

HARTE HANKS INC
Form 10-K
March 02, 2011
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 001-7120

HARTE-HANKS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Delaware **74-1677284**
(State or other jurisdiction of **(I.R.S. Employer**
incorporation or organization) **Identification No.)**
9601 McAllister Freeway, Suite 610, San Antonio, Texas 78216
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)
Registrant's telephone number, including area code 210-829-9000

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

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock	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 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 website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (Section 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (229.405 of this chapter) 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 definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and small reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the closing price (\$10.45) as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter (June 30, 2010), was approximately \$442,228,000.

The number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock as of January 31, 2011 was 63,678,809 shares of common stock, all of one class.

Documents incorporated by reference:

Portions of the Proxy Statement to be filed for the Company's 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K.

THIS ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K IS BEING DISTRIBUTED TO STOCKHOLDERS IN LIEU OF A SEPARATE ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO RULE 14a-3(b) OF THE ACT AND SECTION 203.01 OF THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE LISTED COMPANY MANUAL.

Table of Contents

Harte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Table of Contents

Form 10-K Report

December 31, 2010

	Page
<u>Part I</u>	
Item 1. <u>Business</u>	3
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	12
Item 1B. <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	20
Item 2. <u>Properties</u>	20
Item 3. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	20
Item 4. <u>Reserved</u>	20
<u>Part II</u>	
Item 5. <u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	20
Item 6. <u>Selected Financial Data</u>	23
Item 7. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	24
Item 7A. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	39
Item 8. <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	40
Item 9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	40
Item 9A. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	40
Item 9B. <u>Other Information</u>	41
<u>Part III</u>	
Item 10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	41
Item 11. <u>Executive Compensation</u>	42
Item 12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	42
Item 13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	42
Item 14. <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	42
<u>Part IV</u>	
Item 15. <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	43
<u>Signatures</u>	44

Table of Contents

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS
INTRODUCTION

Harte-Hanks, Inc. (Harte-Hanks) is a worldwide direct and targeted marketing company that provides direct marketing services and shopper advertising opportunities to a wide range of local, regional, national and international consumer and business-to-business marketers. We manage our operations through two operating segments: Direct Marketing, which operates both nationally and internationally, and Shoppers, which operates in local and regional markets in California and Florida.

Marketing remains under intense focus in many organizations. Many businesses have a chief-level executive charged with marketing who is charged with combining data, technology, channels and resources to demonstrate a return on marketing investment. This has led many businesses to use direct and targeted marketing, which offer accountability and measurability of marketing programs, allowing customer insight to be leveraged to create and accelerate value. Direct Marketing, which represented 70% of our total revenues in 2010, is a leader in the movement toward highly targeted, multichannel marketing. Our Shoppers business applies geographic targeting principles.

Harte-Hanks® is the successor to a newspaper business which began in Texas in the early 1920s by Houston Harte and Bernard Hanks. In 1972, Harte-Hanks went public and was listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). We became private in a leveraged buyout initiated by management in 1984. In 1993, we again went public and listed our common stock on the NYSE. In 1997, we sold all of our remaining traditional media operations (consisting of newspapers, television and radio companies) in order to focus all of our efforts on two business segments - Direct Marketing and Shoppers. See segment financial information in Note O *Business Segments* in the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Harte-Hanks provides public access to all reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the 1934 Act). These documents may be accessed free of charge on our website at <http://www.harte-hanks.com>. These documents are provided as soon as practical after they are filed with the SEC and may also be found at the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. Additionally, we have adopted and posted on our website a code of ethics that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. Our website also includes our corporate governance guidelines and the charters for each of our audit, compensation, and nominating and corporate governance committees. We will provide a printed copy of any of the aforementioned documents to any requesting stockholder.

DIRECT MARKETING

General

Our Direct Marketing services offer a wide variety of integrated, multichannel, data-driven solutions for top brands around the globe. We help our customers gain insight into their customers' behaviors from their data and use that insight to create innovative multichannel marketing programs to deliver a return on marketing investment. We believe our customer's success is determined not only by how good their tools are, but how well we help them use the tools to gain insight and analyze their consumers. This results in a strong and enduring relationship between our clients and their customers.

We offer a full complement of capabilities and resources to provide a broad range of marketing services and data management software, in media from direct mail to e-mail.

Agency & Creative Services. The Agency Inside Harte-Hanks® (The Agency) is a full-service, multichannel relationship marketing agency specializing in direct and digital communications. With

Table of Contents

strategy, creative and implementation services, we help marketers within targeted industries understand, identify, and engage prospects and customers in their channel of choice. The Agency's mission is to deploy world-class, data-driven, multichannel relationship marketing programs that address each client's acquisition, cross-selling, retention and loyalty needs.

Database Marketing Solutions. We have successfully delivered marketing database solutions for over 35 years across various industries. Our solutions deliver on three pillars built around a centralized marketing database. The foundation consists of: insight and analytics; customer data integration; and marketing communications tools. Our solutions enable organizations to build and manage customer communication strategies that drive new customer acquisition and retention and maximize the value of existing customer relationships. Through insight, we help clients identify models of their most profitable customer relationships and then apply these models to increase the value of existing customers while also winning profitable new customers. Through customer data integration, data from multiple sources comes together to provide a single customer view of client prospects and customers. Then, utilizing our Allink® suite of customer communication and sales optimization tools, we help clients apply their data and insights to the entire customer lifecycle, to help clients sustain and grow their business, gain deeper customer insights, and continuously refine their customer resource management strategies and tactics.

Data Quality Software and Service Solutions with Trillium Software®. Our proprietary software has helped global customers more effectively analyze, enrich, cleanse and report on their product, financial and customer data as part of master data management, data governance, CRM, data warehousing and integration initiatives. With industry-leading Trillium Software System®, Global Locator geocoding product, and associated data governance services, business users can optimize data-based business processes and transactions, realize efficiencies, and enhance the accuracy of their master set of data-improving program results.

Digital Marketing and Social Networking Services. Our digital solutions integrate online services within the marketing mix and include: site development and design, social media marketing, e-mail marketing through our Postfuture® e-mail marketing solutions, e-commerce and interactive relationship management and a host of other services that support our core businesses.

Direct Mail and Supply Chain Management. As a full-service direct marketing provider and one of the largest mailing partners of the United States Postal Service (USPS®), our operational mandate is to ensure creativity and quality, provide an understanding of the options available in technologies and segmentation strategies and capitalize on economies of scale with our variety of execution options. Our services include advanced mail optimization, logistics and transportation optimization, tracking, commingling, shrink wrapping and specialized mailings. With facilities strategically placed nationwide, we are among the largest solo mailers in the country other than the U.S. government.

Fulfillment and Contact Centers. We deliver teleservices and fulfillment operations in both consumer and business-to-business markets. We operate teleservice workstations around the globe providing advanced contact center solutions such as: speech, chat, integrated voice response, e-mail, social cloud monitoring and web self-service. We also maintain fulfillment centers strategically located throughout the United States allowing our customers to distribute literature and other marketing materials, custom kitting services, print on demand, product recalls and obtain freight optimization.

Lead Generation. Our CI Technology Database tracks technology installations, business demographics and over 5 million key decision makers at more than 4.5 million business locations in twenty five countries in North America, Latin America, Europe and China. Our clients use the data to gain insight into their prospect's and client's technology buying cycles. Our Aberdeen Group is a provider of fact-based research to identify and educate technology buyers across numerous industries and product categories. Leading technology providers use Aberdeen's proprietary research content for use in their demand creation programs, online marketing campaigns and Web-based sales and marketing tools.

Table of Contents

Many of our client relationships start with an offering from the list above on an individual solution basis to the client or a combination of our offerings from across our portfolio of businesses. Multichannel marketing is communicating through different marketing solutions or channels in an integrated form to reach a consumer so it is easy for a consumer to buy in whatever manner the consumer chooses. During our client relationship we try to move our clients from marketing through multiple channels to multichannel marketing. Many of our new client relationships have started with a multichannel strategy as opposed to a single solution and management believes many of its clients will increase their multichannel strategy focus in the future.

In 2010, 2009 and 2008, Harte-Hanks Direct Marketing had revenues of \$601.3 million, \$586.0 million, and \$732.7 million, respectively, which accounted for approximately 70%, 68%, and 68% of our total revenues, respectively.

Customers

Direct marketing services are marketed to specific industries or markets with services and software products tailored to each industry or market. We believe that we are generally able to provide services to new industries and markets by modifying our existing services and applications. We currently provide direct marketing services to the retail, high-tech/telecom, financial services and pharmaceutical/healthcare vertical markets, in addition to a range of selected markets. The largest Direct Marketing client, measured in revenue, comprised 7% of total Direct Marketing revenues in 2010 and 5% of our total revenues in 2010. The largest 25 clients, measured in revenue, comprised 43% of total Direct Marketing revenues in 2010 and 30% of our total revenues in 2010.

Sales and Marketing

Our national direct marketing sales force is organized around the five verticals we service: retail, high-tech/telecom, financial services, pharmaceutical/healthcare, and a wide range of selected markets. We also maintain product-specific sales forces and sales groups in North America, Europe, Australia, South America and Asia. Our sales forces, with industry-specific knowledge and experience, emphasize the cross-selling of a full range of direct marketing services and are supported by employees in each sector. The overall sales focus is to position Harte-Hanks as a marketing partner offering various services and solutions (including end-to-end) as required to meet our client's targeted marketing needs.

Table of Contents

Direct Marketing Facilities

Direct marketing services are provided at the following facilities, all of which are leased except as otherwise noted:

National Offices

Austin, Texas
Baltimore, Maryland
Billerica, Massachusetts
Boston, Massachusetts
Cincinnati, Ohio
Deerfield Beach, Florida
East Bridgewater, Massachusetts
Fort Worth, Texas
Fullerton, California
Grand Prairie, Texas
Jacksonville, Florida
Lake Mary, Florida
Langhorne, Pennsylvania
Linthicum Heights, Maryland
New York, New York
Ontario, California
San Diego, California
Shawnee, Kansas

Texarkana, Texas
Troy, Michigan
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania
Yardley, Pennsylvania

International Offices

Bristol, United Kingdom
Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom
Hasselt, Belgium owned site
Les Ulis, France
Madrid, Spain
Manila, Philippines
Melbourne, Australia
São Paulo, Brazil
Stuttgart, Germany
Sydney, Australia
Theale, United Kingdom
Uxbridge, United Kingdom

For more information please refer to Item 2, Properties .

Table of Contents

Competition

Our Direct Marketing business faces competition in all of its offerings and within each of its vertical markets. Direct marketing is a dynamic business, subject to technological advancements, high turnover of client personnel who make buying decisions, client consolidations, changing client needs and preferences, continual development of competing products and services and an evolving competitive landscape. Our competition comes from numerous local, national and international direct marketing and advertising companies against whom we compete for individual projects, entire client relationships and marketing expenditures. Competitive factors in our industry include the quality and scope of services, technical and strategic expertise, the perceived value of the services provided, reputation and brand recognition. We also compete against print and electronic media and other forms of advertising for marketing and advertising dollars in general. Failure to continually improve our current processes, advance and upgrade our technology applications, and to develop new products and services in a timely and cost-effective manner, could result in the loss of our clients or prospective clients to current or future competitors. In addition, failure to gain market acceptance of new products and services could adversely affect our growth. Although we believe that our capabilities and breadth of services, combined with our national and worldwide production capability, industry focus and ability to offer a broad range of integrated services, enable us to compete effectively, our business results may be adversely impacted by competition. Please refer to Item 1A, Risk Factors, for additional information regarding risks related to competition.

Seasonality

Our Direct Marketing business is somewhat seasonal as revenues in the fourth quarter tend to be higher than revenues in other quarters during a given year. This increased revenue is a result of overall increased marketing activity prior to and during the holiday season, primarily related to our retail vertical.

SHOPPERS

General

Harte-Hanks Shoppers is North America's largest owner, operator and distributor of shopper publications (based on weekly circulation and revenues). Shoppers are weekly advertising publications distributed free by mail to households and businesses in a particular geographic area. Shoppers offer advertisers a targeted, cost-effective local advertising system, with virtually 100% penetration in their areas of distribution. Shoppers are particularly effective in large markets with high media fragmentation in which major metropolitan newspapers generally have low penetration. Our Shoppers segment also provides search-engine marketing, as well as online advertising and other services through our websites, *PennySaverUSA.com* and *TheFlyer.com*. These sites serve as advertising portals, bringing buyers and sellers together through our online offerings, including local classifieds, business listings, coupons, special offers and PowerSites®. PowerSites are templated web sites for our customers, optimized to help small and medium sized business owners establish a web presence and improve their lead generation through call tracking. At December 31, 2010, we are publishing approximately 6,000 PowerSites weekly.

As of December 31, 2010, Shoppers delivered approximately 11.2 million shopper packages in five major markets each week covering the greater Los Angeles market, the greater San Diego market, Northern California, South Florida and the greater Tampa market. Our California publications account for approximately 80% of Shoppers weekly circulation.

As of December 31, 2010, Harte-Hanks published approximately 950 individual shopper editions each week, distributed to zones with circulation of approximately 12,000 in each zone. This allows single-location, local advertisers to saturate a single relevant geographic zone, while enabling multiple-location advertisers to saturate multiple zones. This unique distribution system gives large and small advertisers alike a cost-effective way to reach their target markets. Our zoning capabilities and production technologies have enabled us to saturate and target areas in a number of ways, including geographic, demographic, lifestyle, behavioral and language, which we believe allows our advertisers to effectively target their customers.

Table of Contents

In 2010, 2009, and 2008, Harte-Hanks Shoppers had revenues of \$259.2 million, \$274.2 million, and \$350.1 million, respectively, accounting for approximately 30%, 32%, and 32% of our total revenues, respectively.

As a result of the difficult economic environments in California and Florida, we curtailed more than 1.4 million of circulation from July 2008 to February 2009. This consisted of approximately 850,000 of circulation in California and approximately 550,000 of circulation in Florida. We continue to evaluate our circulation performance and may make further circulation reductions in the future as part of our efforts to address local economic conditions in the California and Florida markets we serve.

Publications

The following table sets forth certain publication information with respect to Shoppers:

Market	Publication Name	December 31, 2010	
		Weekly Circulation	Number of Zones
Greater Los Angeles	<i>PennySaverUSA.com</i>	5,120,900	458
Northern California	<i>PennySaverUSA.com</i>	2,275,400	189
Greater San Diego	<i>PennySaverUSA.com</i>	1,641,000	136
South Florida	<i>TheFlyer.com</i>	1,150,900	93
Greater Tampa	<i>TheFlyer.com</i>	1,026,400	72
Total		11,214,600	948

Our shopper publications contain classified and display advertising and are delivered by saturation mail. The typical shopper publication contains approximately 37 pages and is 7 by 10 inches in size. Each edition, or zone, is targeted around a natural neighborhood marketing pattern. Shoppers also serve as a distribution vehicle for multiple ads from national and regional advertisers, including print and deliver single-sheet inserts designed and printed by us, and coupon books, preprinted inserts, and four-color glossy flyers printed by third party printers. During 2010, we distributed approximately 4.9 billion insert pieces. In addition, our shoppers also provide advertising and other services online through our websites *PennySaverUSA.com* and *TheFlyer.com*.

We have acquired, developed and applied innovative technology and customized equipment in the publication of our shoppers, contributing to our efficiency. A proprietary pagination system has made it possible for over a thousand weekly zoned editions to be designed, built and output direct-to-plate in a fully digital environment. Automating the production process saves on labor, newsprint, and overweight postage. This software also allows for better ad tracking, immediate checks on individual zone and ad status, and more on-time press starts with less manpower.

Customers

Shoppers serves both business and individual advertisers in a wide range of industries, including real estate, employment, automotive, retail, grocery, education, telecom, financial services, and a number of other industries. The largest client, measured in revenue, comprised 2% of Shoppers revenues in 2010 and 1% of our total revenues in 2010. The top 25 clients in terms of revenue comprised 22% of Shoppers revenues in 2010 and 7% of our total revenues in 2010.

Table of Contents

Sales and Marketing

We employ more than 400 commissioned sales representatives who develop both targeted and saturation advertising programs, both in print and online, for clients. The sales organization provides service to national, regional and local advertisers through its telemarketing departments and field sales representatives. Shoppers clients vary from individuals with a single item for sale to local neighborhood advertisers to large multi-location advertisers. The weekly number of ads is primarily driven by residential customers, whereas revenues are primarily driven by small and midsize businesses. We also focus our marketing efforts on larger national accounts by emphasizing our ability to deliver saturation advertising in defined zones, or even partial zones for inserts, in combination with advertising in the shopper publication.

Additional focus is placed on particular industries/categories through the use of sales specialists. These sales specialists are primarily used to target automotive, real estate and employment advertisers.

We utilize proprietary sales and marketing systems to enter client orders directly from the field, instantly checking space availability, ad costs and other pertinent information. These systems efficiently facilitate the placement of advertising into multiple-zoned editions and include built-in error-reducing safeguards that aid in minimizing costly sales adjustments. In addition to allowing advertising information to be entered for immediate publication, these systems feed a relational client database, enabling sales personnel to access client history by designated variables to facilitate the identification of similar potential clients and to assist with timely follow-up on existing clients.

Shoppers Facilities

Our shoppers are produced at owned or leased facilities in the markets they serve. At December 31, 2010, we had five production facilities three in Southern California, one in Northern California, and one in Tampa, Florida and approximately 13 sales offices.

For more information please refer to Item 2, Properties .

Competition

Our Shoppers business competes for advertising, as well as for readers, with other print and electronic media. Competition comes from local and regional newspapers, magazines, radio, broadcast, satellite and cable television, other shoppers, the internet, other communications media and other advertising printers that operate in our markets. The extent and nature of such competition are, in large part, determined by the location and demographics of the markets targeted by a particular advertiser and the number of media alternatives in those markets. Failure to continually improve our current processes, advance and upgrade our technology applications, and develop new products and services in a timely and cost-effective manner, could result in the loss of our clients to current or future competitors. In addition, failure to gain market acceptance of new products and services, and in geographic areas, could adversely affect our growth. We believe that our production systems and technology, which enable us to publish separate editions in narrowly targeted zones, our local ad content, and our integrated online offering allow us to compete effectively, particularly in large markets with high media fragmentation. However, our business results may be adversely impacted by competition. Please refer to Item 1A, Risk Factors , for additional information regarding risks related to competition.

Seasonality

Our Shoppers business has been somewhat seasonal in that revenues from the last two publication dates in December and the first two to three publication dates in January each year have been affected by a slowdown in advertising by businesses and individuals after the holidays. Historically, the second and third quarters have been the highest revenue quarters for our Shoppers business. As a result of the ongoing economic difficulties in California and Florida, our Shoppers revenues did not follow this general historical pattern in 2010, 2009 or 2008.

Table of Contents

U.S. AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

As a company with business activities around the world, we are subject to a variety of domestic and international legal and regulatory requirements that impact our business, including, for example, regulations governing consumer protection and unfair business practices, contracts, e-commerce, intellectual property, labor and employment, securities, tax, and other laws that are generally applicable to commercial activities.

We are also subject to, or affected by, numerous domestic and foreign laws, regulations and industry standards that regulate direct marketing activities, including those that address privacy, data security and unsolicited marketing communications. Examples of some of these laws and regulations that may be applied to, or affect, our business or the businesses of our clients include the following:

Federal and state laws governing the use of the internet and regulating telemarketing, including the U.S. Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003 (CAN-SPAM), which regulates commercial email and requires that commercial emails give recipients an opt-out method. The Canadian Fighting Internet and Wireless Spam Act will apply in a comparable manner for our activities in Canada. Telemarketing activities are regulated by, among other requirements, the Federal Trade Commission's Telemarketing Sales Rule (TSR), the Federal Communications Commission's Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) and various state do-not-call laws.

The U.S. Department of Commerce's proposed Dynamic Privacy Framework, which is intended to address consumer privacy fears relating to the use of personal information.

A significant number of states in the U.S. have passed versions of security breach notification laws, which generally require timely notifications to affected persons in the event of data security breaches or other unauthorized access to certain types of protected personal data.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), which governs, among other things, the sharing of consumer report information, access to credit scores, and requirements for users of consumer report information.

The Financial Services Modernization Act of 1999, or Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLB), which, among other things, regulates the use for marketing purposes of non-public personal financial information of consumers that is held by financial institutions. Although Harte-Hanks is not considered a financial institution, many of our clients are subject to the GLB. The GLB also includes rules relating to the physical, administrative and technological protection of non-public personal financial information.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), which regulates the use of personal health information for marketing purposes and requires reasonable safeguards designed to prevent intentional or unintentional use or disclosure of protected health information.

The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 (FACT Act), which amended the FCRA and requires, among other things, consumer credit report notice requirements for creditors that use consumer credit report information in connection with risk-based credit pricing actions and also prohibits a business that receives consumer information from an affiliate from using that information for marketing purposes unless the consumer is first provided a notice and an opportunity to direct the business not to use the information for such marketing purposes, subject to certain exceptions.

The European Union (EU) data protection laws, including the comprehensive EU Directive on Data Protection (1995), which imposes a number of obligations with respect to use of personal data, and includes a prohibition on the transfer of personal

information from the EU to other countries that do not

Table of Contents

provide consumers with an adequate level of privacy or security. The EU standard for adequacy is generally stricter and more comprehensive than that of the U.S. and most other countries.

There are additional consumer protection, privacy and data security regulations domestically and in other countries in which we or our clients do business. These laws regulate the collection, use, disclosure and retention of personal data and may require consent from consumers and grant consumers other rights, such as the ability to access their personal data and to correct information in the possession of data controllers. We and many of our clients also belong to trade associations that impose guidelines that regulate direct marketing activities, such as the Direct Marketing Association's Commitment to Consumer Choice.

As a result of increasing public awareness and interest in individual privacy rights, data security and environmental and other concerns regarding unsolicited marketing communications, federal, state and foreign governmental and industry organizations continue to consider new legislative and regulatory proposals that would impose additional restrictions on direct marketing services and products. Examples include data encryption standards, data breach notification requirements, consumer choice and consent restrictions and increased penalties against offending parties, among others. We anticipate that additional proposals will continue to be introduced in the future, some of which may be adopted. In addition, our business may be affected by the impact of these restrictions on our clients and their marketing activities. These additional regulations could increase compliance requirements and restrict or prevent the collection, management, aggregation, transfer, use or dissemination of information or data that is currently legally available. Additional regulations may also restrict or prevent current practices regarding unsolicited marketing communications. For example, many states have considered implementing do-not-mail legislation that could impact our Direct Marketing and Shoppers businesses and the businesses of our clients and customers. In addition, continued public interest in individual privacy rights and data security may result in the adoption of further voluntary industry guidelines that could impact our direct marketing activities and business practices.

We cannot predict the scope of any new legislation, regulations or industry guidelines or how courts may interpret existing and new laws. Additionally, enforcement priorities by governmental authorities may change and also impact our business either directly or through requiring our customers to alter their practices. Compliance with regulations is costly and time-consuming for us and our clients, and we may encounter difficulties, delays or significant expenses in connection with our compliance. We may also be exposed to significant penalties, liabilities, reputational harm and loss of business in the event that we fail to comply with applicable regulations. There could be a material adverse impact on our business due to the enactment or enforcement of legislation or industry regulations, the issuance of judicial or governmental interpretations, enforcement priorities of governmental agencies or a change in customs arising from public concern over consumer privacy and data security issues.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Our intellectual property assets include, for example, trademarks and service marks that identify our company and our products and services, software and other technology that we develop, our proprietary collections of data and intellectual property licensed from third parties, such as prospect list providers. We generally seek to protect our intellectual property through a combination of license agreements and trademark, service mark, copyright, patent and trade secret laws, and domain name registrations and enforcement procedures. We also enter into confidentiality agreements with many of our employees, vendors and clients and seek to limit access to and distribution of intellectual property and other proprietary information. We pursue the protection of our trademarks and other intellectual property in the United States and internationally.

Despite our efforts to protect our intellectual property, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy or otherwise obtain and use our proprietary information and technology. Monitoring unauthorized use of our intellectual property is difficult, and unauthorized use of our intellectual property may occur. We cannot be certain that patents or trademark registrations will be issued, nor can we be certain that any issued patents or trademark

Table of Contents

registrations will give us adequate protection from competing products. For example, issued patents may be circumvented or challenged and declared invalid or unenforceable. In addition, others may develop competing technologies or databases on their own. Moreover, there is no assurance that our confidentiality agreements with our employees or third parties will be sufficient to protect our intellectual property and proprietary information.

We may also be subject to infringement claims against us by third parties and may incur substantial costs and devote significant management resources in responding to such claims. We are obligated under some agreements to indemnify our clients as a result of claims that we infringe on the proprietary rights of third parties. These costs and diversions could cause our business to suffer. If any party asserts an infringement claim, we may need to obtain licenses to the disputed intellectual property. We cannot assure you, however, that we will be able to obtain these licenses on commercially reasonable terms or that we will be able to obtain any licenses at all. The failure to obtain necessary licenses or other rights may have an adverse affect on our ability to provide our products and services.

EMPLOYEES

As of December 31, 2010, Harte-Hanks employed approximately 4,850 full-time employees and 300 part-time employees. Approximately 3,450 full-time and 75 part-time employees were in the Direct Marketing segment and 1,400 full-time and 225 part-time employees were in the Shoppers segment. A portion of our workforce is provided to us through staffing companies. None of the workforce is represented by labor unions. We consider our relations with our employees to be good.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This report, including the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A), contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. All such statements are qualified by this cautionary note, which is provided pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 (1933 Act) and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (1934 Act). Forward-looking statements may also be included in our other public filings, press releases, our website and oral and written presentations by management. Statements other than historical facts are forward-looking and may be identified by words such as may, will, expects, believes, anticipates, plans, estimates, seeks, could, intends, or words of similar meaning. Examples include, but are not limited to, regarding (1) our strategies and initiatives, (2) adjustments to our cost structure and other actions designed to respond to market conditions and improve our performance, and the anticipated effectiveness and expenses associated with these actions, (3) our financial outlook for revenues, earnings per share, operating income, expense related to equity-based compensation, capital resources and other financial items, (4) expectations for our businesses and for the industries in which we operate, including with regard to the negative performance trends in our Shoppers business and the adverse impact of the ongoing economic downturn in the United States and other economies on the marketing expenditures and activities of our Direct Marketing clients and prospects, (5) competitive factors, (6) acquisition and development plans, (7) our stock repurchase program, (8) expectations regarding legal proceedings and other contingent liabilities, and (9) other statements regarding future events, conditions or outcomes.

These forward-looking statements are based on current information, expectations and estimates and involve risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other factors that are difficult to predict and that could cause actual results to vary materially from what is expressed in or indicated by the forward-looking statements. In that event, our business, financial condition, results of operations or liquidity could be materially adversely affected, and investors in our securities could lose part or all of their investments. Some of these risks, uncertainties, assumptions and other factors can be found in our filings with the SEC, including the factors discussed below in this Item 1A, "Risk Factors", and any updates thereto in our Forms 10-Q. The forward-looking statements included in this report and those included in our other public filings, press releases, our website and oral and

Table of Contents

written presentations by management are made only as of the respective dates thereof, and we undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statement in this report or in other documents, our website or oral statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available or other events occur in the future.

In addition to the information set forth elsewhere in this report, including in the MD&A section, the factors described below should be considered carefully in making any investment decisions with respect to our securities. The risks described below are not the only ones we face or may face in the future. Additional risks and uncertainties that are not presently anticipated or that we may currently believe are immaterial could also impair our business operations and financial performance.

We face significant competition for individual projects, entire client relationships and advertising dollars in general.

Our Direct Marketing business faces significant competition in all of its offerings and within each of its vertical markets. Direct marketing is a dynamic business, subject to technological advancements, high turnover of client personnel who make buying decisions, client consolidations, changing client needs and preferences, continual development of competing products and services and an evolving competitive landscape. This competition comes from numerous local, national and international direct marketing and advertising companies against whom we compete for individual projects, entire client relationships and marketing expenditures by clients and prospective clients. We also compete against print and electronic media and other forms of advertising for marketing and advertising dollars in general. In addition, our ability to attract new clients and to retain existing clients may, in some cases, be limited by clients' policies on or perceptions of conflicts of interest. These policies can prevent us from performing similar services for competing products or companies. Our Shoppers business competes for advertising, as well as for readers, with other print and electronic media. Competition comes from local and regional newspapers, magazines, radio, broadcast, satellite and cable television, other shoppers, the internet, other communications media and other advertising printers that operate in our markets. The extent and nature of such competition are, in large part, determined by the location and demographics of the markets targeted by a particular advertiser and the number of media alternatives in those markets. Our failure to improve our current processes or to develop new products and services could result in the loss of our clients to current or future competitors. In addition, failure to gain market acceptance of new products and services could adversely affect our growth.

Current and future competitors may have significantly greater financial and other resources than we do, and they may sell competing products and services at lower prices or at lower profit margins, resulting in pressures on our prices and margins.

The sizes of our competitors vary across market segments. Therefore, some of our competitors may have significantly greater financial, technical, marketing or other resources than we do in one or more of our market segments, or overall. As a result, our competitors may be in a position to respond more quickly than we can to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements, or may devote greater resources than we can to the development, promotion, sale and support of products and services. Moreover, new competitors or alliances among our competitors may emerge and potentially reduce our market share, revenue or margins. Some of our competitors also may choose to sell products or services competitive to ours at lower prices by accepting lower margins and profitability, or may be able to sell products or services competitive to ours at lower prices given proprietary ownership of data, technical superiority or economies of scale. Price reductions or pricing pressure by our competitors could negatively impact our margins and results of operations, and could also harm our ability to obtain new customers on favorable terms. Competitive pricing pressures tend to increase in difficult economic environments, such as the current environments in the United States and other economies, due to reduced marketing expenditures of many of our clients and prospects and the resulting impact on the competitive business environment for marketing service providers such as our company.

We must maintain technological competitiveness, continually improve our processes and develop and introduce new products and services in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Table of Contents

We believe that our success depends on, among other things, maintaining technological competitiveness in our Direct Marketing and Shoppers products, processing functionality and software systems and services. Technology changes rapidly and there are continuous improvements in computer hardware, network operating systems, programming tools, programming languages, operating systems, database technology and the use of the Internet. Advances in information technology may result in changing client preferences for products and product delivery formats in our industry. We must continually improve our current processes and develop and introduce new products and services in order to match our competitors' technological developments and other improvements in competing product and service offerings and the increasingly sophisticated requirements of our clients. We may be unable to successfully identify, develop and bring new and enhanced services and products to market in a timely and cost-effective manner, such services and products may not be commercially successful, and services, products and technologies developed by others may render our services and products noncompetitive or obsolete.

Our success depends on our ability to consistently and effectively deliver our products and services to our clients.

Our success depends on our ability to effectively and consistently staff and execute client engagements within the agreed upon timeframe and budget. Depending on the needs of our clients, our Direct Marketing engagements may require customization, integration and coordination of a number of complex product and service offerings and execution across many of our facilities worldwide. Moreover, in some of our engagements, we rely on subcontractors and other third parties to provide a portion of our overall services, and we cannot guarantee that these third parties will effectively deliver their services or that we will have adequate recourse against these third parties in the event they fail to effectively deliver their services. Other contingencies and events outside of our control may also impact our ability to provide our products and services. Our failure to effectively and timely staff, coordinate and execute our client engagements may adversely impact existing client relationships, the amount or timing of payments from our clients, our reputation in the marketplace and ability to secure additional business and our resulting financial performance. In addition, our contractual arrangements with our Direct Marketing clients and other customers may not provide us with sufficient protections against claims for lost profits or other claims for damages.

If we lose key management or are unable to attract and retain the talent required for our business, our operating results could suffer.

Our prospects depend in large part upon our ability to attract, train and retain experienced technical, client services, sales, consulting, research and development, marketing, administrative and management personnel. While the demand for personnel is dependent on employment levels, competitive factors and general economic conditions, qualified personnel historically have been in great demand. The loss or prolonged absence of the services of these individuals could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position or operating results.

We have recently experienced, and may experience in the future, reduced demand for our products and services and increased bad debt expense because of general economic conditions, the financial conditions and marketing budgets of our clients and other factors that may impact the industry verticals that we serve.

Economic downturns and turmoil severely affect the marketing services industry. Throughout this recent recession, and in other previous economic downturns, our customers have responded, and may respond in the future, to weak economic conditions by reducing their marketing budgets, which are generally discretionary in nature and easier to reduce in the short-term than other expenses. In addition, revenues from our Shoppers business are largely dependent on local advertising expenditures in the markets in which they operate. Such expenditures are substantially affected by the strength of the local economies in those markets. Direct Marketing revenues are dependent on national, regional and international economies and business conditions. A lasting economic recession or anemic recovery in the United States economy and the other markets in which we operate, such as the recent recession and recovery, could have material adverse effects on our business, financial position or operating results. Similarly, there may be industry or company-specific factors that negatively impact our clients and prospective clients or their industries and result in reduced demand for our products and services, client bankruptcies or other collection

Table of Contents

difficulties and bankruptcy preference actions to recover certain amounts previously paid to us by our clients. We may also experience reduced demand as a result of consolidation of clients and prospective clients in the industry verticals that we serve. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in this Form 10-K for additional information about the adverse impact on our financial performance of the ongoing difficult economic environment in the United States and other economies.

Our Shoppers business is geographically concentrated and is subject to the California and Florida economies.

Our Shoppers business is concentrated geographically in California and Florida. An economic downturn in these states, such as the current downturn, or a large disaster, such as a flood, hurricane, earthquake or other disaster or condition that disables our facilities, immobilizes the USPS or causes a significant negative change in the economies of these regions, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position or operating results.

Our business plan requires us to effectively manage our costs. If we do not achieve our cost management objectives, our financial results could be adversely affected.

Our business plan and expectations for the future require that we effectively manage our cost structure, including our operating expenses and capital expenditures across our operations. To the extent that we do not effectively manage our costs, our financial results may be adversely affected in any economic climate and even more so during a prolonged recession, such as the ongoing economic downturn in the United States and other economies.

Privacy, security and other direct marketing regulatory requirements may prevent or impair our ability to offer our products and services.

We are subject to, or affected by, numerous laws, regulations and industry standards that regulate direct marketing activities, including those that address privacy, data security and unsolicited marketing communications. Please refer to the section above entitled U.S. and Foreign Government Regulations for additional information regarding some of these regulations.

As a result of increasing public awareness and interest in individual privacy rights, data security and environmental and other concerns regarding unsolicited marketing communications, federal, state and foreign governmental and industry organizations continue to consider new legislative and regulatory proposals that would impose additional restrictions on direct marketing services and products. Examples include data encryption standards, data breach notification requirements, registration requirements, consumer choice and consent restrictions and increased penalties against offending parties, among others. We anticipate that additional proposals will continue to be introduced in the future, some of which may be adopted. In addition, our business may be affected by the impact of these restrictions on our clients and their marketing activities. These additional regulations could increase compliance requirements and restrict or prevent the collection, management, aggregation, transfer, use or dissemination of information or data that is currently legally available. Additional regulations may also restrict or prevent current practices regarding unsolicited marketing communications. For example, many states have considered implementing do not contact legislation that could impact our Direct Marketing and Shoppers businesses and the businesses of our clients and customers. In addition, continued public interest in individual privacy rights and data security may result in the adoption of further voluntary industry guidelines that could impact our direct marketing activities and business practices.

We cannot predict the scope of any new legislation, regulations or industry guidelines or how courts may interpret existing and new laws. Additionally, enforcement priorities by governmental authorities may change and also impact our business. Compliance with regulations is costly and time-consuming, and we may encounter difficulties, delays or significant expenses in connection with our compliance, and we may be exposed to significant penalties, liabilities, reputational harm and loss of business in the event that we fail to comply. There could be a material adverse impact on our business due to the enactment or enforcement of legislation or industry regulations, the issuance of judicial or governmental interpretations, enforcement

Table of Contents

priorities of governmental agencies or a change in customs arising from public concern over consumer privacy and data security issues.

We could fail to adequately protect our intellectual property rights and may face claims for intellectual property infringement.

Our ability to compete effectively depends in part on the protection of our technology, products, services and brands through intellectual property right protections, including patents, copyrights, database rights, trade secrets, trademarks and domain name registrations and enforcement procedures. The extent to which such rights can be protected and enforced varies in different jurisdictions. There is also a risk of litigation relating to our use or future use of intellectual property rights of third parties. Third-party infringement claims and any related litigation against us could subject us to liability for damages, restrict us from using and providing our technologies, products or services or operating our business generally, or require changes to be made to our technologies, products and services. Please refer to the section above entitled Intellectual Property Rights for additional information regarding our intellectual property and associated risks.

Consumer perceptions regarding the privacy and security of their data may prevent or impair our ability to offer our products and services.

Pursuant to various federal, state, foreign and industry regulations, consumers have control as to how certain data regarding them is collected, used and shared for marketing purposes. If, due to privacy or security concerns, consumers exercise their ability to prevent such data collection, use or sharing, this may impair our ability to provide direct marketing to those consumers and limit our clients' requirements for our services. Additionally, privacy and security concerns may limit consumers' willingness to voluntarily provide data to our customers or marketing companies. Some of our services depend on voluntarily provided data and may be impaired without such data.

Our reputation and business results may be adversely impacted if we, or subcontractors upon whom we rely, do not effectively protect sensitive personal information of our clients and our clients' customers.

Current privacy and data security laws and industry standards impact the manner in which we capture, handle, analyze and disseminate customer and prospect data as part of our client engagements. In many instances, client contracts also mandate privacy and security practices. If we fail to effectively protect and control sensitive personal information (such as personal health information, social security numbers or credit card numbers) of our clients and their customers or prospects in accordance with these requirements, we may incur significant expenses, suffer reputational harm and loss of business, and, in certain cases, be subjected to regulatory or governmental sanctions or litigation. These risks may be increased due to our reliance on subcontractors and other third parties in providing a portion of our overall services in certain engagements. We cannot guarantee that these third parties will effectively protect and handle sensitive personal information or other confidential information, or that we will have adequate recourse against these third parties in that event.

We may not be able to adequately protect our information systems.

Our ability to protect our information systems against damage from a data loss, security breach, computer virus, fire, power loss, telecommunications failure or other disaster is critical to our future success. Some of these systems may be outsourced to third-party providers from time to time. Any damage to our information systems that causes interruptions in our operations or a loss of data could affect our ability to meet our clients' requirements, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position or operating results. While we take precautions to protect our information systems, such measures may not be effective, and existing measures may become inadequate because of changes in future conditions.

Breaches of security, or the perception that e-commerce is not secure, could harm our business and reputation.

Business-to-business and business-to-consumer electronic commerce, including that which is Internet-based, requires the secure transmission of confidential information over public networks. Some of our products and services are accessed through the Internet. Security breaches in connection with the delivery of our products

Table of Contents

and services, or well-publicized security breaches that may affect us or our industry, such as database intrusion, could be detrimental to our business, operating results and financial condition. We cannot be certain that advances in criminal capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography or other developments will not compromise or breach the technology protecting the information systems that access our products, services and proprietary database information.

Data suppliers could withdraw data that we rely on for our products and services.

We purchase or license much of the data we use. There could be a material adverse impact on our Direct Marketing business if owners of the data we use were to withdraw or cease to allow access to the data or materially restrict the authorized uses of their data. Data providers could withdraw their data if there is a competitive reason to do so, if there is pressure from the consumer community or if additional legislation is passed restricting the use of the data. We also rely upon data from other external sources to maintain our proprietary and non-proprietary databases, including data received from customers and various government and public record sources. If a substantial number of data providers or other key data sources were to withdraw or restrict their data, if we were to lose access to data due to government regulation, or if the collection of data becomes uneconomical, our ability to provide products and services to our clients could be materially adversely affected, which could result in decreased revenues, net income and earnings per share.

We must successfully evaluate acquisition targets and integrate acquisitions.

We frequently evaluate acquisition opportunities to expand our product and service offerings and geographic locations, including potential international acquisitions. Acquisition activities, even if not consummated, require substantial amounts of management time and can distract from normal operations. In addition, we may be unable to achieve the profitability goals, synergies and other objectives initially sought in acquisitions, and any acquired assets, data or businesses may not be successfully integrated into our operations. Acquisitions may result in the impairment of relationships with employees and customers. Moreover, although we review and analyze assets or companies we acquire, such reviews are subject to uncertainties and may not reveal all potential risks, and we may incur unanticipated liabilities and expenses as a result of our acquisition activities. The failure to identify appropriate candidates, to negotiate favorable terms, or to successfully integrate future acquisitions into existing operations could result in not achieving planned revenue growth and could negatively impact our net income and earnings per share.

We are vulnerable to increases in paper prices.

Newsprint prices have fluctuated in recent years. We maintain, on average, less than 45 days of paper inventory and do not purchase our paper pursuant to long-term paper contracts. Because we have a limited ability to protect ourselves from fluctuations in the price of paper or to pass increased costs along to our clients, these fluctuations could materially affect the results of our operations.

We are vulnerable to increases in postal rates and disruptions in postal services.

Our Shoppers and Direct Marketing services depend on the USPS to deliver products. Our shoppers are delivered by Standard Mail, and postage is the second largest expense, behind labor, in our Shoppers business. Standard postage rates have increased in recent years, most recently in May 2009, and rates remain subject to further increases. For example, in July 2010, the U.S. Postal Service proposed an exigent price increase to go into effect in January 2011 by an average of 5.6%. (The Postal Regulatory Commission denied the proposal in its entirety.) Under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006, the USPS can file for a rate increase in February of each year, and any increase will take effect the following April. Any such rate increase is capped at the average of the consumer price index from the previous December. At this point we believe the next postal rate increase will likely occur in April 2011 and will be less than 1%. Overall Shoppers postage costs will be affected by any future increases in postage rates. Postage rates also influence the demand for our Direct Marketing services even though the cost of mailings is typically borne by our clients and is not directly reflected in our revenues or expenses. Accordingly, future postal increases or disruptions in the operations of the USPS may have an adverse impact on us.

Table of Contents

Our financial results could be negatively impacted by impairments of goodwill or other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives.

As of December 31, 2010, the net book value of our goodwill and other intangibles, represented approximately \$581.4 million out of our total assets of \$926.9 million. We test goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives for impairment as of November 30 of each year and on an interim date should factors or indicators become apparent that would require an interim test. A downward revision in the fair value of either of our reporting units or any of the other intangible assets could result in impairments and non-cash charges. Any such impairment charges could have a significant negative effect on our reported net income.

Scheduled debt maturities and liquidity

All of our \$193.0 million outstanding debt is scheduled to mature over the next fifteen months. As of December 31, 2010 we had \$86.0 million in cash and had \$58.2 million of unused borrowing capacity under our 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. Depending on our ability to generate sufficient cash flow from operations, our overall liquidity and ability to make payments on our indebtedness may be adversely impacted, and we may be required to seek one or more alternatives, such as refinancing or restructuring our indebtedness, selling material assets or operations, or seeking to raise debt or equity capital. We cannot assure you that any of these actions could be effected on a timely basis or on satisfactory terms, if at all. In addition, our existing debt agreements contain restrictive covenants that may prohibit us from adopting one or more of these alternatives.

Our indebtedness may adversely impact our ability to react to changes in our business or changes in general economic conditions.

The amount of our indebtedness and the terms under which we have borrowed money under our credit facilities or other agreements could have important consequences for our business. Our debt covenants require that we maintain certain financial measures and ratios. As a result of these covenants and ratios, we may be limited in the manner in which we can conduct our business, and we may be unable to engage in favorable business activities or finance future operations or capital needs. A failure to comply with these restrictions or to maintain the financial measures and ratios contained in the debt agreements could lead to an event of default that could result in an acceleration of outstanding indebtedness. In addition, the amount and terms of our indebtedness could:

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industries in which we operate, including limiting our ability to invest in our strategic initiatives, and, consequently, place us at a competitive disadvantage;

reduce the availability of our cash flows that would otherwise be available to fund working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes; and

result in higher interest expense in the event of increases in interest rates, as discussed below under Interest rate increases could affect our results of operations, cash flows and financial position.

We may incur additional indebtedness in the future and, if new debt is added to our current debt levels, the above risks could be increased.

Interest rate increases could affect our results of operations, cash flows and financial position.

Interest rate movements in Europe and the United States can affect the amount of interest we pay related to our debt and the amount we earn on cash equivalents. Our primary interest rate exposure is to interest rate fluctuations in Europe, specifically Eurodollar rates, due to their impact on interest related to our credit facilities. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$193.0 million of debt outstanding, all of which was at variable interest rates. Our results of operations, cash flows and financial position could be materially adversely affected by significant increases in interest rates. We also have exposure to interest rate fluctuations in the United States, specifically money market, commercial paper and overnight time deposit rates, as these affect our earnings on excess cash. Even with the offsetting increase in earnings on excess cash in the event of an

Table of Contents

interest rate increase, we cannot be assured that future interest rate increases will not have a material adverse impact on our business, financial position or operating results.

Our international operations subject us to risks associated with operations outside the U.S.

Harte-Hanks Direct Marketing conducts business outside of the United States. During 2010, approximately 15.4% of Harte-Hanks Direct Marketing's revenues and 10.7% of Harte-Hanks total revenues were derived from businesses outside the United States, primarily Europe, Asia and South America. We may expand our international operations in the future as part of our growth strategy. Accordingly, our future operating results could be negatively affected by a variety of factors, some of which are beyond our control, including:

social, economic and political instability;

changes in U.S. and foreign governmental legal requirements or policies resulting in burdensome government controls, tariffs, restrictions, embargoes or export license requirements;

inflation;

the potential for nationalization of enterprises;

less favorable labor laws that may increase employment costs and decrease work force flexibility;

potentially adverse tax treatment;

less favorable foreign intellectual property laws that would make it more difficult to protect our intellectual properties from appropriation by competitors;

more onerous or differing data privacy and security requirements or other marketing regulations;

longer payment cycles for sales in foreign countries; and

the costs and difficulties of managing international operations.

In addition, exchange rate movements may have an impact on our future costs or on future cash flows from foreign investments. We have not entered into any foreign currency forward exchange contracts or other derivative instruments to hedge the effects of adverse fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. The various risks that are inherent in doing business in the United States are also generally applicable to doing business outside of the United States, and may be exaggerated by the difficulty of doing business in numerous sovereign jurisdictions due to differences in culture, laws and regulations.

We must maintain effective internal controls.

In designing and evaluating our internal controls over financial reporting, we recognize that any internal control or procedure, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving desired control objectives and that no system of internal controls can be designed to provide absolute assurance of effectiveness. If we fail to maintain a system of effective internal controls, it could

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position or operating results. Additionally, adverse publicity related to a failure in our internal controls over financial reporting could have a negative impact on our reputation and business.

Fluctuation in our revenue and operating results and other factors may impact the volatility of our stock price.

The price at which our common stock has traded in recent years has fluctuated greatly and has declined significantly over that period of time. The price may continue to be volatile due to a number of factors including the following, some of which are beyond our control:

the impact and duration of the ongoing economic downturn, overall strength of the United States and other economies and general market volatility;

variations in our operating results from period to period and variations between our actual operating results and the expectations of securities analysts, investors and the financial community;

unanticipated developments with client engagements or client demand, such as variations in the size, budget, or progress toward the completion of engagements, variability in the market demand for our services, client consolidations and the unanticipated termination of several major client engagements;

announcements of developments affecting our businesses;

competition and the operating results of our competitors; and

Table of Contents

other factors discussed elsewhere in this Item 1A, Risk Factors .

As a result of these and other factors, investors in our common stock may not be able to resell their shares at or above their original purchase price.

War or terrorism could affect our business.

War and/or terrorism or the threat of war and/or terrorism involving the United States could have a significant impact on our business, financial position or operating results. War or the threat of war could substantially affect the levels of advertising expenditures by clients in each of our businesses. In addition, each of our businesses could be affected by operation disruptions and a shortage of supplies and labor related to such a war or threat of war.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Our headquarters are located in San Antonio, Texas, and we occupy approximately 8,000 square feet of leased premises at that location. Our business is conducted in facilities worldwide containing aggregate space of approximately 3.2 million square feet. Approximately 3.0 million square feet are held under leases, which expire at dates through 2020. The balance of the properties, used in our Southern California Shoppers operations and Hasselt, Belgium Direct Marketing operations, are owned.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Information regarding legal proceedings is set forth in Note K, *Commitments and Contingencies*, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 4. RESERVED**PART II****ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES****Common Stock**

Our common stock is listed on the NYSE (symbol: HHS). The reported high and low quarterly sales price ranges for 2010 and 2009 were as follows:

	2010		2009	
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	13.30	10.25	7.98	4.50
Second Quarter	15.84	10.37	10.14	5.21
Third Quarter	11.90	9.60	14.22	8.31
Fourth Quarter	13.65	11.14	14.48	9.25

In 2010 and 2009, quarterly dividends were paid at the rate of 7.5 cents per share.

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

We currently plan to pay a quarterly dividend of 8.0 cents per common share in each of the quarters in 2011, although any actual dividend declaration can be made only upon approval of our Board of Directors, based on its business judgment.

Table of Contents

As of January 31, 2011, there are approximately 2,300 holders of record.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table contains information about our purchases of equity securities during the fourth quarter of 2010:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased(2)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of a Publicly Announced Plan(1)	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plan
October 1 31, 2010		\$		10,475,491
November 1 30, 2010		\$		10,475,491
December 1 31, 2010	2,298	\$ 12.72		10,475,491
Total	2,298	\$ 12.72		

- (1) During the fourth quarter of 2010, we did not purchase any shares of our stock through our stock repurchase program that was publicly announced in January 1997. Under this program, from which shares can be purchased in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions, our Board of Directors has authorized the repurchase of up to 74,400,000 shares of our outstanding common stock. As of December 31, 2010, we had repurchased a total of 63,924,509 shares at an average price of \$18.83 per share under this program.
- (2) Total number of shares purchased includes shares, if any, purchased as part of our publicly announced stock repurchase program, plus shares withheld to pay applicable withholding taxes and the exercise price related to stock options, and shares withheld to pay applicable withholding taxes related to the vesting of nonvested shares, pursuant to the Harte-Hanks, Inc. 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan.

Comparison of Stockholder Returns

The material under this heading is not soliciting material, is not deemed filed with the SEC, and is not to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the 1933 Act or the 1934 Act, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in such filing.

The following graph compares the cumulative total return of our common stock during the period December 31, 2005 to December 31, 2010 with the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index (S&P 500 Index) and with two peer groups. We made modifications to our peer group in this 2010 Annual Report on Form 10-K compared to our previous peer group in order to be consistent with the modified 2011 peer group used by our Compensation Committee in evaluating management compensation.

Our former peer group included Acxiom Corporation, Alliance Data Systems Corporation, Consolidated Graphics, Inc., Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, Equifax, Inc., Fair Isaac and Company, Inc., ICT Group, Inc., Infogroup, Inc., Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc., PC Mall, Inc., Sykes Enterprises, Inc., Teletech Holdings, Inc., Valassis Communications, Inc., ValueClick, Inc., and Viad Corp.

Our current peer group includes Acxiom Corporation, Alliance Data Systems Corporation, Cenveo, Inc., Consolidated Graphics, Inc., Convergys Corp., Dun & Bradstreet Corporation, Equifax, Inc., Gartner, Inc., GSI Commerce, Inc., Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc., Meredith Corp., Sykes Enterprises, Inc., Teletech Holdings, Inc., Valassis Communications, Inc., and ValueClick, Inc.

Table of Contents

The S&P Index includes 500 United States companies in the industrial, transportation, utilities and financial sectors and is weighted by market capitalization. The peer groups are also weighted by market capitalization.

The graph depicts the results of investing \$100 in our common stock, the S&P 500 Index and the peer groups at closing prices on December 31, 2005 and assumes the reinvestment of dividends.

	Base	Years Ending				
	Period	Dec-06	Dec-07	Dec-08	Dec-09	Dec-10
Harte-Hanks, Inc.	100	105.93	66.99	24.88	44.48	53.98
S&P 500 Index	100	115.79	122.16	76.96	97.33	111.99
Current Peer Group	100	125.88	112.74	68.54	97.48	118.47
Former Peer Group	100	122.70	108.82	68.53	96.93	115.19

Table of Contents**ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following table sets forth our summary historical financial information for the periods ended and as of the dates indicated. You should read the following historical financial information along with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contained in this Form 10-K. The fiscal year financial information included in the table below for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008 is derived from audited financial statements contained in this Form 10-K. Information for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006 can be found in our previously filed Annual Reports on Form 10-K.

<i>In thousands, except per share amounts</i>	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Statement of Operations Data					
Revenues	\$ 860,526	\$ 860,143	\$ 1,082,821	\$ 1,162,886	\$ 1,184,688
Operating expenses					
Labor, production and distribution	679,254	678,307	847,470	871,468	874,088
Advertising, selling, general and administrative	66,792	62,479	81,655	89,787	90,516
Shoppers legal settlement		6,950			
Depreciation and amortization	22,437	28,265	33,429	33,195	31,566
Intangible amortization	990	1,712	2,950	3,509	2,466
Total operating expenses	769,473	777,713	965,504	997,959	998,636
Operating income	91,053	82,430	117,317	164,927	186,052
Interest expense, net	2,624	7,968	13,823	12,453	6,102
Net income	\$ 53,604	\$ 47,715	\$ 62,741	\$ 92,640	\$ 111,792
Earnings per common share - diluted	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.98	\$ 1.26	\$ 1.39
Cash dividends per common share	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.24
Weighted-average common and common equivalent shares outstanding - diluted	64,139	63,885	64,104	73,703	80,646
Segment Data					
Revenues					
Direct Marketing	\$ 601,283	\$ 585,988	\$ 732,740	\$ 732,461	\$ 709,728
Shoppers	259,243	274,155	350,081	430,425	474,960
Total revenues	\$ 860,526	\$ 860,143	\$ 1,082,821	\$ 1,162,886	\$ 1,184,688
Operating income (loss)					
Direct Marketing	\$ 86,748	\$ 95,812	\$ 103,121	\$ 108,796	\$ 109,458
Shoppers	15,602	(1,354)	25,884	70,784	88,814
General corporate	(11,297)	(12,028)	(11,688)	(14,653)	(12,220)
Total operating income	\$ 91,053	\$ 82,430	\$ 117,317	\$ 164,927	\$ 186,052
Capital expenditures	\$ 17,449	\$ 9,011	\$ 19,947	\$ 28,217	\$ 33,708
Balance sheet data (at end of period)					
Current assets	\$ 268,463	\$ 256,599	\$ 241,203	\$ 265,680	\$ 279,975
Property, plant and equipment, net	72,659	78,399	97,433	112,354	116,591
Goodwill and other intangibles, net	581,439	569,163	570,866	564,522	568,795
Total assets	926,880	908,151	913,566	951,926	969,285
Total debt	193,000	239,688	270,625	259,125	205,000
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 437,823	\$ 401,643	\$ 356,372	\$ 408,512	\$ 493,476

Table of Contents

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS
Cautionary Note About Forward-Looking Statements

This report, including this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (MD&A), contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. All such statements are qualified by the cautionary note included under Item 1A above, which is provided pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of Section 27A of the 1933 Act and Section 21E of the 1934 Act. Actual results may vary materially from what is expressed in or indicated by the forward-looking statements.

Overview

The following MD&A section is intended to help the reader understand the results of operations and financial condition of Harte-Hanks, Inc. (Harte-Hanks). This section is provided as a supplement to, and should be read in conjunction with, our financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Harte-Hanks® is a worldwide direct and targeted marketing company that provides multichannel direct and digital marketing services and shopper advertising opportunities to a wide range of local, regional, national and international consumer and business-to-business marketers. We manage our operations through two operating segments: Direct Marketing and Shoppers.

Our Direct Marketing services offer a wide variety of integrated, multichannel, data-driven solutions for top brands around the globe. We help our customers gain insight into their customers' behaviors from their data and use that insight to create innovative multichannel marketing programs to deliver a return on marketing investment. We believe our customer's success is determined not only by how good their tools are, but how well we help them use the tools to gain insight and analyze their consumers. This results in a strong and enduring relationship between our clients and their customers. We offer a full complement of capabilities and resources to provide a broad range of marketing services and data management software, in media from direct mail to e-mail, including:

agency and creative services;

database marketing solutions;

data quality software and services with Trillium Software;

digital marketing and social networking services;

direct mail and supply chain management;

fulfillment and contact centers; and

lead generation.

In 2010, our Direct Marketing segment had revenues of \$601.3 million, which represented 70% of our total revenues.

Harte-Hanks Shoppers is North America's largest owner, operator and distributor of shopper publications, based on weekly circulation and revenues. Shoppers are weekly advertising publications delivered free by mail to households and businesses in a particular geographic area. Through print and digital offerings, Shoppers is a trusted local source for saving customers money and helping businesses grow. Shoppers offer advertisers a geographically targeted, cost-effective local advertising system, with virtually 100% penetration in their area of distribution. Shoppers are particularly effective in large markets with high media fragmentation in which major metropolitan newspapers generally have low penetration. Our Shoppers business also provides advertising and other services online through our websites, *PennySaverUSA.com* and

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

TheFlyer.com. These sites are online advertising portals, bringing buyers and sellers together through our online offerings, such as local classifieds, business listings, coupons, special offers and PowerSites®. PowerSites are templated websites for our customers, optimized to help small and medium sized business owners establish a web presence and improve

Table of Contents

their lead generation. At December 31, 2010, we are publishing approximately 6,000 PowerSites weekly. In 2010, our Shoppers segment had revenues of \$259.2 million, which represented 30% of our total revenues.

At December 31, 2010, our Shoppers publications were zoned into approximately 950 separate editions with total circulation of approximately 11.2 million shopper packages in California and Florida each week. As a result of the difficult economic environment in California and Florida, we curtailed more than 1.4 million of unprofitable or marginal circulation in 2008 and 2009. This consisted of circulations of approximately 850,000 in California and 550,000 in Florida. We continue to evaluate all of our circulation performance and may make further circulation reductions in the future as part of our efforts to address the difficult economic conditions in California and Florida.

We derive revenues from the sale of direct marketing services and shopper advertising services. As a worldwide business, Direct Marketing is affected by general national and international economic trends. Direct Marketing revenues are also affected by economic fundamentals of each industry that we serve, various market factors, including the demand for services by our clients, and the financial condition of and budgets available to specific clients, among other factors. Our Shoppers operate in regional markets in California and Florida and are greatly affected by the strength of the state and local economies.

Our businesses continued to face challenging economic environments in 2010, which negatively impacted our financial performance. Marketing budgets are often more discretionary in nature, and are easier to reduce in the short-term than other expenses in response to weak economic conditions. Difficult economic conditions and consolidation and bankruptcies of customers and prospective customers in the industry verticals that we serve have resulted in pricing pressures and in reduced demand for our products and services.

Direct Marketing revenues are dependent on, among other things, national, regional and international economic and business conditions. While we did see revenue growth in our Direct Marketing business in 2010, economic conditions remain difficult both in the United States and internationally. The economic environment in the United States and other economies continue to adversely impact the marketing expenditures and activities of our customers, resulting in pricing pressures, significant reductions and delays in spending by clients and prospective clients.

Revenues from our Shoppers business are largely dependent on local advertising expenditures in the areas of California and Florida in which we operate. Such expenditures are substantially affected by the strength of the local economies in those markets. During 2010, the negative trends and economic conditions that we have experienced since the second half of 2007 in California and Florida continued. These conditions were initially created by weakness in the real estate and associated financing markets and have spread across virtually all categories.

Although economic uncertainty remains, and we believe that 2011 will continue to be challenging, we have seen some signs of improvement in both businesses over the last few quarters. Due to the structural changes we have made across our entire company, we believe that we are well positioned for an improved economic environment.

Our principal operating expense items are labor, postage and transportation.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations**

Operating results were as follows:

In thousands except

<i>per share amounts</i>	2010	% Change	2009	% Change	2008
Revenues	\$ 860,526	0.0	\$ 860,143	-20.6	\$ 1,082,821
Operating expenses	769,473	-1.1	777,713	-19.5	965,504
Operating income	\$ 91,053	10.5	\$ 82,430	-29.7	\$ 117,317
Net income	\$ 53,604	12.3	\$ 47,715	-23.9	\$ 62,741
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.84	12.0	\$ 0.75	-23.5	\$ 0.98

Year ended December 31, 2010 vs. Year ended December 31, 2009*Revenues*

Consolidated revenues increased \$0.4 million, to \$860.5 million, and operating income increased 10.5%, to \$91.1 million, in 2010 compared to 2009. Our overall results reflect increased revenues of \$15.3 million, or 2.6%, from our Direct Marketing segment and decreased revenues of \$14.9 million, or 5.4%, from our Shoppers segment. Direct Marketing experienced increased revenues from our pharma/healthcare, select, retail and financial verticals, which were partially offset by decreased revenues from our high-tech vertical. Direct Marketing revenues were helped by a large, one-time, voluntary recall project for a long time Direct Marketing customer during the second half of 2010. While the results from our verticals are mixed, the overall results reflect the effects of the difficult economic environment, including reduced volumes and price reductions, on our Direct Marketing business during 2010. The August 2010 acquisition of Information Arts also contributed to the 2010 revenue growth. Shoppers revenue performance reflects the continued impact that the difficult economic environments in California and Florida are having on our Shoppers business. The decrease in Shoppers revenues was the result of decreased sales in established markets, including declines in most revenue categories, and curtailment of circulation of approximately 700,000 addresses in February of 2009. On a comparable circulation basis, Shoppers revenues decreased approximately 5.3%.

Operating Expenses

Overall operating expenses decreased 1.1%, to \$769.5 million, in 2010 compared to 2009. The overall decrease in operating expenses was driven by decreased operating expenses in Shoppers of \$31.9 million, or 11.6%, and decreased general corporate expense of \$0.7 million, or 6.1%, partially offset by an increase of \$24.4 million, or 5.0%, in Direct Marketing. The decrease at Shoppers was primarily due to a \$7.0 million legal settlement in 2009, lower payroll expense as a result of headcount reductions, decreased paper costs resulting from lower average paper rates and declines in volumes, decreased facility lease costs as a result of a lease write-off in 2009, and decreased postage costs as a result of a non-recurring postal incentive rebate received in 2010 and a decline in distribution volumes. The Direct Marketing increase was primarily due to the one-time project described previously, increased outsourced costs resulting from increased outsourced volumes, higher mail supply chain costs along with higher transportation volumes, and increased incentive compensation. A \$2.6 million decrease in pension expense, resulting from the increase in the market value of our pension plan assets during the calendar year 2009, also contributed to the overall decrease in operating expenses.

Net Income/Earnings Per Share

Net income increased 12.3%, to \$53.6 million, and diluted earnings per share increased 12.0%, to \$0.84 per share, in 2010 compared to 2009. The increases in net income and diluted earnings per share were a result of increased operating income from Shoppers, decreased general corporate expense and lower interest expense, partially offset by decreased operating income from Direct Marketing and a higher effective tax rate in 2010 compared to 2009.

Table of ContentsYear ended December 31, 2009 vs. Year ended December 31, 2008*Revenues*

Consolidated revenues decreased 20.6%, to \$860.1 million, and operating income decreased 29.7%, to \$82.4 million, in 2009 compared to 2008. Our overall results reflect decreased revenues of \$146.8 million, or 20.0%, from our Direct Marketing segment and decreased revenues of \$75.9 million, or 21.7%, from our Shoppers segment. Direct Marketing experienced year-over-year double-digit revenue declines from all vertical markets. These results reflect the effects of the economic recession on our Direct Marketing business. Shoppers revenue performance reflects the continued impact that the difficult economic environments in California and Florida are having on our Shoppers business. The decrease in Shoppers revenues was the result of decreased sales in established markets, including declines in virtually every revenue category, curtailment of circulation of approximately 1.5 million addresses from July 2008 to February 2009, and an additional publication week in 2008. Excluding revenues from discontinued circulation and the additional publication week, Shoppers revenues decreased approximately 17.1%.

Operating Expenses

Overall operating expenses decreased 19.5%, to \$777.7 million, in 2009 compared to 2008. The overall decrease in operating expenses was driven by decreased operating expenses in Direct Marketing of \$139.4 million, or 22.1%, decreased operating expenses in Shoppers of \$48.7 million, or 15.0%, and increased general corporate expense of \$0.3 million, or 2.9%. The Direct Marketing decrease was primarily a result of headcount reductions, lower outsourced costs, lower mail supply chain costs, lower commissions and less travel expense. The decrease at Shoppers was primarily due to headcount reductions, decreases in postage and paper costs, lower bad debt expense, and lower promotion-related expense. This decrease at Shoppers was partially offset by a 2009 fourth quarter \$7.0 million legal settlement. The overall decrease in operating expenses was partially offset by a \$7.1 million increase in pension expense due to the 2008 decline in the market value of our pension plan assets.

Net Income/Earnings Per Share

Net income decreased 23.9%, to \$47.7 million, and diluted earnings per share decreased 23.5%, to \$0.75 per share, in 2009 compared to 2008. The decreases in net income and diluted earnings per share were a result of decreased operating income from both Shoppers and Direct Marketing and increased general corporate expense, partially offset by lower interest expense and a lower effective tax rate in 2009 compared to 2008.

Direct Marketing

Direct Marketing operating results were as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	2010	% Change	2009	% Change	2008
Revenues	\$ 601,283	2.6	\$ 585,988	-20.0	\$ 732,740
Operating expenses	514,535	5.0	490,176	-22.1	629,619
Operating income	\$ 86,748	-9.5	\$ 95,812	-7.1	\$ 103,121

Year ended December 31, 2010 vs. Year ended December 31, 2009*Revenues*

Direct Marketing revenues increased \$15.3 million, or 2.6%, in 2010 compared to 2009. These results reflect an increase of over 15% from our pharma/healthcare vertical compared to 2009. The growth in the pharma/healthcare vertical was helped by a large, one-time, voluntary recall project for a long time Direct Marketing customer during the second half of 2010. Our select and retail verticals experienced revenue growth in the mid single digits (as a percentage) and our financial vertical grew in the low single digits. Our high-tech vertical declined in the mid single digits. While the results from our verticals are mixed, the overall results reflect the effects of the difficult economic environment, including reduced volumes and price reductions, on our Direct Marketing business during 2010. Revenues from our vertical markets are impacted by, among other things, the economic fundamentals of each industry, various market factors, including the demand for services

Table of Contents

by our clients, and the financial condition of and budgets available to specific clients. The August 2010 acquisition of Information Arts also contributed to the 2010 revenue growth.

Future revenue performance will depend on, among other factors, the overall strength of the national and international economies and how successful we are at maintaining and growing business with existing clients, acquiring new clients and meeting client demands. We believe that in the long-term an increasing portion of overall marketing and advertising expenditures will be moved from other advertising media to the targeted media space, the results of which can be more effectively tracked, enabling measurement of the return on marketing investment, and that our business will benefit as a result.

The postage cost of program mailings is borne by our clients and is not directly reflected in our revenues or expenses.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses increased \$24.4 million, or 5.0%, in 2010 compared to 2009. The one-time project described previously contributed to this increase. Labor costs increased \$2.9 million, or 1.1%, due to increased incentive compensation and commissions as a result of revenue performance. This increase was partially offset by lower payrolls due to lower average headcount, decreased severance, decreased healthcare expense and decreased pension expense. Production and distribution costs increased \$20.8 million, or 12.7%, due to increased outsourced costs resulting from increased outsourced volumes, and higher mail supply chain costs along with higher transportation volumes. This increase was partially offset by decreased lease expense due to facility consolidations. General and administrative expense increased \$4.8 million, or 11.9%, due primarily to an increase in travel, employee recruiting, facilities costs and bad debt expense. Depreciation and software amortization expense decreased \$3.7 million, or 18.0%, due to decreased capital expenditures over the last few years. Intangible asset amortization decreased \$0.4 million, or 59.6%, as certain intangible assets became fully amortized.

Direct Marketing's largest cost components are labor, outsourced costs and mail supply chain costs. Each of these costs is somewhat variable and tends to fluctuate with revenues and the demand for our direct marketing services. Mail supply chain costs have increased significantly in 2010, contributing to the overall increase in operating expenses. Future changes in mail supply chain costs will continue to impact Direct Marketing's total production costs and total operating expenses, and may have an impact on future demand for our supply chain management.

Year ended December 31, 2009 vs. Year ended December 31, 2008

Revenues

Direct Marketing revenues decreased \$146.8 million, or 20.0%, in 2009 compared to 2008. Revenues from all of our vertical markets experienced double-digit revenue declines in 2009 compared to 2008. The financial services vertical continued to be the most challenging, with revenues declining approximately 30% for the year. Revenues from our high tech/telecom and retail verticals declined approximately 20%, while our pharma/healthcare and select verticals had revenue declines in the high teens. These results reflect the effects of the economic recession, including reduced volumes and price reductions, on our Direct Marketing business.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses decreased \$139.4 million, or 22.1%, in 2009 compared to 2008. Labor costs decreased \$62.2 million, or 19.1%, due to headcount reductions, lower commissions as a result of revenue performance, lower healthcare costs due to reduced headcount and claims, decreased stock-based compensation and lower severance costs. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in pension expense. Production and distribution costs decreased \$60.2 million, or 26.8%, due to lower outsourced costs as a result of lower outsourced volumes, lower mail supply chain costs resulting from reduced transportation volumes and decreased transportation costs. General and administrative expense decreased \$11.0 million, or 21.4%, due primarily to less travel, less expense related to business and professional services, and a decrease in bad debt

Table of Contents

expense. Depreciation and software amortization expense decreased \$4.9 million, or 19.2%, due to decreased capital expenditures in the last several quarters and assets becoming fully depreciated. Intangible asset amortization decreased \$1.2 million, or 62.4%, due to certain intangible assets becoming fully amortized.

Shoppers

Shoppers operating results were as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	2010	% Change	2009	% Change	2008
Revenues	\$ 259,243	-5.4	\$ 274,155	-21.7	\$ 350,081
Operating expenses	243,641	-11.6	275,509	-15.0	324,197
Operating income	\$ 15,602	1,252.3	\$ (1,354)	-105.2	\$ 25,884

Year ended December 31, 2010 vs. Year ended December 31, 2009*Revenues*

Shoppers revenues decreased \$14.9 million, or 5.4%, in 2010 compared to 2009. These results reflect the continued impact that the difficult economic environments in California and Florida are having on our Shoppers business. The decrease in revenues was the result of decreased sales in established markets, including declines in most revenue categories, and curtailment of circulation of approximately 700,000 addresses in February of 2009. The net impact of this circulation curtailment was a reduction in Shoppers revenues of \$0.5 million in 2010 compared to 2009. On a comparable circulation basis, Shoppers revenues decreased approximately 5.3%. Our real estate, grocery, and automotive sectors all declined in 2010, while our educational services, health services, and communications sectors all showed revenue improvement. Our digital revenues continue to grow, primarily as a result of our PowerSite sales. At December 31, 2010, our Shoppers circulation reached approximately 11.2 million shopper packages in California and Florida each week. We continue to evaluate all of our circulation performance and may make further circulation reductions in the future as part of our efforts to address the difficult economic conditions in California and Florida.

Future revenue performance will depend on, among other factors, the overall strength of the California and Florida economies, as well as how successful we are at maintaining and growing business with existing clients, and acquiring new clients.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses decreased \$31.9 million, or 11.6%, in 2010 compared to 2009. A \$7.0 million legal settlement in the fourth quarter of 2009 contributed to this decrease. Excluding this legal settlement, operating expenses decreased \$24.9 million, or 9.3%. Total labor costs decreased \$11.9 million, or 12.8%, as a result of reductions in our Shoppers workforce due to plant consolidations, administrative staff reductions, lower variable payroll costs from lower ad sales and volumes, lower severance costs, lower healthcare costs and lower pension expense. Total production costs decreased \$9.8 million, or 6.7%, due primarily to decreased paper costs resulting from lower average paper rates and declines in volumes, decreased facility lease costs as a result of a lease write-off in the first quarter of 2009 related to consolidations and circulation curtailments, decreased postage costs as a result of a non-recurring postal incentive rebate received in the third quarter of 2010 and a decline in distribution volumes. Total general and administrative costs decreased \$7.7 million, or 29.4%, due to the \$7.0 million legal settlement in the fourth quarter of 2009, and lower bad debt expense. Depreciation and software amortization expense decreased \$2.1 million, or 27.3%, due to an accelerated depreciation charge in the first quarter of 2009 related to a facility consolidation in Florida, and decreased capital expenditures in the last few years. Intangible asset amortization decreased \$0.3 million, or 29.7%, as certain intangible assets became fully amortized.

Shoppers largest cost components are labor, postage and paper. Shoppers labor costs are partially variable and tend to fluctuate with the number of zones, circulation, volumes and revenues. Shoppers realized a positive effect on labor costs in 2010 due to headcount reductions as a result of plant consolidations, overall administrative staff reductions, and the circulation reductions in 2008 and 2009. Standard postage rates have

Table of Contents

increased in recent years, most recently in May 2009. Shoppers' postage rates increased by approximately 1.4% as a result of the May 2009 rate increase. Under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006, the USPS can file for a rate increase in February of each year, and any increase will take effect the following April. Any such rate increase is capped at the average of the consumer price index from the previous December. At this point we believe the next postal rate increase will likely occur in April 2011 and will be less than 1%. Overall Shoppers' postage costs will be affected by any future increases in postage rates. The U. S. Postal Service has also proposed various changes in its services to address its financial performance, such as delivery frequency and facility access. We do not believe the proposed changes will have a material impact on our Shoppers business. Shoppers' newsprint prices decreased in the first half of 2010, contributing to the overall decrease in Shoppers' 2010 paper costs. Newsprint prices increased over the second half of 2010 and are expected to continue to increase in the first half of 2011. Any future changes in newsprint prices will affect Shoppers' production costs.

Year ended December 31, 2009 vs. Year ended December 31, 2008*Revenues*

Shoppers revenues decreased \$75.9 million, or 21.7%, in 2009 compared to 2008. These results reflect the continued impact that the difficult economic environments in California and Florida are having on our Shoppers business. The decrease in revenues was the result of decreased sales in established markets, including declines in virtually every revenue category, and curtailment of circulation of approximately 250,000 in July 2008, 500,000 in December 2008 and 700,000 in February 2009. The net impact of these circulation curtailments was a reduction in Shoppers revenues of \$15.5 million. The once every five to six year occurrence of one extra publication week in the fourth quarter of 2008 also contributed to the Shoppers revenue decrease in 2009. The 53rd week has historically been marginally profitable. Excluding revenues from discontinued circulation and the 53rd week in 2008, Shoppers revenues decreased approximately 17.1%. At December 31, 2009, our Shoppers circulation reached approximately 11.5 million addresses each week.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses decreased \$48.7 million, or 15.0%, in 2009 compared to 2008. This decrease was partially offset by a \$7.0 million legal settlement in the fourth quarter of 2009. Excluding this settlement, total operating expenses would have decreased by \$55.6 million, or 17.2%. Total labor costs decreased \$22.4 million, or 19.4%, as a result of reductions in our Shoppers workforce due to consolidations and circulation curtailments. Total production costs decreased \$26.3 million, or 15.1%, due primarily to decreased postage costs resulting from circulation curtailments and decreased distribution volumes, decreased outsourced printing costs due to lower distribution volumes and decreased paper costs due to circulation reductions and a decline in ad placements. This decrease was partially offset by \$1.6 million in lease write-offs in the first quarter of 2009 related to the consolidations and circulation curtailments. Total general and administrative costs increased \$0.3 million, or 1.3%, due primarily to the \$7.0 million legal settlement. Excluding this settlement, general and administrative costs decreased \$6.6 million, or 25.5%, due primarily to lower bad debt expense and lower promotion-related expense due to revenue levels. Depreciation and software amortization expense decreased \$0.3 million, or 3.8%, due to decreased capital expenditures in the last several quarters and assets becoming fully depreciated. Intangible asset amortization decreased \$0.1 million, or 4.9%.

Incremental expenses associated with the 53rd week of publication in 2008 also slightly contributed to the overall decline in operating expenses in 2009.

General Corporate Expense**Year ended December 31, 2010 vs. Year ended December 31, 2009**

General corporate expense decreased \$0.7 million, or 6.1%, during 2010 compared to 2009. This decrease was primarily due to decreased pension expense resulting from the increase in the market value of our pension plan assets during the calendar year 2009.

Table of Contents

Year ended December 31, 2009 vs. Year ended December 31, 2008

General corporate expense increased \$0.3 million, or 2.9%, during 2009 compared to 2008. The increase was primarily due to an increase in pension expense resulting from the 2008 decline in the market value of our pension plan assets. This increase was partially offset by lower payroll costs due to reduced headcount, and less expense related to professional services.

Interest Expense

Interest expense decreased \$5.3 million, or 65.3%, in 2010 compared to 2009, due to lower outstanding debt levels and lower interest rates in 2010 compared to 2009. Interest expense decreased \$6.1 million, or 42.6%, in 2009 compared to 2008, due to lower outstanding debt levels and lower interest rates in 2009 compared to 2008. The decrease in interest rates is a result of the expiration of our interest rate swap on September 30, 2009. Our debt at December 31, 2010 and 2009 is described in Note D, *Long-Term Debt*, of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, included herein.

Interest Income

Interest income was up slightly in 2010 compared to 2009 as lower interest rates offset the increase in average cash and cash equivalents. Interest income decreased \$0.2 million, or 51.9%, in 2009 compared to 2008 due to lower interest rates on investments in 2009 than in 2008.

Other Income and Expense

Other net expense for 2010 and 2009 primarily consists of currency transaction losses and balance-based bank charges.

Income Taxes

Year ended December 31, 2010 vs. Year ended December 31, 2009

Income taxes increased \$8.5 million in 2010 compared to 2009 due to higher pretax income levels and a higher effective tax rate. The effective income tax rate for 2010 was 37.9% compared to 33.7% in 2009. The increase in the effective tax rate is primarily due to a reduction to our uncertain tax liabilities related to state income taxes in 2009.

Year ended December 31, 2009 vs. Year ended December 31, 2008

Income taxes decreased \$14.6 million in 2009 compared to 2008 due to lower pretax income levels and a lower effective tax rate. The effective income tax rate for 2009 was 33.7% compared to 38.2% in 2008. The decrease in the effective tax rate is primarily due to a decrease in our state income tax resulting from a reduction to our uncertain tax liabilities, as well as operations in states with higher tax rates having been more negatively impacted by the economic downturn.

Economic Climate and Impact on our Financial Statements

The current economic climate has had a negative impact on our operations and cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2010, and our financial position at December 31, 2010. We cannot predict the timing, strength or duration of the current difficult economic environment or any subsequent improvement. If the economic climate and markets we serve deteriorate, we may record charges related to restructuring costs and the impairment of goodwill, other intangibles and long-lived assets, and our operations, cash flows and financial position may be materially and adversely affected.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Sources and Uses of Cash

As of December 31, 2010, cash and cash equivalents were \$86.0 million, decreasing \$0.6 million from cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2009. This net decrease was a result of net cash provided by operating

Table of Contents

activities of \$95.4 million, offset by net cash used in investing activities of \$30.1 million and net cash used in financing activities of \$65.8 million.

Operating Activities

Net cash provided by operating activities in 2010 was \$95.4 million, compared to \$114.0 million in 2009. The \$18.6 million year-over-year decrease was primarily attributable to changes within working capital assets and liabilities.

In 2010, our principal working capital changes, which directly affected net cash provided by operating activities, were as follows:

An increase in accounts receivable attributable to higher revenues in the fourth quarter of 2010 than in the fourth quarter of 2009. Days sales outstanding were approximately 59 days at December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009;

An increase in inventory due to purchasing and holding higher levels of newsprint inventory in advance of increases in newsprint prices;

An increase in prepaid expenses and other current assets due to timing of payments;

An increase in accounts payable due to higher overall operating expenses in the fourth quarter of 2010 than in the fourth quarter of 2009;

An increase in accrued payroll and related expenses due to higher accrued incentive compensation at December 31, 2010 than at December 31, 2009;

An increase in customer deposits, unearned revenue and other current liabilities due to timing of receipts and increase in revenue levels; and

A decrease in income taxes payable due to the reversal of a prior year provision related to a tax statute that expired in 2010 and higher quarterly estimated taxes payments in 2010 than 2009.

Investing Activities

Net cash used in investing activities was \$30.1 million in 2010, compared to \$8.9 million in 2009. The \$21.3 million increase is the result of the August 2010 acquisition of Information Arts and an \$8.4 million increase in capital spending in 2010 compared to 2009.

Financing Activities

Net cash used in financing activities was \$65.8 million in 2010 compared to \$49.5 million in 2009. The \$16.3 million increase is attributable primarily to \$15.8 million more net debt repayments in 2010 than in 2009.

Credit Facilities

On September 6, 2006, we entered into a five-year \$200 million term loan facility (2006 Term Loan Facility) with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent. On December 31, 2007, we began making the scheduled quarterly principal payments as follows:

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Quarterly	Percentage of
Installments	Drawn Amounts
1 8	2.50% each
9 12	3.75% each
13 15	5.00% each
Maturity Date	Remaining Principal Balance

The 2006 Term Loan Facility matures on September 6, 2011. For each borrowing under the 2006 Term Loan Facility, we can generally choose to have the interest rate for that borrowing calculated based on either (i) a Eurodollar (as defined in the 2006 Term Loan Facility) rate, plus a spread which is determined based on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio (as defined in the 2006 Term Loan Facility) then in effect, and ranges from .315%

Table of Contents

to .60% per annum, or (ii) the higher of Wells Fargo Bank's prime rate in effect on such date or the Federal Funds rate in effect on such date plus .50%. There is a facility fee that we are also required to pay under the 2006 Term Loan Facility that is based on a facility fee rate applied to the outstanding principal balance owed under the 2006 Term Loan Facility. The facility fee rate ranges from .085% to .15% per annum, depending on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect. We may elect to prepay the 2006 Term Loan Facility at any time without incurring any prepayment penalties. At December 31, 2010, we had \$117.0 million outstanding under the 2006 Term Loan Facility.

On March 7, 2008, we entered into a new four-year \$100 million term loan facility (2008 Term Loan Facility) with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent. On March 31, 2009, we began making the scheduled quarterly principal payments as follows:

Quarterly	Percentage of
Installments	Drawn Amount
1 - 4	2.25% each
5 - 8	3.75% each
9 - 12	4.00% each

The 2008 Term Loan Facility matures on March 7, 2012. For each borrowing under the 2008 Term Loan Facility, we can generally choose to have the interest rate for that borrowing calculated based on either (i) a Eurodollar (as defined in the 2008 Term Loan Facility) rate, plus a spread which is determined based on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio (as defined in the 2008 Term Loan Facility) then in effect, and ranges from .40% to .75% per annum, or (ii) the higher of Wells Fargo Bank's prime rate in effect on such date or the Federal Funds rate in effect on such date plus .50%. There is a facility fee that we are also required to pay under the 2008 Term Loan Facility that is based on a rate applied to the outstanding principal balance owed under the 2008 Term Loan Facility. The facility fee rate ranges from .10% to .25% per annum, depending on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect. We may elect to prepay the 2008 Term Loan Facility at any time without incurring any prepayment penalties. At December 31, 2010, we had \$76.0 million outstanding under the 2007 Term Loan Facility.

On August 12, 2010, we entered into a new three-year \$70 million term loan facility, which includes a \$25 million letter of credit sub-facility and a \$5 million swingline loan sub-facility (2010 Revolving Credit Facility), with Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent. The 2010 Revolving Credit Facility also permits us to request up to a \$25 million increase in the total amount of the facility. The 2010 Revolving Credit Facility matures on August 12, 2013. We intend to utilize the availability under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility for general corporate purposes, including future repayments on our term loans. The 2010 Revolving Credit Facility replaced the five-year \$125 million revolving credit facility which we entered into on August 12, 2005 (2005 Revolving Credit Facility), under which we had no borrowings as of its expiration on August 12, 2010. For each borrowing under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility, we can generally choose to have the interest rate for that borrowing calculated on either (i) the LIBOR rate for the applicable interest period, plus a spread which is determined based on our total net debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect, which spread ranges from 2.25% to 3.00% per annum; or (ii) the highest of (a) the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.50%, (b) the Agent's prime rate, and (c) the Eurodollar Rate plus 1.00%, plus a spread which is determined based on our total net debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect, which spread ranges from 1.25% to 2.00% per annum. There is a facility fee that we are also required to pay under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. The facility fee rate ranges from 0.40% to 0.45% per annum, depending on our total net debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect. In addition, there is a letter of credit fee with respect to outstanding letters of credit. That fee is calculated by applying a rate equal to the spread applicable to Eurodollar based loans plus a fronting fee of 0.125% per annum to the average daily undrawn amount of the outstanding letters of credit. We may elect to prepay the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility at any time. At December 31, 2010, we did not have any outstanding amounts drawn against our 2010

Table of Contents

Revolving Credit Facility. At December 31, 2010 we had letters of credit totaling \$11.8 million issued under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility, decreasing the amount available for borrowing to \$58.2 million.

Under all of our credit facilities we are required to maintain an interest coverage ratio of not less than 2.75 to 1 and a total debt-to-EBITDA ratio of not more than 3.0 to 1. The credit facilities also contain covenants restricting our ability to grant liens and enter into certain transactions and limit the total amount of indebtedness of our subsidiaries.

The credit facilities each also include customary covenants regarding reporting obligations, delivery of notices regarding certain events, maintaining our corporate existence, payment of obligations, maintenance of our properties and insurance thereon at customary levels with financially sound and reputable insurance companies, maintaining books and records and compliance with applicable laws. The credit facilities each also provide for customary events of default including nonpayment of principal or interest, breach of representations and warranties, violations of covenants, failure to pay certain other indebtedness, bankruptcy and material judgments and liabilities, certain violations of environmental laws or ERISA or the occurrence of a change of control. As of December 31, 2010, we were in compliance with all of the covenants of our credit facilities.

Contractual Obligations

Contractual obligations at December 31, 2010 are as follows:

<i>In thousands,</i>	Total	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Thereafter
Debt	\$ 193,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 60,000	\$	\$	\$	\$
Operating leases	58,368	16,876	13,838	10,463	6,724	4,289	6,178
Capital leases	1,266	621	404	202	39		
Deferred compensation liability	3,734	702	702	702	702	352	574
Unfunded pension plan benefit payments	22,642	1,004	1,097	1,121	1,299	1,355	16,766
Other long-term obligations	3,109	1,471	1,444	194			
Total contractual cash obligations	\$ 282,119	\$ 153,674	\$ 77,485	\$ 12,682	\$ 8,764	\$ 5,996	\$ 23,518

At December 31, 2010, we had letters of credit in the amount of \$12.6 million. No amounts were drawn against these letters of credit at December 31, 2010. These letters of credit renew annually and exist to support insurance programs relating to workers' compensation, automobile and general liability. We had no other off-balance sheet arrangements at December 31, 2010.

Dividends

We paid a quarterly dividend of 7.5 cents per common share in each of the quarters in the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. We currently plan to pay a quarterly dividend of 8.0 cents per common share in each of the quarters in 2011, although any actual dividend declaration can be made only upon approval of our Board of Directors, based on its business judgment.

Share Repurchase

We did not repurchase any shares of our common stock under our stock repurchase program in 2010. As of December 31, 2010, we have repurchased 63.9 million shares since the beginning of our January 1997 stock repurchase program. As of December 31, 2010, we had authorization to repurchase 10.5 million additional shares under this program.

Outlook

We consider such factors as total cash and cash equivalents, current assets, current liabilities, total debt, revenues, operating income, cash flows from operations, investing activities and financing activities when assessing our liquidity. Our primary sources of liquidity have been cash and cash equivalents on hand and cash generated from operating activities. Our management of cash is designed to optimize returns on cash balances and to ensure that it is readily available to meet our operating, investing and financing requirements as they

Table of Contents

arise. Capital resources are also available from and provided through our 2010 Revolving Credit Facility, subject to the terms and conditions of that facility.

The amount of cash on hand and borrowings available under our 2010 Revolving Credit Facility are influenced by a number of factors, including fluctuations in our operating results, revenue growth, accounts receivable collections, working capital changes, capital expenditures, tax payments, share repurchases, pension plan contributions, acquisitions and dividends.

Developments in the financial markets have increased our exposure to the possible liquidity and credit risks of counterparties to our 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$58.2 million of unused borrowing capacity under our 2010 Revolving Credit Facility, and we have not experienced any limitations to date on our ability to access this source of liquidity. At December 31, 2010, we had a cash balance of \$86.0 million. Based on our current operational plans, we believe that our cash on hand, cash provided by operating activities, and availability under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility will be sufficient to fund operations, anticipated capital expenditures, payments of principal and interest on our borrowings, and dividends on our common stock for at least the next 12 months. When the 2006 Term Loan Facility matures in September 2011, we will have to pay the final scheduled principal payment of \$97.5 million. We plan to make this payment using a combination of cash on hand at that time and availability under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. Nevertheless, we cannot predict the impact on our business performance of the economic climate in the United States and other economies. A lasting economic recession in the United States and other economies could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial position or operating results.

Critical Accounting Policies

Critical accounting policies are defined as those that, in our judgment, are most important to the portrayal of our company's financial condition and results of operations and which require complex or subjective judgments or estimates. The areas that we believe involve the most significant management estimates and assumptions are detailed below. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates under different assumptions and conditions. Historically, actual results have not differed significantly from our estimates.

Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when all of the following criteria are satisfied: (i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; (ii) the price is fixed or determinable; (iii) collectability is reasonably assured; and (iv) the service has been performed or the product has been delivered.

Payments received in advance of the performance of services or delivery of the product are recorded as deferred revenue until such time as the services are performed or the product is delivered.

Our accounting policy for revenue recognition has an impact on our reported results and relies on certain estimates that require judgments on the part of management. The portion of our revenue that is most subject to estimates and judgments is revenue recognized using the proportional performance method, as discussed below.

Direct Marketing revenue is derived from a variety of services and products, and may be billed at hourly rates, monthly rates or a fixed price. For all sales, we require either a purchase order, a statement of work signed by the client, a written contract, or some other form of written authorization from the client.

Revenue from agency and creative services, analytical services and market research is typically billed based on time and materials or at a fixed price. If billed at a fixed price, revenue is recognized on a proportional performance basis as the services specified in the arrangement are performed. In most cases, proportional performance is based on the ratio of direct costs incurred to total estimated costs where the costs incurred, primarily labor hours and outsourced services, represent a reasonable surrogate for output measures or contract performance. For fixed fee market research revenue streams, revenue is recognized in proportion to the value of service provided based on output criteria. Contracts accounted for under the proportional performance

Table of Contents

method constituted less than 6.0% of total Direct Marketing revenue and less than 4.0% of our total revenue for each of the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008.

Revenue from email marketing, social media marketing and other digital solutions is recognized as the work is performed. Revenue from these services is typically based on a fixed price or rate given to the client.

Revenue associated with new marketing database builds is deferred until complete or until client acceptance. Upon completion or acceptance, revenue and direct build costs are then recognized over the term of the related arrangement as the services are provided. Revenue from database and website hosting services is recognized ratably over the contractual hosting period. Pricing for database builds are typically based on a fixed price and hosting fees are typically based on a fixed price per month or per contract.

Revenue from technology database subscriptions is based on a fixed price and is recognized ratably over the term of the subscription. Revenue from stand-alone technology data sales is recognized at the time of delivery.

Revenue from services such as data processing, printing, personalization of communication pieces using laser and inkjet printing, targeted mail, and transportation logistics is recognized as the work is performed. Revenue from these services is typically based on a fixed price or rate given to the client.

Revenue related to fulfillment and contact centers, including inbound and outbound calling and email management, is also typically based on a fixed price per transaction or service provided. Revenue from these services is recognized as the service or activity is performed.

Revenue from software arrangements involving multiple elements is allocated to each element based on the vendor-specific objective evidence of fair values of the respective elements. For software sales with multiple elements (for example, software licenses with undelivered post-contract customer support or PCS), we allocate revenue to each component of the arrangement using the residual value method based on the fair value of the undelivered elements. This means we defer revenue from the software sale equal to the fair value of the undelivered elements. The fair value of PCS is based upon separate sales of renewals to other clients. The fair value of services, such as training and consulting, is based upon separate sales of these services to other clients.

The revenue allocated to PCS is recognized ratably over the term of the support period. Revenue allocated to professional services is recognized as the services are performed. The revenue allocated to software products, including time-based software licenses, is recognized, if collection is probable, upon execution of a licensing agreement and shipment of the software or ratably over the term of the license, depending on the structure and terms of the arrangement. If the licensing agreement is for a term of one year or less and includes PCS, we recognize the software and the PCS revenue ratably over the term of the license.

For certain non-software arrangements, we enter into contracts that include delivery of a combination of two or more of our service offerings. Such arrangements are divided into separate units of accounting, provided that the delivered element(s) has stand-alone value and objective and reliable evidence of the fair value of the undelivered element(s) exist(s).

When we are able to unbundle the arrangement into separate units of accounting, revenue from each service is recognized separately, and in accordance with our revenue recognition policy for each element. If we are unable to unbundle the arrangement into separate units of accounting, we apply one of the revenue recognition policies to the entire arrangement. This might impact the timing of revenue recognition, but would not change the total revenue recognized from the arrangement.

Shopper services are considered rendered, and the revenue recognized, when all printing, sorting, labeling and ancillary services have been provided and the mailing material has been received by the USPS.

Table of Contents

Taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are not reflected in our revenues or expenses.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

We maintain our allowance for doubtful accounts at a balance adequate to reduce accounts receivable to the amount of cash expected to be realized upon collection. The methodology used to determine the allowance balance is based on our prior collection experience and is generally related to the accounts receivable balance in various aging categories. The balance is also influenced by specific clients' financial strength and circumstance. Accounts that are determined to be uncollectible are written off in the period in which they are determined to be uncollectible. Periodic changes to the allowance balance are recorded as increases or decreases to bad debt expense, which is included in the Advertising, selling, general and administrative line of our Consolidated Statements of Operations. We recorded bad debt expense of \$1.7 million, \$2.1 million and \$5.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. At December 31, 2010 and 2009 our allowance for doubtful accounts was \$3.1 million and \$2.8 million, respectively. While we believe our reserve estimate to be appropriate, we may find it necessary to adjust the allowance for doubtful accounts if future bad debt expense exceeds the estimated reserve. Current economic conditions increase the difficulty and level of management judgment in setting the reserve. Given the significance of accounts receivable to the consolidated financial statements, the determination of net realizable values is considered to be a critical accounting estimate.

Reserve for Healthcare, Workers' Compensation, Automobile and General Liability

We are self-insured for our workers' compensation, automobile, general liability and a portion of our healthcare insurance. We make various subjective judgments about a number of factors in determining our reserve for healthcare, workers' compensation, automobile and general liability insurance, and the related expense. Our deductible for individual healthcare claims is \$0.2 million. Our deductible for workers' compensation is \$0.5 million per claim. We have a \$0.3 million deductible per claim automobile and general liability. Our insurance administrator provides us with estimated loss reserves, based upon its experience dealing with similar types of claims, as well as amounts paid to date against these claims. We apply actuarial factors to both insurance estimated loss reserves and to paid claims and then determine reserve levels, taking into account these calculations. At December 31, 2010 and 2009, our reserve for healthcare, workers' compensation, automobile and general liability was \$12.4 million and \$12.3 million, respectively. If ultimate losses were 10% higher than our estimate at December 31, 2010, net income would be impacted by approximately \$0.8 million, net of taxes. The amount that earnings would be impacted is dependent on the claim year and our deductible levels for that plan year. Periodic changes to the reserve for workers' compensation, automobile and general liability are recorded as increases or decreases to insurance expense, which is included in the Advertising, selling, general and administrative line of our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Periodic changes to the reserve for healthcare are recorded as increases or decreases to employee benefits expense, which is included in the Labor line of our Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Goodwill

Goodwill is recorded to the extent that the purchase price of an acquisition exceeds the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired. We assess the impairment of our goodwill by determining the fair value of each of our reporting units and comparing the fair value to the carrying value for each reporting unit. We have identified our reporting units as Direct Marketing and Shoppers. At December 31, 2010 and 2009, the net book value of our goodwill was allocated to our reporting units as follows:

Table of Contents

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Direct Marketing	\$ 398,164	\$ 385,399
Shoppers	167,487	167,487
Total goodwill	\$ 565,651	\$ 552,886

We performed our annual goodwill impairment testing for both the Direct Marketing and Shoppers segments as of November 30, 2010. As quoted market prices are not available for our reporting units, estimated fair value was determined using a discounted cash flow (DCF) model and a cash flow multiple (CFM) model, with consideration of our overall market capitalization. The DCF and CFM models utilize projected financial results based on historical performance and management's estimate of future performance, giving consideration to existing and anticipated competitive and economic conditions. Determining fair value requires the exercise of significant judgments, including judgments about appropriate discount rates, the amount and timing of expected future cash flows, and perpetual growth rates. If a reporting unit's carrying amount exceeds its fair value, we must calculate the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill by allocating the reporting unit's fair value to all of its assets and liabilities (recognized and unrecognized) in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation, and then compare this implied fair value to its carrying amount. To the extent that the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss is recorded.

A summary of the critical assumptions utilized for our annual impairment test in 2010 are outlined below. We believe this information, coupled with our sensitivity analysis, provide relevant information to understand our goodwill impairment testing and evaluate our goodwill balances.

For the annual goodwill impairment test performed on November 30, 2010, we did not significantly change the methodology from 2009 to determine the fair value of our reporting units. We made changes to certain assumptions utilized in the models for 2010 compared with the prior year due to the U.S. and global economic environments, which affect Direct Marketing, and the economic environments in California and Florida, which affect Shoppers. The following is a summary analysis of the significant assumptions used in our models, as well as a sensitivity analysis on the impact of changes in certain assumptions to our overall conclusion concerning impairment of our goodwill balances.

Discount Rate

The discount rate represents the expected return on capital. The discount rate was determined using a target structure of 30% debt and 70% equity. We used the interest rate of a 30-year government security to determine the risk-free rate in our weighted average cost of capital calculation.

Growth Assumptions

Projected annual growth rates and terminal growth rates are primarily driven by management's best estimate of future performance, giving consideration to historical performance and existing and anticipated economic and competitive conditions. These assumptions also take into account expense reductions and restructuring measures taken in 2009 in both businesses. The assumed growth rates used in our 2010 calculations were lower than historical growth rates for the respective businesses.

Sensitivity Analysis

The estimated fair value of our Direct Marketing reporting unit was significantly above its carrying value.

In order to analyze the sensitivity of our assumptions on the results of our Shoppers impairment assessment, we determined the impact that a hypothetical 15% reduction in fair value would have on our conclusions. In the case of our Shoppers reporting unit, a 15% decline in fair value would not result in the reporting unit's carrying value to be in excess of its fair value.

Table of Contents

The determination of the recoverability of goodwill requires significant judgment and estimates regarding future cash flows and fair values. These estimates are subject to change and could result in impairment losses being recognized in the future. If different reporting units or different valuation methodologies had been used, the impairment test results could have differed.

Stock-based Compensation

Stock-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is recognized as expense over the requisite service period. Determining the fair value of share-based awards requires judgment, including in some cases estimating expected term, volatility and dividend yield. In addition, judgment is required in estimating the amount of stock-based awards that are expected to be forfeited. If actual results differ significantly from some of these estimates, stock-based compensation expense and our results of operations could be materially impacted. For the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, we recorded total stock-based compensation expense of \$3.9 million, \$3.9 million and \$5.8 million, respectively.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

As discussed in Note A of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, certain new financial accounting pronouncements have been issued which either have already been reflected in the accompanying consolidated financial statements, or will become effective for our financial statements at various dates in the future. The adoption of these new accounting pronouncements have not and are not expected to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk includes the risk of loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices. We face market risks related to interest rate variations and to foreign currency exchange rate variations. From time to time, we may utilize derivative financial instruments as described below to manage our exposure to such risks.

We are exposed to market risk for changes in interest rates related to our credit facilities. Our earnings are affected by changes in short-term interest rates as a result of our credit facilities, which bear interest at variable rates based on Eurodollar rates (effective 30 day Euro dollar rate of 0.26% at December 31, 2010). The five-year \$200 million 2006 Term Loan Facility has a maturity date of September 6, 2011. At December 31, 2010, our debt balance related to the 2006 Term Loan Facility was \$117.0 million. The four-year 2008 Term Loan Facility has a maturity date of March 7, 2012. At December 31, 2010, our debt balance related to the 2008 Term Loan Facility was \$76.0 million. The three-year \$70 million 2010 Revolving Credit Facility has a maturity date of August 12, 2013. At December 31, 2010, we did not have any debt outstanding under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. In September 2007, we entered into a two-year interest rate swap with a notional amount of \$150 million and a fixed rate of 4.655% in order to limit a portion of our interest rate exposure by converting a portion of our variable-rate debt to fixed-rate debt. This interest rate swap expired on September 30, 2009.

Assuming the actual level of borrowing throughout 2010, and assuming a one percentage point change in the year's average interest rates, it is estimated that our 2010 net income would have changed by approximately \$1.3 million. Due to our overall debt level and cash balance at December 31, 2010, anticipated cash flows from operations, and the various financial alternatives available to management should there be an adverse change in interest rates, we do not believe that we currently have significant exposure to market risks associated with changing interest rates.

Our earnings are also affected by fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates as a result of our operations in foreign countries. Our primary exchange rate exposure is to the Euro, British pound sterling, Australian dollar, Philippine peso and Brazilian real. We monitor these risks throughout the normal course of business. The majority of the transactions of our U.S. and foreign operations are denominated in the respective local

Table of Contents

currencies. Changes in exchange rates related to these types of transactions are reflected in the applicable line items making up operating income in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Due to the current level of operations conducted in foreign currencies, we do not believe that the impact of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates on these types of transactions is significant to our overall annual earnings. A smaller portion of our transactions are denominated in currencies other than the respective local currencies. For example, inter-company transactions that are expected to be settled in the near-term are denominated in U.S. dollars. Since the accounting records of our foreign operations are kept in the respective local currency, any transactions denominated in other currencies are accounted for in the respective local currency at the time of the transaction. Any foreign currency gain or loss from these transactions, whether realized or unrealized, results in an adjustment to income, which is recorded in Other, net in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Transactions such as these amounted to \$0.7 million in pre-tax currency transaction losses in 2010. At this time we have not entered into any foreign currency forward exchange contracts or other derivative instruments to hedge the effects of adverse fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates.

We do not enter into derivative instruments for any purpose other than cash flow hedging. We do not speculate using derivative instruments.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The Financial Statements required to be presented under Item 8 are presented in the Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto beginning at page F-1 of this Form 10-K (Financial Statements).

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE
None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

As of the end of the period covered by this report, an evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the 1934 Act). It should be noted that, because of inherent limitations, our disclosure controls and procedures, however well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the disclosure controls and procedures are met. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer concluded that the design and operation of these disclosure controls and procedures were effective, at the reasonable assurance level, to ensure information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the 1934 Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC rules and forms.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, an evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Accounting Officer, of our internal control over financial reporting to determine whether any changes occurred during the fourth quarter of 2010 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting. Based on that evaluation, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting or in other factors that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting. We may make changes in our internal control processes from time to time in the future. It should also be noted that, because of inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements, and controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or in the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures.

Table of Contents

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on the Consolidated Financial Statements and Internal Control Over Financial Reporting are set forth in the Consolidated Financial Statements beginning on page F-1.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

Some of the information required by Items 10 through 14 of this Part III is incorporated by reference from our definitive proxy statement to be filed for our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders (2011 Proxy Statement), as indicated below. Our 2011 Proxy Statement will be filed with the SEC not later than 120 days after December 31, 2010. Because the 2011 Proxy Statement has not yet been finalized and filed, there may be certain discrepancies between the currently anticipated section headings specified below and the final section headings contained in the 2011 Proxy Statement.

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Directors and Executive Officers

The information required by this item regarding our directors and executive officers will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption "Directors and Executive Officers", which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Section 16(a) Compliance

The information to appear in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption "General Information - Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" is incorporated herein by reference.

Code of Ethics and Other Governance Information

The information required by this item regarding the Supplemental Code of Ethics for our Senior Financial Officers (Code of Ethics), audit committee financial experts, audit committee members and procedures for stockholder recommendations of nominees to our Board of Directors will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption "Corporate Governance", which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Our Code of Ethics may be found on our website at www.harte-hanks.com by clicking on the link "About Us" and then the link "Corporate Governance," and a copy of our Code of Ethics is also available in print, without charge, upon written request to Harte-Hanks, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, 9601 McAllister Freeway, Suite 610, San Antonio, Texas 78216. In accordance with the rules of the NYSE and the SEC, we currently intend to disclose any future amendments to our Code of Ethics, or waivers from our Code of Ethics for our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Controller, by posting such information on our website (www.harte-hanks.com) within the time period required by applicable SEC and NYSE rules.

Management Certifications

In accordance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and SEC rules thereunder, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have signed certifications under Sarbanes-Oxley Section 302, which have been filed as exhibits to this Form 10-K. In addition, our Chief Executive Officer submitted his most recent annual certification to the NYSE under Section 303A.12(a) of the NYSE listing standards on August 18, 2010.

Table of Contents

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item regarding the compensation of our named executive officers and directors and other required information will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the captions Executive Compensation, and Director Compensation, which information is incorporated herein by reference. In accordance with the rules of the SEC, information to be contained in the 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption Compensation Committee Report is not deemed to be filed with the SEC or subject to the liabilities of the 1934 Act.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

Beneficial Ownership Tables

The information required by this item regarding security ownership of certain beneficial owners, management and directors will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption Security Ownership of Management and Principal Stockholders, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The information required by this item regarding securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption Executive Compensation Equity Compensation Plan Information at Year-End 2010, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Transactions with Related Persons

The information required by this item regarding transactions with related persons, including our policies and procedures for the review, approval or ratification of related person transactions that are required to be disclosed under the SEC's rules and regulations, will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption Corporate Governance Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Director Independence

The information required by this item regarding director independence will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption Corporate Governance Independence of Directors, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item regarding the audit committee's pre-approval policies and procedures and the disclosures of fees billed by our principal independent auditor will be set forth in our 2011 Proxy Statement under the caption Audit Committee and Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, which information is incorporated herein by reference.

Table of Contents

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

15(a)(1) Financial Statements

The financial statements filed as part of this report and referenced in Item 8 are presented in the Consolidated Financial Statements and the notes thereto beginning at page F-1 of this Form 10-K (Financial Statements).

15(a)(2) Financial Statement Schedules

All schedules for which provision is made in the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC have been omitted as the schedules are not required under the related instructions, are not applicable, or the information required thereby is set forth in the Consolidated Financial Statements or notes thereto.

15(a)(3) Exhibits

The Exhibit Index following the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in this Form 10-K lists the exhibits that are filed or furnished, as applicable, as part of this Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Harte-Hanks, Inc. has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

HARTE-HANKS, INC.

By: /s/ Larry Franklin
Larry Franklin
President and Chief Executive Officer
Date: March 2, 2011

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.

/s/ Larry Franklin
Larry Franklin
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ Douglas Shepard
Douglas Shepard
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ Jessica Huff
Jessica Huff
Vice President, Finance and Chief Accounting Officer
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ William K. Gayden
William K. Gayden, Director
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ Houston H. Harte
Houston H. Harte, Vice Chairman
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ Christopher M. Harte
Christopher M. Harte, Director
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ David L. Copeland
David L. Copeland, Director
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ Judy C. Odom
Judy C. Odom, Director
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ William F. Farley
William F. Farley, Director
Date: March 2, 2011

/s/ Karen A. Puckett
Karen A. Puckett, Director
Date: March 2, 2011

Table of Contents

Harte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

<u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on the Consolidated Financial Statements and Internal Control Over Financial Reporting</u>	F-2
<u>Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009</u>	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010</u>	F-6
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010</u>	F-7
<u>Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity and Comprehensive Income for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010</u>	F-8
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-9

All schedules for which provision is made in the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC have been omitted as the schedules are not required under the related instructions, are not applicable, or the information required thereby is set forth in the consolidated financial statements or notes thereto.

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Stockholders

Harte-Hanks, Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Harte-Hanks, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, cash flows, and stockholders' equity and comprehensive income for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010. We also have audited the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company's management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying report, *Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our 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 consolidated 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 (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) 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 (3) 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.

Table of Contents

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Harte-Hanks, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2010, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also in our opinion, Harte-Hanks, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

/s/ KPMG LLP

San Antonio, Texas

March 2, 2011

F-3

Table of Contents

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We are responsible for the preparation and integrity of the consolidated financial statements appearing in our Annual Report. The consolidated financial statements were prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and include amounts based on management's estimates and judgments. All other financial information in this report has been presented on a basis consistent with the information included in the consolidated financial statements.

We are also responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. We maintain a system of internal control that is designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the fair and reliable preparation and presentation of the consolidated financial statements, as well as to safeguard assets from unauthorized use or disposition.

Our control environment is the foundation for our system of internal control over financial reporting. It sets the tone of our organization and includes factors such as integrity and ethical values. Our internal control over financial reporting is supported by formal policies and procedures that are reviewed, modified and improved as changes occur in business conditions and operations.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, which is composed solely of outside directors, meets periodically with members of management, the internal auditors and the independent auditors to review and discuss internal controls over financial reporting and accounting and financial reporting matters. Our independent registered public accounting firm and internal auditors report to the Audit Committee and accordingly have full and free access to the Audit Committee at any time.

We conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on criteria established in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. This evaluation included review of the documentation of controls, evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls, testing of the operating effectiveness of controls and a conclusion on this evaluation. Based on our evaluation, we concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2010.

KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, has issued a report on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting, which is included on page F-2 of this Form 10-K.

March 2, 2011

/s/ Larry Franklin
Larry Franklin
President and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Douglas Shepard
Douglas Shepard
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

/s/ Jessica Huff
Jessica Huff
Vice President, Finance and
Chief Accounting Officer

Table of ContentsHarte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Balance Sheets

<i>In thousands, except per share and share amounts</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 85,996	\$ 86,598
Accounts receivable (<i>less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$3,103 in 2010 and \$2,827 in 2009</i>)	151,006	140,062
Inventory	7,324	4,846
Prepaid expenses	11,860	12,790
Deferred income tax asset	8,911	9,905
Other current assets	3,366	2,398
Total current assets	268,463	256,599
Property, plant and equipment		
Land	3,325	3,365
Buildings and improvements	37,383	38,615
Software	97,926	93,553
Equipment and furniture	185,066	182,832
	323,700	318,365
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(253,730)	(243,873)
	69,970	74,492
Software development and equipment installations in progress	2,689	3,907
Net property, plant and equipment	72,659	78,399
Intangible and other assets		
Goodwill, net	565,651	552,886
Other intangible assets (<i>less accumulated amortization of \$14,942 in 2010 and \$13,953 in 2009</i>)	15,788	16,277
Other assets	4,319	3,990
Total intangible and other assets	585,758	573,153
Total assets	\$ 926,880	\$ 908,151
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities		
Current maturities of long-term debt	\$ 133,000	\$ 46,688
Accounts payable	56,085	42,386
Accrued payroll and related expenses	24,780	15,290
Customer deposits and deferred revenue	54,622	54,055
Income taxes payable	2,247	6,114
Other current liabilities	10,229	8,670
Total current liabilities	280,963	173,203
Long-term debt	60,000	193,000
Other long-term liabilities (<i>including deferred income taxes of \$85,655 in 2010 and \$77,980 in 2009</i>)	148,094	140,305
Total liabilities	489,057	506,508

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Stockholders' equity		
Common stock, \$1 par value, authorized: 250,000,000 shares		
Issued 2010: 118,296,334; Issued 2009: 118,242,582 shares	118,296	118,243
Additional paid-in capital	336,795	333,612
Retained earnings	1,252,438	1,217,975
Less treasury stock, 2010: 54,664,293; 2009: 54,668,032 shares at cost	(1,236,024)	(1,236,217)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(33,682)	(31,970)
Total stockholders' equity	437,823	401,643
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 926,880	\$ 908,151

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

F-5

Table of Contents

Harte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Operations

<i>In thousands, except per share amounts</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Operating revenues	\$ 860,526	\$ 860,143	\$ 1,082,821
Operating expenses			
Labor	356,037	366,077	448,769
Production and distribution	323,217	312,230	398,701
Advertising, selling, general and administrative	66,792	62,479	81,655
Shoppers legal settlement		6,950	
Depreciation and amortization of property, plant and equipment	22,437	28,265	33,429
Intangible asset amortization	990	1,712	2,950
Total operating expenses	769,473	777,713	965,504
Operating income	91,053	82,430	117,317
Other expenses (income)			
Interest expense	2,824	8,150	14,201
Interest income	(200)	(182)	(378)
Other, net	2,102	2,520	1,925
	4,726	10,488	15,748
Income before income taxes	86,327	71,942	101,569
Income tax expense	32,723	24,227	38,828
Net income	\$ 53,604	\$ 47,715	\$ 62,741
Basic earnings per common share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.98
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	63,616	63,557	63,933
Diluted earnings per common share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.98
Weighted-average common and common equivalent shares outstanding	64,139	63,885	64,104

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of ContentsHarte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Net income	\$ 53,604	\$ 47,715	\$ 62,741
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operations:			
Depreciation	22,437	28,265	33,429
Intangible asset amortization	990	1,712	2,950
Stock-based compensation	3,907	3,889	5,827
Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation		(13)	(342)
Pension expense	6,297	8,906	1,827
Deferred income taxes	8,922	6,092	13,529
Other, net	275	163	192
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from acquisitions:			
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable, net	(8,742)	29,356	31,477
(Increase) decrease in inventory	(2,478)	2,635	(1,474)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses and other current assets	(268)	5,955	4,063
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	12,663	(5,796)	(21,548)
Increase (decrease) in other accrued expenses and other liabilities	6,342	(14,060)	(16,034)
Other, net	(8,571)	(797)	64
Net cash provided by operating activities	95,378	114,022	116,701
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(12,904)		(8,688)
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(17,449)	(9,011)	(19,947)
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	207	142	339
Net cash used in investing activities	(30,146)	(8,869)	(28,296)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Borrowings			197,000
Payments on borrowings	(46,688)	(30,937)	(185,500)
Issuance of common stock	75	555	4,203
Excess tax benefits from stock-based compensation		13	342
Purchase of treasury stock			(76,649)
Dividends paid	(19,141)	(19,116)	(19,101)
Net cash used in financing activities	(65,754)	(49,485)	(79,705)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(80)	769	(1,386)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(602)	56,437	7,314
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	86,598	30,161	22,847
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 85,996	\$ 86,598	\$ 30,161

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**Harte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries Consolidated Statements of Stockholders Equity and Comprehensive Income**

<i>In thousands, except per share amounts</i>	Common Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Treasury Stock	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Total Stockholders Equity
Balance at December 31, 2007	\$ 117,693	\$ 323,182	\$ 1,145,736	\$ (1,160,205)	\$ (17,894)	\$ 408,512
Common stock issued employee stock purchase plan	298	2,639				2,937
Exercise of stock options and release of non-vested shares	94	1,267		(49)		1,312
Net tax effect of stock options and non-vested shares		(1,550)				(1,550)
Stock-based compensation		5,827				5,827
Dividends paid (\$0.30 per share)			(19,101)			(19,101)
Treasury stock issued		(138)		322		184
Treasury stock repurchased				(76,649)		(76,649)
Comprehensive income, net of tax:						
Net income			62,741			62,741
Adjustment to pension liability (net of tax benefit of \$15,259)					(22,886)	(22,886)
Change in value of derivative instrument accounted for as a cash flow hedge (net of tax benefit of \$762)					(1,146)	(1,146)
Foreign currency translation adjustment					(3,809)	(3,809)
Total comprehensive income						34,900
Balance at December 31, 2008	\$ 118,085	\$ 331,227	\$ 1,189,376	\$ (1,236,581)	\$ (45,735)	\$ 356,372
Common stock issued employee stock purchase plan	85	402				487
Exercise of stock options and release of non-vested shares	73	44		(129)		(12)
Net tax effect of stock options and non-vested shares		(1,621)				(1,621)
Stock-based compensation		3,889				3,889
Dividends paid (\$0.30 per share)			(19,116)			(19,116)
Treasury stock issued		(329)		493		164
Comprehensive income, net of tax:						
Net income			47,715			47,715
Adjustment to pension liability (net of tax expense of \$5,631)					8,446	8,446
Change in value of derivative instrument accounted for as a cash flow hedge (net of tax expense of \$1,800)					2,703	2,703
Foreign currency translation adjustment					2,616	2,616
Total comprehensive income						61,480
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$ 118,243	\$ 333,612	\$ 1,217,975	\$ (1,236,217)	\$ (31,970)	\$ 401,643
Exercise of stock options and release of non-vested shares	53	22		(124)		(49)
Net tax effect of stock options and non-vested shares		(588)				(588)
Stock-based compensation		3,907				3,907
Dividends paid (\$0.30 per share)			(19,141)			(19,141)
Treasury stock issued		(158)		317		159
Comprehensive income, net of tax:						
Net income			53,604			53,604
Adjustment to pension liability (net of tax benefit of \$1,051)					(1,576)	(1,576)
Foreign currency translation adjustment					(136)	(136)
Total comprehensive income						51,892
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$ 118,296	\$ 336,795	\$ 1,252,438	\$ (1,236,024)	\$ (33,682)	\$ 437,823

See Accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

Harte-Hanks, Inc. and Subsidiaries Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Note A Significant Accounting Policies

Consolidation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements present the financial position and the results of operations and cash flows of Harte-Hanks, Inc. and subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified for comparative purposes. In the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, pension expense has been reclassified from the line item Other, net in the Changes in operating assets and liabilities, to the line item Pension expense in the Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operations.

As used in this report, the terms Harte-Hanks, we, us, or our may refer to Harte-Hanks, one or more of its consolidated subsidiaries, or all of them taken as a whole.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (U.S. GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results and outcomes could differ from those estimates and assumptions. On an ongoing basis, management reviews its estimates based on currently available information. Changes in facts and circumstances could result in revised estimates and assumptions.

Operating Expense Presentation in Consolidated Statements of Operations

The Labor line in the Consolidated Statements of Operations includes all employee payroll and benefits, including stock-based compensation, along with temporary labor costs. The Production and distribution and Advertising, selling, general and administrative lines do not include labor, depreciation or amortization.

Revenue Recognition

We recognize revenue when all of the following criteria are satisfied: (i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; (ii) the price is fixed or determinable; (iii) collectability is reasonably assured; and (iv) the service has been performed or the product has been delivered.

Payments received in advance of the performance of services or delivery of the product are recorded as deferred revenue until such time as the services are performed or the product is delivered.

Our accounting policy for revenue recognition has an impact on our reported results and relies on certain estimates that require judgments on the part of management. The portion of our revenue that is most subject to estimates and judgments is revenue recognized using the proportional performance method, as discussed below.

Direct Marketing revenue is derived from a variety of services and products, and may be billed at hourly rates, monthly rates or a fixed price. For all sales, we require either a purchase order, a statement of work signed by the client, a written contract, or some other form of written authorization from the client.

Revenue from agency and creative services, analytical services and market research is typically billed based on time and materials or at a fixed price. If billed at a fixed price, revenue is recognized on a proportional performance basis as the services specified in the arrangement are performed. In most cases, proportional performance is based on the ratio of direct costs incurred to total estimated costs where the costs incurred, primarily labor hours and outsourced services, represent a reasonable surrogate for output measures or contract performance. For fixed fee market research revenue streams, revenue is recognized in proportion to the value of service provided based on output criteria. Contracts accounted for under the proportional performance

Table of Contents

method constituted less than 6.0% of total Direct Marketing revenue and less than 4.0% of our total revenue for each of the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008.

Revenue from email marketing, social media marketing and other digital solutions is recognized as the work is performed. Revenue from these services is typically based on a fixed price or rate given to the client.

Revenue associated with new marketing database builds is deferred until complete or until client acceptance. Upon completion or acceptance, revenue and direct build costs are then recognized over the term of the related arrangement as the services are provided. Revenue from database and website hosting services is recognized ratably over the contractual hosting period. Pricing for database builds are typically based on a fixed price and hosting fees are typically based on a fixed price per month or per contract.

Revenue from technology database subscriptions is based on a fixed price and is recognized ratably over the term of the subscription. Revenue from stand-alone technology data sales is recognized at the time of delivery.

Revenue from services such as data processing, printing, personalization of communication pieces using laser and inkjet printing, targeted mail, and transportation logistics is recognized as the work is performed. Revenue from these services is typically based on a fixed price or rate given to the client.

Revenue related to fulfillment and contact centers, including inbound and outbound calling and email management, is also typically based on a fixed price per transaction or service provided. Revenue from these services is recognized as the service or activity is performed.

Revenue from software arrangements involving multiple elements is allocated to each element based on the vendor-specific objective evidence of fair values of the respective elements. For software sales with multiple elements (for example, software licenses with undelivered post-contract customer support or PCS), we allocate revenue to each component of the arrangement using the residual value method based on the fair value of the undelivered elements. This means we defer revenue from the software sale equal to the fair value of the undelivered elements. The fair value of PCS is based upon separate sales of renewals to other clients. The fair value of services, such as training and consulting, is based upon separate sales of these services to other clients.

The revenue allocated to PCS is recognized ratably over the term of the support period. Revenue allocated to professional services is recognized as the services are performed. The revenue allocated to software products, including time-based software licenses, is recognized, if collection is probable, upon execution of a licensing agreement and shipment of the software or ratably over the term of the license, depending on the structure and terms of the arrangement. If the licensing agreement is for a term of one year or less and includes PCS, we recognize the software and the PCS revenue ratably over the term of the license.

For certain non-software arrangements, we enter into contracts that include delivery of a combination of two or more of our service offerings. Such arrangements are divided into separate units of accounting, provided that the delivered element(s) has stand-alone value and objective and reliable evidence of the fair value of the undelivered element(s) exist(s).

When we are able to unbundle the arrangement into separate units of accounting, revenue from each service is recognized separately, and in accordance with our revenue recognition policy for each element. If we are unable to unbundle the arrangement into separate units of accounting, we apply one of the revenue recognition policies to the entire arrangement. This might impact the timing of revenue recognition, but would not change the total revenue recognized from the arrangement.

Shopper services are considered rendered, and the revenue recognized, when all printing, sorting, labeling and ancillary services have been provided and the mailing material has been received by the USPS.

Table of Contents

Taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are not reflected in our revenues or expenses.

Cash Equivalents

All highly liquid investments with an original maturity of 90 days or less at the time of purchase are considered to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

We maintain our allowance for doubtful accounts at a balance adequate to reduce accounts receivable to the amount of cash expected to be realized upon collection. The methodology used to determine the minimum allowance balance is based on our prior collection experience and is generally related to the accounts receivable balance in various aging categories. The balance is also influenced by specific clients' financial strength and circumstance. Accounts that are determined to be uncollectible are written off in the period in which they are determined to be uncollectible. Periodic changes to the allowance balance are recorded as increases or decreases to bad debt expense, which is included in the Advertising, selling, general and administrative line of our Consolidated Statements of Operations. The changes in the allowance for doubtful accounts consisted of the following:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 2,827	\$ 4,191	\$ 3,556
Additions charged to expense	1,658	2,083	5,793
Amounts charged against the allowance, net of recoveries	(1,382)	(3,447)	(5,158)
Balance at end of year	\$ 3,103	\$ 2,827	\$ 4,191

Inventory

Inventory, consisting primarily of newsprint, job paper and operating supplies, is stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out method) or market.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated on the basis of cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method at rates calculated to amortize the cost of the assets over their useful lives. The general ranges of estimated useful lives are:

Buildings and improvements	10 to 40 years
Software	3 to 10 years
Equipment and furniture	3 to 20 years

Long-lived assets such as property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. We did not record an impairment on long-lived assets in any of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2010.

Property, plant and equipment includes capital lease assets. Capital lease assets at December 31, 2010 and 2009 consisted of:

Table of Contents

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Equipment and furniture	\$ 3,431	\$ 3,378
Less accumulated amortization	(1,998)	(1,431)
Net book value	\$ 1,433	\$ 1,947

Amortization expense related to capital lease assets was \$0.6 million, \$0.7 million and \$0.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Depreciation and amortization on the remaining property plant and equipment was \$21.8 million, \$27.6 million and \$32.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Goodwill and Other Intangibles

Goodwill is recorded to the extent that the purchase price of an acquisition exceeds the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired. Other intangibles with definite and indefinite useful lives are recorded at fair value at the date of the acquisition. Goodwill and other intangibles with indefinite useful lives were tested for impairment as of November 30, 2010. Fair values of our reporting units and other intangibles with indefinite useful lives have been determined using discounted cash flow and cash flow multiple methodologies. Our overall market capitalization also was considered when evaluating the fair values of our reporting units. Intangible assets with definite useful lives are amortized over their respective estimated useful lives and reviewed for impairment if we believe that changes or triggering events have occurred that could have caused the carrying value of the intangible assets to exceed its fair value. We have determined that no impairment of goodwill or other intangibles existed in any of the years during the three year period ended December 31, 2010.

Income Taxes

Income taxes are calculated using the asset and liability method. Deferred income taxes are recognized for the tax consequences resulting from temporary differences by applying enacted statutory tax rates applicable to future years. These temporary differences are associated with differences between the financial and the tax basis of existing assets and liabilities. Any statutory change in tax rates will be recognized immediately in deferred taxes and income.

Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per common share are based upon the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per common share are based upon the weighted-average number of common shares and dilutive common stock equivalents outstanding during the period. Dilutive common stock equivalents are calculated based on the assumed exercise of stock options and vesting of non-vested shares using the treasury stock method.

Stock-Based Compensation

All share-based awards are recognized as operating expense in the Labor line of the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Calculated expense is based on the fair values of the awards on the date of grant and is recognized over the requisite service period.

Reserve for Healthcare, Workers Compensation, Automobile and General Liability

We are self-insured for our workers compensation, automobile, general liability and a portion of our healthcare insurance. We make various subjective judgments about a number of factors in determining our reserve for healthcare, workers compensation, automobile and general liability insurance, and the related expense. Our deductible for individual healthcare claims is \$0.2 million. Our deductible for workers compensation is \$0.5 million. We have a \$0.3 million deductible for automobile and general liability claims. Our insurance administrator provides us with estimated loss reserves, based upon its experience dealing with similar types of claims, as well as amounts paid to date against these claims. We apply actuarial factors to both insurance

Table of Contents

estimated loss reserves and to paid claims and then determine reserve levels, taking into account these calculations. At December 31, 2010 and 2009, our reserve for healthcare, workers' compensation, automobile and general liability was \$12.4 million and \$12.3 million, respectively. Periodic changes to the reserve for workers' compensation, automobile and general liability are recorded as increases or decreases to insurance expense, which is included in the Advertising, selling, general and administrative line of our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Periodic changes to the reserve for healthcare are recorded as increases or decreases to employee benefits expense, which is included in the Labor line of our Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

We have used derivative instruments to manage the risk of changes in prevailing interest rates adversely affecting future cash flows associated with our credit facilities. The derivative instrument used to manage such risk was an interest rate swap. We designated our interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge. As such, we reported the fair value of the swap as an asset or liability on our balance sheet. The effective portion of changes in the fair value of the swap was recorded in other comprehensive loss and was recognized as a component of interest expense in the Consolidated Statements of Operations when the hedged item affected results of operations. Cash flows from derivatives accounted for as cash flow hedges were reported as cash flow from operating activities, in the same category as the cash flows from the items being hedged. Our most recent interest rate swap expired in September 2009.

Foreign Currencies

In most instances the functional currencies of our foreign operations are the local currencies. Assets and liabilities recorded in foreign currencies are translated in U.S. dollars at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. Revenue and expenses are translated at average rates of exchange prevailing during a given month. Adjustments resulting from this translation are charged or credited to other comprehensive loss.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In the fourth quarter of 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Subtopic 605-25, *Revenue Recognition - Multiple-Element Arrangements*, (ASC Subtopic 605-25). ASC Subtopic 605-25 provides principles for allocation of consideration among multiple-elements in an arrangement, allowing more flexibility in identifying and accounting for revenue from separate deliverables under an arrangement. ASC Subtopic 605-25 introduces an estimated selling price method for allocating revenue to the elements of a bundled arrangement if vendor-specific objective evidence or third-party evidence of selling price is not available, and significantly expands related disclosure requirements. This standard is effective on a prospective basis for revenue arrangements entered into or materially modified in fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2010. We will adopt ASC Subtopic 605-25 in the first quarter of 2011. The adoption of ASC Subtopic 605-25 will not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

In the first quarter of 2010, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Updates (ASU) 2010-06, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures: Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements* (ASU 2010-06). ASU 2010-06 amends FASB ASC Topic 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, and requires reporting entities to make new disclosures about recurring or nonrecurring fair-value measurements, including significant transfers into and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair-value measurements and information about purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements on a gross basis in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair-value measurements. ASU 2010-06 also clarifies existing fair-value measurement disclosure guidance about the level of disaggregation, inputs and valuation techniques. Except for the detailed Level 3 rollforward disclosures, we adopted the provisions of ASU 2010-06 in the first quarter of 2010. This adoption did not affect our consolidated financial statements. We will adopt the provisions of ASU 2010-06 related to the new Level 3 rollforward disclosures in the first quarter of 2011. This adoption in 2011 will not affect our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

In the first quarter of 2010, the FASB issued ASU 2010-09, *Subsequent Events: Amendments to Certain Recognition and Disclosure Requirements* (ASU 2010-09). ASU 2010-09 amends ASC 855, *Subsequent Events*, so that SEC filers are no longer required to disclose the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated in financial statements. We adopted the provisions of ASU 2010-09 in the first quarter of 2010. This adoption did not affect our consolidated financial statements.

Note B Acquisitions

On August 31, 2010, we acquired Information Arts (UK) Limited (Information Arts). Based in the United Kingdom, Information Arts is a provider of data-driven marketing insight to business-to-business marketers across Europe and increasingly across the globe. Information Arts delivers data to improve multichannel marketing effectiveness. This insight is derived from profiling, segmentation, modeling and other analytics, and drives engagements that include marketing data management, data hygiene, data acquisition and data planning. Information Arts and Harte-Hanks other marketing offerings in Europe are being combined to deliver multichannel Demand Center solutions integrated lead generation and lead management programs. Goodwill of \$12.8 million and intangible assets subject to amortization of \$0.5 million have been recognized in this transaction and assigned to the Direct Marketing segment.

In January 2008, we acquired Mason Zimble Limited, a full-service integrated digital marketing agency specializing in the technology sector. With offices in Bristol, UK and Reading, UK, Mason Zimble provides technology companies with a full range of integrated digital marketing services, including direct marketing, advertising and branding, incorporating Web site development, e-mail lead generation, viral, channel incentive programs, media planning and buying, research and other services. Goodwill of \$9.8 million has been recognized in this transaction and assigned to the Direct Marketing segment. No other intangible assets were recognized in this transaction.

The total cost of the acquisitions in 2010 and 2008 were \$12.9 million and \$8.7 million, respectively, all paid in cash. The operating results of these acquisitions have been included in the accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements from the date of the acquisition. We did not make any acquisitions in 2009.

We have not disclosed proforma amounts including the operating results of these acquisitions as the effect on our operating results is not considered material.

Note C Fair Value of Financial Instruments

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, (ASC 820) defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. ASC 820 also establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used in valuation methodologies into three levels:

- Level 1** Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2** Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be 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 that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Because of their maturities and/or variable interest rates, certain financial instruments have fair values approximating their carrying values. These instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and trade payables. The carrying value of the interest rate swap was adjusted to fair value at the end of each fiscal quarter and is disclosed in Note E, *Interest Rate Risk*. The fair value of our outstanding debt is disclosed

Table of Contents

in Note D, *Long-Term Debt*. The fair value of the assets in our funded pension plan is disclosed in Note H, *Employee Benefit Plans*.

Note D Long-Term Debt

Our long-term debt obligations at year-end were as follows:

In thousands	December 31,	
	2010	2009
2006 Term Loan Facility, various interest rates based on Eurodollar (effective rate of 0.76% at December 31, 2010), due September 6, 2011	\$ 117,000	\$ 148,688
2008 Term Loan Facility, various interest rates based on Eurodollar (effective rate of 0.76% at December 31, 2010), due March 7, 2012	76,000	91,000
Total debt	193,000	239,688
Less current maturities	133,000	46,688
Total long-term debt	\$ 60,000	\$ 193,000

The carrying values and estimated fair values of our outstanding debt at year-end were as follows:

In thousands	December 31,			
	2010		2009	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
Total debt	\$ 193,000	\$ 190,583	\$ 239,688	\$ 230,555

The estimated fair values were calculated using current rates provided to us by our bankers for debt of the same remaining maturity and characteristics.

Credit Facilities

On September 6, 2006, we entered into a five-year \$200 million term loan facility (2006 Term Loan Facility) with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent. On December 31, 2007 we began making the scheduled quarterly principal payments as follows:

Quarterly Installments	Percentage of Drawn Amounts
1 8	2.50% each
9 12	3.75% each
13 15	5.00% each
Maturity Date	Remaining Principal Balance

The 2006 Term Loan Facility matures on September 6, 2011. For each borrowing under the 2006 Term Loan Facility, we can generally choose to have the interest rate for that borrowing calculated based on either (i) a Eurodollar (as defined in the 2006 Term Loan Facility) rate, plus a spread which is determined based on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio (as defined in the 2006 Term Loan Facility) then in effect, and ranges from .315% to .60% per annum, or (ii) the higher of Wells Fargo Bank's prime rate in effect on such date or the Federal Funds rate in effect on such date plus .50%. There is a facility fee that we are also required to pay under the 2006 Term Loan Facility that is based on a facility fee rate applied to the outstanding principal balance owed under the 2006 Term Loan Facility. The facility fee rate ranges from .085% to .15% per annum, depending on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect. We may elect to prepay the 2006 Term Loan Facility at any time without incurring any prepayment penalties.

Table of Contents

On March 7, 2008, we entered into a new four-year \$100 million term loan facility (2008 Term Loan Facility) with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Administrative Agent. On March 31, 2009, we began making the scheduled quarterly principal payments as follows:

Quarterly Installments	Percentage of Drawn Amount
1 - 4	2.25% each
5 - 8	3.75% each
9 - 12	4.00% each

Maturity Date

Remaining Principal Balance

The 2008 Term Loan Facility matures on March 7, 2012. For each borrowing under the 2008 Term Loan Facility, we can generally choose to have the interest rate for that borrowing calculated based on either (i) a Eurodollar (as defined in the 2008 Term Loan Facility) rate, plus a spread which is determined based on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio (as defined in the 2008 Term Loan Facility) then in effect, and ranges from .40% to .75% per annum, or (ii) the higher of Wells Fargo Bank's prime rate in effect on such date or the Federal Funds rate in effect on such date plus .50%. There is a facility fee that we are also required to pay under the 2008 Term Loan Facility that is based on a rate applied to the outstanding principal balance owed under the 2008 Term Loan Facility. The facility fee rate ranges from .10% to .25% per annum, depending on our total debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect. We may elect to prepay the 2008 Term Loan Facility at any time without incurring any prepayment penalties.

On August 12, 2010, we entered into a new three-year \$70 million term loan facility, which includes a \$25 million letter of credit sub-facility and a \$5 million swingline loan sub-facility (2010 Revolving Credit Facility), with Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent. The 2010 Revolving Credit Facility also permits us to request up to a \$25 million increase in the total amount of the facility. The 2010 Revolving Credit Facility matures on August 12, 2013. We intend to utilize the availability under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility for general corporate purposes, including future repayments on our term loans. The 2010 Revolving Credit Facility replaced the five-year \$125 million revolving credit facility which we entered into on August 12, 2005 (2005 Revolving Credit Facility), under which we had no borrowings as of its expiration on August 12, 2010. For each borrowing under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility, we can generally choose to have the interest rate for that borrowing calculated on either (i) the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) for the applicable interest period, plus a spread which is determined based on our total net debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect, which spread ranges from 2.25% to 3.00% per annum; or (ii) the highest of (a) the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.50%, (b) the Agent's prime rate, and (c) the Eurodollar Rate plus 1.00%, plus a spread which is determined based on our total net debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect, which spread ranges from 1.25% to 2.00% per annum. There is a facility fee that we are also required to pay under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. The facility fee rate ranges from 0.40% to 0.45% per annum, depending on our total net debt-to-EBITDA ratio then in effect. In addition, there is a letter of credit fee with respect to outstanding letters of credit. That fee is calculated by applying a rate equal to the spread applicable to Eurodollar based loans plus a fronting fee of 0.125% per annum to the average daily undrawn amount of the outstanding letters of credit. We may elect to prepay the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility at any time. At December 31, 2010, we did not have any outstanding amounts drawn against our 2010 Revolving Credit Facility. At December 31, 2010 we had letters of credit totaling \$11.8 million issued under the 2010 Revolving Credit Facility, decreasing the amount available for borrowing to \$58.2 million.

Under all of our credit facilities, we are required to maintain an interest coverage ratio of not less than 2.75 to 1 and a total debt-to-EBITDA ratio of not more than 3.0 to 1. The credit facilities also contain covenants restricting our and our subsidiaries' ability to grant liens and enter into certain transactions and limit the total amount of indebtedness of our subsidiaries to \$20 million.

Table of Contents

The credit facilities each also include customary covenants regarding reporting obligations, delivery of notices regarding certain events, maintaining our corporate existence, payment of obligations, maintenance of our properties and insurance thereon at customary levels with financially sound and reputable insurance companies, maintaining books and records and compliance with applicable laws. The credit facilities each also provide for customary events of default including nonpayment of principal or interest, breach of representations and warranties, violations of covenants, failure to pay certain other indebtedness, bankruptcy and material judgments and liabilities, certain violations of environmental laws or ERISA or the occurrence of a change of control. As of December 31, 2010, we were in compliance with all of the covenants of our credit facilities.

The future minimum principal payments related to our debt at December 31, 2010 are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	
2011	\$ 133,000
2012	60,000
	\$ 193,000

Cash payments for interest were \$2.8 million, \$8.1 million, and \$14.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Note E Interest Rate Risk

We assess interest rate risk by regularly identifying and monitoring changes in interest rate exposure that may adversely impact expected future cash flows and by evaluating hedging opportunities. Prior to September 30, 2009, we used a derivative instrument to manage the risk of changes in prevailing interest rates adversely affecting future cash flows associated with our credit facilities. The derivative instrument used to manage such risk was an interest rate swap, as discussed further below. Our only interest rate swap matured on September 30, 2009. We have not entered into derivative instruments for any purpose other than cash flow hedging. We do not speculate using derivative instruments.

As with any financial instrument, derivative instruments have inherent risks, primarily market and credit risk. Market risk associated with changes in interest rates is managed as part of our overall market risk monitoring process by establishing and monitoring limits as to the degree of risk that may be undertaken. Credit risk occurs when the counterparty to a derivative contract in which we have an unrealized gain fails to perform according to the terms of the agreement. We seek to minimize our credit risk by entering into transactions with counterparties that maintain high credit ratings.

We designated our interest rate swap as a cash flow hedge. For a derivative instrument designated as a cash flow hedge, the effective portion of changes in the fair value of the derivative instrument is recorded in other comprehensive loss and is recognized as a component of interest expense in the Consolidated Statements of Operations when the hedged item affects results of operations. On a quarterly basis, we assessed the ineffectiveness of the hedging relationship, and any gains or losses related to the ineffectiveness would have been recorded as interest expense in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. There were no components of the derivative instrument that were excluded from the assessment of hedge effectiveness.

As noted above, in September 2007, we entered into a two-year interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$150.0 million and a fixed rate of 4.655%. The two-year term began on September 28, 2007. This interest rate swap changed the variable rate cash flow exposure on the \$150.0 million notional amount to fixed rate cash flows by entering into receive-variable, pay-fixed interest rate swap transactions. Under this swap transaction, we received LIBOR based variable interest rate payments and made fixed interest rate payments, thereby creating fixed rate debt. We designated this hedging relationship as hedging the risk of changes in cash flows (a cash flow hedge) attributable to changes in the LIBOR rate applicable to our 2005 Revolving Credit Facility and 2006 Term Loan Facility. As such, we reported the fair value of the swap as an asset or liability on our balance sheet, any ineffectiveness as interest expense, and effective changes to the fair value of the swap in

Table of Contents

other comprehensive income (loss). Fair value was determined using projected discounted future cash flows calculated using readily available market information (future LIBOR rates). This swap agreement ended on September 30, 2009 and is no longer recorded on our Consolidated Balance Sheet. We reclassified into earnings losses of \$4.9 million and \$2.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, which were related to the swap and previously reported in other comprehensive loss.

Our interest rate derivative did not have any impact on our Consolidated Statement of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2010. The following table presents the impact of our derivative instrument on the Consolidated Statements of Operations for the 2 previous years ended December 31:

<i>In thousands</i>	Amount of Loss Recognized in OCI on Derivative (Effective Portion)		Location of Loss Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	Amount of Loss Reclassified from Accumulated OCI into Income (Effective Portion)	
	2009	2008		2009	2008
Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships					
Interest rate swap	\$ (355)	\$ (4,591)	Interest expense	\$ (4,857)	\$ (2,684)
Total	\$ (355)	\$ (4,591)		\$ (4,857)	\$ (2,684)

Note F Income Taxes

The components of income tax expense (benefit) are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Current			
Federal	\$ 18,535	\$ 16,732	\$ 19,502
State and local	3,648	(1,018)	4,153
Foreign	1,618	2,421	1,644
Total current	\$ 23,801	\$ 18,135	\$ 25,299
Deferred			
Federal	\$ 8,797	\$ 5,160	\$ 11,703
State and local	441	475	1,555
Foreign	(316)	457	271
Total deferred	\$ 8,922	\$ 6,092	\$ 13,529
Total income tax expense	\$ 32,723	\$ 24,227	\$ 38,828

Table of Contents

The United States and foreign components of income before income taxes were as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
United States	\$ 81,230	\$ 63,738	\$ 95,826
Foreign	5,097	8,204	5,743
Total income before income taxes	\$ 86,327	\$ 71,942	\$ 101,569

The differences between total income tax expense and the amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to income before income taxes were as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,					
	2010	Rate	2009	Rate	2008	Rate
Computed expected income tax expense	\$ 30,214	35%	\$ 25,180	35%	\$ 35,550	35%
Net effect of state income taxes	2,437	3%	(935)	-1%	4,081	4%
Production activities deduction	(469)	-1%	(75)	0%	(479)	-1%
Change in beginning of year valuation allowance	40	0%	422	1%	48	0%
Other, net	501	1%	(365)	-1%	(372)	0%
Income tax expense for the period	\$ 32,723	38%	\$ 24,227	34%	\$ 38,828	38%

Total income tax expense (benefit) was allocated as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Results of operations	\$ 32,723	\$ 24,227	\$ 38,828
Stockholders' equity	(463)	9,052	(14,471)
Total	\$ 32,260	\$ 33,279	\$ 24,357

The tax effects of temporary differences that gave rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities were as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Deferred tax assets		
Deferred compensation and retirement plan	\$ 22,097	\$ 20,527
Accrued expenses not deductible until paid	8,879	10,022
Employee stock-based compensation	5,980	5,240
State income tax	674	1,215
Accounts receivable, net	1,095	986
Other, net	189	201
Federal net operating loss carryforwards	173	244
Foreign net operating loss carryforwards	2,777	1,127
State net operating loss carryforwards	1,218	798

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Total gross deferred tax assets	43,082	40,360
Less valuation allowance	(3,698)	(1,708)
Net deferred tax assets	\$ 39,384	\$ 38,652
Deferred tax liabilities		
Property, plant and equipment	\$ (13,127)	\$ (12,920)
Goodwill and other intangibles	(102,990)	(93,611)
Other, net	(11)	(196)
Total gross deferred tax liabilities	(116,128)	(106,727)
Net deferred tax liabilities	\$ (76,744)	\$ (68,075)

In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Based on the expectation of future taxable

F-19

Table of Contents

income and that the deductible temporary differences will offset existing taxable temporary differences, management believes it is more likely than not that we will realize the benefits of these deductible differences, net of the existing valuation allowances, at December 31, 2010 and 2009.

Net deferred taxes are recorded both as a current deferred income tax asset and as other long-term liabilities based upon the classification of the related assets and liabilities that give rise to the temporary difference. There are approximately \$30.5 million and \$28.7 million of deferred tax assets related to non-current items that are netted with long-term deferred tax liabilities at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Harte-Hanks or one of our subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S. federal, U.S. state and foreign jurisdictions. For U.S. federal, U.S. state and foreign returns, we are no longer subject to tax examinations for years prior to 2006.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefit is as follows:

Balance at January 1, 2009	\$ 7,081
Additions for current year tax positions	
Additions for prior year tax positions	39
Reductions for prior year tax positions	(2,286)
Lapse of statute	(2,247)
Settlements	(1,074)
 Balance at December 31, 2009	 \$ 1,513
 Additions for current year tax positions	 \$
Additions for prior year tax positions	24
Reductions for prior year tax positions	(737)
Lapse of statute	(429)
 Balance at December 31, 2010	 \$ 371

Included in the balance as of December 31, 2010 are \$0.4 million of federally effected unrecognized tax benefits that, if recognized, would impact the effective tax rate. We anticipate that it is reasonably possible that we will have a reduction in the liability in the range of \$0.2 million to \$0.3 million during 2011 as a result of lapsing statutes.

We have elected to classify any interest and penalties related to income taxes within income tax expense in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. During each of the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, we recognized approximately \$1.2 million in tax benefits for the reduction of accrued interest and penalties associated with the reduction of the liability for unrecognized tax benefits. We had approximately \$0.1 million and \$1.2 million of interest and penalties accrued at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

As of December 31, 2010, we had net operating loss carryforwards that are available to reduce future taxable income and that will begin to expire in 2026.

The valuation allowance for deferred tax assets as of January 1, 2009, was \$0.7 million. The valuation allowance at December 31, 2010 and 2009 relates to foreign and state net operating loss carryforwards, which are not expected to be realized.

Deferred income taxes have not been provided on the undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiaries as these earnings have been, and under current plans will continue to be, permanently reinvested in these subsidiaries. If those earnings were not considered permanently reinvested, U.S. federal deferred income taxes would have been recorded. However, it is not practicable to estimate the amount of additional taxes which may be payable upon distributions.

Table of Contents

Cash payments for income taxes were \$28.2 million, \$17.4 million and \$28.5 million in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Note G Goodwill and Other Intangibles

Goodwill is recorded to the extent that the purchase price of an acquisition exceeds the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired. Goodwill and other intangibles with indefinite useful lives are tested for impairment as described below.

We assess the impairment of our goodwill by determining the fair value of each of our reporting units and comparing the fair value to the carrying value for each reporting unit. We have identified our reporting units as Direct Marketing and Shoppers.

We performed our annual goodwill impairment testing for both the Direct Marketing and Shoppers segments as of November 30, 2010. As quoted market prices are not available for our reporting units, estimated fair value was determined using a discounted cash flow (DCF) model, a cash flow multiple (CFM) model and with consideration of our overall market capitalization. The DCF and CFM models utilize projected financial results based on historical performance and management's estimate of future performance, giving consideration to existing and anticipated competitive and economic conditions. Determining fair value requires the exercise of significant judgments, including judgments about appropriate discount rates, the amount and timing of expected future cash flows, and perpetual growth rates. If a reporting unit's carrying amount exceeds its fair value, we must calculate the implied fair value of the reporting unit's goodwill by allocating the reporting unit's fair value to all of its assets and liabilities (recognized and unrecognized) in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation, and then compare this implied fair value to its carrying amount. To the extent that the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, an impairment loss is recorded.

We assess the impairment of other intangibles with indefinite lives by determining the fair value of each intangible asset and comparing the fair value to the carrying value for each intangible asset. Fair value is determined using the relief from royalty method, a form of the income approach, based on historical performance and management's estimate of future performance, giving consideration to existing and anticipated competitive and economic conditions. If an intangible's carrying amount exceeds its fair value, the intangible asset is written down to fair value and an impairment loss is recorded.

Both the Direct Marketing and Shoppers reporting units and all other intangibles with indefinite lives were tested for impairment as of November 30, 2010. Based on the results of our impairment test, we have not recorded an impairment loss related to goodwill or other intangibles with indefinite useful lives in any of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2010.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Direct Marketing	Shoppers	Total
Balance at December 31, 2008	\$ 385,390	\$ 167,487	\$ 552,877
Purchase accounting adjustments	9		9
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$ 385,399	\$ 167,487	\$ 552,886
Purchase consideration	12,765		12,765
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$ 398,164	\$ 167,487	\$ 565,651

Other intangibles with indefinite useful lives all relate to trademarks and trade names associated with the Tampa Flyer acquisition in April 2005 and the Aberdeen acquisition in September 2006, and were recorded at fair value.

Table of Contents

The carrying amount of other intangibles with indefinite lives for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$5.0 million in Direct Marketing and \$7.6 million in Shoppers.

Other intangibles with definite useful lives all relate to contact databases, client relationships and non-compete agreements. Other intangibles with definite useful lives are recorded at fair value at the date of the acquisition. Other intangible assets with definite useful lives are amortized on a straight-line basis over their respective estimated useful lives, typically a period of 3 to 10 years, and reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. A \$0.5 million other intangible asset was recorded in connection with the August 2010 acquisition of Information Arts. This intangible asset relates to customer relationships existing at the date of the acquisition and is being amortized over a period of 3 years. We have not recorded an impairment loss related to other intangibles with definite useful lives in any of the years during the three year period ended December 31, 2010.

The changes in the carrying amount of other intangibles with definite lives are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Direct Marketing	Shoppers	Total
Balance at December 31, 2008	\$ 1,239	\$ 4,150	\$ 5,389
Amortization	(716)	(996)	(1,712)
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$ 523	\$ 3,154	\$ 3,677
Purchase consideration	500		500
Amortization	(290)	(700)	(990)
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$ 733	\$ 2,454	\$ 3,187

Amortization expense related to other intangibles with definite useful lives was \$1.0 million, \$1.7 million and \$3.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Expected amortization expense for the next five years is as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	
2011	\$ 841
2012	\$ 815
2013	\$ 735
2014	\$ 622
2015	\$ 175

Note H Employee Benefit Plans

Prior to January 1, 1999, we maintained a defined benefit pension plan for which most of our employees were eligible. In conjunction with significant enhancements to the 401(k) plan, we elected to freeze benefits under this defined benefit pension plan as of December 31, 1998.

In 1994, we adopted a non-qualified, supplemental pension plan covering certain employees, which provides for incremental pension payments so that total pension payments equal those amounts that would have been payable from the principal pension plan were it not for limitations imposed by income tax regulation. The benefits under this supplemental pension plan, which is an unfunded plan, will continue to accrue as if the principal pension plan had not been frozen.

The overfunded or underfunded status of our defined benefit postretirement plans is recorded as an asset or liability on our balance sheet. The funded status is measured as the difference between the fair value of plan assets and the projected benefit obligation. Periodic changes in the funded status are recognized through other

Table of Contents

comprehensive income. We currently measure the funded status of our defined benefit plans as of December 31, the date of our year-end consolidated balance sheets.

The status of the defined benefit pension plans at year-end was as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,	
	2010	2009
Change in benefit obligation		
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 135,145	\$ 130,535
Service cost	341	548
Interest cost	7,984	8,153
Actuarial loss	12,493	3,935
Administrative expenses paid	(937)	(904)
Benefits paid	(7,305)	(7,122)
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$ 147,721	\$ 135,145
Change in plan assets		
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	\$ 86,015	\$ 75,298
Actual return on plan assets	11,897	17,805
Contributions	7,827	938
Administrative expenses paid	(937)	(904)
Benefits paid	(7,305)	(7,122)
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	\$ 97,497	\$ 86,015
Funded status at end of year	\$ (50,224)	\$ (49,130)

The following amounts have been recognized in the Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31:

<i>In thousands</i>	2010	2009
Current liabilities	\$ (976)	\$ (959)
Noncurrent liabilities	(49,248)	(48,171)
	\$ (50,224)	\$ (49,130)

The following amounts have been recognized in accumulated other comprehensive loss at December 31:

<i>In thousands</i>	2010	2009
Net loss	\$ 38,370	\$ 36,762
Prior service cost	32	64
	\$ 38,402	\$ 36,826

We plan to make total contributions of \$5.2 million to our frozen pension plan in 2011 in order to obtain the Pension Protection Act of 2006 full funding limit exemption. We are not required to make and do not intend to make any contributions to our unfunded pension plan in 2011 other than to the extent needed to cover benefit payments.

Table of Contents

The following information is presented for pension plans with an accumulated benefit obligation in excess of plan assets:

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Projected benefit obligation	\$ 147,721	\$ 135,145
Accumulated benefit obligation	\$ 146,366	\$ 133,519
Fair value of plan assets	\$ 97,497	\$ 86,015

The non-qualified, unfunded pension plan had an accumulated benefit obligation of \$21.3 million and \$19.0 million at December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Components of Net Periodic Benefit Cost and Other Amounts Recognized in Other Comprehensive Loss:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Net Periodic Benefit Cost (Pre-tax)			
Service cost	\$ 341	\$ 548	\$ 671
Interest cost	7,984	8,153	7,967
Expected return on plan assets	(6,163)	(5,603)	(8,976)
Amortization of prior service cost	54	54	61
Transition obligation		10	96
Recognized actuarial loss	4,081	5,744	2,008
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 6,297	\$ 8,906	\$ 1,827
Amounts Recognized in Other Comprehensive Loss (Pre-tax)			
Net loss	\$ 2,681		
Prior service cost	(54)		
Total benefit recognized in other comprehensive loss	\$ 2,627		
Net benefit recognized in net periodic benefit cost and other comprehensive loss	\$ 8,921		

The estimated net loss and prior service cost for the defined benefit pension plans that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive loss into net periodic benefit cost over the next year are \$4.5 million and \$0.1 million, respectively.

The weighted-average assumptions used for measurement of the defined pension plans were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Weighted-average assumptions used to determine net periodic benefit cost			
Discount rate	6.20%	6.25%	6.25%
Expected return on plan assets	7.25%	7.75%	8.00%
Rate of compensation increase	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%

December 31,
2010 2009

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Weighted-average assumptions used to determine benefit obligations

Discount rate	5.62%	6.20%
Rate of compensation increase	4.00%	4.00%

F-24

Table of Contents

The discount rate assumptions are based on current yields of investment-grade corporate long-term bonds. The expected long-term return on plan assets is based on the expected future average annual return for each major asset class within the plan's portfolio (which is principally comprised of equity investments) over a long-term horizon. In determining the expected long-term rate of return on plan assets, we evaluated input from our investment consultants, actuaries, and investment management firms, including their review of asset class return expectations, as well as long-term historical asset class returns. Projected returns by such consultants and economists are based on broad equity and bond indices. Additionally, we considered our historical 15-year compounded returns, which have been in excess of the forward-looking return expectations.

The funded pension plan assets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, by asset category, are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	2010	%	2009	%
Equity securities	\$ 65,388	67%	\$ 59,866	70%
Debt securities	26,766	27%	24,222	28%
Other	5,343	6%	1,927	2%
Total plan assets	\$ 97,497	100%	\$ 86,015	100%

The current economic environment presents employee benefit plans with unprecedented circumstances and challenges, which, in some cases over the last several years, have resulted in large declines in the fair value of investments. The fair values presented have been prepared using values and information available as of December 31, 2010.

The following tables present the fair value measurements of the assets in our funded pension plan:

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31, 2010	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Equity securities	\$ 65,388	\$ 65,388	\$	\$
Debt securities	26,766	26,766		
Other	5,343	5,343		
Total	\$ 97,497	\$ 97,497	\$	\$

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31, 2009	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Equity securities	\$ 59,866	\$ 59,866	\$	\$
Debt securities	24,222	24,222		
Other	1,927	1,927		
Total	\$ 86,015	\$ 86,015	\$	\$

The investment policy for the Harte-Hanks, Inc. Pension Plan focuses on the preservation and enhancement of the corpus of the plan's assets through prudent asset allocation, quarterly monitoring and evaluation of investment results, and periodic meetings with investment managers.

Table of Contents

The investment policy's goals and objectives are to meet or exceed the representative indices over a full market cycle (3-5 years). The policy establishes the following investment mix, which is intended to subject the principal to an acceptable level of volatility while still meeting the desired return objectives:

	Target	Acceptable Range	Benchmark Index
Domestic Equities	50.0%	35% - 75%	S&P 500
Large Cap Growth	22.5%	15% - 30%	Russell 1000 Growth
Large Cap Value	22.5%	15% - 30%	Russell 1000 Value
Mid Cap Value	5.0%	5% - 15%	Russell Mid Cap Value
Mid Cap Growth	0.0%	0% - 10%	Russell Mid Cap Growth
Domestic Fixed Income	35.0%	15% - 50%	LB Aggregate
International Equities	15.0%	10% - 25%	MSCI EAFE

The funded pension plan provides for investment in various investment types. Investments, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risk. Due to the level of risk associated with investments, it is reasonably possible that changes in the value of investments will occur in the near term and may impact the funded status of the plan. To address the issue of risk, the investment policy places high priority on the preservation of the value of capital (in real terms) over a market cycle. Investments are made in companies with a minimum five-year operating history and sufficient trading volume to facilitate, under most market conditions, prompt sale without severe market effect. Investments are diversified; reasonable concentration in any one issue, issuer, industry or geographic area is allowed if the potential reward is worth the risk.

The following table presents the investments that represented 5% or more of the funded pension plan's assets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009:

<i>In thousands</i>	2010	%	2009	%
LM Institutional Fund Advisors I, Inc. Western Asset Core Plus	\$ 14,508	15%	\$ 12,961	15%
PIMCO Total Return Fund Institutional Class	\$ 12,255	13%	\$ 11,261	13%

Investment managers are evaluated by the performance of the representative indices over a full market cycle for each class of assets. The Pension Plan Committee reviews, on a quarterly basis, the investment portfolio of each manager, which includes rates of return, performance comparisons with the most appropriate indices, and comparisons of each manager's performance with a universe of other portfolio managers that employ the same investment style.

The expected future pension benefit payments for the next ten years as of December 31, 2010 are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	
2011	\$ 7,459
2012	7,823
2013	8,115
2014	8,559
2015	8,859
2016 - 2020	47,994
	\$88,809

We also sponsor a 401(k) retirement plan in which we match a portion of employees' voluntary before-tax contributions. Under this plan, both employee and matching contributions vest immediately. Total 401(k) expense recognized in 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$5.3 million, \$5.8 million and \$6.7 million, respectively.

Table of Contents

Note I Stockholders Equity

We paid a quarterly dividend of 7.5 cents per common share in each of the quarters in the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009. We currently plan to pay a quarterly dividend of 8.0 cents per common share in each of the quarters in 2011, although any actual dividend declaration can be made only upon approval of our Board of Directors, based on its business judgment.

We did not repurchase any shares of our common stock under our stock repurchase program in 2010. As of December 31, 2010, we have repurchased 63.9 million shares since the beginning of our January 1997 stock repurchase program. Under this program, we had authorization to repurchase 10.5 million additional shares at December 31, 2010.

During 2010, we received 10,317 shares of our common stock, with an estimated market value of \$0.1 million, in connection with stock option exercises and the vesting of non-vested shares. Since January 1997, we have received 1.6 million shares in connection with stock option exercises and the vesting of non-vested shares.

Note J Stock-Based Compensation

Compensation expense for stock-based awards is based on the fair values of the awards on the date of grant and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period of the entire award in the Labor line of the Consolidated Statements of Operations. For the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, we recorded total stock-based compensation expense of \$3.9 million (\$2.4 million, net of tax), \$3.9 million (\$2.6 million, net of tax) and \$5.8 million (\$3.6 million, net of tax), respectively.

In May 2005, we adopted the 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan (2005 Plan), a shareholder approved plan, pursuant to which we may issue equity securities to directors, officers and key employees. Under the 2005 Plan we have awarded stock options, non-vested shares and performance stock units. The 2005 Plan replaced the 1991 Stock Option Plan (1991 Plan), a shareholder approved plan, pursuant to which we issued stock options to directors, officers and key employees. No additional options will be granted under the 1991 Plan. As of December 31, 2010, there were 4.0 million shares available for grant under the 2005 Plan.

Stock Options

Under the 2005 Plan, all options have been granted at exercise prices equal to the market value of the common stock on the grant date (2005 Plan options). All 2005 Plan options granted through December 31, 2010 become exercisable in 25% increments on the second, third, fourth and fifth anniversaries of their date of grant and expire on the tenth anniversary of their date of grant. As of December 31, 2010, 2005 Plan options to purchase 4.8 million shares were outstanding with exercise prices ranging from \$6.04 to \$28.85 per share.

Under the 1991 Plan, options were granted at exercise prices equal to the market value of the common stock on the grant date (1991 Plan market price options) and at exercise prices below the market value of the common stock (1991 Plan performance options). 1991 Plan market price options become exercisable in 25% increments on the second, third, fourth and fifth anniversaries of their date of grant and expire on the tenth anniversary of their date of grant. As of December 31, 2010, 1991 Plan market price options to purchase 2.8 million shares were outstanding with exercise prices ranging from \$13.77 to \$26.55 per share.

The 1991 Plan performance options became exercisable in whole or in part after three years, and the extent to which they became exercisable at that time depended upon the extent to which we achieved certain goals established at the time the options were granted. No 1991 Plan performance options have been granted since January 1999, and all remaining 1991 Plan performance options were exercised in January 2009.

Table of Contents

The following summarizes all stock option activity during 2010, 2009 and 2008:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- Average Option Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (Thousands)
Options outstanding at December 31, 2007	6,783,644	\$ 20.71		
Granted	1,083,550	15.73		
Exercised	(89,707)	12.57		\$ 327
Unvested options forfeited	(535,480)	22.25		
Vested options expired	(534,317)	19.04		
Options outstanding at December 31, 2008	6,707,690	\$ 20.02		
Granted	1,946,000	6.09		
Exercised	(7,312)	3.43		\$ 34
Unvested options forfeited	(569,513)	17.35		
Vested options expired	(1,081,216)	18.38		
Options outstanding at December 31, 2009	6,995,649	\$ 16.63		
Granted	1,514,500	11.89		
Exercised	(5,550)	13.64		\$ 7
Unvested options forfeited	(282,196)	12.60		
Vested options expired	(649,393)	16.50		
Options outstanding at December 31, 2010	7,573,010	\$ 15.85	5.43	\$ 12,436
Exercisable at December 31, 2010	3,578,734	\$ 21.17	2.80	\$ 2

The aggregate intrinsic value at year end in the table above represents the total pre-tax intrinsic value that would have been received by the option holders if all of the in-the-money options were exercised on December 31, 2010. The pre-tax intrinsic value is the difference between the closing price of our common stock on December 31, 2010 and the exercise price for each in-the-money option. This value fluctuates with the changes in the price of our common stock.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding at December 31, 2010:

Range of Exercise Prices	Number Outstanding	Outstanding		Exercisable	
		Weighted- Average Remaining Life (Years)	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Number Exercisable	Weighted- Average Exercise Price
\$ 6.04 6.99	1,676,500	7.72	\$ 6.04		\$
\$ 7.00 11.99	1,421,500	8.75	\$ 11.85	625	\$ 11.73
\$12.00 15.99	1,110,300	4.38	\$ 15.28	571,722	\$ 15.00
\$16.00 18.99	768,003	1.59	\$ 18.08	743,003	\$ 18.11
\$19.00 22.99	928,594	2.40	\$ 21.15	928,594	\$ 21.15
\$23.00 25.70	883,112	3.87	\$ 25.05	809,112	\$ 25.18

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

\$25.71	28.85	785,001	5.15	\$ 26.03	525,678	\$ 26.06
		7,573,010	5.43	\$ 15.85	3,578,734	\$ 21.17

F-28

Table of Contents

The fair value of each option grant is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model based on the following weighted-average assumptions used for grants during 2010, 2009 and 2008:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Expected term (in years)	6.75	6.75	6.75
Expected stock price volatility	36.03%	31.28%	24.60%
Risk-free interest rate	2.70%	2.32%	3.13%
Expected dividend yield	2.42%	2.93%	1.66%

Expected term is estimated using the simplified method, which takes into account vesting and contractual term. The simplified method is being used to calculate expected term instead of historical experience due to a lack of relevant historical data resulting from changes in option vesting schedules and changes in the pool of employees receiving option grants. Expected stock price volatility is based on the historical volatility from traded shares of our stock over the expected term. The risk-free interest rate is based on the rate of a zero-coupon U.S. Treasury instrument with a remaining term approximately equal to the expected term. Expected dividend yield is based on historical stock price movement and anticipated future annual dividends over the expected term. Future annual dividends over the expected term are estimated to range between \$0.32 and \$0.42 per share, with a weighted-average annual dividend of \$0.36 per share.

The weighted-average fair value of options granted during 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$3.70, \$1.51 and \$4.05, respectively. As of December 31, 2010, there was \$8.6 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested stock options. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 3.26 years.

Non-vested Shares

All non-vested shares have been granted under the 2005 Plan. In general, all non-vested shares granted through December 31, 2010 vest 100% on the third anniversary of their date of grant.

Table of Contents

The following summarizes all non-vested share activity during 2010, 2009 and 2008:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Non-vested shares outstanding at December 31, 2007	153,959	\$ 25.41
Granted	57,730	15.90
Vested	(4,335)	17.30
Forfeited	(26,968)	23.30
Non-vested shares outstanding at December 31, 2008	180,386	\$ 22.88
Granted	54,668	6.04
Vested	(65,232)	25.82
Forfeited	(16,082)	21.50
Non-vested shares outstanding at December 31, 2009	153,740	\$ 15.76
Granted	85,747	11.93
Vested	(48,201)	24.79
Forfeited	(10,000)	24.86
Non-vested shares outstanding at December 31, 2010	181,286	\$ 11.05

The fair value of each non-vested share is estimated on the date of grant as the closing market price of our common stock on the date of grant. As of December 31, 2010, there was \$0.9 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested shares. This cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately 1.89 years.

Performance Stock Units

All performance stock units have been granted under the 2005 Plan. Performance stock units are a form of share-based awards similar to non-vested shares, except that the number of shares ultimately issued is based on our performance against specific performance goals over a three-year period. At the end of the performance period, the number of shares of stock issued will be determined by adjusting upward or downward from the target in a range between 0% and 125%.

Table of Contents

The following summarizes all performance stock unit activity during 2010, 2009 and 2008:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- Average Grant-Date Fair Value
Performance stock units outstanding at December 31, 2007	88,450	\$ 25.17
Granted	38,875	15.90
Issued		
Forfeited	(21,975)	21.84
Performance stock units outstanding at December 31, 2008	105,350	\$ 22.44
Granted		
Issued		
Forfeited	(47,900)	24.01
Performance stock units outstanding at December 31, 2009	57,450	\$ 20.52
Granted		
Issued		
Forfeited	(33,200)	24.56
Performance stock units outstanding at December 31, 2010	24,250	\$ 14.98

The fair value of each performance stock unit is estimated on the date of grant as the closing market price of our common stock on the date of grant, minus the present value of anticipated dividend payments. Periodic compensation expense is based on the current estimate of future performance against specific performance goals over a three-year period and is adjusted up or down based on those estimates. As of December 31, 2010, none of the performance goals associated with outstanding performance stock units are expected to be achieved. As a result, no compensation expense related to performance stock awards has been recorded in any of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2010.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

In March of 2009, we terminated the 1994 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, a shareholder approved plan that previously provided for a total of 6.0 million shares to be sold to participating employees at 85% of the fair market value at specified quarterly investment dates. In January of 2009, we issued 0.1 million shares under this plan at an average price of \$5.75 per share. No shares were issued under this employee stock purchase plan subsequent to January of 2009.

Note K Commitments and Contingencies

At December 31, 2010, we had letters of credit in the amount of \$12.6 million. No amounts were drawn against these letters of credit at December 31, 2010. These letters of credit exist to support insurance programs relating to workers' compensation, automobile and general liability.

On January 25, 2010, Harte-Hanks Shoppers, Inc. (Shoppers), a California corporation and a subsidiary of Harte-Hanks, Inc. (Harte-Hanks), reached an agreement in principle with Shoppers employee Frank Gattuso and former employee Ernest Sigala, individually and on behalf of a certified class, to settle and resolve a previously disclosed class action lawsuit filed in 2001 (*Frank Gattuso et al. v. Harte-Hanks Inc. et al.*, as further described below). This agreement in principle has now been reduced to a class settlement agreement which has been executed by the parties, but for which the trial court has not issued a final approval order. Pursuant to the settlement agreement (and subject to certain conditions), Shoppers has agreed to establish a class settlement

Table of Contents

fund of \$7.0 million. In return, each member of the class, including Gattuso and Sigala, has agreed to release all claims against Shoppers and its affiliates that in any way arose from or related to the matters which were the subject of, or could have been the subject of, the claims alleged in the class action lawsuit. Notices to most class members were sent in mid-January.

On March 23, 2001, Shoppers employee Frank Gattuso and former employee Ernest Sigala filed a class action against Shoppers in Los Angeles County Superior Court, claiming, among other related allegations, that Shoppers failed to comply with California Labor Code Section 2802 (CLC 2802), which requires an employer to indemnify employees for expenses incurred on behalf of the employer. The plaintiffs alleged that Shoppers failed to reimburse them for expenses of using their automobiles as outside sales representatives, and failed to accurately itemize these expenses on plaintiffs' wage statements. The class, as certified by the trial court, was limited to California Harte-Hanks outside sales representatives who were not separately reimbursed apart from their base salary and commissions for the expenses they incurred in using their own automobiles after early 1998. The plaintiffs sought indemnification and compensatory damages, statutory damages, exemplary damages, penalties, interest, costs of suit, and attorneys' fees. Shoppers filed a cross-complaint seeking a declaratory judgment that the plaintiffs were indemnified for their automobile expenses by the higher salaries and commissions paid to them as outside sales representatives. On January 30, 2002, the trial court ruled that CLC 2802 requires employers to reimburse employees for mileage and other expenses incurred in the course of employment, but that an employer is permitted to pay increased wages or commissions instead of indemnifying actual expenses. On May 28, 2003, the trial court denied the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. On October 27, 2005, the California Court of Appeal issued a unanimous opinion affirming the trial court's rulings, including the interpretation of CLC 2802 and denial of class certification. On November 23, 2005, the Court of Appeal denied the plaintiffs' petition for rehearing. On November 5, 2007, the California Supreme Court affirmed the trial court's ruling that CLC 2802 permits lump sum reimbursement and that an employer may satisfy its obligations to indemnify employees for reasonable and necessary business expenses under CLC 2802 by paying enhanced taxable compensation. The Supreme Court remanded the matter back to the trial court for further proceedings related to class certification and directed the trial court to consider whether the following issues could properly be resolved on a class-wide basis: (1) did Shoppers adopt a practice or policy of reimbursing outside sales representatives for automobile expenses by paying them higher commission rates and base salaries than it paid to inside sales representatives, (2) did Shoppers establish a method to apportion the enhanced compensation payments between compensation for labor performed and expense reimbursement and (3) was the amount paid for expense reimbursement sufficient to fully reimburse the employees for the automobile expenses they reasonably and necessarily incurred. On May 19, 2009, the trial court issued a partial class certification order certifying a class action with respect to the first two foregoing questions and denying class certification on the third foregoing question.

During the fourth quarter of 2009 we accrued the full \$7.0 million associated with this agreement. We cannot predict the impact of future developments in this lawsuit or agreement in principle, and any further developments within a particular fiscal quarter may adversely impact our results of operations for that quarter.

We are also currently subject to various other legal proceedings in the course of conducting our businesses and, from time to time, we may become involved in additional claims and lawsuits incidental to our businesses. In the opinion of management, after consultation with counsel, any ultimate liability arising out of these pending claims and lawsuits is not currently expected to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position or results of operations. Nevertheless, we cannot predict the impact of future developments affecting our pending or future claims and lawsuits and any resolution of a claim or lawsuit within a particular fiscal quarter may adversely impact our results of operations for that quarter. We expense legal costs as incurred, and all recorded legal liabilities are adjusted as required as better information becomes available to us. The factors we consider when recording an accrual for contingencies include, among others: (i) the opinions and views of our legal counsel; (ii) our previous experience; and (iii) the decision of our management as to how we intend to respond to the complaints.

Table of Contents**Note L Leases**

We lease certain real estate and equipment under various operating leases. Most of the leases contain renewal options for varying periods of time. The total rent expense applicable to operating leases was \$23.5 million, \$27.9 million and \$30.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Step rent provisions and escalation clauses, capital improvement funding, rent holidays and other lease concessions are taken into account in computing minimum lease payments. We recognize the minimum lease payments on a straight-line basis over the minimum lease term.

The future minimum rental commitments for all non-cancelable operating leases with terms in excess of one year as of December 31, 2010 are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	
2011	\$ 16,876
2012	13,838
2013	10,463
2014	6,724
2015	4,289
After 2015	6,178
	\$ 58,368

We also lease certain equipment and software under capital leases. Our capital lease obligations at year-end were as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Current portion of capital leases	\$ 577	\$ 757
Long-term portion of capital leases	619	1,196
Total capital lease obligations	\$ 1,196	\$ 1,953

The future minimum lease payments for all capital leases operating as of December 31, 2010 are as follows:

<i>In thousands</i>	
2011	\$ 621
2012	404
2013	202
2014	39
2015	
After 2015	
	\$ 1,266

Note M Selected Quarterly Data (Unaudited)*In thousands,*

2010 Quarter Ended

2009 Quarter Ended

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

<i>except per share amounts</i>	December 31	September 30	June 30	March 31	December 31	September 30	June 30	March 31
Revenues	\$ 235,993	\$ 216,745	\$ 207,609	\$ 200,179	\$ 217,489	\$ 209,318	\$ 215,662	\$ 217,674
Operating income	25,109	25,055	22,573	18,316	19,827	23,913	24,932	13,758
Net income	15,604	13,815	13,416	10,769	13,492	14,050	13,058	7,115
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.11
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.11

Earnings per common share amounts are computed independently for each of the quarters presented. Therefore, the sum of the quarterly earnings per share amounts may not equal the annual earnings per share.

F-33

Table of Contents**Note N Earnings Per Share**

Basic earnings per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of shares of common stock plus the effect of dilutive potential common shares outstanding during the period using the treasury stock method. Dilutive potential common shares include outstanding stock options and non-vested shares.

A reconciliation of basic and diluted earnings per share (EPS) is as follows:

<i>In thousands, except per share amounts</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Basic EPS			
Net income	\$ 53,604	\$ 47,715	\$ 62,741
Weighted-average common shares outstanding used in earnings per share computations	63,616	63,557	63,933
Earnings per share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.98
Diluted EPS			
Net income	\$ 53,604	\$ 47,715	\$ 62,741
Shares used in diluted earnings per share computations	64,139	63,885	64,104
Earnings per share	\$ 0.84	\$ 0.75	\$ 0.98
Computation of Shares Used in Earnings			
Per Share Computations			
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	63,616	63,557	63,933
Weighted-average common equivalent shares dilutive effect of options and non-vested shares	523	328	171
Shares used in diluted earnings per share computations	64,139	63,885	64,104

For the purpose of calculating the shares used in the diluted EPS calculations, 6.0 million, 5.3 million and 7.3 million anti-dilutive options have been excluded from the EPS calculations for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Note O Business Segments

We are a worldwide direct and targeted marketing company with operations in two segments Direct Marketing and Shoppers.

Harte-Hanks Direct Marketing uses various capabilities and technologies to enable our clients to capture, analyze and disseminate customer and prospect data across all points of customer contact. Direct Marketing services are targeted to specific industries or markets with services and software products tailored to each industry or market. Currently, our Direct Marketing business services various vertical markets including retail, high-tech/telecom, financial services, pharmaceutical/healthcare, and a wide range of selected markets. We believe that we are generally able to provide services to new industries and markets by modifying our services and applications as opportunities are presented. Depending on the needs of our clients, our Direct Marketing capabilities are provided in an integrated approach through more than 30 facilities worldwide, more than 10 of which are located outside of the United States. Each of these centers possesses some specialization and is linked with others to support the needs of our clients.

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Harte-Hanks Shoppers is North America's largest owner, operator and distributor of shopper publications, based on weekly circulation and revenues. Shoppers are weekly advertising publications delivered free by Standard Mail to households and businesses in a particular geographic area. Shoppers offer advertisers a targeted, cost-effective local advertising system, with virtually 100% penetration in their area of distribution.

F-34

Table of Contents

Shoppers are particularly effective in large markets with high media fragmentation in which major metropolitan newspapers generally have low penetration. Our Shoppers segment also provides advertising and other services online through our websites, *PennySaverUSA.com* and *TheFlyer.com*. Our Shoppers clients range from large national companies to local neighborhood businesses to individuals with a single item for sale. The segment's core clients are local service businesses and small retailers. Shoppers client base is entirely domestic. At December 31, 2010, our Shoppers publications were zoned into approximately 950 separate editions with total circulation of approximately 11.2 million shopper packages in California and Florida each week.

Included in Corporate Activities are general corporate expenses. Assets of Corporate Activities primarily include unallocated cash, investments and deferred income taxes.

Information about our operations in different business segments is set forth below based on the nature of the products and services offered. We evaluate performance based on several factors, of which the primary financial measures are segment revenues and operating income. The accounting policies of the business segments are the same as those described in Note A, *Significant Accounting Policies*.

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Revenues			
Direct Marketing	\$ 601,283	\$ 585,988	\$ 732,740
Shoppers	259,243	274,155	350,081
Total revenues	\$ 860,526	\$ 860,143	\$ 1,082,821
Operating income			
Direct Marketing	\$ 86,748	\$ 95,812	\$ 103,121
Shoppers	15,602	(1,354)	25,884
Corporate Activities	(11,297)	(12,028)	(11,688)
Total operating income	\$ 91,053	\$ 82,430	\$ 117,317
Income before income taxes			
Operating income	\$ 91,053	\$ 82,430	\$ 117,317
Interest expense	(2,824)	(8,150)	(14,201)
Interest income	200	182	378
Other, net	(2,102)	(2,520)	(1,925)
Income before income taxes	\$ 86,327	\$ 71,942	\$ 101,569
Depreciation			
Direct Marketing	\$ 16,792	\$ 20,489	\$ 25,350
Shoppers	5,632	7,750	8,056
Corporate Activities	13	26	23
Total depreciation	\$ 22,437	\$ 28,265	\$ 33,429
Other intangible amortization			
Direct Marketing	\$ 290	\$ 716	\$ 1,903
Shoppers	700	996	1,047
Total intangible amortization	\$ 990	\$ 1,712	\$ 2,950

Edgar Filing: HARTE HANKS INC - Form 10-K

Capital expenditures			
Direct Marketing	\$ 15,992	\$ 7,475	\$ 17,116
Shoppers	1,388	1,536	2,814
Corporate Activities	69		17
Total capital expenditures	\$ 17,449	\$ 9,011	\$ 19,947

F-35

Table of Contents

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Total assets		
Direct Marketing	\$ 603,788	\$ 579,821
Shoppers	235,408	237,159
Corporate Activities	87,684	91,171
Total assets	\$ 926,880	\$ 908,151

Information about the operations in different geographic areas:

<i>In thousands</i>	Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2008
Revenues^a			
United States	\$ 768,011	\$ 772,314	\$ 980,236
Other countries	92,515	87,829	102,585
Total revenues	\$ 860,526	\$ 860,143	\$ 1,082,821

<i>In thousands</i>	December 31,	
	2010	2009
Property, plant and equipment^b		
United States	\$ 65,764	\$ 69,864
Other countries	6,895	8,535
Total long-lived assets	\$ 72,659	\$ 78,399

a Geographic revenues are based on the location of the service being performed.

b Property, plant and equipment are based on physical location.

Table of Contents

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

We are incorporating certain exhibits listed below by reference to other Harte-Hanks filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we have identified in parentheses after each applicable exhibit.

Exhibit No. Description of Exhibit

Charter Documents

- 3(a) Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation as amended through May 5, 1998 (filed as Exhibit 3(e) to the Company's Form 10-Q for the six months ended June 30, 1998).
- 3(b) Third Amended and Restated Bylaws (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 6, 2010).

Credit Agreements

- 10.1(a) Term Loan Agreement by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as administrative agent, dated September 6, 2006 (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated September 6, 2006).
- 10.1(b) First Amendment to Term Loan Agreement by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as administrative Agent, dated September 18, 2006 (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated September 18, 2006).
- 10.1(c) Term Loan Agreement by and between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as administrative agent, dated March 7, 2008 (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated March 7, 2008).
- 10.1(d) Revolving Credit Agreement dated as of August 12, 2010 between Harte-Hanks, Inc., each lender from time to time party hereto, and Bank of America, National Association, as Administrative Agent (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K, dated August 12, 2010).
- 10.1(e) First Amendment to Term Loan Agreement dated as of August 12, 2010 between Harte-Hanks, Inc., and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Administrative Agent (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K, dated August 12, 2010).
- 10.1(f) Second Amendment to Term Loan Agreement dated as of August 12, 2010 between Harte-Hanks, Inc., and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Administrative Agent (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K, dated August 12, 2010).

Management and Director Compensatory Plans and Forms of Award Agreements

- 10.2(a) Harte-Hanks, Inc. Restoration Pension Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2008) (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated June 27, 2008).
- 10.2(b) Harte-Hanks, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan (As Amended and Restated

Table of Contents

- Effective January 1, 2008) (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 10-K dated June 27, 2008).
- 10.2(c) Harte-Hanks, Inc. 1998 Director Stock Plan (filed as Exhibit 10(h) to the Company's Form 10-Q for the six months ended June 30, 1998).
- 10.2(d) Harte-Hanks Communications, Inc. 1996 Incentive Compensation Plan (filed as Exhibit 10(p) to the Company's Form 10-Q for the six months ended June 30, 1996).
- 10.2(e) Harte-Hanks, Inc. Amended and Restated 1991 Stock Option Plan (filed as Exhibit 10(g) to the Company's Form 10-Q for the six months ended June 30, 1998).
- 10.2(f) Form of Non Qualified Stock Option Agreement for employees granted under the Amended and Restated 1991 Stock Option Plan (filed as Exhibit 10(i) to the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005).
- 10.2(g) Form of Non Qualified Stock Option Agreement for directors granted Under the Amended and Restated 1991 Stock Option Plan (filed as Exhibit 10(j) to the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005).
- 10.2(h) Form of Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option Agreement for grants dated January 6, 1997, September 24, 1997, January 7, 1998 and January 28, 1998 (filed as Exhibit 10.2.a to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 15, 2005).
- 10.2(i) Form of Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option Agreement for grants dated January 12, 1999 and January 25, 1999 (filed as Exhibit 10.2.b to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 15, 2005).
- 10.2(j) Form of Amendment to Harte-Hanks, Inc. Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option Agreement for certain officers (filed as Exhibit 10.1.a to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 15, 2005).
- 10.2(k) Form of Amendment to Harte-Hanks, Inc. Non-Qualified Performance Stock Option Agreement for non-officers (filed as Exhibit 10.1.b to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 15, 2005).
- 10.2(l) Harte-Hanks, Inc. 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective February 13, 2009) (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated February 13, 2009).
- 10.2(m) Amendment to Harte-Hanks, Inc. 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan, dated as of May 12, 2009 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to Harte-Hanks Registration Statement on Form S-8, filed on May 12, 2009).
- 10.2(n) Form of 2005 Omnibus Non-Qualified Stock Option Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10(p) to the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005).

Table of Contents

- 10.2(o) Form of 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan Bonus Stock Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated January 25, 2006).
- 10.2(p) Form of 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan Restricted Stock Award Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Form 8-K dated January 25, 2006).
- 10.2(q) Form of 2005 Omnibus Incentive Plan Performance Unit Award Agreement (filed as Exhibit 10.3 to the Company's Form 8-K dated January 25, 2006).
- 10.2(r) Summary of Non-Employee Directors' Compensation (filed as Exhibit 10.1(q) to the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008).

Executive Officer Employment and Separation Agreements

- 10.3(a) Transition and Consulting Agreement, dated as of August 29, 2007, by and between the Company and Richard Hochhauser (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated August 29, 2007).
- 10.3(b) Form of Change of Control Severance Agreement between the Company and its President and Chief Executive Officer and its Executive Vice Presidents (other than Peter E. Gorman) and Senior Vice Presidents, dated as of June 27, 2008 (filed as Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form 8-K, dated June 27, 2008).
- 10.3(c) Form of Severance Agreement between the Company and Peter E. Gorman, dated as of June 27, 2008 (filed as Exhibit 10.5 to the Company's Form 8-K, dated June 27, 2008).
- 10.3(d) Form of Change of Control Severance Agreement between the Company and its Vice Presidents, dated as of June 27, 2008 (filed as Exhibit 10.6 to the Company's Form 8-K, dated June 27, 2008).
- 10.3(e) Form of Non-Compete Agreement signed by certain officers and certain employees of the Company (filed as Exhibit 10.4 to the Company's Form 8-K dated January 25, 2006).
- 10.3(f) Transition Agreement, dated as of December 15, 2008, by and between the Company and Dean Blythe (filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Form 8-K dated December 15, 2008).

Table of Contents

Other Exhibits

- *21 Subsidiaries of the Company.
- *23 Consent of KPMG LLP.
- *31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- *31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- *32.1 Furnished Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- *32.2 Furnished Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

* Filed or furnished herewith, as applicable