 60,199 | 72,782 | 65,380 |
| Structured Securities (1) | – | – | – | – |
| Total fixed maturities GIIPS – HTM | \$ 71,994 | \$ 70,717 | \$ 93,880 | \$ 81,768 |
| Due less than one year | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 6,264 | \$ 6,233 |
| Due after 1 through 5 years | 4,285 | 4,332 | 4,199 | 4,110 |
| Due after 5 through 10 years | 12,372 | 12,937 | 20,705 | 18,260 |
| Due after 10 years | 55,337 | 53,448 | 62,712 | 53,165 |
| Total | \$ 71,994 | \$ 70,717 | \$ 93,880 | \$ 81,768 |

(1) During 2012, Covered Bonds have been included within Other asset-backed securities under Structured Securities to align our classification to market indices. Prior periods have been reclassified to conform to current period presentation.

The following table details the gross and net unrealized (loss) gain position at December 31, 2012 relating to GIIPS:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | December 31, 2012 | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | Greece | Italy | Ireland | Portugal | Spain | TOTAL |
| Gross Unrealized (Losses) – GIIPS | | | | | | |
| Government and government related – National Governments | \$ – | \$ (2,174) | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ (2,174) |
| Government and government related – Local Governments | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Corporate investments – Financial Institutions | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Corporate investments – Non-Financial Institutions | – | (1,775) | – | – | (301) | (2,076) |
| Structured Securities (1) | – | – | (43) | – | – | (43) |
| Total gross unrealized gains (losses) relating to GIIPS | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ (3,949)</u> | <u>\$ (43)</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ (301)</u> | <u>\$ (4,293)</u> |
| Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) – GIIPS | | | | | | |
| Government and government related – National Governments | \$ – | \$ (454) | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ (454) |
| Government and government related – Local Governments | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| Corporate investments – Financial Institutions | – | – | 2 | – | – | 2 |
| Corporate investments – Non-Financial Institutions | 276 | (1,019) | – | – | 1,431 | 688 |
| Structured Securities (1) | – | – | 1,676 | – | – | 1,676 |
| Total net unrealized gains (losses) relating to GIIPS | <u>\$ 276</u> | <u>\$ (1,473)</u> | <u>\$ 1,678</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 1,431</u> | <u>\$ 1,912</u> |

(1) Covered Bonds have been included within Other asset-backed securities under Structured Securities to align our classification to market indices. Prior periods have been reclassified to conform to current period presentation.

In addition to the direct investment portfolio considerations discussed above, as an international (re)insurance company, European credit exposures may exist for us within unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable. For further details on these balances including the names of the our most significant reinsurance counterparties, see Item 8, Note 9, "Reinsurance," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein. Other sources of potential exposure to European credit issues may exist within certain lines of insurance or reinsurance business written (including but not limited to lines such as surety, business interruption, and political risk), or within underlying investments held in securitized financial instruments or in structured transactions in which we have an interest. We consider these potential exposures as part of our ongoing enterprise risk management processes.

Fair Value Measurements of Assets and Liabilities

As described in Item 1, Note 3, "Fair Value Measurements," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, effective January 1, 2008, we adopted the authoritative guidance on fair value measurements and, accordingly, have provided required disclosures by level within the fair value hierarchy of our assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value. As defined in the hierarchy, those assets and liabilities categorized as Level 3 have valuations determined using unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs may include the entity's own assumptions about market participant assumptions, applied to a modeled valuation, however, this is not the case with respect to our Level 3 assets and liabilities. The vast majority of the assets and liabilities classified as Level 3 are made up of securities for which we obtained values from brokers where significant inputs were utilized in determining the value that were difficult to corroborate with observable market data, sufficient information regarding the specific inputs utilized by the broker were not obtained to support a Level 2 classification or we utilized internal valuation models.

Controls over Valuation of Financial Instruments

We perform regular reviews of the prices received from our third party valuation sources to assess whether the prices represent a reasonable estimate of the fair value. This process is completed by investment and accounting personnel who are independent of those responsible for obtaining the valuations. The approaches we take include, but are not limited to, annual reviews of the controls of the external parties responsible for sourcing valuations that are subjected to automated tolerance checks, quarterly reviews of the valuation sources and dates, comparison of executed sales prices to prior valuations, regular deep dives on a sample of securities across our major asset classes and monthly reconciliations between the valuations provided by our external parties and valuations provided by our third party investment managers at a portfolio level.

In addition, we assess the effectiveness of valuation controls performed by external parties responsible for sourcing appropriate valuations from third parties on our behalf. The approaches taken by these external parties to gain comfort include, but are not limited to, comparing valuations between external sources, completing recurring reviews of third party pricing services' methodologies and reviewing controls of the third party service providers to support the completeness and accuracy of the prices received. Where broker quotes are the primary source of the valuations, sufficient information regarding the specific inputs utilized by the brokers is generally not available to support a Level 2 classification. We obtain the majority of broker quoted values from third party investment managers who perform independent verifications of these valuations using pricing matrices based upon information gathered by market traders. In addition, for the majority of these securities, we compare the broker quotes to independent valuations obtained from third party pricing vendors, which may also consist of broker quotes, to assess if the prices received represent a reasonable estimate of the fair value.

Valuation Methodology of Level 3 Assets and Liabilities

Refer to Item 1, Note 3, "Fair Value Measurements," of the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for a description of the valuation methodology utilized to value Level 3 assets and liabilities, how the valuation methodology is validated as well as further details associated with various assets classified as Level 3. At December 31, 2012, we did not have any liabilities that were carried at fair value based on Level 3 inputs other than derivative instruments in a liability position at December 31, 2012.

Fair Value of Level 3 Assets and Liabilities

At December 31, 2012, the fair value of Level 3 assets and liabilities as a percentage of our total assets and liabilities that are carried at fair value was as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Total Assets and Liabilities Carried at Fair Value at December 31, 2012 | Fair Value of Level 3 Assets and Liabilities | Level 3 Assets and Liabilities as a Percentage of Total Assets and Liabilities Carried at Fair Value, by Class |
|---|--|---|---|
| Assets | | | |
| Fixed maturities, at fair value | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government Agency-Related/Supported | \$ 2,034,617 | \$ – | 0.0 % |
| Corporate (1) | 10,482,000 | 30,098 | 0.3 % |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,255,493 | 32,005 | 0.6 % |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 647,733 | 116 | 0.0 % |
| CMBS | 1,077,251 | 25,347 | 2.4 % |
| CDO | 709,816 | 701,736 | 98.9 % |
| Other asset-backed securities (1) | 1,470,711 | 18,128 | 1.2 % |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 1,911,017 | – | 0.0 % |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Supranational and Government-Related | 4,258,282 | – | 0.0 % |
| Total Fixed maturities, at fair value | \$ 27,846,920 | \$ 807,430 | 2.9 % |
| Equity securities, at fair value | 649,359 | – | 0.0 % |
| Short-term investments, at fair value | 322,703 | – | 0.0 % |
| Total investments available for sale | \$ 28,818,982 | \$ 807,430 | 2.8 % |
| Cash equivalents (2) | 2,004,668 | – | 0.0 % |
| Other investments (3) | 907,755 | 115,272 | 12.7 % |
| Other assets (4) | 29,967 | – | 0.0 % |
| Total assets carried at fair value | <u>\$ 31,761,372</u> | <u>\$ 922,702</u> | 2.9 % |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased (5) | \$ 26,235 | \$ – | 0.0 % |
| Other liabilities (6) | 59,623 | 36,247 | 60.8 % |
| Total liabilities carried at fair value | <u>\$ 85,858</u> | <u>\$ 36,247</u> | 42.2 % |

(1) During 2012, Covered Bonds previously included as Corporate securities are now classified as Other asset-backed securities to align our classification to market indices. At December 31, 2012, these securities had a fair value of \$647.1 million.

(2) Cash equivalents balances subject to fair value measurements include certificates of deposit and money market funds.

(3) The Other investments balance excludes certain structured transactions including certain investments in project finance transactions and a payment obligation (for further information, see Item 8, Note 7, “Other Investments,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein) that has provided liquidity financing to a structured credit vehicle as a part of a third party medium term note facility. These Other investments are carried at amortized cost that totaled \$312.1 million at December 31, 2012 and \$323.7 million at December 31, 2011.

(4) Other assets include derivative instruments, reported on a gross basis.

(5) Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased are included within “Payable for investments purchased” on the balance sheet.

(6) Other liabilities include derivative instruments, reported on a gross basis.

At December 31, 2012, our Level 3 assets represented approximately 2.9% of assets that are measured at fair value and less than 2% of total assets. Our Level 3 liabilities represented approximately 42.2% of liabilities that are measured at fair value and less than 1% of total liabilities at December 31, 2012.

Changes in the Fair Value of Level 3 Assets and Liabilities

See Item 1, Note 3, “Fair Value Measurements,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for an analysis of the change in fair value of Level 3 Assets and Liabilities.

Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses

We establish reserves to provide for estimated claims, the general expenses of administering the claims adjustment process and losses incurred but not reported. These reserves are calculated using actuarial and

other reserving techniques to project the estimated ultimate net liability for losses and loss expenses. Our reserving practices and the establishment of any particular reserve reflects our judgment concerning sound financial practice and do not represent any admission of liability with respect to any claims made against us.

Unpaid losses and loss expenses totaled \$20.5 billion and \$20.6 billion at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The table below represents a reconciliation of our P&C unpaid losses and loss expenses for the year ended December 31, 2012:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Gross unpaid losses and loss expenses | Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | Net unpaid losses and loss expenses |
|---|--|--|--|
| Balance at December 31, 2011 | \$ 20,613,901 | \$ (3,629,928) | \$ 16,983,973 |
| Losses and loss expenses incurred | 4,376,337 | (610,855) | 3,765,482 |
| Losses and loss expenses paid/recovered | (4,673,997) | 890,755 | (3,783,242) |
| Foreign exchange and other | 167,880 | (11,674) | 156,206 |
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | <u>\$ 20,484,121</u> | <u>\$ (3,361,702)</u> | <u>\$ 17,122,419</u> |

While we regularly review the adequacy of established reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses, no assurance can be given that actual claims made and payments related thereto will not be in excess of the amounts reserved. In the future, if such reserves develop adversely, such deficiency would have a negative impact on future results of operations. For further discussion, see Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates – 1) Unpaid Loss and Loss Expenses and Unpaid Loss and Loss Expenses Recoverable," and Item 8, Note 10, "Losses and Loss Expenses," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses Recoverable and Reinsurance Balances Receivable

In the normal course of business, we seek to reduce the potential amount of loss arising from claims events by reinsuring certain levels of risk assumed in various areas of exposure with other insurers or reinsurers. While reinsurance agreements are designed to limit our losses from large exposures and permit recovery of a portion of direct unpaid losses, reinsurance does not relieve our ultimate liability to the insureds. Accordingly, the losses and loss expense reserves on the balance sheet represent our total unpaid gross losses. Unpaid losses and loss expense recoverable relates to estimated reinsurance recoveries on the unpaid loss and loss expense reserves.

The table below presents our net paid and unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Reinsurance balances receivable | \$ 113,023 | \$ 263,877 |
| Reinsurance recoverable on future policy benefits | 20,399 | 25,020 |
| Reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses and loss expenses | 3,415,038 | 3,685,260 |
| Bad debt reserve on unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable | (107,931) | (99,192) |
| Net paid and unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable | <u>\$ 3,440,529</u> | <u>\$ 3,874,965</u> |

We have credit risk should any of our reinsurers be unable or unwilling to settle amounts due. Of the \$3.4 billion total unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable at December 31, 2012, one individual reinsurer accounted for greater than 15% of the total. We are the beneficiary of letters of credit, trust accounts and funds withheld in the aggregate amount of \$1.7 billion at December 31, 2012, collateralizing reinsurance recoverables with respect to certain reinsurers. The provision for uncollectible reinsurance is required principally due to the failure of reinsurers to indemnify us primarily because of disputes under reinsurance contracts and insolvencies. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, we had a reserve for potential non-recoveries from reinsurers of \$108.0 million and \$99.2 million, respectively.

Approximately 91% of the total unpaid loss and loss expense recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable (net of collateral held) outstanding at December 31, 2012 was due from reinsurers with a

financial strength rating of “A” or better. The following is an analysis of the total recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable at December 31, 2012, by reinsurers owing 3% or more of such total:

| Name of Reinsurer | Reinsurer Financial Strength Rating | % of Total |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Munich Reinsurance Company | AA-/Stable | 25.4% |
| Swiss Reinsurance Company | AA-/Stable | 11.0% |
| Lloyd’s Syndicate | A+/Stable | 8.0% |
| Swiss Re Europe S.A. | AA-/Stable | 5.5% |
| Transatlantic Reinsurance Company | A+/Stable | 4.0% |

The following table sets forth the ratings profile of the reinsurers that support the unpaid loss and loss expense recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable:

| Reinsurer Financial Strength Rating | % of Total |
|--|-------------------|
| AAA | 1.2 % |
| AA | 53.1 % |
| A | 37.1 % |
| BBB | 0.3 % |
| BB and below | 0.0 % |
| Captives | 6.1 % |
| Not Rated | 0.2 % |
| Other | 2.0 % |
| Total | 100.0 % |

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Liquidity is a measure of our ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet the short and long-term cash requirements of our business operations. As a global insurance and reinsurance company, one of our principal responsibilities to clients is to ensure that we have ready access to funds with which to settle large unforeseen claims. We would generally expect that positive cash flow from operations (underwriting activities and investment income) will be sufficient to cover cash outflows under most future loss scenarios. However, there is a possibility that unforeseen demands could be placed on us due to extraordinary events and, as such, our liquidity needs may change. Such events include, among other things: several significant catastrophes occurring in a relatively short period of time resulting in material incurred losses; rating agency downgrades of our core insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries that would require posting of collateral in connection with our letter of credit and revolving credit facilities; return of unearned premiums and/or the settlement of derivative transactions and large scale uncollectible reinsurance recoverables on paid losses (as a result of coverage disputes, reinsurers’ credit problems or decreases in the value of collateral supporting reinsurance recoverables). Any one or a combination of such events may cause a liquidity strain for us. In addition, a liquidity strain could also occur in an illiquid market, such as that which was experienced in 2008. Investments that may be used to meet liquidity needs in the event of a liquidity strain may not be liquid, due to inactive markets or may have to be sold at a significant loss as a result of depressed prices. Because each subsidiary focuses on a more limited number of specific product lines than is collectively available from the consolidated group of companies, the mix of business tends to be less diverse at the subsidiary level. As a result, the probability of a liquidity strain, as described above, may be greater for individual subsidiaries than when liquidity is assessed on a consolidated basis. If such a liquidity strain were to occur in a subsidiary, XL-Ireland may be required to contribute capital to the particular subsidiary and/or curtail dividends from the subsidiary to support holding company operations, which may be difficult given that XL-Ireland is a holding company and has limited liquidity.

A downgrade below “A –” of our principal insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries by either S&P or A.M. Best, which is two notches below the current S&P financial strength rating of “A” (Positive) and the A.M. Best financial strength rating of “A” (Stable) of these subsidiaries, may trigger cancellation provisions in a significant amount of our assumed reinsurance agreements and may potentially require us to return unearned premiums to cedants. In addition, due to collateral posting requirements under our letter of credit and revolving credit facilities, such a downgrade may require the posting of cash collateral in support of

certain “in use” portions of these facilities. Specifically, a downgrade below “A –” by A.M. Best would constitute an event of default under our three largest credit facilities and may trigger such collateral requirements. In certain limited instances, such downgrades may require that we return cash or assets to counterparties or to settle derivative and/or other transactions with the respective counterparties. See Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” included herein.

Holding Company Liquidity

As holding companies, XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman have no operations of their own and their assets consist primarily of investments in subsidiaries. XL-Ireland’s principal uses of liquidity are ordinary share-related transactions, including dividend payments to holders of its ordinary shares as well as share buybacks, capital investments in its subsidiaries and certain corporate operating expenses. XL-Cayman’s principal uses of liquidity are preference share related transactions, including dividend payments to its preference shareholders as well as preference share buybacks from time to time, interest and principal payments on debt and certain corporate operating expenses.

XL-Ireland’s and XL-Cayman’s future cash flows largely depend on the availability of dividends or other permissible payments from subsidiaries to make principal and interest payments on debt, to pay operating expenses and ordinary and preferred shareholder dividends, to make capital investments in subsidiaries and to pay other obligations that may arise from time to time. The ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends to us or return capital from shareholders’ equity is limited by applicable laws and regulations of the various jurisdictions in which we operate, certain additional required regulatory approvals and by financial covenants contained in our letters of credit and revolving credit facilities. The payment of dividends to the holding companies by the Company’s principal operating subsidiaries is regulated under the laws of various jurisdictions including Bermuda, the U.K., Ireland and Switzerland, certain insurance statutes of various states in the United States in which the principal operating subsidiaries are licensed to transact business, the other jurisdictions where the Company has regulated subsidiaries and by regulations of the Society of Lloyd’s. See Item 8, Note 23, “Statutory Financial Data,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion and details regarding the dividend capacity of our major operating subsidiaries. See also Item 1A, “Risk Factors – Our holding company structure and certain regulatory and other constraints affect our ability to pay dividends, make payments on our debt securities and make other payments,” included herein. No assurance can be given that our subsidiaries will pay dividends in the future to XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman.

Under Irish law, share premium was required to be converted to “distributable reserves” for XL-Ireland to pay cash dividends and redeem and buyback shares following the Redomestication. On July 23, 2010, the Irish High Court approved XL-Ireland’s conversion of share premium to \$5.0 billion of distributable reserves, subject to the completion of certain formalities under Irish Company law. These formalities were completed in early August 2010. At December 31, 2012, XL-Ireland had \$3.6 billion in distributable reserves.

At December 31, 2012, XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman held cash and investments, net of liabilities associated with cash sweeping arrangements, of \$11.0 million and \$1.4 billion, respectively, compared to \$1.6 million and \$2.0 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2011.

All of our outstanding debt at December 31, 2012 was issued by XL-Cayman. At December 31, 2011, all outstanding debt was issued by XL-Cayman except for the \$600 million par value 6.5% Guaranteed Senior Notes (the “XLCFE Notes”) which were issued by XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc (“XLCFE”) and were repaid at maturity on January 15, 2012. Both XL-Cayman and XLCFE are 100% owned subsidiaries of XL-Ireland. The XLCFE Notes were fully and unconditionally guaranteed by XL Company Switzerland GmbH. XL-Cayman’s outstanding debt is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by XL-Ireland. The ability of XL-Cayman, like that of the Company’s, to obtain funds from its subsidiaries to satisfy any of its obligations under guarantees is subject to certain contractual restrictions, applicable laws and statutory requirements of the various countries in which we operate, including, among others, Bermuda, the United States, Ireland, Switzerland and the U.K. For details of the required statutory capital and surplus for our principal operating subsidiaries, see Note 23, “Statutory Financial Data.”

See also the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows in Item 8, Financial Statements included herein.

Sources of Liquidity

At December 31, 2012, on a consolidated basis we had cash and cash equivalents of approximately \$2.6 billion as compared to approximately \$3.8 billion at December 31, 2011. The reduction was primarily due to the accumulation of cash in 2011 to fund the repayment of the XLCFE Notes in January 2012. We have three main sources of cash flows – those provided by operations, investing activities and financing activities:

Total cash provided by (used in):

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|--------------|------------|-------------|
| Operating activities | \$ 1,056,106 | \$ 327,202 | \$ 594,756 |
| Investing activities | (942,593) | 832,103 | 261,481 |
| Financing activities | (1,344,753) | (358,716) | (1,473,343) |
| Effects of exchange rate changes on foreign currency cash | 24,493 | 1,668 | (3,723) |

Operating Cash Flows

Historically, cash receipts from operations, consisting of premiums and investment income, generally have provided sufficient funds to pay losses as well as operating expenses of our subsidiaries and to fund dividends to XL-Ireland. Cash receipts from operations are generally derived from the receipt of investment income on our investment portfolio as well as the net receipt of premiums less claims and expenses related to our underwriting activities in our P&C and Life operations. Our operating subsidiaries provide liquidity in that premiums are generally received months or even years before losses are paid under the policies related to such premiums. Premiums and acquisition expenses are settled based on terms of trade as stipulated by an underwriting contract, and generally are received within the first year of inception of a policy when the premium is written, but can be up to three years on certain reinsurance business assumed. Operating expenses are generally paid within a year of being incurred. Claims, especially for casualty business, may take a much longer time before they are reported and ultimately settled, requiring the establishment of reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses. Therefore, the amount of claims paid in any one year is not necessarily related to the amount of net losses incurred, as reported in the consolidated statement of income.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, net cash flows provided by operating activities were \$1.1 billion compared to net cash flows provided by operating activities of \$327.2 million for the same period in 2011. The operating cash increase was primarily due to the increase in net income in the year ended December 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011.

Investing Cash Flows

Generally, positive cash flow from operations and financing activities is invested in our investment portfolio, including affiliates or the acquisition of subsidiaries.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$942.6 million in the year ended December 31, 2012 compared to net cash provided of \$832.1 million for the same period in 2011. These cash flows were associated with the normal purchase and sale of portfolio investments.

Certain of our invested assets are held in trust and pledged in support of insurance and reinsurance liabilities as well as credit facilities. Such pledges are largely required by our operating subsidiaries that are “non-admitted” under U.S. state insurance regulations, in order for the U.S. cedant to receive statutory credit for reinsurance. Also, certain deposit liabilities and annuity contracts require the use of pledged assets. As further described in Item 1, Note 5, “Investments – Pledged Assets,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, certain assets of the investment portfolio are pledged as collateral under our letter of credit facilities. At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we had \$16.9 billion and \$17.2 billion in pledged assets, respectively.

Financing Cash Flows

Cash flows related to financing activities include ordinary and preferred share related transactions, the payment of dividends, the issue or repayment of preference ordinary shares and deposit liability transactions. During the year ended December 31, 2012, net cash flows used in financing activities were

\$1.3 billion. Net cash outflows related primarily to the buybacks of XL-Ireland's ordinary shares and repayment of debt as described below.

On February 27, 2012, we announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved the February 2012 Program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$750 million of our ordinary shares. This authorization replaced the approximately \$190 million remaining under the share buyback program that was authorized in November 2010 as described in further detail in Item 8, Note 18, "Share Capital," to the Consolidated Financial Statements herein. During 2012, we purchased and canceled 18.3 million ordinary shares under the February 2012 Program for \$401.6 million. At December 31, 2012, \$348.4 million remained available for purchase under this program. Between January 1 and February 22, 2013 we purchased and canceled an additional 3.8 million shares for \$98.4 million. All share buybacks were carried out by way of redemption in accordance with Irish law and XL-Ireland's constitutional documents. All shares so redeemed were canceled upon redemption. On February 22, 2013, we announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved a new share buyback program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$850 million of our ordinary shares. This replaced the approximately \$250 million remaining under the February 2012 Program.

On January 15, 2012, the \$600 million principal amount outstanding on the XLCFE Notes, which were issued by XLCFE, was repaid at maturity. For further detail, see Item 1, Note 13, "Notes Payable and Debt Financing Arrangements," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

In addition, we maintain credit facilities that provide liquidity. Details of these facilities are described below in "Capital Resources."

Capital Resources

At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we had total shareholders' equity of \$11.9 billion and \$10.8 billion, respectively. In addition to ordinary share capital, we depend on external sources of financing to support its underwriting activities in the form of:

- a. debt;
- b. preference shares;
- c. letter of credit facilities and other sources of collateral; and
- d. revolving credit facilities.

In particular, we require, among other things:

- sufficient capital to maintain its financial strength and credit ratings, as issued by several ratings agencies, at levels considered necessary by management to enable our key operating subsidiaries to compete;
- sufficient capital to enable its regulated subsidiaries to meet the regulatory capital levels required in the United States, the U.K., Bermuda, Ireland, Switzerland and other key markets;
- letters of credit and other forms of collateral that are required to be posted or deposited, as the case may be, by our operating subsidiaries that are "non-admitted" under U.S. state insurance regulations in order for the U.S. cedant to receive statutory credit for reinsurance. We also uses letters of credit to support its operations at Lloyd's; and
- revolving credit to meet short-term liquidity needs.

The following risks are associated with our requirement to renew its credit facilities:

- the credit available from banks may be reduced resulting in our need to pledge its investment portfolio to customers. This could result in a lower investment yield;
- we may be downgraded by one or more rating agencies, which could materially and negatively impact our business, financial condition, results of operations and/or liquidity; and
- the volume of business that our subsidiaries that are not admitted in the United States are able to transact could be reduced if we are unable to renew its letter of credit facilities at an appropriate amount.

Consolidation within the banking industry may result in the aggregate amount of credit provided to us being reduced. We attempt to mitigate this risk by identifying and/or selecting additional banks that can participate in the credit facilities upon renewal. See Item 1A, "Risk Factors."

The following table summarizes the components of our current capital resources as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Series D preference ordinary shares | \$ 345,000 | \$ 345,000 |
| Series E preference ordinary shares | 999,500 | 999,500 |
| Ordinary share capital | 10,510,072 | 9,411,658 |
| Total ordinary and non-controlling interests capital | \$ 11,854,572 | \$ 10,756,158 |
| Notes payable and debt | 1,666,103 | 2,264,618 |
| Total capital | <u>\$ 13,520,675</u> | <u>\$ 13,020,776</u> |

Ordinary Share Capital

The following table reconciles the opening and closing ordinary share capital positions as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ordinary shareholders' equity – beginning of period | \$ 9,411,658 | \$ 9,597,473 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | 651,134 | (474,760) |
| Share buybacks | (402,930) | (667,022) |
| Share issues | 6,946 | 573,015 |
| Ordinary share dividends | (135,572) | (138,978) |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive income | 936,947 | 482,269 |
| Share based compensation and other | 41,889 | 39,661 |
| Ordinary shareholders' equity – end of period | <u>\$ 10,510,072</u> | <u>\$ 9,411,658</u> |

Debt

The following tables present our debt under outstanding securities and lenders' commitments at December 31, 2012:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Commitment/ Debt | In Use/ Outstanding | Year of Expiry | Payments Due by Period | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | Less than 1 Year | 1 to 3 Years | 3 to 5 Years | After 5 Years |
| 4-year revolver | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ – | 2015 | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – |
| 5.25% Senior Notes | 600,000 | 598,424 | 2014 | – | 600,000 | – | – |
| 5.75% Senior Notes | 400,000 | 396,230 | 2021 | – | – | – | 400,000 |
| 6.375% Senior Notes | 350,000 | 348,701 | 2024 | – | – | – | 350,000 |
| 6.25% Senior Notes | 325,000 | 322,748 | 2027 | – | – | – | 325,000 |
| | <u>\$ 2,675,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,666,103</u> | | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 600,000</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 1,075,000</u> |
| Adjustment to carrying value – impact of fair value hedges | | \$ 6,675 | | | | | |
| Total | | <u>\$ 1,672,778</u> | | | | | |

"In Use/Outstanding" data represent December 31, 2012 accreted values. "Payments Due by Period" data represents ultimate redemption values.

In addition, see Item 1, Note 13, "Notes Payable and Debt and Financing Arrangements," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for further information.

At December 31, 2012, banks and investors provided us with \$2.7 billion of debt capacity, of which \$1.7 billion was utilized. These facilities consist of:

- a revolving credit facility of \$1.0 billion.
- senior unsecured notes of approximately \$1.7 billion. These notes require XL-Cayman to pay a fixed rate of interest during their terms. At December 31, 2012, there were four outstanding issues of senior unsecured notes:

- \$600 million senior notes due September 2014, with a fixed coupon of 5.25%. The security is publicly traded. The notes were issued in two tranches of \$300 million aggregate principal amount each – one tranche at 99.432% and the other at 98.419% with aggregate net proceeds of \$590.9 million. Related expenses of the offering amounted to \$2.7 million.
- \$400 million senior notes due October 2021, with a fixed coupon of 5.75%. The security is publicly traded. The notes were issued at 100.0% and net proceeds were \$395.7 million. Related expenses of the offering amounted to \$4.3 million.
- \$350 million senior notes due November 2024, with a fixed coupon of 6.375%. The security is publicly traded. The notes were issued at 100.0% and net proceeds were \$347.8 million. Related expenses of the offering amounted to \$2.2 million.
- \$325 million of senior notes due May 2027, with a fixed coupon of 6.25%. The security is publicly traded. The notes were issued at 99.805% and net proceeds were \$321.9 million. Related expenses of the offering amounted to \$2.5 million.

Preferred Shares and Non-controlling Interest in Equity of Consolidated Subsidiaries

Neither the Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares nor the Series E preference ordinary shares were transferred from XL-Cayman to XL-Ireland in the Redomestication. Accordingly, subsequent to July 1, 2010, these instruments represent non-controlling interests in our consolidated financial statements and have been reclassified to non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries. See Item 8, Note 1, “General,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein for further information. During the third quarter of 2011, all Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares were purchased and canceled. At December 31, 2012, the face value of the outstanding Series E preference ordinary shares was \$999.5 million.

On October 15, 2011, XL-Cayman issued 350,000 non-cumulative Series D Preference Ordinary Shares for \$350 million of cash and liquid investments that were held in a trust account that was part of the Stoneheath facility. Holders of the Stoneheath securities received one Series D Preference Ordinary Share in exchange for each Stoneheath security.

On December 5, 2011, we repurchased 5,000 of the outstanding Series D Preference Ordinary Shares with a liquidation preference value of \$5.0 million for \$3.7 million, including accrued dividends. As a result of these repurchases, we recorded a gain of approximately \$1.3 million through Non-controlling interests in the Consolidated Statement of Income in the fourth quarter of 2011. At both December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the face value of the outstanding Series D Preference Ordinary Shares was \$345.0 million.

Letter of Credit Facilities and other sources of collateral

At December 31, 2012, we had five letter of credit (“LOC”) facilities in place with total availability of \$4.0 billion, of which \$1.8 billion was utilized.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Commitment/ Debt | In Use/ Outstanding | Year of Expiry | Less than 1 Year | Amount of Commitment Expiration by Period | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | 1 to 3 Years | 3 to 5 Years | After 5 Years |
| LOC Facility (1) | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ 832,576 | \$ 2014 | \$ – | \$ 832,576 | \$ – | \$ – |
| LOC Facility (2) (3) | 1,350,000 | 116,664 | 2015 | – | – | 116,664 | – |
| LOC Facility (3) | 650,000 | 380,312 | 2015 | – | – | 380,312 | – |
| LOC Facility | 750,000 | 303,458 | Continuous | – | – | – | 303,458 |
| LOC Facility | 250,000 | 124,240 | Continuous | – | – | – | 124,240 |
| Five LOC facilities | <u>\$ 4,000,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,757,250</u> | | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 832,576</u> | <u>\$ 496,976</u> | <u>\$ 427,698</u> |

(1) We have the option to increase the size of the March 2011 Credit Agreement by an additional \$500 million.

(2) This letter of credit facility includes \$1.0 billion that is also included in the “4-year revolver” listed under Debt.

(3) We have the option to increase the size of the facilities under the December 2011 Credit Agreements by an additional \$500 million across both such facilities.

In 2011, we (i) entered into three new credit agreements, which provided for an aggregate amount of outstanding letters of credit and revolving credit loans up to \$3 billion, subject to certain options to increase the size of the facilities, and (ii) terminated the five-year credit agreement dated June 21, 2007 (the “2007 Credit Agreement”), which had provided for an aggregate amount of outstanding letters of credit and revolving credit loans up to \$4 billion.

On March 25, 2011, we entered into a secured credit agreement (the “March 2011 Credit Agreement”) that currently provides for the issuance of letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$1 billion with the option to increase the size of the facility by an additional \$500 million. Concurrent with the effectiveness of the March 2011 Credit Agreement, the commitments of the lenders under the 2007 Credit Agreement were reduced from \$4 billion to \$3 billion. The commitments under the March 2011 Credit Agreement will expire on, and the credit facility is available on a continuous basis until, the earlier of (i) March 25, 2014 and (ii) the date of termination in whole of the commitments upon an optional termination or reduction of the commitments by the account parties or upon an event of default.

On December 9, 2011, we entered into (i) a new secured credit agreement (the “December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement”) and (ii) a new unsecured credit agreement (the “December 2011 Unsecured Credit Agreement”) and together with the December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement, the “December 2011 Credit Agreements”). In connection with the December 2011 Credit Agreements, the 2007 Credit Agreement was terminated. The March 2011 Credit Agreement continues in force, but was amended to conform certain of its terms to those of the December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement.

The 2007 Credit Agreement had provided for letters of credit and for revolving credit loans of up to \$750 million with the aggregate amount of outstanding letters of credit and revolving credit loans thereunder not to exceed \$3 billion. At the time at which it was terminated and the December 2011 Credit Agreements became effective, there were no outstanding revolving credit loans under the 2007 Credit Agreement. A portion of the letters of credit outstanding under the 2007 Credit Agreement at the time of its termination were continued under the March 2011 Credit Agreement and the remainder were continued under the December 2011 Credit Agreements.

The December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement provides for the issuance of letters of credit in an aggregate amount of up to \$650 million. The December 2011 Unsecured Credit Agreement is a \$1.35 billion facility that provides for the issuance of letters of credit and revolving credit loans in an aggregate amount up to \$1 billion. We have the option to increase the maximum amount of letters of credit available by an additional \$500 million across the facilities under the December 2011 Credit Agreements.

The commitments under each December 2011 Credit Agreement expire on, and such credit facilities are available until, the earlier of (i) December 9, 2015 and (ii) the date of termination in whole of the commitments upon an optional termination or reduction of the commitments by the account parties or upon an event of default.

The availability of letters of credit under the December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement and the March 2011 Credit Agreements is subject to a borrowing base requirement, determined on the basis of specified percentages of the face value of eligible categories of assets varying by type of collateral. In the event that such credit support is insufficient, we could be required to provide alternative security to cedants. This could take the form of insurance trusts supported by our investment portfolio or funds withheld (amounts retained by ceding companies to collateralize loss or premium reserves) using our cash resources or combinations thereof. The face amount of letters of credit required is driven by, among other things, loss development of existing reserves, the payment pattern of such reserves, the expansion of our business written by us and the loss experience of such business. In addition to letters of credit, we have established insurance trusts in the United States that provide cedants with statutory credit for reinsurance under state insurance regulation in the United States. For a discussion of collateral requirements for our Life operations, see Item 1, “Business – Segments – Life Operations Segment – Life Operations – Collateral Requirements.”

We review current and projected collateral requirements on a regular basis, as well as new sources of collateral. Our objective is to maintain an excess amount of collateral sources over expected uses. We also review our liquidity needs on a regular basis.

In October 2011, the \$75,000 letter of credit facility that was supporting one of our subsidiaries was terminated.

Covenants

Our Credit Facilities contain a number of financial covenants that must be met and maintained and that, among other things, could restrict, subject to certain exceptions, our financial flexibility including the ability to:

- engage in mergers or consolidations;
- dispose of assets outside of the ordinary course of business;
- create liens on assets; and
- engage in certain transactions with affiliates.

The following outlines the covenant requirements and actual amounts as of December 31, 2012:

| | Covenant Requirement | Actual Ratio or Balance | Margin of Compliance at December 31, 2012 |
|--|---|-------------------------|---|
| Ratio of Total Funded Debt to Total Capitalization (1) | Less than 0.35:100 | 0.14 : 1.00 | \$2.6 billion |
| Maximum Secured Indebtedness (2) | Less than 15% of consolidated net worth | Nil | \$1.6 billion |
| Consolidated Net Worth (3) | \$6.8 billion | \$10.4 billion | \$3.6 billion |
| Financial Strength Ratings (4) | A– or better from A.M. Best | A (Stable) | Two notches |

(1) The ratio of total funded debt to total capitalization not to be greater than 0.35:1.00. This ratio is defined as total funded debt to the sum of total funded debt plus consolidated net worth.

(2) Secured indebtedness excludes secured letter of credit facilities as permitted under the schedules to the credit facilities. At December 31, 2012, such secured letter of credit facilities amounted to \$1.64 billion.

(3) Consolidated net worth means, at any time, our consolidated stockholders' equity excluding (a) the effect of any adjustments required under the authoritative accounting guidance for accounting for certain investments in debt and equity securities; and (b) any exempt indebtedness (and the assets relating thereto) in the event such exempt indebtedness is consolidated on our consolidated balance sheet.

(4) Covenants require that none of XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd or XL Re Europe Ltd has a financial strength ratings of less than "A –" from A.M. Best. At December 31, 2012, we were in compliance with such covenants.

As noted in the table above, at December 31, 2012, we were in compliance with all covenants by significant margins, and we currently remain in compliance.

Cross-Default And Other Provisions In Debt Instruments

The following describes certain terms of the documents referred to below. All documents referred to below have been filed with the SEC and should be referred to for an assessment of our complete contractual obligations.

In general, all of our bank facilities, indentures and other documents relating to our outstanding indebtedness, including the credit facilities discussed above (collectively, the "Debt Documents"), contain cross acceleration or cross default provisions to each other and the Debt Documents contain affirmative covenants. These covenants provide for, among other things, minimum required ratings of our insurance and reinsurance operating subsidiaries and minimum required levels of secured indebtedness in the future. In addition, generally each of the Debt Documents provide for an event of default in the event of a change of control of the Company or certain events involving bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company.

A downgrade below "A –" of our principal insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries by either S&P or A.M. Best, which is two notches below the current S&P financial strength rating of "A" (Positive) and the A.M. Best financial strength rating of "A" (Stable) of these subsidiaries, may trigger cancellation provisions in a significant amount of our assumed reinsurance agreements and may potentially require us to return unearned premiums to cedants. In addition, due to collateral posting requirements under our letter of credit and revolving credit facilities, such a downgrade may require the posting of cash collateral in support of certain "in use" portions of these facilities (see "Liquidity and Capital Resources"). In certain limited

instances, such downgrades may require us to return cash or assets to counterparties or to settle derivative and/or other transactions with the respective counterparties. See Item 1A, “Risk Factors – A downgrade or potential downgrade in our financial strength and credit ratings by one or more rating agencies could materially and negatively impact our business, financial condition, results of operations and/or liquidity.”

Under the March 2011 Credit Agreement and December 2011 Credit Agreements, in the event that XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd or XL Re Europe Ltd fail to maintain a financial strength rating of at least “A –” from A.M. Best, an event of default would occur.

Given that all of the Debt Documents contain cross acceleration or cross default provisions, this may result in all holders declaring such debt due and payable and an acceleration of all debt due under those documents. If this were to occur, we may not have funds sufficient at that time to repay any or all of such indebtedness.

Long-Term Contractual Obligations

The following table presents our long term contractual obligations and related payments at December 31, 2012, due by period. This table excludes further commitments of \$142.1 million related to our investment funds and certain limited partnerships, and in use letter of credit facilities of \$1.8 billion. See Item 8, Note 14, “Derivative Instruments,” Note 17, “Commitments and Contingencies,” and Note 13, “Notes Payable and Debt and Financing Arrangements,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information.

| Contractual Obligations <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Total | Less than 1 year | 1 to 3 years | 3 to 5 years | More than 5 years |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Long-term debt obligations | \$ 1,675,000 | \$ – | \$ 600,000 | \$ – | \$ 1,075,000 |
| Interest on long-term debt | 844,617 | 98,625 | 164,828 | 132,405 | 448,759 |
| Operating lease obligations | 264,689 | 38,096 | 66,867 | 51,072 | 108,654 |
| Capital lease obligations | 222,415 | 11,927 | 24,757 | 26,011 | 159,720 |
| Deposit liabilities (1) | 2,285,364 | 158,215 | 351,831 | 205,265 | 1,570,053 |
| Future policy benefits (2) | 7,467,945 | 397,080 | 779,978 | 769,565 | 5,521,322 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses – P&C (3) | 20,878,662 | 4,388,998 | 6,326,114 | 3,667,048 | 6,496,502 |
| Total | \$ 33,638,692 | \$ 5,092,941 | \$ 8,314,375 | \$ 4,851,366 | \$ 15,380,010 |

- (1) Deposit liabilities on our Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2012 were \$1.5 billion. The difference from the amount included above relates to the discount on payments due in the future. The payment related to these liabilities varies primarily based on interest rates. The ultimate payments associated with these liabilities could differ from our estimate. See Item 8, Note 11, “Deposit Liabilities,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for further information.
- (2) Future policy benefit reserves related to Life operations were \$4.8 billion on our Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2012. Amounts reflected above include an allowance for future premiums in respect of contracts under which premiums are payable throughout the life of the underlying policy. The value of the discount is also included for those lines of business that have reserves where future claim payments and future premium receipts can be estimated using actuarial principles. The timing and amounts of actual claims payments and premium receipts related to these reserves vary based on the underlying experience of the portfolio. Typical elements of the experience include mortality, morbidity and persistency. The ultimate amount of the claims payments and premium receipts could differ materially from our estimated amounts.
- (3) The unpaid loss and loss expenses were \$20.5 billion on our Consolidated Balance Sheet at December 31, 2012. The difference from the amount included above relates to the discount on payments due in the future for certain workers compensation lines and certain U.K. motor liability claims. The timing and amounts of actual claims payments related to these P&C reserves vary based on many factors including large individual losses, changes in the legal environment, as well as general market conditions. The ultimate amount of the claims payments could differ materially from our estimated amounts. For information regarding the estimates for unpaid loss and loss expenses as well as factors affecting potential payment patterns of reserves for actual and potential claims related our different lines of business, see “Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates” above. Certain lines of business written by us, such as excess casualty, have loss experience characterized as low frequency and high severity. This may result in significant variability in loss payment patterns and, therefore, may impact the related asset/liability investment management process. In order to be in a position, if necessary, to make these payments, our liquidity requirements are supported by having revolving lines of credit facilities available to us and significant reinsurance programs, in addition to our general high grade fixed income investment portfolio.

Variable Interest Entities (“VIEs”) and Other Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

At times, we have utilized VIEs both indirectly and directly in the ordinary course of our business.

We invest in CDOs and other investment vehicles that are issued through variable interest entities as part of our investment portfolio. The activities of these VIEs are generally limited to holding the underlying collateral used to service investments therein. Our involvement in these entities is passive in nature and we are not the arranger of these entities. We have not been involved in establishing these entities. We are not the primary beneficiary of these variable interest entities as contemplated in current authoritative accounting guidance.

We have a limited number of remaining outstanding credit enhancement exposures, including written financial guarantee and credit default swap contracts. The obligations related to these transactions are often securitized through variable interest entities. We are not the primary beneficiary of these variable interest entities as contemplated in current authoritative accounting guidance. For further details on the nature of the obligations and the size of our maximum exposure see Item 8, Note 14, "Derivative Instruments," and Note 17(h), "Commitments and Contingencies – Financial and Other Guarantee Exposures," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

We have utilized variable interest entities in certain instances as a means of accessing contingent capital. We have utilized unconsolidated entities in the formation of contingent capital facilities.

At December 31, 2012, we did not have any contingent capital facilities. Previously we had a contingent capital facility as a result of an agreement with Stoneheath that was terminated in the fourth quarter of 2011.

We entered into this facility on December 5, 2006. We and ceding insurers entered into a securities issuance agreement, and certain of our ceding insurers entered into a reinsurance agreement, with Stoneheath. The net effect of these agreements to us was the creation of a contingent put option in the amount of \$350.0 million in the aggregate. Our interests in Stoneheath represented an interest in a variable interest entity under current authoritative accounting guidance, however, we were not the primary beneficiary as contemplated in that guidance. For further details see Item 8, Note 15, "Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

The agreements provided us with a reinsurance collateral account in support of certain covered perils named in the reinsurance agreement. The covered perils include U.S. wind, European wind, California earthquake and terrorism worldwide. The contingent put option was recorded at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in earnings.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See Item 8, Note 2, "Significant Accounting Policies," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein, for a discussion of recent accounting pronouncements.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

General

The following risk management discussion and the estimated amounts generated from the sensitivity and value-at-risk ("VaR") analyses presented in this document are forward-looking statements of market risk assuming certain adverse market conditions occur. Actual results in the future may differ materially from these estimated results due to, among other things, actual developments in the global financial markets and changes in the composition of our investment portfolio. The results of analysis used by us to assess and mitigate risk should not be considered projections of future events or losses. See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Market risk represents the potential for loss due to adverse changes in the fair value of financial and other instruments. We are principally exposed to the following market risks: interest rate risk, foreign currency exchange rate risk, credit risk, equity price risk and other related market risks.

The majority of our market risk arises from the investment portfolio, which consists of fixed income securities, alternative investments, public equities, private investments, derivatives, other investments and cash, denominated in both U.S. and foreign currencies, which are sensitive to changes in interest rates,

credit spreads, equity prices, foreign currency exchange rates and other related market risks. Our fixed income and equity securities are generally classified as available for sale, and, as such, changes in interest rates, credit spreads on corporate and structured securities, equity prices, foreign currency exchange rates or other related market instruments will have an immediate effect on comprehensive income and shareholders' equity but will not ordinarily have an immediate effect on net income. Nevertheless, changes in interest rates, credit spreads and defaults, equity prices and other related market instruments affect consolidated net income when, and if, a security is sold or impaired.

We may enter into derivatives and other financial instruments primarily for risk management purposes. For example, we may use derivatives to hedge foreign exchange and interest rate risk related to our consolidated net exposures. From time to time, we may also use instruments such as futures, options, interest rate swaps, credit default swaps and foreign currency forward contracts to manage the risk of interest rate changes, credit deterioration, foreign currency exposures, and other market related exposures as well as to obtain exposure to a particular financial market. Historically, we entered into credit derivatives outside of the investment portfolio in conjunction with the legacy financial guarantee and financial products operations. We attempt to manage the risks associated with derivative use with guidelines established by senior management. Derivative instruments are carried at fair value with the resulting changes in fair value recognized in income in the period in which they occur. For further information, see Item 1, Note 14, "Derivative Instruments," to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

This risk management discussion and the estimated amounts generated from the sensitivity and VaR analyses presented in this document are forward-looking statements of market risk assuming certain adverse market conditions occur. Actual results in the future may differ materially from these estimated results due to, among other things, actual developments in the global financial markets and changes in the composition of our investment portfolio. The results of analysis used by us to assess and mitigate risk should not be considered projections of future events of losses. See Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements."

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the price sensitivity of a fixed income security to changes in interest rates. Our fixed income portfolio is exposed to interest rate risk. Our liabilities are accrued at a static rate from an accounting standpoint. However, management considers the liabilities to have an economic exposure to interest rate risk and manages the net economic exposure to interest rate risk considering both assets and liabilities. Interest rate risk is managed within the context of our SAA process by specifying SAA benchmarks relative to the estimated duration of our liabilities and managing the fixed income portfolio relative to the benchmarks such that the overall economic effect of interest rate risk is within management's risk tolerance. Nevertheless, we remain exposed to interest rate risk with respect to our overall net asset position and more generally from an accounting standpoint since the assets are carried at fair value, while liabilities are accrued at a static rate.

In addition, while our debt is not carried at fair value and not adjusted for market changes, changes in market interest rates could have an impact on debt values at the time of any refinancing.

Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

Many of our non-U.S. subsidiaries maintain both assets and liabilities in local currencies; therefore, foreign exchange risk is generally limited to net assets denominated in foreign currencies.

Foreign currency exchange rate gains and losses in our Statement of Income arise for accounting purposes when net assets or liabilities are denominated in foreign currencies that differ from the functional currency of those subsidiaries. While unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses on underwriting balances are reported in earnings, the offsetting unrealized gains and losses on invested assets are recorded as a separate component of shareholders' equity, to the extent that the asset currency does not match that entity's functional currency. This results in an accounting mismatch that will result in foreign exchange gains or losses in the consolidated statements of income depending on the movement in certain currencies. We have formed several branches with Euro and U.K. sterling functional currencies and continue to focus on attempting to limit exposure to foreign exchange risk.

Foreign currency exchange rate risk in general is reviewed as part of our risk management framework. Within the asset liability framework for the investment portfolio, we pursue a general policy of holding the assets and liabilities in the same currency and, as such, we are not generally exposed to the risks associated with foreign exchange movements within the investment portfolio, as currency impacts on the assets are generally matched by corresponding impacts on the related liabilities. However, locally-required capital levels are invested in local currencies in order to satisfy regulatory requirements and to support local insurance operations and are not matched by related liabilities. Foreign exchange contracts within the investment portfolio may be utilized to manage individual portfolio foreign exchange exposures, subject to investment management service providers' guidelines established by management. Where these contracts are not designated as specific hedges for financial reporting purposes, we record realized and unrealized gains and losses in income in the period in which they occur. These contracts generally have maturities of three months or less. We may also attempt to manage the foreign exchange volatility arising on certain transactions denominated in foreign currencies. These include, but are not limited to, premium receivable, reinsurance contracts, claims payable and investments in subsidiaries.

The principal currencies creating our foreign exchange risk are the U.K. sterling, the Euro, the Swiss franc and the Canadian dollar. The following table provides more information on our net exposures to these principal foreign currencies at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011:

| <i>(Foreign Currency in Millions)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Euro | 252.2 | 52.0 |
| U.K. Sterling | 81.6 | 35.1 |
| Swiss Franc | 117.0 | 153.7 |
| Canadian Dollar | 129.2 | 222.5 |

Credit Risk

Credit risk relates to the uncertainty of an obligor's continued ability to make timely payments in accordance with the contractual terms of the instrument or contract. We are exposed to direct credit risk within our investment portfolio, through general counterparties, including customers and reinsurers, and through certain underwriting activities which include, but are not limited to, surety, workers compensation, environmental and political risk and trade credit.

We have an established credit risk governance process delegated to the Credit Subcommittee of the Enterprise Risk Management Committee. The governance process is designed to ensure that transactions and activities, individually and in the aggregate, are carried out within established risk tolerances. This process also recognizes the potential for clash risk that could arise from credit events owing to the identified credit risk embedded in certain underwriting businesses, as well as our investment activities and reinsurance relationships. In particular, certain of our underwriting activities expose us to indirect credit risk in that profitability of certain strategies can correlate with credit events at the issuer, industry or country level. We manage these risks through established underwriting policies that operate in accordance with established limit and escalation frameworks.

To manage our exposure to credit risk, we have established a credit risk framework which establishes tolerances for credit risk at various levels of granularity (counterparty, industry, country and underwriting business) and tolerances for credit risk arising from certain clash events. Credit risk capacity is allocated across our businesses and functional areas and regular reporting and aggregation activities are carried out to ensure compliance with our credit risk framework and related tolerances. Credit risk arising from credit sensitive underwriting activities is also managed via our underwriting limit framework (see Item 1, "Enterprise Risk Management"). We manage credit risk within the investment portfolio through our SAA framework and established investment credit policies, which address quality of obligors and counterparties, industry limits, and diversification requirements. Our exposure to market credit spreads primarily relates to market price and cash flow variability associated with changes in credit spreads.

Credit Risk – Investment Portfolio

Credit risk in the investment portfolio is the exposure to adverse changes in the creditworthiness of individual investment holdings, issuers, groups of issuers, industries and countries. A widening of credit

spreads will increase the net unrealized loss position, will increase losses associated with credit-based derivatives where we assume credit exposure, and, if issuer credit spreads increase significantly for an extended period of time and, in a period of increasing defaults, would also likely result in higher OTTI charges. All else held equal, credit spread tightening will reduce net investment income associated with new purchases of fixed maturities. In addition, market volatility can make it difficult to value certain of our securities if trading becomes less frequent. As such, valuations may include assumptions or estimates that may have significant period to period changes that could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated results of operations or financial condition. The credit spread duration in our fixed income portfolio, excluding the impact of the HTM election, was 3.8 years at December 31, 2012.

We manage credit risk in the investment portfolio, including fixed income, alternative and short-term investments, through the credit research performed primarily by the investment management service providers. The management of credit risk in the investment portfolio is integrated in our credit risk management governance framework and the management of credit exposures and concentrations within the investment portfolio is carried out in accordance with our risk policies, philosophies, appetites, limits and risk concentrations delegated to the investment portfolio. In the investment portfolio, we review on a regular basis our asset concentration, credit quality and adherence to our credit limit guidelines. Any issuer over its credit limits, experiencing financial difficulties, material credit quality deterioration or potentially subject to forthcoming credit quality deterioration is placed on a watch list for closer monitoring. Where appropriate, exposures are reduced or prevented from increasing.

The table below shows our aggregate fixed income portfolio by credit rating in percentage terms of our aggregate fixed income exposure (including fixed maturities, short-term investments, cash equivalents and net payable for investments purchased) at December 31, 2012.

| | Percentage of Aggregated Fixed Income Portfolio (1)(2) |
|-------------|---|
| AAA | 47.0 % |
| AA | 17.8 % |
| A | 22.3 % |
| BBB | 10.0 % |
| BB or Below | 2.8 % |
| NR | 0.1 % |
| Total | <u>100.0 %</u> |

(1) Included in the above are \$194.3 million or 0.6% of the fixed income portfolio that represents medium term notes rated at the average credit rating of the underlying asset pools backing the notes.

(2) The credit ratings above were principally determined based on the weighted average rating of the individual securities from Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings (where available). U.S. Agency debt and related mortgage backed securities, whether with implicit or explicit government support, reflect the credit quality rating of the U.S. government for the purpose of these calculations.

At December 31, 2012, the average credit quality of our aggregate fixed income investment portfolio was "Aa2/AA". Our \$9.5 billion portfolio of government and government related, agency, sovereign and cash holdings was rated "AA+" at December 31, 2012. Our \$11.9 billion portfolio of corporates was rated "A." Our \$9.5 billion structured securities portfolio was "AA+" rated.

We are closely monitoring our corporate financial bond holdings given the events of the past five years. The table below summarizes our significant exposures (defined as bonds issued by financial institutions with an amortized cost in excess of \$50.0 million) to corporate bonds of financial issuers

including Covered Bonds held within our AFS and HTM investment portfolio holdings at December 31, 2012, representing both amortized cost and net unrealized gains (losses):

(U.S. dollars in millions)

| Issuer (by Global Ultimate Parent) (1) | Weighted Average Credit Quality (2) | December 31, 2012 | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | | Amortized Cost | Unrealized Gain/(Loss) |
| JPMorgan Chase & Co. | AA | \$ 173.3 | \$ 2.8 |
| Lloyd's Banking Group plc | AA- | 169.3 | 8.0 |
| Citigroup Inc. | AA | 167.1 | 6.8 |
| Rabobank Nederland NV | BBB+ | 151.0 | 7.8 |
| National Australia Bank Limited | A- | 141.1 | 7.0 |
| The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. | BBB+ | 130.4 | 11.7 |
| HSBC Holdings plc | A+ | 121.7 | - |
| UBS AG | A- | 118.9 | 3.5 |
| Morgan Stanley | BBB+ | 117.7 | 3.1 |
| Bank of America Corporation | AA | 113.2 | 4.9 |
| The Bank of Nova Scotia | A+ | 103.4 | 3.6 |
| Wells Fargo & Company | AA- | 97.7 | 5.2 |
| Westpac Banking Corporation | A | 92.0 | 6.5 |
| ING Groep N.V. | A+ | 86.1 | 3.1 |
| Credit Suisse Group AG | AA- | 85.7 | 2.4 |
| Commonwealth Bank of Australia | AA+ | 82.6 | 5.4 |
| Standard Chartered plc | AA | 77.3 | 4.3 |
| Nordea Bank AB | A | 77.0 | 2.6 |
| Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce | AA- | 74.0 | 3.0 |
| BNP Paribas | AA | 70.6 | 2.9 |
| Royal Bank of Canada | AA- | 70.2 | 1.9 |
| Bank of Montreal | A+ | 69.5 | 2.6 |
| The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation | A+ | 58.3 | 2.7 |
| Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited | A+ | 57.7 | 2.7 |
| Government of Netherlands (ABN AMRO) | AAA+ | 54.5 | 7.1 |
| Northern Rock PLC | BBB- | 50.9 | 6.3 |
| Legal & General Group PLC | BBB+ | 50.6 | 0.3 |

(1) Includes Covered Bonds.

(2) The credit rating for each asset reflected above was principally determined based on the weighted average rating of the individual securities from Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings. U.S. Agency debt and related mortgage backed securities, whether with implicit or explicit government support, reflects the credit quality rating of the U.S. government for the purpose of these calculations.

Within our corporate financial bond holdings, we are further monitoring exposures to hybrid securities, representing Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities of various financial institutions. The following table summarizes our top ten exposures to hybrid securities:

(U.S. dollars in millions)

| Issuer (by Global Ultimate Parent) | December 31, 2012 | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| | Tier One Amortized Cost | Upper Tier Two Amortized Cost | Total Amortized Cost | Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) |
| Barclays, Plc | \$ 4.8 | \$ 36.1 | \$ 40.9 | \$ (5.4) |
| Zurich Financial Services AG | - | 26.7 | 26.7 | 0.9 |
| Nationwide Building Society | 21.6 | - | 21.6 | (2.7) |
| The British United Provident Association Limited | - | 20.9 | 20.9 | (1.4) |
| National Australia Bank Limited | 20.8 | - | 20.8 | (0.4) |
| JPMorgan Chas & Co. | 20.5 | - | 20.5 | (4.4) |
| Aviva PLC | 5.5 | 13.9 | 19.4 | (1.9) |
| Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. | 19.1 | - | 19.1 | 1.4 |
| Legal & General Group PLC | - | 18.9 | 18.9 | 0.3 |
| The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. | 18.6 | - | 18.6 | 0.7 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Total | <u>\$ 110.9</u> | <u>\$ 116.5</u> | <u>\$ 227.4</u> | <u>\$ (12.9)</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|

At December 31, 2012, the top 10 corporate financial holdings, which exclude government guaranteed and government sponsored enterprises, represented approximately 4.5% of the aggregate fixed income portfolio and approximately 12.4% of all corporate holdings. The top 10 corporate bond holdings listed below represent the direct exposure to the corporations listed below, including their subsidiaries, and

excludes any securitized, credit enhanced and collateralized asset or mortgage-backed securities, cash and cash equivalents, pooled notes and any over-the-counter (“OTC”) derivative counterparty exposures, if applicable, but does include Covered Bonds.

| Top 10 Corporate Financial Holdings (1) | Percentage of Aggregate Fixed Income Portfolio |
|--|---|
| Lloyd’s Banking Group PLC | 0.5 % |
| JPMorgan Chase & Co. | 0.5 % |
| Citigroup Inc. | 0.5 % |
| Rabobank Nederland NV | 0.5 % |
| National Australia Bank Limited | 0.5 % |
| The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc | 0.4 % |
| UBS AG | 0.4 % |
| HSBC Holdings PLC | 0.4 % |
| Morgan Stanley | 0.4 % |
| Bank of America Corporation | 0.4 % |

(1) Corporate issuers include Covered Bonds.

At December 31, 2012, the top 5 corporate sector exposures listed below represented 28.5% of the aggregate fixed income investment portfolio and 79.4% of all corporate holdings.

(U.S. dollars in millions)

| Top 5 Sector Exposures | Carrying Value | Percentage of Aggregate Fixed Income Portfolio |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Financials (1) | \$ 3,507.4 | 10.5 % |
| Consumer, Non-Cyclical | 2,317.7 | 7.0 % |
| Utilities | 1,500.6 | 4.5 % |
| Industrial | 1,082.7 | 3.3 % |
| Communications | 1,067.7 | 3.2 % |
| Total | <u>\$ 9,476.1</u> | <u>28.5 %</u> |

(1) Government-guaranteed securities and Covered Bonds have been excluded from the above figures.

Within our fixed income portfolios, we are further monitoring our exposure to holdings representing risk in certain Euro-zone countries (Greece, Italy, Ireland, Portugal and Spain, collectively “GIIPS”). In particular, the fair values of our holdings representing risk in GIIPS are: government holdings of \$15.4 million, corporate holdings of \$118.3 million (financials \$0.4 million, non-financials \$117.9 million) and structured securities holdings totaling \$9.6 million. The non-financial corporate holdings primarily consist of securities issued by multinational companies with low reliance on local economics and systemically important industries such as utilities and telecoms. For further detail on our exposure to the Euro-zone sovereign debt crisis, please refer to Item 2, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – European Sovereign Debt Crisis.”

We also have exposure to credit risk associated with our mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities. The table below shows the breakdown of the \$9.5 billion structured securities portfolio, of which 79.9% is AAA rated:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions)</i> | Carrying Value | Percentage of Structured Portfolio |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Agency RMBS | \$ 5,255.5 | 55.4 % |
| Other ABS (1) | 1,693.1 | 17.9 % |
| CMBS | 1,090.0 | 11.5 % |
| Non-Agency RMBS | 730.9 | 7.7 % |
| Core CDO (non-ABS CDOs and CLOs) | 709.8 | 7.5 % |
| Total | <u>\$ 9,479.3</u> | <u>100.0 %</u> |

(1) Includes Covered Bonds.

Credit Risk – Other

Credit derivatives are purchased within our investment portfolio and were sold through a limited number of contracts written as part of our previous financial lines business. From time to time, we may purchase credit default swaps to hedge an existing position or concentration of holdings. The credit derivatives are recorded at fair value. For further details with respect to our exposure to credit derivatives, see Item 1, Note 14, “Derivative Instruments,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

We have exposure to many different industries and counterparties, and routinely execute transactions with counterparties in the financial services industry, including brokers and dealers, commercial banks, investment banks, alternatives and other investment funds and other institutions. Many of these transactions expose us to credit risk in the event of default of our counterparty. In addition, with respect to secured transactions, our credit risk may be exacerbated when the collateral held by us cannot be sold or is liquidated at prices not sufficient to recover the full amount of the loan or derivative exposure that is due. We also have exposure to financial institutions in the form of unsecured debt instruments, derivative transactions, revolving credit facility and letter of credit commitments and equity investments. There can be no assurance that any such losses or impairments to the carrying value of these assets would not materially and adversely affect our business and results of operations.

With regard to unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable, we have credit risk should any of our reinsurers be unable or unwilling to settle amounts due to us; however, these exposures are not marked to market. For further information relating to reinsurer credit risk, see Item 2, “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses Recoverable and Reinsurance Balances Receivable.”

We are exposed to credit risk in the event of non-performance by the other parties to our derivative instruments in general; however, we do not anticipate non-performance. The difference between the notional principal amounts and the associated market value is our maximum credit exposure.

Equity Price Risk

Equity price risk is the potential loss arising from changes in the market value of equities. Our equity investment portfolio is exposed to equity price risk. At December 31, 2012, our equity portfolio was approximately \$547.1 million as compared to \$376.6 million at December 31, 2011. This excludes fixed income fund investments of \$101.9 million and \$91.6 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, that generally do not have the risk characteristics of equity investments but are treated as equity investments under U.S. GAAP. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, our direct allocation to equity securities was 1.5% and 1.1%, respectively, of the total investment portfolio (including cash and cash equivalents, accrued investment income and net payable for investments purchased.) We also estimate the equity risk embedded in certain alternative and private investments. Such estimates are derived from market exposures provided to us by certain individual fund investments and/or internal statistical analyses.

Other Market Risks

Our private investment portfolio is invested in limited partnerships and other entities that are not publicly traded. In addition to normal market risks, these positions may also be exposed to liquidity risk, risks related to distressed investments and risks specific to startup or small companies. At December 31, 2012, our exposure to private investments, excluding unfunded commitments, was \$307.5 million, representing 0.8% of the total investment portfolio (including cash and cash equivalents, accrued investment income and net payable for investments purchased) compared to \$288.4 million at December 31, 2011.

Our alternative investment portfolio, which is exposed to equity and credit risk as well as certain other market risks, had a total exposure of \$1,322.1 million representing approximately 3.9% of the investment portfolio (including cash and cash equivalents, accrued investment income and net payable for investments purchased) at December 31, 2012, as compared to December 31, 2011, when we had a total exposure of \$1,027.2 million representing approximately 3.1% of the fixed income investment portfolio.

At December 31, 2012, bond and stock index futures outstanding had a net long position of \$46.5 million as compared to a net long position of \$12.6 million at December 31, 2011. We may reduce our exposure to these futures through offsetting transactions, including options and forwards.

As noted above, we also invest in certain derivative positions that can be impacted by market value movements. For further details on derivative instruments, see Item 1, Note 14, “Derivative Instruments,” to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Sensitivity and Value-at-Risk Analysis

Value-at-Risk (“VaR”) is central to our market risk management framework for the investment portfolio. VaR is a statistical risk measure representing a specific percentile of estimated potential mark-to-market portfolio returns in normal market conditions over a specific time horizon.

We estimate the VaR of the investment portfolio, the P&C investment portfolio and the Life operations investment portfolio, using a one year holding period and a 95% level of confidence. This means that, on average, we could expect mark-to-market losses greater than predicted by the VaR results 5% of the time, or once every 20 years.

The calculation of VaR is performed monthly using an analytical, or variance-covariance approach, based on the linear sensitivity of the investment portfolio and individual securities to a broad set of systematic market risk factors and idiosyncratic risk factors. We estimate the parametric sensitivity of every security in the investment portfolio to changes in key interest rates, spreads, implied volatility and equities. The parametric exposures are summed using the appropriate investment portfolio weights to compute the investment portfolio’s exposure to these systematic and idiosyncratic market risk factors.

The modeling of risk, as measured by VaR, involves a number of assumptions and approximations. While we believe that our assumptions and approximations are appropriate, there is no uniform industry methodology for calculating VaR. We note that different VaR results can be produced for the same portfolio dependent not only on the approach used but also on the assumptions employed when implementing the approach.

The VaR approach uses historical data to determine the sensitivity of each of the underlying securities to the risk factors incorporated into the pricing models employed in the VaR estimates. In calculating these sensitivities, greater importance is placed on the more recent data points and information. Since the VaR approach is based on historical positions and market data, VaR results should not be viewed as an absolute and predictive gauge of future financial performance or as a way for us to predict risk. There is no assurance that our actual future losses will not exceed our VaR and we expect that 5% of the time the VaR will be exceeded.

Additionally, we acknowledge the fact that risks associated with abnormal market events can be significantly different from the VaR results and these are by definition not reflected or assessed in the VaR analysis, rather VaR is evaluated using our stress testing framework.

The table below summarizes our assessment of the estimated impact on the value of our investment portfolio at December 31, 2012 associated with an immediate and hypothetical: +100bps increase in interest rates, a -10% decline in equity markets, a +100bps widening in spreads and a +10% widening in spreads. The table also reports the 95%, 1-year VaRs for our investment portfolios at December 31, 2012, excluding foreign exchange.

The interest rate, spread risk, and VaR referenced in the table below include the impact of market movements on our held to maturity fixed maturities from our Life operations investment portfolio. While the market value of these holdings is sensitive to prevailing interest rates and credit spreads, our book value is not impacted as these holdings are carried at amortized cost. At December 31, 2012, if we were to exclude these impacts in order to present the impact of these risks to our book value, the interest rate risk would be reduced by approximately \$331.8 million, absolute spread risk would be reduced by approximately \$225.6 million, relative spread risk would be reduced by approximately \$24.4 million, and VaR would be reduced by approximately \$288.0 million.

The table below excludes the impact of foreign exchange rate risk on our investment portfolio. Our investment strategy incorporates asset-liability management, and, accordingly, any foreign exchange movements impact the assets and liabilities approximately equally. See “Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk,” for further details. We consider that the investment portfolio VaR estimated results as well as the P&C and Life operations investment portfolios’ VaR estimated results excluding foreign exchange rate risk

are the more relevant and appropriate metrics to consider when assessing the actual risk of the investment portfolio.

The estimated results below also do not include any risk contributions from our various operating affiliates (strategic, investment manager or financial operating affiliates) or certain other investments that are carried at amortized cost.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions)</i> | Interest Rate Risk (1) | Equity Risk (2) | Absolute Spread Risk (3) | Relative Spread Risk (4) | VaR (5), (6) |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|---------------------|
| Total Investment Portfolio (7) | \$ (1,446.2) | \$ (121.6) | \$ (1,385.0) | \$ (162.7) | \$ 852.0 |
| A. P&C Investment Portfolio | \$ (847.7) | \$ (121.6) | \$ (871.3) | \$ (80.3) | \$ 425.5 |
| (I) P&C Fixed Income Portfolio | (847.7) | – | (871.3) | (80.3) | 446.8 |
| (a) Cash & Short Term Investments | (9.7) | – | (8.2) | (0.2) | 2.2 |
| (b) Total Government Related | (320.2) | – | (222.1) | (9.5) | 162.6 |
| (c) Total Corporate Credit | (289.5) | – | (320.0) | (34.2) | 174.8 |
| (d) Total Structured Securities | (228.3) | – | (321.1) | (36.3) | 167.0 |
| (II) P&C Non-Fixed Income Portfolio | – | (121.6) | – | – | 137.2 |
| (e) Equity Portfolio | – | (55.6) | – | – | 71.0 |
| (f) Alternative Portfolio | – | (31.7) | – | – | 62.6 |
| (g) Private Investments | – | (34.3) | – | – | 51.9 |
| (h) Other | – | – | – | – | 2.2 |
| B. Life Operations Investment Portfolio | \$ (591.2) | \$ – | \$ (477.5) | \$ (78.4) | \$ 490.9 |
| (III) Life Fixed Income Portfolio | (591.2) | – | (477.5) | (78.4) | 490.9 |
| (i) Cash & Short Term Investments | (0.1) | – | – | – | 0.1 |
| (j) Total Government Related | (241.3) | – | (91.7) | (5.0) | 202.9 |
| (k) Total Corporate Credit | (286.6) | – | (312.7) | (57.9) | 243.9 |
| (l) Total Structured Securities | (63.3) | – | (73.1) | (15.6) | 54.0 |
| (IV) Life Non-Fixed Income Portfolio | – | – | – | – | – |

- (1) The estimated impact on the fair value of our fixed income portfolio of an immediate hypothetical +100 bps adverse parallel shift in global bond curves.
- (2) The estimated impact on the fair value of our investment portfolio of an immediate hypothetical -10% change in the value of equity exposures in our equity portfolio, certain equity-sensitive alternative investments and private equity investments. This includes our estimate of equity risk embedded in the alternatives and private investment portfolio with such estimates utilizing market exposures provided to us by certain individual fund investments, internal statistical analyses, and/or various assumptions regarding illiquidity and concentrations.
- (3) The estimated impact on the fair value of our fixed income portfolio of an immediate hypothetical +100 basis point increase in all global government related, corporate and structured security spreads to which our fixed income portfolio is exposed. This excludes exposure to credit spreads in our alternative investments, private investments and counterparty exposure.
- (4) The estimated impact on the fair value of our fixed income portfolio of an immediate hypothetical +10% increase in all global government related, corporate and structured security spreads to which our fixed income portfolio is exposed. This excludes exposure to credit spreads in our alternative investments, private investments and counterparty exposure.
- (5) The VaR results are based on a 95% confidence interval, with a one-year holding period, excluding foreign exchange rate risk. Our investment portfolio VaR at December 31, 2012 is not necessarily indicative of future VaR levels as these are based on statistical estimates of possible price changes and, therefore, exclude other sources of investment return such as coupon and dividend income.
- (6) The VaR results are the standalone VaRs, based on the prescribed methodology, for each component of our Total Investment Portfolio. The standalone VaRs of the individual components are non-additive, with the difference between the summation of the individual component VaRs and their respective aggregations being due to diversification benefits across the individual components. In the case of the VaR results for our Total Investment Portfolio, the results also include the impact associated with our Business and Other Investments.
- (7) Our Total Investment Portfolio comprises our P&C Investment Portfolio and Life Operations Investment Portfolio as well as our Business and other investments that do not form part of our P&C Investment Portfolio or Life Operations Investment Portfolio. The individual results reported in the above table for our Total Investment Portfolio therefore represent the aggregate impact on our P&C Investment Portfolio, Life Operations Investment Portfolio and the majority of our other investments.

Stress Testing

VaR does not provide the means to estimate the magnitude of the loss in the 5% of occurrences when we expect the VaR level to be exceeded. To complement the VaR analysis based on normal market environments, we consider the impact on the investment portfolio in several different stress scenarios to analyze the effect of unusual market conditions. We establish certain stress scenarios that are applied to the

actual investment portfolio. As these stress scenarios and estimated gains and losses are based on scenarios established by us, they will not necessarily reflect future stress events or gains and losses from such events. The results of the stress scenarios are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure they are appropriate, based on current shareholders' equity, market conditions and our total risk tolerance. It is important to note that when assessing the risk of our investment portfolio, we do not take into account either the value or risk associated with the liabilities arising from our operations.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

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XL GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2012 and 2011

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except share data)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Investments: | | |
| Fixed maturities, at fair value (amortized cost: 2012: \$26,544,806; 2011: \$25,771,715) | \$ 27,846,920 | \$ 26,190,025 |
| Equity securities, at fair value (cost: 2012: \$617,486; 2011: \$480,685) | 649,359 | 468,197 |
| Short-term investments, at fair value (amortized cost: 2012: \$322,563; 2011: \$359,378) | 322,703 | 359,063 |
| Total investments available for sale | \$ 28,818,982 | \$ 27,017,285 |
| Fixed maturities, held to maturity at amortized cost (fair value: 2012: \$3,262,804; 2011: \$2,895,688) | 2,814,447 | 2,668,978 |
| Investments in affiliates | 1,126,875 | 1,052,729 |
| Other investments | 1,219,879 | 985,262 |
| Total investments | \$ 33,980,183 | \$ 31,724,254 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2,618,378 | 3,825,125 |
| Accrued investment income | 342,778 | 331,758 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | 675,705 | 647,113 |
| Ceded unearned premiums | 587,909 | 596,895 |
| Premiums receivable | 2,568,861 | 2,411,611 |
| Reinsurance balances receivable | 58,428 | 220,017 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 3,382,101 | 3,654,948 |
| Receivable from investments sold | 16,002 | 59,727 |
| Goodwill and other intangible assets | 408,527 | 407,321 |
| Deferred tax asset | 166,142 | 115,601 |
| Other assets | 582,765 | 670,895 |
| Total assets | \$ 45,387,779 | \$ 44,665,265 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses | \$ 20,484,121 | \$ 20,613,901 |
| Deposit liabilities | 1,551,398 | 1,608,108 |
| Future policy benefit reserves | 4,812,045 | 4,845,394 |
| Unearned premiums | 3,755,920 | 3,555,310 |
| Notes payable and debt | 1,672,778 | 2,275,327 |
| Reinsurance balances payable | 143,112 | 90,552 |
| Payable for investments purchased | 102,112 | 58,494 |
| Deferred tax liability | 141,803 | 91,104 |
| Other liabilities | 868,093 | 770,945 |
| Total liabilities | \$ 33,531,382 | \$ 33,909,135 |
| Commitments and Contingencies | | |
| Shareholders' Equity: | | |
| Ordinary shares, 999,990,000 authorized, par value \$0.01; issued and outstanding: (2012: 298,681,573; 2011: 315,645,796) | \$ 2,987 | \$ 3,156 |
| Additional paid in capital | 8,584,753 | 8,938,679 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 1,520,011 | 583,064 |
| Retained earnings (deficit) | 402,321 | (113,241) |
| Shareholders' equity attributable to XL Group plc | \$ 10,510,072 | \$ 9,411,658 |
| Non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries | 1,346,325 | 1,344,472 |
| Total shareholders' equity | \$ 11,856,397 | \$ 10,756,130 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ 45,387,779 | \$ 44,665,265 |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XL GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except per share data)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Revenues: | | | |
| Net premiums earned | \$ 6,090,441 | \$ 5,690,130 | \$ 5,414,061 |
| Net investment income | 1,012,348 | 1,137,769 | 1,198,038 |
| Realized investment gains (losses): | | | |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments sold | 94,810 | (28,187) | (65,670) |
| Other-than-temporary impairments on investments | (54,306) | (174,102) | (170,643) |
| Other-than-temporary impairments on investments transferred to (from) other comprehensive income | (26,406) | 13,930 | (34,490) |
| Total net realized gains (losses) on investments | \$ 14,098 | \$ (188,359) | \$ (270,803) |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | 5,221 | (10,738) | (33,843) |
| Income (loss) from investment fund affiliates | 58,504 | 26,253 | 51,102 |
| Fee income and other | 49,868 | 41,748 | 40,027 |
| Total revenues | \$ 7,230,480 | \$ 6,696,803 | \$ 6,398,582 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Net losses and loss expenses incurred | \$ 3,765,482 | \$ 4,078,391 | \$ 3,211,800 |
| Claims and policy benefits | 486,198 | 535,074 | 513,833 |
| Acquisition costs | 913,492 | 826,411 | 788,258 |
| Operating expenses | 1,173,951 | 1,083,917 | 972,963 |
| Exchange (gains) losses | 10,546 | (40,640) | (10,161) |
| Interest expense | 172,205 | 205,592 | 213,643 |
| Impairment of goodwill | – | 429,020 | – |
| Loss on termination of guarantee | – | – | 23,500 |
| Total expenses | \$ 6,521,874 | \$ 7,117,765 | \$ 5,713,836 |
| Income (loss) before income tax and income (loss) from operating affiliates | \$ 708,606 | \$ (420,962) | \$ 684,746 |
| Income (loss) from operating affiliates | 55,810 | 76,786 | 121,372 |
| Provision (benefit) for income tax | 34,028 | 59,707 | 162,737 |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 730,388 | \$ (403,883) | \$ 643,381 |
| Non-controlling interests | (79,254) | (70,877) | (39,831) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 603,550 |
| Preference share dividends | – | – | (34,694) |
| Gain on redemption of Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares | – | – | 16,616 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 585,472 |
| Weighted average ordinary shares and ordinary share equivalents outstanding – basic | 307,372 | 312,896 | 336,283 |
| Weighted average ordinary shares and ordinary share equivalents outstanding – diluted | 310,282 | 312,896 | 337,709 |
| Earnings (loss) per ordinary share and ordinary share equivalent – basic | \$ 2.12 | \$ (1.52) | \$ 1.74 |
| Earnings (loss) per ordinary share and ordinary share equivalent – diluted | \$ 2.10 | \$ (1.52) | \$ 1.73 |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XL GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 603,550 |
| Impact of adoption of new authoritative embedded derivative guidance, net of taxes | – | – | 31,917 |
| Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of tax | 841,213 | 446,427 | 997,066 |
| Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on affiliate and other investments, net of tax | 46,163 | 25,269 | 44,314 |
| Change in OTTI losses recognized in other comprehensive income, net of tax | 67,280 | 39,456 | 124,906 |
| Change in underfunded pension liability | (9,985) | (2,622) | (2,619) |
| Change in net unrealized gain (loss) on future policy benefit reserves | – | – | (3,714) |
| Change in value of cash flow hedge | 439 | 439 | 439 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (8,163) | (26,700) | 50,953 |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | <u>\$ 1,588,081</u> | <u>\$ 7,509</u> | <u>\$ 1,846,812</u> |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XL GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ordinary Shares: | | | |
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ 3,156 | \$ 3,165 | \$ 3,421 |
| Issuance of ordinary shares | 10 | 307 | – |
| Buybacks of ordinary shares | (183) | (317) | (256) |
| Exercise of stock options | 4 | 1 | – |
| Balance – end of year | \$ 2,987 | \$ 3,156 | \$ 3,165 |
| Series E preference ordinary shares: | | | |
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 10 |
| Transfer to non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries | – | – | (10) |
| Balance – end of year | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – |
| Additional Paid in Capital: | | | |
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ 8,938,679 | \$ 8,993,016 | \$ 10,474,688 |
| Issuance of ordinary shares | 1,387 | 572,708 | 1,109 |
| Buybacks of ordinary shares | (402,747) | (666,705) | (521,664) |
| Transfer to non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries | – | – | (999,990) |
| Exercise of stock options | 5,545 | 1,333 | 1,182 |
| Share-based compensation expense | 41,889 | 38,327 | 37,691 |
| Balance – end of year | \$ 8,584,753 | \$ 8,938,679 | \$ 8,993,016 |
| Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss): | | | |
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ 583,064 | \$ 100,795 | \$ (1,142,467) |
| Impact of adoption of new authoritative embedded derivative guidance, net of taxes | – | – | 31,917 |
| Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of tax | 841,213 | 446,427 | 997,066 |
| Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on affiliate and other investments, net of tax | 46,163 | 25,269 | 44,314 |
| Change in OTTI losses recognized in other comprehensive income, net of tax | 67,280 | 39,456 | 124,906 |
| Change in underfunded pension liability | (9,985) | (2,622) | (2,619) |
| Change in net unrealized gain (loss) on future policy reserves | – | – | (3,714) |
| Change in value of cash flow hedge | 439 | 439 | 439 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (8,163) | (26,700) | 50,953 |
| Balance – end of year | \$ 1,520,011 | \$ 583,064 | \$ 100,795 |
| Retained Earnings (Deficit): | | | |
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ (113,241) | \$ 500,497 | \$ 81,180 |
| Impact of adoption of new authoritative embedded derivative guidance, net of taxes | – | – | (31,917) |
| Net income attributable to XL Group plc | 651,134 | (474,760) | 603,550 |
| Dividends on ordinary shares | (135,572) | (138,978) | (134,238) |
| Dividends on Redeemable Series C and Series E preference ordinary shares | – | – | (34,694) |
| Gain on redemption of Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares | – | – | 16,616 |
| Balance – end of year | \$ 402,321 | \$ (113,241) | \$ 500,497 |
| Non-controlling Interest in Equity of Consolidated Subsidiaries: | | | |
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ 1,344,472 | \$ 1,002,296 | \$ 2,305 |
| Non-controlling interests – contribution | 1,500 | – | – |
| Non-controlling interests | 113 | (83) | 4 |
| Non-controlling interest share in change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) | 240 | (2,241) | (13) |
| Transfer from Series E preference ordinary shares and additional paid in capital | – | – | 1,000,000 |
| Issuance of Series D preference ordinary shares | – | 350,000 | – |
| Purchase of Series D preference ordinary shares | – | (5,000) | – |
| Purchase of Series E preference ordinary shares | – | (500) | – |
| Balance – end of year | \$ 1,346,325 | \$ 1,344,472 | \$ 1,002,296 |
| Total Shareholders' Equity | \$ 11,856,397 | \$ 10,756,130 | \$ 10,599,769 |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XL GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Cash flows provided by (used in) operating activities: | | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 730,388 | \$ (403,883) | \$ 643,381 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: | | | |
| Net realized (gains) losses on investments | (14,098) | 188,359 | 270,803 |
| Net realized and unrealized (gains) losses on derivative instruments | (5,221) | 10,738 | 33,843 |
| Amortization of premiums (discounts) on fixed maturities | 169,353 | 120,130 | 60,869 |
| (Income) loss from investment and operating affiliates | (114,314) | (103,039) | (172,474) |
| Impairment of goodwill | – | 429,020 | – |
| Share based compensation | 47,472 | 41,225 | 44,057 |
| Depreciation | 57,280 | 49,800 | 40,423 |
| Accretion of deposit liabilities | 81,269 | 82,799 | 104,311 |
| Changes in: | | | |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses | (287,972) | 243,040 | (207,526) |
| Future policy benefit reserves | (187,400) | (171,618) | (197,570) |
| Unearned premiums | 182,963 | 95,393 | (133,955) |
| Premiums receivable | (127,633) | (31,286) | 94,649 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 305,675 | (2,168) | (74,242) |
| Ceded unearned premiums | 14,923 | 21,532 | 83,246 |
| Reinsurance balances receivable | 162,280 | (49,286) | 201,479 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | (649) | (41,881) | 12,235 |
| Reinsurance balances payable | 48,159 | (31,846) | (253,213) |
| Deferred tax asset – net | (28,556) | (43,583) | 104,111 |
| Derivatives | 7,252 | 93,796 | 123,027 |
| Other assets | 22,847 | (24,747) | (68,513) |
| Other liabilities | 50,342 | (93,323) | (32,146) |
| Other | (58,254) | (51,970) | (82,039) |
| Total adjustments | \$ 325,718 | \$ 731,085 | \$ (48,625) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | \$ 1,056,106 | \$ 327,202 | \$ 594,756 |
| Cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities: | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed maturities and short-term investments | \$ 3,604,792 | \$ 5,091,375 | \$ 5,206,690 |
| Proceeds from redemption of fixed maturities and short-term investments | 4,579,651 | 3,595,922 | 2,851,815 |
| Proceeds from sale of equity securities | 221,617 | 205,736 | 115,839 |
| Purchases of fixed maturities and short-term investments | (8,902,879) | (7,529,962) | (8,098,862) |
| Purchases of equity securities | (362,021) | (631,169) | (157,963) |
| Investment affiliates, net | (4,652) | 136,281 | 319,108 |
| Other investments, net | (79,101) | (36,080) | 24,854 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | \$ (942,593) | \$ 832,103 | \$ 261,481 |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XL GROUP PLC
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities: | | | |
| Proceeds from issuance of ordinary shares and exercise of stock options | \$ 5,413 | \$ 576,333 | \$ 1,182 |
| Proceeds from issuance of Series D preference ordinary shares | – | 349,180 | – |
| Buybacks of ordinary shares | (402,930) | (667,022) | (522,024) |
| Repurchase of Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares | – | (71,801) | (94,157) |
| Repurchase of Series D preference ordinary shares | – | (3,650) | – |
| Repurchase of Series E preference ordinary shares | – | (465) | – |
| Dividends paid on ordinary shares | (134,799) | (138,050) | (133,748) |
| Dividends paid on preference ordinary shares | – | – | (40,385) |
| Distributions to non-controlling interests | (78,987) | (71,483) | (37,392) |
| Proceeds from issuance of debt | – | 395,859 | – |
| Contribution from non-controlling interest | 1,500 | – | – |
| Repayment of debt | (600,000) | (575,000) | – |
| Deposit liabilities | (134,950) | (152,617) | (646,819) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | \$ (1,344,753) | \$ (358,716) | \$ (1,473,343) |
| Effects of exchange rate changes on foreign currency cash | 24,493 | 1,668 | (3,723) |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | \$ (1,206,747) | \$ 802,257 | \$ (620,829) |
| Cash and cash equivalents – beginning of period | 3,825,125 | 3,022,868 | 3,643,697 |
| Cash and cash equivalents – end of period | <u>\$ 2,618,378</u> | <u>\$ 3,825,125</u> | <u>\$ 3,022,868</u> |
| Net taxes paid | \$ 34,465 | \$ 106,666 | \$ 75,429 |
| Interest paid on notes payable and debt | \$ 116,689 | \$ 149,133 | \$ 162,086 |

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

1. General

XL Group plc, through its operating subsidiaries (collectively the “Company” or “XL”), is a leading provider of insurance and reinsurance coverages to industrial, commercial and professional firms, insurance companies and other enterprises on a worldwide basis. The Company and its various subsidiaries operate globally in 24 countries, through its three business segments: Insurance, Reinsurance and Life operations. These segments are further discussed in Note 4, “Segment Information.”

For periods prior to July 1, 2010, unless the context otherwise indicates, references herein to the “Company” are to, and these financial statements include the accounts of, XLIT Ltd. (formerly, XL Capital Ltd), a Cayman Islands exempted company (“XL-Cayman”), and its consolidated subsidiaries. For periods subsequent to July 1, 2010, unless the context otherwise indicates, references herein to the “Company” are to, and these financial statements include the accounts of, XL Group plc, an Irish public limited company (“XL-Ireland”), and its consolidated subsidiaries.

On July 1, 2010, XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman completed a redomestication transaction in which all of the ordinary shares of XL-Cayman were exchanged for all of the ordinary shares of XL-Ireland (the “Redomestication”). As a result, XL-Cayman became a wholly owned subsidiary of XL-Ireland. On July 23, 2010, the Irish High Court approved XL-Ireland’s creation of distributable reserves, subject to the completion of certain formalities under Irish Company law. These formalities were completed in early August 2010.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Preparation and Consolidation

These consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and all of its subsidiaries. These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). To facilitate period-to-period comparisons, certain reclassifications have been made to prior year consolidated financial statement amounts to conform to current year presentation. There was no effect on net income from this change in presentation.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. The Company’s most significant areas of estimation include:

- unpaid losses and loss expenses and unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable;
- future policy benefit reserves;
- valuation and other-than-temporary impairments of investments;
- income taxes;
- reinsurance premium estimates; and
- goodwill carrying value.

While management believes that the amounts included in the consolidated financial statements reflect the Company’s best estimates and assumptions, actual results could differ from these estimates.

(b) Fair Value Measurements

Financial Instruments Subject to Fair Value Measurements

Accounting guidance over fair value measurements requires that a fair value measurement reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability based on the best information available. Assumptions include the risks inherent in a particular valuation technique (such as a pricing model) and/or the risks inherent in the inputs to the model. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(b) Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

between market participants at the measurement date (the “exit price”). Instruments that the Company owns (“long positions”) are marked to bid prices and instruments that the Company has sold but not yet purchased (“short positions”) are marked to offer prices. Fair value measurements are not adjusted for transaction costs.

Basis of Fair Value Measurement

Fair value measurements accounting guidance also establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to the respective valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). An asset or liability’s classification within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of significant input to its valuation. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described further below:

- **Level 1**—Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (unadjusted); no blockage factors.
- **Level 2**—Other observable inputs (quoted prices in markets that are not active or inputs that are observable either directly or indirectly) —include quoted prices for similar assets/liabilities (adjusted) other than quoted prices in Level 1; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.
- **Level 3**—Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities. Unobservable inputs reflect the reporting entity’s own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Level 3 assets and liabilities include financial instruments whose values are determined using pricing models, discounted cash flow methodologies, or similar techniques, as well as instruments for which the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation.

Details on assets and liabilities that have been included under the requirements of authoritative guidance on fair value measurements to illustrate the bases for determining the fair values of these items held by the Company are detailed in each respective significant accounting policy section of this note.

Fair values of investments and derivatives are based on published market values if available, estimates of fair values of similar issues, or estimates of fair values provided by independent pricing services and brokers. Fair values of financial instruments for which quoted market prices are not available or for which the company believes current trading conditions represent distressed markets are based on estimates using present value or other valuation techniques. The fair values estimated using such techniques are significantly affected by the assumptions used, including the discount rates and the estimated amounts and timing of future cash flows. In such instances, the derived fair value estimates cannot be substantiated by comparison to independent markets and are not necessarily indicative of the amounts that would be realized in a current market exchange.

(c) Total Investments

Investments Available For Sale

Investments that are considered available for sale (comprised of the Company’s fixed maturities, equity securities and short-term investments) are carried at fair value. The fair values for available for sale investments are generally sourced from third parties. The fair values of fixed income securities are based upon quoted market values where available, “evaluated bid” prices provided by third party pricing services (“pricing services”) where quoted market values are not available, or by reference to broker or underwriter

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(c) Total Investments (Continued)

bid indications where pricing services do not provide coverage for a particular security. To the extent the Company believes current trading conditions represent distressed transactions, the Company may elect to utilize internally generated models. The pricing services use market approaches to valuations using primarily Level 2 inputs in the vast majority of valuations, or some form of discounted cash flow analysis, to obtain investment values for a small percentage of fixed income securities for which they provide a price. Pricing services indicate that they will only produce an estimate of fair value if there is objectively verifiable information available to produce a valuation. Standard inputs to the valuations provided by the pricing services listed in approximate order of priority for use when available include: reported trades, benchmark yields, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers, and reference data. The pricing services may prioritize inputs differently on any given day for any security, and not all inputs listed are available for use in the evaluation process on any given day for each security evaluation; however, the pricing services also monitor market indicators, customer feedback through a price challenge process and industry and economic events. Information of this nature is a trigger to acquire further corroborating market data. When these inputs are not available, they identify “buckets” of similar securities (allocated by asset class types, sectors, sub-sectors, contractual cash flows/structure, and credit rating characteristics) and apply some form of matrix or other modeled pricing to determine an appropriate security value which represents their best estimate as to what a buyer in the marketplace would pay for a security in a current sale. While the Company receives values for the majority of the investment securities it holds from pricing services, it is ultimately management’s responsibility to determine whether the values received and recorded in the financial statements are representative of appropriate fair value measurements. It is common industry practice to utilize pricing services as a source for determining the fair values of investments where the pricing services are able to obtain sufficient market corroborating information to allow them to produce a valuation at a reporting date. In addition, in the majority of cases, although a value may be obtained from a particular pricing service for a security or class of similar securities, these values are corroborated against values provided by other pricing services.

Broker/dealer quotations are used to value fixed maturities where prices are unavailable from pricing services due to factors specific to the security such as limited liquidity, lack of current transactions, or trades only taking place in privately negotiated transactions. These are considered Level 3 valuations, as significant inputs utilized by brokers may be difficult to corroborate with observable market data, or sufficient information regarding the specific inputs utilized by the broker was not available to support a Level 2 classification.

Prices provided by independent pricing services and independent broker quotes can vary widely even for the same security. The use of different methodologies and assumptions may have a material effect on the estimated fair value amounts.

The net unrealized gain or loss on investments, net of tax, is included in “accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).”

Short-term investments include investments due to mature within one year from the date of purchase and are valued using the same external factors and in the same manner as fixed income securities.

Equity securities include investments in open end mutual funds and shares of publicly traded alternative funds. The fair value of equity securities is based upon quoted market values (Level 1), or monthly net asset value statements provided by the investment managers upon which subscriptions and redemptions can be executed (Level 2).

All investment transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses on sales of equities and fixed income investments are determined on a first-in, first-out basis. Investment income is recognized when earned and includes interest and dividend income together with the amortization of premium and discount on fixed maturities and short-term investments, and is recorded net of related investment expenses. Amortization of discounts on fixed maturities includes amortization to expected

XL GROUP PLC
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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(c) Total Investments (Continued)

recovery values for investments that have previously been recorded as other than temporarily impaired. For mortgage-backed securities, and any other holdings for which there is a prepayment risk, prepayment assumptions are evaluated and revised as necessary. Prepayment fees or call premiums that are only payable to the Company when a security is called prior to its maturity are earned when received and reflected in net investment income.

Investments Held to Maturity

Investments classified as held to maturity include securities for which the Company has the ability and intent to hold to maturity and are carried at amortized cost. For details see Note 5, "Investments."

Investments In Affiliates

Investments in which the Company has significant influence over the operating and financial policies of the investee are classified as investments in affiliates on the Company's balance sheet and are accounted for under the equity method of accounting. Under this method, the Company records its proportionate share of income or loss from such investments in its results for the period as well as its portion of movements in certain of the investee shareholders' equity balances. When financial statements of the affiliate are not available on a timely basis to record the Company's share of income or loss for the same reporting periods as the Company, the most recently available financial statements are used. This lag in reporting is applied consistently.

The Company generally records its alternative and private equity fund affiliates on a one-month and three-month lag, respectively, and its operating affiliates on a three-month lag. Significant influence is generally deemed to exist where the Company has an investment of 20% or more in the common stock of a corporation or an investment of 3% or more in closed end funds, limited partnerships, LLCs or similar investment vehicles. Significant influence is considered for other strategic investments on a case-by-case basis. Investments in affiliates are not subject to fair value measurement guidance as they are not considered to be fair value measured investments under U.S. GAAP. However, impairments associated with investments in affiliates that are deemed to be other-than-temporary are calculated in accordance with fair value measurement guidance and appropriate disclosures included within the financial statements during the period the losses are recorded.

Other Investments

Contained within this asset class are equity interests in investment funds, limited partnerships and unrated tranches of collateralized debt obligations for which the Company does not have sufficient rights or ownership interests to follow the equity method of accounting. The Company accounts for equity securities that do not have readily determinable market values at estimated fair value as it has no significant influence over these entities. Also included within other investments are structured transactions which are carried at amortized cost.

Fair values for other investments, principally other direct equity investments, investment funds and limited partnerships, are primarily based on the net asset value provided by the investment manager, the general partner or the respective entity, recent financial information, available market data and, in certain cases, management judgment may be required. These entities generally carry their trading positions and investments, the majority of which have underlying securities valued using Level 1 or Level 2 inputs, at fair value as determined by their respective investment managers; accordingly, these investments are generally classified as Level 2. Private equity investments are classified as Level 3. The net unrealized gain or loss on investments, net of tax, is included in "Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)." Any

XL GROUP PLC
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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(c) Total Investments (Continued)

unrealized loss in value considered by management to be other-than-temporary is charged to income in the period that it is determined.

Overseas deposits include investments in private funds related to Lloyd's syndicates in which the underlying instruments are primarily cash equivalents. The funds themselves do not trade on an exchange and therefore are not included within available for sale securities. Also included in overseas deposits are restricted cash and cash equivalent balances held by Lloyd's syndicates for solvency purposes. Given the restricted nature of these cash balances, they are not included within the cash and cash equivalents line in the balance sheet. Each of these investment types is considered a Level 2 valuation.

The Company historically participated in structured transactions that include cash loans supporting project finance transactions, providing liquidity facility financing to a structured project deal in 2009 and the Company also invested in a payment obligation with an insurance company. These transactions are carried at amortized cost. For further details see Note 3, "Fair Value Measurements," and Note 7, "Other Investments."

(d) Premiums and Acquisition Costs

Insurance premiums written are recorded in accordance with the terms of the underlying policies. Reinsurance premiums written are recorded at the inception of the policy and are estimated based upon information received from ceding companies and any subsequent differences arising on such estimates are recorded in the period they are determined.

Premiums are earned on a pro-rata basis over the period the coverage is provided. Unearned premiums represent the portion of premiums written applicable to the unexpired terms of policies in force. Net premiums earned are presented after deductions for reinsurance ceded, as applicable.

Mandatory reinstatement premiums are recognized and earned at the time a loss event occurs.

Life and annuity premiums from long duration contracts that transfer significant mortality or morbidity risks are recognized as revenue and earned when due from policyholders. Life and annuity premiums from long duration contracts that do not subject the Company to risks arising from policyholder mortality or morbidity are accounted for as investment contracts and presented within deposit liabilities.

The Company has periodically written retroactive loss portfolio transfer ("LPT") contracts. These contracts are evaluated to determine whether they meet the established criteria for reinsurance accounting, and, if so, at inception, written premiums are fully earned and corresponding losses and loss expense recognized. The contracts can cause significant variances in gross premiums written, net premiums written, net premiums earned, and net incurred losses in the years in which they are written. Reinsurance contracts sold not meeting the established criteria for reinsurance accounting are recorded using the deposit method.

Acquisition costs, which vary with and are directly related to the acquisition of policies, consist primarily of commissions paid to brokers and cedants, and are deferred and amortized over the period that the premiums are earned. Acquisition costs are shown net of commissions earned on reinsurance ceded. Future earned premiums, the anticipated losses and other costs (and in the case of a premium deficiency, investment income) related to those premiums, are also considered in determining the level of acquisition costs to be deferred.

(e) Reinsurance

In the normal course of business, the Company seeks to reduce the potential amount of loss arising from claims events by reinsuring certain levels of risk assumed in various areas of exposure with other insurers or reinsurers. Reinsurance premiums ceded are expensed (and any commissions recorded thereon are earned) on a monthly pro-rata basis over the period the reinsurance coverage is provided. Ceded unearned reinsurance premiums represent the portion of premiums ceded applicable to the unexpired term of

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(e) Reinsurance (Continued)

policies in force. Mandatory reinstatement premiums ceded are recorded at the time a loss event occurs. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the claim liability associated with the reinsured policy. Provisions are made for estimated unrecoverable reinsurance.

(f) Fee Income and Other

Fee income and other includes fees received for insurance and product structuring services provided and is earned over the service period of the contract. Any adjustments to fees earned or the service period are reflected in income in the period when determined.

(g) Other-Than-Temporary Impairments (“OTTI”) of Available for Sale and Held to Maturity Securities

The Company’s process for identifying declines in the fair value of investments that are other-than-temporary involves consideration of several factors. These primary factors include (i) an analysis of the liquidity, business prospects and financial condition of the issuer including consideration of credit ratings, (ii) the significance of the decline, (iii) an analysis of the collateral structure and other credit support, as applicable, of the securities in question, and (iv) for debt securities, whether the Company intends to sell such securities. In addition, the authoritative guidance requires that OTTI for certain asset backed and mortgage backed securities is recognized if the fair value of the security is less than its discounted cash flow value and there has been a decrease in the present value of the expected cash flows since the last reporting period. Where the Company’s analysis of the above factors results in the Company’s conclusion that declines in fair values are other-than-temporary, the cost of the security is written down to discounted cash flow and a portion of the previously unrealized loss is therefore realized in the period such determination is made.

If the Company intends to sell an impaired debt security, or it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, the impairment is other-than-temporary and is recognized currently in earnings in an amount equal to the entire difference between fair value and amortized cost.

In instances in which the Company determines that a credit loss exists but the Company does not intend to sell the security, and it is not more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell the security before the anticipated recovery of its remaining amortized cost basis, the OTTI is separated into (1) the amount of the total impairment related to the credit loss and (2) the amount of the total impairment related to all other factors (i.e. the noncredit portion). The amount of the total OTTI related to the credit loss is recognized in earnings and the amount of the total OTTI related to all other factors is recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss. The total OTTI is presented in the income statement with an offset for the amount of the total OTTI that is recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss. Absent the intent or requirement to sell a security, if a credit loss does not exist, any impairment is considered to be temporary.

The noncredit portion of any OTTI losses on securities classified as available for sale is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income with an offsetting adjustment to the carrying value of the security. The fair value adjustment could increase or decrease the carrying value of the security. The noncredit portion of any OTTI losses recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss for debt securities classified as held to maturity would be accreted over the remaining life of the debt security (in a pro rata manner based on the amount of actual cash flows received as a percentage of total estimated cash flows) as an increase in the carrying value of the security until the security is sold, the security matures, or there is an additional OTTI that is recognized in earnings.

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(g) Other-Than-Temporary Impairments (“OTTI”) of Available for Sale and Held to Maturity Securities (Continued)

In periods subsequent to the recognition of an OTTI loss, the other-than-temporarily impaired debt security is accounted for as if it had been purchased on the measurement date of the OTTI at an amount equal to the previous amortized cost basis less the credit-related OTTI recognized in earnings. For debt securities for which credit-related OTTI is recognized in earnings, the difference between the new cost basis and the cash flows expected to be collected is accreted into interest income over the remaining life of the security in a prospective manner based on the estimated amount and timing of future estimated cash flows.

With respect to securities where the decline in value is determined to be temporary and the security’s amortized cost is not written down, a subsequent decision may be made to sell that security and realize a loss. Subsequent decisions on security sales are made within the context of overall risk monitoring, changing information, market conditions generally and assessing value relative to other comparable securities. Day-to-day management of the Company’s investment portfolio is outsourced to third party investment manager service providers. While these investment manager service providers may, at a given point in time, believe that the preferred course of action is to hold securities with unrealized losses that are considered temporary until such losses are recovered, the dynamic nature of the portfolio management may result in a subsequent decision to sell the security and realize the loss, based upon a change in market and other factors described above. The Company believes that subsequent decisions to sell such securities are consistent with the classification of the Company’s portfolio as available for sale.

There are risks and uncertainties associated with determining whether declines in the fair value of investments are other-than-temporary. These include subsequent significant changes in general economic conditions as well as specific business conditions affecting particular issuers, the Company’s liability profile, subjective assessment of issue-specific factors (seniority of claims, collateral value, etc.), future financial market effects, stability of foreign governments and economies, future rating agency actions and significant disclosure of accounting, fraud or corporate governance issues that may adversely affect certain investments. In addition, significant assumptions and management judgment are involved in determining if the decline is other-than-temporary. If management determines that a decline in fair value is temporary, then a security’s value is not written down at that time. However, there are potential effects upon the Company’s future earnings and financial position should management later conclude that some of the current declines in the fair value of the investments are other-than-temporary declines. For further details on the factors considered in evaluation of OTTI see Note 5, “Investments.”

(h) Derivative Instruments

The Company recognizes all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and measures those instruments at fair value. The changes in fair value of derivatives are shown in the consolidated statement of income as “net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments” unless the derivatives are designated as hedging instruments. The accounting for derivatives which are designated as hedging instruments is discussed below. Changes in fair value of derivatives may create volatility in the Company’s results of operations from period to period. Amounts recognized for the right to reclaim cash collateral (a receivable) or the obligation to return cash collateral (a payable) are offset against net fair value amounts recognized in the consolidated balance sheet for derivative instruments executed with the same counterparty under the same netting arrangement to the extent that the Company intends to settle the amounts on a net basis.

Derivative contracts can be exchange-traded or over-the-counter (“OTC”). Exchange-traded derivatives (futures and options) typically fall within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy depending on whether they are deemed to be actively traded or not. OTC derivatives are valued using market transactions and other market evidence whenever possible, including market-based inputs to models, model calibration to market clearing transactions, broker or dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources where an understanding of the inputs

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(h) Derivative Instruments (Continued)

utilized in arriving at the valuations is obtained. Where models are used, the selection of a particular model to value an OTC derivative depends upon the contractual terms and specific risks inherent in the instrument as well as the availability of pricing information in the market. The Company generally uses similar models to value similar instruments. Valuation models require a variety of inputs, including contractual terms, market prices, yield curves, credit curves, measures of volatility, prepayment rates and correlations of such inputs. For OTC derivatives that trade in liquid markets, such as generic forwards, interest rate swaps and options, model inputs can generally be verified and model selection does not involve significant management judgment. Such instruments comprise the majority of derivatives held by the Company and are typically classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Certain OTC derivatives trade in less liquid markets with limited pricing information, or required model inputs which are not directly market corroborated, which causes the determination of fair value for these derivatives to be inherently more subjective. Accordingly, such derivatives are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The valuations of less standard or liquid OTC derivatives are typically based on Level 1 and/or Level 2 inputs that can be observed in the market, as well as unobservable Level 3 inputs. Level 1 and Level 2 inputs are regularly updated to reflect observable market changes. Level 3 inputs are only changed when corroborated by evidence such as similar market transactions, pricing services and/or broker or dealer quotations. The Company conducts its non-hedging derivatives activities in three main areas: investment related derivatives, credit derivatives and other non-investment related derivatives.

The Company uses derivative instruments, primarily interest rate swaps, to manage the interest rate exposure associated with certain assets and liabilities. These derivatives are recorded at fair value. On the date the derivative contract is entered into, the Company may designate the derivative as a hedge of the fair value of a recognized asset or liability (“fair value” hedge); a hedge of the variability in cash flows of a forecasted transaction or of amounts to be received or paid related to a recognized asset or liability (“cash flow” hedge); or a hedge of a net investment in a foreign operation; or the Company may not designate any hedging relationship for a derivative contract. In addition, the Company previously wrote a number of resettable strike swaps contracts relating to an absolute return index and diversified basket of funds, all of which are recorded within Investment Related Derivatives – Financial Market Exposures. These resettable strike swaps all expired during 2011.

Fair Value Hedges

Changes in the fair value of a derivative that is designated and qualifies as a fair value hedge, along with the changes in the fair value of the hedged asset or liability that is attributable to the hedged risk, are recorded in current period earnings (through “net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments”) with any differences between the net change in fair value of the derivative and the hedged item representing the hedge ineffectiveness. Periodic derivative net coupon settlements are recorded in net investment income with the exception of hedges of Company issued debt, which are recorded in interest expense. The Company may designate fair value hedging relationships where interest rate swaps are used to hedge the changes in fair value of certain fixed rate liabilities and fixed maturity securities due to changes in the designated benchmark interest rate.

Cash Flow Hedges

Changes in the fair value of a derivative that is designated and qualifies as a cash flow hedge are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (“AOCI”) and are reclassified into earnings when the variability of the cash flow of the hedged item impacts earnings. Gains and losses on derivative contracts that are reclassified from AOCI to current period earnings are included in the line item in the consolidated statements of operations in which the cash flows of the hedged item are recorded. Any hedge ineffectiveness is recorded immediately in current period earnings as “net realized and unrealized gains and

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(h) Derivative Instruments (Continued)

losses on derivative instruments.” Periodic derivative net coupon settlements are recorded in net investment income. The Company may designate cash flow hedging relationships where interest rate swaps are used to mitigate interest rate risk associated with anticipated issuances of debt or other forecasted transactions.

Hedges of the Net Investment in a Foreign Operation

Changes in fair value of a derivative used as a hedge of a net investment in a foreign operation, to the extent effective as a hedge, are recorded in the foreign currency translation adjustments account within AOCI. Cumulative changes in fair value recorded in AOCI are reclassified into earnings upon the sale or complete or substantially complete liquidation of the foreign entity. Any hedge ineffectiveness is recorded immediately in current period earnings as “net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments.”

Hedge Documentation and Effectiveness Testing

To qualify for hedge accounting treatment, a derivative must be highly effective in mitigating the designated changes in value or cash flow of the hedged item. At hedge inception, the Company formally documents all relationships between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its risk-management objective and strategy for undertaking each hedge transaction. The documentation process includes linking derivatives that are designated as fair value, cash flow, or net investment hedges to specific assets or liabilities on the balance sheet or to specific forecasted transactions. The Company also formally assesses, both at the hedge’s inception and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items. In addition, certain hedging relationships are considered highly effective if the changes in the fair value or discounted cash flows of the hedging instrument are within a ratio of 80-125% of the inverse changes in the fair value or discounted cash flows of the hedged item. Hedge ineffectiveness is measured using qualitative and quantitative methods. Qualitative methods may include comparison of critical terms of the derivative to the hedged item. Depending on the hedging strategy, quantitative methods may include the “Change in Variable Cash Flows Method,” the “Change in Fair Value Method,” the “Hypothetical Derivative Method” or the “Dollar Offset Method.”

Discontinuance of Hedge Accounting

The Company discontinues hedge accounting prospectively when it is determined that the derivative is no longer highly effective in offsetting changes in the fair value or cash flows of a hedged item; the derivative is dedesignated as a hedging instrument; or the derivative expires or is sold, terminated or exercised. When hedge accounting is discontinued because it is determined that the derivative no longer qualifies as an effective fair-value hedge, the derivative continues to be carried at fair value on the balance sheet with changes in its fair value recognized in current period earnings through “net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments.” When hedge accounting is discontinued because the Company becomes aware that it is not probable that the forecasted transaction will occur, the derivative continues to be carried on the balance sheet at its fair value, and gains and losses that were accumulated in AOCI are recognized immediately in earnings.

(i) Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents include fixed interest deposits placed with a maturity of under 90 days when purchased. Bank deposits are not considered to be fair value measurements and as such are not subject to the authoritative guidance on fair value measurement disclosures. Money market funds are classified as Level 1 as these instruments are considered actively traded; however, certificates of deposit are classified as Level 2.

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(j) Foreign Currency Translation

Assets and liabilities of foreign operations whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar are translated at prevailing year end exchange rates. Revenue and expenses of such foreign operations are translated at average exchange rates during the year. The net effect of the translation adjustments for foreign operations, net of applicable deferred income taxes, as well as any gains or losses on intercompany balances for which settlement is not planned or anticipated in the foreseeable future, are included in “accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).”

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of the applicable entity are revalued at the exchange rate in effect at the balance sheet date and revenues and expenses are translated at the exchange rate on the date the transaction occurs with the resulting foreign exchange gains and losses on settlement or revaluation recognized in income.

(k) Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The Company has recorded goodwill in connection with various acquisitions in prior years. Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of net assets acquired. In accordance with accounting guidance for goodwill and other intangible assets, the Company tests goodwill for potential impairment annually as of June 30, during the third quarter, and between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that may indicate that potential exists for the fair value of a reporting unit to be reduced to a level below its carrying amount. For further details on the factors considered in the goodwill impairment evaluation see Note 8, “Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets.”

The Company’s other intangible assets consist of both amortizable and non-amortizable intangible assets. The Company’s amortizable intangible assets consist primarily of acquired customer relationships and acquired software. All of the Company’s amortizable intangible assets are carried at net book value and are amortized over their estimated useful lives. The amortization periods approximate the periods over which the Company expects to generate future net cash inflows from the use of these assets. Accordingly, customer relationships are amortized over a useful life of 10 years and acquired software is amortized over a useful life of 5 years. The Company’s policy is to amortize intangibles on a straight-line basis.

All of the Company’s amortizable intangible assets, as well as other amortizable or depreciable long-lived assets such as premises and equipment, are subject to impairment testing in accordance with authoritative guidance for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets when events or conditions indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be fully recoverable from future cash flows.

The Company’s indefinite lived intangible assets consist primarily of acquired insurance and reinsurance licenses. These assets are deemed to have indefinite useful lives and are therefore not subject to amortization. In accordance with the authoritative guidance on intangibles and goodwill and other assets under GAAP, all of the Company’s non-amortized intangible assets are subject to a test for impairment annually, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. Pursuant to the authoritative guidance, if the carrying value of a non-amortized intangible asset is in excess of its fair value, the asset must be written down to its fair value through the recognition of an impairment charge to earnings.

(l) Losses and Loss Expenses

Unpaid losses and loss expenses include reserves for reported unpaid losses and loss expenses and for losses incurred but not reported. The reserve for reported unpaid losses and loss expenses for the Company’s property and casualty operations is established by management based on claims reported from insureds or amounts reported from ceding companies, and represent the estimated ultimate cost of events or conditions that have been reported to or specifically identified by the Company.

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(l) Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

The reserve for losses incurred but not reported is estimated by management based on loss development patterns determined by reference to the Company's underwriting practices, the policy form, type of program and historical experience. The Company's actuaries employ a variety of generally accepted methodologies to determine estimated ultimate loss reserves, including the "Bornhuetter-Ferguson incurred loss method" and frequency and severity approaches.

Certain workers' compensation and certain U.K. motor liability claims liabilities are considered fixed and determinable and are discounted.

Management believes that the reserves for unpaid losses and loss expenses are sufficient to cover losses that fall within coverages assumed by the Company. However, there can be no assurance that losses will not exceed the Company's total reserves. The methodology of estimating loss reserves is periodically reviewed to ensure that the assumptions made continue to be appropriate and any adjustments resulting from such reviews are reflected in income in the year in which the adjustments are made.

(m) Deposit Liabilities

Contracts entered into by the Company that are not deemed to transfer significant underwriting and/or timing risk are accounted for as deposits, whereby liabilities are initially recorded at an amount equal to the assets received. The Company uses a portfolio rate of return of equivalent duration to the liabilities in determining risk transfer. An initial accretion rate is established based on actuarial estimates whereby the deposit liability is increased to the estimated amount payable over the term of the contract.

The deposit accretion rate is the rate of return required to fund expected future payment obligations (this is equivalent to the "best estimate" of future cash flows), which are determined actuarially based upon the nature of the underlying indemnifiable losses. Accretion of the liability is recorded as interest expense.

The Company periodically reassesses the estimated ultimate liability. Any changes to this liability are reflected as adjustments to interest expense to reflect the cumulative effect of the period the contract has been in force, and by an adjustment to the future accretion rate of the liability over the remaining estimated contract term.

(n) Future Policy Benefit Reserves

The Company estimates the present value of future policy benefits related to long duration contracts using assumptions for investment yields, mortality, and expenses, including a provision for adverse deviation.

The assumptions used to determine future policy benefit reserves are best estimate assumptions that are determined at the inception of the contracts and are locked-in throughout the life of the contract unless a premium deficiency develops. As the experience on the contracts emerges, the assumptions are reviewed. If such review would produce reserves in excess of those currently held, then the lock-in assumptions will be revised and a claim and policy benefit is recognized at that time.

Certain life insurance and annuity contracts provide the holder with a guarantee that the benefit received upon death will be no less than a minimum prescribed amount. The contracts are accounted for in accordance with the authoritative guidance on Accounting and Reporting by Insurance Enterprises for Certain Long-Duration Contracts and for Separate Accounts, which requires that the best estimate of future experience be combined with actual experience to determine the benefit ratio used to calculate the policy benefit reserve.

(o) Income Taxes

The Company utilizes the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under this method, deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effect of temporary differences between the carrying

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2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(o) Income Taxes (Continued)

amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. The deferral of tax losses is evaluated based upon management's estimates of the future profitability of the Company's taxable entities based on current forecasts and the period for which losses may be carried forward. A valuation allowance is established for any portion of a deferred tax asset that management believes will not be realized. The Company continues to evaluate income generated in future periods by its subsidiaries in different jurisdictions in determining the recoverability of its deferred tax asset. If it is determined that future income generated by these subsidiaries is insufficient to cause the realization of the net operating losses within a reasonable period, a valuation allowance is established at that time.

(p) Stock Plans

The Company adopted authoritative guidance on the fair value recognition provisions for accounting for stock-based compensation, under the prospective method for options granted subsequent to January 1, 2003. Prior to 2003, the Company accounted for options under the disclosure-only provisions of the guidance and no stock-based employee compensation cost was included in net income as all options granted had an exercise price equal to the market value of the Company's ordinary shares on the date of the grant. At December 31, 2012, the Company had several stock-based Performance Incentive Programs, which are described more fully in Note 18, "Share Capital." Stock-based compensation issued under these plans generally has a life of not longer than ten years and vests as set forth at the time of grant. Awards currently vest annually over three or four years from the date of grant. The Company recognizes compensation costs for stock-based awards on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period (usually the vesting period) for each award.

Share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, are recognized in the financial statements over the vesting period based on their grant date fair values.

Authoritative guidance requires that compensation costs be recognized for unvested stock-based compensation awards over the period through the date that the employee is no longer required to provide future services to earn the award, rather than over the explicit service period. Accordingly, the Company follows a policy of recognizing compensation cost to coincide with the date that the employee is eligible to retire, rather than the actual retirement date, for all stock-based compensation granted.

(q) Per Share Data

Basic earnings per ordinary share is based on weighted average ordinary shares outstanding and excludes any dilutive effects of options and convertible securities. Diluted earnings per ordinary share assumes the exercise of all dilutive stock options and conversion of convertible securities where the contingency for conversion has occurred or been satisfied.

(r) Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In October 2010, the FASB issued an accounting standards update to address disparities in practice regarding the interpretation of which costs relating to the acquisition of new and renewal insurance contracts qualify for deferral. The provisions of the guidance specify that only costs that are related directly to the successful acquisition of new and renewal insurance contracts may be capitalized. These include incremental direct costs of contract acquisition and certain other costs related directly to underwriting activities. Incremental direct costs of contract acquisition are those that result directly from and are essential to a contract transaction, and would not have been incurred by the insurance entity had the transaction not occurred. Administrative costs, rent, depreciation, occupancy, equipment and all other general overhead costs are considered indirect costs and should be charged to expense as incurred. On January 1, 2012, the

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(r) Recent Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

Company adopted this guidance on a retrospective basis for all fiscal years presented, and interim periods within those years. The impact of adoption was a reduction in deferred acquisition costs of approximately \$21 million, a reduction in deferred tax liabilities of approximately \$7 million, and a corresponding reduction in opening retained earnings of approximately \$14 million within the Company's December 31, 2011 balance sheet. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated statements of income or comprehensive income.

In May 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update to amend existing requirements for fair value measurements and disclosures. The guidance expands the disclosure requirements around fair value measurements categorized in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy, requiring quantitative and qualitative information to be disclosed related to: (1) the valuation processes used, (2) the sensitivity of the fair value measurement to changes in unobservable inputs and the interrelationships between those unobservable inputs, and (3) use of a nonfinancial asset in a way that differs from the asset's highest and best use. The guidance requires disclosure of the level in the fair value hierarchy of items that are not measured at fair value, but whose fair value must be disclosed. It also clarifies and expands upon existing requirements for fair value measurements of financial assets and liabilities, as well as instruments classified in shareholders' equity. The Company adopted this guidance from January 1, 2012; however, it impacted disclosure only and did not have an impact on the Company's financial condition or results of operations. See Note 3, "Fair Value Measurements," for these updated disclosures.

In June 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update concerning the presentation of comprehensive income in financial statements. This guidance allows an entity the option to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. Under both options, an entity is required to present each component of net income along with total net income, each component of other comprehensive income along with a total for other comprehensive income, and a total amount for comprehensive income. This guidance eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income only as part of the statement of changes in shareholders' equity. The guidance does not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income or when an item of other comprehensive income must be reclassified to net income. The Company adopted the guidance from January 1, 2012; however, it did not have an impact on the Company's disclosure, financial condition or results of operations or cash flows. In February 2013, the FASB issued an additional accounting standards update related to this topic that requires an entity to provide information about the amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income by component. The guidance does not change the current requirements for reporting net income or other comprehensive income in financial statements. These amendments are effective prospectively from January 1, 2013. As this guidance is disclosure-related only, its adoption will not impact the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

In September 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update to simplify how entities test goodwill for impairment, by allowing an entity the option to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting entity is less than its carrying amount, as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test required under U.S. GAAP accounting rules. After assessing the circumstances that should be considered in making the qualitative assessment, if an entity determines that the fair value of a reporting unit as compared to its carrying value meets the threshold, then performing the two-step impairment step is unnecessary. In other circumstances, performance of the two-step test is required. The guidance also eliminates the option for an entity to carry forward its detailed calculation of a reporting unit's fair value in certain situations. The Company adopted this guidance from January 1, 2012. It did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(r) Recent Accounting Pronouncements (Continued)

In December 2011, the FASB issued an accounting standards update requiring additional disclosures about financial instruments and derivatives that are either: (1) offset for balance sheet presentation purposes or (2) subject to an enforceable master netting arrangement or similar arrangement, regardless of whether they are offset for balance sheet presentation purposes. In January 2013, the FASB issued an additional accounting standards update related to this topic clarifying that the disclosures would apply only to derivatives, repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements, and securities borrowing and securities lending transactions, each to the extent that they met one of the two conditions provided in the initial accounting standard. This guidance will be effective on January 1, 2013, with retrospective presentation of the new disclosures required. As this guidance is disclosure-related only and does not amend the existing balance sheet offsetting guidance, the adoption of this guidance will not impact the Company's financial condition, results of operations, or cash flows.

In July 2012, the FASB issued an accounting standards update to simplify how entities test indefinite-lived intangible assets for impairment. Under this new guidance, an entity is allowed the option to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of an indefinite-lived intangible asset is less than its carrying value. After assessing the circumstances that should be considered in making the qualitative assessment, if an entity determines that the fair value of the intangible asset as compared to its carrying value meets the threshold, it may bypass the existing requirements to perform a full quantitative impairment test on the intangible asset, a test which otherwise would have to be performed annually, at a minimum. The guidance was effective during the fourth quarter of 2012. The adoption of this guidance did not have an impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements

(a) Fair Value Summary

The following tables set forth the Company's assets and liabilities that were accounted for at fair value at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 by level within the fair value hierarchy. For further information, see Note 2 (b), "Significant Accounting Policies – Fair Value Measurements":

| December 31, 2012 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | Collateral and Counterparty Netting | Balance at December 31, 2012 |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| Assets | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported | \$ – | \$ 2,034,617 | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 2,034,617 |
| Corporate (1) (2) | – | 10,451,902 | 30,098 | – | 10,482,000 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – Agency ("RMBS – Agency") | – | 5,223,488 | 32,005 | – | 5,255,493 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities – Non-Agency ("RMBS – Non-Agency") | – | 647,617 | 116 | – | 647,733 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities ("CMBS") | – | 1,051,904 | 25,347 | – | 1,077,251 |
| Collateralized debt obligations ("CDO") | – | 8,080 | 701,736 | – | 709,816 |
| Other asset-backed securities (2) | – | 1,452,583 | 18,128 | – | 1,470,711 |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | – | 1,911,017 | – | – | 1,911,017 |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported | – | 4,258,282 | – | – | 4,258,282 |
| Total fixed maturities, at fair value | \$ – | \$ 27,039,490 | \$ 807,430 | \$ – | \$ 27,846,920 |
| Equity securities, at fair value (3) | 253,957 | 395,402 | – | – | 649,359 |
| Short-term investments, at fair value (4) | – | 322,703 | – | – | 322,703 |
| Total investments available for sale | \$ 253,957 | \$ 27,757,595 | \$ 807,430 | \$ – | \$ 28,818,982 |
| Cash equivalents (5) | 1,596,376 | 408,292 | – | – | 2,004,668 |
| Other investments (6) | – | 792,483 | 115,272 | – | 907,755 |
| Other assets (7) | – | 17,837 | – | 12,130 | 29,967 |
| Total assets accounted for at fair value | \$ 1,850,333 | \$ 28,976,207 | \$ 922,702 | \$ 12,130 | \$ 31,761,372 |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased (8) | \$ – | \$ 26,235 | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 26,235 |
| Other liabilities (7) | – | 23,376 | 36,247 | – | 59,623 |
| Total liabilities accounted for at fair value | \$ – | \$ 49,611 | \$ 36,247 | \$ – | \$ 85,858 |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(a) Fair Value Summary (Continued)

| December 31, 2011 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1) | Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2) | Significant Other Unobservable Inputs (Level 3) | Collateral and Counterparty Netting | Balance at December 31, 2011 |
|--|---|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Assets | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government- Related/Supported | \$ — | \$ 1,990,983 | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 1,990,983 |
| Corporate (1) (2) | — | 10,084,804 | 23,818 | — | 10,108,622 |
| RMBS – Agency | — | 5,347,365 | 32,041 | — | 5,379,406 |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | — | 641,815 | — | — | 641,815 |
| CMBS | — | 974,835 | — | — | 974,835 |
| CDO | — | 7,751 | 650,851 | — | 658,602 |
| Other asset-backed securities (2) | — | 1,323,697 | 16,552 | — | 1,340,249 |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | — | 1,797,378 | — | — | 1,797,378 |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government- Related/Supported | — | 3,298,135 | — | — | 3,298,135 |
| Total fixed maturities, at fair value (2) | \$ — | \$ 25,466,763 | \$ 723,262 | \$ — | \$ 26,190,025 |
| Equity securities, at fair value (3) | 239,175 | 229,022 | — | — | 468,197 |
| Short-term investments, at fair value (4) | — | 359,063 | — | — | 359,063 |
| Total investments available for sale | \$ 239,175 | \$ 26,054,848 | \$ 723,262 | \$ — | \$ 27,017,285 |
| Cash equivalents (5) | 1,686,101 | 1,068,264 | — | — | 2,754,365 |
| Other investments (6) | — | 547,598 | 113,959 | — | 661,557 |
| Other assets (7) | — | 143,622 | — | (77,888) | 65,734 |
| Total assets accounted for at fair value | <u>\$ 1,925,276</u> | <u>\$ 27,814,332</u> | <u>\$ 837,221</u> | <u>\$ (77,888)</u> | <u>\$ 30,498,941</u> |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased (8) | \$ — | \$ 20,844 | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 20,844 |
| Other liabilities (7) | — | 16,871 | 42,644 | (809) | 58,706 |
| Total liabilities accounted for at fair value | <u>\$ —</u> | <u>\$ 37,715</u> | <u>\$ 42,644</u> | <u>\$ (809)</u> | <u>\$ 79,550</u> |

(1) Included within Corporate are certain medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. The notes, which are in a gross unrealized loss position, had a fair value of \$194.3 million and \$266.0 million and an amortized cost of \$194.8 million and \$297.7 million at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. These notes allow the investor to participate in cash flows of the underlying bonds including certain residual values, which could serve to either decrease or increase the ultimate values of these notes.

(2) The Company invests in covered bonds issued by financial institutions (“Covered Bonds”). Covered Bonds are senior secured debt instruments issued by financial institutions and backed by over-collateralized pools of public sector or mortgage loans. At December 31, 2012, Covered Bonds within Total fixed maturities with a fair value of \$647.1 million are included within Other

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(a) Fair Value Summary (Continued)

asset-backed securities to align the Company's classification to market indices. At December 31, 2011, Covered Bonds within Total fixed maturities with a fair value of \$353.9 million were reclassified from Corporate to Other asset-backed securities to conform to current period presentation.

- (3) Included within Equity securities are investments in fixed income funds with a fair value of \$101.9 million and \$91.6 million at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.
- (4) Short-term investments consist primarily of Corporate securities and U.S. and Non-U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported securities.
- (5) Cash equivalents balances subject to fair value measurement include certificates of deposit and money market funds. Operating cash balances are not subject to fair value measurement guidance.
- (6) The Other investments balance excludes certain structured transactions including certain investments in project finance transactions, a payment obligation and liquidity financing provided to a structured credit vehicle as a part of a third party medium term note facility. These investments, which totaled \$312.1 million at December 31, 2012 and \$323.7 million at December 31, 2011, are carried at amortized cost. For further details regarding the nature of Other investments and related features see Note 7, "Other Investments," to the Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (7) Other assets and other liabilities include derivative instruments. The derivative balances included in each category are reported on a gross basis by level with a netting adjustment presented separately in the Collateral and Counterparty Netting column. The Company often enters into different types of derivative contracts with a single counterparty and these contracts are covered under a netting agreement. In addition, at December 31, 2012 the Company paid net cash collateral related to these derivative positions of \$12.1 million. The assets related to the net collateral paid were recorded as Other assets within the balance sheet. At December 31, 2011, the Company held net cash collateral of \$77.1 million. The collateral balance was included within Cash and cash equivalents and the corresponding liability to return the collateral has been offset against the derivative asset within the balance sheet as appropriate under the netting agreement. The fair values of the individual derivative contracts are reported gross in their respective levels based on the fair value hierarchy.
- (8) Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, represent "short sales" and are included within "Payable for investments purchased" on the balance sheet.

(b) Level 3 Assets and Liabilities

The tables below present additional information about assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis and for which Level 3 inputs were utilized to determine fair value. The tables present a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 for all financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The tables do not include gains or losses that were reported in Level 3 in prior periods for assets that were transferred out of Level 3 prior to December 31, 2012 and 2011. Gains and losses for assets and liabilities classified within Level 3 in the table below may include changes in fair value that are attributable to both observable inputs (Levels 1 and 2) and unobservable inputs (Level 3). Further, it should be noted that the following tables do not take into consideration the effect of offsetting Level 1 and 2 financial instruments entered into by the Company that are either economically hedged by certain exposures to the Level 3 positions or that hedge the exposures in Level 3 positions.

In general, Level 3 assets include securities for which values were obtained from brokers where either significant inputs were utilized in determining the values that were difficult to corroborate with observable market data, or sufficient information regarding the specific inputs utilized by the broker was not available to support a Level 2 classification. Transfers into or out of Level 3 primarily arise as a result of the valuations utilized by the Company changing between either those provided by independent pricing services that do not contain significant observable inputs, or other valuations sourced from brokers that are considered Level 3.

There were no significant transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(b) Level 3 Assets and Liabilities (Continued)

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Level 3 Assets and Liabilities – Year Ended December 31, 2012 | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Corporate | RMBS – Agency | RMBS – Non Agency | CMBS | CDO |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ 23,818 | \$ 32,041 | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 650,851 |
| Realized gains (losses) | 4 | (15) | – | – | (894) |
| Movement in unrealized gains (losses) | 100 | 27 | – | 20 | 109,282 |
| Purchases and issuances | 10,278 | – | – | 25,546 | – |
| Sales and settlements | (282) | (6,307) | – | (219) | (57,032) |
| Transfers into Level 3 | 819 | 21,249 | 116 | – | – |
| Transfers out of Level 3 | (4,639) | (14,990) | – | – | (471) |
| Balance, end of period | <u>\$ 30,098</u> | <u>\$ 32,005</u> | <u>\$ 116</u> | <u>\$ 25,347</u> | <u>\$ 701,736</u> |
| Movement in total gains (losses) above relating to instruments still held at the reporting date | <u>\$ 122</u> | <u>\$ 10</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 20</u> | <u>\$ 104,474</u> |

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Level 3 Assets and Liabilities – Year Ended December 31, 2012 | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Other asset-backed securities | Non-US Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government Related/Supported | Short-term investments | Other investments | Derivative Contracts – Net |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ 16,552 | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 113,959 | \$ (42,644) |
| Realized gains (losses) | 6,768 | – | – | 5,083 | – |
| Movement in unrealized gains (losses) | (2,784) | – | – | 7,802 | 6,397 |
| Purchases and issuances | 8,753 | – | – | 7,375 | – |
| Sales and settlements | (16,094) | – | – | (18,637) | – |
| Transfers into Level 3 | 4,933 | – | – | 5 | – |
| Transfers out of Level 3 | – | – | – | (315) | – |
| Balance, end of period | <u>\$ 18,128</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 115,272</u> | <u>\$ (36,247)</u> |
| Movement in total gains (losses) above relating to instruments still held at the reporting date | <u>\$ (154)</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 5,038</u> | <u>\$ 6,397</u> |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(b) Level 3 Assets and Liabilities (Continued)

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Level 3 Assets and Liabilities – Year Ended December 31, 2011 | | | | |
|---|--|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Corporate | RMBS – Agency | RMBS – Non Agency | CMBS | CDO |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ 36,866 | \$ 30,255 | \$ 4,964 | \$ 1,623 | \$ 721,572 |
| Realized gains (losses) | (276) | (11) | – | – | (3,458) |
| Movement in unrealized gains (losses) | 92 | (145) | – | – | 2,404 |
| Purchases and issuances | 14,840 | 6,176 | – | – | 2,379 |
| Sales and settlements | (10,049) | (4,186) | – | – | (68,165) |
| Transfers into Level 3 | 2,105 | 2,655 | – | – | 1,886 |
| Transfers out of Level 3 | (19,760) | (2,703) | (4,964) | (1,623) | (5,767) |
| Balance, end of period | <u>\$ 23,818</u> | <u>\$ 32,041</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 650,851</u> |
| Movement in total gains (losses) above relating to instruments still held at the reporting date | <u>\$ 92</u> | <u>\$ (156)</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ (6,431)</u> |

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Level 3 Assets and Liabilities – Year Ended December 31, 2011 | | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Other asset-backed securities | Non-US Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government Related/Supported | Short-term investments | Other investments | Derivative Contracts – Net |
| Balance, beginning of period | \$ 24,650 | \$ 3,667 | \$ – | \$ 133,717 | \$ (39,195) |
| Realized gains (losses) | (849) | – | – | 11,592 | – |
| Movement in unrealized gains (losses) | 6,896 | – | – | 14,108 | (3,173) |
| Purchases and issuances | – | – | – | 12,177 | – |
| Sales and settlements | (9,114) | – | – | (57,635) | (276) |
| Transfers into Level 3 | – | – | – | – | – |
| Transfers out of Level 3 | (5,031) | (3,667) | – | – | – |
| Balance, end of period | <u>\$ 16,552</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 113,959</u> | <u>\$ (42,644)</u> |
| Movement in total gains (losses) above relating to instruments still held at the reporting date | <u>\$ 12,334</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ 23,391</u> | <u>\$ (3,173)</u> |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(c) Fixed maturities and short-term investments

The Company's Level 3 assets consist primarily of CDOs, for which non-binding broker quotes are the primary source of the valuations. Sufficient information regarding the specific inputs utilized by the brokers was not available to support a Level 2 classification. The Company obtains the majority of broker quotes for these CDOs from third party investment managers who perform independent verifications of these valuations using pricing matrices based upon information gathered by market traders. In addition, for the majority of these securities, the Company compares the broker quotes to independent valuations obtained from third party pricing vendors, which may also consist of broker quotes, to assess if the prices received represent a reasonable estimate of the fair value. Although the Company does not have access to the specific unobservable inputs that may have been used in the fair value measurements of the CDO securities provided by brokers, we would expect that the significant inputs considered are prepayment rates, probability of default, loss severity in the event of default, recovery rates, liquidity premium and reinvestment rates. Significant increases (decreases) in any of those inputs in isolation could result in a significantly different fair value measurement. Generally, a change in the assumption used for the probability of default is accompanied by a directionally similar change in the assumption used for the loss severity and a directionally opposite change in the assumption used for prepayment rates.

The remainder of the Level 3 assets relate to primarily to private equity investments and certain derivative positions as described below.

(d) Other investments

Included within the Other investments component of the Company's Level 3 valuations are private investments and alternative fund investments over which the Company is not deemed to have significant influence. The fair value of these investments is based upon net asset values received from the investment manager or general partner of the respective entity. The nature of the underlying investments held by the investee that form the basis of the net asset value include assets such as private business ventures and are such that significant Level 3 inputs are utilized in the determination of the individual underlying holding values and, accordingly, the fair value of the Company's investment in each entity is classified within Level 3. The Company has not adjusted the net asset values received; however, management incorporates factors such as the most recent financial information received, annual audited financial statements and the values at which capital transactions with the investee take place when applying judgment regarding whether any adjustments should be made to the net asset value in recording the fair value of each position. Investments in alternative funds included in Other investments utilize strategies including arbitrage, directional, event driven and multi-style. These funds potentially have lockup and gate provisions which may limit redemption liquidity. For further details regarding the nature of Other investments and related features see Note 7, "Other Investments," for further details.

(e) Derivative instruments

Derivative instruments recorded within Other liabilities and classified within Level 3 include credit derivatives that provide protection on senior tranches of structured finance transactions where the value is obtained directly from the investment bank counterparty and sufficient information regarding the inputs utilized in such valuation was not obtained to support a Level 2 classification and guaranteed minimum income benefits ("GMIB") embedded within one reinsurance contract. The majority of inputs utilized in the valuations of these types of derivative contracts are considered Level 1 or Level 2; however, each valuation includes at least one Level 3 input that was significant to the valuation and, accordingly, the values are disclosed within Level 3.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

3. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(f) Non-recurring Fair Value Measurement

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the Company recorded a non-recurring fair value measurement relating to a goodwill impairment charge. This was a Level 3 fair value measurement as it reflected the Company's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in valuing the carried goodwill and was determined using a combination of discounted cash flow analysis and market value multiple based methodologies. See Note 8, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets," for further information.

(g) Financial Instruments Not Carried at Fair Value

Authoritative guidance over disclosures about the fair value of financial instruments requires additional disclosure of fair value information for financial instruments not carried at fair value in both interim and annual reporting periods. Certain financial instruments, particularly insurance contracts, are excluded from these fair value disclosure requirements. The carrying values of cash and cash equivalents, accrued investment income, net receivable from investments sold, other assets, net payable for investments purchased, other liabilities and other financial instruments not included below approximated their fair values. The following table includes financial instruments for which the carrying value differs from the estimated fair values at December 31, 2012 and 2011. All of these fair value estimates are considered Level 2 fair value measurements. The fair values for fixed maturities held to maturity are provided by third party pricing vendors and significant valuation inputs for all other items included were based upon market data obtained from sources independent of the Company, and are subject to the same control environment previously described.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | | December 31, 2011 | |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | Carrying Value | Fair Value | Carrying Value | Fair Value |
| Fixed maturities, held to maturity | \$ 2,814,447 | \$ 3,262,804 | \$ 2,668,978 | \$ 2,895,688 |
| Other investments – structured transactions | 312,122 | 293,813 | 323,705 | 297,124 |
| Financial Assets | <u>\$ 3,126,569</u> | <u>\$ 3,556,617</u> | <u>\$ 2,992,683</u> | <u>\$ 3,192,812</u> |
| Deposit liabilities | \$ 1,551,398 | \$ 1,878,499 | \$ 1,608,108 | \$ 1,809,812 |
| Notes payable and debt | 1,672,778 | 1,918,134 | 2,275,327 | 2,340,148 |
| Financial Liabilities | <u>\$ 3,224,176</u> | <u>\$ 3,796,633</u> | <u>\$ 3,883,435</u> | <u>\$ 4,149,960</u> |

The Company historically participated in structured transactions. Remaining structured transactions include cash loans supporting project finance transactions, providing liquidity facility financing to structured project deals and an investment in a payment obligation with an insurance company. These transactions are carried at amortized cost. The fair value of these investments held by the Company is determined through use of internal models utilizing reported trades, benchmark yields, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data.

Deposit liabilities include obligations under structured insurance and reinsurance transactions. For purposes of fair value disclosures, the Company determined the estimated fair value of the deposit liabilities by assuming a discount rate equal to the appropriate U.S. Treasury rate plus 100.3 basis points at December 31, 2012 and the appropriate U.S. Treasury rate plus 161.8 basis points at December 31, 2011. The discount rate incorporates the Company's own credit risk into the determination of estimated fair value.

The fair values of the Company's notes payable and debt outstanding were determined based on quoted market prices.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk within the Company's financial instruments as defined in the authoritative guidance over disclosures of fair value of financial instruments not carried at fair value, which excludes certain financial instruments, particularly insurance contracts.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

4. Segment Information

The Company is organized into three operating segments: Insurance, Reinsurance and Life operations. The Company's general investment and financing operations are reflected in Corporate.

The Company evaluates the performance of both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments based on underwriting profit while the Life operations segment performance is based on contribution. Other items of revenue and expenditure of the Company are not evaluated at the segment level. In addition, the Company does not allocate investment assets by segment for its Property and Casualty ("P&C") operations. Investment assets related to the Company's Life operations and certain structured products included in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments and Corporate are held in separately identified portfolios. As such, net investment income from these assets is included in the contribution from the applicable segment.

Year Ended December 31, 2012

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)

| | Insurance | Reinsurance | Total P&C | Life Operations | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Gross premiums written | \$ 5,166,974 | \$ 2,008,156 | \$ 7,175,130 | \$ 355,754 | \$ 7,530,884 |
| Net premiums written | 4,072,513 | 1,884,508 | 5,957,021 | 324,432 | 6,281,453 |
| Net premiums earned | 3,924,640 | 1,841,342 | 5,765,982 | 324,459 | 6,090,441 |
| Net losses and loss expenses | (2,691,056) | (1,074,426) | (3,765,482) | (486,198) | (4,251,680) |
| Acquisition costs | (504,227) | (368,172) | (872,399) | (41,093) | (913,492) |
| Operating expenses (1) | (754,306) | (157,657) | (911,963) | (9,336) | (921,299) |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | \$ (24,949) | \$ 241,087 | \$ 216,138 | \$ (212,168) | \$ 3,970 |
| Net investment income | | | 641,237 | 299,442 | 940,679 |
| Net results from structured products (2) | 20,980 | (15,882) | 5,098 | – | 5,098 |
| Net fee income and other (3) | (1,071) | 2,493 | 1,422 | 426 | 1,848 |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments | | | 35,101 | (21,003) | 14,098 |
| Contribution from P&C and Life Operations | | | \$ 898,996 | \$ 66,697 | \$ 965,693 |
| Corporate & other: | | | | | |
| Net realized & unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | | | | | 5,221 |
| Net income (loss) from investment fund affiliates and operating affiliates (4) | | | | | 114,314 |
| Exchange gains (losses) | | | | | (10,546) |
| Corporate operating expenses | | | | | (204,500) |
| Interest expense (5) | | | | | (105,766) |
| Non-controlling interests | | | | | (79,254) |
| Income tax | | | | | (34,028) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | | | | | \$ 651,134 |
| Ratios – P&C operations: (6) | | | | | |
| Loss and loss expense ratio | 68.6 % | 58.4 % | 65.3 % | | |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 32.0 % | 28.5 % | 31.0 % | | |
| Combined ratio | <u>100.6 %</u> | <u>86.9 %</u> | <u>96.3 %</u> | | |

(1) Operating expenses exclude Corporate operating expenses, shown separately.

(2) The net results from P&C structured products include net investment income and interest expense of \$71.7 million and \$66.4 million, respectively.

(3) Net fee income and other includes operating expenses from the Company's loss prevention consulting services business.

(4) The Company records the income related to the alternative funds and to the private investment and operating fund affiliates on a one-month and three-month lag, respectively.

(5) Interest expense excludes interest expense related to deposit liabilities recorded in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.

(6) Ratios are based on net premiums earned from P&C operations.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

4. Segment Information (Continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2011

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)

| | Insurance | Reinsurance | Total P&C | Life Operations | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Gross premiums written | \$ 4,824,665 | \$ 2,073,619 | \$ 6,898,284 | \$ 394,555 | \$ 7,292,839 |
| Net premiums written | 3,707,664 | 1,725,724 | 5,433,388 | 362,362 | 5,795,750 |
| Net premiums earned | 3,663,727 | 1,663,385 | 5,327,112 | 363,018 | 5,690,130 |
| Net losses and loss expenses | (2,951,413) | (1,126,978) | (4,078,391) | (535,074) | (4,613,465) |
| Acquisition costs | (461,965) | (324,128) | (786,093) | (40,318) | (826,411) |
| Operating expenses (1) | (683,814) | (176,167) | (859,981) | (9,311) | (869,292) |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | \$ (433,465) | \$ 36,112 | \$ (397,353) | \$ (221,685) | \$ (619,038) |
| Net investment income | | | 745,138 | 318,061 | 1,063,199 |
| Net results from structured products (2) | 10,976 | 12,053 | 23,029 | – | 23,029 |
| Net fee income and other (3) | (16,370) | 3,903 | (12,467) | 219 | (12,248) |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments | | | (98,360) | (89,999) | (188,359) |
| Contribution from P&C and Life Operations | | | \$ 259,987 | \$ 6,596 | \$ 266,583 |
| Corporate & other: | | | | | |
| Net realized & unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | | | | | (10,738) |
| Net income (loss) from investment fund affiliates and operating affiliates (4) | | | | | 103,039 |
| Exchange gains (losses) | | | | | 40,640 |
| Corporate operating expenses | | | | | (160,596) |
| Interest expense (5) | | | | | (154,084) |
| Non-controlling interests | | | | | (70,877) |
| Impairment of goodwill | | | | | (429,020) |
| Income tax | | | | | (59,707) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | | | | | \$ (474,760) |
| Ratios – P&C operations: (6) | | | | | |
| Loss and loss expense ratio | 80.6 % | 67.8 % | 76.6 % | | |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 31.2 % | 30.0 % | 30.9 % | | |
| Combined ratio | <u>111.8%</u> | <u>97.8%</u> | <u>107.5%</u> | | |

(1) Operating expenses exclude Corporate operating expenses, shown separately.

(2) The net results from P&C structured products include net investment income and interest expense of \$74.6 million and \$51.5 million, respectively.

(3) Net fee income and other includes operating expenses from the Company's loss prevention consulting services business and expenses related to the cost of an endorsement facility with National Indemnity Company.

(4) The Company records the income related to the alternative funds and to the private investment and operating fund affiliates on a one-month and three-month lag, respectively.

(5) Interest expense excludes interest expense related to deposit liabilities recorded in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.

(6) Ratios are based on net premiums earned from P&C operations.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

4. Segment Information (Continued)

Year Ended December 31, 2010

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)

| | Insurance | Reinsurance | Total P&C | Life Operations | Corporate | Total |
|--|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Gross premiums written | \$ 4,418,380 | \$ 1,842,951 | \$ 6,261,331 | \$ 411,938 | \$ – | \$ 6,673,269 |
| Net premiums written | 3,461,150 | 1,538,438 | 4,999,588 | 382,075 | – | 5,381,663 |
| Net premiums earned | 3,529,138 | 1,501,999 | 5,031,137 | 382,924 | – | 5,414,061 |
| Net losses and loss expenses | (2,505,502) | (706,298) | (3,211,800) | (513,833) | – | (3,725,633) |
| Acquisition costs | (418,146) | (321,008) | (739,154) | (49,104) | – | (788,258) |
| Operating expenses (1) | (642,103) | (175,586) | (817,689) | (10,470) | – | (828,159) |
| Underwriting profit (loss) | \$ (36,613) | \$ 299,107 | \$ 262,494 | \$ (190,483) | \$ – | \$ 72,011 |
| Net investment income | | | 803,358 | 313,172 | – | 1,116,530 |
| Net results from structured products (2) | 14,696 | 3,075 | 17,771 | – | 9,804 | 27,575 |
| Net fee income and other (3) | (15,564) | 2,488 | (13,076) | 249 | 2 | (12,825) |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments | | | (206,877) | (54,444) | (9,482) | (270,803) |
| Contribution from P&C and Life Operations | | | \$ 863,670 | \$ 68,494 | \$ 324 | \$ 932,488 |
| Corporate & other: | | | | | | |
| Net realized & unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | | | | | (33,843) | (33,843) |
| Net income (loss) from investment fund affiliates and operating affiliates (4) | | | | | 172,474 | 172,474 |
| Exchange gains (losses) | | | | | 10,161 | 10,161 |
| Corporate operating expenses | | | | | (92,544) | (92,544) |
| Interest expense (5) | | | | | (159,118) | (159,118) |
| Non-controlling interests | | | | | (39,831) | (39,831) |
| Loss on settlement of guarantee | | | | | (23,500) | (23,500) |
| Income tax | | | | | (162,737) | (162,737) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | | | | | | \$ 603,550 |
| Ratios – P&C operations: (6) | | | | | | |
| Loss and loss expense ratio | 71.0 % | 47.0 % | 63.8 % | | | |
| Underwriting expense ratio | 30.0 % | 33.1 % | 31.0 % | | | |
| Combined ratio | <u>101.0 %</u> | <u>80.1 %</u> | <u>94.8 %</u> | | | |

(1) Operating expenses exclude Corporate operating expenses, shown separately.

(2) The net results from P&C and Corporate structured products include net investment income, interest expense and operating expenses of \$69.0 million, \$52.9 million and \$1.6 million (credit) and \$12.5 million, \$1.7 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

(3) Net fee income and other includes operating expenses from the Company's loss prevention consulting services business and expenses related to the cost of an endorsement facility with National Indemnity Company.

(4) The Company records the income related to the alternative funds and to the private investment and operating fund affiliates on a one-month and three-month lag, respectively.

(5) Interest expense excludes interest expense related to deposit liabilities recorded in the Insurance and Reinsurance segments.

(6) Ratios are based on net premiums earned from P&C operations.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

4. Segment Information (Continued)

The following tables summarize the Company's net premiums earned by line of business:

| Year Ended December 31, 2012 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Insurance | Reinsurance | Life Operations | Total |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| P&C Operations: | | | | |
| Professional | \$ 1,350,328 | \$ 213,322 | \$ – | \$ 1,563,650 |
| Casualty | 1,157,909 | 311,160 | – | 1,469,069 |
| Property catastrophe | – | 463,977 | – | 463,977 |
| Property | 489,743 | 613,295 | – | 1,103,038 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | – | 147,370 | – | 147,370 |
| Specialty | 708,564 | – | – | 708,564 |
| Other (1) | 218,096 | 92,218 | – | 310,314 |
| Total P&C Operations | \$ 3,924,640 | \$ 1,841,342 | \$ – | \$ 5,765,982 |
| Life Operations: | | | | |
| Annuity | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 126,912 | \$ 126,912 |
| Other Life | – | – | 197,547 | 197,547 |
| Total Life Operations | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 324,459 | \$ 324,459 |
| Total | \$ 3,924,640 | \$ 1,841,342 | \$ 324,459 | \$ 6,090,441 |
| Year Ended December 31, 2011 | | | | |
| P&C Operations: | | | | |
| Professional | \$ 1,287,231 | \$ 213,949 | \$ – | \$ 1,501,180 |
| Casualty | 998,326 | 256,853 | – | 1,255,179 |
| Property catastrophe | – | 387,523 | – | 387,523 |
| Property | 464,576 | 587,611 | – | 1,052,187 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | – | 130,855 | – | 130,855 |
| Specialty | 702,604 | – | – | 702,604 |
| Other (1) | 210,990 | 86,594 | – | 297,584 |
| Total P&C Operations | \$ 3,663,727 | \$ 1,663,385 | \$ – | \$ 5,327,112 |
| Life Operations: | | | | |
| Annuity | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 132,232 | \$ 132,232 |
| Other Life | – | – | 230,786 | 230,786 |
| Total Life Operations | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 363,018 | \$ 363,018 |
| Total | \$ 3,663,727 | \$ 1,663,385 | \$ 363,018 | \$ 5,690,130 |
| Year Ended December 31, 2010 | | | | |
| P&C Operations: | | | | |
| Professional | \$ 1,316,173 | \$ 222,720 | \$ – | \$ 1,538,893 |
| Casualty | 879,287 | 219,154 | – | 1,098,441 |
| Property catastrophe | – | 323,588 | – | 323,588 |
| Property | 416,806 | 534,422 | – | 951,228 |
| Marine, energy, aviation and satellite | – | 88,855 | – | 88,855 |
| Specialty | 682,518 | – | – | 682,518 |
| Other (1) | 234,354 | 113,260 | – | 347,614 |
| Total P&C Operations | \$ 3,529,138 | \$ 1,501,999 | \$ – | \$ 5,031,137 |
| Life Operations: | | | | |
| Annuity | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 255,905 | \$ 255,905 |
| Other Life | – | – | 127,019 | 127,019 |
| Total Life Operations | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 382,924 | \$ 382,924 |

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Total | <u>\$ 3,529,138</u> | <u>\$ 1,501,999</u> | <u>\$ 382,924</u> | <u>\$ 5,414,061</u> |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|

(1) Other within the Insurance segment includes: excess and surplus, surety, structured indemnity and certain other discontinued lines. Other within the Reinsurance segment includes: whole account contracts, surety and other lines.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

4. Segment Information (Continued)

The following table shows an analysis of the Company's net premiums written by geographical location of subsidiary where the premium is written for the years ended December 31:

| P&C Operations: <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Bermuda | \$ 644,566 | \$ 572,825 | \$ 561,514 |
| United States | 2,626,856 | 2,320,274 | 2,143,240 |
| Europe and other | 2,685,599 | 2,540,289 | 2,294,834 |
| Total P&C operations | \$ 5,957,021 | \$ 5,433,388 | \$ 4,999,588 |
| Life Operations: <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | | | |
| Bermuda | \$ 62,660 | \$ 75,219 | \$ 79,033 |
| Europe and other | 261,772 | 287,143 | 303,042 |
| Total Life operations | \$ 324,432 | \$ 362,362 | \$ 382,075 |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments

(a) Fixed Maturities, Short-Term Investments and Equity Securities

Amortized Cost and Fair Value Summary

The cost (amortized cost for fixed maturities and short-term investments), fair value, gross unrealized gains and gross unrealized (losses), including, OTTI recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (“AOCI”) of the Company’s available for sale (“AFS”) and held to maturity (“HTM”) investments at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| December 31, 2012 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Cost or Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains | Included in AOCI Gross Unrealized Losses Related to Changes in Estimated Fair Value | Fair Value | Non-credit Related OTTI (1) |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Fixed maturities – AFS | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government- Related/Supported (2) | \$ 1,906,044 | \$ 131,860 | \$ (3,287) | \$ 2,034,617 | \$ – |
| Corporate (3)(4)(5) | 9,837,962 | 723,028 | (78,990) | 10,482,000 | (11,453) |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,054,097 | 206,931 | (5,535) | 5,255,493 | – |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 678,469 | 46,132 | (76,868) | 647,733 | (93,259) |
| CMBS | 1,010,794 | 70,745 | (4,288) | 1,077,251 | (2,962) |
| CDO | 784,999 | 11,973 | (87,156) | 709,816 | (4,872) |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 1,426,483 | 59,663 | (15,435) | 1,470,711 | (6,530) |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 1,767,669 | 146,294 | (2,946) | 1,911,017 | – |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government- Related/Supported (2) | 4,078,289 | 188,186 | (8,193) | 4,258,282 | – |
| Total fixed maturities – AFS | \$ 26,544,806 | \$ 1,584,812 | \$ (282,698) | \$ 27,846,920 | \$ (119,076) |
| Total short-term investments (2) | \$ 322,563 | \$ 192 | \$ (52) | \$ 322,703 | \$ – |
| Total equity securities | \$ 617,486 | \$ 31,935 | \$ (62) | \$ 649,359 | \$ – |
| Total investments – AFS | <u>\$ 27,484,855</u> | <u>\$ 1,616,939</u> | <u>\$ (282,812)</u> | <u>\$ 28,818,982</u> | <u>\$ (119,076)</u> |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government- Related/Supported (2) | \$ 10,788 | \$ 1,651 | \$ – | \$ 12,439 | \$ – |
| Corporate (3) | 1,425,320 | 190,871 | (794) | 1,615,397 | – |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 83,205 | 10,502 | – | 93,707 | – |
| CMBS | 12,751 | 2,048 | – | 14,799 | – |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 222,340 | 29,287 | (167) | 251,460 | – |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government- Related/Supported (2) | 1,060,043 | 216,679 | (1,720) | 1,275,002 | – |
| Total investments – HTM | <u>\$ 2,814,447</u> | <u>\$ 451,038</u> | <u>\$ (2,681)</u> | <u>\$ 3,262,804</u> | <u>\$ –</u> |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(a) Fixed Maturities, Short-Term Investments and Equity Securities (Continued)

- (1) Represents the non-credit component of OTTI losses, adjusted for subsequent sales of securities. It does not include the change in fair value subsequent to the impairment measurement date.
- (2) U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported, Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincials, Supranationals and Government-Related/Supported and Total short-term investments includes government-related securities with an amortized cost of \$1,912.7 million and fair value of \$1,988.5 million and U.S. Agencies with an amortized cost of \$404.3 million and fair value of \$446.7 million.
- (3) At December 31, 2012, Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – AFS with an amortized cost of \$605.4 million and a fair value of \$647.1 million and Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – HTM with an amortized cost of \$8.4 million and a fair value of \$8.6 million have been included within Other asset-backed securities to align the Company's classification to market indices. Covered Bonds were included in Corporate prior to January 1, 2012.
- (4) Included within Corporate are certain medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. The notes have a fair value of \$194.3 million and an amortized cost of \$194.8 million. These notes allow the investor to participate in cash flows of the underlying bonds including certain residual values, which could serve to either decrease or increase the ultimate values of these notes.
- (5) Included within Corporate are Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments, which are senior to the common and preferred equities of the financial institutions. These securities have a fair value of \$308.5 million and an amortized cost of \$327.6 million at December 31, 2012.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(a) Fixed Maturities, Short-Term Investments and Equity Securities (Continued)

| December 31, 2011 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Included in AOCI | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Cost or Amortized Cost | Gross Unrealized Gains | Gross Unrealized Losses Related to Changes in Estimated Fair Value | Fair Value | Non-credit Related OTTI (1) |
| Fixed maturities – AFS | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government- Related/Supported (2) | \$ 1,864,354 | \$ 130,874 | \$ (4,245) | \$ 1,990,983 | \$ – |
| Corporate (3)(4)(5) | 9,866,677 | 527,192 | (285,247) | 10,108,622 | (51,666) |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,189,473 | 193,782 | (3,849) | 5,379,406 | – |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 851,557 | 19,667 | (229,409) | 641,815 | (116,542) |
| CMBS | 927,684 | 56,704 | (9,553) | 974,835 | (7,148) |
| CDO | 843,553 | 6,624 | (191,575) | 658,602 | (4,997) |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 1,341,309 | 30,731 | (31,791) | 1,340,249 | (6,305) |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 1,698,573 | 101,025 | (2,220) | 1,797,378 | – |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government- Related/Supported (2) | 3,188,535 | 127,439 | (17,839) | 3,298,135 | – |
| Total fixed maturities – AFS | \$ 25,771,715 | \$ 1,194,038 | \$ (775,728) | \$ 26,190,025 | \$ (186,658) |
| Total short-term investments (2) | \$ 359,378 | \$ 519 | \$ (834) | \$ 359,063 | \$ – |
| Total equity securities | \$ 480,685 | \$ 27,947 | \$ (40,435) | \$ 468,197 | \$ – |
| Total investments – AFS | <u>\$ 26,611,778</u> | <u>\$ 1,222,504</u> | <u>\$ (816,997)</u> | <u>\$ 27,017,285</u> | <u>\$ (186,658)</u> |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government- Related/Supported (3) | \$ 10,399 | \$ 1,510 | \$ – | \$ 11,909 | \$ – |
| Corporate (3) | 1,290,209 | 91,313 | (14,433) | 1,367,089 | – |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 80,955 | 6,520 | (32) | 87,443 | – |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 288,741 | 20,875 | (320) | 309,296 | – |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government- Related/Supported (2) | 998,674 | 127,227 | (5,950) | 1,119,951 | – |
| Total investments – HTM | <u>\$ 2,668,978</u> | <u>\$ 247,445</u> | <u>\$ (20,735)</u> | <u>\$ 2,895,688</u> | <u>\$ –</u> |

(1) Represents the non-credit component of OTTI losses, adjusted for subsequent sales of securities. It does not include the change in fair value subsequent to the impairment measurement date.

(2) U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported, Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincials, Supranationals and Government-Related/Supported and Total short-term investments includes government-related securities with an amortized cost of \$1,878.3 million and fair value of \$1,915.6 million and U.S. Agencies with an amortized cost of \$494.0 million and fair value of \$541.2 million.

(3) Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – AFS with an amortized cost of \$345.4 million and a fair value of \$353.9 million and Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities – HTM with an amortized cost of \$8.1 million and a fair value of \$7.7 million at December 31, 2011 have been reclassified from Corporate to Other asset-backed securities to align the Company's classification to market indices and conform to current period presentation.

(4) Included within Corporate are certain medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. The notes have a fair value of \$266.0 million and an amortized cost of \$297.7 million. These notes allow the investor to participate in cash flows of the underlying bonds including certain residual values, which could serve to either decrease or increase the ultimate values of these notes.

(5) Included within Corporate are Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments, which are senior to the common and preferred equities of the financial institutions. These securities have a fair value of \$386.1 million and an amortized cost of \$494.9 million at December 31, 2011.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(a) Fixed Maturities, Short-Term Investments and Equity Securities (Continued)

At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, approximately 2.9% and 2.4%, respectively, of the Company's fixed income investment portfolio at carrying value was invested in securities that were below investment grade or not rated. Approximately 37.7% and 31.4% of the gross unrealized losses in the Company's fixed income securities portfolio at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, related to securities that were below investment grade or not rated.

Classification of Fixed Income Securities

During the third quarter of 2011, the Company changed the manner in which it classifies fixed income securities between Fixed maturities and Short-term investments on the balance sheet and the related note disclosure. Short-term investments under the Company's previous classification comprised investments with a remaining maturity of less than one year from the reporting date. Under this prior presentation, longer term securities were reclassified from Fixed maturities to Short-term investments as they neared maturity. Under the Company's new classification, Short-term investments include investments due to mature within one year from the date of purchase and are valued using the same external factors and in the same manner as Fixed maturities. No reclassifications are made between Fixed maturities and Short-term investments subsequent to the initial date of purchase.

This change in classification did not have an impact on the total value of investments available for sale on the balance sheet, nor did it impact the consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity or cash flows. The only impact, other than the changes in the balance sheet line items, are changes required within the detailed tables included within this note as well as Note 3, "Fair Value Measurements," to allocate securities previously classified as Short-term investments under the former practice into the appropriate categories of Fixed maturities within each table to conform to the new accounting presentation for current and comparative periods.

Covered Bonds were included within Corporate securities prior to January 1, 2012. Beginning in 2012, they were classified as Other asset-backed securities to align the Company's classification to market indices. At December 31, 2011, Covered Bonds with a fair value of \$353.9 million have been reclassified from Corporate to Other asset-backed securities to conform to current period presentation.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(a) Fixed Maturities, Short-Term Investments and Equity Securities (Continued)

Contractual Maturities Summary

The contractual maturities of AFS and HTM fixed income securities at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 are shown below. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 (1) | | December 31, 2011 (1) | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Amortized Cost | Fair Value | Amortized Cost | Fair Value |
| Fixed maturities – AFS | | | | |
| Due less than one year | \$ 1,939,803 | \$ 1,952,250 | \$ 2,004,395 | \$ 2,020,361 |
| Due after 1 through 5 years | 8,521,090 | 8,877,512 | 7,736,717 | 7,909,354 |
| Due after 5 through 10 years | 4,701,391 | 5,065,158 | 3,619,141 | 3,777,073 |
| Due after 10 years | 2,427,680 | 2,790,996 | 3,257,886 | 3,488,330 |
| | \$ 17,589,964 | \$ 18,685,916 | \$ 16,618,139 | \$ 17,195,118 |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,054,097 | 5,255,493 | 5,189,473 | 5,379,406 |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 678,469 | 647,733 | 851,557 | 641,815 |
| CMBS | 1,010,794 | 1,077,251 | 927,684 | 974,835 |
| CDO | 784,999 | 709,816 | 843,553 | 658,602 |
| Other asset-backed securities | 1,426,483 | 1,470,711 | 1,341,309 | 1,340,249 |
| Total mortgage and asset-backed securities | \$ 8,954,842 | \$ 9,161,004 | \$ 9,153,576 | \$ 8,994,907 |
| Total fixed maturities – AFS | \$ 26,544,806 | \$ 27,846,920 | \$ 25,771,715 | \$ 26,190,025 |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | | | | |
| Due less than one year | \$ 36,515 | \$ 37,580 | \$ 11,796 | \$ 11,768 |
| Due after 1 through 5 years | 195,121 | 205,562 | 122,091 | 123,871 |
| Due after 5 through 10 years | 377,541 | 420,008 | 393,865 | 402,424 |
| Due after 10 years | 1,886,974 | 2,239,688 | 1,771,530 | 1,960,886 |
| | \$ 2,496,151 | \$ 2,902,838 | \$ 2,299,282 | \$ 2,498,949 |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 83,205 | 93,707 | 80,955 | 87,443 |
| CMBS | 12,751 | 14,799 | – | – |
| Other asset-backed securities | 222,340 | 251,460 | 288,741 | 309,296 |
| Total mortgage and asset-backed securities | \$ 318,296 | \$ 359,966 | \$ 369,696 | \$ 396,739 |
| Total fixed maturities – HTM | \$ 2,814,447 | \$ 3,262,804 | \$ 2,668,978 | \$ 2,895,688 |

(1) Included in the table above are Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments, which are senior to the common and preferred equities of the financial institutions, at their fair value of \$308.5 million and \$386.1 million at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. These securities are reflected in the table based on their call date and have net unrealized losses of \$19.1 million and \$108.8 million at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively.

OTTI Considerations

Under final authoritative accounting guidance, a debt security for which amortized cost exceeds fair value is deemed to be other-than-temporarily impaired if it meets either of the following conditions: (a) the Company intends to sell, or it is more likely than not that the Company will be required to sell, the security before a recovery in value, or (b) the Company does not expect to recover the entire amortized cost basis of the security. Other than in a situation in which the Company has the intent to sell a debt security or more likely than not will be required to sell a debt security, the amount of the OTTI related to a credit loss on the security is recognized in earnings, and the amount of the OTTI related to other factors (e.g., interest rates, market conditions, etc.) is recorded as a component of OCI. The net amount recognized

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(a) Fixed Maturities, Short-Term Investments and Equity Securities (Continued)

in earnings (“credit loss impairment”) represents the difference between the amortized cost of the security and the net present value of its projected future cash flows discounted at the effective interest rate implicit in the debt security prior to impairment (“NPV”). The remaining difference between the security’s NPV and its fair value is recognized in OCI. Subsequent changes in the fair value of these securities are included in OCI unless a further impairment is deemed to have occurred.

In the scenario where the Company has the intent to sell a security in which its amortized cost exceeds its fair value, or it is more likely than not it will be required to sell such a security, the entire difference between the security’s amortized cost and its fair value is recognized in earnings.

The determination of credit losses is based on detailed analyses of underlying cash flows. Such analyses require the use of certain assumptions to develop the estimated performance of underlying collateral. Key assumptions used include, but are not limited to, items such as RMBS default rates based on collateral duration in arrears, severity of losses on default by collateral class, collateral reinvestment rates and expected future general corporate default rates.

Factors considered for all securities on a quarterly basis in determining that a gross unrealized loss is not other-than-temporarily impaired include management’s consideration of current and near term liquidity needs and other available sources of funds, an evaluation of the factors and time necessary for recovery and an assessment of whether the Company has the intention to sell or considers it more likely than not that it will be forced to sell a security.

Pledged Assets

Certain of the Company’s invested assets are held in trust and pledged in support of insurance and reinsurance liabilities as well as credit facilities. Such pledges are largely required by the Company’s operating subsidiaries that are “non-admitted” under U.S. state insurance regulations, in order for the U.S. cedant to receive statutory credit for reinsurance. Also, certain deposit liabilities and annuity contracts require the use of pledged assets. At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the Company had \$16.9 billion and \$17.2 billion in pledged assets, respectively.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(b) Gross Unrealized Losses

The following is an analysis of how long the AFS and HTM securities at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 had been in a continual unrealized loss position:

| December 31, 2012 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Less than 12 months | | Equal to or greater than 12 months | |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses |
| Fixed maturities and short-term investments – AFS | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported | \$ 307,879 | \$ (2,847) | \$ 9,951 | \$ (471) |
| Corporate (1)(2)(3) | 476,454 | (10,603) | 607,796 | (68,387) |
| RMBS – Agency | 578,823 | (4,541) | 11,135 | (994) |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 6,674 | (450) | 448,555 | (76,418) |
| CMBS | 92,899 | (666) | 23,580 | (3,622) |
| CDO | 243 | (1) | 694,351 | (87,155) |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 111,431 | (531) | 93,388 | (14,904) |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 77,273 | (1,407) | 12,851 | (1,539) |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported | 355,409 | (1,378) | 131,884 | (6,836) |
| Total fixed maturities and short-term investments – AFS | \$ 2,007,085 | \$ (22,424) | \$ 2,033,491 | \$ (260,326) |
| Total equity securities (4) | \$ 615 | \$ (62) | \$ – | \$ – |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | | | | |
| Corporate (3) | \$ 4,568 | \$ (31) | \$ 23,005 | \$ (763) |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 1,239 | (167) | – | – |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported | – | – | 10,518 | (1,720) |
| Total fixed maturities – HTM | \$ 5,807 | \$ (198) | \$ 33,523 | \$ (2,483) |

(1) Included within Corporate are certain medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. The notes, which are in a gross unrealized loss position, have a fair value of \$194.3 million and an amortized cost of \$194.8 million. These notes allow the investor to participate in cash flows of the underlying bonds including certain residual values, which could serve to either decrease or increase the ultimate values of these notes.

(2) Included within Corporate are Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments, which are senior to the common and preferred equities of the financial institutions. These securities, which are in a gross unrealized loss position, have a fair value of \$308.5 million and an amortized cost of \$327.6 million at December 31, 2012.

(3) Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities and short-term investments – AFS with a fair value of \$647.1 million and Covered Bonds within Fixed Maturities – HTM with a fair value of \$8.6 million have been included within Other asset-backed securities to align the Company's classification to market indices. Covered Bonds were included in Corporate prior to January 1, 2012.

(4) Included within equity securities are investments in fixed income funds with a fair value of \$101.9 million and an amortized cost of \$100.0 million at December 31, 2012.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(b) Gross Unrealized Losses (Continued)

| December 31, 2011 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Less than 12 months | | Equal to or greater than 12 months | |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses | Fair Value | Gross Unrealized Losses |
| Fixed maturities and short-term investments – AFS | | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government-Related/Supported | \$ 289,260 | \$ (332) | \$ 43,622 | \$ (3,984) |
| Corporate (1)(2)(3) | 1,078,664 | (42,151) | 1,185,535 | (243,683) |
| RMBS – Agency | 310,318 | (849) | 36,960 | (3,000) |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 106,294 | (31,714) | 449,138 | (197,695) |
| CMBS | 69,109 | (2,716) | 39,444 | (6,837) |
| CDO | 3,357 | (2,261) | 636,362 | (189,456) |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 227,098 | (3,324) | 161,312 | (28,467) |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 25,309 | (199) | 27,646 | (2,021) |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported | 265,766 | (4,707) | 202,890 | (13,166) |
| Total fixed maturities and short-term investments – AFS | \$ 2,375,175 | \$ (88,253) | \$ 2,782,909 | \$ (688,309) |
| Total equity securities (4) | \$ 361,585 | \$ (40,435) | \$ – | \$ – |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | | | | |
| Corporate (3) | \$ 147,836 | \$ (7,770) | \$ 62,343 | \$ (6,663) |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 9,372 | (32) | – | – |
| Other asset-backed securities (3) | 7,743 | (314) | 1,106 | (6) |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Provincial, Supranational and Government-Related/Supported | 79,242 | (1,206) | 18,330 | (4,744) |
| Total fixed maturities – HTM | \$ 244,193 | \$ (9,322) | \$ 81,779 | \$ (11,413) |

(1) Included within Corporate are certain medium term notes supported primarily by pools of European investment grade credit with varying degrees of leverage. The notes, which are in a gross unrealized loss position, have a fair value of \$266.0 million and an amortized cost of \$297.7 million. These notes allow the investor to participate in cash flows of the underlying bonds including certain residual values, which could serve to either decrease or increase the ultimate values of these notes.

(2) Included within Corporate are Tier One and Upper Tier Two securities, representing committed term debt and hybrid instruments, which are senior to the common and preferred equities of the financial institutions. These securities, which are in a gross unrealized loss position, have a fair value of \$386.1 million and an amortized cost of \$494.9 million at December 31, 2011.

(3) Covered Bonds within Fixed maturities and short-term investments – AFS with a fair value of \$353.9 million and Covered Bonds within Fixed Maturities – HTM with a fair value of \$7.7 million have been included within Other asset-backed securities to align the Company's classification to market indices and to conform to current period presentation. Covered Bonds were included in Corporate prior to January 1, 2012.

(4) Included within equity securities are investments in fixed income funds with a fair value of \$91.6 million and an amortized cost of \$100.0 million at December 31, 2011.

The Company had gross unrealized losses totaling \$282.8 million on 1,223 securities out of a total of 7,331 held at December 31, 2012 in its AFS portfolio and \$2.7 million on 5 securities out of a total of 206 held in its HTM portfolio, which it considers to be temporarily impaired or with respect to which reflects non- credit losses on OTTI. Individual security positions comprising this balance have been evaluated by management to determine the severity of these impairments and whether they should be considered other-than-temporary. Management believes it is more likely than not that the issuer will be able to fund sufficient principal and interest payments to support the current amortized cost.

Management, in its assessment of whether securities in a gross unrealized loss position are temporarily impaired, as described above, considers the significance of the impairments. At December 31, 2012, the Company had structured securities with gross unrealized losses of \$26.0 million, which had a fair value of

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(b) Gross Unrealized Losses (Continued)

\$10.3 million, and a cumulative fair value decline of greater than 50% of amortized cost. All of these securities are mortgage and asset-backed securities. These greater than 50% impaired securities include gross unrealized losses of \$10.6 million on non-Agency RMBS, \$14.8 million on Core CDOs and \$0.6 million of CMBS holdings.

(c) Net Investment Income

Net investment income for the years ended December 31 is derived from the following sources:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Fixed maturities, short term investments and cash equivalents | \$ 1,046,255 | \$ 1,178,038 | \$ 1,245,185 |
| Equity securities and other investments | 29,807 | 17,804 | 20,693 |
| Funds withheld | 12,090 | 12,240 | 12,738 |
| Total gross investment income | 1,088,152 | 1,208,082 | 1,278,616 |
| Investment expenses | (75,804) | (70,313) | (80,578) |
| Net investment income | <u>\$ 1,012,348</u> | <u>\$ 1,137,769</u> | <u>\$ 1,198,038</u> |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)
(d) Net Realized Gains (Losses)

The following represents an analysis of net realized gains (losses) and the change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments for the years ended December 31:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Net realized gains (losses): | | | |
| Fixed maturities, short term investments, cash and cash equivalents: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | \$ 163,328 | \$ 185,530 | \$ 133,521 |
| Gross realized losses on investments sold | (107,033) | (225,360) | (193,396) |
| OTTI on investments, net of amounts transferred to other comprehensive income | (74,245) | (159,435) | (197,377) |
| Net realized gains (losses) | (17,950) | (199,265) | (257,252) |
| Equity securities: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 42,009 | 2,194 | 11,605 |
| Gross realized losses on investments sold | (7,121) | (4,264) | (11,195) |
| OTTI on investments, net of amounts transferred to other comprehensive income | (3,746) | – | – |
| Net realized gains (losses) | 31,142 | (2,070) | 410 |
| Other investments: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 11,610 | 18,505 | 4,889 |
| Gross realized losses on investments sold | (7,983) | (4,792) | (11,094) |
| OTTI on investments, net of amounts transferred to other comprehensive income | (2,721) | (737) | (7,756) |
| Net realized gains (losses) | 906 | 12,976 | (13,961) |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments | 14,098 | (188,359) | (270,803) |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investment related derivative instruments | (1,228) | (22,981) | (16,321) |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments and net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investment related derivative instruments | 12,870 | (211,340) | (287,124) |
| Change in unrealized gains (losses): | | | |
| Fixed maturities – AFS | 884,259 | 598,542 | 1,095,762 |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | 221,647 | 212,419 | 30,039 |
| Equity securities | 44,361 | (40,518) | 22,595 |
| Affiliates and other investments | 46,163 | 25,269 | 44,314 |
| Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 1,196,430 | 795,712 | 1,192,710 |
| Total net realized gains (losses) on investments, net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investment related derivative instruments, and net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments | <u>\$ 1,209,300</u> | <u>\$ 584,372</u> | <u>\$ 905,586</u> |

The significant components of the net impairment charges of \$80.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 were:

- \$48.7 million for structured securities, principally non-Agency RMBS, where we determined that the likely recovery on these securities was below the carrying value and, accordingly, recorded an impairment of the securities to the discounted value of the cash flows expected to be received on these securities.
- \$19.1 million related to medium term notes backed primarily by European investment grade credit. On certain notes, management concluded that expected future returns on the underlying assets were

XL GROUP PLC
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FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

5. Investments (Continued)

(d) Net Realized Gains (Losses) (Continued)

not sufficient to support the previously reported amortized cost. We also adjusted the estimated remaining holding period of certain notes resulting in a shorter reinvestment spectrum.

- \$3.7 million related to certain equities as the holdings were in a loss position for more than 11 months.
- \$5.3 million related to currency losses primarily arising on Swiss franc and U.K. sterling denominated securities held in U.S. dollar portfolios.

The following table sets forth the amount of credit loss impairments on fixed income securities held by the Company as of the dates indicated, for which a portion of the OTTI loss was recognized in OCI, and the corresponding changes in such amounts.

Credit Loss Impairments

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Balance at January 1, | \$ 333,379 | \$ 426,372 |
| Credit loss impairment recognized in the current period on securities not previously impaired | 13,000 | 28,910 |
| Credit loss impairments previously recognized on securities which matured, paid down, prepaid or were sold during the period | (114,056) | (209,187) |
| Credit loss impairments previously recognized on securities impaired to fair value during the period | (271) | – |
| Additional credit loss impairments recognized in the current period on securities previously impaired | 52,869 | 88,016 |
| Accretion of credit loss impairments previously recognized due to an increase in cash flows expected to be collected | (16,213) | (732) |
| Balance at December 31, | <u>\$ 268,708</u> | <u>\$ 333,379</u> |

During the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, the \$114.1 million and \$209.2 million, respectively, of credit loss impairments previously recognized on securities that matured, or were paid down, prepaid or sold, includes \$56.9 million and \$128.9 million, respectively, of non-Agency RMBS.

6. Investments in Affiliates

The Company's investment portfolio includes certain investments over which the company is considered to have significant influence and which, therefore, are accounted for using the equity method. Significant influence is generally deemed to exist where the Company has an investment of 20% or more in the common stock of a corporation or an investment of 3% or more in closed end funds, limited partnerships, LLCs or similar investment vehicles. The Company generally records its alternative and private equity fund affiliates on a one-month and three-month lag, respectively, and its operating affiliates on a three-month lag. See Note 7, "Other Investments" for investments in alternative and private equity funds in which the Company generally owns less than 3% and are accounted for as "Other Investments."

Investments in affiliates comprised the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Investment fund affiliates | \$ 845,197 | \$ 768,851 |
| Operating affiliates | 281,678 | 283,878 |
| Total investment affiliates | <u>\$ 1,126,875</u> | <u>\$ 1,052,729</u> |

(a) Investment Fund Affiliates

The Company has invested in certain closed end funds, certain limited partnerships, LLCs and similar investment vehicles, including funds managed by certain of its investment manager affiliates. Collectively,

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

6. Investments in Affiliates (Continued)

(a) Investment Fund Affiliates (Continued)

these investments in funds, partnerships and other vehicles are classified as “investment fund affiliates.” The Company’s equity investment in investment fund affiliates and equity in net income (loss) from such affiliates as well as certain summarized financial information of the investee as a whole (shown as “Combined Funds”) are included below:

| Year Ended December 31, 2012 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except percentages)</i> | Carrying Value | XL Group Investment Equity in Net Income (Loss) for the Year | Weighted Average XL Percentage Ownership | Combined Funds Total Net Assets (Estimated) (2) |
|---|-----------------------|---|---|--|
| Alternative Funds (1): | | | | |
| <i>Arbitrage</i> | \$ 131,037 | \$ 7,149 | 3.7% | \$ 3,517,404 |
| <i>Directional</i> | 297,535 | 14,791 | 5.9% | 5,057,381 |
| <i>Event Driven (3)</i> | 198,282 | 13,125 | 2.4% | 8,272,227 |
| <i>Multi-Style</i> | 326 | (99) | 13.5% | 2,410 |
| Total alternative funds | \$ 627,180 | \$ 34,966 | 3.7% | \$ 16,849,422 |
| Private Investment Funds (1): | 218,017 | 23,538 | 17.1% | 1,275,543 |
| Total Investment Fund Affiliates | \$ 845,197 | \$ 58,504 | 4.7% | \$ 18,124,965 |
| Year Ended December 31, 2011 | | | | |
| Alternative Funds (1): | | | | |
| <i>Arbitrage</i> | \$ 123,969 | \$ 1,291 | 3.4% | \$ 3,678,904 |
| <i>Directional</i> | 217,779 | 9,154 | 6.0% | 3,619,272 |
| <i>Event Driven</i> | 229,956 | (60) | 3.1% | 7,472,680 |
| <i>Multi-Style</i> | 425 | (9) | 17.6% | 2,410 |
| Total alternative funds | \$ 572,129 | \$ 10,376 | 3.9% | \$ 14,773,266 |
| Private Investment Funds (1): | 196,722 | 15,877 | 5.1% | 3,820,497 |
| Total Investment Fund Affiliates | \$ 768,851 | \$ 26,253 | 4.1% | \$ 18,593,763 |

(1) The Company generally records its alternative fund affiliates on a one-month lag and its private investment fund affiliates on a three-month lag.

(2) Total estimated net assets are generally as at November 30 and September 30, respectively.

(3) The Company accounts for its investment in certain funds where the ownership percentage is less than three percent using the equity method, where the Company has significant influence over the related investment management company.

Certain funds have a lock-up period and/or may also have the ability to impose a redemption gate. A lock-up period refers to the initial amount of time an investor is contractually required to remain invested before having the ability to redeem. Typically, the imposition of a gate delays a portion of the requested redemption, with the remaining portion settled in cash shortly after the redemption date.

The carrying value of the Company’s holdings in funds that are subject to lockups and/or that have gate provisions in their governing documents as at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$302.4 million and \$419.4 million, respectively. The carrying value of the Company’s holdings in funds where a gate was imposed at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$1.4 million and nil, respectively.

Certain funds may be allowed to invest a portion of their assets in illiquid securities, such as private equity or convertible debt. In such cases, a common mechanism used is a side-pocket, whereby the illiquid security is assigned to a separate memorandum capital account or other designated account. Typically, the investor loses its redemption rights in the designated account. Only when the illiquid securities in the side-pocket are sold, or otherwise deemed liquid by the fund, may investors redeem that portion of their interest that has been “side-pocketed”. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the carrying value of our funds held in

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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6. Investments in Affiliates (Continued)

(a) Investment Fund Affiliates (Continued)

side-pockets was \$39.7 million and \$30.7 million, respectively. The underlying assets within these positions are generally expected to be liquidated over a period of approximately two to four years.

(b) Operating Affiliates

The Company has invested in investment and (re)insurance affiliates and investment management companies' securities or other forms of ownership interests. Collectively, these investments are classified as "operating affiliates."

The Company's equity investment in operating affiliates and equity in net income (loss) from such affiliates as well as certain summarized financial information of the investee as a whole are included below:

| Year ended December 31, 2012 <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | XL Group Investment | | Combined Investee Summarized Financial Data (Estimated) (1) | | | |
|--|---------------------|---|--|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| | Carrying Value | Equity in Net Income (Loss) for the Year | Total Assets | Total Liabilities | Total Revenue (Loss) | Net Income (Loss) |
| Financial operating affiliates | \$ 732 | \$ – | \$ 12,711,762 | \$ 12,678,810 | \$ 20,467 | \$ 6,183 |
| Other strategic operating affiliates | 192,792 | 27,033 | 2,094,539 | 1,512,551 | 698,665 | 51,702 |
| Investment manager affiliates | 88,154 | 28,777 | 610,940 | 37,699 | 364,551 | 274,312 |
| Total operating affiliates | \$ 281,678 | \$ 55,810 | \$ 15,417,241 | \$ 14,229,060 | \$ 1,083,683 | \$ 332,197 |
| Year ended December 31, 2011 | | | | | | |
| Financial operating affiliates | \$ 732 | \$ (1,018) | \$ 11,957,534 | \$ 11,931,662 | \$ 12,564 | \$ 1,115 |
| Other strategic operating affiliates | 153,955 | 20,891 | 1,295,921 | 967,264 | 348,831 | 48,641 |
| Investment manager affiliates (2) | 129,191 | 56,913 | 601,511 | 38,349 | 319,984 | 222,260 |
| Total operating affiliates | \$ 283,878 | \$ 76,786 | \$ 13,854,966 | \$ 12,937,275 | \$ 681,379 | \$ 272,016 |

(1) The Company generally records its operating affiliates on a three month lag. Estimated assets and liabilities are generally at September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

(2) During the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 the Company received distributions from its Investment Manager Affiliates of approximately \$58.3 million and \$23.2 million respectively. During 2011 the Company sold its interests in Finisterre for total proceeds of \$35.0 million as explained below at "Investment Manager Affiliates."

In certain investments, the carrying value is different from the share of the investee's underlying net assets. The differences represent goodwill on acquisition, OTTI recorded with respect to the investment, or differences in the retained capital accounts of the various equity holders (including the Company).

See Note 17(c), "Commitments and Contingencies – Investments in Affiliates," for further information regarding commitments related to investment in affiliates.

Financial Operating Affiliates

The Company had no significant financial operating affiliates during 2012 or 2011 following the sale, during the fourth quarter of 2010, of approximately 76% of its investment in Primus Guaranty, Ltd. ("Primus"), reducing the Company's ownership interest from 39.7% to 9.8% at December 31, 2010. This sale generated total proceeds of \$51.6 million during the year ended December 31, 2010. Given management's view of the risk exposure, expected losses and the uncertainty facing the entire financial guarantee industry in 2007, the Company had reduced the reported value of its investment in Primus to nil at December 31, 2007. The Company did not record any equity earnings during 2010, 2009 or 2008 in

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

6. Investments in Affiliates (Continued)

(b) Operating Affiliates (Continued)

relation to Primus because of the significant losses and negative book value reported by Primus during these periods. Therefore, the sale in the fourth quarter of 2010 resulted in the recording of a gain of \$51.6 million through "Income from operating affiliates." Subsequent to the sale, the Company's ownership of Primus shares was accounted for as an available for sale equity security.

Other Strategic Operating Affiliates

The Company's strategic operating affiliates included an investment in ARX Holding Corporation of 39.7% and 45.7% at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. During 2012, the Company purchased interests in two additional strategic operating affiliates for \$20.9 million. During the second quarter of 2010, the Company's 49.9% investment in the Brazilian joint venture ITAU XL Seguros Corporativos S.A. ("ITAU") was sold.

Investment Manager Affiliates

During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company's larger investment manager affiliates included Highfields Capital, a global equity investment firm, Polar Capital, an investment firm offering traditional and alternative products and HighVista Strategies, a diversified wealth management firm. The Company recorded, through net income in affiliates, other-than-temporary declines in the values of certain investment manager affiliates totaling nil, \$0.6 million and \$4.4 million, for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

During the third quarter of 2011, the Company sold its interests in Finisterre for total proceeds of \$35.0 million resulting in a gain of \$25.3 million. In addition, this transaction includes the potential for additional amounts to be paid to the Company during 2013 and 2014 subject to the investment manager meeting certain performance targets. These amounts, if any, will be recorded when known with certainty.

Investment Fund Consolidation

During May 2012, the Company invested \$25.0 million to obtain an approximately 94% interest in Five Oaks Investment Corp. ("Five Oaks"), a newly formed private investment company. Five Oaks is a mortgage real estate investment trust that is focused on investing in, financing and managing a leveraged portfolio of agency and non-agency residential mortgage-backed securities, residential mortgage loans and other mortgage-related investments. At December 31, 2012, the Company has consolidated Five Oaks resulting in the recording within its balance sheet of: RMBS securities at their fair value of \$81.0 million (amortized cost: \$77.3 million) within Fixed maturities, \$8.4 million of Derivatives, \$6.0 million of Cash and cash equivalents, \$63.4 million of liabilities related to obligations under repurchase agreements within Other liabilities, and \$1.8 million of Non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries. \$66.3 million of securities held by Five Oaks and consolidated by the Company are pledged as collateral under the repurchase agreements. The repurchase agreements do not provide the counterparties any recourse to assets of the Company aside from its investment in Five Oaks. Amounts recorded within the Company's consolidated statement of income related to Five Oaks were immaterial during the year ended December 31, 2012. In addition, during March 2012, the Company purchased an equity interest in Oak Circle Capital Partners ("Oak Circle"), the investment management company that provides portfolio management and other administrative services to Five Oaks. The Company's investment in Oak Circle is included in investment manager affiliates.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

7. Other Investments

Contained within this asset class are equity interests in investment funds, limited partnerships and unrated tranches of collateralized debt obligations for which the Company does not have sufficient rights or ownership interests to follow the equity method of accounting. The Company accounts for such equity securities at estimated fair value with changes in fair value recorded through AOCI as it has no significant influence over these entities. Also included within other investments are structured transactions that are carried at amortized cost.

Other investments comprised the following at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| Year ended December 31, <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Alternative Investment Funds: | | |
| <i>Arbitrage</i> | \$ 278,680 | \$ 132,847 |
| <i>Directional</i> | 254,616 | 228,544 |
| <i>Event Driven</i> | 96,451 | – |
| <i>Multi-Style</i> | 65,125 | 93,664 |
| Total alternative funds | \$ 694,872 | \$ 455,055 |
| Private investment funds | 89,469 | 87,491 |
| Overseas deposits | 96,117 | 91,425 |
| Structured transactions | 312,122 | 323,705 |
| Other | 27,299 | 27,586 |
| Total other investments | <u>\$ 1,219,879</u> | <u>\$ 985,262</u> |

(a) Alternative and Private Equity Funds

At December 31, 2012, the alternative fund portfolio, accounted for as other investments, employed four strategies invested in 17 underlying funds, respectively. The Company is able to redeem the hedge funds on the same terms that the underlying funds can be redeemed. In general, the funds in which the Company is invested require at least 30 days notice of redemption, and may be redeemed on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, annual or longer basis, depending on the fund.

Certain funds have a lock-up period and/or may also have the ability to impose a redemption gate. A lock-up period refers to the initial amount of time an investor is contractually required to remain invested before having the ability to redeem. Typically, the imposition of a gate delays a portion of the requested redemption, with the remaining portion settled in cash shortly after the redemption date.

The fair value of the Company's holdings in funds that may be subject to lockups and/or that have gate provisions in their governing documents at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$335.2 million and \$240.0 million, respectively. The Company did not have any holdings in funds where a gate was imposed at December 31, 2012 or 2011.

Certain funds may be allowed to invest a portion of their assets in illiquid securities, such as private equity or convertible debt. In such cases, a common mechanism used is a side-pocket, whereby the illiquid security is assigned to a separate memorandum capital account or other designated account. Typically, the investor loses its redemption rights in the designated account. Only when the illiquid securities in the side-pocket are sold, or otherwise deemed liquid by the fund, may investors redeem that portion of their interest that has been "side-pocketed". At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the fair value of our funds held in side-pockets was \$25.0 million and \$28.4 million, respectively. The underlying assets within these positions are generally expected to be liquidated over a period of approximately two to four years.

An increase in market volatility and an increase in the volatility of hedge funds in general, as well as a decrease in market liquidity, could lead to a higher risk of a large decline in the value of the hedge funds in any given time period.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

7. Other Investments (Continued)

(a) Alternative and Private Equity Funds (Continued)

The following represents an analysis of the net realized gains and the net unrealized gains on the Company's alternative investment funds and private equity funds:

| Year ended December 31, <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Net Unrealized Gains (Losses) | | Net Realized Gains (Losses) | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Alternative investment funds | \$ 130,702 | \$ 96,873 | \$ (2,153) | \$ 10,120 | \$ 526 |
| Private investment funds | 38,518 | 33,725 | 257 | 3,585 | 3,049 |
| Total | <u>\$ 169,220</u> | <u>\$ 130,598</u> | <u>\$ (1,896)</u> | <u>\$ 13,705</u> | <u>\$ 3,575</u> |

(b) Overseas Deposits

Overseas deposits include investments in private funds related to Lloyd's syndicates in which the underlying instruments are primarily government and government-related/supported and corporate fixed income securities. The funds themselves do not trade on an exchange and therefore are not included within available for sale securities. Also included in overseas deposits are restricted cash and cash equivalent balances held by Lloyd's syndicates for solvency purposes. Given the restricted nature of these cash balances, they are not included within the cash and cash equivalents category in the balance sheet.

(c) Structured Transactions

Project Finance Loans

The Company historically participated in structured transactions in project finance related areas under which the Company provided a cash loan supporting project finance transactions. These transactions are accounted for in accordance with guidance governing accounting by certain entities (including entities with trade receivables) that lend to or finance the activities of others under which the loans are considered held for investment as the Company has the intent and ability to hold for the foreseeable future or until maturity or payoff. Accordingly, these funded loan participations are reported in the balance sheet at outstanding principal adjusted for any allowance for loan losses as considered necessary by management.

The following table shows a summary of the structured project finance loans for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| Project Finance Loans <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|------------|------------|
| Aggregate loan value | \$ 36,802 | \$ 49,650 |
| Aggregate loan net carrying value | \$ 31,219 | \$ 40,483 |
| Opening allowance for loan losses | \$ (9,167) | \$ (9,167) |
| Amounts charged off during the period | 3,584 | - |
| Closing allowance for loan losses | \$ (5,583) | \$ (9,167) |
| Number of individual loan participations | 4 | 6 |
| Number of individual loan participations relating to the allowance for loan losses | 1 | 2 |
| Weighted average contractual term to maturity | 1.0 years | 2.1 years |
| Weighted average credit rating | BB | BB- |
| Range of individual credit ratings | BB+ to BB- | BB+ to CCC |

Surveillance procedures are conducted over each structured project finance loan on an ongoing basis with current expectations of future collections of contractual interest and principal used to determine whether any allowance for loan losses may be required at each period end. If it is determined that a future credit loss on a specific contract is reasonably possible and an amount can be estimated, an allowance is recorded. The contractual receivable is only charged off when the final outcome is known and the Company has exhausted all commercial efforts to try and collect any outstanding balances.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

7. Other Investments (Continued)

(c) Structured Transactions (Continued)

National Indemnity Endorsement

On June 9, 2009, XL Specialty Insurance Company (“XL Specialty”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into an agreement with National Indemnity Company, an insurance company subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Inc. (“National Indemnity”). Under the agreement, and a related reinsurance agreement, National Indemnity would issue endorsements (“Endorsements”) to certain directors and officers liability insurance policies known as “Side A” coverage policies underwritten by XL Specialty (the “Facility”) during an eighteen month period that ended in December 31, 2011.

In connection with the Facility, XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd (“XLIB”) purchased a payment obligation (the “Obligation”) in an aggregate principal amount of \$150 million from National Indemnity. The outstanding Obligation was recorded in Other Investments at an estimated fair value of \$128.1 million, pays a coupon of 3.5%, and is being accreted to \$150 million over the 11.5 year term of the payment obligation. The difference between the estimated fair value of the Obligation and the cost of that Obligation at the time of the transaction was approximately \$21.9 million and was recorded in Other Assets. This difference, together with fees of \$2.5 million, was amortized in relation to the earning of the underlying policies written. During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, amortization of nil, \$9.4 million and \$9.5 million, respectively, was recorded.

Other Structured Transactions

On July 17, 2009, XLIB, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, purchased notes with an aggregate face amount of \$155 million. The carrying value of these notes at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$147.8 million and \$147.5 million, respectively. The issuer of the notes is a structured credit vehicle that holds underlying assets including corporate debt and preferred equity securities, including some securities issued by European financial institutions, as well as project finance debt securities. The notes, which are callable under certain criteria, have a final maturity of July 22, 2039.

These structured transactions are not considered to be fair value measurements under U.S. GAAP and, accordingly, they have been excluded from the fair value measurement disclosures. See Note 3, “Fair Value Measurements,” for details surrounding the estimated fair value of these investments.

(d) Other

The Company regularly reviews the performance of these other investments. The Company recorded losses of \$2.7 million, \$0.7 million and \$7.8 million in the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively, due to other than temporary declines in values of these other investments.

See Note 17 (b), “Commitments and Contingencies – Other Investments,” for further information regarding commitments related to other investments.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

8. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

The following table presents an analysis of intangible assets broken down between goodwill, intangible assets with an indefinite life and intangible assets with a definite life for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Goodwill | Intangible assets with an indefinite life | Intangible assets with a definite life | Total |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| Balance at December 31, 2009 | \$ 826,009 | \$ 15,366 | \$ 3,754 | \$ 845,129 |
| Amortization | – | – | (1,859) | (1,859) |
| Foreign Currency Translation | (3,762) | – | – | (3,762) |
| Balance at December 31, 2010 | \$ 822,247 | \$ 15,366 | \$ 1,895 | \$ 839,508 |
| Impairment | (429,020) | – | – | (429,020) |
| Amortization | – | – | (1,438) | (1,438) |
| Foreign Currency Translation | (1,729) | – | – | (1,729) |
| Balance at December 31, 2011 | \$ 391,498 | \$ 15,366 | \$ 457 | \$ 407,321 |
| Amortization | – | – | (178) | (178) |
| Foreign Currency Translation | 1,384 | – | – | 1,384 |
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | <u>\$ 392,882</u> | <u>\$ 15,366</u> | <u>\$ 279</u> | <u>\$ 408,527</u> |

The Company has goodwill of \$392.9 million at December 31, 2012, all related to the Reinsurance segment. The estimated fair values of the reporting units' carrying goodwill exceeded their estimated net book values at December 31, 2012 and therefore no impairments were recorded during 2012. The Company recorded a non-cash impairment of \$429.0 million during the fourth quarter of 2011 to write-off all of the goodwill associated with its Insurance segment reporting unit, as discussed further below. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the ending goodwill balance is comprised of gross goodwill of \$1.8 billion, offset by accumulated impairment charges of \$ 1.4 billion.

The Company tests goodwill for impairment on an annual basis as of June 30, during the third quarter, and on an interim basis when certain events or circumstances exist. The Company tests for impairment at the reporting unit level in accordance with the authoritative guidance on intangibles and goodwill. For the Reinsurance segment, a reporting unit is one level below the business segment, while for Insurance, the segment is also the reporting unit. The first step is to identify potential impairment by comparing the estimated fair value of a reporting unit to its estimated book value, including goodwill. The fair value of each reporting unit is derived based upon valuation techniques and assumptions the Company believes market participants would use to value the business and this is then compared to the book value of the business. The Company derives the net book value of its reporting units by estimating the amount of shareholders' equity required to support the activities of each reporting unit. The estimated fair values of the reporting units are generally determined utilizing methodologies that incorporate price-to-net-tangible-book and price-to-earnings multiples of certain comparable companies in the industry, from an operational and economic standpoint. If such individual reporting unit estimated fair values - combined with an estimate of an appropriate control premium - exceed their related individual reporting unit net book values, goodwill for those individual reporting units is not deemed to be impaired. A control premium represents the value an investor would pay above non- controlling interest transaction prices in order to obtain a controlling interest in the respective company.

However, if the margin calculated between the estimated reporting unit fair value and its net book value indicates a potential impairment or a "close call", a further analysis of the reporting unit's estimated fair value is performed, using an entity-specific discounted cash flow methodology. This methodology establishes fair value by estimating the present value of the projected future cash flows to be generated from the reporting unit. The discount rate applied to the projected future cash flows to arrive at the present value is intended to reflect all risks of ownership and the associated risks of realizing the stream of projected future cash flows. The discounted cash flow methodology uses the Company's projections of

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

8. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets (Continued)

financial performance for a ten-year period combined with an estimated terminal value. The most significant assumptions used in the discounted cash flow methodology are the discount rate, the terminal value and expected future revenues, gross margins and operating margins, which vary among reporting units. If the individual reporting unit net book values exceed their related individual reporting unit estimated fair values based on this additional methodology, the second step of the goodwill impairment testing process is performed to measure the amount of impairment.

During the third quarter of 2011, the Company completed its annual goodwill impairment testing based on Company and industry data as of June 30, 2011, which ultimately did not result in any goodwill impairments being recorded by the Company. Although the results of this analysis did not indicate the need for any impairment charges, management evaluated the sensitivity of the fair value calculations in the goodwill impairment test and concluded that relatively small changes to key assumptions such as discount rate, the terminal value, expected future revenues, gross margins and operating margins could result in a calculated fair value insufficient to support the current level of goodwill in certain businesses. Management also concluded that the prolonged weakened market conditions resulted in the range of calculated fair values used for testing impairment in the reporting units being sufficiently close to the current net book values to warrant quarterly analysis until market conditions improve.

At December 31, 2011, the Company updated its impairment analytics utilizing all of the methodologies discussed above. As a result of the analysis performed, the Company concluded that the indicated ranges of fair values of the reporting units within the Reinsurance segment in which goodwill is carried was sufficient to support their goodwill balances; however, the indicated fair value of the Insurance segment reporting unit was not sufficient to support its goodwill balance, and thus did not pass step one of the impairment testing process. Therefore step two was required to quantify the amount of goodwill impairment. Following the step two valuation process, the \$429 million carrying value of goodwill was deemed to be impaired. As a result of the continued losses in certain businesses within the segment and continued low industry market valuations, the Company increased the rate of return a market participant would require from that used in previous goodwill testing and decreased the level of control premiums added to market value multiples for the insurance reporting unit. These factors taken together, led to the conclusion that the impairment was required. The assumptions utilized within the Reinsurance segment reporting unit valuations were not modified from those utilized during the third quarter as these units were not impacted by similar underperformance.

9. Reinsurance

The Company utilizes reinsurance and retrocession agreements principally to increase aggregate capacity and to reduce the risk of loss on business assumed. The Company's reinsurance and retrocession agreements provide for recovery of a portion of losses and loss expenses from reinsurers and reinsurance recoverables are recorded as assets. The Company is liable if the reinsurers are unable to satisfy their obligations under the agreements. Under its reinsurance security policy, the Company seeks to cede business to reinsurers generally with a financial strength rating of "A" or better. The Company considers reinsurers that are not rated or do not fall within the above rating categories and may grant exceptions to the Company's general policy on a case-by-case basis. The effect of reinsurance and retrocessional activity on premiums written and earned from property and casualty operations is shown below:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Premiums Written | | | Premiums Earned | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | Year Ended December 31, | | | Year Ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Direct | \$ 4,733,518 | \$ 4,714,588 | \$ 4,398,753 | \$ 4,604,327 | \$ 4,624,557 | \$ 4,535,626 |
| Assumed | 2,441,612 | 2,183,696 | 1,862,578 | 2,393,490 | 2,179,555 | 1,837,528 |
| Ceded | (1,218,109) | (1,464,896) | (1,261,743) | (1,231,835) | (1,477,000) | (1,342,017) |
| Net | <u>\$ 5,957,021</u> | <u>\$ 5,433,388</u> | <u>\$ 4,999,588</u> | <u>\$ 5,765,982</u> | <u>\$ 5,327,112</u> | <u>\$ 5,031,137</u> |

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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9. Reinsurance (Continued)

The Company recorded reinsurance recoveries on losses and loss expenses incurred of \$0.6 billion, \$1.1 billion and \$1.0 billion for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The following table presents an analysis of total unpaid losses and loss expenses and future policy benefit reserves recoverable for the year ended December 31:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| P&C operations | \$ 3,361,702 | \$ 3,629,928 |
| Life Operations | 20,399 | 25,020 |
| Total unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | <u>\$ 3,382,101</u> | <u>\$ 3,654,948</u> |

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the total reinsurance assets of \$3.4 billion and \$3.9 billion, respectively, included reinsurance receivables for paid losses and loss expenses of \$58.4 million and \$220.0 million, respectively, with \$3.4 billion and \$3.7 billion relating to the ceded reserve for losses and loss expenses, including ceded losses incurred but not reported for each year end. Although the contractual obligation of individual reinsurers to pay their reinsurance obligations is based on specific contract provisions, the collectability of such amounts requires significant estimation by management. The majority of the balance the Company has accrued as recoverable will not be due for collection until sometime in the future. Over this period of time, economic conditions and operational performance of a particular reinsurer may impact its ability to meet these obligations and while it may continue to acknowledge its contractual obligation to do so, it may not have the financial resources or willingness to fully meet its obligations to the Company.

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the allowance for uncollectible reinsurance relating to both reinsurance balances receivable and unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable were \$107.9 million and \$99.2 million, respectively. To estimate the provision for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable, the reinsurance recoverable must first be allocated to applicable reinsurers. As part of this process, ceded IBNR is allocated by reinsurer. The allocations are generally based on historical relationships between gross and ceded losses. If actual experience varies materially from historical experience, the allocation of reinsurance recoverable by reinsurer will change.

The Company uses a default analysis to estimate uncollectible reinsurance recoverables. The primary components of the default analysis are reinsurance recoverable balances by reinsurer, net of collateral, and default factors used to determine the portion of a reinsurer's balance deemed uncollectible. The definition of collateral for this purpose requires some judgment and is generally limited to assets held in trust, letters of credit, and liabilities held by the Company with the same legal entity for which the Company believes there is a right of offset. The Company is the beneficiary of letters of credit, trust accounts and funds withheld in the aggregate amount of \$1.7 billion at December 31, 2012 and 2011, collateralizing reinsurance recoverables with respect to certain reinsurers. Default factors require considerable judgment and are determined using the current financial strength rating, or rating equivalent, of each reinsurer as well as other key considerations and assumptions. The total allowance recorded relating to reinsurance recoverables was \$53.3 million and \$55.3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The Company uses an aging analysis to estimate uncollectible reinsurance balances receivable relating to paid losses in addition to recording allowances relating to any specific balances with known collectability issues, irrespective of aging. The balances are aged from the date the expected recovery was billed to the reinsurer. Provisions are applied at specified percentages of the outstanding balances based upon the aging profile. Allowances otherwise required as a result of the aging process may not be recorded to the extent that specific facts and circumstances exist that lead management to believe that amounts will ultimately be collectible. The total allowance recorded relating to reinsurance balances receivable was \$54.6 million and \$43.9 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

At December 31, 2012, the use of different assumptions within the model could have a material effect on the bad debt provision reflected in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. To the extent the

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9. Reinsurance (Continued)

creditworthiness of the Company's reinsurers was to deteriorate due to an adverse event affecting the reinsurance industry, such as a large number of major catastrophes, actual uncollectible amounts could be significantly greater than the Company's bad debt provision. Such an event could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

Approximately 91% of the total unpaid loss and loss expense recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable (net of collateral held) outstanding at December 31, 2012 was due from reinsurers with a financial strength rating of "A" or better. The following is an analysis of the total recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable at December 31, 2012, by reinsurers owing 3% or more of such total:

| Name of Reinsurer | Reinsurer Financial Strength Rating | % of Total |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------|
| Munich Reinsurance Company | AA-/Stable | 25.4 % |
| Swiss Reinsurance Company | AA-/Stable | 11.0 % |
| Lloyd's Syndicate | A+/Stable | 8.0 % |
| Swiss Re Europe S.A. | AA-/Stable | 5.5 % |
| Transatlantic Reinsurance Company | A+/Stable | 4.0 % |

The following table sets forth the ratings profile of the reinsurers that support the unpaid loss and loss expense recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable:

| Reinsurer Financial Strength Rating | % of Total |
|--|----------------|
| AAA | 1.2 % |
| AA | 53.1 % |
| A | 37.1 % |
| BBB | 0.3 % |
| BB and below | 0.0 % |
| Captives | 6.1 % |
| Not Rated | 0.2 % |
| Other | 2.0 % |
| Total | <u>100.0 %</u> |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

10. Losses and Loss Expenses

Unpaid losses and loss expenses for the indicated years ended December 31 are comprised of:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Reserve for reported losses and loss expenses | \$ 7,976,121 | \$ 8,153,585 |
| Reserve for losses incurred but not reported | 12,508,000 | 12,460,316 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses | <u>\$ 20,484,121</u> | <u>\$ 20,613,901</u> |

Net losses and loss expenses incurred for the years indicated are comprised of:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Loss and loss expenses payments | \$ 4,673,997 | \$ 4,911,737 | \$ 4,309,523 |
| Change in unpaid losses and loss expenses | (297,660) | 260,631 | (141,589) |
| Change in unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 279,900 | (28,442) | (117,120) |
| Paid loss recoveries | (890,755) | (1,065,535) | (839,014) |
| Net losses and loss expenses incurred | <u>\$ 3,765,482</u> | <u>\$ 4,078,391</u> | <u>\$ 3,211,800</u> |

The following table represents an analysis of the Company's paid and unpaid losses and loss expenses incurred and a reconciliation of the beginning and ending unpaid losses and loss expenses for the years indicated:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses at the beginning of the year | \$ 20,613,901 | \$ 20,531,607 | \$ 20,823,524 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 3,629,928 | 3,649,290 | 3,557,391 |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses at the beginning of the year | \$ 16,983,973 | \$ 16,882,317 | \$ 17,266,133 |
| Increase (decrease) in net losses and loss expenses incurred in respect of losses occurring in: | | | |
| Current year | 4,081,377 | 4,363,258 | 3,584,662 |
| Prior year | (315,895) | (284,867) | (372,862) |
| Total net incurred losses and loss expenses | \$ 3,765,482 | \$ 4,078,391 | \$ 3,211,800 |
| Exchange rate effects | 156,206 | (130,533) | (125,107) |
| Less net losses and loss expenses paid in respect of losses occurring in: | | | |
| Current year | 416,844 | 589,870 | 442,262 |
| Prior year | 3,366,398 | 3,256,332 | 3,028,247 |
| Total net paid losses | \$ 3,783,242 | \$ 3,846,202 | \$ 3,470,509 |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses at the end of the year | 17,122,419 | 16,983,973 | 16,882,317 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable | 3,361,702 | 3,629,928 | 3,649,290 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses at the end of the year | <u>\$ 20,484,121</u> | <u>\$ 20,613,901</u> | <u>\$ 20,531,607</u> |

(a) Current year net losses incurred

Current year net losses incurred decreased by \$281.9 million in 2012 as compared to 2011. This was mainly as a result of the current year loss ratio excluding prior year development decreasing by 11.1 loss percentage points due to lower losses from natural catastrophes as compared to 2011. In addition, the current year loss ratio excluding natural catastrophes improved in both the Insurance and Reinsurance segments due to lower large property risk losses, as well as business mix changes and other underwriting improvements.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(a) Current year net losses incurred (Continued)

Current year net losses incurred increased by \$778.6 million in 2011 as compared to 2010. This was mainly as a result of the current year loss ratio excluding prior year development increasing by 10.7 loss percentage points due to higher losses from natural catastrophes as compared to 2010, but also from the following: (i) the Insurance segment in 2011 experienced higher large loss activity in the energy, property and marine businesses, as compared to 2010; and (ii) the Reinsurance segment in 2011 experienced higher levels of large loss events in U.S. property including a deterioration in the performance of a large U.S. agricultural program, higher attritional losses as well as business mix changes, as compared to 2010.

(b) Prior year net losses incurred

The following table presents the net (favorable) adverse prior year loss development of the Company's loss and loss expense reserves for its property and casualty operations by operating segment for each of the years indicated:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Insurance segment | \$ (140,067) | \$ (76,516) | \$ (127,411) |
| Reinsurance segment | (175,828) | (208,351) | (245,451) |
| Total | <u>\$ (315,895)</u> | <u>\$ (284,867)</u> | <u>\$ (372,862)</u> |

The significant developments in prior year loss reserve estimates for each of the years indicated within the Company's Insurance and Reinsurance segments are discussed below.

Insurance Segment

The following table summarizes the net (favorable) adverse prior year development by line of business relating to the Insurance segment for the last three years ended December 31:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Property | \$ (46,733) | \$ (8,922) | \$ (23,525) |
| Casualty | (61,633) | 34,500 | 28,987 |
| Professional | (106,368) | (87,520) | (118,552) |
| Specialty | (61,761) | (71,285) | (66,278) |
| Other | 136,428 | 56,711 | 51,957 |
| Total | <u>\$ (140,067)</u> | <u>\$ (76,516)</u> | <u>\$ (127,411)</u> |

Net favorable prior year reserve development for the Insurance Segment of \$140.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 was mainly attributable to the following:

- For property lines, net prior year development during the year was \$46.7 million favorable. This was driven by a release of \$26.5 million for the non-catastrophe exposures in the general property, energy and construction books due to better than expected reported loss experience predominantly in the 2011 accident year. It was also driven by releases totaling \$19.6 million for the catastrophe exposures, with \$12.5 million and \$6.1 million arising from the 2010 and 2011 accident years, respectively.
- For casualty lines, net prior year development during the year was \$61.6 million favorable. This was driven by a release of \$25.5 million in international primary casualty due to better than expected reported loss experience. The primary casualty releases relate to the 2006 to 2011 accident years. There was also a release of \$50.7 million in the excess casualty lines due primarily to better than expected reported loss experience, the majority of which relates to the 2005 and prior accident years. The releases in primary and excess casualty were partially offset by an increase of \$15.7 million in

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(b) Prior year net losses incurred (Continued)

U.S. middle markets due to worse than expected reported loss experience primarily in the 2006 to 2011 accident years.

- For professional lines, net prior year development during the year was \$106.4 million favorable. This was driven by releases in reserves for clash losses (which cover a number of substantially similar claims against multiple policyholders) in the U.S. and Bermuda core professional businesses totaling \$120.8 million. This is comprised of \$44.2 million and \$37.0 million released from the 2010 and 2011 report years, respectively, to reflect the limited clash events for these years. In addition, \$48.4 million was released from the 2007 report year to reflect that subprime claims are developing better than expected. Finally, the 2006 and prior report years were strengthened by \$8.8 million to reflect the unfavorable reported loss experience across these years.

In terms of non-clash losses in the core professional businesses, \$18.2 million and \$19.8 million was released from the U.S. and Bermuda books, respectively, due to better than expected reported loss experience while the International core book was strengthened by \$39.5 million due to unfavorable reported loss experience. Although this led to a relatively immaterial \$1.5 million strengthening in aggregate across the core professional businesses, this resulted in strengthening between the 2009 and 2011 report years offset by releases in the 2008 and prior report years.

Offsetting the above, the Design portfolio, covering architects' and engineers' professional liability, was strengthened by \$22.9 million due to worse than expected reported loss experience in the Canadian book partially offset by a release of \$9.6 million in the U.S. book as a result of favorable reported loss experience.

- For specialty lines, net prior year development during the year was \$61.8 million favorable. This was driven by releases of \$44.0 million, \$4.5 million and \$4.0 million for the non-catastrophe exposures in aerospace, specie and product recall, respectively, due to continued better than expected reported loss experience in the more recent accident years. It was also driven by a release of \$8.6 million in the London Market discontinued political risk book reflecting the limited remaining exposures on this mature portfolio.
- For other lines, net prior year development during the year was \$136.4 million unfavorable. Continued adverse reported loss experience in the excess and surplus lines led to a strengthening of \$80.4 million between the 2006 and 2011 accident years. This was primarily driven by strengthening of \$36.5 million and \$38.4 million in the Apartments and New York Contractors books respectively. The discontinued surety book was strengthened by \$44.9 million based on recent settlements while a claims audit led to an increase of \$11.8 million in programs predominantly in the more recent accident years.

Net favorable prior year reserve development for the Insurance segment of \$76.5 million (corresponding gross development was \$23.1 million unfavorable) for the year ended December 31, 2011 was mainly attributable to releases of \$87.5 million in professional lines, \$71.3 million for specialty lines and \$8.9 million for property lines partially offset by strengthening of \$34.5 million for casualty lines and \$56.7 million for other lines. The professional lines benefitted from releases in reserves for clash losses totaling \$88.5 million. Better than expected reported loss experience in the marine, aerospace, specie and discontinued lines led to the release in the specialty lines while the property lines benefitted from better than expected reported loss activity for the non-catastrophe exposures. The strengthening in the casualty lines mainly related to adverse development on large excess casualty claims associated with the Deepwater Horizon event in the 2010 accident year totaling \$135.6 million gross and \$33.4 million net. Adverse development in the excess and surplus lines and run-off surety book of business led to the unfavorable result in other lines.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(b) Prior year net losses incurred (Continued)

Net favorable prior year reserve development for the Insurance segment of \$127.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 was mainly attributable to releases of \$118.6 million in professional lines, \$66.3 million for specialty lines and \$23.5 million for property lines partially offset by strengthening of \$29.0 million for casualty lines and \$52.0 million for other lines. The favorable professional lines result was driven by lower than expected actual losses in the core professional businesses totaling \$216.3 million partially offset by unfavorable development of \$63.7 million in the U.S. Private Commercial lines, \$27.4 million in the Select portfolio and \$6.2 million in the Design portfolio. Lower than expected actual losses in the aerospace, marine, specie, equine and discontinued lines led to the release in the specialty lines while the property lines benefited from lower than expected actual losses for the non-catastrophe exposures. The strengthening in the casualty lines was driven by unfavorable development of \$45.1 million in the U.S. risk management lines and \$15.5 million in the environmental lines partially offset by a \$26.0 million decrease in the uncollectible reinsurance reserve from reduced exposures and lower estimated risk levels from the Swiss operations. An unfavorable settlement in the surety lines and an unfavorable commutation in the financial lines led to the adverse result in other lines.

There is no assurance that conditions and trends that have affected the development of liabilities in the past will continue. Accordingly, it may not be appropriate to extrapolate future redundancies or deficiencies based on the Company's historical results.

Reinsurance Segment

The following table summarizes the net (favorable) adverse prior year development by line of business relating to the Reinsurance segment for the last three years ended December 31:

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Property and other short-tail lines | \$ (107,613) | \$ (64,267) | \$ (145,768) |
| Casualty and other | (68,215) | (144,084) | (99,683) |
| Total | <u>\$ (175,828)</u> | <u>\$ (208,351)</u> | <u>\$ (245,451)</u> |

Net favorable prior year reserve development for the Reinsurance segment of \$175.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 was mainly attributable to the following:

- Net favorable prior year development during the year of \$107.6 million for the short-tailed lines and details of these by specific lines are as follows:
 - For property catastrophe lines, net prior year development during the year was \$16.5 million favorable mainly driven by lower than expected incurred losses for the 2011 and 2005 catastrophe losses on the Bermuda book.
 - For property other lines, net prior year development during the year was \$49.0 million favorable mainly due to favorable claim development on the International, North America and Bermuda books offset by some unfavorable claim development on the Latin America book.
 - For marine and aviation lines, net prior year development during the year was \$42.2 million favorable due mainly to favorable attritional development of \$27.3 million on the International book together with \$6.1 million release on prior year large losses. There is an additional \$4.9 million favorable prior year development in Bermuda and \$4.1 million favorable prior year development in North America.
- Net favorable prior year development during the year of \$68.2 million for the long-tailed lines and details of these by specific lines are as follows:
 - For casualty lines, net prior year development during the year was \$60.3 million favorable arising mainly out of the North America book due to more favorable than expected development on the 2003 and 2004 underwriting years.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(b) Prior year net losses incurred (Continued)

- For other lines, net prior year development during the year was \$7.9 million favorable mainly driven by \$8.4 million release on the Structured Indemnity book.

Net favorable prior year reserve development for the Reinsurance segment of \$208.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 was attributable to a net favorable prior year development of \$64.3 million for the short-tailed lines and a net favorable prior year development of \$144.1 million for the long-tailed lines. The net favorable prior year development for short-tailed lines was explained by \$37.3 million in favorable property catastrophe development, by \$40.5 million in favorable property other lines releases and was partially offset by \$13.5 million in unfavorable marine and aviation development. The net favorable prior year development for long-tailed lines was explained by \$109.4 million in favorable casualty lines development and by additional \$34.7 million in favorable other lines development mainly due to reserve releases on whole account treaties written on Lloyd's syndicates for the 2008 underwriting year as well as releases on large losses and trade credit.

Net favorable prior year reserve development for the Reinsurance segment of \$245.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 was attributable to a net favorable prior year development of \$145.8 million for the short-tailed lines and a net favorable prior year development of \$99.7 million for the long-tailed lines. The net favorable prior year development for short-tailed lines was explained by \$35.6 million net in favorable property catastrophe development, by \$87.4 million in favorable property other lines releases and by additional \$22.8 million net in favorable marine and aviation development. The net favorable prior year development for long-tailed lines was explained by \$25.2 million in favorable casualty and professional development and by additional \$74.5 million in favorable other lines development is mainly driven by reserve releases on whole account treaties written in Lloyd's syndicates.

There is no assurance that conditions and trends that have affected the development of liabilities in the past will continue. Accordingly, it may not be appropriate to extrapolate future redundancies or deficiencies based on the Company's historical results.

(c) Exchange rate effects

Exchange rate effects on net loss reserves in each of the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 related to our global operations primarily where reporting units have a functional currency that is not the U.S. dollar. In 2012, the U.S. dollar was weaker against the major currencies to which we are exposed, including the U.K. sterling, the Euro and the Swiss franc. In 2011, the U.S. dollar was stronger against U.K. sterling, the Euro, the Brazilian real and the Swiss franc, which more than offset losses that were driven by a stronger Australian dollar. In 2010, the U.S. dollar was stronger against the Euro, while weaker against the Swiss franc, Canadian dollar and Brazilian real. These movements in the U.S. dollar gave rise to translation and revaluation exchange movements related to carried loss reserve balances of \$156.2 million, \$(130.5) million and \$(125.1) million in the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(d) Net paid losses

Total net paid losses were \$3.8 billion, \$3.8 billion and \$3.5 billion in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(e) Other loss information

The Company did not dispose of or acquire net loss reserves in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

The Company's net incurred losses and loss expenses include actual and estimates of potential non-recoveries from reinsurers. As at December 31, 2012 and 2011, the reserve for potential non-recoveries

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(e) Other loss information (Continued)

from reinsurers was \$107.9 million and \$99.2 million, respectively. For further information, see Note 9, "Reinsurance."

Except for certain workers' compensation (including long term disability) liabilities and certain U.K. motor liability claims, the Company does not discount its unpaid losses and loss expenses.

The Company utilizes tabular reserving for workers' compensation (including long-term disability) unpaid losses that are considered fixed and determinable, and discounts such losses using an interest rate of 5% in 2012 and 2011. The interest rate approximates the average yield to maturity on specific fixed income investments that support these liabilities. The tabular reserving methodology results in applying uniform and consistent criteria for establishing expected future indemnity and medical payments (including an explicit factor for inflation) and the use of mortality tables to determine expected payment periods. Tabular unpaid losses and loss expenses, net of reinsurance, at December 31, 2012 and 2011 on an undiscounted basis were \$645.2 million and \$612.9 million, respectively. The related discounted unpaid losses and loss expenses were \$343.0 million and \$290.3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The Company records a specific reserve allowance for Periodical Payment Orders ("PPO") in the U.K. motor liabilities. This allowance includes the unpaid losses for claims already settled and notified as PPO at December 31, 2012, as well as the unpaid losses for claims to be settled in the future. The future care element of the unpaid losses were discounted using an interest rate of 1.5% at December 31, 2012 reduced from 2% at December 31, 2011 to reflect the increased reserve and the yields obtained on the additional purchase of assets. Unpaid losses and loss expenses, net of reinsurance, at December 31, 2012 and 2011 on an undiscounted basis were \$240.0 million and \$52.8 million, respectively. After discounting of the future care element the unpaid losses and loss expenses were \$148.6 million and \$29.6 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The increase in net undiscounted unpaid losses and loss expenses between December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2012 is explained in part by the identification of a proportion of the overall UK motor reserves that will settle as Periodical Payment claims in the future. This is in addition to a revision of the assumptions underlying the PPO reserve calculation and the worse than expected settlement of claims as PPOs during 2012.

The nature of the Company's high excess of loss liability and catastrophe business can result in loss events that are both irregular and significant. Similarly, adjustments to reserves for individual years can be irregular and significant. Such adjustments are part of the normal course of business for the Company. Conditions and trends that have affected development of liability in the past may not continue in the future. Accordingly, it is inappropriate to extrapolate future redundancies or deficiencies based upon historical experience.

(f) Discontinued Asbestos and Run-Off Environmental Related Claims

The Company's reserving process includes a continuing evaluation of the potential impact on unpaid liabilities from exposure to discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental claims, including related loss adjustment expenses. Liabilities are established to cover both known and incurred but not reported claims. The Company's reserving and exposures to environmental liability business currently written within the NAPC and IPC business groups are not included in this note, which only relates to specific discontinued and/or run-off coverages, not originally written specifically to cover such environmental hazards.

The Company's exposure to discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental claims arises from the following three sources:

- (1) Reinsurance contracts written, both on a proportional and excess basis, after 1972. The Company discontinued writing contracts with these exposures in 1985. Business written was across many different policies, each with a relatively small contract limit. The Company's reported asbestos claims relate to both traditional products and premises and operations coverage.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(f) Discontinued Asbestos and Run-Off Environmental Related Claims (Continued)

- (2) Winterthur – business of Winterthur purchased by the Company from AXA Insurance (formerly Winterthur Swiss Insurance Company) in 2001. Pursuant to the Sale and Purchase Agreement and related agreements, AXA Insurance reimburses the Company for all asbestos losses.
- (3) During 2006, the Company acquired \$40.2 million in losses through a loss portfolio transfer contract of which \$18.3 million in losses related to asbestos and environmental claims. Given the terms of the policy, the combined aggregate limit on the total acquired reserves is limited to \$60.0 million, not including coverage for claims handling costs over a defined period.

A reconciliation of the opening and closing unpaid losses and loss expenses related to discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental exposure claims for the years indicated is as follows:

| Year ended December 31, <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses at beginning of year | \$ 77,778 | \$ 84,075 | \$ 100,922 |
| Net incurred losses and loss expenses | 6,558 | (41) | (130) |
| Less net paid losses and loss expenses | 6,021 | 6,256 | 16,718 |
| Net increase (decrease) in unpaid losses and loss expenses | 537 | (6,297) | (16,848) |
| Net unpaid losses and loss expenses at end of year | 78,315 | 77,778 | 84,075 |
| Unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable at end of year | 123,799 | 134,323 | 142,037 |
| Gross unpaid losses and loss expenses at end of year | \$ 202,114 | \$ 212,101 | \$ 226,112 |

Reserves for incurred but not reported losses, net of reinsurance, included in the above table were \$52.2 million, \$47.2 million and \$54.9 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Unpaid losses recoverable are net of potential uncollectible amounts.

At December 31, 2012, the Company had 1,073 open claim files for potential discontinued asbestos claims exposures and 354 open claim files for potential run-off environmental claims exposures. Approximately 42%, 43% and 44% of the open claim files are due to precautionary claim notices in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Precautionary claim notices are submitted by the ceding companies in order to preserve their right to receive coverage under the reinsurance contract.

Such notices do not contain an incurred loss amount to the Company. The development of the number of open claim files for potential discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental claims, including precautionary claims, is as follows:

| | Asbestos Claims | Environmental Claims |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Total number of claims outstanding at December 31, 2009 | 1,437 | 484 |
| New claims reported in 2010 | 125 | 31 |
| Claims resolved in 2010 | (362) | (98) |
| Total number of claims outstanding at December 31, 2010 | 1,200 | 417 |
| New claims reported in 2011 | 106 | 36 |
| Claims resolved in 2011 | (268) | (91) |
| Total number of claims outstanding at December 31, 2011 | 1,038 | 362 |
| New claims reported in 2012 | 236 | 60 |
| Claims resolved in 2012 | (201) | (68) |
| Total number of claims outstanding at December 31, 2012 | 1,073 | 354 |

The Company's reserving process includes a continuing evaluation of the potential impact on unpaid liabilities from exposure to discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental claims, including related loss adjustment expenses. Liabilities are established to cover both known and incurred but not reported claims.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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10. Losses and Loss Expenses (Continued)

(f) Discontinued Asbestos and Run-Off Environmental Related Claims (Continued)

The estimation of loss and loss expense liabilities for discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental exposures is subject to much greater uncertainty than is normally associated with the establishment of liabilities for certain other exposures due to several factors, including: (i) uncertain legal interpretation and application of insurance and reinsurance coverage and liability; (ii) the lack of reliability of available historical claims data as an indicator of future claims development; (iii) an uncertain political climate which may impact, among other areas, the nature and amount of costs for remediating waste sites; and (iv) the potential of insurers and reinsurers to reach agreements in order to avoid further significant legal costs. Due to the potential significance of these uncertainties, the Company believes that no meaningful range of loss and loss expense liabilities beyond recorded reserves can be established. As the Company's net unpaid loss and loss expense reserves related to discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental exposures are less than 1% of the total net reserves at December 31, 2012 and 2011, further adverse development is not expected to be material to the Company's overall net loss reserves. The Company believes it has made reasonable provision for its discontinued asbestos and run-off environmental exposures and is unaware of any specific issues that would significantly affect its estimate for loss and loss expenses.

11. Deposit Liabilities

The Company has entered into certain insurance and reinsurance policies that transfer insufficient risk under GAAP to be accounted for as insurance or reinsurance transactions and are recognized as deposits. These structured property and casualty agreements have been recorded as deposit liabilities and are initially matched by an equivalent amount of investments. The Company has investment risk related to its ability to generate sufficient investment income to enable the total invested assets to cover the payment of the ultimate liability. See Note 5, "Investments," for further information relating to the Company's net investment income as well as realized and unrealized investment (losses) gains. Each deposit liability accrues at a rate equal to the internal rate of return of the payment receipts and obligations due during the life of the agreement. Where the timing and/or amount of future payments are uncertain, cash flows reflecting the Company's actuarially determined best estimates are utilized. Deposit liabilities are initially recorded at an amount equal to the assets received.

Total deposit liabilities were \$1.6 billion for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011. Interest expense of \$66.3 million, \$51.3 million and \$54.4 million was recorded related to the accretion of deposit liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

12. Future Policy Benefit Reserves

Future policy benefit reserves are comprised of the following:

Year ended December 31
(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Traditional Life | 805,558 | 812,628 |
| Annuities | 4,006,487 | 4,032,766 |
| Total future policy benefit reserves | <u><u>4,812,045</u></u> | <u><u>4,845,394</u></u> |

The Company entered into long duration contracts that subject the Company to mortality and morbidity risks and that were accounted for as life premiums earned. Future policy benefit reserves were established using appropriate assumptions for investment yields, mortality, and expenses, including a provision for adverse deviation. The average interest rate used for the determination of the future policy benefits for these contracts was 4.5% at December 31, 2012 and 2011. Total future policy benefit reserves for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were \$4.8 billion. There were normal course releases on single premium annuities in line with the benefits paid and mortality of underlying policyholders, which has been partially offset by foreign exchange movements, resulting in a net decrease of \$26.3 million during 2012.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

13. Notes Payable and Debt and Financing Arrangements

At December 31, the Company's financing structure, which includes senior unsecured notes, bank and loan facilities available from a variety of sources, including commercial banks, and letter of credit facilities was as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Commitment/ Debt | In Use/ Outstanding (1) | Commitment/ Debt | In Use/ Outstanding (1) |
| Debt: | | | | |
| 4-year revolver expiring 2015 (2) | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ – | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ – |
| 6.50% Guaranteed Senior Notes due 2012 (3) | – | – | 600,000 | 599,971 |
| 5.25% Senior Notes due 2014 | 600,000 | 598,424 | 600,000 | 597,501 |
| 5.75% Senior Notes due 2021 | 400,000 | 396,230 | 400,000 | 395,963 |
| 6.375% Senior Notes due 2024 | 350,000 | 348,701 | 350,000 | 348,592 |
| 6.25% Senior Notes due 2027 | 325,000 | 322,748 | 325,000 | 322,591 |
| Total debt | \$ 2,675,000 | \$ 1,666,103 | \$ 3,275,000 | \$ 2,264,618 |
| Adjustment to carrying value – impact of fair value hedges | | 6,675 | – | 10,709 |
| Carrying value | <u>\$ 2,675,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,672,778</u> | <u>\$ 3,275,000</u> | <u>\$ 2,275,327</u> |
| Letters of Credit: | | | | |
| 5 facilities – total | <u>\$ 4,000,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,757,250</u> | <u>\$ 4,000,000</u> | <u>\$ 1,871,192</u> |

(1) "In Use" and "Outstanding" data represent December 31, 2012 and 2011 accreted values.

(2) This credit facility has a \$1 billion revolving credit sub-limit.

(3) The 6.50% Guaranteed Senior Notes were repaid at maturity on January 15, 2012.

(a) Notes Payable and Debt

All outstanding debt of the Company at December 31, 2012, as noted in the table above, was issued by XL-Cayman. At December 31, 2011, all outstanding debt was issued by XL-Cayman except for the \$600 million par value 6.5% Guaranteed Senior Notes (the "XLCFE Notes") which were issued by XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc ("XLCFE") and were repaid at maturity on January 15, 2012. Both XL-Cayman and XLCFE are 100% owned subsidiaries of XL-Ireland. The XLCFE Notes were fully and unconditionally guaranteed by XL Company Switzerland GmbH. XL-Cayman's outstanding debt is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by XL-Ireland. The ability of XL-Cayman, like that of the Company's to obtain funds from its subsidiaries to satisfy any of its obligations under guarantees is subject to certain contractual restrictions, applicable laws and statutory requirements of the various countries in which the Company operates, including, among others, Bermuda, the United States, Ireland, Switzerland and the U.K. For details of the required statutory capital and surplus for the principal operating subsidiaries of the Company, see Note 23, "Statutory Financial Data."

Concurrent with the issuance of ordinary shares and pursuant to the Company's shelf registration statement, the Company, in August 2008, issued 23.0 million 10.75% Equity Security Units (the "10.75% Units") in a public offering in order to fund payments in relation to the Master Commutation Release and Restructuring Agreement, dated July 28, 2008, as amended among XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd ("XLIB") and affiliates Syncora Holdings Ltd. and its affiliates ("Syncora") and certain of Syncora's credit default swap counterparties (the "Master Agreement"), and remaining net proceeds were used for general corporate purposes. The Company received approximately \$557.0 million in net proceeds from the sale of the 10.75% Units after deducting underwriting discounts. Each 10.75% Unit had a stated amount of \$25 and consisted of (a) a purchase contract pursuant to which the holder agreed to purchase, for \$25, a variable number of shares of the Company's Ordinary Shares on August 15, 2011 and (b) a one-fortieth, or 2.5%, ownership

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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13. Notes Payable and Debt and Financing Arrangements (Continued)

(a) Notes Payable and Debt (Continued)

interest in a senior note issued by the Company due August 15, 2021 with a principal amount of \$1,000. The senior notes were pledged by the holders to secure their obligations under the purchase contract.

The number of shares issued under the purchase contract was contingently adjustable based on, among other things, the share price of the Company on the stock purchase date and the dividend rate of the Company. The Company made quarterly payments at the annual rate of 2.50% and 8.25% under the purchase contracts and senior notes, respectively. For all periods reported, the Company had the right to defer the contract payments on the purchase contract, but not the senior notes, until the stock purchase date. In August 2011, the senior notes were remarketed whereby the interest rate on the senior notes was to be reset in order to generate sufficient remarketing proceeds to satisfy the 10.75% Unit holders' obligations under the purchase contracts.

In connection with this transaction, \$37.9 million, which is the estimated fair value of the purchase contract, was charged to "Additional paid in capital" and a corresponding liability was established. Of the \$18.0 million total accrued costs associated with the issuance of the 10.75% Units, \$14.7 million was charged to "Additional paid in capital" with the remainder deferred and amortized over the term of the senior debt.

In August 2011, in accordance with the terms of the 10.75% Units, XL-Cayman purchased and retired all of the 8.25% senior notes due August 2021 (the "8.25% Senior Notes") for \$575 million in a remarketing. These notes comprised a part of the 10.75% Units. The proceeds from the remarketing were used to satisfy the purchase price for XL-Ireland's ordinary shares issued to holders of the 10.75% Units pursuant to the forward purchase contracts comprising a part of the 10.75% Units. Each forward purchase contract provided for the issuance of 1.3242 ordinary shares of XL-Ireland at a price of \$25 per share. The settlement of the forward purchase contracts resulted in XL-Ireland's issuance of an aggregate of 30,456,600 ordinary shares for an aggregate purchase price of \$575 million. As a result of the settlement of the forward purchase contracts, the 10.75% Units ceased to exist and are no longer traded on the NYSE.

On September 30, 2011, XL-Cayman issued \$400 million aggregate principal amount of 5.75% Senior Notes due 2021 at the issue price of 100% of the principal amount. The 5.75% Senior Notes are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by XL-Ireland. The 5.75% Senior Notes bear interest at a rate of 5.75% per annum, payable semiannually, beginning on April 1, 2012, and mature on October 1, 2021. XL-Cayman may redeem the 5.75% Senior Notes, in whole or part, from time to time in accordance with the terms of the indenture pursuant to which the 5.75% Senior Notes were issued. XL-Cayman received net proceeds of approximately \$395.7 million from the offering, which were used to partially repay the \$600 million principal amount outstanding of the XLCFE Notes.

(b) Letter of Credit Facilities and Other Sources of Collateral

The Company has several letter of credit facilities provided on a syndicated and bilateral basis from commercial banks. These facilities are utilized primarily to support non-admitted insurance and reinsurance operations in the U.S. and capital requirements at Lloyd's. The Company's letter of credit facilities and revolving credit facilities at December 31, were as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 (1) | 2011 (1) |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Revolving credit facility (2) | \$ 1,000,000 | \$ 1,000,000 |
| Available letter of credit facilities – commitments (3)(4) | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 |
| Available letter of credit facilities – in use | \$ 1,757,250 | \$ 1,871,192 |
| Collateralized by certain assets of the Company's investment portfolio | 93.3 % | 93.8 % |

(1) At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, there were five available letter of credit facilities.

(2) At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the revolving credit facility was unutilized.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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13. Notes Payable and Debt and Financing Arrangements (Continued)

(b) Letter of Credit Facilities and Other Sources of Collateral (Continued)

- (3) The Company has the option to increase the size of the March 2011 Credit Agreement by an additional \$500 million and the size of the facilities under the December 2011 Credit Agreements by an additional \$500 million across both such facilities.
- (4) This amount excludes \$1.0 billion that is also included in the revolving credit facility above.

In 2011, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries (i) entered into three new credit agreements, which are described below and provide for an aggregate amount of outstanding letters of credit and revolving credit loans up to \$3 billion, subject to certain options to increase the size of the facilities, and (ii) terminated the five-year credit agreement dated June 21, 2007 (the “2007 Credit Agreement”), which had provided for an aggregate amount of outstanding letters of credit and revolving credit loans up to \$4 billion.

On March 25, 2011, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into a secured credit agreement (the “March 2011 Credit Agreement”) that currently provides for the issuance of letters of credit of up to \$1 billion with the option to increase the size of the facility by an additional \$500 million. The commitments under the 2011 Credit Agreement will expire on, and the credit facility is available on a continuous basis until, the earlier of (i) March 25, 2014 and (ii) the date of termination in whole of the commitments upon an optional termination or reduction of the commitments by the account parties or upon an event of default.

In October 2011, the \$75,000 letter of credit facility that was supporting a subsidiary of the Company was terminated.

On December 9, 2011, the Company and certain of its subsidiaries entered into (i) a new secured credit agreement (the “December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement”) and (ii) a new unsecured credit agreement (the “December 2011 Unsecured Credit Agreement”) and together with the December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement, the “December 2011 Credit Agreements”). In connection with the December 2011 Credit Agreements, the 2007 Credit Agreement was terminated. The March 2011 Credit Agreement continues in force, but was amended to conform certain of its terms to those of the December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement.

The 2007 Credit Agreement had provided for letters of credit and for revolving credit loans of up to \$750 million with the aggregate amount of outstanding letters of credit and revolving credit loans thereunder not to exceed \$3 billion. At the time at which it was terminated and the December 2011 Credit Agreements became effective, there were no outstanding revolving credit loans under the 2007 Credit Agreement. A portion of the letters of credit outstanding under the 2007 Credit Agreement at the time of its termination was continued under the March 2011 Credit Agreement and the remainder was continued under the December 2011 Credit Agreements.

The December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement provides for issuance of letters of credit up to \$650 million. The December 2011 Unsecured Credit Agreement is a \$1.35 billion facility that provides for issuance of letters of credit and up to \$1 billion of revolving credit loans. The Company has the option to increase the maximum amount of letters of credit available by an additional \$500 million across the facilities under the December 2011 Credit Agreements.

The commitments under each December 2011 Credit Agreement expire on, and such credit facilities are available until, the earlier of (i) December 9, 2015 and (ii) the date of termination in whole of the commitments upon an optional termination or reduction of the commitments by the account parties or upon an event of default.

The availability of letters of credit under the December 2011 Secured Credit Agreement and the March 2011 Credit Agreements is subject to a borrowing base requirement, determined on the basis of specified percentages of the face value of eligible categories of assets varying by type of collateral.

On August 3, 2010, a \$100 million five-year revolving credit facility expired and was not replaced, and on June 22, 2010, a \$2.3 billion five-year letter of credit facility expired and was not replaced.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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13. Notes Payable and Debt and Financing Arrangements (Continued)

(b) Letter of Credit Facilities and Other Sources of Collateral (Continued)

In addition to letters of credit, the Company has established insurance trusts in the U.S. that provide cedants with statutory relief required under state insurance regulation in the U.S. It is anticipated that the commercial facilities may be renewed on expiry but such renewals are subject to the availability of credit from banks utilized by the Company and may be renewed with materially different terms and conditions. In the event that such credit support is insufficient, the Company could be required to provide alternative security to cedants. This could take the form of additional insurance trusts supported by the Company's investment portfolio or funds withheld using the Company's cash resources. The value of letters of credit required is driven by, among other things, loss development of existing reserves, the payment pattern of such reserves, the expansion of business written by the Company and the loss experience of such business.

In general, all of the Company's bank facilities, indentures and other documents relating to the Company's outstanding indebtedness (collectively, the "Company's Debt Documents"), as described above, contain cross acceleration or cross default provisions to each other and the Company's Debt Documents contain affirmative covenants. These covenants provide for, among other things, minimum required ratings of the Company's insurance and reinsurance operating subsidiaries and the level of secured indebtedness in the future. In addition, generally each of the Company's Debt Documents provide for an event of default in the event of a change of control of the Company or some events involving bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company. The Company's credit facilities also contain minimum consolidated net worth covenants.

Under the March 2011 Credit Agreement and December 2011 Credit Agreements, in the event that XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd or XL Re Europe Ltd fail to maintain a financial strength rating of at least "A -" from A.M. Best, an event of default would occur.

Given that all of the Company's Debt Documents contain cross acceleration or cross default provisions, a default by one of these subsidiaries may result in all holders declaring their debt due and payable and accelerating all debt due under those documents. If this were to occur, the Company may not have funds sufficient at that time to repay any or all of such indebtedness.

In addition, the Company maintains off-balance sheet financing arrangements in the form of a contingent capital facility. For details of this facility, see Note 15, "Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements."

14. Derivative Instruments

The Company enters into derivative instruments for both risk management and investment purposes. The Company is exposed to potential loss from various market risks, and manages its market risks based on guidelines established by management and the Risk and Finance Committee of the Company's Board of Directors. The Company recognizes all derivatives as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and measures those instruments at fair value with the changes in fair value of derivatives shown in the consolidated statement of income as "net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments" unless the derivatives are designated as hedging instruments. The accounting for derivatives that are designated as hedging instruments is described in Note 2(h), "Significant Accounting Policies – Derivative

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14. Derivative Instruments (Continued)

Instruments.” The following table summarizes information on the location and gross amounts of derivative fair values contained in the consolidated balance sheet as at December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | December 31, 2012 | | | | December 31, 2011 | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| | Asset Derivative Notional Amount | Asset Derivative Fair Value (1) | Liability Derivative Notional Amount | Liability Derivative Fair Value (1) | Asset Derivative Notional Amount | Asset Derivative Fair Value (1) | Liability Derivative Notional Amount | Liability Derivative Fair Value (1) |
| Derivatives designated as hedging instruments: | | | | | | | | |
| Interest rate contracts (2) | \$ — | \$ — | \$ — | \$ — | \$ 156,271 | \$ 109,761 | \$ — | \$ — |
| Foreign exchange contracts (2) | 670,751 | 12,511 | 2,382,507 | (23,715) | 2,033,428 | 25,387 | 457,892 | (4,518) |
| Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments | <u>\$ 670,751</u> | <u>\$ 12,511</u> | <u>\$ 2,382,507</u> | <u>\$ (23,715)</u> | <u>\$ 2,189,699</u> | <u>\$ 135,148</u> | <u>\$ 457,892</u> | <u>\$ (4,518)</u> |
| Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments: | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Investment Related Derivatives:</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Interest rate exposure | \$ 45,604 | \$ 2,060 | \$ 26,139 | \$ (253) | \$ 70,978 | \$ 1,946 | \$ 55,033 | \$ (43) |
| Foreign exchange exposure | 33,007 | 226 | 54,449 | (1,790) | 232,422 | 3,759 | 384,592 | (11,737) |
| Credit exposure | 25,000 | 486 | 436,959 | (15,472) | 172,500 | 5,271 | 449,513 | (13,986) |
| Financial market exposure | 72,597 | 9,559 | 16,910 | — | 23,874 | 615 | 14,321 | — |
| <i>Financial Operations Derivatives: (3)</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Credit exposure (2) | — | — | 46,903 | — | — | — | 81,678 | (10,288) |
| <i>Other Non-Investment Derivatives:</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Guaranteed minimum income benefit contract | — | — | 69,051 | (25,396) | — | — | 78,777 | (22,490) |
| Modified coinsurance funds withheld contract | 76,975 | — | — | — | 77,200 | — | — | — |
| Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments | <u>\$ 253,183</u> | <u>\$ 12,331</u> | <u>\$ 650,411</u> | <u>\$ (42,911)</u> | <u>\$ 576,974</u> | <u>\$ 11,591</u> | <u>\$ 1,063,914</u> | <u>\$ (58,544)</u> |

(1) Derivative instruments in an asset or liability position are included within Other assets or Other liabilities, respectively, in the balance sheet on a net basis where the Company has both a legal right of offset and the intentions to settle the contracts on a net basis.

(2) At December 31, 2012, the Company paid net cash collateral related to these derivative positions of \$12.1 million. The assets related to the net collateral paid have been recorded as Other assets within the balance sheet. At December 31, 2011, the Company held net cash collateral of \$77.1 million. The collateral balance is included within Cash and cash equivalents and the corresponding liability to return the collateral has been offset against the derivative asset within the balance sheet as appropriate under the netting agreement.

(3) Financial operations derivatives represent interests in variable interest entities as described in Note 16, “Variable Interest Entities.”

(a) Derivative Instruments Designated as Fair Value Hedges

The Company designates certain of its derivative instruments as fair value hedges or cash flow hedges and formally and contemporaneously documents all relationships between the hedging instruments and hedged items and links the hedging derivative to specific assets and liabilities. The Company assesses the effectiveness of the hedge both at inception and on an on-going basis, and determines whether the hedge is highly effective in offsetting changes in fair value or cash flows of the linked hedged item.

The Company may hedge portions of its liabilities against changes in the applicable designated benchmark interest rate. Interest rate swaps are also used to hedge the changes in fair value of certain fixed rate liabilities and fixed income securities due to changes in the designated benchmark interest rate. In addition, the Company utilizes foreign exchange contracts to hedge the fair value of certain fixed income securities as well as to hedge certain net investments in foreign operations.

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14. Derivative Instruments (Continued)

(a) Derivative Instruments Designated as Fair Value Hedges (Continued)

The following table provides the total impact on earnings relating to derivative instruments formally designated as fair value hedges along with the impacts of the related hedged items for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| | Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative | Hedged Items – Amount of Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income Attributable to Risk | | | Ineffective Portion of Hedging Relationship – Gain/(Loss) |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| | | Deposit Liabilities | Fixed Maturity Investments | Notes Payable and Debt | |
| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | | | | | |
| Derivatives Designated as Fair Value Hedges: | | | | | |
| Year Ended December 31, 2012 | | | | | |
| Interest rate exposure | \$ 1,813 | | | | |
| Foreign exchange exposure | (24,183) | | | | |
| Total | <u>\$ (22,370)</u> | <u>\$ (6,182)</u> | <u>\$ 23,967</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ (4,585)</u> |
| Year Ended December 31, 2011 | | | | | |
| Interest rate exposure | \$ 25,680 | | | | |
| Foreign exchange exposure | 15,135 | | | | |
| Total | <u>\$ 40,815</u> | <u>\$ (27,391)</u> | <u>\$ (15,299)</u> | <u>\$ –</u> | <u>\$ (1,875)</u> |
| Year Ended December 31, 2010 | | | | | |
| Interest rate exposure | \$ 94,068 | | | | |
| Foreign exchange exposure | 19,856 | | | | |
| Total | <u>\$ 113,924</u> | <u>\$ (84,393)</u> | <u>\$ (27,266)</u> | <u>\$ (15,940)</u> | <u>\$ (13,675)</u> |

The gains (losses) recorded on both the derivatives instruments and specific items designated as being hedged as part of the fair value hedging relationships outlined above are recorded through Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments in the income statement along with any associated ineffectiveness in the relationships. In addition, the periodic coupon settlements relating to the interest rate swaps are recorded as adjustments to net investment income for the hedges of fixed maturity investments and as adjustments to interest expense for the hedges of deposit liabilities and notes payable and debt.

The periodic coupon settlements resulted in increases to Net investment income of nil, nil and \$2.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

The periodic coupon settlements also resulted in decreases to Interest expense of \$4.9 million, \$10.2 million and \$49.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

Settlement of Fair Value Hedges

During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company settled the interest rate contracts designated as fair value hedges of certain of the Company's notes payable and debt and also settled three interest rate contracts designated as fair value hedges of certain of the Company's deposit liability contracts. The cumulative increase recorded to the carrying value of the hedged notes payable and debt of \$21.6 million, and the deposit liability contracts of \$149.5 million, representing the effective portion of the hedging relationship, is amortized through interest expense over the remaining terms of the debt and deposit liability contracts.

In July 2012, the Company settled two interest rate contracts designated as fair value hedges of certain of the Company's deposit liability contracts. At settlement, the cumulative increase recorded to the carrying value of the hedged deposit liability contracts was \$83.7 million. This amount will be amortized, through

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14. Derivative Instruments (Continued)

(a) Derivative Instruments Designated as Fair Value Hedges (Continued)

interest expense, over the remaining terms of the deposit liability contracts. At settlement, the weighted average term remaining to maturity for these contracts was 16.1 years.

A summary of the fair value hedges that have been settled and their impact on results during the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 is shown below:

| Settlement of Fair Value Hedges – Summary <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except years)</i> | Fair Value Hedges – Notes Payable and Debt December 31, | | Fair Value Hedges – Deposit Liabilities December 31, | |
|--|--|-------------|---|-------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Cumulative reduction to interest expense | \$ 14,949 | \$ 10,915 | \$ 21,395 | \$ 9,376 |
| Remaining balance | \$ 6,675 | \$ 10,709 | \$ 211,800 | \$ 140,109 |
| Weighted average years remaining to maturity | 1.7 | 2.5 | 25.3 | 30.7 |

(b) Derivative Instruments Designated as Hedges of the Net Investment in a Foreign Operation

The Company utilizes foreign exchange contracts to hedge the fair value of certain net investments in foreign operations. During the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company entered into foreign exchange contracts that were formally designated as hedges of investments in foreign subsidiaries, the majority of which have functional currencies of either U.K. sterling or the Euro. There was no ineffectiveness in these transactions.

The following table provides the weighted average U.S. dollar equivalent of foreign denominated net assets that were hedged and the resultant gain (loss) that was recorded in the cumulative translation adjustment account within AOCI for the year ended December 31, 2012 and 2011.

Derivative Instruments Designated as Hedges of the Net Investment in a Foreign Operation –

Summary

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Weighted average of U.S. dollar equivalent of foreign denominated net assets | \$ 1,962,076 | \$ 1,733,555 |
| Derivative gains (losses) (1) | \$ (36,649) | \$ 36,836 |

(1) Derivative gains (losses) from derivative instruments designated as hedges of the net investment in a foreign operation are recorded in the cumulative translation adjustment account within AOCI for each period.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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14. Derivative Instruments (Continued)

(c) Derivative Instruments Not Formally Designated As Hedging Instruments

The following table provides the total impact on earnings relating to derivative instruments not formally designated as hedging instruments under authoritative accounting guidance and from the ineffective portion of fair value hedges. The impacts are all recorded through Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives in the income statement for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| (U.S. dollars in thousands) | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Net Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Derivative Instruments | | | |
| Investment Related Derivatives: | | | |
| Interest rate exposure | \$ 4,394 | \$ (1,021) | \$ 3,511 |
| Foreign exchange exposure | (1,084) | (302) | (15,642) |
| Credit exposure | (7,611) | (16,527) | (6,315) |
| Financial market exposure | 3,073 | (5,131) | 2,125 |
| Financial Operations Derivatives: | | | |
| Credit exposure | 10,511 | 16,976 | (7,281) |
| Other Non-Investment Derivatives: | | | |
| Contingent credit facility | – | (6,068) | (8,233) |
| Guaranteed minimum income benefit contract | (2,906) | (1,300) | 1,719 |
| Modified coinsurance funds withheld contract | 3,429 | 4,510 | 9,948 |
| Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments | <u>\$ 9,806</u> | <u>\$ (8,863)</u> | <u>\$ (20,168)</u> |
| Amount of gain (loss) recognized in income from ineffective portion of fair value hedges | (4,585) | (1,875) | (13,675) |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | <u>\$ 5,221</u> | <u>\$ (10,738)</u> | <u>\$ (33,843)</u> |

The Company's objectives in using these derivatives are explained below.

(d)(i) Investment Related Derivatives

The Company, either directly or through its investment managers, may use derivative instruments within its investment portfolio, including interest rate swaps, inflation swaps, credit derivatives (single name and index credit default swaps), options, forward contracts and financial futures (foreign exchange, bond and stock index futures) and options such derivative instruments, primarily as a means of economically hedging exposures to interest rate, credit spread, equity price changes and foreign currency risk or, in limited instances, for investment purposes. The Company is exposed to credit risk in the event of non-performance by the counterparties under any swap contracts, although the Company generally seeks to use credit support arrangements with counterparties to help manage this risk.

Investment Related Derivatives – Interest Rate Exposure

The Company utilizes risk management and overlay strategies that incorporate the use of derivative financial instruments, primarily to manage its fixed income portfolio duration and exposure to interest rate risks associated with primarily those assets and liabilities related to certain legacy other financial lines and structured indemnity transactions. The Company uses interest rate swaps to convert certain liabilities from a fixed rate to a variable rate of interest and may also use them to convert a variable rate of interest from one basis to another.

Investment Related Derivatives – Foreign Exchange Exposure

The Company has exposure to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations through its operations and in its investment portfolio. The Company uses foreign exchange contracts to manage its exposure to the effects of fluctuating foreign currencies on the value of certain of its foreign currency fixed maturities primarily within its Life operations portfolio. These contracts are not designated as specific hedges for financial

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14. Derivative Instruments (Continued)

(d)(i) Investment Related Derivatives (Continued)

reporting purposes and, therefore, realized and unrealized gains and losses on these contracts are recorded in income in the period in which they occur. These contracts generally have maturities of twelve months or less.

In addition, certain of the Company's investment managers may, subject to investment guidelines, enter into forward contracts where potential gains may exist.

Investment Related Derivatives – Credit Exposure

Credit derivatives may be purchased within the Company's investment portfolio in the form of single name and basket credit default swaps, which are used to mitigate credit exposure through a reduction in credit spread duration (i.e., macro credit strategies rather than single-name credit hedging) or exposure to selected issuers, including issuers that are not held in the underlying bond portfolio.

Investment Related Derivatives – Financial Market Exposure

Stock index futures may be purchased within the Company's investment portfolio in order to create synthetic equity exposure and to add value to the portfolio with overlay strategies where market inefficiencies are believed to exist. From time to time, the Company may enter into other financial market exposure derivative contracts on various indices including, but not limited to, inflation and commodity contracts.

(d)(ii) Financial Operations Derivatives – Credit Exposure

At December 31, 2012, the Company held one credit derivative exposure, which was written as part of the Company's previous financial lines business and is outside of the Company's investment portfolio. This is a European project finance loan participation which benefits from an 80% deficiency guarantee from the German state and federal governments. At December 31, 2011, the Company held two credit derivative exposures, the European project finance loan already mentioned and a credit default swap that was executed in 2000 with underlying collateral being predominantly pools of leveraged loans and bonds, which were fully paid off during 2012, resulting in the Company's release from its credit default swap. An aggregate summary of the credit derivative exposures at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 is as follows:

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except term to maturity)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Financial Operations Derivatives – Credit Exposure Summary: | | |
| Principal outstanding | \$ 44,281 | \$ 78,425 |
| Interest outstanding | 2,622 | 3,253 |
| Aggregate outstanding exposure | <u>\$ 46,903</u> | <u>\$ 81,678</u> |
| Total liability recorded | \$ – | \$ 10,288 |
| Weighted average contractual term to maturity | 4.7 years | 5.0 years |
| Underlying obligations credit rating | BB | BB |

At December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, there were no reported events of default on these obligations. Credit derivatives are recorded at fair value based upon prices received from the investment bank counterparties and corroborated by using models developed by the Company. Although the Company does not have access to the specific unobservable inputs that may have been used in the value provided by the counterparties, it expects that the significant inputs considered would include changes in interest rates, future default rates, credit spreads, changes in credit quality, future expected recovery rates and other market factors. The change resulting from movements in credit and credit quality spreads is unrealized as the credit derivatives are not traded to realize this resultant value.

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14. Derivative Instruments (Continued)

(d)(iii) Other Non-Investment Derivatives

The Company also has derivatives embedded in certain reinsurance contracts. For a certain life reinsurance contract, the Company pays the ceding company a fixed amount equal to the estimated present value of the excess of guaranteed benefit over the account balance upon the policyholder's election to take the income benefit. The fair value of this derivative is determined based on the present value of expected cash flows. In addition, the Company has modified coinsurance and funds withheld reinsurance agreements that provide for a return based on a portfolio of fixed income securities. As such, the agreements contain embedded derivatives. The embedded derivative is bifurcated from the funds withheld balance and recorded at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in earnings through Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on derivative instruments.

(e) Contingent Credit Features

Certain derivatives agreements entered into by the Company or its subsidiaries contain rating downgrade provisions that permit early termination of the agreement by the counterparty if collateral is not posted following failure to maintain certain credit ratings from one or more of the principal credit rating agencies. If the Company were required to early terminate such agreements due to a rating downgrade, it could potentially be in a net liability position at the time of settlement. The aggregate fair value of all derivatives agreements containing such rating downgrade provisions that were in a liability position and the collateral posted under any of these agreements as of December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Contingent Credit Features – Summary: | | |
| Aggregate fair value of derivative agreements with downgrade provisions in a net liability position | \$ 20,366 | \$ 15,763 |
| Collateral posted to counterparty | \$ 5,490 | \$ 809 |

15. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

There were no material off-balance sheet arrangements at December 31, 2012.

On December 5, 2006, the Company and certain operating subsidiaries ("Ceding Insurers") entered into a securities issuance agreement (the "Securities Issuance Agreement"), and certain of the Company's foreign insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries ("Ceding Insurers") entered into an excess of loss reinsurance agreement (the "Reinsurance Agreement"), with Stoneheath Re ("Stoneheath"). The net effect of these agreements to the Company was the creation of a contingent put option to issue \$350.0 million of preference ordinary shares in the aggregate of XL-Cayman. The agreements provided the Company with a Reinsurance Collateral Account in support of certain covered perils named in the Reinsurance Agreement. The covered perils included United States wind, European wind, California earthquake and terrorism worldwide. After an initial three-month period, the covered perils as well as the attachment points and aggregate retention amounts could be changed by the Ceding Insurers in their sole discretion, which could have resulted in a material increase or decrease in the likelihood of payment under the Reinsurance Agreement. On each date on which a Ceding Insurer withdrew funds from the Reinsurance Collateral Account, the Company would have been required to issue and deliver to Stoneheath an amount of Series D Preference Ordinary Shares having an aggregate liquidation preference that is equal to the amount of funds so withdrawn from the Collateral Account. The Company was obligated to reimburse Stoneheath for certain fees and ordinary expenses. The initial term of the Reinsurance Agreement was for the period from the December 5, 2006 through June 30, 2007, with four annual mandatory extensions through June 30, 2011 (unless coverage was exhausted thereunder prior to such date). At the Ceding Insurers' option, the Reinsurance Agreement was extended to December 31, 2011.

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15. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements (Continued)

On October 15, 2011, the Company announced that the Stoneheath facility would be terminated and, as a result, XL-Cayman would issue Series D Preference Ordinary Shares. Under the terms of the Securities Issuance Agreement, XL-Cayman was required upon the occurrence of certain conditions to issue and deliver to Stoneheath for distribution to the holders of the non-cumulative perpetual preferred securities of Stoneheath (the "Stoneheath Securities"), Series D Preference Ordinary Shares having an aggregate liquidation preference equal to the remaining assets in the Reinsurance Collateral Account in exchange for a distribution of such assets from the Reinsurance Collateral Account to XL-Cayman. One such condition, the termination of an asset swap agreement covering the assets held under the Reinsurance Collateral Account, occurred in accordance with the terms of the swap agreement because Stoneheath did not seek to extend or replace it prior to its termination date. As a result, on November 16, 2011, Stoneheath redeemed the Stoneheath Securities and distributed the Series D Preference Ordinary Shares it received from XL-Cayman in exchange for the \$350 million in assets from the Reinsurance Collateral Account.

16. Variable Interest Entities

At times, the Company has utilized variable interest entities ("VIEs") both indirectly and directly in the ordinary course of the Company's business.

The Company invests in CDOs and other investment vehicles that are issued through VIEs as part of the Company's investment portfolio. The activities of these VIEs are generally limited to holding the underlying collateral used to service investments therein. The Company's involvement in these entities is passive in nature and we are not the arranger of these entities. In addition, the Company has not been involved in establishing these entities and is not the primary beneficiary of these VIEs as contemplated in current authoritative accounting guidance.

The Company has a limited number of remaining outstanding credit enhancement exposures, including written financial guarantee and credit default swap contracts. The obligations related to these transactions are often securitized through VIEs. The Company is not the primary beneficiary of these VIEs as contemplated in current authoritative accounting guidance on the basis that management does not believe that the Company has the power to direct the activities, such as asset selection and collateral management, which most significantly impact each entity's economic performance. For further details on the nature of the obligations and the size of the Company's maximum exposure, see Note 14, "Derivative Instruments," and Note 17 (h), "Commitments and Contingencies – Financial and Other Guarantee Exposures."

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

17. Commitments and Contingencies

(a) Concentrations of Credit Risk

The creditworthiness of any counterparty is evaluated by the Company, taking into account credit ratings assigned by rating agencies. The credit approval process involves an assessment of factors including, among others, the counterparty and country and industry credit exposure limits. Collateral may be required, at the discretion of the Company, on certain transactions based on the creditworthiness of the counterparty.

The areas where significant concentrations of credit risk may exist include unpaid losses and loss expenses recoverable and reinsurance balances receivable (collectively, “reinsurance assets”) and in the investment fixed income portfolio.

Reinsurance Assets

The Company’s reinsurance assets resulted from reinsurance arrangements in the course of its operations. A credit exposure exists with respect to reinsurance assets as they may be uncollectible. The Company manages its credit risk in its reinsurance relationships by transacting with reinsurers that it considers financially sound, and if necessary, the Company may hold collateral in the form of funds, trust accounts and/or irrevocable letters of credit. This collateral can be drawn on for amounts that remain unpaid beyond specified time periods on an individual reinsurer basis. For further details regarding the Company’s reinsurance assets, see Note 9, “Reinsurance.”

Fixed Income Portfolio

The Company did not have an aggregate direct investment in any single corporate issuer in excess of 5% of shareholders’ equity at December 31, 2012 or December 31, 2011. Corporate issuers represent only direct exposure to fixed maturities and short-term investments of the parent issuer and its subsidiaries. These exposures exclude asset and mortgage back securities that were issued, sponsored or serviced by the parent and government-guaranteed issues, but does include covered bonds.

Broker credit risk

In addition, the Company underwrites a significant amount of its insurance and reinsurance property and casualty business through brokers and a credit risk exists should any of these brokers be unable to fulfill their contractual obligations with respect to the payments of insurance and reinsurance balances to the Company. During the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, P&C gross written premiums generated from or placed by the below companies individually accounted for more than 10% of the Company’s consolidated gross written premiums from P&C operations, as follows:

| <i>(Percentage of consolidated gross written premiums from P&C operations)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| AON Corporation and subsidiaries | 22 % | 20 % | 21 % |
| Marsh & McLennan Companies | 21 % | 20 % | 21 % |
| Willis Group and subsidiaries | 11 % | 12 % | 11 % |

These companies are large, well established companies and there are no indications that any of them are financially troubled. No other broker and no one insured or reinsured accounted for more than 10% of gross premiums written from P&C operations in any of the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

(b) Other Investments

The Company has committed to invest in several limited partnerships and provide liquidity financing to a structured investment vehicle. At December 31, 2012, the Company has commitments, which include potential additional add-on clauses, to invest an additional \$92.4 million over approximately the next nine years.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

17. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

(c) Investments in Affiliates

The Company owns a minority interest in certain closed-end funds, certain limited partnerships and similar investment vehicles, including funds managed by those companies. The Company has commitments, which include potential additional add-on clauses, to invest an additional \$49.7 million over approximately the next five years.

(d) Properties

The Company rents space for certain of its offices under leases that expire up to 2031. Total rent expense under operating leases for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 was approximately \$35.6 million, \$32.9 million and \$31.8 million, respectively. Future minimum rental commitments under existing operating leases are expected to be as follows:

Year Ended December 31,

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2013 | \$ 38,096 |
| 2014 | 35,235 |
| 2015 | 31,632 |
| 2016 | 27,137 |
| 2017 | 23,935 |
| 2018-2031 | 108,654 |
| Total minimum future rentals | <u>\$ 264,689</u> |

During 2003, the Company entered into a purchase, sale and leaseback transaction to acquire new office space in London. The Company has recognized a capital lease asset of \$98.5 million and \$100.7 million, and deferred a gain of \$29.9 million and \$30.6 million related to this lease at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The gain is being amortized to income in line with the amortization of the asset. The future minimum lease payments in the aggregate are expected to be \$222.4 million and annually for the next five years are as follows:

Year Ended December 31,

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 2013 | \$ 11,927 |
| 2014 | 12,226 |
| 2015 | 12,531 |
| 2016 | 12,845 |
| 2017 | 13,166 |
| 2018-2028 | 159,720 |
| Total minimum future lease payments | <u>\$ 222,415</u> |

(e) Tax Matters

XL-Ireland is an Irish corporation and, except as described below, neither it nor its non-U.S. subsidiaries have paid U.S. corporate income taxes (other than withholding taxes on dividend income) on the basis that they are not engaged in a trade or business or otherwise subject to taxation in the United States. However, because definitive identification of activities which constitute being engaged in a trade or business in the United States is not provided by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, regulations or court decisions, there can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service will not contend that the Company or its non-U.S. subsidiaries are engaged in a trade or business or otherwise subject to taxation in the United States. If the Company or its non-U.S. subsidiaries were considered to be engaged in a trade or business in the United States (and, if the Company or such subsidiaries were to qualify for the benefits under the income tax treaty between the United States and Bermuda and other countries in which the Company operates, such businesses were attributable to a "permanent establishment" in the United States), the

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

17. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

(e) Tax Matters (Continued)

Company or such subsidiaries could be subject to U.S. tax at regular tax rates on its taxable income that is effectively connected with its U.S. trade or business plus an additional “branch profits” tax (at a rate as high as 30%) on such income remaining after the regular tax, in which case there could be a significant adverse effect on the Company’s results of operations and financial condition.

(f) Letters of Credit

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, \$1.8 billion and \$1.9 billion of letters of credit were outstanding, of which 93.3% and 93.8%, respectively, were collateralized by the Company’s investment portfolios, primarily supporting U.S. non-admitted business and the Company’s Lloyd’s syndicates’ capital requirements.

(g) Litigation

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to litigation and arbitration in the normal course of business. These lawsuits and arbitrations principally involve claims on policies of insurance and contracts of reinsurance and are typical for the Company and for the property and casualty insurance and reinsurance industry in general. Such claims proceedings are considered in connection with the Company’s loss and loss expense reserves. Reserves in varying amounts may or may not be established in respect of particular claims proceedings based on many factors, including the legal merits thereof. In addition to litigation relating to insurance and reinsurance claims, the Company and its subsidiaries are subject to lawsuits and regulatory actions in the normal course of business that do not arise from or directly relate to claims on insurance or reinsurance policies. This category of business litigation typically involves, among other things, allegations of underwriting errors or misconduct, employment claims, regulatory activity, shareholder disputes or disputes arising from business ventures. The status of these legal actions is actively monitored by management.

Legal actions are subject to inherent uncertainties, and future events could change management’s assessment of the probability or estimated amount of potential losses from pending or threatened legal actions. Based on available information, it is the opinion of management that the ultimate resolution of pending or threatened legal actions other than claims proceedings, both individually and in the aggregate, will not result in losses having a material adverse effect on the Company’s financial position or liquidity at December 31, 2012.

If management believes that, based on available information, it is at least reasonably possible that a material loss (or additional material loss in excess of any accrual) will be incurred in connection with any legal actions, the Company discloses an estimate of the possible loss or range of loss, either individually or in the aggregate, as appropriate, if such an estimate can be made, or discloses that an estimate cannot be made. Based on the Company’s assessment at December 31, 2012, no such disclosures are considered necessary.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

17. Commitments and Contingencies (Continued)

(h) Financial and Other Guarantee Exposures

Financial Guarantee Exposures

Year Ended December 31,

(U.S. dollars in thousands except number of contracts and term to maturity)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Opening number of financial guarantee contracts | 4 | 37 |
| Number of financial guarantee contracts matured, prepaid or commuted during the period | – | (33) |
| Closing number of financial guarantee contracts | 4 | 4 |
| Principal outstanding | \$ 115,464 | \$ 115,464 |
| Interest outstanding | \$ – | \$ – |
| Aggregate exposure outstanding | <u>\$ 115,464</u> | <u>\$ 115,464</u> |
| Total gross claim liability recorded | \$ 1,399 | \$ 1,399 |
| Total unearned premiums and fees recorded | \$ 279 | \$ 425 |
| Weighted average contractual term to maturity in years | 25.4 | 26.7 |

During January 2011, the Company commuted 32 of the 37 financial guarantee transactions that were outstanding at December 31, 2010 and were part of the Company's legacy financial guarantee business, including three non-performing transactions. This commutation eliminated \$41.9 million of notional financial guarantee exposure (including principal and interest) for a payment of \$22.1 million. The \$22.1 million was included in the gross claim liability at December 31, 2010. In addition, during the fourth quarter of 2011, one guarantee was terminated upon prepayment of the underlying notes.

The Company's outstanding financial guarantee contracts at December 31, 2012 provide credit support for a variety of collateral types with the exposures comprised of (i) a \$108.3 million notional financial guarantee on three notes backed by zero coupon long dated bonds and bank perpetual securities, including some issued by European financials; and (ii) a \$7.2 million notional financial guarantee relating to future scheduled repayments on a government-subsidized housing project. At December 31, 2012, there were no reported events of default on these obligations.

Surveillance procedures to track and monitor credit deteriorations in the insured financial obligations are performed by the primary obligors for each transaction on the Company's behalf. Information regarding the performance status and updated exposure values is provided to the Company on a quarterly basis and evaluated by management in recording claims reserves.

Other Guarantee Exposures

On June 28, 2010, the Company's subsidiary, XLIB, completed a commutation, termination and release agreement (the "Termination Agreement") with European Investment Bank ("EIB") which fully extinguished and terminated all of the guarantees issued to EIB by XLIB in connection with financial guaranty policies between certain subsidiaries of Syncora Holdings and EIB. These guarantees were provided for the benefit of EIB relating to project finance transactions comprised of transportation, school and hospital projects with an average rating of BBB, written between 2001 and 2006 with anticipated maturities ranging between 2027 and 2038. The guarantees had been accounted for under Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") section 460-10, *Guarantees* (previously FIN 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others.")

Under the Termination Agreement, XLIB paid \$38 million to EIB, and all of XLIB's exposures under the EIB guarantees, with aggregate par outstanding of approximately \$900 million, were eliminated. In addition, a further \$0.5 million was paid to EIB for expenses in relation to the termination. Pursuant to the obligations of Syncora Holdings and its affiliates (collectively "Syncora") under the Master Agreement, Syncora paid XLIB \$15.0 million. The net cost of this transaction is reflected in the Company's Consolidated Statement of Income as "Loss on Termination of Guarantee."

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

18. Share Capital

(a) Authorized and Issued

The authorized share capital of XL-Ireland is \$9,999,900 and €40,000, divided into: (i) 500,000,000 ordinary shares, par value \$0.01 each, (ii) 499,990,000 undesignated shares, par value \$0.01 each and (iii) 40,000 subscriber shares, par value €1 each. Holders of ordinary shares are entitled to one vote for each share.

Ordinary Shares

The following table is a summary of ordinary shares issued and outstanding:

| <i>(in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Balance – beginning of year | \$ 315,646 | \$ 316,396 |
| Exercise of options | 383 | 72 |
| Net issuance of restricted shares | 959 | 413 |
| Share buybacks (1) | (18,306) | (31,692) |
| Issue of shares | – | 30,457 |
| Balance – end of year | <u>\$ 298,682</u> | <u>\$ 315,646</u> |

(1) Includes share buybacks associated with authorized share buyback programs as well as purchases related to satisfying tax withholding obligations of employees in connection with the vesting of restricted shares granted under the Company's restricted stock plan.

Ordinary Share Buybacks

On February 27, 2012, the Company announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved a share buyback program, authorizing the Company to purchase up to \$750 million of its ordinary shares (the "February 2012 Program"). This authorization replaced the approximately \$190 million remaining under the share buyback program that was authorized in November 2010. During 2012, the Company purchased and canceled 18.3 million ordinary shares under the February 2012 Program for \$401.6 million. At December 31, 2012, \$348.4 million remained available for purchase under the program. Between January 1 and February 22, 2013 the Company purchased and canceled an additional 3.8 million shares for \$98.4 million. All share buybacks were carried out by way of redemption in accordance with Irish law and the Company's constitutional documents. All shares so redeemed were canceled upon redemption. On February 22, 2013, the Company announced that the XL-Ireland Board of Directors approved a new share buyback program, authorizing the purchase of up to \$850 million of its ordinary shares. This replaced the approximately \$250 million remaining under the February 2012 Program.

Equity Security Units

In August 2011, in accordance with the terms of the 10.75% equity security units (the "10.75% Units"), XL-Cayman purchased and retired all of the 8.25% senior notes due August 2021 (the "8.25% Senior Notes") for \$575 million in a remarketing. These notes comprised a part of the 10.75% Units. The proceeds from the remarketing were used to satisfy the purchase price for XL-Ireland's ordinary shares issued to holders of the 10.75% Units pursuant to the forward purchase contracts comprising a part of the 10.75% Units. Each forward purchase contract provided for the issuance of 1.3242 ordinary shares of XL-Ireland at a price of \$25 per share. The settlement of the forward purchase contracts resulted in XL-Ireland's issuance of an aggregate of 30,456,600 ordinary shares for an aggregate purchase price of \$575 million. As a result of the settlement of the forward purchase contracts, the 10.75% Units ceased to exist and were no longer traded on the NYSE.

(b) Preferred shares and Non-controlling Interest in Equity of Consolidated Subsidiaries

All of the preferred shares discussed in this section were issued by XL-Cayman. XL-Ireland has no preferred shares outstanding and has never issued any preferred shares.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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18. Share Capital (Continued)

(b) Preferred shares and Non-controlling Interest in Equity of Consolidated Subsidiaries (Continued)

Redeemable Series C Preference Ordinary Shares

On February 12, 2010, the Company repurchased a portion of its outstanding Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares, which resulted in approximately 4.4 million Series C preference ordinary shares with a liquidation value of \$110.8 million being purchased by the Company for approximately \$94.2 million. As a result, a book value gain of approximately \$16.6 million was recorded in the first quarter of 2010 to ordinary shareholders.

On February 16, 2011, the Company repurchased 30,000 of the outstanding Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares with a liquidation preference value of \$0.75 million for \$0.65 million.

On August 15, 2011, XL-Cayman completed a cash tender offer for its outstanding Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares that resulted in 2,811,000 Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares with a liquidation value of \$25 per share being repurchased and canceled by XL-Cayman for approximately \$71.0 million including accrued and unpaid dividends and professional fees. Subsequent to the expiration of the tender offer, and on the same terms as the offer, XL-Cayman repurchased and canceled the remaining outstanding Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares for approximately \$0.9 million plus accrued and unpaid dividends. As of December 31, 2011, no Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares were outstanding.

Series D Preference Ordinary Shares

On October 15, 2011, XL-Cayman issued \$350 million Series D Preference Ordinary Shares for consideration of cash and liquid investments which were held in a trust account that was part of the Stoneheath facility. Holders of the Stoneheath Securities issued by Stoneheath in December 2006 received one Series D Preferred Share in exchange for each Stoneheath Security. Dividends on the Series D Preference Ordinary Shares are declared and paid quarterly at a floating rate of three-month LIBOR plus 3.120% on the liquidation preference. XL-Cayman used the consideration it received as partial funding for the repayment at maturity of the outstanding \$600 million XLCFE Notes that were issued by XLCFE, with the balance available for general corporate purposes. For further details regarding Stoneheath, see Note 15, "Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements." The Series D Preference Ordinary Shares represent non-controlling interests in equity of consolidated subsidiaries.

On December 5, 2011, the Company repurchased and held 5,000 of the outstanding Series D Preference Ordinary Shares with a liquidation preference value of \$5.0 million for \$3.7 million, including accrued dividends. As a result of these repurchases, the Company recorded a gain of approximately \$1.3 million through Non-controlling interests in the Consolidated Statement of Income in the fourth quarter of 2011.

Series E Preference Ordinary Shares

On March 15, 2007, the Company issued 1.0 million Fixed/Floating Series E Perpetual Non-Cumulative preference ordinary shares, par value \$0.01 each, with liquidation preference \$1,000 per share (the "Series E preference ordinary shares"). The Company received net proceeds of approximately \$983.8 million from the offering. The Series E preference ordinary shares are perpetual securities with no fixed maturity date and are not convertible into any of the Company's other securities. Dividends on the Series E preference ordinary shares are declared and paid semi-annually at a rate of \$32.50 per share.

On February 16, 2011, the Company repurchased 500 of the outstanding Series E preference ordinary shares with a liquidation preference value of \$0.50 million for \$0.47 million. As a result of these repurchases, the Company recorded a reduction in Non-controlling interests of approximately \$0.13 million in the first quarter of 2011.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

18. Share Capital (Continued)

(c) Stock Plans

The Company's performance incentive programs provide for grants of stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units and performance units and stock appreciation rights. Share-based compensation granted by the Company generally contains a vesting period of three or four years, and certain awards also contain performance conditions. The Company records compensation expense related to each award over its vesting period, incorporating the best estimate of the expected outcome of performance conditions where applicable. Compensation expense is generally recorded on a straight line basis over the vesting period of an award.

In connection with, and effective upon, the completion of the Redomestication, XL-Ireland assumed the existing liabilities, obligations and duties of XL-Cayman under the NAC Re Corp. 1989 Stock Option Plan (the "1989 Plan"), the XL Group plc Amended and Restated 1991 Performance Incentive Program (the "1991 Program"), the XL Group plc Amended and Restated 1999 Performance Incentive Program for Employees (the "1999 Program"), the XL Group plc Directors Stock & Option Plan (the "Directors Plan"), the XL Group plc 2009 Cash Long-Term Incentive Program (the "2009 Program"), the XL Group plc Supplemental Deferred Compensation Plan (the "DC Plan," and together with the 1989 Plan, 1991 Program, the 1999 Program, the Directors Plan and the 2009 Program, the "Programs"). Furthermore, in connection with, and effective upon, the completion of the Redomestication, the Programs were amended by XL-Cayman, among other things, to (i) provide that XL-Ireland and its Board of Directors will succeed to all powers, authorities and obligations of XL-Cayman and its Board of Directors under each Program, (ii) provide that the securities to be issued pursuant to each Program will consist of ordinary shares of XL-Ireland and (iii) otherwise to reflect the completion of the Redomestication.

(d) Options

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions:

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Dividend yield | 1.90% | 1.90% | 3.25% |
| Risk free interest rate | 1.15% | 2.60% | 2.67% |
| Volatility | 46.00% | 50.03% | 71.09% |
| Expected lives | 6.0 years | 6.0 years | 6.0 years |

The risk free interest rate is based on U.S. Treasury rates. The expected lives are estimated using the historical exercise behavior of grant recipients. The expected volatility is determined based upon a combination of the historical volatility of the Company's stock and the implied volatility derived from publicly traded options.

The following is a summary of the stock option plans for the three years ended December 31:

(U.S. Dollars in thousands except for weighted average fair value)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Options granted to purchase ordinary shares under directors and employees incentive compensation plans | 1,209 | 974 | 1,023 |
| Weighted average grant date fair value | \$ 7.65 | \$ 9.81 | \$ 9.17 |
| Total intrinsic value of stock options exercised | \$ 3,357 | \$ 301 | \$ 667 |
| Options exercised during the year | 383 | 72 | 91 |
| Compensation expense related to stock option plans | \$ 7,716 | \$ 11,848 | \$ 12,766 |
| Estimated tax benefit related to stock option plans | \$ 26 | \$ 722 | \$ 2,347 |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
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18. Share Capital (Continued)

(d) Options (Continued)

The following is a summary of the stock options at December 31, 2012, and related activity for the year then ended for the Company:

| <i>(U.S. Dollars in thousands, except for option price and term)</i> | Number of Shares | Weighted Average Exercise Price | Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term | Aggregate Intrinsic Value |
|--|-------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Outstanding – beginning of year | 12,997 | \$ 46.30 | 4.9 years | \$ 20,585 |
| Granted | 1,209 | 20.71 | | |
| Exercised | (383) | 14.49 | | |
| Canceled/Expired | (1,732) | 89.90 | | |
| Outstanding – end of year | 12,091 | \$ 38.50 | 5.0 years | \$ 46,803 |
| Options exercisable | 9,856 | \$ 42.50 | 4.2 years | \$ 37,435 |
| Available for grant (1) | 15,695 | | | |

(1) Available for grant includes shares that may be granted as either stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units or performance units.

The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value (the difference between the Company's closing stock price on the last trading day of the 2012 fiscal year and the exercise price, multiplied by the number of in-the-money-options) that would have been received by the option holders had all option holders exercised their options on December 31, 2012. Total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to non-vested stock options was approximately \$9.9 million at December 31, 2012, related to approximately 2.2 million options, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted- average period of 1.3 years. The exercise price of the Company's outstanding options granted is the market price of the Company's ordinary shares on the grant date, except that during 2004, 295,000 options were granted with an exercise price of \$88.00 when the market price was \$77.10.

(e) Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units and Performance Units

Restricted Stock

Restricted stock awards issued under the 1991 Performance Incentive Program and the Directors Stock and Option Plan vest as set forth in the applicable award agreements. Each restricted stock award represents the Company's obligation to deliver to the holder one ordinary share. The employees and directors who are granted a restricted stock award shall have all the rights of a shareholder, including the right to vote and receive dividends. These shares contained certain restrictions prior to vesting, relating to, among other things, forfeiture in the event of termination of employment and transferability.

A summary of the restricted stock awards issued under the 1991 Performance Incentive Program and the Directors Stock and Option Plan for the three years ended December 31 is as follows:

| <i>(In thousands except for weighted average fair value)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Restricted ordinary shares granted | 325 | 49 | 63 |
| Weighted average grant date fair value | \$ 20.92 | \$ 23.33 | \$ 17.26 |
| Aggregate grant date fair value | \$ 6,811 | \$ 1,140 | \$ 1,080 |
| Compensation expense related to restricted stock awards | \$ 5,399 | \$ 7,101 | \$ 18,420 |
| Estimated tax benefit related to restricted stock awards | \$ 1,113 | \$ 1,546 | \$ 4,645 |

Total unrecognized stock based compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock awards was approximately \$5.8 million at December 31, 2012, related to approximately 0.5 million restricted stock awards, which is expected to be recognized over 1.4 years.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

18. Share Capital (Continued)

(e) Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units and Performance Units (Continued)

Non-vested restricted stock awards at December 31, 2012 and for the year then ended for the Company were as follows:

| <i>(In thousands except for weighted average grant date fair value)</i> | Number of Shares | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| Unvested at December 31, 2011 | 390 | \$ 42.86 |
| Granted | 325 | \$ 20.92 |
| Vested | (161) | \$ 31.08 |
| Forfeited | (4) | \$ 43.06 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2012 | <u>550</u> | <u>\$ 33.34</u> |

Restricted Stock Units

Each restricted stock unit represents the Company's obligation to deliver to the holder one ordinary share upon satisfaction of the three-year vesting term. Restricted stock units are granted at the closing market price on the day of grant and entitle the holder to receive dividends declared and paid in the form of additional ordinary shares contingent upon vesting.

A summary of the restricted stock units issued to officers of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three years ended December 31 is as follows:

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Restricted stock units granted | 1,312 | 1,318 | 1,392 |
| Aggregate grant date fair value | \$ 27,194 | \$ 30,027 | \$ 25,887 |
| Compensation expense related to restricted stock units | \$ 24,451 | \$ 15,033 | \$ 5,862 |
| Estimated tax benefit related to restricted stock units | \$ 6,501 | \$ 3,998 | \$ 1,557 |

Total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock units was approximately \$32.5 million as of the end of December 31, 2012, related to approximately 2.4 million restricted stock units, which is expected to be recognized over 1.3 years.

Non-vested restricted stock units as of December 31, 2012 and for the year then ended for the Company were as follows:

| <i>(In thousands except for weighted average grant date fair value)</i> | Number of Shares | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| Unvested at December 31, 2011 | 2,063 | \$ 21.13 |
| Granted | 1,312 | \$ 20.72 |
| Vested | (836) | \$ 20.73 |
| Forfeited | (93) | \$ 21.42 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2012 | <u>2,446</u> | <u>\$ 21.04</u> |

Performance Units

The performance units vest after three years and entitle the holder to shares of the Company's stock. There are no dividend rights associated with the performance units. Each grant of performance units has a target number of shares, with final payouts ranging from 0% to 200% of the grant amount depending upon a combination of corporate and business segment performance along with each employee's continued service through the vest date. Performance targets are based on relative and absolute financial performance metrics. A summary of the performance units issued to certain employees of the Company for the three years ended December 31 is as follows:

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

18. Share Capital (Continued)

(e) Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units and Performance Units (Continued)

| <i>(In thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Performance units granted | 1,527 | 1,289 | 1,579 |
| Potential maximum share payout | 3,054 | 2,578 | 3,158 |
| Aggregate grant date fair value | \$ 29,537 | \$ 28,544 | \$ 27,160 |
| Compensation expense related to performance units | \$ 9,919 | \$ 7,242 | \$ 7,009 |
| Estimated tax benefit related to performance units | \$ 1,943 | \$ 1,419 | \$ 1,470 |

Total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense related to non-vested performance units was approximately \$27.2 million as of the end of December 31, 2012, related to approximately 2.5 million performance units, which is expected to be recognized over 1.9 years. Non-vested restricted performance units as of December 31, 2012 were as follows:

| <i>(In thousands except for weighted average grant date fair value)</i> | Number of Shares | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| Unvested at December 31, 2011 | 1,735 | \$ 19.47 |
| Granted | 1,527 | \$ 19.34 |
| Vested | (7) | \$ 17.20 |
| Forfeited | (98) | \$ 20.34 |
| Performance driven reduction | (601) | \$ 18.24 |
| Unvested at December 31, 2012 | <u>2,556</u> | \$ 20.07 |

(f) Voting

XL-Ireland's Articles of Association restrict the voting power of any person to less than approximately 10% of total voting power.

19. Retirement Plans

The Company provides pension benefits to eligible employees through various defined contribution and defined benefit retirement plans sponsored by the Company, which vary for each subsidiary. Plan assets are invested principally in equity securities and fixed maturities.

(a) Defined contribution plans

The Company has qualified defined contribution plans which are managed externally and whereby employees and the Company contribute a certain percentage of the employee's gross compensation (base salary and annual bonus) into the plan each month. The Company's contribution generally vests over five years. The Company's expenses for its qualified contributory defined contribution retirement plans were \$53.6 million, \$42.4 million and \$37.8 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

(b) Defined benefit plans

The Company maintains defined benefit plans that cover certain employees as follows:

U.S. Plan

A qualified non-contributory defined benefit pension plan exists to cover a number of its U.S. employees. The plan was curtailed in 2002 and was closed to new entrants at that time. Under the terms of the curtailment, existing plan participants were no longer entitled to earn additional defined benefits for future services performed after the curtailment date; however, accrued benefits are eligible for annual cost-of-living increases. This plan also includes a non-qualified supplemental defined benefit plan designed to compensate individuals to the extent that their benefits under the Company's qualified plan are curtailed due to IRS Code limitations. Benefits are based on years of service and compensation, as defined in the plan, during the highest consecutive three years of the employee's last ten years of employment. Under

XL GROUP PLC
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19. Retirement Plans (Continued)

(b) Defined benefit plans (Continued)

these plans, the Company's policy is to make annual contributions to the plan that are deductible for federal income tax purposes and that meet the minimum funding standards required by law. The contribution level is determined by utilizing the entry age cost method and different actuarial assumptions than those used for pension expense purposes.

In addition, certain former employees have received benefit type guarantees, not formally a part of any established plan. The liability recorded with respect to these agreements as at both December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$3.3 million, respectively, representing the entire unfunded projected benefit obligations.

Several assumptions and statistical variables are used in the models to calculate the expenses and liability related to the plans. The Company, in consultation with its actuaries, determines assumptions about the discount rate, the expected rate of return on plan assets and the rate of compensation increase. The table below includes disclosure of these rates on a weighted-average basis, encompassing all the international plans.

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Net Benefit Cost – Weighted-average assumptions for the years ended December 31 | | |
| Discount rate | 4.4 % | 5.6 % |
| Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets | 8.0 % | 8.0 % |
| Benefit Obligation – Weighted-average assumptions at December 31 | | |
| Discount rate | 4.0 % | 4.4 % |

The U.S. Plan assets at December 31, 2012 and 2011 consist of two mutual funds. The first fund employs a core bond portfolio strategy that seeks maximum current income and price appreciation consistent with the preservation of capital and prudent risk taking with the focus on intermediate – term high quality bonds.

The second fund seeks long term growth of capital by investing in a diversified group of domestic and international companies. Using a quantitative approach, portfolio managers identify companies that they believe have favorable prospects for above average growth.

The fair value of the U.S. Plan assets at December 31, 2012 and 2011 was \$29.8 million and \$25.9 million, respectively. As both of the retirement plan's investments are mutual funds, they fall within Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy.

U.K. Plans

A contributory defined benefit pension scheme exists in the U.K. (the "Scheme"), but has been closed to new entrants since 1996. The Scheme has approximately 90 members, of whom approximately 55 are active or deferred members of the Scheme. Benefits are based on length of service and compensation as defined in the Trust Deed and Rules, and the Scheme is subject to triennial funding valuations, the most recent of which was conducted in 2010 and was reported in 2011. The \$4.5 million deficit is being funded over a ten-year period. Current contribution rates are 24.6% and 3% of pensionable salary for employer and employee respectively.

The U.K. pension plan assets are held in a separate trustee administered fund to meet long term liabilities to past and present employees. The table below shows the composition of the Scheme's assets and the fair value of each major category of plan assets as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, as well as the potential returns of the different asset classes. The totals of the asset values held in various externally managed portfolios are provided by third party pricing vendors. There is no significant concentration of risk within plan assets. The assets in the scheme and the expected rates of return were as follows:

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19. Retirement Plans (Continued)

(b) Defined benefit plans (Continued)

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except percentages)</i> | Expected Return on Assets for 2012 | Weighted Value at December 31, 2012 | Expected Return on Assets for 2011 | Weighted Value at December 31, 2011 |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| Equities | 6.8% | \$ 6,149 | 7.0% | \$ 6,351 |
| Gilts | 3.0% | 1,700 | 4.0% | 1,350 |
| Corporate Bonds | 4.7% | 1,566 | 5.5% | 1,381 |
| Other (cash) | 3.5% | 68 | 4.0% | 12 |
| Total market value of assets | | <u>\$ 9,483</u> | | <u>\$ 9,094</u> |

In addition, during 2003 six members, five of whom are still employed by the Company in the U.K., transferred from a defined benefit plan into a defined contribution plan. These employees have a contractual agreement with the Company that provides a “no worse than final salary pension” guarantee in the event that they are employed by the Company until retirement, whereby the Company guarantees to top-up their defined contribution pension to the level of pension that they would have been entitled to receive had they remained in the defined benefit scheme. The pension liability recorded with respect to these individuals was \$3.5 million and \$3.3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, representing the entire unfunded projected obligation.

European Plans

Certain contributory defined benefit pension plans exist in several European countries, most notably Germany, which are closed to new entrants. Benefits are generally based on length of service and compensation defined in the related agreements. Included in the projected obligation amounts of \$83.1 million and \$72.3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, in the table below, are total unfunded projected obligations in relation to the European defined benefit schemes of \$18.5 million and \$14.6 million, respectively.

As a part of the purchase of XL GAPS, the Company acquired certain defined benefit pension liabilities. The related balances are not included in the tables below as the liabilities are insured under an annuity type contract.

The status of all the Company’s retirement plans at December 31, 2012 and 2011 is as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Change in projected benefit obligation: | | |
| Projected benefit obligation – beginning of year | \$ 72,267 | \$ 66,327 |
| Service cost (1) | 1,291 | 919 |
| Interest cost | 3,557 | 3,393 |
| Actuarial (gain) / loss | 7,922 | 3,837 |
| Benefits and expenses paid | (2,069) | (1,612) |
| Foreign currency (gains) / losses | 1,086 | (597) |
| Settlements | (971) | – |
| Projected benefit obligation – end of year | <u>\$ 83,083</u> | <u>\$ 72,267</u> |

(1) Service costs include cost of living adjustments on curtailed plans.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

19. Retirement Plans (Continued)

(b) Defined benefit plans (Continued)

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Change in plan assets: | | |
| Fair value of plan assets – beginning of year | \$ 34,956 | \$ 33,294 |
| Actual return on plan assets | 3,101 | 969 |
| Employer contributions | 2,133 | 1,941 |
| Benefits and expenses paid | (1,258) | (1,132) |
| Foreign currency gains / (losses) | 381 | (117) |
| Fair value of plan assets – end of year | \$ 39,313 | \$ 34,955 |
| Funded status – end of year | \$ (43,770) | \$ (37,312) |
| Accrued pension liability | <u>\$ 43,770</u> | <u>\$ 37,312</u> |

The components of the net benefit cost for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 are as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Components of net benefit cost: | | |
| Service cost | \$ 1,291 | \$ 919 |
| Interest cost | 3,557 | 3,337 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (3,028) | (1,558) |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | 915 | 373 |
| Transfer from AOCI | 3,363 | – |
| Net benefit cost | <u>\$ 6,098</u> | <u>\$ 3,071</u> |

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 AND 2010

20. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

The related tax effects allocated to each component of the change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Before Tax Amount | Tax (Benefit) Expense | Net of Tax Amount |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Year Ended December 31, 2012: | | | |
| Unrealized gains on investments: | | | |
| Unrealized gains (losses) arising during year | \$ 985,543 | \$ (7,348) | \$ 992,891 |
| Less reclassifications for (losses) realized in income | 14,098 | (24,137) | 38,235 |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 971,445 | 16,789 | 954,656 |
| Change in value cash flow hedge | 439 | – | 439 |
| Change in underfunded pension liability | (9,985) | – | (9,985) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (6,448) | 1,715 | (8,163) |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive income | <u>\$ 955,451</u> | <u>\$ 18,504</u> | <u>\$ 936,947</u> |
| Year Ended December 31, 2011: | | | |
| Unrealized gains on investments: | | | |
| Unrealized gains (losses) arising during year | \$ 384,495 | \$ 51,775 | \$ 332,720 |
| Less reclassifications for (losses) realized in income | (188,359) | (9,927) | (178,432) |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 572,854 | 61,702 | 511,152 |
| Change in value cash flow hedge | 439 | – | 439 |
| Change in underfunded pension liability | (2,622) | – | (2,622) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (25,598) | 1,102 | (26,700) |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive income | <u>\$ 545,073</u> | <u>\$ 62,804</u> | <u>\$ 482,269</u> |
| Year Ended December 31, 2010: | | | |
| Unrealized gains on investments: | | | |
| Unrealized gains (losses) arising during year | \$ 968,891 | \$ 36,122 | \$ 932,769 |
| Less reclassifications for (losses) realized in income | (270,803) | (5,369) | (265,434) |
| Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments | 1,239,694 | 41,491 | 1,198,203 |
| Change in value cash flow hedge | 439 | – | 439 |
| Change in net unrealized gain on future policy benefit reserves | (3,714) | – | (3,714) |
| Change in underfunded pension liability | (2,619) | – | (2,619) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | 54,641 | 3,688 | 50,953 |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive income | <u>\$ 1,288,441</u> | <u>\$ 45,179</u> | <u>\$ 1,243,262</u> |

The December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 balance of each component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) were as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Accumulated unrealized gains (losses) on investments, net of tax | \$ 1,597,823 | \$ 710,447 | \$ 238,751 |
| OTTI losses recognized in other comprehensive income, net of tax | (121,371) | (188,651) | (228,107) |
| Accumulated foreign currency translation | 69,391 | 77,554 | 104,254 |
| Accumulated underfunded pension liability | (27,506) | (17,521) | (14,899) |
| Accumulated cash flow hedge | 1,674 | 1,235 | 796 |
| Total | <u>\$ 1,520,011</u> | <u>\$ 583,064</u> | <u>\$ 100,795</u> |

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

21. Dividends

In 2012, four quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per share were paid to all ordinary shareholders of record as of March 15, June 15, September 14 and December 14. In 2011, four quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per share were paid to all ordinary shareholders of record as of March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. In 2010, four quarterly dividends of \$0.10 per share were paid to all ordinary shareholders of record as of March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15.

The Company paid dividends to Series C, Series D and Series E preference shareholders for the three years ended December 31, as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in millions)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Series C preference ordinary shares (1) | \$ – | \$ 5.3 | \$ 7.9 |
| Series D preference ordinary shares (2) (3) | \$ 14.0 | \$ – | \$ – |
| Series E preference ordinary shares (4) | \$ 65.1 | \$ 66.2 | \$ 69.9 |

-
- (1) At December 31, 2011, no Series C preference ordinary shares were outstanding.
- (2) On October 26, 2012, the Company announced that the Board of Directors of XL-Cayman resolved to pay a dividend of \$8.8173 per share on XL-Cayman's Series D Preference Ordinary Shares. The dividend was paid on January 15, 2013 to all shareholders of record as of January 1, 2013.
- (3) On February 22, 2013, the Company announced that the Board of Directors of XL-Cayman resolved to pay a dividend of \$8.5575 per share on XL-Cayman's Series D Preference Ordinary Shares. The dividend will be paid on April 15, 2013 to all shareholders of record as of April 1, 2013.
- (4) On February 22, 2013, the Company announced that the Board of Directors of XL-Cayman resolved to pay a dividend of \$32.50 per share on XL-Cayman's Series E Preference Ordinary Shares. The dividend will be paid on April 15, 2013 to all shareholders of record as of April 1, 2013.

22. Taxation

Following completion of the Redomestication, with effect from July 1, 2010, the Company is subject to income and capital gains tax in Ireland under applicable Irish law. Prior to July 1, 2010, the Company was resident for tax purposes in the Cayman Islands and in accordance with Cayman law, was not subject to any taxes in the Cayman Islands on either income or capital gains.

The Company's Bermuda subsidiaries are not subject to any income, withholding or capital gains taxes under current Bermuda law. In the event that there is a change such that these taxes are imposed, the Bermuda subsidiaries would be exempted from any such tax until March 2035 pursuant to the Bermuda Exempted Undertakings Tax Protection Act 1966, and the Exempted Undertakings Tax Protection Amendment Act 2011.

The Company's U.S. subsidiaries are subject to federal, state and local corporate income taxes and other taxes applicable to U.S. corporations. The provision for federal income taxes has been determined under the principles of the consolidated tax provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenues ("IRS") Code and Regulations thereunder.

The Company has operations in subsidiary and branch form in various other jurisdictions around the world, including but not limited to the U.K., Switzerland, Ireland, Germany, France, Canada, Brazil and various other countries in Latin America and Asia that are subject to relevant taxes in those jurisdictions.

Deferred income taxes have not been accrued with respect to certain undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries. If the earnings were to be distributed, as dividends or otherwise, such amounts may be subject to withholding taxation in the jurisdiction of the paying entity. During 2010, the Company revised its capital strategy such that it is no longer able to positively assert that all earnings arising in the U.S. will be permanently reinvested in that jurisdiction and, accordingly, a provision for withholding taxes arising in respect of U.S. earnings has been made. No withholding taxes are accrued with respect to the earnings of the Company's subsidiaries arising outside the U.S., as it is the intention that all such earnings will remain reinvested indefinitely.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

22. Taxation (Continued)

The Company's current corporate structure is such that distribution of earnings from subsidiaries located outside of the United States would not be subject to significant incremental taxation. It is not practicable to estimate the amount of additional withholding taxes that might be payable on such earnings due to a variety of factors, including the timing, extent and nature of any repatriation.

The Company adopted the provisions of the final authoritative guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes, on January 1, 2007. The Company did not recognize any liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits as a result of its implementation and has not recognized any liabilities in subsequent accounting periods. The Company's policy is to recognize any interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits as a component of interest expense and penalties accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in the tax charge. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company has no accrued liabilities for tax, interest and penalties relating to unrecognized tax benefits.

The Company has open examinations by tax authorities in the U.S. (2010), Ireland (2006 to 2009), the U.K. (2007 to 2010), Germany (2006 to 2009), Switzerland (2009 and 2010), India (2006 to 2011) and Singapore (2010). The Company believes that these examinations will be concluded within the next 24 months; however, it is not currently possible to estimate the outcome of these examinations.

The Company has open tax years that are potentially subject to examinations by local tax authorities, in the following major tax jurisdictions: the U.S. 2011 and 2012; the U.K., 2011 and 2012; Switzerland, 2008 to 2012; Ireland, 2008 to 2012; Germany, 2010 to 2012; and France, 2008 to 2012.

The Company's income (loss) before income tax was distributed for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 as follows:

| Income (loss) before income tax: <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| U.S. | \$ 52,258 | \$ (99,309) | \$ 170,080 |
| Non U.S. | 712,158 | (244,867) | 636,038 |
| Total | \$ 764,416 | \$ (344,176) | \$ 806,118 |

The income tax provisions for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 are as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Current expense: | | | |
| U.S. | \$ 13,105 | \$ 9,138 | \$ 40,413 |
| Non U.S. | 44,475 | 87,220 | 35,113 |
| Total current expense | \$ 57,580 | \$ 96,358 | \$ 75,526 |
| Deferred expense (benefit): | | | |
| U.S. | \$ (56,646) | \$ (5,550) | \$ 18,225 |
| Non U.S. | 33,094 | (31,101) | 68,986 |
| Total deferred expense (benefit) | \$ (23,552) | \$ (36,651) | \$ 87,211 |
| Total tax expense | \$ 34,028 | \$ 59,707 | \$ 162,737 |

The weighted average expected tax provision has been calculated using the pre-tax accounting income (loss) in each jurisdiction multiplied by that jurisdiction's applicable statutory tax rate. The applicable statutory tax rates of the most significant jurisdictions contributing to the overall taxation of the Company are: Ireland 12.5% and 25%, Bermuda 0%, the U.S. 35%, the U.K. 24.5%, Switzerland 7.83% and 21.2%, Germany 15%, and France 36.13%. Reconciliation of the difference between the provision for income taxes and the expected tax provision at the weighted average tax rate for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 is provided below:

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

22. Taxation (Continued)

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Expected tax provision at weighted average rate | \$ 53,358 | \$ (66,493) | \$ 80,225 |
| Permanent differences: | | | |
| Non-taxable investment income (loss) | (16,717) | (14,246) | (10,176) |
| Non-taxable income (loss) | (25,711) | (3,265) | 3,838 |
| Prior year adjustments | (622) | (9,206) | 16,594 |
| Prior year adjustments on completion of IRS examinations | (19,192) | – | – |
| State, local and foreign taxes | 18,312 | 42,581 | 44,122 |
| Valuation allowance | (16,644) | 24,990 | 1,346 |
| Allocated investment income | 41,727 | 21,483 | 12,386 |
| Stock options | 4,749 | 5,840 | 3,323 |
| Non-deductible expenses | 16,145 | 12,901 | 11,079 |
| Realized capital loss carry-forward valuation allowance reduction | (24,473) | – | – |
| Non-deductible goodwill impairment | – | 57,069 | – |
| Non-taxable reserve release | 3,096 | (11,947) | – |
| Total tax expense | \$ 34,028 | \$ 59,707 | \$ 162,737 |

Significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities at December 31, 2012 and 2011 were as follows:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Deferred tax asset: | | |
| Net unpaid loss reserve discount | \$ 108,285 | \$ 108,981 |
| Net unearned premiums | 70,071 | 62,162 |
| Compensation liabilities | 56,245 | 35,830 |
| Net operating losses | 83,061 | 263,600 |
| Investment adjustments | 12,927 | 12,861 |
| Pension | 11,976 | 9,753 |
| Bad debt reserve | 14,901 | 10,829 |
| Amortizable goodwill | 8,958 | 10,732 |
| Net unrealized depreciation on investments | 38,652 | 320 |
| Stock options | 13,035 | 13,842 |
| Depreciation | 1,910 | 4,072 |
| Net realized capital losses | 98,971 | 119,307 |
| Deferred intercompany capital losses | 97,566 | 117,892 |
| Other | 9,392 | 7,573 |
| Deferred tax asset, gross of valuation allowance | \$ 625,950 | \$ 777,754 |
| Valuation allowance | 297,637 | 497,236 |
| Deferred tax asset, net of valuation allowance | \$ 328,313 | \$ 280,518 |
| Deferred tax liability: | | |
| Net unrealized appreciation on investments | \$ 106,520 | \$ 96,797 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | 16,135 | 12,787 |
| Currency translation adjustments | 11,225 | 8,062 |
| Regulatory reserves | 146,101 | 125,249 |
| Untaxed Lloyd's result | 10,155 | 8,340 |
| Other | 13,838 | 4,786 |
| Deferred tax liability | \$ 303,974 | \$ 256,021 |
| Net Deferred Tax Asset | \$ 24,339 | \$ 24,497 |

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

22. Taxation (Continued)

The deferred tax asset and liability balances presented above represent the gross deferred tax asset and liability balances across each tax jurisdiction. The deferred tax asset balances of \$166.1 million and \$115.6 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, and deferred tax liability balances of \$141.8 million and \$91.1 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as disclosed on the consolidated balance sheets include netting of certain deferred tax assets and liabilities within a tax jurisdiction to the extent such netting is consistent with the regulations of the tax authorities in those jurisdictions.

The valuation allowance at December 31, 2012 and 2011 of \$297.6 million and \$497.2 million, respectively, related primarily to net operating loss carry forwards in Switzerland (\$9.9 million and \$183.1 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011 respectively), net operating loss and capital loss carry forwards in Ireland (\$59.2 million and \$53.1 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011 respectively), and net unrealized capital losses and realized capital loss carry forwards in the U.S. that may not be realized within a reasonable period (\$196.5 million and \$237.2 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011 respectively). The reduction in the valuation allowance in 2012 was primarily due to the expiration of \$784.8 million of Swiss net operating losses, with a related valuation allowance of \$166.4 million, and the release of certain valuation allowances held against capital loss carry-forwards in the U.S.

At December 31, 2012, the Company had realized capital loss carry forwards of approximately \$282.8 million in the U.S. (\$99.0 million tax effected). The 5 year limitation for the utilization of realized capital losses applies to this balance. Losses of \$54.1 million will expire at the end of 2013 with another \$228.7 million of realized capital losses expiring in future years through 2016. A valuation allowance (\$99.0 million) has been established in respect of all of these realized capital losses. At December 31, 2012, the Company also had \$278.8 million of U.S. capital losses arising from the sale of investments to a group company (\$97.6 million tax effected), against which a valuation allowance of \$97.6 million has been established. These losses cannot be utilized to offset any future U.S. realized capital gains, and will not begin to expire, until the underlying assets have been sold to unrelated parties.

At December 31, 2012, net operating loss carry forwards in the U.K. were approximately \$45.2 million (\$10.5 million tax effected) and have no expiration. A valuation allowance of \$1.8 million has been established in respect of \$7.8 million of these U.K. losses given management's expectation that losses in specific U.K. entities will not be utilized in the future. At December 31, 2012, net operating loss carry forwards in Switzerland were approximately \$68.3 million, of which \$7.1 million will expire at the end of 2013 with the balance expiring in future years through 2019. A valuation allowance of \$9.9 million has been established in respect of \$62.8 million of the Swiss net operating losses which includes the \$7.1 million of Swiss net operating losses that will expire in 2013. At December 31, 2012, net operating loss carry forwards in Ireland were approximately \$150.9 million, with a further \$122.1 million of capital losses carried forward. Although these Irish losses may be carried forward indefinitely, a valuation allowance (\$59.2 million) has been established in respect of all of these Irish losses due to the uncertainty surrounding any future loss utilization.

Management has reviewed historical taxable income and future taxable income projections for its U.K. group and has determined that in its judgment substantially all of the U.K. net operating losses (\$37.4 million) will more likely than not be realized as reductions to future taxable income within a reasonable period. Management will continue to evaluate income generated in future periods by the U.K. group in determining the reasonableness of its position. If management determines that future income generated by the U.K. group is insufficient to cause the realization of the net operating losses within a reasonable period, a valuation allowance would be required for the U.K. portion of the deferred tax asset balance related to net operating losses in the amount of \$8.7 million.

Management believes it is more likely than not that the tax benefit of the remaining net deferred tax assets will be realized.

Shareholders' equity at December 31, 2012 and 2011 reflected tax benefits of nil and nil, respectively, related to compensation expense deductions for stock options exercised by the Company's U.S. subsidiaries.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

23. Statutory Financial Data

The Company's ability to pay dividends or return capital from shareholders' equity is limited by applicable laws and regulations of the various jurisdictions in which the Company's principal operating subsidiaries operate, certain additional required regulatory approvals and financial covenants contained in the Company's letters of credit and revolving credit facilities. The payment of dividends to XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman, the Company's holding companies, by the Company's principal operating subsidiaries is regulated under the laws of various jurisdictions including Bermuda, the U.K., Ireland and Switzerland and certain insurance statutes of various states in the United States in which the principal operating subsidiaries are licensed to transact business and the other jurisdictions where the Company has regulated subsidiaries. Statutory capital and surplus for the principal operating subsidiaries of the Company for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 are summarized below:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Bermuda (1) | | U.S. (2) | | U.K., Europe and Other | |
|--|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Required statutory capital and surplus | \$ 6,555,743 | \$ 4,923,771 | \$ 649,166 | \$ 637,799 | \$ 1,313,424 | \$ 1,256,865 |
| Actual statutory capital and surplus (3) | \$ 10,343,015 | \$ 9,152,303 | \$ 2,237,834 | \$ 2,093,694 | \$ 2,495,982 | \$ 3,108,457 |

(1) Required statutory capital and surplus at December 31, 2012 represents 100% Bermuda Solvency Capital Requirement ("BSCR") level for the top Bermuda operating subsidiary, XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, calculated on a consolidated basis (and therefore includes a BSCR requirement for all regions). Required statutory capital and surplus at December 31, 2011 represents 100% BSCR level for the principal Bermuda operating subsidiaries only. If the December 31, 2011 required statutory capital and surplus had been determined on a consolidated basis, consistent with the 2012 requirement, the amount would have been \$6.5 billion.

(2) Required statutory capital and surplus represents 100% RBC level for principal U.S. operating subsidiaries.

(3) Statutory assets in Bermuda include investments in other U.S. and international subsidiaries reported separately herein.

Statutory net income (loss) for the principal operating subsidiaries of the Company for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 is summarized below:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Bermuda | \$ 817,461 | \$ 614,313 | \$ 1,654,736 |
| U.S. | 106,510 | 23,350 | 116,886 |
| U.K., Europe and Other | 157,012 | 107,255 | 291,223 |

The difference between statutory financial statements and statements prepared in accordance with GAAP varies by jurisdiction, however, the primary difference is that statutory financial statements do not reflect deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred income tax net assets, intangible assets, unrealized appreciation on investments but they do reflect any unauthorized/authorized reinsurance charges.

Certain restrictions on the payment of dividends from retained earnings by the Company's principal operating subsidiaries are further detailed below.

Management has evaluated the principal operating subsidiaries' ability to maintain adequate levels of statutory capital, liquidity and rating agency capital and believes they will be able to do so. In performing this analysis, management has considered the most recent statutory capital position of each of the principal operating subsidiaries as well as the ability of the holding companies to allocate capital and liquidity around the group as and when needed.

Bermuda Operations

In early July 2008, the Insurance Amendment Act of 2008 was passed, which introduced a number of changes to the Bermuda Insurance Act 1978, such as allowing the Bermuda Monetary Authority (BMA) to prescribe standards for an enhanced capital requirement and a capital and solvency return that insurers and reinsurers must comply with. The Bermuda Solvency Capital Requirement (BSCR) employs a standard mathematical model that can relate more accurately the risks taken on by (re)insurers to the capital that is dedicated to their business. Insurers and reinsurers may adopt the BSCR model or, where an insurer or reinsurer believes that its own internal model better reflects the inherent risk of its business, an in-house

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

23. Statutory Financial Data (Continued)

model approved by the BMA. Class 4 (re)insurers, such as the Company, were required to implement the new capital requirements under the BSCR model beginning with fiscal years ending on or after December 31, 2009. The Company's capital requirements for its Bermuda principal operating subsidiaries, XL Re Ltd and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, under the BSCR are highlighted in the table above. In addition to the BSCR based requirements, the BMA also prescribes minimum liquidity standards which must be met.

Under the Insurance Act 1978, amendments thereto and related regulations of Bermuda, Class 4 (re)insurers are prohibited from declaring or paying dividends of more than 25% of each of their prior year's statutory capital and surplus unless they file with the BMA an affidavit stating that the dividend has not caused the Class 4 (re)insurer to fail to meet its relevant margins. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the maximum dividend that our Bermuda Class 4 (re)insurers could pay, without a signed affidavit, having met minimum levels of statutory capital and surplus and liquidity requirements, was approximately \$1.4 billion and \$1.3 billion, respectively. No Class 4 (re)insurer may reduce its total statutory capital by 15% or more unless it has received the prior approval of the BMA, and it must also submit an affidavit stating that the proposed reduction will not cause it to fail to meet its minimum solvency margin or minimum liquidity ratio.

U.S. Operations

Unless permitted by the New York Superintendent of Insurance, the Company's lead property and casualty subsidiary in the United States ("XLRA") may not pay dividends to shareholders in an aggregate amount in any twelve month period that exceeds the lesser of 10 percent of XLRA's statutory policyholders' surplus or 100 percent of its "adjusted net investment income," as defined. The New York State insurance law also provides that any distribution that is a dividend may only be paid out of statutory earned surplus. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, XLRA had statutory earned surplus of \$152.9 million and \$59.7 million, respectively. At December 31, 2012, XLRA's statutory policyholders' surplus was \$2.2 billion, and accordingly, the maximum amount of dividends XLRA can declare and pay in 2013, without prior regulatory approval, is \$152.9 million. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, none of the seven property and casualty subsidiaries of XLRA had a statutory earned deficit.

International Operations

The Company's international principal operating subsidiaries prepare statutory financial statements based on local laws and regulations. Some jurisdictions impose enhanced regulatory requirements on insurance companies while other jurisdictions impose fewer requirements. In some countries, such subsidiaries must obtain licenses issued by governmental authorities to conduct local insurance business. These licenses may be subject to minimum reserves and minimum capital and solvency tests. Jurisdictions may impose fines, censure, and/or impose criminal sanctions for violation of regulatory requirements. The majority of the actual statutory capital outside of the U.S. and Bermuda is held in Ireland (\$0.9 billion at December 31, 2012) and the U.K. (\$1.0 billion at December 31, 2012). The Company's Irish operating subsidiary, XL Re Europe public limited company is required to seek prior approval from the Irish regulator to reduce its share capital or to pay dividends.

Other Restrictions

XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman have no operations of their own and their assets consist primarily of investments in subsidiaries. Accordingly, XL-Ireland's and XL-Cayman's future cash flows largely depend on the availability of dividends or other permissible payments from subsidiaries as noted above.

XL-Ireland is subject to certain legal constraints that affect its ability to pay dividends on or redeem or buyback its ordinary shares. While XL-Ireland's articles of association authorize its board of directors to declare and pay dividends as justified from the profits, under Irish law, XL-Ireland may only pay dividends or buyback or redeem shares using distributable reserves. In addition, no dividend or distribution may be made unless the net assets of XL-Ireland are not less than the aggregate of its share capital plus

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

23. Statutory Financial Data (Continued)

undistributable reserves and the distribution does not reduce XL-Ireland's net assets below such aggregate. As of December 31, 2012, XL-Ireland had \$3.6 billion in distributable reserves.

In addition, XL-Cayman is subject to certain constraints that affect its ability to pay dividends on its preferred shares. Under Cayman Islands law, XL-Cayman may not declare or pay a dividend if there are reasonable grounds for believing that XL-Cayman is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due in the ordinary course of business. Also, the terms of XL-Cayman's preferred shares prohibit declaring or paying dividends on the ordinary shares unless full dividends have been declared and paid on the outstanding preferred shares. Full dividends have been declared and paid on the outstanding preferred shares at December 31, 2012.

At December 31, 2012, XL-Ireland and XL-Cayman held cash and investments, net of liabilities associated with cash sweeping arrangements, of \$11.0 million and \$1.4 billion, respectively, compared to \$1.6 million and \$2.0 billion, respectively, at December 31, 2011.

The ability to declare and pay dividends may also be restricted by financial covenants in the Company's letters of credit and revolving credit facilities. The Company was in compliance with all covenants by significant margins at December 31, 2012, and the Company currently remains in compliance.

24. Computation of Earnings Per Ordinary Share and Ordinary Share Equivalent

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010: *(U.S. dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)*

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Basic earnings per ordinary share and ordinary share equivalents outstanding: | | | |
| Net income (loss) attributable to XL Group plc | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 603,550 |
| Less: preference share dividends (1) | – | – | (34,694) |
| Add: gain on redemption of the Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares | – | – | 16,616 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 585,472 |
| Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding | 307,372 | 312,896 | 336,283 |
| Basic earnings per ordinary share and ordinary share equivalents outstanding | <u>\$ 2.12</u> | <u>\$ (1.52)</u> | <u>\$ 1.74</u> |
| Diluted earnings per ordinary share and ordinary share equivalents outstanding: | | | |
| Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding – basic | 307,372 | 312,896 | 336,283 |
| Impact of share based compensation and certain conversion features | 2,910 | – | 1,426 |
| Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding – diluted | 310,282 | 312,896 | 337,709 |
| Diluted earnings per ordinary share & ordinary share equivalents outstanding | <u>\$ 2.10</u> | <u>\$ (1.52)</u> | <u>\$ 1.73</u> |
| Dividends per ordinary share | <u>\$ 0.44</u> | <u>\$ 0.44</u> | <u>\$ 0.40</u> |

(1) During the first quarter of 2011, the Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares were reclassified as Non-controlling interest – Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares and Series E preference ordinary shares were reclassified as Non-controlling interest in equity of consolidated subsidiaries on the Company's consolidated balance sheet as a result of changes in ownership structure arising as part of the Company's Redomestication of the ultimate parent holding company to Ireland as of July 1, 2010. Accordingly, preference share dividends declared are recorded as Non-controlling interests rather than as Preference share dividends within the consolidated statements of income from July 1, 2010 onwards. See Note 1, "General," for additional details. During the third quarter of 2011, all outstanding Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares were repurchased and canceled.

XL GROUP PLC
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

24. Computation of Earnings Per Ordinary Share and Ordinary Share Equivalent (Continued)

For the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, ordinary shares available for issuance under share-based compensation plans of 8.7 million, 16.9 million and 12.8 million, respectively, were not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share because the assumed exercise or issuance of such shares would be anti-dilutive.

25. Related Party Transactions

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the Company owned minority stakes in four and three, respectively, independent investment management companies (“Investment Manager Affiliates”) that are actively managing client capital and seeking growth opportunities. The Company seeks to develop relationships with specialty investment management organizations, generally acquiring an equity interest in the business. The Company also invests in certain of the funds and limited partnerships and other legal entities managed by these affiliates and through these funds and partnerships pays management and performance fees to the Company’s Investment Manager Affiliates.

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into reinsurance contracts with certain of its other strategic affiliates, or their subsidiaries. During the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, these contracts resulted in reported net premiums written, net reported claims and reported acquisition costs as summarized below. Management believes that these transactions are conducted at market rates consistent with negotiated arms-length contracts.

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Reported net premiums written | \$ 61,146 | \$ 66,489 | \$ 71,077 |
| Net losses incurred | \$ 37,664 | \$ 34,720 | \$ 33,098 |
| Reported acquisition costs | \$ 24,014 | \$ 25,635 | \$ 32,790 |

In addition, the Company had entered into a reinsurance contract with another strategic affiliate, ITAU, which, as disclosed in Note 6, “Investments in Affiliates,” was sold during the second quarter of 2010.

26. Unaudited Quarterly Financial Data

The following is a summary of the unaudited quarterly financial data for 2012 and 2011:

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands, except per share amounts)</i> | First Quarter | Second Quarter | Third Quarter | Fourth Quarter |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2012 | | | | |
| Net premiums earned – P&C operations | \$ 1,357,898 | \$ 1,400,972 | \$ 1,468,553 | \$ 1,538,559 |
| Net premiums earned – Life operations | 78,520 | 85,623 | 79,487 | 80,829 |
| Underwriting profit (loss) – P&C operations | 63,240 | 129,372 | 114,203 | (90,677) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | 176,628 | 221,156 | 171,902 | 81,448 |
| Net income (loss) per ordinary share and ordinary equivalent – basic | \$ 0.56 | \$ 0.71 | \$ 0.57 | \$ 0.27 |
| Net income (loss) per ordinary share and ordinary equivalent – diluted | \$ 0.56 | \$ 0.71 | \$ 0.56 | \$ 0.27 |
| 2011 | | | | |
| Net premiums earned – P&C operations | \$ 1,271,696 | \$ 1,306,125 | \$ 1,362,532 | \$ 1,386,759 |
| Net premiums earned – Life operations | 89,687 | 92,214 | 90,794 | 90,323 |
| Underwriting profit (loss) – P&C operations | (328,064) | 67,049 | (22,200) | (114,138) |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | (227,284) | 225,663 | 42,398 | (515,537) |
| Net income (loss) per ordinary share and ordinary equivalent – basic | \$ (0.73) | \$ 0.73 | \$ 0.14 | \$ (1.62) |
| Net income (loss) per ordinary share and ordinary equivalent – diluted | \$ (0.73) | \$ 0.69 | \$ 0.14 | \$ (1.62) |

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

There have been no changes in accountants within the twenty-four months ending December 31, 2012.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Conclusion Regarding the Effectiveness of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report, were effective to provide reasonable assurance that all material information relating to the Company required to be filed in this report has been made known to them in a timely fashion.

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

The Company's internal control system was designed to provide reasonable assurance to the Company's management and board of directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements.

The Company's management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012. In making this assessment, it used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("COSO") in Internal Control-Integrated Framework (the "Framework"). Based on its assessment, management concluded that, as of December 31, 2012, the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective based on the Framework criteria.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

The effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012 has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which appears in Item 15, "Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules."

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes in internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the Company's evaluation required pursuant to Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that occurred during the most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Certain of the information required by this item relating to the executive officers and directors of the Company may be found at the end of Part I under the heading "Executive Officers of the Registrant" and "Non-Employee Directors of the Registrant." The balance of the information required by this item is incorporated by reference from a definitive proxy statement that involves the election of directors and will be filed with the SEC not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from a definitive proxy statement that involves the election of directors and will be filed with the SEC pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from a definitive proxy statement that involves the election of directors and will be filed with the SEC pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from a definitive proxy statement that involves the election of directors and will be filed with the SEC pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference from a definitive proxy statement that involves the election of directors and will be filed with the SEC pursuant to Regulation 14A not later than 120 days after the close of the fiscal year.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

Financial Statements, Financial Statement Schedules and Exhibits.

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm | 233 |

1. Financial Statements

Included in Part II, Item 8 of this report.

2. Financial Statement Schedules

Included in Part IV of this report:

| | Schedule Number | Page |
|--|--------------------|------|
| Consolidated Summary of Investments – Other than Investments in Related Parties at December 31, 2012 and 2011 | I | 234 |
| Condensed Financial Information of Registrant at December 31, 2012 and 2011 and for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 | II | 236 |
| Reinsurance for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 | IV | 239 |
| Supplementary Information Concerning Property/Casualty (Re)Insurance Operations for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 | VI | 240 |
| Other Schedules have been omitted as they are not applicable to the Company. | | |

3. Exhibits

In reviewing the agreements included as exhibits to this Annual Report on Form 10-K, please remember they are included to provide you with information regarding their terms and are not intended to provide any other factual or disclosure information about the Company or the other parties to the agreements. The agreements contain representations and warranties by each of the parties to the applicable agreement. These representations and warranties have been made solely for the benefit of the other parties to the applicable agreement and:

- should not in all instances be treated as categorical statements of fact, but rather as a way of allocating the risk to one of the parties if those statements prove to be inaccurate;
- have been qualified by disclosures that were made to the other party in connection with the negotiation of the applicable agreement, which disclosures are not necessarily reflected in the agreement;
- may apply standards of materiality in a way that is different from what may be viewed as material to you or other investors; and
- were made only as of the date of the applicable agreement or such other date or dates as may be specified in the agreement and are subject to more recent developments.

Accordingly, these representations and warranties may not describe the actual state of affairs as of the date they were made or at any other time.

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 3.1 | Memorandum and Articles of Association of XL Group plc, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 3.2 | Certification of Incorporation of XL Group plc, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 3.3 | Memorandum of Association of XLIT Ltd., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 14.19 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-177869), filed on November 9, 2011. |
| 3.4 | Articles of Association of XLIT Ltd., incorporated by reference to Exhibit 14.20 of the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-177869), filed on November 9, 2011. |
| 4.1 | Excerpts from the Minutes of a Meeting of a Committee of the Board of Directors pursuant to Article 75 of XL Capital Ltd's Articles of Association held on March 12, 2007, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on March 15, 2007. |
| 4.2 | Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, between XL Capital Ltd and The Bank of New York, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-116245) filed on June 7, 2004. |
| 4.3 | First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of August 23, 2004, to the Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, between XL Capital Ltd and The Bank of New York, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 23, 2004. |
| 4.4 | Form of 5.25% Senior Note due 2014 (included in Exhibit 4.3 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 23, 2004. |
| 4.5 | Second Supplemental Indenture, dated as of November 12, 2004, to the Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, between XL Capital Ltd and The Bank of New York, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on November 15, 2004. |

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|---|
| 4.6 | Form of 6.375% Senior Note due 2024 (included in Exhibit 4.5 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on November 15, 2004. |
| 4.7 | Third Supplemental Indenture, dated as of December 9, 2005, to the Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, between XL Capital Ltd and The Bank of New York, as trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on December 12, 2005. |
| 4.8 | Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated May 7, 2007, to the Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, between XL Capital Ltd, and The Bank of New York, as trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on May 7, 2007. |
| 4.9 | Form of 6.25% Senior Note due 2027 (included in Exhibit 4.8 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on May 7, 2007. |
| 4.10 | Form of XL Group plc Ordinary Share Certificate, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 4.11 | Excerpts from the Authorizing Resolutions of the Board of Directors of XL Capital Ltd., dated October 27, 2006, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.12 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 4.12 | Indenture, dated as of January 10, 2002, among XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc, XL Capital Ltd and State Street Bank and Trust Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.16(a) to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on January 14, 2002. |
| 4.13 | Form of XL Capital Financial (Europe) plc Debt Security, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.14 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on January 14, 2002. |
| 4.14 | Excerpts from the Authorizing Resolutions of the Board of Directors of XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc, dated January 7, 2002, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.16(b) to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on January 14, 2002. |
| 4.15 | Excerpts from the Authorizing Resolutions of the Special Finance Committee of XL Capital Ltd, dated July 3, 2003, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.11 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) filed on August 14, 2003. |
| 4.16 | Form of 5.25% Senior Note due 2011 (included in Exhibit 4.7 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on December 12, 2005. |
| 4.17 | Fifth Supplemental Indenture, dated August 5, 2008, to the Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, between XL Capital Ltd and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 6, 2008. |
| 4.18 | Purchase Contract Agreement, dated August 5, 2008, between XL Capital Ltd and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Purchase Contract Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 6, 2008. |
| 4.19 | Pledge Agreement, dated August 5, 2008, by and among XL Capital Ltd and the Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, Custodial Agent, Securities Intermediary and Purchase Contract Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 6, 2008. |

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|---|
| 4.20 | Form of Normal Units Certificate (included in Exhibit 4.18 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 6, 2008. |
| 4.21 | Form of Stripped Units Certificate (included in Exhibit 4.18 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 6, 2008. |
| 4.22 | Form of 8.25% Senior Note due 2021 (included in Exhibit 4.17 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on August 6, 2008. |
| 4.23 | Sixth Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 30, 2010, to the Indenture, dated as of June 2, 2004, and the Fifth Supplemental Indenture, date as of August 5, 2008, between XL Capital Ltd, XL Group plc, as guarantor and the Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 4.24 | First Amendment, dated as of June 30, 2010, to the Pledge Agreement, dated August 5, 2008, by and among XL Capital Ltd, XL Company Switzerland GmbH and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, Custodial Agent and Securities Intermediary and Purchase Contract Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 4.25 | First Amendment, dated as of June 30, 2010, to the Purchase Contract Agreement, dated August 5, 2008, between the Registrant, XL Capital Ltd, XL Company Switzerland GmbH and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Purchase Contract Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 4.26 | Supplemental Indenture, dated as of June 30, 2010, to the Indenture, dated as of January 10, 2002, among XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc, XL Capital Ltd, XL Company Switzerland GmbH and State Street Bank and Trust Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B (No. 1-10804) filed on July 1, 2010. |
| 4.27 | Form of XL Capital Ltd Global Series E Preference Share Certificate, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on March 15, 2007. |
| 4.28 | Form of XLIT Ltd. Global Series D Preference Ordinary Share Certificate, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.29 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 4.29 | Indenture, dated September 30, 2011, among XL Group plc, XL Group Ltd. (n/k/a XLIT Ltd.) and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 30, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 4.30 | First Supplemental Indenture, dated September 30, 2011, to the Indenture dated September 30, 2011 among XL Group plc, XL Group Ltd. (n/k/a XLIT Ltd.) and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 30, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 4.31 | Form of 5.75% Senior Note due 2021 (included in Exhibit 4.30 hereto), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 30, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.1+ | 1991 Performance Incentive Plan (as amended and restated effective March 7, 2003), incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (No. 1-10804) filed on April 4, 2003. |

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|---|
| 10.2+ | 1991 Performance Incentive Program (as amended and restated effective April 29, 2005), incorporated by reference to Appendix C to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (No. 1-10804) filed on March 24, 2005. |
| 10.3+ | 1991 Performance Incentive Program (as amended and restated effective February 27, 2009), incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (No. 1-10804) filed on March 9, 2009. |
| 10.4+ | 1991 Performance Incentive Program (as amended and restated effective April 30, 2010), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) for the period ended June 30, 2010. |
| 10.5+ | Amended and Restated Directors Stock & Option Plan, effective as of March 7, 2003, incorporated by reference to Appendix C to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (No. 1-10804) filed on April 4, 2003. |
| 10.6+ | Amended and Restated Directors Stock & Option Plan, effective as of January 1, 2009, incorporated by reference to Appendix C to the Company's Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (No. 1-10804) filed on March 9, 2009. |
| 10.7+ | Amended and Restated Directors Stock & Option Plan, effective as of April 30, 2010, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) for the period ended June 30, 2010. |
| 10.8+ | Employment Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2006, between XL Capital Ltd and Sarah E. Street, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2006 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.9+ | Form of Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement (One-Time Vesting), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.10+ | Form of Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement (Incremental Vesting), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804) |
| 10.11+ | Form of Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement (Incremental Vesting), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.12+ | Form of Incentive Stock Option Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.13+ | Form of Restricted Stock Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.14+ | Form of Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement (Renewal Form), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.15+ | Form of Non-Statutory Stock Option Agreement (Non-Employee Director Renewal Form), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.16+ | Form of Directors Restricted Stock Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.17+ | Form of Performance Restricted Stock Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 10.18+ | Form of Performance Restricted Stock Unit Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.19+ | Form of Performance Unit Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.20+ | Form of Performance Unit Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.21+ | Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.22+ | Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.23+ | Form of Restricted Stock Unit Agreement (for U.S. taxpayers based in Bermuda), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.24+ | Form of Director Stock Option Agreement, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2004 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.25 | Insurance Letters of Credit – Master Agreement between XL Mid Ocean Reinsurance Ltd and Citibank, N.A., dated May 19, 1993, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.33 to Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of Mid Ocean Limited (No. 333-63298) filed on June 25, 1993. |
| 10.26 | Second Amended and Restated Agreement for the Sale and Purchase of Winterthur International, dated as of February 15, 2001, between Winterthur Swiss Insurance Company and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd (formerly XL Insurance Ltd), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99(a) to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed August 9, 2001. |
| 10.27 | Amendment Agreement, dated July 19, 2002, between Winterthur Swiss Insurance Company and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.58 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2002 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.28 | Agreement, dated December 24, 2003, between Winterthur Swiss Insurance Company and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd (including Schedule B thereto), relating to the Second Amended and Restated Agreement for the Sale and Purchase of Winterthur International, dated February 15, 2001, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.15 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) filed on August 9, 2004. |
| 10.29 | Amendment Agreement, dated July 27, 2004, between Winterthur Swiss Insurance Company and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, relating to the Second Amended and Restated Agreement for the Sale and Purchase of Winterthur International, dated February 15, 2001, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.16 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) filed on August 9, 2004. |
| 10.30 | Pledge Agreement, dated as of December 18, 2001, made by XL Investments Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd and XL Europe Ltd, as Grantors, in favor of Citibank, N.A., as Bank, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.54 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001 (No. 1-10804). |

| Exhibit | Description |
|---------|--|
| 10.31 | Amendment No. 1, dated as of June 24, 2002, to the Pledge Agreement, dated December 18, 2001, made by XL Investments Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, and XL Europe Ltd, as Grantors, in favor of Citibank, N.A., as Bank, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.67 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2003 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.32 | Replacement Capital Covenant, dated March 15, 2007, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on March 15, 2007. |
| 10.33 | Service Agreement Relative to Sureties, Letters of Guarantees and International Stand-By Letters of Credit, dated April 25, 2003, between Société Le Mans Re and Credit Lyonnais, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.62 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2003 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.34 | First Renewal, dated November 27, 2000, between Le Mans Re and BNP Paribas, to the Reinsurance Stand-By Letter of Credit Agreement, dated October 7, 1999, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.63 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2003 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.35 | Master Commutation, Release and Restructuring Agreement by and among XL Capital Ltd, XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Reinsurance America Inc., X.L. Global Services, Inc., XL Services (Bermuda) Ltd and X.L. America, Inc., Security Capital Assurance Ltd ("SCA"), certain of SCA's subsidiaries and certain financial institutions who have entered into various credit default swaps with affiliates of SCA, dated as of July 28, 2008, as amended, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.36+ | Employment Agreement, dated as of March 14, 2008 by and between XL Capital Ltd and Michael S. McGavick, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 20, 2008 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.37+ | Agreement and Release, dated November 29, 2011, between XL Group plc and David B. Duclos, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 1, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.38+ | Consulting Agreement, dated November 29, 2011, between XL Group plc, XL Specialty Insurance Company, Inc. and David B. Duclos, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 1, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.39+ | 2008 Form of Employment Agreement between XL Capital Ltd and certain Executive Officers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.40+ | 2008 Form of Amendment to Employment Agreement between XL Capital Ltd and certain Executive Officers (amended in response to Internal Revenue Code Section 457A), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.41+ | Amended Employment Agreement, dated as of April 25, 2008, by and between XL Capital Ltd, X.L. Global Services, Inc. and James H. Veghte (amended in response to Internal Revenue Code Section 409A), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.42+ | Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated as of December 2008, between XL Capital Ltd and Michael S. McGavick (amended in response to Internal Revenue Code Section 457A), incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------------|--|
| 10.43+ | Amendment to Employment Agreement, dated as of December 16, 2009, by and between XL Capital Ltd and Sarah E. Street, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.52 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.44+ | Form of Letter Agreement, dated December 15, 2009, relating to Employment Agreements between XL Capital Ltd and certain Executive Officers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.53 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.45 | Insurance Letters of Credit – Master Agreement, dated November 11, 2009, between XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd and Citibank Europe plc, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.54 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.46 | Pledge Agreement, dated November 11, 2009, between XL Re Ltd and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, as Pledgors, and Citibank Europe plc, as Pledgee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.55 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.47 | Amendment No. 1, dated November 23, 2009, to Pledge Agreement dated November 11, 2009 between XL Re Ltd and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, as Pledgors, and Citibank Europe plc, as Pledgee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.56 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.48 | Amendment No. 2, dated December 23, 2009, to Pledge Agreement dated November 11, 2009 between XL Re Ltd and XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, as Pledgors, and Citibank Europe plc, as Pledgee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.57 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.49+ | Form of Indemnification Agreement, dated July 1, 2010, by and between XL Capital Ltd and certain directors and executive officers of the Company, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B filed on July 1, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.50+ | Deed Poll Indemnity, dated July 1, 2010, by XL Capital Ltd, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K12B filed on July 1, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.51+ | Employment Agreement, dated as of May 6, 2010, between XL Capital Ltd and Irene M. Esteves, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 6, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.52+ | Supplemental Deferred Compensation Plan, amended and restated effective as of January 1, 2007, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.53+ | 2009 Cash Long Term Program, amended and restated as of April 30, 2010, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2010 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.54 | Aircraft Time Sharing Agreement, dated February 22, 2011, between Michael S. McGavick and X.L. America, Inc, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.63 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2010. |

| Exhibit | Description |
|---------|--|
| 10.55 | Credit Agreement, dated as of March 25, 2011, between XL Group plc, XL Group Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Account Parties, XL Group plc, XL Group Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Guarantors, the Lenders party thereto, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 28, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.56 | Pledge Agreement, dated as of March 25, 2011, between XL Group plc, XL Group Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Pledgors, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on March 28, 2011 (No. 1-10804). |
| 10.57+ | XL Services UK Limited Profit Sharing Scheme, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-8 filed on May 11, 2011 (No. 333-174138). |
| 10.58+ | Employment Agreement, dated as of June 18, 2011, by and between XL Group plc, X.L. Global Services, Inc. and Peter R. Porrino, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 21, 2011. |
| 10.59 | Secured Credit Agreement, dated as of December 9, 2011, between XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Account Parties, XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Guarantors, the Lenders party thereto, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 12, 2011. |
| 10.60 | Unsecured Credit Agreement, dated as of December 9, 2011, between XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Account Parties, XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Guarantors, the Lenders party thereto, and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 12, 2011. |
| 10.61 | Amendment, dated as of December 9, 2011, to the Credit Agreement, dated as of March 25, 2011, between XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd. (formerly XL Group Ltd.), X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Account Parties, XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd. (formerly XL Group Ltd.), X.L. America, Inc., XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Guarantors, the Lenders party thereto, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 12, 2011. |
| 10.62 | Pledge Agreement, dated as of December 9, 2011, between XL Group plc, XLIT Ltd., X.L. America, Inc., Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd and XL Life Ltd, as Pledgors, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as Collateral Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 12, 2011. |

| Exhibit | Description |
|----------|---|
| 10.63+ | Form of Letter Agreement between XL Global Services, Inc. and/or XL Group plc and certain executive officers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.67 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. |
| 10.64 | Subscription Agreement, dated as of December 5, 2006, among XL Capital Ltd, Stoneheath Re and Goldman Sachs International, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on December 11, 2006. |
| 10.65 | Excess of Loss Reinsurance Agreement, dated as of December 12, 2006, by and among XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd, XL Insurance Switzerland, XL Europe Limited, XL Insurance Company Limited, XL Re Latin America Ltd, XL Insurance Argentina S.A. Compania de Seguros, XL Insurance Company Ltd, XL Re Ltd, XL Re Europe Limited, Vitodurum Reinsurance Company, Underwriting Members of Lloyd's Syndicate #1209 and Stoneheath Re, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on December 12, 2006. |
| 10.66 | Securities Issuance Agreement, dated as of December 12, 2006 between XL Capital Ltd and Stoneheath Re, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on December 12, 2006. |
| 10.67 | Trust Agreement, dated as of December 12, 2006 among the Asset Swap Counterparty, The Ceding Insurers and XL Capital Ltd as Beneficiaries and Stoneheath Re, as Guarantor and Beneficiary and The Bank of New York, as Trustee, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on December 12, 2006. |
| 10.68+ | XL Group plc Reinsurance Supplemental Long Term Cash Incentive Compensation Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Current Report on Form 8-K (No. 1-10804) filed on April 30, 2012. |
| 10.69+ | X.L. America, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) for the period ended June 30, 2012. |
| 10.70+ | Form of Letter Agreement between XL Global Services, Inc. and/or XL Group plc and certain executive officers, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (No. 1-10804) for the period ended June 30, 2012. |
| 12* | Statements regarding computation of ratios. |
| 21* | List of subsidiaries of the Registrant. |
| 23* | Consent of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. |
| 24* | Powers of Attorney (included in signature page of this Annual Report on Form 10-K). |
| 31* | Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications. |
| 32* | Section 1350 Certifications. |
| 101.INS* | XBRL Instance Document |
| 101.SCH* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document |
| 101.CAL* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document |
| 101.LAB* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document |
| 101.PRE* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document |
| 101.DEF* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document |

* Filed herewith.

+ Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of XL Group plc:

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements listed in the index appearing under Item 15 (1), present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of XL Group plc and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2012 and 2011 and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In addition, in our opinion, the financial statement schedules listed in the index appearing under Item 15 (2) presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein when read in conjunction with the related consolidated financial statements. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company’s management is responsible for these financial statements and financial statement schedules, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in Management’s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting, Item 9A. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements, on the financial statement schedules, and on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting based on our integrated audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the financial statements included examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

A company’s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed 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. A company’s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company’s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
New York, New York
February 27, 2013

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE I
CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS – OTHER THAN
INVESTMENTS IN RELATED PARTIES

At December 31, 2012

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Cost or Amortized Cost (1) | Fair Value | Amount Presented in the Balance Sheet |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|
| Fixed Maturities – AFS: | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government agency-Related/Supported | \$ 1,906,044 | \$ 2,034,617 | \$ 2,034,617 |
| Corporate | 9,837,962 | 10,482,000 | 10,482,000 |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,054,097 | 5,255,493 | 5,255,493 |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 678,469 | 647,733 | 647,733 |
| CMBS | 1,010,794 | 1,077,251 | 1,077,251 |
| CDO | 784,999 | 709,816 | 709,816 |
| Other asset-backed securities | 1,426,483 | 1,470,711 | 1,470,711 |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 1,767,669 | 1,911,017 | 1,911,017 |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Supranational and Government-Related | 4,078,289 | 4,258,282 | 4,258,282 |
| Total Fixed maturities – AFS | \$ 26,544,806 | \$ 27,846,920 | \$ 27,846,920 |
| Equity securities | \$ 617,486 | \$ 649,359 | \$ 649,359 |
| Short-term investments | \$ 322,563 | \$ 322,703 | \$ 322,703 |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | \$ 2,814,447 | \$ 3,262,804 | \$ 2,814,447 |
| Other investments | \$ 1,039,731 | \$ 1,201,570 | \$ 1,219,879 |
| Total investments other than investments in related parties | \$ 31,339,033 | \$ 33,283,356 | \$ 32,853,308 |

(1) Investments in fixed maturities, short-term investments and held to maturity are shown at amortized cost.

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE I
CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS – OTHER THAN
INVESTMENTS IN RELATED PARTIES

At December 31, 2011

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Cost or Amortized Cost (1) | Fair Value | Amount Presented in the Balance Sheet |
|---|---|-----------------------|--|
| Fixed Maturities – AFS: | | | |
| U.S. Government and Government agency-Related/Supported | \$ 1,864,354 | \$ 1,990,983 | \$ 1,990,983 |
| Corporate | 9,866,677 | 10,108,622 | 10,108,622 |
| RMBS – Agency | 5,189,473 | 5,379,406 | 5,379,406 |
| RMBS – Non-Agency | 851,557 | 641,815 | 641,815 |
| CMBS | 927,684 | 974,835 | 974,835 |
| CDO | 843,553 | 658,602 | 658,602 |
| Other asset-backed securities | 1,341,309 | 1,340,249 | 1,340,249 |
| U.S. States and political subdivisions of the States | 1,698,573 | 1,797,378 | 1,797,378 |
| Non-U.S. Sovereign Government, Supranational and Government-Related | 3,188,535 | 3,298,135 | 3,298,135 |
| Total Fixed maturities – AFS | \$ 25,771,715 | \$ 26,190,025 | \$ 26,190,025 |
| Equity securities | \$ 480,685 | \$ 468,197 | \$ 468,197 |
| Short-term investments | \$ 359,378 | \$ 359,063 | \$ 359,063 |
| Fixed maturities – HTM | \$ 2,668,978 | \$ 2,895,688 | \$ 2,668,978 |
| Other investments | \$ 849,511 | \$ 958,681 | \$ 985,262 |
| Total investments other than investments in related parties | \$ 30,130,267 | \$ 30,871,654 | \$ 30,671,525 |

(1) Investments in fixed maturities, short-term investments and held to maturity are shown at amortized cost.

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE II
CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF REGISTRANT
CONDENSED BALANCE SHEETS – PARENT COMPANY ONLY

At December 31, 2012 and 2011

(U.S. dollars in thousands)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 10,961 | 1,644 |
| Amounts due from subsidiaries | – | 80,841 |
| Investments in subsidiaries on an equity basis | 10,601,648 | 9,344,521 |
| Other assets | 3,241 | 3,797 |
| Total assets | \$ 10,615,850 | \$ 9,430,803 |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Amounts due to subsidiaries | \$ 86,012 | \$ – |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 19,766 | 19,145 |
| Total liabilities | \$ 105,778 | \$ 19,145 |
| Commitments and Contingencies | | |
| Shareholders' Equity: | | |
| Ordinary shares, 999,990,000 authorized, par value \$0.01; issued and outstanding: (2012: 298,681,573; 2011: 315,645,796) | \$ 2,987 | \$ 3,156 |
| Additional paid in capital | 8,584,753 | 8,938,679 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 1,520,011 | 583,064 |
| Retained earnings (deficit) | 402,321 | (113,241) |
| Total shareholders' equity | \$ 10,510,072 | \$ 9,411,658 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$ 10,615,850 | \$ 9,430,803 |

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE II
CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF REGISTRANT
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME – PARENT COMPANY ONLY

For the Years Ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Year Ended December 31, 2012 | XL Group plc Year Ended December 31, 2011 | July 1 to December 31, 2010 | XLIT Ltd. (1) January 1 to June 30, 2010 |
|---|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Net investment income | \$ 5 | \$ 2 | \$ – | \$ 44,636 |
| Realized investment gains (losses): | | | | |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments sold | – | – | – | 25,177 |
| Other-than-temporary impairments on investments | – | – | – | (11,670) |
| Other-than-temporary impairments on investments transferred to (from) other comprehensive income | – | – | – | 4 |
| Total net realized gains (losses) on investments | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 13,511 |
| Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivative instruments | – | – | – | (4,087) |
| Equity in net earnings (losses) of subsidiaries (dividends were: 2012: nil; 2011: \$183,029; and 2010: \$197,326 and \$448,400) | 662,280 | (400,612) | 275,629 | 384,311 |
| Equity in net earnings of affiliates | – | – | – | 2 |
| Total revenues | \$ 662,285 | \$ (400,610) | \$ 275,629 | \$ 438,373 |
| Operating expenses | \$ 10,971 | \$ 74,422 | \$ 9,930 | \$ 48,256 |
| Foreign exchange (gains) losses | 165 | (275) | 34 | 1,003 |
| Interest expense | 15 | 3 | – | 51,431 |
| Total expenses | \$ 11,151 | \$ 74,150 | \$ 9,964 | \$ 100,690 |
| Income (loss) before income tax | 651,134 | (474,760) | 265,665 | 337,683 |
| Provision for income tax | – | – | – | (202) |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 265,665 | \$ 337,885 |
| Preference share dividends | – | – | – | (34,694) |
| Gain on redemption of Redeemable Series C preference ordinary shares | – | – | – | 16,616 |
| Net income (loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | <u>\$ 651,134</u> | <u>\$ (474,760)</u> | <u>\$ 265,665</u> | <u>\$ 319,807</u> |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 265,665 | \$ 337,885 |
| Impact of adoption of new authoritative embedded derivative guidance, net of tax | – | – | 31,917 | – |
| Change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments, affiliates and other investments, net of tax | 887,376 | 471,696 | 161,048 | 880,332 |
| Change in OTTI losses recognized in other comprehensive income, net of tax | 67,280 | 39,456 | 93,269 | 31,637 |
| Change in underfunded pension liability | (9,985) | (2,622) | (6,186) | 3,567 |
| Change in value of cash flow hedge | 439 | 439 | 219 | 220 |
| Change in unrealized gains (losses) on future policy benefit reserves | – | – | – | (3,714) |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (8,163) | (26,700) | 159,261 | (108,308) |
| Comprehensive income (loss) | <u>\$ 1,588,081</u> | <u>\$ 7,509</u> | <u>\$ 705,193</u> | <u>\$ 1,141,619</u> |

(1) As part of the Redomestication on July 1, 2010, XL-Cayman became a wholly-owned subsidiary of XL-Ireland, and as such, certain of the above financial data with respect to periods prior to the Redomestication are not comparable for periods subsequent to the Redomestication.

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE II
CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF REGISTRANT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS – PARENT COMPANY ONLY

For the Years Ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Year Ended December 31, 2012 | XL Group plc Year Ended December 31, 2011 | July 1 to December 31, 2010 | XLIT Ltd. (1) January 1 to June 30, 2010 |
|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Net income (loss) | \$ 651,134 | \$ (474,760) | \$ 265,665 | \$ 337,885 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: | | | | |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments and derivative instruments | – | – | – | (9,423) |
| Equity in (earnings) loss of subsidiaries | (662,280) | 400,612 | (275,629) | (384,311) |
| Equity in net (income) of affiliates | – | – | – | (2) |
| Share based compensation | 47,472 | 41,225 | 22,157 | 21,901 |
| Amortization of premiums (discounts) on fixed maturities | – | – | – | (9,791) |
| Accretion of notes payable and debt | – | – | – | 341 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | – | – | – | (24,973) |
| Amounts due to (from) subsidiaries | 166,853 | (205,893) | 125,052 | (183,273) |
| Dividends received from subsidiaries | – | 183,029 | 448,400 | 197,326 |
| Other | (3,296) | 10,956 | 1,462 | 24,621 |
| Total adjustments | \$ (451,251) | \$ 429,929 | \$ 321,442 | \$ (367,584) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | \$ 199,883 | \$ (44,831) | \$ 587,107 | \$ (29,699) |
| Cash flows provided by (used in) investing activities: | | | | |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed maturities and short-term investments | \$ – | \$ – | \$ – | \$ 369,752 |
| Proceeds from redemption of fixed maturities and short-term investments | – | – | – | 575,326 |
| Proceeds from sale of equity securities | – | – | – | 238 |
| Purchases of fixed maturities and short-term investments | – | – | – | (919,840) |
| Investment in subsidiaries | 341,750 | 272,398 | – | 298,119 |
| Investment in affiliates | – | – | – | 5 |
| Investment in limited partnerships | – | – | – | 95 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | \$ 341,750 | \$ 272,398 | \$ – | \$ 323,695 |
| Cash flows provided by (used in) financing activities: | | | | |
| Proceeds from issuance of ordinary shares and exercise of stock options | \$ 5,413 | \$ 576,333 | \$ 1,182 | \$ – |
| Repurchase of Series E preference ordinary shares | – | – | – | (94,157) |
| Dividends paid | (134,799) | (138,050) | (65,350) | (106,471) |
| Buybacks of ordinary shares | (402,930) | (667,022) | (520,184) | (1,840) |
| Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities | \$ (532,316) | \$ (228,739) | \$ (584,352) | \$ (202,468) |
| Net change in cash and cash equivalents | 9,317 | (1,172) | 2,755 | 91,528 |
| Cash and cash equivalents – beginning of period | 1,644 | 2,816 | 61 | 600,993 |
| Cash and cash equivalents – end of period | <u>\$ 10,961</u> | <u>\$ 1,644</u> | <u>\$ 2,816</u> | <u>\$ 692,521</u> |

(1) As part of the Redomestication on July 1, 2010, XL-Cayman became a wholly-owned subsidiary of XL-Ireland, and as such, certain of the above financial data with respect to periods prior to the Redomestication are not comparable for periods subsequent to the Redomestication.

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE IV – REINSURANCE

For the Years Ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Gross Amount | Ceded to Other Companies | Assumed from Other Companies | Net Amount | Percentage of Amount Assumed to Net |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|-----------------------|--|
| 2012 | | | | | |
| Life reinsurance in force (1) | \$ – | \$ 443,798 | \$ 82,099,647 | \$ 81,655,849 | 100.5 % |
| Premiums Earned: | | | | | |
| Property and casualty operations | \$ 4,604,327 | \$ 1,231,835 | \$ 2,393,490 | \$ 5,765,982 | 41.5 % |
| Life operations | – | 31,322 | 355,781 | 324,459 | 109.7 % |
| Total premiums earned | \$ 4,604,327 | \$ 1,263,157 | \$ 2,749,271 | \$ 6,090,441 | 45.1 % |
| 2011 | | | | | |
| Life reinsurance in force (1) | \$ – | \$ 559,676 | \$ 88,646,215 | \$ 88,086,539 | 100.6 % |
| Premiums Earned: | | | | | |
| Property and casualty operations | \$ 4,624,557 | \$ 1,477,000 | \$ 2,179,555 | \$ 5,327,112 | 40.9 % |
| Life operations | – | 32,308 | 395,326 | 363,018 | 108.9 % |
| Total premiums earned | \$ 4,624,557 | \$ 1,509,308 | \$ 2,574,881 | \$ 5,690,130 | 45.3 % |
| 2010 | | | | | |
| Life reinsurance in force (1) | \$ – | \$ 559,674 | \$ 100,908,397 | \$ 100,348,723 | 100.6 % |
| Premiums Earned: | | | | | |
| Property and casualty operations | \$ 4,535,626 | \$ 1,342,017 | \$ 1,837,528 | \$ 5,031,137 | 36.5 % |
| Life operations | – | 32,226 | 415,150 | 382,924 | 108.4 % |
| Total premiums earned | \$ 4,535,626 | \$ 1,374,243 | \$ 2,252,678 | \$ 5,414,061 | 41.6 % |

(1) Represents the sum face value outstanding of the in force life reinsurance policies.

XL GROUP PLC
SCHEDULE VI
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
CONCERNING PROPERTY/CASUALTY (RE)INSURANCE OPERATIONS

For the Years Ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

| <i>(U.S. dollars in thousands)</i> | Deferred Acquisition Costs | Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses | Reserves for Unearned Premiums | Net Earned Premiums | Net Investment Income | Losses and Loss Expenses incurred related to Current Year and Prior Year | | Net Paid Losses and Loss Expenses | Amortization of Deferred Acquisition Costs | Net Premiums Written |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---|--------------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| 2012 | \$ 536,664 | \$ 20,484,121 | \$ 3,755,898 | \$ 5,765,982 | \$ 712,906 | \$ 4,081,377 | \$ (315,895) | \$ 3,783,242 | \$ 872,399 | \$ 5,957,021 |
| 2011 | \$ 531,282 | \$ 20,613,901 | \$ 3,555,260 | \$ 5,327,112 | \$ 819,708 | \$ 4,363,258 | \$ (284,867) | \$ 3,846,202 | \$ 786,093 | \$ 5,433,388 |
| 2010 | \$ 498,385 | \$ 20,531,607 | \$ 3,469,934 | \$ 5,031,137 | \$ 884,866 | \$ 3,584,662 | \$ (372,862) | \$ 3,470,509 | \$ 739,154 | \$ 4,999,588 |

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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.

Date: February 27, 2013

XL Group plc
(Registrant)

/s/ MICHAEL S. MCGAVICK

Name: Michael S. McGavick
Title: Chief Executive Officer and Director
XL Group plc

Date: February 27, 2013

/s/ PETER R. PORRINO

Name: Peter R. Porrino
Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
XL Group plc

POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned directors and executive officers of XL Group plc, hereby severally constitute Michael S. McGavick, Peter R. Porrino and Kirstin Gould, and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to them and each of them to sign for us, and in our names in the capacities indicated below, any and all amendments to the Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys to any and all amendments to said Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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

| Signatures | Title | Date |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------|
| /s/ MICHAEL S. MCGAVICK | Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) and Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Michael S. McGavick | | |
| /s/ PETER R. PORRINO | Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer) | February 27, 2013 |
| Peter R. Porrino | | |
| /s/ RAMANI AYER | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Ramani Ayer | | |
| /s/ DALE R. COMEY | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Dale R. Comey | | |
| /s/ ROBERT R. GLAUBER | Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors | February 27, 2013 |
| Robert R. Glauber | | |
| /s/ HERBERT N. HAAG | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Herbert N. Haag | | |
| /s/ SUZANNE B. LABARGE | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Suzanne B. Labarge | | |
| /s/ JOSEPH MAURIELLO | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Joseph Mauriello | | |
| /s/ EUGENE M. MCQUADE | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Eugene M. McQuade | | |
| /s/ CLAYTON S. ROSE | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Clayton S. Rose | | |
| /s/ SIR JOHN VEREKER | Director | February 27, 2013 |
| Sir John Vereker | | |

XL GROUP PLC

COMPUTATION OF RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERENCE DIVIDENDS

(U.S. dollars in thousands, except ratios)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Earnings: | | |
| Pre-tax income (loss) from continuing operations | \$ 650,102 | \$ (447,215) |
| Fixed charges | 261,721 | 287,793 |
| Distributed income of equity investees | 81,518 | 150,554 |
| Subtotal | 993,341 | (8,868) |
| Less: Non-controlling interests | 167 | (1,401) |
| Preference share dividends | 79,087 | 72,278 |
| Total earnings (loss) | <u>\$ 914,087</u> | <u>\$ (79,745)</u> |
| Fixed charges: | | |
| Interest costs | \$ 105,926 | \$ 154,292 |
| Accretion of deposit liabilities | 66,279 | 51,300 |
| Rental expense at 30% ⁽¹⁾ | 10,429 | 9,923 |
| Total fixed charges | 182,634 | 215,515 |
| Preference share dividends | 79,087 | 72,278 |
| Total fixed charges and preference dividends | <u>\$ 261,721</u> | <u>\$ 287,793</u> |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges | <u>5.0</u> | <u>(0.4)</u> |
| Ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preference dividends | <u>3.5</u> | <u>(0.3)</u> |
| Deficiency—fixed charges only | <u>\$ N/A</u> | <u>\$ 295,260</u> |
| Deficiency—fixed charges and preference dividends | <u>\$ N/A</u> | <u>\$ 367,538</u> |

⁽¹⁾ 30% represents a reasonable approximation of the interest factor.

Subsidiaries of the Registrant
(as of December 31, 2012)

| | % | JURISDICTION |
|---|----|--------------|
| XL Group plc | | Ireland |
| XLIT Ltd. | | Cayman |
| XL Company Switzerland GmbH | | Switzerland |
| EXEL Holdings Limited | | Cayman |
| X.L. Property Holdings Limited | | Bermuda |
| XL Insurance (Bermuda) Ltd | | Bermuda |
| Mid Ocean Holdings Limited | | Bermuda |
| XL London Market Group Ltd | | UK |
| Brockbank Holdings Ltd | | UK |
| County Down Limited | | UK |
| Dornoch Limited | | UK |
| Stonebridge Underwriting Ltd | | UK |
| XL London Market Ltd- Syndicate 1209 | | UK |
| XL London Market Services Ltd | | UK |
| Denham Tower Underwriting Agents (PTY) Limited (In Liquidation) | | South Africa |
| XL Re Ltd | | Bermuda |
| XL BCM Limited | | UK |
| XL CCM Ltd (In Liquidation) | | UK |
| ECS Reinsurance Company Inc. | | Barbados |
| Global Capital Underwriting Ltd. | | UK |
| Fundamental Insurance Investments Ltd | | Bermuda |
| FII Partners LLC | 99 | Delaware |
| FII Partners Ltd | | Bermuda |
| FII Partners LLC | 1 | Delaware |
| XL Re Europe Limited | | Ireland |
| XL Insurance (Gibraltar) Limited | | Gibraltar |
| XL EP Plc | | UK |
| XL Re Latin America Ltd | | Switzerland |
| XL Latin America Investments Ltd | | Bermuda |
| XL Re Participacoes Brasil Ltda. | | Brazil |
| XL Resseguros Brasil S.A. | | Brazil |
| XL Re Latin America (Argentina SA) | 80 | Argentina |
| XL Re Latin Escritório de Representação no Brasil Ltda | | Brazil |
| XL PP Limited (In Liquidation) | | UK |
| XL (Brazil) Holdings Ltda | | Brazil |
| XL Services (Bermuda) Ltd | | Bermuda |
| XL Life Ltd | | Bermuda |
| Reeve Court General Partner Limited | | Bermuda |
| Reeve Court 4 Limited Partnership | | Bermuda |
| Reeve Court 6 Limited Partnership | | Bermuda |
| XL Gracechurch Limited | | UK |
| XL Insurance (UK) Holdings Limited | | UK |
| XL Capital Finance (Europe) plc | | UK |
| XL Insurance Argentina S.A. Compañía de Seguros | 90 | Argentina |
| XL Services UK Limited | | UK |
| XL Insurance Company Limited | | UK |
| XL Insurance Argentina S.A. Compañía de Seguros | 10 | Argentina |
| XL Insurance (China) Company Ltd | 49 | China |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| XL Seguros Brasil S.A. | Brazil |
| XL Holdings Proprietary Limited | South Africa |
| XL Insurance Company Ltd | South Africa |
| XL Financial Holdings (Ireland) Limited | Ireland |
| XL Finance (Ireland) Limited | Ireland |
| XL Services Canada Ltd. | Canada |

| | % | JURISDICTION |
|--|----|--------------|
| X.L. America, Inc. | | Delaware |
| XL Financial Solutions, Inc. | | Delaware |
| XLA Garrison L.P. | | Delaware |
| XL Reinsurance America Inc. | | New York |
| XL Insurance (China) Company Ltd | 51 | China |
| Greenwich Insurance Company | | Delaware |
| Global Asset Protection Services, LLC | | Connecticut |
| Global Asset Protection Services Company Limited | | Japan |
| Global Asset Protection Services Consultancy (Beijing) Company Limited | | China |
| XL Insurance America, Inc. | | Delaware |
| XL Select Insurance Company | | Delaware |
| XL Insurance Company of New York, Inc. | | New York |
| XL Group Investments LLC | | Delaware |
| XL Group Investments Ltd | | Bermuda |
| XL Specialty Insurance Company | | Delaware |
| Indian Harbor Insurance Company | | North Dakota |
| 37 Lambert Road LLC | | Delaware |
| XL Global, Inc. | | Delaware |
| X.L. Global Services, Inc. | | Delaware |
| Eagleview Insurance Brokerage Services, LLC | | Delaware |
| XL Life and Annuity Holding Company | | Delaware |
| XL Life Insurance and Annuity Company | | Illinois |
| XL Asset Funding Company I LLC | | Delaware |
| ECS, Inc. (In Liquidation) | | Pennsylvania |
| XL Investments Ltd | | Bermuda |
| XL Capital Products Ltd | | Bermuda |
| XL SGS Holdings Inc. | | Delaware |
| Garrison Investments Inc. ^(*) | | Barbados |
| Kensington Investments Inc. | | Barbados |
| XLB Partners Inc. | | Barbados |
| X.L. Investments (Barbados) Inc. | | Barbados |
| XL (SERVICES) S.a.r.l. | | Luxembourg |
| XL (SPECIALTY) S.a.r.l. | | Luxembourg |
| XL (WESTERN EUROPE) S.a.r.l. | | Luxembourg |
| XL Swiss Holdings Ltd | | Switzerland |
| XL Re Latin America (Argentina SA) | 20 | Argentina |
| XL Insurance Switzerland Ltd. | | Switzerland |
| Vitodurum Reinsurance Company Ltd. | | Switzerland |
| XL Services Switzerland AG | | Switzerland |
| XL India Business Services Private Limited | | India |
| XL Insurance Mexico SA de CV | | Mexico |

^(*) Limited Partner of XLA Garrison L.P.



CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-177869), Form S-8 (File No. 333-161124), Form S-8 (File No. 333-161122), Form S-8 (File No. 333-89568), Form S-8 (File No. 333-81451), Form S-8 (File No. 333-46250), Form S-8 (File No. 333-62137) and Form S-8 (File No. 333-174138) of our report dated February 27, 2013 relating to the financial statements, financial statement schedules and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, which appears in XL Group plc's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
New York, New York

February 27, 2013

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 300 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10017
T: +1 (646) 471 3000, F: +1 (813) 286 6000, www.pwc.com*

Certification of Chief Executive Officer
XL Group plc
Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
(Chapter 98, Title 15 U.S.C. § 7241)

I, Michael S. McGavick, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of XL Group plc;
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 15d-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 most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) 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.

Dated: February 27, 2013

/s/ Michael S. McGavick

(Michael S. McGavick
Chief Executive Officer)

Certification of Chief Financial Officer
XL Group plc
Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
(Chapter 98, Title 15 U.S.C. § 7241)

I, Peter R. Porrino, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 10-K of XL Group plc;
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 15d-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 most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) 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.

Dated: February 27, 2013

/s/ Peter R. Porrino
~~(Peter R. Porrino~~
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer)

**Certification Accompanying Form 10-K Report of XL Group plc
Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
(Chapter 63, Title 18 U.S.C. § 1350(a) and (b))**

Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Chapter 63, Title 18 U.S.C. §§ 1350(a) and (b)), each of the undersigned hereby certifies that, to his knowledge, the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the period ended December 31, 2012 of XL Group plc (the "Company") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in such Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: February 27, 2013

/s/ Michael S. McGavick
~~(MICHAEL S. MCGAVICK~~
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
XL GROUP PLC)

Dated: February 27, 2013

/s/ Peter R. Porrino
~~(PETER R. PORRINO~~
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT,
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
XL GROUP PLC)

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to XL Group plc and will be retained by XL Group plc and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.
