

MCF CORP  
Form 10-Q  
November 06, 2007

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2007**

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

**For the Transition Period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Commission file number: 1-15831**

**MCF CORPORATION  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)**

**Delaware  
(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)**

**11-2936371  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)**

**600 California Street, 9th Floor  
San Francisco, CA  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)**

**94108  
(Zip Code)**

**(415) 248-5600  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)**

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 is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer

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

The number of shares of Registrant's common stock outstanding as of November 5, 2007 was 12,234,448.

**Form 10-Q**  
**For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2007**

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**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements (unaudited)**

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**(unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Commissions	\$ 7,923,963	\$ 6,700,416	\$ 22,807,243	\$ 23,344,124
Principal transactions	2,478,297	(1,148,313)	10,804,073	(1,480,963)
Investment banking	5,616,491	1,839,288	15,480,518	11,750,176
Primary research	1,165,428		2,116,490	
Advisory and other fees	476,015	35,099	1,147,363	238,321
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>17,660,194</b>	<b>7,426,490</b>	<b>52,355,687</b>	<b>33,851,658</b>
<b>Operating expenses:</b>				
Compensation and benefits	12,096,131	8,534,218	35,673,505	29,987,310
Brokerage and clearing fees	627,223	598,644	1,921,920	1,987,504
Cost of primary research services	555,185		950,403	
Professional services	518,045	567,535	1,603,163	1,850,916
Occupancy and equipment	499,459	406,047	1,395,048	1,195,202
Communications and technology	921,853	800,061	2,618,799	2,123,963
Depreciation and amortization	193,284	156,760	556,332	467,870
Amortization of intangible assets	264,771		485,414	
Travel and entertainment	635,353	611,712	1,789,971	1,960,304
Other	1,277,519	1,042,738	2,993,878	1,578,024
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>17,588,823</b>	<b>12,717,715</b>	<b>49,988,433</b>	<b>41,151,093</b>
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	<b>71,371</b>	<b>(5,291,225)</b>	<b>2,367,254</b>	<b>(7,299,435)</b>
Interest income	132,965	117,945	362,919	367,711
Interest expense	(15,876)	134,895	(97,087)	(408,002)
Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes	188,460	(5,038,385)	2,633,089	(7,339,726)
Income tax expense			(55,000)	
Income (loss) from continuing operations	188,460	(5,038,385)	2,578,089	(7,339,726)
Loss from discontinued operations		(70,666)		(178,868)
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 188,460</b>	<b>\$ (5,109,051)</b>	<b>\$ 2,578,089</b>	<b>\$ (7,518,594)</b>
<b>Basic net income (loss) per share:</b>				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.50)	\$ 0.23	\$ (0.74)
Loss from discontinued operations	\$	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ (0.02)
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 0.02</b>	<b>\$ (0.51)</b>	<b>\$ 0.23</b>	<b>\$ (0.76)</b>
<b>Diluted net income (loss) per share:</b>				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.21	\$ (0.74)

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Loss from discontinued operations	\$		\$	(0.01)	\$		\$	(0.02)
Net income (loss)	\$	0.01	\$	(0.51)	\$	0.21	\$	(0.76)

Weighted average common shares  
outstanding:

Basic	11,999,656	10,151,922	11,337,346	9,906,672
Diluted	13,139,384	10,151,922	12,499,544	9,906,672

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**  
**(unaudited)**

	September 30, 2007	December 31, 2006
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,470,717	\$ 13,746,590
Securities owned:		
Marketable, at fair value	14,661,068	7,492,914
Not readily marketable, at estimated fair value	4,040,665	1,489,142
Restricted cash	688,011	629,427
Due from clearing broker	1,134,440	551,831
Accounts receivable, net	2,421,026	2,715,271
Equipment and fixtures, net	1,368,286	1,586,630
Intangible assets	2,214,586	314,963
Goodwill	3,153,219	
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,022,405	1,971,445
Total assets	\$ 44,174,423	\$ 30,498,213
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,871,033	\$ 1,121,623
Commissions and bonus payable	7,900,581	7,711,805
Accrued expenses	3,469,821	2,285,670
Due to clearing and other brokers	16,733	11,114
Securities sold, not yet purchased	2,476,071	1,534,953
Capital lease obligation	850,034	1,292,378
Convertible notes payable, net	194,831	187,079
Notes payable	66,187	138,571
Total liabilities	16,845,291	14,283,193
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, Series A--\$0.0001 par value; 2,000,000 shares authorized; 0 shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively; aggregate liquidation preference of \$0		
Preferred stock, Series B--\$0.0001 par value; 12,500,000 shares authorized; 1,250,000 shares issued and 0 shares outstanding as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006; aggregate liquidation preference of \$0		
Preferred stock, Series C--\$0.0001 par value; 14,200,000 shares authorized; 1,685,714 shares issued and 0 shares outstanding as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006; aggregate liquidation preference of \$0		
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value; 300,000,000 shares authorized; 12,249,520 and 10,602,720 shares issued and 12,223,082 and 10,602,720 shares outstanding as of September 30, 2007 and December 31, 2006, respectively	1,226	1,061
Additional paid-in capital	123,278,319	114,616,848
Treasury stock	(125,613)	--
Accumulated deficit	(95,824,800)	(98,402,889)
Total stockholders' equity	27,329,132	16,215,020

Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	44,174,423	\$	30,498,213
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(unaudited)

	<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 2,578,089	\$ (7,518,594)
<b>Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to cash used in operating activities:</b>		
Depreciation and amortization	556,332	474,637
Amortization of intangible assets	485,414	34,214
Stock-based compensation	2,146,436	3,179,305
Amortization of discounts on convertible notes payable	7,749	326,383
Amortization of debt issuance costs		26,783
Unrealized (gain) loss on securities owned	(4,807,990)	2,810,298
Bad debt write-off	368,272	
Other	72,229	13,055
<b>Changes in operating assets and liabilities:</b>		
Securities owned	(3,970,569)	(3,421,329)
Restricted cash	(58,584)	(575)
Due from clearing broker	(582,609)	386,205
Accounts receivable	938,143	1,345,785
Prepaid expenses and other assets	99,178	(542,545)
Accounts payable	172,239	279,879
Commissions and bonus payable	1,053	(1,714,895)
Accrued expenses	1,022,867	(122,981)
Due to clearing and other brokers	5,619	(99,530)
Net cash used in operating activities	(966,132)	(4,543,905)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Cash restricted for fund investment		(6,300,944)
Purchase of equipment and fixtures	(291,687)	(353,623)
MedPanel acquisition costs	(24,585)	
Catalyst acquisition costs		(58,558)
Proceeds from the sale of Catalyst	163,219	
Net cash used in investing activities	(153,053)	(6,713,125)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options and warrants	172,996	301,799
Proceeds from the issuance of common stock	185,041	603,070
Proceeds from the issuance of note payable (\$6,112,171) and stock warrant (\$1,387,829)		7,500,000
Minority interest in fund		2,188,050
Debt service principal payments	(514,725)	(345,271)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(156,688)	10,247,648
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(1,275,873)	(1,009,382)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	13,746,590	11,138,923
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 12,470,717	\$ 10,129,541

Supplementary disclosure of cash flow information:

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Cash paid during the period:

Interest	\$	73,023	\$	55,624
Income taxes	\$	38,400	\$	18,800

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(unaudited)**

**1. Significant Accounting Policies**

*Basis of Presentation*

The interim financial statements included herein for MCF Corporation, or the Company, have been prepared, without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. In the opinion of management, the financial statements included in this report reflect all normal recurring adjustments that the Company considers necessary for the fair presentation of the results of operations for the interim periods covered and the financial position of the Company at the date of the interim statement of financial condition. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in annual financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. However, the Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to understand the information presented. The operating results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the operating results for the entire year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's 2006 audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006.

*Reverse Stock Split*

On August 4, 2006, the Company's Board of Directors approved a one-for-seven reverse stock split of the Company's common stock. The reverse stock split became effective at 11:59 pm, Eastern Time, on November 15, 2006. Pursuant to the reverse stock split, each seven shares of authorized and outstanding common stock was reclassified and combined into one share of new common stock. The reverse stock split did not change the number of authorized shares or the par value per share of common stock or preferred stock designated by the Company's Certificate of Incorporation. Currently, the Company has authorized 300,000,000 shares of common stock and 27,450,000 shares of preferred stock. All references to share and per share data for all periods presented have been retroactively adjusted to give effect to the one-for-seven reverse stock split.

*Acquisition of MedPanel, Inc.*

On April 17, 2007, MCF Corporation completed the acquisition of MedPanel, Inc., or MedPanel, a privately-held company based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, pursuant to the terms of the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated November 6, 2006, by and among MCF Corporation, MedPanel Acquisition I Corp., Panel Intelligence, LLC, MedPanel, Inc. and William J. Febbo. MedPanel is an online medical market intelligence firm that serves life sciences companies and health care investors through its proprietary methodologies and vast network of leading physicians, medical researchers, allied health professionals and other important healthcare constituencies.

*Securities Owned*

“Securities owned” and “Securities sold, but not yet purchased” in the consolidated statements of financial condition consist of financial instruments carried at fair value or amounts that approximate fair value, with related unrealized gains or losses recognized in the results of operations. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

Fair values of the financial instruments are generally obtained from quoted market prices in active markets, broker or dealer price quotations, or alternative pricing sources with reasonable levels of price transparency. To the extent certain financial instruments trade infrequently or are non-marketable securities and, therefore, have little or no price transparency, the Company values these instruments based on management's estimates. The fair value of these securities is subject to a high degree of volatility and may be susceptible to significant fluctuation in the near term. Securities that contain resale restrictions are stated at a discount to the value of readily marketable securities. Stock warrants are carried at a discount to fair value as determined by using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing model due to illiquidity.

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**1. Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

*Investment Banking Revenue*

Investment banking revenue includes underwriting and private placement agency fees earned through the Company's participation in public offerings and private placements of equity and convertible debt securities and fees earned as financial advisor in mergers and acquisitions and similar transactions. Underwriting revenue is earned in securities offerings in which the Company acts as an underwriter and includes management fees, selling concessions and underwriting fees. Fee revenue relating to underwriting commitments is recorded when all significant items relating to the underwriting cycle have been completed and the amount of the underwriting revenue has been determined. This generally is the point at which all of the following have occurred: (i) the issuer's registration statement has become effective with the SEC, or other offering documents are finalized, (ii) the Company has made a firm commitment for the purchase of the shares or debt from the issuer, and (iii) the Company has been informed of the exact number of shares or the principal amount of debt that it has been allotted. Syndicate expenses related to securities offerings in which the Company acts as underwriter or agent are deferred until the related revenue is recognized or we determine that it is more likely than not that the securities offerings will not ultimately be completed. Merger and acquisition fees and other advisory service revenue are generally earned and recognized only upon successful completion of the engagement. Underwriting revenue is presented net of related expenses. Unreimbursed expenses associated with private placement and advisory transactions are recorded as expenses as incurred. As co-manager for registered equity underwriting transactions, management must estimate the Company's share of transaction related expenses incurred by the lead manager in order to recognize revenue. Transaction related expenses are deducted from the underwriting fee and therefore reduces the revenue that is recognized as co-manager. Such amounts are adjusted to reflect actual expenses in the period in which the Company receives the final settlement, typically 90 days following the closing of the transaction.

*Commissions and Principal Transactions Revenue*

Commissions revenue includes revenue resulting from executing stock exchange-listed securities, over-the counter securities and other transactions as agent for the Company's clients. Principal transactions consist of a portion of dealer spreads attributed to the Company's securities trading activities as principal in NASDAQ-listed and other securities, and include transactions derived from activities as a market-maker. Additionally, principal transactions include gains and losses resulting from market price fluctuations that occur while holding positions in trading security inventory. Commissions revenue and related clearing expenses are recorded on a trade-date basis as security transactions occur. Principal transactions in regular-way trades are recorded on the trade date, as if they had settled. Profit and loss arising from all securities and commodities transactions entered into for the account and risk of the Company are recorded on a trade-date basis.

*Primary Research Revenue*

Revenue from primary research services is recognized on a proportional performance basis as services are provided.

*Cost of Primary Research Services*

Direct costs associated with generating primary research revenue principally consist of panelist honorarium and recruitment costs. Medical experts receive cash honoraria for participating in qualitative panels and quantitative surveys. The Company pays the honoraria to the panelists when the panel or survey has been completed and records

this expense as incurred.

*Share-Based Compensation Expense*

The Company measures and recognizes compensation expense based on estimated fair values for all share-based awards made to employees and directors, including stock options, non-vested stock, and participation in the Company's employee stock purchase plan. The Company estimates fair value of share-based awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model. The value of the portion of the award that is ultimately expected to vest is recognized as expense in the Company's consolidated statements of operations over the requisite service periods. Share-based compensation expense recognized in the Company's consolidated statement of operations includes compensation expense for share-based awards granted (i) prior to, but not yet vested as of December 31, 2005, based on the grant date fair value, and (ii) subsequent to December 31, 2005. Compensation expense for all share-based awards subsequent to December 31, 2005 is recognized using the straight-line single-option method. Because share-based compensation expense is based on awards that are ultimately expected to vest, share-based compensation expense has been reduced to account for estimated forfeitures. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates.

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**1. Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

To calculate option-based compensation, the Company uses the Black-Scholes option pricing model, which is affected by the Company's stock price as well as assumptions regarding a number of subjective variables. These variables include, but are not limited to the Company's expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, and actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors. No tax benefits were attributed to the share-based compensation expense because a valuation allowance was maintained for all net deferred tax assets.

*Income Taxes*

The Company uses the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the estimated future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. A valuation allowance is recorded to reduce deferred tax assets to an amount whose realization is more likely than not. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in the consolidated statements of operations in the period that includes the enactment date.

*Segment Reporting*

The Company organizes its operations into three operating segments for the purpose of making operating decisions and assessing performance. These operating segments are organized along operating subsidiaries, Merriman Curhan Ford & Co, MCF Asset Management, LLC and Panel Intelligence, LLC. Accordingly, the Company operates in Investment Banking and Asset Management operating segments in the United States during 2007 and 2006, and added a Primary Research operating segment in April 2007 with the acquisition of MedPanel (see Note No. 3). However, only the Investment Banking segment produced operating results that were material to the Company during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007. Total assets for Panel Intelligence were \$7,093,000 as of September 30, 2007. Total assets for MCF Asset Management were \$3,187,000 as of September 30, 2007. The MCF Asset Management segment had an operating loss for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 in the amount of \$253,000 and \$302,000, respectively. The results of operations for the Company's Wealth Management segment for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 have been treated as discontinued operations since this business was sold in January 2007 (see Note No. 4).

*Concentrations*

As of September 30, 2007, the Company owned 4,808,000 shares of Points International in its proprietary trading account with a fair market value of \$8,711,000 or approximately 20% of total assets.

*Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*New Accounting Pronouncements*

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS 157, "Fair Value Measurements." SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value under generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is currently evaluating the impact the adoption of this statement could have on its financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, "Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities", which permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value and establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. SFAS No. 159 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the adoption of SFAS No. 159 will have on its consolidated statements of financial condition, operations and cash flows.

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**1. Significant Accounting Policies - Continued**

In June 2007, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) issued Statement of Position (SOP) No. 07-1, "Clarification of the Scope of the Audit and Accounting Guide 'Audits of Investment Companies' and Accounting by Parent Companies and Equity Method Investors for Investments in Investment Companies." SOP No. 07-1 clarifies when an entity may apply the provisions of the Audit and Accounting Guide for Investment Companies (the Guide). Investment companies that are within the scope of the Guide report investments at fair value; consolidation or use of the equity method for investments is generally not appropriate. SOP No. 07-1 also addresses the retention of specialized investment company accounting by a parent company in consolidation or by an equity method investor. In May 2007, the FASB issued FSP FIN No. 46-R-7, "Application of FIN 46-R to Investment Companies," which amends FIN No. 46-R to make permanent the temporary deferral of the application of FIN No. 46-R to entities within the scope of the revised Guide under SOP No. 07-1. FSP FIN No. 46-R-7 is effective upon adoption of SOP No 07-1. In October 2007, the FASB indefinitely deferred the effective date for SOP No. 07-1. The firm is evaluating the impact of adopting SOP No. 07-1 and FSP FIN No. 46-R-7 on its financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

**2. Share-Based Compensation Expense**

*Stock Options*

As of September 30, 2007, there were 5,591,430 shares authorized for issuance under the Option Plans, and 612,858 shares authorized for issuance outside of the Option Plans. As of September 30, 2007, 374,618 shares were available for future option grants under the Option Plans. There were no shares available for future option grants outside of the Options Plans. Compensation expense for stock options during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$368,000 and \$1,017,000, respectively. Compensation expense for stock options during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$363,000 and \$1,004,000, respectively.

The following table is a summary of the Company's stock option activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2007:

	<b>Options Outstanding</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise Price</b>
Balance as of December 31, 2006	3,570,370	\$ 6.19
Granted	644,620	4.72
Exercised	(83,939)	(2.06)
Canceled	(107,994)	(6.89)
Balance as of September 30, 2007	4,023,057	\$ 6.02
Exercisable as of September 30, 2007	3,029,242	\$ 6.13

The following table summarizes information with respect to stock options outstanding at September 30, 2007:

<b>Range of Exercise Price</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Options Outstanding</b>			<b>Vested Options</b>		
		<b>Weighted Average Remaining</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise</b>	<b>Aggregate Intrinsic Value</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Weighted Average Exercise</b>	<b>Aggregate Intrinsic Value</b>

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		<b>Contractual Life (Years)</b>	<b>Price</b>		<b>Price</b>				<b>Price</b>	
\$ 0.00 -- \$ 3.50	1,993,849	5.28	\$	2.99	\$	2,142,790	1,993,849	\$	2.99	\$ 2,142,790
\$ 3.51 -- \$ 7.00	1,107,181	8.29	\$	4.62			351,061		4.17	
\$ 7.01 -- \$14.00	626,359	6.95	\$	8.88			388,664		9.21	
\$14.01 --										
\$28.00	256,381	3.10	\$	22.04			256,381		22.04	
\$28.01 --										
\$49.00	39,287	2.41	\$	49.00			39,287		49.00	
	4,023,057	6.20	\$	6.02	\$	2,142,790	3,029,242	\$	6.13	\$ 2,142,790

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**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**2. Share-Based Compensation Expense - continued**

As of September 30, 2007, total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested stock options was \$3,221,000. This amount is expected to be recognized as expense over a weighted-average period of 1.45 years.

*Non-Vested Stock*

At the date of grant, the recipients of non-vested stock have most of the rights of a stockholder other than voting rights, subject to certain restrictions on transferability and a risk of forfeiture. Non-vested shares typically vest over a two to four year period beginning on the date of grant. The fair value of non-vested stock is equal to the market value of the shares on the date of grant. The Company recognizes the compensation expense for non-vested stock on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period. Compensation expense for non-vested stock during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$298,000 and \$986,000, respectively. Compensation expense for non-vested stock during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$463,000 and \$1,481,000, respectively.

The following table is a summary of the Company's non-vested stock activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2007:

	<b>Non-Vested Stock Outstanding</b>	<b>Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value</b>	<b>Intrinsic Value at September 30, 2007</b>
Balance as of December 31, 2006	306,009	\$ 10.04	
Granted	92,462	4.66	
Vested	(231,933)	(8.72)	
Canceled	(21,702)	(9.49)	
Balance as of September 30, 2007	144,836	\$ 8.78	\$ 588,034

As of September 30, 2007, total unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested stock was \$933,000. This expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 0.92 year.

*2002 Employee Stock Purchase Plan*

The Company issued all shares previously available under the Employee Stock Purchase Plan, or ESPP, to its employees through August 15, 2007. As of September 30, 2007, there are no shares available under the ESPP plan and the Company has no plan to request additional shares from the stockholders for this program. Compensation expense for ESPP during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$28,000 and \$143,000, respectively. Compensation expense for ESPP during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$301,000 and \$483,000, respectively.

*Fair Value and Assumptions Used to Calculate Fair Value*

The weighted average fair value of each stock option granted for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$2.84 and \$2.67, respectively. The weighted average fair value of each stock option granted for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$3.33 and \$3.72, respectively. The fair value of each option

award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model, with the following assumptions for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

	<b>Nine months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Expected volatility	63.81%	82.71%
Expected life (years)	4.20	4.50
Risk-free interest rate	4.66%	4.79%
Expected dividend yield	0%	0%

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**2. Share-Based Compensation Expense - continued**

The weighted average fair value of the non-vested stock granted under the Company's stock option plans for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 was \$4.32 and \$4.66 per share, respectively. The weighted average fair value of the non-vested stock granted under the Company's stock option plans for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 was \$5.25 and \$7.56 per share, respectively. The fair value of the non-vested stock award is estimated on the date of grant using the intrinsic value method.

**3. Acquisition of MedPanel, Inc.**

On April 17, 2007, MCF Corporation acquired 100 percent of the outstanding common shares of MedPanel, Inc. The results of MedPanel's operations have been included in the consolidated financial statements since that date. MedPanel is an online medical market intelligence firm that serves life sciences companies and health care investors through its proprietary methodologies and vast network of leading physicians, medical researchers, allied health professionals and other important healthcare constituencies. As a result of the acquisition, the Company will provide independent market data and information to clients in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, and financial industries by leveraging MedPanel's proprietary methodology and vast network of medical experts.

The Company paid \$6.5 million in common stock for MedPanel. The value of the 1,547,743 shares of common shares issued was determined based on the average market price of MCF Corporation's common stock over the period including three days before and after the terms of the acquisition were agreed to and announced. The selling stockholders may also be entitled to additional consideration on the third anniversary from the closing which is based upon MedPanel achieving specific revenue and profitability milestones. The payment of the incentive consideration will be 50% in cash and 50% in the Company's common stock and may not exceed \$11,455,000. The Company registered 1,548,119 shares of common stock with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form S-4, file number 333-138870, originally filed November 21, 2006, as amended.

The following table summarizes the estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the date of acquisition. The Company is in the process of obtaining third-party valuations of certain intangible assets; thus, the allocation of the purchase price is subject to refinement.

	<b>As of April 17, 2007</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 670,028
Accounts receivable	1,023,325
Equipment and fixtures	86,088
Prepaid expenses and other assets	174,162
Intangible assets not subject to amortization:	
Registered trademarks	710,000
Intangible assets subject to amortization:	
Customer relationships (56 month weighted-average useful life)	990,000
Customer backlog (8 month weighted-average useful life)	420,000
Technology platform (30 month weighted-average useful life)	360,000
Database of registered panelists (24 weighted-average useful life)	220,000
Goodwill	3,153,219
<b>Total assets acquired</b>	<b>7,806,822</b>

Accounts payable	(577,171)
Accrued expenses	(463,300)
Total liabilities assumed	(1,040,471)
Net assets acquired	\$ 6,766,351

The \$3,153,000 of goodwill was assigned to our Primary Research segment.

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**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**3. Acquisition of MedPanel, Inc. - continued**

The following unaudited pro forma results of our operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 assume the MedPanel acquisition occurred as of January 1, 2006. The pro forma results give effect to certain adjustments, including depreciation, amortization of intangible assets and related income tax effects. The pro forma results have been prepared for comparative purposes only and do not purport to indicate the results of operations which would actually have occurred had the combinations been in effect on the dates indicated or which may occur in the future.

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30, 2007</b>	<b>September 30, 2006</b>	<b>September 30, 2007</b>	<b>September 30, 2006</b>
Total revenue	\$ 17,660,194	\$ 8,671,790	\$ 54,484,089	\$ 37,864,977
Total operating expenses	17,588,823	14,283,459	52,525,765	45,710,959
Operating income (loss)	71,371	(5,611,669)	1,958,324	(7,845,982)
Net income (loss)	\$ 188,460	\$ (5,434,415)	\$ 2,171,308	\$ (8,076,246)
Basic net income (loss) per share	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.47)	\$ 0.18	\$ (0.71)
Diluted net income (loss) per share	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.47)	\$ 0.17	\$ (0.71)
Weighted average common shares outstanding:				
Basic	11,999,656	11,652,042	11,919,810	11,406,792
Diluted	12,996,526	11,652,042	13,114,384	11,406,792

**4. Discontinued Operations**

In December 2006, the Company decided to sell its Catalyst Financial Planning & Investment Management, Inc., or Catalyst, subsidiary and discontinue its wealth management activities. The sale of Catalyst closed in January 2007. As of December 31, 2006, Catalyst was accounted for as held for sale in accordance with SFAS 144. As a result, the revenue and expenses of Catalyst and MCF Wealth Management, LLC for 2006 have been reclassified and included in discontinued operations in the consolidated statements of operations.

The following revenue and expenses have been reclassified as discontinued operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006:

	<b>Three Months</b>	<b>Nine Months</b>
Revenue	\$ 206,911	\$ 635,103
Operating expenses:		
Compensation and benefits	182,615	555,677
Professional services	8,525	33,429
Occupancy and equipment	30,722	73,715
Communications and technology	2,716	13,929
Depreciation and amortization	15,156	40,981
Travel and entertainment	11,875	44,938
Other expenses	26,863	54,241

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	278,472	816,910
Operating loss	(71,561)	(181,807)
Interest income, net	895	2,939
Net loss	\$ (70,666)	\$ (178,868)

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**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**4. Discontinued Operations - Continued**

The following assets and liabilities of operations held for sale have been included in the condensed consolidated statements of financial condition as of December 31, 2006:

<b>Assets:</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 68,503
Accounts receivable	11,155
Furniture and equipment	34,234
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$172,417	314,963
Prepaid expenses and other assets	24,024
	\$ 452,879
<b>Liabilities:</b>	
Accounts payable	--
Commissions and bonus payable	8,368
Accrued liabilities	87,176
Capital leases	--
	\$ 95,544

**5. Income Taxes**

At the end of each interim reporting period the Company calculates an effective tax rate based on the Company's estimate of the tax provision (benefit) that will be provided for the full year, stated as a percentage of estimated annual pre-tax income (loss). The tax provision (benefit) for the interim period is determined using this estimated annual effective tax rate. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, the Company recorded \$55,000 and \$0 as income tax expense, respectively.

The effective tax rate differs from the statutory rate primarily due to the existence and utilization of net operating loss carryforwards which have been offset by a valuation allowance resulting in a tax provision equal to the companies expected current expense for the year. The Company historically has had current tax expense primarily related to alternative minimum, state and minimum tax liabilities.

Historically and currently, the Company has recorded a valuation allowance on the deferred tax assets, the significant component of which relates to net operating loss tax carryforwards. Management continually evaluates the realizability of its deferred tax assets based upon negative and positive evidence available. Based on the evidence available at this time, the Company continues to conclude that it is not "more likely than not" that it will be able to realize the benefit of our deferred tax assets in the future.

In July 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes - an Interpretation of FASB Statement 109 ("FIN 48"). FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. FIN 48 prescribes a comprehensive model for how a company should recognize, measure, present, and disclose in its financial statements uncertain tax positions that a company has taken or expects to take on a tax return (including a decision whether to file or not to file a return in a particular jurisdiction). Under FIN 48, the financial statements reflect expected future tax consequences of such positions presuming the taxing authorities' full knowledge of the position and all relevant facts, but without considering time values. MCF Corporation adopted Interpretation No. 48 on January 1, 2007.

As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, the Company recognized no adjustment in the liability for unrecognized income tax benefits and no corresponding change in retained earnings. The Company does not have any material accrued interest or penalties associated with any unrecognized tax benefits. The Company does not believe it is reasonably possible that the Company's unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change within the next twelve months. The Company's policy is to account for interest, if any, as interest expense and penalties as income tax expense.

There were no unrecognized tax benefits as of September 30, 2007. The Company is subject to taxation in the US and various state and foreign jurisdictions. The tax years 2002-2006 remain open to examination by the federal and most state tax authorities.



**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**6. Earnings (loss) per Share**

The following is a reconciliation of the basic and diluted net income (loss) available to common stockholders and the number of shares used in the basic and diluted net income (loss) per common share computations for the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Net income (loss) available to stockholders - basic	\$ 188,460	\$ (5,109,051)	\$ 2,578,089	\$ (7,518,594)
Interest on dilutive securities	4,084		12,252	
Net income (loss) available to stockholders - diluted	\$ 192,544	\$ (5,109,051)	\$ 2,590,341	\$ (7,518,594)
Weighted-average number of common shares - basic	11,999,656	10,151,922	11,337,346	9,906,672
Exercise or conversion of all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding	1,139,728		1,162,198	
Weighted-average number of common shares - diluted	13,139,384	10,151,922	12,499,544	9,906,672
Basic net income (loss) per common share:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.50)	\$ 0.23	\$ (0.74)
Loss from discontinued operations	\$	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ (0.02)
Net income (loss)	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.51)	\$ 0.23	\$ (0.76)
Diluted net loss per common share:				
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.50)	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.74)
Loss from discontinued operations	\$	\$ (0.01)	\$	\$ (0.02)
Net income (loss)	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.51)	\$ 0.21	\$ (0.76)

Basic earnings (loss) per share is computed by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, excluding shares of non-vested stock. Diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing net income, plus interest and dividends on dilutive securities, by the weighted average number of common shares used in the basic earnings per share calculation plus the number of common shares that would be issued assuming exercise or conversion of all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding, including non-vested stock. Diluted loss per share is unchanged from basic loss per share for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006 because the addition of common shares that would be issued assuming exercise or conversion would be anti-dilutive.

Shares used in the diluted net income per share computation include the dilutive impact of the Company's stock options and warrants. The impact of the Company's stock options and warrants on shares used for the diluted earnings per share computation is calculated based on the average share price of the Company's common stock for each period using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the tax-effected proceeds that would be

hypothetically received from the exercise of all stock options and warrants with exercise prices below the average share price of the Company's common stock are assumed to be used to repurchase shares of the Company's common stock. Because the Company reported a net loss during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company excluded the impact of all stock options and warrants in the computation of dilutive earnings per share, as their effect would be anti-dilutive.

**MCF CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS--CONTINUED**  
**(unaudited)**

**6. Earnings (loss) per Share - continued**

The Company excludes all potentially dilutive securities from its diluted net income (loss) per share computation when their effect would be anti-dilutive. The following common stock equivalents were excluded from the earnings per share computation, as their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive:

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Stock options and warrants excluded due to the exercise price exceeding the average fair value of the Company's common stock during the period	2,093,089	1,519,107	1,756,224	1,335,327
Weighted average non-vested stock, stock options and stock warrants, calculated using the treasury stock method, that were excluded due to the Company reporting a net loss during the period		1,568,682		2,018,006
Weighted average shares issuable upon conversion of the convertible notes payable		902,736		721,812
Weighted average shares contingently issuable		52,876		80,320
Total common stock equivalents excluded from diluted net income (loss) per share	2,093,089	4,043,401	1,756,224	4,155,465

**7. Other Operating Expenses**

The following expenses are included in other operating expenses for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007:

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Investor conferences	\$ 521,759	\$ 593,580	\$ 910,130	\$ 874,487
Recruiting	116,778	134,452	486,839	264,349
Bad debt expenses	140,105		368,271	(445,016)
Public and investor relations	208,058	73,165	368,769	247,166
Supplies	65,954	58,887	233,661	213,450
Insurance	73,659	66,997	220,663	197,867
Other	151,206	115,657	405,545	225,721
	\$ 1,277,519	\$ 1,042,738	\$ 2,993,878	\$ 1,578,024

## **8. Regulatory Requirements**

Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. is a broker-dealer subject to Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities and Exchange Commission, which specifies uniform minimum net capital requirements, as defined, for their registrants. As of September 30, 2007, Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. had regulatory net capital, as defined, of \$5,789,000, which exceeded the amount required by \$4,789,000. Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. is exempt from Rules 15c3-3 and 17a-13 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 because it does not carry customer accounts, nor does it hold customer securities or cash.

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## **ITEM 2 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, including this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains forward-looking statements regarding future events and our future results that are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts, and projections about the industries in which we operate and the beliefs and assumptions of our management. Words such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “targets,” “goals,” “projects,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential” or “continue,” variations of such words, similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. In addition, any statements that refer to projections of our future financial performance, our anticipated growth and trends in our businesses, and other characterizations of future events or circumstances, are forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned that these forward-looking statements are only predictions and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual results may differ materially and adversely from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. Readers are referred to risks and uncertainties identified under “Risk Factors” beginning on Page 24 and elsewhere herein. We undertake no obligation to revise or update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason.

### **Overview**

MCF Corporation (AMEX:MEM) is a financial services holding company that provides investment research, capital markets services, corporate and venture services, investment banking, asset management and primary research through its operating subsidiaries, Merriman Curhan Ford & Co., MCF Asset Management, LLC and Panel Intelligence, LLC.

Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. is an investment bank and securities broker-dealer focused on fast growing companies and institutional investors. Our mission is to become a leader in the researching, advising, financing, trading and investing in fast growing companies under \$2 billion in market capitalization. We provide equity research, brokerage and trading services primarily to institutions, as well as investment banking and advisory services to corporate clients. We are gaining market share by originating differentiated research for our institutional investor clients and providing specialized and integrated services for our fast-growing corporate clients.

In April 2007, we acquired MedPanel, Inc. and began offering primary research services to top biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, and financial services companies through our newly formed subsidiary, Panel Intelligence, LLC. Clients pay subscription fees for access to our online research platform, providing them with greater strategic direction for investment decisions, product development, and marketing.

MCF Asset Management, LLC manages absolute return investment products for institutional and high-net worth clients. During 2006, we introduced the MCF Navigator fund and MCF Voyager fund. Additionally, we are the sub-advisor for the MCF Focus fund. As of September 30, 2007, assets under management across our three fund products exceeded \$50 million.

In February 2005, we acquired Catalyst Financial Planning & Investment Management, Inc. Catalyst, a Registered Investment Advisor, provides investment advice to clients that have invested approximately \$130 million of assets. In January 2007, we sold Catalyst in order to focus on other recurring-revenue businesses, such as primary research and asset management, which we believe are faster growing and more profitable opportunities. While we currently do not have any specific plans, we do intend to pursue a wealth management strategy at some future date. The results from this segment have been treated as discontinued operations in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

### **Executive Summary**

Revenue for the third quarter 2007 exceeded \$17.6 million, which represented an increase of more than \$10 million, or 138%, over the third quarter 2006. Revenue growth during the latest quarter was led by investment banking and

principal transactions, which were \$3.7 million and \$3.6 million higher in 2007 as compared to 2006, respectively. Commissions revenue was up \$1.2 million, or 18%, from third quarter 2006 and we experienced continued growth for each of our recurring revenue activities, including asset management and primary research. Net income for the third quarter 2007 was \$188,000, or \$0.01 per diluted share, which represents the third consecutive quarter of profitability for our firm. Profitability during the latest quarter was partially attributable to net gains in our firm trading and market making accounts, including our proprietary trading activity which represents the company's highest margin business. Compensation and benefits expense as a percentage of revenue during the three months ended September 30, 2007 was 68%, which represents a significant improvement from third quarter 2006.

For the first three quarters of 2007, revenue was \$18.5 million, or 55%, higher than the similar period in 2006. Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2007 exceeded \$2.5 million, or \$0.21 per diluted share, as compared to a net loss of \$7.5 million, or \$0.76 per diluted share, for the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

## Business Environment

Most categories of U.S. stocks finished the third quarter higher. The final results masked a significant spike in market volatility from mid-July through mid-August, however, as concerns about the subprime mortgage market intensified and evidence mounted that the damage could spread beyond subprime borrowers and lenders. The Federal Reserve took action in both July and August, cutting both the federal funds rate and discount rate. Investors welcomed these rate reductions, and most broad-based stock indexes were trading near their all-time highs at the end of the quarter.

Small-cap stocks struggled in this environment, with the Russell 2000® Index down 3.09% for the quarter. Growth topped value across all capitalization groups, with large caps leading the way. Among S&P 500 sectors, energy and information technology delivered strong gains, while consumer discretionary and financials ended the quarter with losses.

Our securities broker-dealer and investment banking activities are linked to the capital markets. In addition, our business activities are focused in the consumer growth, healthcare, specialty growth and technology sectors. By their nature, our business activities are highly competitive and are not only subject to general market conditions, volatile trading markets and fluctuations in the volume of market activity, but also to the conditions affecting the companies and markets in our areas of focus. Fluctuations in revenue also occur due to the overall level of market activity, which, among other things, affects the flow of investment dollars and the size, number and timing of investment banking transactions. In addition, a downturn in the level of market activity can lead to a decrease in brokerage commissions. Therefore, revenue in any particular period may vary significantly from year to year.

## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth the results of operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Commissions	\$ 7,923,963	\$ 6,700,416	\$ 22,807,243	\$ 23,344,124
Principal transactions	2,478,297	(1,148,313)	10,804,073	(1,480,963)
Investment banking	5,616,491	1,839,288	15,480,518	11,750,176
Primary research	1,165,428		2,116,490	
Advisory and other fees	476,015	35,099	1,147,363	238,321
Total revenue	17,660,194	7,426,490	52,355,687	33,851,658
<b>Operating expenses:</b>				
Compensation and benefits	12,096,131	8,534,218	35,673,505	29,987,310
Brokerage and clearing fees	627,223	598,644	1,921,920	1,987,504
Cost of primary research services	555,185		950,403	
Professional services	518,045	567,535	1,603,163	1,850,916
Occupancy and equipment	499,459	406,047	1,395,048	1,195,202
Communications and technology	921,853	800,061	2,618,799	2,123,963
Depreciation and amortization	193,284	156,760	556,332	467,870
Amortization of intangible assets	264,771		485,414	
Travel and entertainment	635,353	611,712	1,789,971	1,960,304
Other	1,277,519	1,042,738	2,993,878	1,578,024
Total operating expenses	17,588,823	12,717,715	49,988,433	41,151,093
Operating income (loss)	71,371	(5,291,225)	2,367,254	(7,299,435)

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Interest income	132,965	117,945	362,919	367,711
Interest expense	(15,876)	134,895	(97,087)	(408,002)
Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes	188,460	(5,038,385)	2,633,087	(7,339,726)
Income tax expense			(55,000)	
Income (loss) from continuing operations	188,460	(5,038,385)	2,578,089	(7,339,726)
Loss from discontinued operations		(70,666)		(178,868)
Net income (loss)	\$ 188,460	\$ (5,109,051)	\$ 2,578,089	\$ (7,518,594)



Our net income (loss) for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 included the following non-cash expenses:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
Stock-based compensation	\$ 694,574	\$ 1,197,256	\$ 2,146,436	\$ 3,179,305
Depreciation and amortization	193,284	137,702	556,332	474,637
Amortization of intangible assets	264,771	34,214	485,414	34,214
Write-off of uncollectible accounts receivable	140,105		368,272	
Amortization of discounts on debt	2,583	175,543	7,749	326,383
Total	\$ 1,295,317	\$ 1,544,715	\$ 3,564,203	\$ 4,014,539

### ***Investment Banking Revenue***

Our investment banking activity includes the following:

- *Capital Raising* - Capital raising includes private placements of equity and debt instruments and underwritten public offerings.
- *Financial Advisory* - Financial advisory includes advisory assignments with respect to mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, restructurings and spin-offs.

The following table sets forth our revenue and transaction volumes from our investment banking activities for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Capital raising	\$ 3,881,491	\$ 1,194,288	\$ 13,028,018	\$ 10,429,291
Financial advisory	1,735,000	645,000	2,452,500	1,320,885
Total investment banking revenue	\$ 5,616,491	\$ 1,839,288	\$ 15,480,518	\$ 11,750,176
<b>Transaction Volumes:</b>				
<b>Public offerings:</b>				
Capital underwritten participations	\$ 8,505,000	\$	\$ 113,744,000	\$ 104,151,000
Number of transactions	1		7	10
<b>Private placements:</b>				
Capital raised	\$ 101,210,000	\$ 19,385,000	\$ 187,795,000	\$ 107,385,000
Number of transactions	8	4	15	8

Our investment banking revenue was \$5,616,000, or 32% of our revenue during third quarter 2007, representing a 205% increase from the similar quarter in 2006. We were placement agent for eight private transactions and a co-manager for one public offering during the three months ended September 30, 2007.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2007, no single investment banking client accounted for more than 10% of our revenue, while one investment banking client accounted for 11% of our revenue during the first nine months of 2006.



**Commissions and Principal Transactions Revenue**

Our broker-dealer activity includes the following:

- *Commissions* - Commissions include revenue resulting from executing stock trades for exchange-listed securities, over-the-counter securities and other transactions as agent.
- *Principal Transactions* - Principal transactions consist of a portion of dealer spreads attributed to our securities trading activities as principal in NASDAQ-listed and other securities, and include transactions derived from our activities as a market-maker. Additionally, principal transactions include gains and losses resulting from market price fluctuations that occur while holding positions in our trading security inventory.

The following table sets forth our revenue and several operating metrics which we utilize in measuring and evaluating performance and the results of our trading activity operations:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Commissions	\$ 7,923,963	\$ 6,700,416	\$ 22,807,243	\$ 23,344,124
<b>Principal transactions:</b>				
Customer principal transactions, proprietary trading and market making	\$ 1,888,770	\$ (1,135,723)	\$ 9,243,523	\$ (1,263,456)
Investment portfolio	589,527	(12,590)	1,560,550	(217,507)
Total principal transactions revenue	\$ 2,478,297	\$ (1,148,313)	\$ 10,804,073	\$ (1,480,963)
<b>Transaction Volumes:</b>				
Number of shares traded	315,936,384	193,666,883	793,084,262	701,398,931
Number of active clients	374	362	537	510

Commissions amounted to \$7,924,000, or 45%, of our revenue during the third quarter 2007, representing a 18% increase from the similar period in 2006. Higher revenue for brokering institutional money funds by our Institutional Cash Distributors division was partially offset by lower brokerage commissions.

Principal transactions revenue swung from a \$1,148,000 loss during the third quarter 2006 to a \$2,478,000 gain during the third quarter of 2007. The 2007 gain included increases in the mark-to-market value of positions in our proprietary trading account, increased profitability in our market making activities, as well as realized and unrealized gains in our investment portfolio. As of September 30, 2007, we made markets in over 1,100 stocks, which has increased by more than 30% from September 30, 2006. We view "intelligent market making" as a key element to differentiating ourselves from our competition in small capitalization equities. Principal transactions revenue consists of four different activities - customer principal trades, market making, trading for our proprietary account, and realized and unrealized gains and losses in our investment portfolio. As a broker-dealer, we account for all of our marketable security positions on a trading basis and as a result, all security positions are marked to fair market value each day. Returns from market making and proprietary trading activities tend to be more volatile than acting as agent or principal for customers.

During 2007 and 2006, no single brokerage customer accounted for more than 10% of our revenue from continuing operations.

**Primary Research Revenue**

Primary research revenue represents the operating results of Panel Intelligence from the date of the MedPanel acquisition, April 17, 2007, through September 30, 2007. We are now offering independent market data and information to clients in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, clean tech and financial industries.

**Compensation and Benefits Expenses**

Compensation and benefits expense represents the largest component of our operating expenses and includes incentive compensation paid to sales, trading, research and investment banking professionals, as well as discretionary bonuses, salaries and wages, and stock-based compensation. Incentive compensation varies primarily based on revenue production. Discretionary bonuses paid to research analysts also vary with commissions revenue production but includes other qualitative factors as well. Salaries, payroll taxes and employee benefits tend to vary based on overall headcount.

The following table sets forth the major components of our compensation and benefits for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006:

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006	September 30, 2007	September 30, 2006
Incentive compensation and discretionary bonuses	\$ 6,566,759	\$ 4,169,791	\$ 19,950,445	\$ 17,422,932
Salaries and wages	3,928,087	2,402,530	10,527,878	6,737,427
Stock-based compensation	694,574	1,197,256	2,146,436	3,179,305
Payroll taxes, benefits and other	906,711	764,641	3,048,746	2,647,646
Total compensation and benefits	\$ 12,096,131	\$ 8,534,218	\$ 35,673,505	\$ 29,987,310
Total compensation and benefits expense as a percentage of revenue	68%	115%	68%	89%
Cash compensation and benefits expense as a percentage of revenue	65%	99%	64%	79%

The increase in compensation and benefits expense of \$3,562,000, or 42%, from the third quarter 2006 to the third quarter 2007 was due primarily to higher incentive compensation which is directly correlated to revenue production. Cash compensation is equal to total compensation and benefits expense excluding stock-based compensation, which is a non-cash expense. Cash compensation and benefits expense as a percentage of revenue decreased to 65% during the three months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to 99% during the similar period in 2006. This improvement was largely attributed to higher investment banking and principal transactions revenue during 2007 as these activities represent our highest margin businesses.

During the three months ended September 30, 2007, one sales professional accounting for 12% of our revenue. No single sales professional accounted for more than 10% of our revenue during the three months ended September 30, 2006, and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006.

Stock-based compensation expense decreased by \$503,000, or 42%, during the third quarter 2007 as compared to the similar quarter in 2006. The decline in stock-based compensation expense was due mostly to fewer non-vested restricted shares outstanding in 2007.

**Other Operating Expenses**

Brokerage and clearing fees include trade processing expenses that we pay to our clearing broker and execution fees that we pay to floor brokers and electronic communication networks. Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. is a fully-disclosed broker-dealer, which has engaged a third party clearing broker to perform all of the clearance functions. The clearing broker-dealer processes and settles the customer transactions for Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. and maintains the detailed customer records. Additionally, security trades are executed by third-party broker-dealers and electronic trading systems. These expenses are almost entirely variable with commission revenue and the volume

of brokerage transactions. Our brokerage and clearing fees increased by \$29,000, or 5%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 and decreased by \$66,000, or 3%, during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006. The third quarter increase reflected higher market making activities while the slight decrease for the first three quarters of 2007 resulted from lower overall commissions revenue during 2007, partially offset by increased market making activity as compared to 2006.

Costs of primary research revenue principally consist of panelist honorarium and recruitment costs. Medical experts receive cash honoraria for participating in qualitative panels and quantitative surveys. We pay the honoraria to the panelists when the panel or survey has been completed and record this expense as incurred. We closed the acquisition of MedPanel on April 17, 2007 and began recognizing primary research revenue and related expenses since that date.

Professional services expense includes legal fees, accounting fees, expenses related to investment banking transactions, consulting fees and recruiting fees. Many of these expenses, such as legal and accounting fees, are to a large extent fixed in nature. The decrease of \$49,000, or 9%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 and decrease of \$248,000, or 13%, during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006 was primarily attributed to lower attorney fees associated with business development activities and lower accounting and auditing expenses.

Occupancy and equipment includes rental costs for our office facilities and equipment, as well as equipment, software and leasehold improvement expenses. These expenses are largely fixed in nature. The increase of \$93,000, or 23%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 and increase of \$200,000, or 17%, during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006 resulted mostly from higher hardware and equipment expenses that were incurred in connection with various technology projects.

Communications and technology expense includes market data and quote services, voice, data and Internet service fees, and data processing costs. Historically, these costs have increased as we hire additional employees. The increase of \$122,000, or 15%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 and increase of \$495,000, or 23% during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006 was primarily due to upgrading our trading order management system, as well as the increase in market data and quote services as we continue to expand our market maker activities.

Depreciation and amortization expense primarily relate to the depreciation of our computer equipment and leasehold improvements. Depreciation and amortization is mostly fixed in nature. The increase of \$37,000, or 23%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 and increase of \$88,000, or 19% during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006 was due to increased capital expenditures during 2006, including leasehold improvements to our San Francisco office, to facilitate our growth and expansion.

Identifiable intangible assets capitalized in connection with the acquisition of MedPanel included customer relationships, customer backlog, technology platform and the database of registered panelists. The estimated fair market value of these amortizable intangible assets amounting to \$1,990,000 will be amortized over periods ranging from 8 months to 56 months.

Travel and entertainment expense results from business development activities across our various businesses. The increase of \$24,000, or 4%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 was attributed to higher investment banking business development spending while the decrease of \$170,000, or 9% during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006 was due mostly to our focus to minimize discretionary spending in an effort to improve profitability.

The following expenses are included in other operating expenses for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2007	2006	2007	2006
Investor conferences	\$ 521,759	\$ 593,580	\$ 910,130	\$ 874,487
Recruiting	116,778	134,452	486,839	264,349
Bad debt expenses	140,105		368,271	(445,016)
Public and investor relations	208,058	73,165	368,769	247,166
Supplies	65,954	58,887	233,661	213,450
Insurance	73,659	66,997	220,663	197,867
Other	151,206	115,657	405,545	225,721

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\$ 1,277,519 \$ 1,042,738 \$ 2,993,878 \$ 1,578,024

The increase in other operating expenses of \$235,000, or 23%, during the third quarter of 2007 as compared to the third quarter of 2006 was primarily due to the write-off of \$140,000 in uncollectible receivables related to investment banking transactions that will not be completed and \$135,000 for services provided by an investor relations consulting firm. The increase of \$1,416,000, or 90%, during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 as compared to the similar period in 2006 was due to (i) the recovery in April 2006 of the \$500,000 note receivable from Ascend that had been previously written-off in 2005, (ii) higher recruiting costs for some senior investment bankers and institutional sales professionals and (iii) the write-off of uncollectible receivables related to investment banking activities.



***Income Tax Expense***

At the end of each interim reporting period we calculate an effective tax rate based on our best estimate of the tax provision (benefit) that will be provided for the full year, stated as a percentage of estimated annual pre-tax income (loss). The tax provision (benefit) for the interim period is determined using this estimated annual effective tax rate. For the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, we recorded \$55,000 and \$0 as income tax expense, respectively.

The effective tax rate differs from the statutory rate primarily due to the existence and utilization of net operating loss carryforwards which have been offset by a valuation allowance resulting in a tax provision equal to the companies expected current expense for the year. We historically have had current tax expense primarily related to alternative minimum, state and minimum tax liabilities.

Historically and currently, we have recorded a valuation allowance on our deferred tax assets, the significant component of which relates to net operating loss tax carryforwards. Management continually evaluates the realizability of its deferred tax assets based upon negative and positive evidence available. Based on the evidence available at this time, we continue to conclude that it is not "more likely than not" that we will be able to realize the benefit of our deferred tax assets in the near future.

We adopted Interpretation No. 48 on January 1, 2007. As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, we recognized no adjustment in the liability for unrecognized income tax benefits and no corresponding change in retained earnings. We do not have any material accrued interest or penalties associated with any unrecognized tax benefits. We do not believe it is reasonably possible that our unrecognized tax benefits will significantly change within the next twelve months. There were no unrecognized tax benefits as of September 30, 2007. We are subject to taxation in the US and various state and foreign jurisdictions. The tax years 2002-2006 remain open to examination by the federal and most state tax authorities.

***Loss from Discontinued Operations***

In December 2006, we decided to sell our Catalyst subsidiary and discontinue our wealth management activities. The sale of Catalyst closed in January 2007. As of December 31, 2006, Catalyst was accounted for as held for sale in accordance with SFAS 144. As a result, the revenue and expenses of Catalyst and MCF Wealth Management, LLC for 2006 have been reclassified and included in discontinued operations in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

***Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements***

We were not a party to any off-balance sheet arrangements during the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006. In particular, we do not have any interest in so-called limited purpose entities, which include special purpose entities and structured finance entities.

***Commitments***

The following is a table summarizing our significant commitments as of September 30, 2007, consisting of debt payments related to convertible notes payable, non-convertible notes payable, capital leases and future minimum lease payments under all non-cancelable operating leases with initial or remaining terms in excess of one year.

	<b>Notes Payable</b>		<b>Operating Leases</b>		<b>Capital Leases</b>
Less than one year	\$ 26,694	\$	545,011	\$	149,307

One year to three years	243,990	3,179,296	769,607
Three years to five years		985,839	
Total commitments	\$ 270,684	\$ 4,710,146	\$ 918,914

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

The consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, which require us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on-going basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to the valuation of securities owned and deferred tax assets. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results could differ from those estimates. We believe the following critical accounting policies affect our more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

### *Revenue Recognition*

Investment banking revenue includes underwriting and private placement agency fees earned through our participation in public offerings and private placements of equity and convertible debt securities and fees earned as financial advisor in mergers and acquisitions and similar transactions. Underwriting revenue is earned in securities offerings in which we act as an underwriter and includes management fees, selling concessions and underwriting fees. Fee revenue relating to underwriting commitments is recorded when all significant items relating to the underwriting cycle have been completed and the amount of the underwriting revenue has been determined. This generally is the point at which all of the following have occurred: (i) the issuer's registration statement has become effective with the SEC, or other offering documents are finalized, (ii) the Company has made a firm commitment for the purchase of the shares or debt from the issuer, and (iii) the Company has been informed of the exact number of shares or the principal amount of debt that it has been allotted. Syndicate expenses related to securities offerings in which we act as underwriter or agent are deferred until the related revenue is recognized or we determine that it is more likely than not that the securities offerings will not ultimately be completed. Merger and acquisition fees and other advisory service revenue are generally earned and recognized only upon successful completion of the engagement. Underwriting revenue is presented net of related expenses. Unreimbursed expenses associated with private placement and advisory transactions are recorded as expenses as incurred. As co-manager for registered equity underwriting transactions, management must estimate our share of transaction related expenses incurred by the lead manager in order to recognize revenue. Transaction related expenses are deducted from the underwriting fee and therefore reduces the revenue that is recognized as co-manager. Such amounts are adjusted to reflect actual expenses in the period in which we receive the final settlement, typically 90 days following the closing of the transaction.

Commissions revenue and related clearing expenses are recorded on a trade-date basis as security transactions occur. Principal transactions in regular-way trades are recorded on the trade date, as if they had settled. Profit and loss arising from all securities and commodities transactions entered into for the account and risk of our company are recorded on a trade-date basis.

Primary research revenue is recognized on a proportional performance basis as services are provided.

### *Valuation of Securities Owned*

“Securities owned” and “Securities sold, but not yet purchased” in our consolidated statements of financial condition consist of financial instruments carried at fair value or amounts that approximate fair value, with related unrealized gains or losses recognized in our results of operations. The use of fair value to measure these financial instruments, with related unrealized gains and losses recognized immediately in our results of operations, is fundamental to our financial statements and is one of our most critical accounting policies. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale.

Fair values of our financial instruments are generally obtained from quoted market prices in active markets, broker or dealer price quotations, or alternative pricing sources with reasonable levels of price transparency. To the extent certain financial instruments trade infrequently or are non-marketable securities and, therefore, have little or no price transparency, we value these instruments based on management's estimates. The fair value of these securities is subject to a high degree of volatility and may be susceptible to significant fluctuation in the near term. Securities that contain restrictions are stated at a discount to the value of readily marketable securities. Stock warrants are carried at a discount to fair value as determined by using the Black-Scholes Option Pricing model.

### *Stock-Based Compensation*

On January 1, 2006, we adopted SFAS 123(R), "Share-Based Payment," which requires the measurement and recognition of compensation expense, based on estimated fair values, for all share-based awards, made to employees and directors, including stock options, non-vested stock, and participation in our employee stock purchase plan. Share-based compensation expense recognized in our consolidated statement of operations for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006 includes compensation expense for share-based awards granted (i) prior to, but not yet vested as of December 31, 2005, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123, and (ii) subsequent to December 31, 2005, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123(R).

We estimate the fair value of stock options granted using the Black-Scholes option pricing method. This option pricing model requires the input of highly subjective assumptions, including the option's expected life and the price volatility of the underlying stock. The expected life of employee stock options represents the weighted-average period the stock options are expected to remain outstanding. The Company calculated the expected term using the lattice model with specific assumptions about the suboptimal exercise behavior, post-vesting termination rates and other relevant factors. The expected stock price volatility was determined using the historical volatility of our common stock. The fair value is then amortized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods of the awards, which is generally the vesting period.

Because share-based compensation expense is based on awards that are ultimately expected to vest, it has been reduced to account for estimated forfeitures. SFAS 123(R) requires forfeitures to be estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. Changes in these inputs and assumptions can materially affect the measure of estimated fair value of our share-based compensation.

#### *Deferred Tax Valuation Allowance*

We account for income taxes in accordance with the provision of SFAS No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*, which requires the recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities at tax rates expected to be in effect when these balances reverse. Future tax benefits attributable to temporary differences are recognized to the extent that the realization of such benefits is more likely than not. We have concluded that it is more likely than not that our deferred tax assets as of September 30, 2007 and 2006 will not be realized based on the scheduling of deferred tax liabilities and projected taxable income. The amount of the deferred tax assets actually realized, however, could vary if there are differences in the timing or amount of future reversals of existing deferred tax liabilities or changes in the actual amounts of future taxable income. Should we determine that we will be able to realize all or part of the deferred tax asset in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset will be recorded in the period such determination is made.

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

Historically, we have satisfied our liquidity and regulatory capital needs through the issuance of equity and debt securities. As of September 30, 2007, liquid assets consisted primarily of cash and cash equivalents of \$12,471,000 and marketable securities, net of securities sold not yet purchased, of \$12,185,000, for a total of \$24,656,000.

Cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$1,276,000 during the nine months ended September 30, 2007. Cash used in operating activities for 2007 was \$966,000 which consisted of our net income adjusted for non-cash expenses including stock-based compensation, depreciation and amortization, partially offset by unrealized gains related to securities owned and changes in operating asset and liability balances. Cash used in investing activities amounted to \$153,000 during 2007 which consisted of purchases of equipment and fixtures, partially offset by proceeds from the sale of Catalyst. Cash used in financing activities was \$157,000. Our financing activities included debt service payments, partially offset by proceeds from the issuance of common stock in connection with our employee stock purchase plan and employee stock option exercises.

Merriman Curhan Ford & Co., as a broker-dealer, is subject to Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, which specifies uniform minimum net capital requirements, as defined, for their registrants. As of September 30, 2007, Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. had regulatory net capital of \$5,789,000 which exceeded the required amount by \$4,789,000.

We believe that our existing cash balances and investments will be sufficient to meet our liquidity and capital spending requirements, both for the next twelve months as well as for the long-term. However, we may require additional capital investment to fund our working capital if we incur future operating losses. We cannot be certain that additional debt or equity financing will be available when required or, if available, that we can secure it on terms

satisfactory to us.

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### **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

The following discussion about market risk disclosures involves forward-looking statements. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. We may be exposed to market risks related to changes in equity prices, interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates. We do not use derivative financial instruments for speculative, trading or any other purpose.

#### *Equity Price Risk*

The potential for changes in the market value of our trading positions is referred to as “market risk.” Our trading positions result from proprietary trading activities. These trading positions in individual equities and equity indices may be either long or short at any given time. Equity price risks result from exposures to changes in prices and volatilities of individual equities and equity indices. We seek to manage this risk exposure through diversification and limiting the size of individual positions within the portfolio. The effect on earnings and cash flows of an immediate 10% increase or decrease in equity prices generally is not ascertainable and could be positive or negative, depending on the positions we hold at the time. We do not establish hedges in related securities or derivatives. From time to time, we also hold equity securities received as compensation for our services in investment banking transactions. These equity positions are always long. However, as the prices of individual equity securities do not necessarily move in tandem with the direction of the general equity market, the effect on earnings and cash flows of an immediate 10% increase or decrease in equity prices generally is not ascertainable.

#### *Interest Rate Risk*

Our exposure to market risk resulting from changes in interest rates relates primarily to our investment portfolio and long term debt obligations. Our interest income and cash flows may be impacted by changes in the general level of U.S. interest rates. We do not hedge this exposure because we believe that we are not subject to any material market risk exposure due to the short-term nature of our investments. We would not expect an immediate 10% increase or decrease in current interest rates to have a material effect on the fair market value of our investment portfolio.

Our long term debt obligations bear interest at a fixed rate. Accordingly, an immediate 10% increase or decrease in current interest rates would not have an impact on our interest expense or cash flows. The fair market value of our long term fixed interest rate debt is subject to interest rate risk. Generally, the fair market value of fixed interest rate debt will increase as interest rates fall and decrease as interest rates rise. We would not expect an immediate 10% increase or decrease in current interest rates to have a material impact on the fair market value of our long term debt obligations.

#### *Foreign Currency Risk*

We do not have any foreign currency denominated assets or liabilities or purchase commitments and have not entered into any foreign currency contracts. Accordingly, we are not exposed to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates.

### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

**Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures** - We have established disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the Company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to the officers who certify the Company's financial reports and to other members of senior management and the Board of Directors.

Based on their evaluation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934), the Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer of the Company have concluded that the disclosure controls and procedures are effective as of September 30, 2007.

**Changes in internal controls** -There was no change in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(d) and 15d-15(d) of the Exchange Act) that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2007, that materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.



## **PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

#### **Thomas O'Shea v. Merriman Curhan Ford & Co.**

In June 2006, our broker-dealer subsidiary Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. was served with a claim in NASD Arbitration by Mr. O'Shea. Mr. O'Shea is a former at-will employee of Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. and worked in the investment banking department. Mr. O'Shea resigned from Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. in July 2005. Mr. O'Shea alleges breach of an implied employment contract, quantum meruit, and unjust enrichment based on his allegations that he was to be paid more for his work. The matter is in the discovery stage and an arbitration hearing scheduled for June 2007 is being rescheduled between the parties and the Arbitration Panel. We believe that we have meritorious defenses and intend to contest these claims vigorously. However, in the event that we did not prevail, based upon the facts as we know them to date, we do not believe that the outcome will have a material effect on our financial position, financial results or cash flows.

#### **S3 Investment Company, Inc. v. Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. and Qualico Capital, Inc.**

In September 2007, Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. was served with a complaint filed by a former client S3 Investment Company, Inc. ("S3i"). The matter is pending before the Superior Court in the City and County of San Francisco. The plaintiff alleges theories of breach of contract, fraud, negligent misrepresentation, intentional and negligent interference with prospective economic relations. We believe that we have meritorious defenses and intend to contest these claims vigorously. However, in the event that we did not prevail, based upon the facts as we know them to date, we do not believe that the outcome will have a material effect on our financial position, financial results or cash flows.

Additionally, from time to time, we are involved in ordinary routine litigation incidental to our business.

### **Item 1A. Risk Factors**

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. In addition to the other information contained in this quarterly report, including reports we incorporate by reference, you should consider the following factors before investing in our securities.

#### ***We may not be able to maintain a positive cash flow and profitability.***

Our ability to maintain a positive cash flow and profitability depends on our ability to generate and maintain greater revenue while incurring reasonable expenses. This, in turn, depends, among other things, on the development of our securities brokerage and investment banking business, and we may be unable to maintain profitability if we fail to do any of the following:

- establish, maintain and increase our client base;
- manage the quality of our services;
- compete effectively with existing and potential competitors;
- further develop our business activities;
- manage expanding operations; and

- attract and retain qualified personnel.

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We cannot be certain that we will be able to sustain or increase a positive cash flow and profitability on a quarterly or annual basis in the future. Our inability to maintain profitability or positive cash flow could result in disappointing financial results, impede implementation of our growth strategy or cause the market price of our common stock to decrease. Accordingly, we cannot assure you that we will be able to generate the cash flow and profits necessary to sustain our business expectations, which makes our ability to successfully implement our business plan uncertain.

The factors upon which we are able to base our estimates as to the gross revenue and the number of participating clients that will be required for us to maintain a positive cash flow and any additional financing that may be needed for this purpose are unpredictable. For these and other reasons, we cannot assure you that we will not require higher gross revenue, and an increased number of clients, securities brokerage and investment banking transactions, and/or more time in order for us to complete the development of our business that we believe we need to be able to cover our operating expenses, or obtain the funds necessary to finance this development. It is more likely than not that our estimates will prove to be inaccurate because actual events more often than not differ from anticipated events. Furthermore, in the event that financing is needed in addition to the amount that is required for this development, we cannot assure you that such financing will be available on acceptable terms, if at all.

***The markets for securities brokerage and investment banking services are highly competitive. If we are not able to compete successfully against current and future competitors, our business and results of operations will be adversely affected.***

We are engaged in the highly competitive financial services and investment industries. We compete with large Wall Street securities firms, securities subsidiaries of major commercial bank holding companies, U.S. subsidiaries of large foreign institutions, major regional firms, smaller niche players, and those offering competitive services via the Internet. Many competitors have greater personnel and financial resources than we do. Larger competitors are able to advertise their products and services on a national or regional basis and may have a greater number and variety of distribution outlets for their products, including retail distribution. Discount and Internet brokerage firms market their services through aggressive pricing and promotional efforts. In addition, some competitors have much more extensive investment banking activities than we do and therefore, may possess a relative advantage with regard to access to deal flow and capital.

Increased pressure created by any current or future competitors, or by our competitors collectively, could materially and adversely affect our business and results of operations. Increased competition may result in reduced revenue and loss of market share. Further, as a strategic response to changes in the competitive environment, we may from time to time make certain pricing, service or marketing decisions or acquisitions that also could materially and adversely affect our business and results of operations. We cannot assure you that we will be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors. In addition, new technologies and the expansion of existing technologies may increase the competitive pressures on us.

***We may experience reduced revenue due to declining market volume, securities prices and liquidity, which can also cause counterparties to fail to perform.***

Our revenue may decrease in the event of a decline in the market volume of securities transactions, prices or liquidity. Declines in the volume of securities transactions and in market liquidity generally result in lower revenue from trading activities and commissions. Lower price levels of securities may also result in a reduction in our revenue from corporate finance fees, as well as losses from declines in the market value of securities held by us in trading. Sudden sharp declines in market values of securities can result in illiquid markets and the failure of counterparties to perform their obligations, as well as increases in claims and litigation, including arbitration claims from customers. In such markets, we may incur reduced revenue or losses in our principal trading, market-making, investment banking, and advisory services activities.

*We may experience significant losses if the value of our marketable security positions deteriorates.*

We conduct securities trading, market-making and investment activities for our own account, which subjects our capital to significant risks. These risks include market, credit, counterparty and liquidity risks, which could result in losses for us. These activities often involve the purchase, sale or short sale of securities as principal in markets that may be characterized as relatively illiquid or that may be particularly susceptible to rapid fluctuations in liquidity and price. Trading losses resulting from such trading could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

***We may experience significant fluctuations in our quarterly operating results due to the nature of our business and therefore may fail to meet profitability expectations.***

Our revenue and operating results may fluctuate from quarter to quarter and from year to year due to a combination of factors, including:

- the level of institutional brokerage transactions and the level of commissions we receive from those transactions;
- the valuations of our principal investments;
- the number of capital markets transactions completed by our clients, and the level of fees we receive from those transactions; and
- variations in expenditures for personnel, consulting and legal expenses, and expenses of establishing new business units, including marketing and technology expenses.

We record revenue from a capital markets advisory transaction only when we have rendered the services, the client is contractually obligated to pay and collection is probable; generally, most of the fee is earned only upon the closing of a transaction. Accordingly, the timing of our recognition of revenue from a significant transaction can materially affect our quarterly operating results.

***We have registered one of our subsidiaries as a securities broker-dealer and, as such, are subject to substantial regulations. If we fail to comply with these regulations, our business will be adversely affected.***

Because we have registered Merriman Curhan Ford & Co. with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., or NASD, as a securities broker-dealer, we are subject to extensive regulation under federal and state laws, as well as self-regulatory organizations. The principal purpose of regulation and discipline of broker-dealers is the protection of customers and the securities markets rather than protection of creditors and stockholders of broker-dealers. The Securities and Exchange Commission is the federal agency charged with administration of the federal securities laws. Much of the regulation of broker-dealers, however, has been delegated to self-regulatory organizations, such as the NASD and national securities exchanges. The NASD is our primary self-regulatory organization. These self-regulatory organizations adopt rules, which are subject to SEC approval, that govern the industry and conduct periodic examinations of member broker-dealers. Broker-dealers are also subject to regulation by state securities commissions in the states in which they are registered. The regulations to which broker-dealers are subject cover all aspects of the securities business, including net capital requirements, sales methods, trading practices among broker-dealers, capital structure of securities firms, record keeping and the conduct of directors, officers and employees. The SEC and the self-regulatory bodies may conduct administrative proceedings, which can result in censure, fine, suspension or expulsion of a broker-dealer, its officers or employees. If we fail to comply with these rules and regulations, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

The regulatory environment in which we operate is also subject to change. Our business may be adversely affected as a result of new or revised legislation or regulations imposed by the SEC, other United States or foreign governmental regulatory authorities or the NASD. We also may be adversely affected by changes in the interpretation or enforcement of existing laws and rules by these governmental authorities and the NASD.

***Our business may suffer if we lose the services of our executive officers or operating personnel.***

We depend on the continued services and performance of D. Jonathan Merriman, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, for our future success. In addition to Mr. Merriman, we are currently managed by a small number of key

management and operating personnel. Our future success depends, in part, on the continued service of our key executive, management and technical personnel, and our ability to attract highly skilled employees. Our business could be harmed if any key officer or employee were unable or unwilling to continue in his or her current position. From time to time we have experienced, and we expect to continue to experience, difficulty in hiring and retaining highly skilled employees. Competition for employees in our industry is significant. If we are unable to retain our key employees or attract, integrate or retain other highly qualified employees in the future, such failure may have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

***Our business is dependent on the services of skilled professionals, and may suffer if we can not recruit or retain such skilled professionals.***

We have a number of revenue producers employed by our securities brokerage and investment banking subsidiary. We do not have employment contracts with these employees. The loss of one or more of these employees could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

***Our compensation structure may negatively impact our financial condition if we are not able to effectively manage our expenses and cash flows.***

We are able to recruit and retain investment banking, research and sales and trading professionals, in part because our business model provides that we pay our revenue producing employees a percentage of their earned revenue. Compensation and benefits is our largest expenditure and this variable compensation component represents a significant proportion of this expense. Compensation for our employees is derived as a percentage of our revenue regardless of our profitability. Therefore, we may continue to pay individual revenue producers a significant amount of cash compensation as the overall business experiences negative cash flows and/or net losses. We may not be able to recruit or retain revenue producing employees if we modify or eliminate the variable compensation component from our business model.

***We may be dependent on a limited number of customers for a significant portion of our revenue.***

During the nine months ended September 30, 2007 and 2006, no single customer accounted for more than 10% of our revenue. However, we have been dependent on one customer or on a small number of customers, for a large percentage of our revenue at some times in the past and we cannot assure you that we will not become so dependent again in the future. If we do become dependent on a single customer or small group of customers, the loss of one or more large customers could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

***We may suffer losses through our investments in securities purchased in secondary market transactions or private placements.***

Occasionally, our company, its officers and/or employees may make principal investments in securities through secondary market transactions or through direct investment in companies through private placements. In many cases, employees and officers with investment discretion on behalf of our company decide whether to invest in our company's account or their personal account. It is possible that gains from investing will accrue to these individuals because investments were made in their personal accounts, and our company will not realize gains because it did not make an investment. Conversely, it is possible that losses from investing will accrue to our company, while these individuals do not experience losses in their personal accounts because the individuals did not make investments in their personal accounts.

***We may be unable to successfully integrate acquired businesses into our existing business and operations.***

From time to time, we may buy one or more other businesses. If we are unable to successfully integrate such businesses into our existing business and operations in the future, our business and results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

***We may be unable to effectively manage rapid growth that we may experience, which could place a continuous strain on our resources and, accordingly, adversely affect our business.***

We plan to expand our operations. Our growth, if it occurs, will impose significant demands on our management, financial, technical and other resources. We must adapt to changing business conditions and improve existing systems

or implement new systems for our financial and management controls, reporting systems and procedures and expand, train and manage a growing employee base in order to manage our future growth. We may not be able to implement improvements to our internal reporting systems in an efficient and timely manner and may discover deficiencies in existing systems and controls. We believe that future growth will require implementation of new and enhanced communications and information systems and training of our personnel to operate such systems. Furthermore, we may acquire existing companies or enter into strategic alliances with third parties, in order to achieve rapid growth. For us to succeed, we must make our existing business and systems work effectively with those of any strategic partners without undue expense, management distraction or other disruptions to our business. We may be unable to implement our business plan if we fail to manage any of the above growth challenges successfully. Our financial results may suffer and we could be materially and adversely affected if that occurs.



***Our business and operations would suffer in the event of system failures.***

Our success, in particular our ability to successfully facilitate securities brokerage transactions and provide high-quality customer service, largely depends on the efficient and uninterrupted operation of our computer and communications systems. Our systems and operations are vulnerable to damage or interruption from fire, flood, power loss, telecommunication failures, break-ins, earthquake and similar events. Despite the implementation of network security measures, redundant network systems and a disaster recovery plan, our servers are vulnerable to computer viruses, physical or electronic break-ins and similar disruptions, which could lead to interruptions, delays, loss of data or the inability to accept and fulfill customer orders. Additionally, computer viruses may cause our systems to incur delays or other service interruptions, which may cause us to incur additional operating expenses to correct problems we may experience. Any of the foregoing problems could materially adversely affect our business or future results of operations.

***We are highly dependent on proprietary and third-party systems; therefore, system failures could significantly disrupt our business.***

Our business is highly dependent on communications and information systems, including systems provided by our clearing brokers. Any failure or interruption of our systems, the systems of our clearing broker or third party trading systems could cause delays or other problems in our securities trading activities, which could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

In addition, our clearing brokers provide our principal disaster recovery system. We cannot assure you that we or our clearing brokers will not suffer any systems failure or interruption, including one caused by an earthquake, fire, other natural disaster, power or telecommunications failure, act of God, act of war or otherwise, or that our or our clearing brokers' back-up procedures and capabilities in the event of any such failure or interruption will be adequate.

***Our common stock price may be volatile, which could adversely affect the value of your shares.***

The market price of our common stock has in the past been, and may in the future continue to be, volatile. A variety of events may cause the market price of our common stock to fluctuate significantly, including:

- variations in quarterly operating results;
- our announcements of significant contracts, milestones, acquisitions;
- our relationships with other companies;
- our ability to obtain needed capital commitments;
- additions or departures of key personnel;
- sales of common stock, conversion of securities convertible into common stock, exercise of options and warrants to purchase common stock or termination of stock transfer restrictions;
- general economic conditions, including conditions in the securities brokerage and investment banking markets;
- changes in financial estimates by securities analysts; and

- fluctuation in stock market price and volume.

Many of these factors are beyond our control. Any one of the factors noted herein could have an adverse effect on the value of our common stock.

In addition, the stock market in recent years has experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have particularly affected the market prices of equity securities of many companies and that often have been unrelated to the operating performance of such companies. These market fluctuations have adversely impacted the price of our common stock in the past and may do so in the future.

***Our risk management policies and procedures may leave us exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risk.***

Our risk management strategies and techniques may not be fully effective in mitigating our risk exposure in all market environments or against all types of risk.

We are exposed to the risk that third parties that owe us money, securities or other assets will not perform their obligations. These parties may default on their obligations to us due to bankruptcy, lack of liquidity, operational failure, and breach of contract or other reasons. We are also subject to the risk that our rights against third parties may not be enforceable in all circumstances. As a clearing member firm, we finance our customer positions and could be held responsible for the defaults or misconduct of our customers. Although we regularly review credit exposures to specific clients and counterparties and to specific industries and regions that we believe may present credit concerns, default risk may arise from events or circumstances that are difficult to detect or foresee. In addition, concerns about, or a default by, one institution could lead to significant liquidity problems, losses or defaults by other institutions, which in turn could adversely affect us. If any of the variety of instruments, processes and strategies we utilize to manage our exposure to various types of risk are not effective, we may incur losses.

***We could be sued in a securities class action lawsuit.***

In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation often has been instituted against that company. Such litigation is expensive and diverts management's attention and resources. We can not assure you that we will not be subject to such litigation. If we are subject to such litigation, even if we ultimately prevail, our business and financial condition may be adversely affected.

***Your ability to sell your shares may be restricted because there is a limited trading market for our common stock.***

Although our common stock is currently traded on the American Stock Exchange, an active trading market in our stock has been limited. Accordingly, you may not be able to sell your shares when you want or at the price you want.

***Anti-takeover provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law could discourage a merger or other type of corporate reorganization or a change in control even if it could be favorable to the interests of our stockholders.***

The Delaware General Corporation Law contains provisions that may enable our management to retain control and resist our takeover. These provisions generally prevent us from engaging in a broad range of business combinations with an owner of 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock for a period of three years from the date that such person acquires his or her stock. Accordingly, these provisions could discourage or make more difficult a change in control or a merger or other type of corporate reorganization even if it could be favorable to the interests of our stockholders.

***Because our Board of Directors can issue common stock without stockholder approval, you could experience substantial dilution.***

Our Board of Directors has the authority to issue up to 300,000,000 shares of common stock and to issue options and warrants to purchase shares of our common stock without stockholder approval in certain circumstances. Future issuance of additional shares of our common stock could be at values substantially below the price at which you may purchase our stock and, therefore, could represent substantial dilution. In addition, our Board of Directors could issue large blocks of our common stock to fend off unwanted tender offers or hostile takeovers without further stockholder approval.

***Our ability to issue additional preferred stock may adversely affect your rights as a common stockholder and could be used as an anti take-over device.***

Our Articles of Incorporation authorize our Board of Directors to issue up to an additional 27,450,000 shares of preferred stock, without approval from our stockholders. If you hold our common stock, this means that our Board of Directors has the right, without your approval as a common stockholder, to fix the relative rights and preferences of the preferred stock. This would affect your rights as a common stockholder regarding, among other things, dividends and liquidation. We could also use the preferred stock to deter or delay a change in control of our company that may be opposed by our management even if the transaction might be favorable to you as a common stockholder.

***Our officers and directors exercise significant control over our affairs, which could result in their taking actions of which other stockholders do not approve.***

Our executive officers and directors, and entities affiliated with them, currently control approximately 29% of our outstanding common stock including exercise of their options and warrants. These stockholders, if they act together, will be able to exercise substantial influence over all matters requiring approval by our stockholders, including the election of directors and approval of significant corporate transactions. This concentration of ownership may also have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of us and might affect the market price of our common stock.

***Any exercise of outstanding stock options and warrants will dilute then-existing stockholders' percentage of ownership of our common stock.***

We have a significant number of outstanding stock options and warrants. As of September 30, 2007, shares issuable upon the exercise of these options and warrants, at prices ranging currently from approximately \$1.26 to \$49.00 per share, represent approximately 7% of our total outstanding stock on a fully diluted basis using the treasury stock method.

The exercise of the outstanding options and warrants would dilute the then-existing stockholders' percentage ownership of our common stock. Any sales resulting from the exercise of options and warrants in the public market could adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock. Moreover, our ability to obtain additional equity capital could be adversely affected since the holders of outstanding options and warrants may exercise them at a time when we would also wish to enter the market to obtain capital on terms more favorable than those provided by such options and warrants. We lack control over the timing of any exercise or the number of shares issued or sold if exercises occur.

## **Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities**

On July 15, 2007, we issued 12,000 shares of our Common Stock to Barretto Pacific Group ("BPG"), a contractor who performed services for the Company. Such shares were placed in escrow pending vesting per the Company's written agreement with BPG. Vesting was contingent on the provision of services by BPG, which conditions were satisfied and the shares released from escrow fully vested in October 2007. These shares were issued in consideration for services rendered to the Company. These shares were issued in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") contained in Section 4.2 of the Securities Act due to the fact that they were issued in a transaction not involving a public offering.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

31.1	Certification of Principal 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	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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**SIGNATURES**

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

**MCF CORPORATION**

November 6, 2007

By: /s/ D. JONATHAN MERRIMAN

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D. Jonathan Merriman,  
Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer  
(Principal Executive Officer)

November 6, 2007

By: /s/ JOHN D. HIESTAND

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John D. Hiestand  
Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)