

Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG

Form 10-Q

May 09, 2012

Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended: March 31, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number: 001-32938

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Switzerland
(State or Other Jurisdiction of

Incorporation or Organization)

Lindenstrasse 8

98-0681223
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

6340 Baar

Zug, Switzerland

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

41-41-768-1080

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of May 1, 2012, 36,357,812 common shares were outstanding.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u>	
ITEM 1. <u>Financial Statements</u>	1
ITEM 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	28
ITEM 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	51
ITEM 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	53
<u>PART II</u>	
ITEM 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	54
ITEM 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	54
ITEM 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	55
ITEM 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	55
ITEM 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	55
ITEM 5. <u>Other Information</u>	55
ITEM 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	55
<u>SIGNATURES</u>	57
<u>EXHIBIT INDEX</u>	58

Table of Contents**PART I****FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements.****ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share and per share amounts)

	As of March 31, 2012	As of December 31, 2011
ASSETS:		
Fixed maturity investments available for sale, at fair value (amortized cost: 2012: \$40,674; 2011: \$226,397)	\$ 44,250	\$ 244,016
Fixed maturity investments trading, at fair value (amortized cost: 2012: \$6,156,050; 2011: \$6,207,991)	6,271,237	6,254,686
Equity securities trading, at fair value (cost: 2012: \$424,617; 2011: \$356,370)	459,639	367,483
Other invested assets trading, at fair value	522,065	540,409
Total investments	7,297,191	7,406,594
Cash and cash equivalents	825,986	633,996
Restricted cash	287,113	82,608
Insurance balances receivable	748,137	652,158
Prepaid reinsurance	214,702	226,721
Reinsurance recoverable	1,056,780	1,002,919
Accrued investment income	33,452	38,263
Net deferred acquisition costs	125,645	100,334
Goodwill	268,376	268,376
Intangible assets	53,264	53,898
Balances receivable on sale of investments	367,997	580,443
Net deferred tax assets	19,171	22,646
Other assets	58,464	53,202
Total assets	\$ 11,356,278	\$ 11,122,158
LIABILITIES:		
Reserve for losses and loss expenses	\$ 5,331,418	\$ 5,225,143
Unearned premiums	1,253,454	1,078,412
Reinsurance balances payable	93,262	124,539
Balances due on purchases of investments	546,791	616,728
Senior notes	798,014	797,949
Dividends payable	13,795	14,302
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	73,723	116,063
Total liabilities	\$ 8,110,457	\$ 7,973,136
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY:		
Common shares: 2012: par value CHF 13.69 per share and 2011: par value CHF 14.03 per share (2012: 40,003,642; 2011: 40,003,642 shares issued and 2012: 36,786,067; 2011: 37,742,131 shares outstanding)	543,452	557,153

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Additional paid-in capital	48,003	78,225
Treasury shares, at cost (2012: 3,217,575; 2011: 2,261,511)	(201,865)	(136,590)
Retained earnings	2,853,906	2,635,750
Accumulated other comprehensive income: net unrealized gains on investments, net of tax	2,325	14,484
Total shareholders' equity	3,245,821	3,149,022
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$ 11,356,278	\$ 11,122,158

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG
UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share and per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2012	2011
REVENUES:		
Gross premiums written	\$ 680,929	\$ 560,688
Premiums ceded	(91,976)	(79,817)
Net premiums written	588,953	480,871
Change in unearned premiums	(187,063)	(145,995)
Net premiums earned	401,890	334,876
Net investment income	47,209	50,208
Net realized investment gains	133,581	50,376
	582,680	435,460
EXPENSES:		
Net losses and loss expenses	225,202	304,452
Acquisition costs	47,138	38,082
General and administrative expenses	70,366	67,956
Amortization and impairment of intangible assets	633	767
Interest expense	13,756	13,742
Foreign exchange gain	(81)	(442)
	357,014	424,557
Income before income taxes	225,666	10,903
Income tax expense	7,510	2,283
NET INCOME	218,156	8,620
Other comprehensive loss:		
Unrealized losses on investments arising during the period net of applicable deferred income tax benefit for the three months ended March 31, 2012: \$28; 2011: \$964	(52)	(8,044)
Reclassification adjustment for net realized investment gains included in net income, net of applicable income tax	(12,107)	(16,128)
Other comprehensive loss	(12,159)	(24,172)
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 205,997	\$ (15,552)

PER SHARE DATA

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Basic earnings per share	\$	5.86	\$	0.23
Diluted earnings per share	\$	5.70	\$	0.21
Weighted average common shares outstanding		37,205,166		38,199,867
Weighted average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding		38,284,635		40,383,523
Dividends paid per share	\$	0.375	\$	

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

-2-

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars)

	Share Capital	Additional Paid-in Capital	Treasury Shares	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Retained Earnings	Total
December 31, 2011	\$ 557,153	\$ 78,225	\$ (136,590)	\$ 14,484	\$ 2,635,750	\$ 3,149,022
Net income					218,156	218,156
Dividends - par value reduction	(13,701)					(13,701)
Other comprehensive loss				(12,159)		(12,159)
Stock compensation		(30,222)	27,748			(2,474)
Share repurchases			(93,023)			(93,023)
March 31, 2012	\$ 543,452	\$ 48,003	\$ (201,865)	\$ 2,325	\$ 2,853,906	\$ 3,245,821
December 31, 2010	\$ 600,055	\$ 170,239	\$ (112,811)	\$ 57,135	\$ 2,361,202	\$ 3,075,820
Net income					8,620	8,620
Other comprehensive loss				(24,172)		(24,172)
Stock compensation		(41,453)	45,758			4,305
Share repurchase			(60,000)			(60,000)
Repurchase of founder warrants		(53,620)				(53,620)
March 31, 2011	\$ 600,055	\$ 75,166	\$ (127,053)	\$ 32,963	\$ 2,369,822	\$ 2,950,953

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Net income	\$ 218,156	\$ 8,620
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:		
Net realized gains on sales of investments	(12,165)	(21,624)
Mark to market adjustments	(122,334)	(34,248)
Stock compensation expense	5,471	5,850
Insurance balances receivable	(95,979)	(39,909)
Prepaid reinsurance	12,019	11,939
Reinsurance recoverable	(53,861)	(47,935)
Accrued investment income	4,811	(808)
Net deferred acquisition costs	(25,311)	(16,294)
Net deferred tax assets	5,358	86
Other assets	(6,866)	(978)
Reserve for losses and loss expenses	106,275	221,455
Unearned premiums	175,042	134,057
Reinsurance balances payable	(31,277)	(7,880)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(42,340)	(42,618)
Other items, net	5,818	5,202
Net cash provided by operating activities	142,817	174,915
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchases of fixed maturity investments available for sale		(352)
Purchases of fixed maturity investments trading	(1,039,294)	(2,332,315)
Purchases of equity securities	(99,037)	(97,893)
Purchases of other invested assets	(1,050)	(171,048)
Sales of fixed maturity investments available for sale	116,303	340,418
Sales of fixed maturity investments trading	1,328,702	2,036,961
Sales of equity securities	23,707	12,509
Sales of other invested assets	28,569	40,135
Purchases of fixed assets	(567)	(1,639)
Change in restricted cash	(204,506)	44,351
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	152,827	(128,873)
CASH FLOWS USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Dividends paid par value reduction	(14,208)	
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	3,332	3,224
Share repurchases	(93,023)	(60,000)
Repurchase of founder warrants		(53,620)
Net cash used in financing activities	(103,899)	(110,396)

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Effect of exchange rate changes on foreign currency cash	245	1,339
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	191,990	(63,015)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	633,996	756,995
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 825,986	\$ 693,980

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 3,454	\$
Cash paid for interest expense	\$ 18,750	\$ 18,750

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

1. GENERAL

Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG, a Swiss holding company (Allied World Switzerland), through its wholly-owned subsidiaries (collectively, the Company), provides property and casualty insurance and reinsurance on a worldwide basis through operations in Bermuda, the United States, Europe, Hong Kong and Singapore.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION AND CONSOLIDATION

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) for interim financial information and with Article 10 of Regulation S-X as promulgated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments that are normal and recurring in nature and necessary for a fair presentation of financial position and results of operations as of the end of and for the periods presented. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results for a full year.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The significant estimates reflected in the Company s financial statements include, but are not limited to:

The premium estimates for certain reinsurance agreements,

Recoverability of deferred acquisition costs,

The reserve for outstanding losses and loss expenses,

Valuation of ceded reinsurance recoverables,

Determination of impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets, and

Valuation of financial instruments.

Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated on consolidation and all entities meeting consolidation requirements have been included in the consolidation.

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements, including these notes, should be read in conjunction with the Company s audited consolidated financial statements, and related notes thereto, included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

3. NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In October 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2010-26, Accounting for Costs Associated with Acquiring or Renewing Insurance Contracts (ASU 2010-26). ASU 2010-26 clarifies what costs associated with acquiring or renewing insurance contracts can be deferred and amortized over the coverage period. Under the revised guidance of ASU 2010-26, incremental direct costs that result directly from and are essential to the insurance contract and would not have been incurred had the insurance contract not been written are costs that may be capitalized, including costs relating to activities specifically performed by the Company such as underwriting, policy issuance and processing. The Company adopted ASU 2010-26 retrospectively on January 1, 2012. The adoption of ASU 2010-26 did not have an impact on consolidated shareholders' equity or net income as the Company had not previously capitalized costs that did not meet the requirement for capitalization of the revised standard.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-04, Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs (ASU 2011-04). ASU 2011-04 provides a consistent meaning for the term fair value between the FASB and International Accounting Standards Board and establishes common requirements for measuring and disclosing information related thereto. The Company adopted ASU 2011-04 prospectively on January 1, 2012. The adoption of ASU 2011-04 did not have an impact on consolidated shareholders' equity or net income or the Company's fair value measurements. Refer to Note 6 for the Company's related disclosures.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-05, Presentation of Comprehensive Income (ASU 2011-05). ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in shareholders' equity, requires consecutive presentation of the statement of net income and other comprehensive income, and requires the presentation of reclassification adjustments on the face of the financial statements from other comprehensive income to net income. In December 2011, ASU 2011-05 was updated by ASU 2011-12, Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05 (ASU 2011-12) to defer the presentation requirements of reclassification adjustments required by ASU 2011-05. The Company adopted ASU 2011-05 on January 1, 2012. The adoption of ASU 2011-05 and the related updates from ASU 2011-12 did not have an impact on the presentation of the financial statements.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-08, Testing Goodwill for Impairment (ASU 2011-08). ASU 2011-08 simplifies how goodwill is tested for impairment by permitting entities to assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount. The results of the qualitative assessment will determine if an entity needs to proceed with the two-step goodwill impairment test. ASU 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company adopted ASU 2011-08 on January 1, 2012. The adoption of ASU 2011-08 did not have an impact on consolidated shareholders' equity or net income.

4. INVESTMENTS*a) Available for Sale Securities*

The amortized cost, gross unrealized gains, gross unrealized losses and fair value of the Company's available for sale investments by category are as follows:

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
March 31, 2012				
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 28,123	\$ 1,920	\$	\$ 30,043
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	11,551	1,656		13,207
Corporate debt:				
Industrials	1,000			1,000
Total fixed maturity investments, available for sale	\$ 40,674	\$ 3,576	\$	\$ 44,250
December 31, 2011				
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 31,309	\$ 2,321	\$	\$ 33,630
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	29,128	4,351		33,479
Corporate debt:				
Financial institutions	17,431	348	(292)	17,487
Industrials	73,539	4,268		77,807
Utilities	74,990	6,623		81,613
Total fixed maturity investments, available for sale	\$ 226,397	\$ 17,911	\$ (292)	\$ 244,016

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

b) Trading Securities

Securities accounted for at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss) (consolidated income statements) by category are as follows:

	March 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 1,330,872	\$ 1,321,573	\$ 1,278,265	\$ 1,263,948
Non-U.S. Government and Government agencies	307,112	300,392	256,756	251,784
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	161,186	154,748	133,902	128,633
Corporate debt:				
Financial institutions	1,018,454	998,078	1,161,904	1,174,308
Industrials	1,041,178	1,019,205	987,006	974,731
Utilities	97,875	95,177	105,564	103,262
Residential mortgage-backed:				
Non-agency residential	354,402	335,192	302,827	314,077
Agency residential	1,159,640	1,139,995	1,183,893	1,156,913
Commercial mortgage-backed	309,696	301,590	331,371	326,697
Asset-backed	490,822	490,100	513,198	513,638
Total fixed maturity investments, trading	\$ 6,271,237	\$ 6,156,050	\$ 6,254,686	\$ 6,207,991

	March 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Fair Value	Original Cost	Fair Value	Original Cost
Equity securities	\$ 459,639	\$ 424,617	\$ 367,483	\$ 356,370
Other invested assets ⁽¹⁾	522,065	490,146	540,409	529,851
	\$ 981,704	\$ 914,763	\$ 907,892	\$ 886,221

(1) Within the Company's financial statements and footnotes other invested assets include the Company's investments in both hedge funds and private equity funds.

c) Contractual Maturity Dates

The contractual maturity dates of available for sale fixed maturity investments are as follows:

	March 31, 2012	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Due within one year	\$ 5,317	\$ 5,358
Due after one year through five years	20,864	22,206
Due after five years through ten years	11,484	13,054

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Due after ten years	3,009	3,632
	\$ 40,674	\$ 44,250

Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to prepay obligations with or without prepayment penalties.

d) Other Invested Assets

Included in other invested assets are the Company's hedge fund and private equity investments. As of the balance sheet date, the Company held interests in 21 funds with a total fair value of \$522,065, which comprised 6.2% of the total fair value of its investments and cash and cash equivalents. The fair values of these assets have been estimated using the net asset value per share of the funds.

In general, the hedge funds in which the Company is invested require at least 30 days notice of redemption, and may be redeemed on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, annual or longer basis, depending on the fund. Certain hedge funds have lock-up periods ranging from 1 to 3 years from initial investment. A lock-up period refers to the initial amount of time an investor is contractually required to invest before having the ability to redeem. Interests in private equity funds cannot be redeemed because the investments include restrictions that do not allow for redemption until termination of the fund. Funds that provide for periodic redemptions may, depending on the funds' governing documents, have the ability to deny or delay a redemption request, called a gate. The fund may implement this restriction because the aggregate amount of redemption requests as of a particular date exceeds a specified level, generally ranging from 15% to 25% of the fund's net assets. The gate is a method for executing an orderly redemption process that

Table of Contents

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

allows for redemption requests to be executed in a timely manner to reduce the possibility of adversely affecting the remaining investors in the fund. Typically, the imposition of a gate delays a portion of the requested redemption, with the remaining portion settled in cash sometime after the redemption date. Certain funds may impose a redemption fee on early redemptions.

Details regarding the redemption characteristics of the other invested assets portfolio as of March 31, 2012 were as follows:

Fund Type	Fair Value as of March 31, 2012	Investments with Redemption Restrictions	Estimated Remaining Restriction Period	Investments without Redemption Restrictions	Redemption Frequency ⁽¹⁾	Redemption Notice Period ⁽¹⁾	Unfunded Commitments
Private equity (primary and secondary)	\$ 78,930	\$ 78,930	4 -10 Years	\$			\$ 113,618
Mezzanine debt	22,805	22,805	10 Years				91,773
Distressed	7,136	7,136	6 Years				11,099
Total private equity	108,871	108,871					216,490
Distressed	41,855	1,131	2 Years	40,724	Quarterly	45 - 60 Days	
Equity long/short	165,991	46,156	<1 Year	119,835	Quarterly	30 - 60 Days	
Multi-strategy	135,520	25,995	2 Years	109,525	Quarterly	45 - 90 Days	
Event driven	69,828			69,828	Annual	45 - 60 Days	
Total hedge funds	413,194	73,282		339,912			
Total other invested assets	\$ 522,065	\$ 182,153		\$ 339,912			\$ 216,490

(1) The redemption frequency and notice periods only apply to the investments without redemption restrictions.

Private equity funds: These funds buy limited partnership interests from existing limited partners of primary private equity funds. As owners of private equity funds seek liquidity, they can sell their existing investments, plus any remaining commitment, to secondary market participants. These funds cannot be redeemed because the investments include restrictions that do not allow for redemption until termination of the fund.

Mezzanine debt funds: Mezzanine debt funds invest primarily in privately negotiated mezzanine investments. The funds' strategies will focus primarily on providing capital to upper middle market and middle market companies, and private equity sponsors, in connection with leveraged buyouts, mergers and acquisitions, recapitalizations, growth financings and other corporate transactions. The most common position in the capital structure will be between the senior secured debt holder and the equity; however, the funds will utilize a flexible approach when structuring investments, which may include secured debt, subordinated debt, preferred stock and/or private equity. These funds cannot be redeemed because the investments include restrictions that do not allow for redemption until termination of the fund.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Distressed funds: In distressed debt investing, managers take positions in the debt of companies experiencing significant financial difficulties, including bankruptcy, or in certain positions of the capital structure of structured securities. The manager relies on the fundamental analysis of these securities, including the claims on the assets and the likely return to bondholders. Certain funds cannot be redeemed because the investments include restrictions that do not allow for redemption until termination of the fund.

Equity long/short funds: In equity long/short funds, managers take long positions in companies they deem to be undervalued and short positions in companies they deem to be overvalued. Long/short managers may invest in countries, regions or sectors and vary by their use of leverage and target net long position.

Multi-strategy funds: These funds may utilize many strategies employed by specialized funds including distressed investing, equity long/short, merger arbitrage, convertible arbitrage, fixed income arbitrage and macro trading.

Event driven funds: Event driven strategies seek to deploy capital into specific securities whose returns are affected by a specific event that affects the value of one or more securities of a company. Returns for such securities are linked primarily to the specific outcome of the events and not by the overall direction of the bond or stock markets. Examples could include mergers and acquisitions (arbitrage), corporate restructurings and spin-offs and capital structure arbitrage.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

e) Net Investment Income

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
Fixed maturity investments	\$ 46,886	\$ 50,946
Equity securities and other invested assets	4,074	2,196
Cash and cash equivalents	607	318
Expenses	(4,358)	(3,252)
Net investment income	\$ 47,209	\$ 50,208

f) Components of Realized Gains and Losses

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
Gross realized gains on sale of invested assets	\$ 39,169	\$ 43,557
Gross realized losses on sale of invested assets	(21,907)	(21,932)
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives	6,684	(5,496)
Mark-to-market changes: debt securities trading	68,490	13,464
Mark-to-market changes: other invested assets and equity securities	41,145	20,783
Net realized investment gains	\$ 133,581	\$ 50,376
Proceeds from sale of available for sale securities	\$ 199,408	\$ 343,520

g) Pledged Assets

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, \$2,019,694 and \$2,029,138, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents and investments were deposited, pledged or held in trust accounts in favor of ceding companies and other counterparties or government authorities to comply with reinsurance contract provisions and insurance laws.

In addition, as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, a further \$1,107,278 and \$1,044,236, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents and investments were pledged as collateral for the Company's letter of credit facility. See Note 9 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 for details on the credit facility.

h) Analysis of Unrealized Losses

The following table summarizes the market value of those available for sale investments in an unrealized loss position for periods less than and greater than 12 months:

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

	March 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Gross Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Gross Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
Less than 12 months				
Corporate debt:				
Financial institutions	\$	\$	\$ 9,440	\$ (292)
Total fixed maturity investments, available for sale	\$	\$	\$ 9,440	\$ (292)

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, there were nil and three securities, respectively, in an unrealized loss position.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

i) Other-than-temporary impairment charges

Following the Company's review of the securities in the investment portfolio during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, no securities were considered to be other-than-temporarily impaired.

5. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, none of the Company's derivatives were designated as hedges. The following table summarizes information on the location and amounts of derivative fair values in the unaudited condensed consolidated balance sheets (consolidated balance sheets):

	March 31, 2012				December 31, 2011			
	Asset Derivative Notional Amount	Asset Derivative Fair Value	Liability Derivative Notional Amount	Liability Derivative Fair Value	Asset Derivative Notional Amount	Asset Derivative Fair Value	Liability Derivative Notional Amount	Liability Derivative Fair Value
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments								
Put options ⁽¹⁾	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ 4,461	\$ 336	\$	\$
Foreign exchange contracts ⁽²⁾	185,983	3,828	124,602	2,514	91,162	2,030	339,533	8,934
Interest rate futures ⁽²⁾	70,400	2,072	277,100	159	680,650	977	292,000	3,467
Total derivatives	\$ 256,383	\$ 5,900	\$ 401,702	\$ 2,673	\$ 776,273	\$ 3,343	\$ 631,533	\$ 12,401

(1) Asset and liability derivatives relating to the put options are classified within equity securities trading, at fair value on the consolidated balance sheets.

(2) All other asset and liability derivatives are classified within other assets or accounts payable and accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets.

The following table provides the net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives not designated as hedges recorded in the consolidated income statements:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 939	\$ 1,255
Total included in foreign exchange gain	939	1,255
Put options		(336)
Foreign exchange contracts		(2,305)

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Interest rate futures	9,325	(5,496)
Total included in net realized investment gains	6,684	(5,496)
Total realized and unrealized gains (losses) on derivatives	\$ 7,623	\$ (4,241)

Derivative Instruments Not Designated as Hedging Instruments

The Company is exposed to foreign currency risk in its investment portfolio. Accordingly, the fair values of the Company's investment portfolio are partially influenced by the change in foreign exchange rates. The Company entered into foreign currency forward contracts to manage the effect of this foreign currency risk. These foreign currency hedging activities have not been designated as specific hedges for financial reporting purposes.

The Company also purchases and sells interest rate future contracts to actively manage the duration and yield curve positioning of its fixed income portfolio. Interest rate futures can efficiently increase or decrease the overall duration of the portfolio. Additionally, interest rate future contracts can be utilized to obtain the desired position along the yield curve in order to protect against certain future yield curve shapes.

Table of Contents

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

The Company purchases index put options to actively manage the Company's equity portfolio.

The Company's insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries and branches operate in various foreign countries and consequently the Company's underwriting portfolio is exposed to foreign currency risk. The Company manages foreign currency risk by seeking to match liabilities under the insurance policies and reinsurance contracts that it writes and that are payable in foreign currencies with cash and investments that are denominated in such currencies. When necessary, the Company may also use derivatives to economically hedge un-matched foreign currency exposures, specifically forward contracts and currency options.

6. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. There is a three-level valuation hierarchy for disclosure of fair value measurements. The valuation hierarchy is based upon whether the inputs to the valuation of an asset or liability are observable or unobservable in the market at the measurement date, with quoted market prices being the highest level (Level 1) and unobservable inputs being the lowest level (Level 3). A fair value measurement will fall within the level of the hierarchy based on the input that is significant to determining such measurement. The three levels are defined as follows:

Level 1: Observable inputs to the valuation methodology that are quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

Level 2: Observable inputs to the valuation methodology other than quoted market prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical assets in markets that are not active and inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology that are unobservable for the asset or liability.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

The following table shows the fair value of the Company's financial instruments and where in the fair value hierarchy the fair value measurements are included as of the dates indicated below:

March 31, 2012	Carrying amount	Total fair value	Fair value measurement using:		
			Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)
Available for sale securities:					
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 30,043	\$ 30,043	\$ 30,043	\$	\$
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	13,207	13,207		13,207	
Corporate debt	1,000	1,000		1,000	
Total available for sale fixed maturity investments	44,250	44,250			
Trading securities:					
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 1,330,873	\$ 1,330,873	\$ 958,933	\$ 371,940	\$
Non-U.S. Government and Government agencies	307,112	307,112		307,112	
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	161,186	161,186		161,186	
Corporate debt	2,157,507	2,157,507		2,157,507	
Mortgage-backed	1,823,737	1,823,737		1,645,363	178,374
Asset-backed	490,822	490,822		248,428	242,394
Total trading fixed maturity investments	6,271,237	6,271,237			
Total fixed maturity investments	6,315,487	6,315,487			
Equity securities	459,639	459,639	459,639		
Other invested assets	522,065	522,065			522,065
Total investments	\$ 7,297,191	\$ 7,297,191	\$ 1,448,615	\$ 4,905,743	\$ 942,833
Derivative assets: ⁽¹⁾					
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 3,828	\$ 3,828	\$	\$ 3,828	\$
Interest rate futures	2,072	2,072		2,072	
Derivative liabilities: ⁽¹⁾					
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 2,514	\$ 2,514	\$	\$ 2,514	\$
Interest rate futures	159	159		159	
Senior notes	\$ 798,014	\$ 889,987	\$	\$ 889,987	\$

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

- (1) Asset and liability derivatives relating to foreign exchange contracts and interest rate futures are classified within other assets or accounts payable and accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets.

-12-

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

December 31, 2011	Carrying amount	Total fair value	Fair value measurement using:		
			Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets (Level 1)	Significant other observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)
Available for sale securities:					
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 33,630	\$ 33,630	\$ 33,630	\$	\$
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	33,479	33,479		33,479	
Corporate debt	176,907	176,907		176,907	
Total available for sale fixed maturity investments	244,016	244,016			
Trading securities:					
U.S. Government and Government agencies	\$ 1,278,265	\$ 1,278,265	\$ 1,054,003	\$ 224,262	\$
Non-U.S. Government and Government agencies	256,756	256,756		256,756	
States, municipalities and political subdivisions	133,902	133,902		133,902	
Corporate debt	2,254,474	2,254,474		2,254,474	
Mortgage-backed	1,818,091	1,818,091		1,568,887	249,204
Asset-backed	513,198	513,198		418,453	94,745
Total trading fixed maturity investments	6,254,686	6,254,686			
Total fixed maturity investments	6,498,702	6,498,702			
Equity securities	367,483	367,483	367,483		
Other invested assets	540,409	540,409			540,409
Total investments	\$ 7,406,594	\$ 7,406,594	\$ 1,455,116	\$ 5,067,120	\$ 884,358
Derivative assets: ⁽¹⁾					
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 2,030	\$ 2,030	\$	\$ 2,030	\$
Interest rate futures	977	977		977	
Derivative liabilities: ⁽¹⁾					
Foreign exchange contracts	\$ 8,934	\$ 8,934	\$	\$ 8,934	\$
Interest rate futures	3,467	3,467		3,467	
Senior notes	\$ 797,949	\$ 872,731	\$	\$ 872,731	\$

(1) Asset and liability derivatives relating to foreign exchange contracts and interest rate futures are classified within other assets or accounts payable and accrued liabilities on the consolidated balance sheets.

The following describes the valuation techniques used by the Company to determine the fair value of financial instruments held as of the balance sheet date.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

U.S. government and government agencies: Comprised primarily of bonds issued by the U.S. treasury, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and the Federal National Mortgage Association. The fair values of the Company's U.S. government securities are based on quoted market prices in active markets and are included in the Level 1 fair value hierarchy. The Company believes the market for U.S. treasury securities is an actively traded market given the high level of daily trading volume. The fair values of U.S. government agency securities are priced using the spread above the risk-free yield curve. As the yields for the risk-free yield curve and the spreads for these securities are observable market inputs, the fair values of U.S. government agency securities are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy.

-13-

Table of Contents

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

Non-U.S. government and government agencies: Comprised of fixed income obligations of non-U.S. governmental entities. The fair values of these securities are based on prices obtained from international indices and are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy.

States, municipalities and political subdivisions: Comprised of fixed income obligations of U.S. domiciled state and municipality entities. The fair values of these securities are based on prices obtained from the new issue market, and are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy.

Corporate debt: Comprised of bonds issued by corporations that are diversified across a wide range of issuers and industries. The fair values of corporate bonds that are short-term are priced using spread above the London Interbank Offered Rate yield curve, and the fair value of corporate bonds that are long-term are priced using the spread above the risk-free yield curve. The spreads are sourced from broker-dealers, trade prices and the new issue market. As the significant inputs used to price corporate bonds are observable market inputs, the fair values of corporate bonds are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy.

Mortgage-backed: Primarily comprised of residential and commercial mortgages originated by both U.S. government agencies (such as the Federal National Mortgage Association) and non-U.S. government agencies. The fair values of mortgage-backed securities originated by U.S. government agencies and non-U.S. government agencies are based on a pricing model that incorporates prepayment speeds and spreads to determine appropriate average life of mortgage-backed securities. The spreads are sourced from broker-dealers, trade prices and the new issue market. As the significant inputs used to price the mortgage-backed securities are observable market inputs, the fair values of these securities are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy, unless the significant inputs used to price the mortgage-backed securities are broker-dealer quotes and the Company is not able to determine if those quotes are based on observable market inputs, in which case the fair value is included in the Level 3 hierarchy.

Asset-backed: Principally comprised of bonds backed by pools of automobile loan receivables, home equity loans, credit card receivables and collateralized loan obligations originated by a variety of financial institutions. The fair values of asset-backed securities are priced using prepayment speed and spread inputs that are sourced from the new issue market or broker-dealer quotes. As the significant inputs used to price the asset-backed securities are observable market inputs, the fair values of these securities are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy, unless the significant inputs used to price the asset-backed securities are broker-dealer quotes and the Company is not able to determine if those quotes are based on observable market inputs, in which case the fair value is included in the Level 3 hierarchy.

Equity securities: The fair value of the equity securities are priced from market exchanges and therefore included in the Level 1 fair value hierarchy.

Other invested assets: Comprised of funds invested in a range of diversified strategies. In accordance with U.S. GAAP, the fair values of the funds are based on the net asset value of the funds as reported by the fund manager that the Company believes is an unobservable input, and as such, the fair values of those funds are included in the Level 3 fair value hierarchy.

Derivative instruments: The fair value of foreign exchange contracts and interest rate futures are priced from quoted market prices for similar exchange-traded derivatives and pricing valuation models that utilize independent market data inputs. The fair value of derivatives are included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy.

Senior notes: The fair value of the senior notes is based on reported trades. As of March 31, 2012, the 7.50% Senior Notes and 5.50% Senior Notes (each as defined in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011) were traded at 115.5% and 104.2% of their principal amount, providing an effective yield of 3.6% and 4.9%, respectively. The fair value of the senior notes is included in the Level 2 fair value hierarchy.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

The following is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balance of financial instruments using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

	Fair value measurement using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):		
	Other invested assets	Mortgage-backed	Asset-backed
Three Months Ended March 31, 2012			
Opening balance	\$ 540,409	\$ 249,204	\$ 94,745
Total realized and unrealized gains included in net income	27,756	4,695	1,074
Total realized and unrealized losses included in net income	(12,233)	(2,105)	(96)
Purchases	1,050	9,213	34,813
Sales	(34,917)	(81,862)	(16,009)
Transfers into Level 3 from Level 2		4,981	129,926
Transfers out of Level 3 into Level 2 ⁽¹⁾		(5,752)	(2,059)
Ending balance	\$ 522,065	\$ 178,374	\$ 242,394
Three Months Ended March 31, 2011			
Opening balance	\$ 347,632	\$ 172,558	\$ 48,707
Total realized and unrealized gains included in net income	16,449	2,374	118
Total realized and unrealized losses included in net income	(4,769)	(827)	(25)
Purchases	151,048	32,777	83,009
Sales	(40,361)	(8,957)	(426)
Transfers into Level 3 from Level 2		61,695	12,555
Transfers out of Level 3 into Level 2 ⁽¹⁾		(25,533)	(109)
Ending balance	\$ 469,999	\$ 234,087	\$ 143,829

(1) Transfers out of Level 3 are primarily attributable to the availability of market observable information.

The Company attempts to verify the significant inputs used by broker-dealers in determining the fair value of the securities priced by them. If the Company could not obtain sufficient information to determine if the broker-dealers were using significant observable inputs, such securities have been transferred to the Level 3 fair value hierarchy. The Company believes the prices obtained from the broker-dealers are the best estimate of fair value of the securities being priced as the broker-dealers are typically involved in the initial pricing of the security, and the Company has compared the price per the broker-dealer to other pricing sources and noted no material differences. The Company recognizes transfers between levels at the end of the reporting period. There were no transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 during the period.

The Company's external investment accounting service provider receives prices from internationally recognized independent pricing services to measure the fair values of its fixed maturity investments. Pricing sources are evaluated and selected in a manner to ensure that the most reliable sources are used. The independent pricing sources obtain market quotations and actual transaction prices for securities that have quoted prices in active markets. Each pricing service has its own proprietary method for determining the fair value of securities that are not actively traded. In general, these methods involve the use of matrix pricing in which the independent pricing service uses observable market inputs, including, but not limited to, reported trades, benchmark yields, broker-dealer quotes, interest rates, prepayment speeds, default rates and such other inputs as are available from market sources to determine a reasonable fair value.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

All of the Company's securities classified as Level 3, other than investments in other invested assets, are valued based on unadjusted broker-dealer quotes. This includes less liquid securities such as lower quality asset-backed securities, commercial mortgage-backed securities, and residential mortgage-backed securities. The primary valuation inputs include monthly payment information, the probability of default, loss severity rates and estimated prepayment rates. Significant changes in these inputs in isolation would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value measurement. In general, a change in the assumption of the probability of default is accompanied by a directionally similar change in the assumption used for the loss severity in an event of default and prepayment rates.

-15-

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

The Company records the unadjusted price provided and validates this price through a process that, includes, but is not limited to, monthly and/or quarterly: (i) comparison of prices between two independent sources, with significant differences requiring additional price sources; (ii) quantitative analysis (e.g., comparing the quarterly return for each managed portfolio to their target benchmark, with significant differences identified and investigated); (iii) evaluation of methodologies used by external parties to calculate fair value, including a review of the inputs used for pricing; (iv) comparing the price to the Company's knowledge of the current investment market; and (v) back-testing, which includes randomly selecting purchased or sold securities and comparing the executed prices to the fair value estimates from the pricing service. In addition to internal controls, management relies on the effectiveness of the valuation controls in place at the Company's external investment accounting service provider (supported by a Statement on Standards for Attestation Engagements No. 16 report) in conjunction with regular discussion and analysis of the investment portfolio's structure and performance.

7. RESERVE FOR LOSSES AND LOSS EXPENSES

The reserve for losses and loss expenses consists of the following:

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Outstanding loss reserves	\$ 1,421,705	\$ 1,366,466
Reserves for losses incurred but not reported	3,909,713	3,858,677
Reserve for losses and loss expenses	\$ 5,331,418	\$ 5,225,143

The table below is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses. Losses incurred and paid are reflected net of reinsurance recoverables.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
Gross liability at beginning of period	\$ 5,225,143	\$ 4,879,188
Reinsurance recoverable at beginning of period	(1,002,919)	(927,588)
Net liability at beginning of period	4,222,224	3,951,600
Net losses incurred related to:		
Current year	264,684	348,802
Prior years	(39,482)	(44,350)
Total incurred	225,202	304,452
Net paid losses related to:		
Current year	1,614	1,699
Prior years	175,520	134,358
Total paid	177,134	136,057

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Foreign exchange revaluation	4,346	5,125
Net liability at end of period	4,274,638	4,125,120
Reinsurance recoverable at end of period	1,056,780	975,523
Gross liability at end of period	\$ 5,331,418	\$ 5,100,643

For the three months ended March 31, 2012, the Company had net favorable reserve development in each of its segments due to actual loss emergence being lower than initially expected. Net favorable reserve development was recognized in each segment, primarily related to the general casualty, professional liability and healthcare insurance and reinsurance lines of business.

For the three months ended March 31, 2011, the Company had net favorable reserve development in its international and reinsurance segments due to actual loss emergence being lower than initially expected. The majority of the net favorable reserve development was recognized in the international insurance and reinsurance segment in the 2005 through 2007 loss years related to the healthcare line of business as well as the general casualty and professional liability insurance and reinsurance lines of business. The Company had net unfavorable reserve development in its U.S. insurance segment due to actual loss emergence being higher than initially expected. The majority of the net unfavorable reserve development was recognized in the 2006 loss year related to the professional liability line of business.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

While the Company has experienced favorable development in its insurance and reinsurance lines, there is no assurance that conditions and trends that have affected the development of liabilities in the past will continue. It is not appropriate to extrapolate future redundancies based on prior years' development. The methodology of estimating loss reserves is periodically reviewed to ensure that the key assumptions used in the actuarial models continue to be appropriate.

8. INCOME TAXES

Under Swiss law, a resident company is subject to income tax at the federal, cantonal and communal levels that is levied on net income. Income attributable to permanent establishments or real estate located abroad is excluded from the Swiss tax base. Allied World Switzerland is a holding company and, therefore, is exempt from cantonal and communal income tax. As a result, Allied World Switzerland is subject to Swiss income tax only at the federal level. Allied World Switzerland is a resident of the Canton of Zug and, as such, is subject to an annual cantonal and communal capital tax on the taxable equity of Allied World Switzerland in Switzerland. Allied World Switzerland has a Swiss operating company resident in the Canton of Zug. The operating company is subject to federal, cantonal and communal income tax and to annual cantonal and communal capital tax.

Under current Bermuda law, Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, Ltd (Allied World Bermuda) and its Bermuda subsidiaries are not required to pay taxes in Bermuda on either income or capital gains. Allied World Bermuda and Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd have received an assurance from the Bermuda Minister of Finance under the Exempted Undertakings Tax Protection Act 1966 of Bermuda, that in the event of any such taxes being imposed, Allied World Bermuda and Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd will be exempted until March 2035.

Certain subsidiaries of Allied World Switzerland file U.S. federal income tax returns and various U.S. state income tax returns, as well as income tax returns in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Switzerland, Hong Kong and Singapore. To the best of the Company's knowledge, there are no income tax examinations pending by any tax authority.

Management has deemed all material tax positions to have a greater than 50% likelihood of being sustained based on technical merits if challenged. The Company does not expect any material unrecognized tax benefits within 12 months of January 2012.

9. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY*a) Authorized shares*

The issued share capital consists of the following:

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Common shares issued and fully paid, 2012: CHF 13.69 per share; 2011: CHF 14.03 per share	40,003,642	40,003,642
Share capital at end of period	\$ 543,452	\$ 557,153

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012
Total shares issued at beginning and end of period	40,003,642

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Treasury shares issued, balance at beginning of period	2,261,511
Shares repurchased	1,430,804
Shares issued out of treasury	(474,740)
Total treasury shares at end of period	3,217,575
Total shares outstanding at end of period	36,786,067

As of March 31, 2012, there were outstanding 36,756,827 voting common shares and 29,240 non-voting common shares.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

Allied World Switzerland's articles of association authorize its board of directors to increase the share capital by a maximum amount of 20% of the share capital registered in the commercial register up to CHF 108,976 or 7,960,260 voting shares, and create conditional capital of 7,200,000 voting shares.

b) Share Warrants

In conjunction with the private placement offering at the formation of Allied World Bermuda, Allied World Bermuda granted warrant agreements to certain founding shareholders to acquire up to 5,500,000 common shares at an exercise price of \$34.20 per share. These warrants were exercisable in certain limited conditions, including a public offering of common shares. All warrants granted were repurchased by the Company.

In February 2011, the Company repurchased the last outstanding warrant owned by American International Group, Inc. (AIG) in a privately negotiated transaction. The warrant entitled AIG to purchase 2,000,000 of the Company's common shares for \$34.20 per share. The Company repurchased the warrant for an aggregate purchase price of \$53,620. The repurchase of the warrant was recognized as a reduction in additional paid-in capital on the consolidated balance sheets. The repurchase was executed separately from the share repurchase program discussed in Note 9(d) below. After this repurchase, AIG has no warrants remaining and no other disclosed equity interest in the Company.

c) Dividends

Under Swiss law, distributions to shareholders may be paid only if the Company has sufficient distributable profits from previous fiscal years, or if the Company has freely distributable reserves, each as presented on the audited stand-alone statutory balance sheet. Distributions to shareholders out of the share and participation capital may be made by way of a capital reduction in the form of a reduction to par value to achieve a similar result as the payment of a dividend.

On May 5, 2011, the shareholders approved the Company's proposal to pay cash dividends in the form of a distribution by way of par value reductions. The aggregate reduction amount was paid (and is expected to be paid) to shareholders in quarterly installments of \$0.375 per share. The Company made a quarterly dividend payment of \$14,208 on January 6, 2012 to shareholders of record, resulting in a par value reduction of CHF 0.35.

d) Share repurchase

In May 2010, the Company established a share repurchase program in order to repurchase its common shares. Repurchases may be effected from time to time through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, tender offers or otherwise. The timing, form and amount of the share repurchases under the program will depend on a variety of factors, including market conditions, the Company's capital position, legal requirements and other factors. Shares repurchased have been classified as Treasury shares, at cost on the consolidated balance sheets. The Company will issue shares out of treasury principally related to the Company's employee benefit plans. The Company's share repurchases were as follows:

	March 31, 2012	March 31, 2011
Common shares repurchased	1,430,804	969,163
Total cost of shares repurchased	\$ 93,023	\$ 60,000
Average price per share	\$ 65.01	\$ 61.91

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

10. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS*a) Employee option plan*

The Company has implemented the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG Third Amended and Restated 2001 Employee Stock Option Plan (the Plan). A summary of the options outstanding under the Plan as of March 31, 2012 and the changes during the three months then ended are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	
	Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at beginning of period	1,525,853	\$ 45.72
Exercised	(83,026)	40.13
Forfeited	(13,494)	52.91
Outstanding at end of period	1,429,333	\$ 45.98

b) Stock incentive plan

The Company has implemented the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG Third Amended and Restated 2004 Stock Incentive Plan (the Stock Incentive Plan). A summary of the options outstanding under the Stock Incentive Plan as of March 31, 2012 and the changes during the three months then ended are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	
	RSUs and Performance-Based Equity Awards	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding at beginning of period	653,136	\$ 47.23
RSUs granted	35,064	66.88
Performance-based equity awards granted	94,169	66.88
RSUs forfeited	(5,739)	31.78
RSUs fully vested	(107,453)	43.93
Outstanding at end of period	669,177	\$ 41.75

The Company granted performance-based equity awards in lieu of utilizing the LTIP (as defined in Note 10(c)). The performance-based equity awards are structured in exactly the same form as shares issued under the LTIP in terms of vesting restrictions and achievement of established performance criteria. For the performance-based equity awards granted in 2012, 2011 and 2010, the Company anticipates that the performance goals are likely to be achieved. Based on the performance goals, the performance-based equity awards granted in 2012, 2011 and 2010 are expensed at 100% of the fair market value of Allied World Switzerland's common shares on the date of grant. The expense is recognized over the performance period.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

The compensation expense for RSUs and performance-based equity awards is based on the fair market value of Allied World Switzerland's common shares at the date of grant. The Company has assumed a weighted average annual forfeiture rate, excluding performance-based equity awards, of 2.85% in determining the compensation expense over the service period. The Company believes it is unlikely that performance-based equity awards will be forfeited as these awards are issued to senior management. Thus, no forfeiture rate is applied to the performance-based equity awards.

c) Long-term incentive plan

The Company has implemented the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG Third Amended and Restated Long-Term Incentive Plan (LTIP). Each award under the LTIP represents the right to receive a number of common shares in the future, based upon the achievement of established performance criteria during the applicable performance period. A summary of the LTIP awards outstanding as of March 31, 2012 and the changes during the three months then ended are as follows:

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	
	LTIP	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Outstanding LTIP awards at beginning of period	324,036	\$ 39.78
Additional LTIP awards granted due to achievement of performance criteria	147,574	39.44
LTIP fully vested	(442,721)	39.44
Outstanding LTIP at end of period	28,889	\$ 39.78

The compensation expense for the LTIP is based on the fair market value of Allied World Switzerland's common shares at the time of grant.

d) Cash-equivalent stock awards

As part of the Company's annual year-end compensation awards, the Company granted both stock-based awards and cash-equivalent stock awards. The cash-equivalent awards were granted to employees who received RSUs and performance-based equity awards and were granted in lieu of granting the full award as a stock-based award. The cash-equivalent RSU awards vest pro-rata over four years from the date of grant. The cash-equivalent performance-based equity awards vest after a three-year performance period. As the cash-equivalent awards are settled in cash, the Company establishes a liability equal to the product of the fair market value of Allied World Switzerland's common shares as of the end of the reporting period and the total awards outstanding. The liability is included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities in the consolidated balance sheets and changes in the liability are recorded in general and administrative expenses in the consolidated income statements.

The following table shows the total stock related compensation expense relating to the stock options, RSUs and performance-based equity awards, LTIP and cash equivalent awards:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
Stock options	\$ 1,687	\$ 1,179
RSUs and performance-based equity awards	3,690	3,822
LTIPs	94	849
Cash-equivalent stock awards	8,198	5,169
Total	\$ 13,669	\$ 11,019

11. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The following table sets forth the comparison of basic and diluted earnings per share:

Basic earnings per share:	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Net income	\$ 218,156	\$ 8,620
Weighted average common shares outstanding	37,205,166	38,199,867
Basic earnings per share	\$ 5.86	\$ 0.23

-20-

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
Diluted earnings per share:		
Net income	\$ 218,156	\$ 8,620
Weighted average common shares outstanding	37,205,166	38,199,867
Share equivalents:		
Warrants and options	378,392	679,820
Restricted stock units	144,931	575,436
LTIP awards	556,146	928,400
Weighted average common shares and common share equivalents outstanding diluted	38,284,635	40,383,523
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 5.70	\$ 0.21

For the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, a weighted average of 358,144 and 440,548 employee stock options and RSUs were considered anti-dilutive and were therefore excluded from the calculation of the diluted earnings per share, respectively.

12. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The determination of reportable segments is based on how senior management monitors the Company's underwriting operations. Management monitors the performance of its direct underwriting operations based on the geographic location of the Company's offices, the markets and customers served and the type of accounts written. The Company is currently organized into three operating segments: U.S. insurance, international insurance and reinsurance. All product lines fall within these classifications.

The U.S. insurance segment includes the Company's direct specialty insurance operations in the United States. This segment provides both direct property and specialty casualty insurance primarily to non-Fortune 1000 North American domiciled accounts. The international insurance segment includes the Company's direct insurance operations in Bermuda, Europe, Singapore and Hong Kong. This segment provides both direct property and casualty insurance primarily to Fortune 1000 North American domiciled accounts and mid-sized to large non-North American domiciled accounts. The reinsurance segment includes the Company's reinsurance operations in the U.S., Bermuda, Europe and Asia. This segment provides reinsurance of property, general casualty, professional liability, specialty lines and property catastrophe coverages written by insurance companies. The Company presently writes reinsurance on both a treaty and a facultative basis, targeting several niche reinsurance markets.

Responsibility and accountability for the results of underwriting operations are assigned by major line of business within each segment. Because the Company does not manage its assets by segment, investment income, interest expense and total assets are not allocated to individual reportable segments. General and administrative expenses are allocated to segments based on various factors, including staff count and each segment's proportional share of gross premiums written.

Management measures results for each segment on the basis of the loss and loss expense ratio, acquisition cost ratio, general and administrative expense ratio and the combined ratio. The loss and loss expense ratio is derived by dividing net losses and loss expenses by net premiums earned. The acquisition cost ratio is derived by dividing acquisition costs by net premiums earned. The general and administrative expense ratio is derived by dividing general and administrative expenses by net premiums earned. The combined ratio is the sum of the loss and loss expense ratio, the acquisition cost ratio and the general and administrative expense ratio.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

The following tables provide a summary of the segment results:

Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	U.S. Insurance	International Insurance	Reinsurance	Total
Gross premiums written	\$ 204,211	\$ 113,590	\$ 363,128	\$ 680,929
Net premiums written	153,846	72,609	362,498	588,953
Net premiums earned	153,358	79,871	168,661	401,890
Net losses and loss expenses	(97,704)	(38,100)	(89,398)	(225,202)
Acquisition costs	(19,972)	528	(27,694)	(47,138)
General and administrative expenses	(31,044)	(22,401)	(16,921)	(70,366)
Underwriting income	4,638	19,898	34,648	59,184
Net investment income				47,209
Net realized investment gains				133,581
Amortization and impairment of intangible assets				(633)
Interest expense				(13,756)
Foreign exchange gain				81
Income before income taxes				\$ 225,666
Loss and loss expense ratio	63.7%	47.7%	53.0%	56.0%
Acquisition cost ratio	13.0%	(0.7%)	16.4%	11.7%
General and administrative expense ratio	20.2%	28.0%	10.0%	17.5%
Combined ratio	96.9%	75.0%	79.4%	85.2%

Three Months Ended March 31, 2011	U.S. Insurance	International Insurance	Reinsurance	Total
Gross premiums written	\$ 183,302	\$ 111,325	\$ 266,061	\$ 560,688
Net premiums written	139,902	74,910	266,059	480,871
Net premiums earned	135,481	76,290	123,105	334,876
Net losses and loss expenses	(115,831)	(71,184)	(117,437)	(304,452)
Acquisition costs	(18,102)	1,856	(21,836)	(38,082)
General and administrative expenses	(30,799)	(20,728)	(16,429)	(67,956)
Underwriting loss	(29,251)	(13,766)	(32,597)	(75,614)
Net investment income				50,208
Net realized investment gains				50,376
Amortization and impairment of intangible assets				(767)
Interest expense				(13,742)
Foreign exchange gain				442
Income before income taxes				\$ 10,903

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Loss and loss expense ratio	85.5%	93.3%	95.4%	90.9%
Acquisition cost ratio	13.4%	(2.4%)	17.7%	11.4%
General and administrative expense ratio	22.7%	27.2%	13.3%	20.3%
Combined ratio	121.6%	118.1%	126.4%	122.6%

-22-

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

The following table shows an analysis of the Company's net premiums written by geographic location of the Company's subsidiaries. All intercompany premiums have been eliminated.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
United States	\$ 338,598	\$ 263,231
Bermuda	154,245	146,331
Europe	61,727	51,876
Singapore	29,184	15,236
Hong Kong	5,199	4,197
Total net premiums written	\$ 588,953	\$ 480,871

13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

In April 2006, a complaint entitled *New Cingular Wireless Headquarters, LLC et al. v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.* was filed against numerous brokers and 78 insurers including Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd. Plaintiffs allege that the broker defendants used a variety of illegal schemes and anti-competitive practices that resulted in the plaintiffs either paying more for insurance products or receiving less beneficial terms than the competitive market would have produced. Plaintiffs seek equitable and legal remedies, including injunctive relief, consequential and punitive damages, treble damages and attorneys' fees. Due to various pending procedural matters, the litigation has not progressed beyond the discovery phase. While it is not possible to predict the outcome of the litigation, the Company does not believe that the outcome will have a material effect on its operations or financial position.

The Company may become involved in various claims and legal proceedings that arise in the normal course of our business, which are not likely to have a material effect on the Company's results of operations.

14. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED GUARANTOR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following tables present unaudited condensed consolidating financial information as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 and for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 for Allied World Switzerland (the Parent Guarantor) and Allied World Bermuda (the Subsidiary Issuer). The Subsidiary Issuer is a direct 100% owned subsidiary of the Parent Guarantor. Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for by the Parent Guarantor under the equity method for purposes of the supplemental consolidating presentation. Earnings of subsidiaries are reflected in the Parent Guarantor's investment accounts and earnings. The Parent Guarantor fully and unconditionally guarantees the senior notes issued by the Subsidiary Issuer.

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheet:

As of March 31, 2012	Allied World Switzerland (Parent Guarantor)	Allied World Bermuda (Subsidiary Issuer)	Other Allied World Subsidiaries	Consolidating Adjustments	Allied World Switzerland Consolidated
ASSETS:					
Investments	\$	\$	\$ 7,297,191	\$	\$ 7,297,191
Cash and cash equivalents	95,286	29,675	701,025		825,986
Insurance balances receivable			748,137		748,137
Reinsurance recoverable			1,056,780		1,056,780
Net deferred acquisition costs			125,645		125,645
Goodwill and intangible assets			321,640		321,640
Balances receivable on sale of investments			367,997		367,997
Investments in subsidiaries	3,177,570	4,100,638		(7,278,208)	
Due (to) from subsidiaries	(4,997)	(7,141)	12,138		
Other assets	1,578	6,023	605,301		612,902
Total assets	\$ 3,269,437	\$ 4,129,195	\$ 11,235,854	\$ (7,278,208)	\$ 11,356,278
LIABILITIES:					
Reserve for losses and loss expenses	\$	\$	\$ 5,331,418	\$	\$ 5,331,418
Unearned premiums			1,253,454		1,253,454
Reinsurance balances payable			93,262		93,262
Balances due on purchases of investments			546,791		546,791
Senior notes		798,014			798,014
Other liabilities	23,616	12,625	51,277		87,518
Total liabilities	23,616	810,639	7,276,202		8,110,457
Total shareholders equity	3,245,821	3,318,556	3,959,652	(7,278,208)	3,245,821
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$ 3,269,437	\$ 4,129,195	\$ 11,235,854	\$ (7,278,208)	\$ 11,356,278

As of December 31, 2011	Allied World Switzerland (Parent Guarantor)	Allied World Bermuda (Subsidiary Issuer)	Other Allied World Subsidiaries	Consolidating Adjustments	Allied World Switzerland Consolidated
ASSETS:					
Investments	\$	\$	\$ 7,406,594	\$	\$ 7,406,594
Cash and cash equivalents	112,672	8,886	512,438		633,996
Insurance balances receivable			652,158		652,158

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Reinsurance recoverable			1,002,919		1,002,919
Net deferred acquisition costs			100,334		100,334
Goodwill and intangible assets			322,274		322,274
Balances receivable on sale of investments			580,443		580,443
Investments in subsidiaries	3,064,066	3,964,585		(7,028,651)	
Due (to) from subsidiaries	(4,853)	(6,769)	11,622		
Other assets	1,504	6,367	415,569		423,440
Total assets	\$ 3,173,389	\$ 3,973,069	\$ 11,004,351	\$ (7,028,651)	\$ 11,122,158
LIABILITIES:					
Reserve for losses and loss expenses	\$	\$	\$ 5,225,143	\$	\$ 5,225,143
Unearned premiums			1,078,412		1,078,412
Reinsurance balances payable			124,539		124,539
Balances due on purchases of investments			616,728		616,728
Senior notes		797,949			797,949
Other liabilities	24,367	17,688	88,310		130,365
Total liabilities	24,367	815,637	7,133,132		7,973,136
Total shareholders equity	3,149,022	3,157,432	3,871,219	(7,028,651)	3,149,022
Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$ 3,173,389	\$ 3,973,069	\$ 11,004,351	\$ (7,028,651)	\$ 11,122,158

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Income Statement:

	Allied World Switzerland (Parent Guarantor)	Allied World Bermuda (Subsidiary Issuer)	Other Allied World Subsidiaries	Consolidating Adjustments	Allied World Switzerland Consolidated
Three months ended March 31, 2012					
Net premiums earned	\$	\$	\$ 401,890	\$	\$ 401,890
Net investment income	9	3	47,197		47,209
Net realized investment losses			133,581		133,581
Net losses and loss expenses			(225,202)		(225,202)
Acquisition costs			(47,138)		(47,138)
General and administrative expenses	(3,956)	(1,152)	(65,258)		(70,366)
Amortization of intangible assets			(633)		(633)
Interest expense		(13,756)			(13,756)
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	89	(25)	17		81
Income tax (expense) benefit	444		(7,954)		(7,510)
Equity in earnings of consolidated subsidiaries	221,570	234,307		(455,877)	
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 218,156	\$ 219,377	\$ 236,500	\$ (455,877)	\$ 218,156
Unrealized losses on investments arising during the period net of applicable deferred income tax benefit of \$28			(52)		(52)
Reclassification adjustment for net realized investment gains included in net income, net of applicable income tax			(12,107)		(12,107)
Other comprehensive loss			(12,159)		(12,159)
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 218,156	\$ 219,377	\$ 224,341	\$ (455,877)	\$ 205,997

	Allied World Switzerland (Parent Guarantor)	Allied World Bermuda (Subsidiary Issuer)	Other Allied World Subsidiaries	Consolidating Adjustments	Allied World Switzerland Consolidated
Three months ended March 31, 2011					
Net premiums earned	\$	\$	\$ 334,876	\$	\$ 334,876
Net investment income	30	14	50,164		50,208
Net realized investment gains			50,376		50,376
Net losses and loss expenses			(304,452)		(304,452)
Acquisition costs			(38,082)		(38,082)
General and administrative expenses	(1,064)	(2,744)	(64,148)		(67,956)
Amortization of intangible assets			(767)		(767)
Interest expense		(13,742)			(13,742)
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	4	(241)	679		442
Income tax (expense) benefit			(2,283)		(2,283)
Equity in earnings of consolidated subsidiaries	9,650	26,363		(36,013)	

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$	8,620	\$	9,650	\$	26,363	\$	(36,013)	\$	8,620
Unrealized losses on investments arising during the period net of applicable deferred income tax benefit of \$964						(8,044)				(8,044)
Reclassification adjustment for net realized investment gains included in net income, net of applicable income tax						(16,128)				(16,128)
Other comprehensive loss						(24,172)				(24,172)
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)	\$	8,620	\$	9,650	\$	2,191	\$	(36,013)	\$	(15,552)

-25-

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Cash Flows:

Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	Allied World Switzerland (Parent Guarantor)	Allied World Bermuda (Subsidiary Issuer)	Other Allied World Subsidiaries	Consolidating Adjustments	Allied World Switzerland Consolidated
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN)					
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 86,607	\$ 20,789	\$ 35,666	\$	\$ 143,062
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN)					
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:					
Purchase of fixed maturity investments trading			(1,039,294)		(1,039,294)
Purchases of equity securities and other invested assets			(100,087)		(100,087)
Sales of fixed maturity investments available for sale			116,303		116,303
Sales of fixed maturity investments trading			1,328,702		1,328,702
Sale of equity securities and other invested assets			52,276		52,276
Other			(205,073)		(205,073)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities			152,827		152,827
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN)					
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Partial par value reduction	(14,208)				(14,208)
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	3,332				3,332
Share repurchase	(93,023)				(93,023)
Other					
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(103,899)				(103,899)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(17,292)	20,789	188,493		191,990
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	112,672	8,886	512,438		633,996
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 95,380	\$ 29,675	\$ 700,931	\$	\$ 825,986

Table of Contents**ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG****NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Expressed in thousands of United States dollars, except share, per share, percentage and ratio information)

Three Months Ended March 31, 2011	Allied World Switzerland (Parent Guarantor)	Allied World Bermuda (Subsidiary Issuer)	Other Allied World Subsidiaries	Consolidating Adjustments	Allied World Switzerland Consolidated
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN)					
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	\$ (2,805)	\$ (16,740)	\$ 195,799	\$	\$ 176,254
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN)					
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:					
Purchase of fixed maturity investments available for sale			(352)		(352)
Purchase of fixed maturity investments trading			(2,332,315)		(2,332,315)
Purchases of equity securities and other invested assets			(268,941)		(268,941)
Sales of fixed maturity investments available for sale			340,418		340,418
Sales of fixed maturity investments trading			2,036,961		2,036,961
Sale of equity securities and other invested assets			52,644		52,644
Other assets			42,712		42,712
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities			(128,873)		(128,873)
CASH FLOWS PROVIDED BY (USED IN)					
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:					
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	3,224				3,224
Share repurchase	(60,000)				(60,000)
Repurchase of founder warrants		(53,620)			(53,620)
Other	(507)	(943)	1,450		
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(57,283)	(54,563)	1,450		(110,396)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(60,088)	(71,303)	68,376		(63,015)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	138,488	125,663	492,844		756,995
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD	\$ 78,400	\$ 54,360	\$ 561,220	\$	\$ 693,980

15. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On May 3, 2012, the Company's shareholders approved the following proposals:

The Company will pay dividends in the form of a distribution by way of par value reductions. The aggregate reduction amount will be paid to shareholders in quarterly installments of \$0.375 per share. The Company expects to distribute such dividends in August 2012, September 2012, December 2012, and March 2013. Any declaration and payment of dividends by the Company will depend upon the Company's results of operations, financial condition and cash requirements, and will be subject to Swiss law and other related factors described in the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2012 Annual Shareholder Meeting.

The Company established a new \$500 million share repurchase program. Under the terms of this new share repurchase program, common shares repurchased shall be designated for cancellation and shall be cancelled upon shareholder approval.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

The Company will cancel 2,326,900 voting common shares and 173,100 non-voting common shares held in treasury, subject to a required filing with the Swiss Commercial Register in Zug.

-27-

Table of Contents

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

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Form 10-Q. References in this Form 10-Q to the terms we, us, our, the company or other similar terms mean the consolidated operations of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG, a Swiss holding company, and our consolidated subsidiaries, unless the context requires otherwise. References in this Form 10-Q to the term Allied World Switzerland or Holdings means only Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG. References to Allied World Bermuda mean only Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, Ltd, a Bermuda holding company. References to our insurance subsidiaries may include our reinsurance subsidiaries. References in this Form 10-Q to \$ are to the lawful currency of the United States and to CHF are to the lawful currency of Switzerland. References in this Form 10-Q to Holdings common shares mean its registered voting shares and non-voting participation certificates.

Note on Forward-Looking Statement

This Form 10-Q and other publicly available documents may include, and our officers and representatives may from time to time make, projections concerning financial information and statements concerning future economic performance and events, plans and objectives relating to management, operations, products and services, and assumptions underlying these projections and statements. These projections and statements are forward-looking statements within the meaning of The Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and are not historical facts but instead represent only our belief regarding future events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside our control. These projections and statements may address, among other things, our strategy for growth, product development, financial results and reserves. Actual results and financial condition may differ, possibly materially, from these projections and statements and therefore you should not place undue reliance on them. Factors that could cause our actual results to differ, possibly materially, from those in the specific projections and statements are discussed throughout this Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and in Risk Factors in Item 1A. of Part I of our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on February 29, 2012 (the 2011 Form 10-K). We are under no obligation (and expressly disclaim any such obligation) to update or revise any forward-looking statement that may be made from time to time, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

Overview

Our Business

We write a diversified portfolio of property and casualty insurance and reinsurance internationally through our subsidiaries and branches based in Bermuda, Europe, Hong Kong, Singapore and the United States as well as our Lloyd's Syndicate 2232. We manage our business through three operating segments: U.S. insurance, international insurance and reinsurance. As of March 31, 2012, we had approximately \$11.4 billion of total assets, \$3.2 billion of total shareholders' equity and \$4.0 billion of total capital, which includes shareholders' equity and senior notes.

During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we continued to experience rate increases on property lines that had experienced significant loss activity in the prior year. We also started to see rate improvement during the quarter on some of our casualty lines of business in certain jurisdictions. We believe that there are opportunities where certain products have attractive premium rates and that the expanded breadth of our operations allows us to target those classes of business. Given these trends, we continue to be selective in the insurance policies and reinsurance contracts we underwrite. Our consolidated gross premiums written increased by \$120.2 million, or 21.4%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. Our net income increased by \$209.6 million to \$218.2 million compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011, primarily as a result of lower net losses and loss expenses. The three months ended March 31, 2011 included \$132.2 million in property catastrophe losses in the Asia-Pacific region while there were no significant catastrophe losses for the three months ended March 31, 2012. Net realized investment gains increased \$83.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, benefiting from spread tightening and an improvement in the equity markets.

Table of Contents**Financial Highlights**

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions except share, per share and percentage data)	
Gross premiums written	\$ 680.9	\$ 560.7
Net income	218.2	8.6
Operating income (loss)	91.5	(41.3)
Basic earnings per share:		
Net income	\$ 5.86	\$ 0.23
Operating income (loss)	\$ 2.46	\$ (1.08)
Diluted earnings per share:		
Net income	\$ 5.70	\$ 0.21
Operating income (loss)	\$ 2.39	\$ (1.02)
Weighted average common shares outstanding:		
Basic	37,205,166	38,199,867
Diluted	38,284,635	40,383,523
Basic book value per common share	\$ 88.24	\$ 77.86
Diluted book value per common share	\$ 85.48	\$ 74.23
Annualized return on average equity (ROAE), net income	27.4%	1.2%
Annualized ROAE, operating income (loss)	11.5%	(5.6%)

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In presenting the company's results, management has included and discussed certain non-GAAP financial measures, as such term is defined in Item 10(e) of Regulation S-K promulgated by the SEC. Management believes that these non-GAAP measures, which may be defined differently by other companies, better explain the company's results of operations in a manner that allows for a more complete understanding of the underlying trends in the company's business. However, these measures should not be viewed as a substitute for those determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Operating income & operating income per share

Operating income is an internal performance measure used in the management of our operations and represents after-tax operational results excluding, as applicable, net realized investment gains or losses, net impairment charges recognized in earnings, net foreign exchange gain or loss, impairment of intangible assets and other non-recurring items. We exclude net realized investment gains or losses, net impairment charges recognized in earnings, net foreign exchange gain or loss and any other non-recurring items from our calculation of operating income because these amounts are heavily influenced by and fluctuate in part according to the availability of market opportunities and other factors. We exclude impairment of intangible assets as these are non-recurring charges. In addition to presenting net income determined in accordance with U.S. GAAP, we believe that showing operating income enables investors, analysts, rating agencies and other users of our financial information to more easily analyze our results of operations and our underlying business performance. Operating income should not be viewed as a substitute for U.S. GAAP net income. The following is a reconciliation of operating income to its most closely related U.S. GAAP measure, net income.

Table of Contents

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions except per share data)	
Net income	\$ 218.2	\$ 8.6
Add after tax affect of:		
Net realized investment gains	(126.6)	(49.5)
Foreign exchange gain	(0.1)	(0.4)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 91.5	\$ (41.3)

Basic per share data:

Net income	\$ 5.86	\$ 0.23
Add after tax affect of:		
Net realized investment gains	(3.40)	(1.30)
Foreign exchange gain		(0.01)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 2.46	\$ (1.08)

Diluted per share data:

Net income	\$ 5.70	\$ 0.21
Add after tax affect of:		
Net realized investment gains	(3.31)	(1.22)
Foreign exchange gain		(0.01)
Operating income (loss)	\$ 2.39	\$ (1.02)

Diluted book value per share

We have included diluted book value per share because it takes into account the effect of dilutive securities; therefore, we believe it is an important measure of calculating shareholder returns.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions except share and per share data)	
Price per share at period end	\$ 68.67	\$ 62.69
Total shareholders equity	\$ 3,245.8	\$ 2,951.0
Basic common shares outstanding	36,786,067	37,899,699
Add:		
Unvested restricted share units	187,623	475,679
Performance based equity awards	524,888	920,164
Dilutive options/warrants outstanding	1,429,333	1,674,993
Weighted average exercise price per share	\$ 45.98	\$ 45.47
Deduct:		
Options bought back via treasury method	(957,064)	(1,215,020)
Common shares and common share equivalents outstanding	37,970,847	39,755,515
Basic book value per common share	\$ 88.24	\$ 77.86
Diluted book value per common share	\$ 85.48	\$ 74.23

Table of Contents**Annualized return on average equity**

Annualized return on average shareholders' equity (ROAE) is calculated using average equity, excluding the average after tax unrealized gains or losses on investments. We present ROAE as a measure that is commonly recognized as a standard of performance by investors, analysts, rating agencies and other users of our financial information.

Annualized operating return on average shareholders' equity is calculated using operating income and average shareholders' equity, excluding the average after tax unrealized gains or losses on investments.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions except percentage data)	
Opening shareholders' equity	\$ 3,149.0	\$ 3,075.8
Deduct: accumulated other comprehensive income	(14.5)	(57.1)
Adjusted opening shareholders' equity	\$ 3,134.5	\$ 3,018.7
Closing shareholders' equity	\$ 3,245.8	\$ 2,951.0
Deduct: accumulated other comprehensive income	(2.3)	(33.0)
Adjusted closing shareholders' equity	\$ 3,243.5	\$ 2,918.0
Average shareholders' equity	\$ 3,189.0	\$ 2,968.3
Net income available to shareholders	\$ 218.2	\$ 8.6
Annualized return on average shareholders' equity	27.4%	1.2%
Operating income (loss) available to shareholders	\$ 91.5	\$ (41.3)
Annualized return on average shareholders' equity	11.5%	(5.6%)

Relevant Factors**Revenues**

We derive our revenues primarily from premiums on our insurance policies and reinsurance contracts, net of any reinsurance or retrocessional coverage purchased. Insurance and reinsurance premiums are a function of the amounts and types of policies and contracts we write, as well as prevailing market prices. Our prices are determined before our ultimate costs, which may extend far into the future, are known. In addition, our revenues include income generated from our investment portfolio, consisting of net investment income and net realized investment gains or losses. Investment income is principally derived from interest and dividends earned on investments, partially offset by investment management expenses and fees paid to our custodian bank. Net realized investment gains or losses include gains or losses from the sale of investments, as well as the change in the fair value of investments that we mark-to-market through net income.

Expenses

Our expenses consist largely of net losses and loss expenses, acquisition costs and general and administrative expenses. Net losses and loss expenses incurred are comprised of three main components:

losses paid, which are actual cash payments to insureds and reinsureds, net of recoveries from reinsurers;

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

outstanding loss or case reserves, which represent management's best estimate of the likely settlement amount for known claims, less the portion that can be recovered from reinsurers; and

reserves for losses incurred but not reported, or IBNR, which are reserves (in addition to case reserves) established by us that we believe are needed for the future settlement of claims. The portion recoverable from reinsurers is deducted from the gross estimated loss.

Acquisition costs are comprised of commissions, brokerage fees and insurance taxes. Commissions and brokerage fees are usually calculated as a percentage of premiums and depend on the market and line of business. Acquisition costs are reported after (1) deducting commissions received on ceded reinsurance, (2) deducting the part of acquisition costs relating to unearned premiums and (3) including the amortization of previously deferred acquisition costs.

Table of Contents

General and administrative expenses include personnel expenses including stock-based compensation expense, rent expense, professional fees, information technology costs and other general operating expenses.

Ratios

Management measures results for each segment on the basis of the loss and loss expense ratio, acquisition cost ratio, general and administrative expense ratio, expense ratio and the combined ratio. Because we do not manage our assets by segment, investment income, interest expense and total assets are not allocated to individual reportable segments. General and administrative expenses are allocated to segments based on various factors, including staff count and each segment's proportional share of gross premiums written. The loss and loss expense ratio is derived by dividing net losses and loss expenses by net premiums earned. The acquisition cost ratio is derived by dividing acquisition costs by net premiums earned. The general and administrative expense ratio is derived by dividing general and administrative expenses by net premiums earned. The expense ratio is the sum of the acquisition cost ratio and the general and administrative expense ratio. The combined ratio is the sum of the loss and loss expense ratio, the acquisition cost ratio and the general and administrative expense ratio.

Critical Accounting Policies

It is important to understand our accounting policies in order to understand our financial position and results of operations. Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements reflect determinations that are inherently subjective in nature and require management to make assumptions and best estimates to determine the reported values. If events or other factors cause actual results to differ materially from management's underlying assumptions or estimates, there could be a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations. We believe that some of the more critical judgments in the areas of accounting estimates and assumptions that affect our financial condition and results of operations are related to reserves for losses and loss expenses, reinsurance recoverables, premiums and acquisition costs, valuation of financial instruments and goodwill and other intangible asset impairment valuation. For a detailed discussion of our critical accounting policies please refer to our 2011 Form 10-K. There were no material changes in the application of our critical accounting estimates subsequent to that report.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations**

The following table sets forth our selected consolidated statement of operations data for each of the periods indicated.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Gross premiums written	\$ 680.9	\$ 560.7
Net premiums written	\$ 588.9	\$ 480.9
Net premiums earned	401.9	334.9
Net investment income	47.2	50.2
Net realized investment gains	133.6	50.4
	\$ 582.7	\$ 435.5
Net losses and loss expenses	\$ 225.2	\$ 304.4
Acquisition costs	47.1	38.1
General and administrative expenses	70.4	68.0
Amortization of intangible assets	0.6	0.8
Interest expense	13.8	13.7
Foreign exchange gain	(0.1)	(0.4)
	\$ 357.0	\$ 424.6
Income before income taxes	\$ 225.7	\$ 10.9
Income tax expense	7.5	2.3
Net income	\$ 218.2	\$ 8.6
Ratios		
Loss and loss expense ratio	56.0%	90.9%
Acquisition cost ratio	11.7%	11.4%
General and administrative expense ratio	17.5%	20.3%
Expense ratio	29.2%	31.7%
Combined ratio	85.2%	122.6%

Comparison of Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 and 2011**Premiums**

Gross premiums written increased by \$120.2 million, or 21.4%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The overall increase in gross premiums written was primarily the result of the following:

Gross premiums written in our U.S. insurance segment increased by \$20.9 million, or 11.4%. The increase in gross premiums written was primarily due to new business, rate increases and growth in premiums on new products introduced in 2011. This growth was partially offset by the non-renewal of business that did not meet our underwriting requirements (which included inadequate pricing and/or terms and conditions) and continued competition.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Gross premiums written in our international insurance segment increased by \$2.3 million, or 2.1%, primarily as a result of increased premiums from new products. This growth was partially offset by the non-renewal of business that did not meet our underwriting requirements (which included inadequate pricing and/or terms and conditions) and continued competition.

Gross premiums written in our reinsurance segment increased by \$97.0 million, or 36.5%. The increase in gross premiums written was primarily due to the continued growth of our specialty division, combined with the continued growth of our Lloyd's syndicate, rate increases and property reinsurance opportunities. This growth was partially offset by the non-renewal of business that did not meet our underwriting requirements (which included inadequate pricing and/or terms and conditions) and continued competition.

-33-

Table of Contents

The table below illustrates our gross premiums written by geographic location for each of the periods indicated.

	XXX.X Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	XXX.X Three Months Ended March 31, 2011	XXX.X Dollar Change	XXX.X Percentage Change
United States	\$ 389.0	\$ 306.6	\$ 82.4	26.9%
Bermuda	182.1	170.5	11.6	6.8%
Europe	75.4	64.1	11.3	17.6%
Singapore	29.2	15.2	14.0	92.1%
Hong Kong	5.2	4.3	0.9	20.9%
	\$ 680.9	\$ 560.7	\$ 120.2	21.4%

Net premiums written increased by \$108.0 million, or 22.5%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase in net premiums written was due to the increase in gross premiums written. The difference between gross and net premiums written is the cost to us of purchasing reinsurance coverage, including the cost of property catastrophe reinsurance coverage. We ceded 13.5% of gross premiums written for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to 14.2% for the same period in 2011. This decrease was due to higher writings in our reinsurance segment, where we retain substantially all of the premiums written.

Net premiums earned increased by \$67.0 million, or 20.0%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011 as a result of higher net premiums written in 2011 and 2012.

We evaluate our business by segment, distinguishing between U.S. insurance, international insurance and reinsurance. The following chart illustrates the mix of our business on both a gross premiums written and net premiums earned basis.

	XX.XxXXX Gross Premiums Written 2012	XX.XxXXX Gross Premiums Written 2011	XX.XxXXX Net Premiums Earned 2012	XX.XxXXX Net Premiums Earned 2011
U.S. insurance	30.0%	32.7%	38.1%	40.4%
International insurance	16.7%	19.8%	19.9%	22.8%
Reinsurance	53.3%	47.5%	42.0%	36.8%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Net Investment Income

Net investment income decreased by \$3.0 million, or 6.0%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease was due to lower yields on our fixed maturity investments as well as an increased allocation to other invested assets that contribute to our total return but carry little or no current yield. The annualized period book yield of the investment portfolio for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 was 2.4% and 2.6%, respectively, and the financial statement total return of our investment portfolio was 2.0% and 1.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Investment management expenses of \$4.4 million and \$3.3 million were incurred during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The increase in investment management expenses was primarily due to the increase in the size of our investment portfolio, as well as expenses from higher expense asset classes.

As of March 31, 2012, approximately 90.1% of our fixed income investments consisted of investment grade securities. As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the average credit rating of our fixed income portfolio was AA- as rated by Standard & Poor's and Aa3 as rated by Moody's. The average duration of fixed maturity investments and cash and cash equivalents was approximately 2.1 years as of March 31, 2012 and 1.9 years as of December 31, 2011.

Realized Investment Gains

During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we recognized \$133.6 million in net realized investment gains compared to \$50.4 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011. During the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, we did not recognize any net impairment charges. Net realized investment gains of \$133.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 were comprised of the following:

Table of Contents

Net realized investment gains of \$17.3 million from the sale of fixed maturity securities and equity securities, partially offset by realized losses on other invested assets.

Net realized investment gains of \$6.7 million on derivatives.

Net realized investment gains of \$109.6 million related to mark-to-market adjustments for our other invested assets, equity securities and fixed maturity investments that are accounted for as trading securities.

The major contributions to the mark-to-market gains are shown below. In the fixed income portfolio, spread tightening more than offset the rise in U.S. Treasury rates, causing higher prices on much of the fixed income portfolio. In addition, we recognized gains on our equities and alternative asset classes.

	Mark-to-Market Adjustments for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 (\$ in millions)
Fixed maturity investments accounted for as trading securities	\$ 68.5
Equity securities	19.8
Other invested assets	21.3
Total	\$ 109.6

Net realized investment gains of \$50.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011 were primarily comprised of the following:

Net realized investment gains of \$16.1 million from the sale of securities.

Net realized investment gains of \$34.3 million primarily related to the mark-to-market adjustments for our other invested assets, equity securities and fixed maturity investments that are accounted for as trading securities.

Net Losses and Loss Expenses

Net losses and loss expenses decreased by \$79.2 million, or 26.0%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease in net loss and loss expenses was due to the absence of catastrophe losses for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, when we recognized estimated losses from Asia-Pacific catastrophes of \$132.2 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2011, we recognized estimated losses of \$19.0 million for the Australian storms, \$38.2 million for the New Zealand earthquake and \$75.0 million for the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami.

We recorded net favorable reserve development related to prior years of \$39.5 million and \$44.3 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The following table shows the net favorable reserve development by loss year for each of our segments for the three months ended March 31, 2012. In the table, a negative number represents net favorable reserve development and a positive number represents net unfavorable reserve development.

X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X	X.X
Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012											

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
	(\$ in millions)										
U.S. insurance	\$ (0.1)	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.3	\$ (3.6)	\$ (6.5)	\$ (9.1)	\$ 0.3	\$ (2.6)	\$ 4.8	\$ 8.9	\$ (7.2)
International insurance	(1.6)	(1.3)	(2.5)	(3.0)	(16.9)	(9.9)	(2.3)	(0.6)	(6.6)	24.4	(20.3)
Reinsurance	0.5	(0.9)	0.9	(7.3)	(2.2)	(6.2)	(0.9)	0.9	4.5	(1.3)	(12.0)
	\$ (1.2)	\$ (1.8)	\$ (1.3)	\$ (13.9)	\$ (25.6)	\$ (25.2)	\$ (2.9)	\$ (2.3)	\$ 2.7	\$ 32.0	\$ (39.5)

The net favorable reserve development is a result of actual loss emergence being lower than anticipated. The unfavorable reserve development in our international insurance segment for the 2011 loss year was due to adverse development on an individual general casualty claim, estimated to reach our full limit of \$20.0 million, net of reinsurance.

The following table shows the net favorable reserve development by loss year for each of our segments for the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX	X.xX
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year									
	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011									
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
	(\$ in millions)									
U.S. insurance	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.8)	\$ (1.7)	\$ (5.9)	\$ 25.0	\$ 0.1	\$ (1.7)	\$ (1.1)	\$ 8.4	\$ 22.2
International insurance	1.5	(2.7)	1.9	(17.2)	(4.3)	(7.8)	3.6	(1.4)	(2.2)	(28.6)
Reinsurance		(2.1)	(2.6)	(11.8)	(5.9)	(3.3)	(2.4)	(8.8)	(1.0)	(37.9)
	\$ 1.4	\$ (5.6)	\$ (2.4)	\$ (34.9)	\$ 14.8	\$ (11.0)	\$ (0.5)	\$ (11.3)	\$ 5.2	\$ (44.3)

The loss and loss expense ratio for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 56.0% compared to 90.9% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. Net favorable reserve development recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2012 reduced the loss and loss expense ratio by 9.8 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio related to the current loss year was 65.8%. Net favorable reserve development recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2011 reduced the loss and loss expense ratio by 13.2 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio related to that loss year was 104.1%. The \$132.2 million of global catastrophe losses that occurred during the three months ended March 31, 2011 added 39.5 percentage points to that period's loss and loss expense ratio. Excluding favorable prior year development and catastrophe losses, the 2011 loss ratio would have been 64.6%.

The following table shows the components of net losses and loss expenses for each of the periods indicated.

	XXX.XX	XXX.XX	XXX.XX
	Three Months		Dollar
	Ended March 31,		Change
	2012	2011	
Net losses paid	\$ 177.1	\$ 136.0	\$ 41.1
Net change in reported case reserves	33.0	112.3	(79.3)
Net change in IBNR	15.1	56.1	(41.0)
Net losses and loss expenses	\$ 225.2	\$ 304.4	\$ (79.2)

The table below is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending reserves for losses and loss expenses. Losses incurred and paid are reflected net of reinsurance recoverables.

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Net reserves for losses and loss expenses, January 1	\$ 4,222.2	\$ 3,951.6
Incurred related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	264.7	216.5
Current period property catastrophe		132.2
Prior period non-catastrophe	(42.3)	(35.3)
Prior period property catastrophe	2.8	(9.0)
Total incurred	\$ 225.2	\$ 304.4
Paid related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	1.6	1.6
Prior period non-catastrophe	155.8	128.3
Prior period property catastrophe	19.7	6.1
Total paid	\$ 177.1	\$ 136.0
Foreign exchange revaluation	4.3	5.1

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Net reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	4,274.6	4,125.1
Losses and loss expenses recoverable	1,056.8	975.5
Reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	\$ 5,331.4	\$ 5,100.6

-36-

Table of Contents

Acquisition Costs

Acquisition costs increased by \$9.0 million, or 23.6%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase in acquisition costs was primarily due to the increase in net premiums earned. Acquisition costs as a percentage of net premiums earned were 11.7% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to 11.4% for the same period in 2011. The increase was due to growth in our reinsurance segment, which carries a higher acquisition cost.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses increased by \$2.4 million, or 3.5%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011. The increase in general and administrative expenses was primarily due to increased salary and related costs as headcount has increased to support our continued growth. Our general and administrative expense ratio was 17.5% for the three months ended March 31, 2012, which was lower than the 20.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease was due to the growth in net premiums earned being greater than the increase in expenses.

Our expense ratio was 29.2% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to 31.7% for the three months ended March 31, 2011 due to the decrease in the general and administrative expense ratio.

Amortization of Intangible Assets

The amortization of intangible assets decreased by \$0.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased by \$0.1 million, or 0.7%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Net Income

Net income for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was \$218.2 million compared to \$8.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The \$209.6 million increase was primarily the result of lower net loss and loss expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, which included significant catastrophe losses, combined with continued growth in premiums earned and higher realized investment gains.

Underwriting Results by Operating Segments

Our company is organized into three operating segments:

U.S. Insurance Segment. The U.S. insurance segment includes our direct specialty insurance operations in the United States. This segment provides both direct property and specialty casualty insurance primarily to non-Fortune 1000 North American domiciled accounts.

International Insurance Segment. The international insurance segment includes our direct insurance operations in Bermuda, Europe, Singapore and Hong Kong. This segment provides both direct property and casualty insurance primarily to Fortune 1000 North American domiciled accounts and mid-sized to large non-North American domiciled accounts.

Reinsurance Segment. Our reinsurance segment has operations in Bermuda, Europe, Singapore and the United States. This segment includes the reinsurance of property, general casualty, professional liability, specialty lines and property catastrophe coverages written by insurance companies. We presently write reinsurance on both a treaty and a facultative basis, targeting several niche reinsurance markets.

U.S. Insurance Segment

The following table summarizes the underwriting results and associated ratios for the U.S. insurance segment for each of the periods indicated.

Table of Contents

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 2011 (\$ in millions)	
Revenues		
Gross premiums written	\$ 204.2	\$ 183.3
Net premiums written	153.8	139.9
Net premiums earned	153.3	135.5
Expenses		
Net losses and loss expenses	\$ 97.7	\$ 115.8
Acquisition costs	19.9	18.1
General and administrative expenses	31.0	30.8
Underwriting income (loss)	4.7	(29.2)
Ratios		
Loss and loss expense ratio	63.7%	85.5%
Acquisition cost ratio	13.0%	13.4%
General and administrative expense ratio	20.2%	22.7%
Expense ratio	33.2%	36.1%
Combined ratio	96.9%	121.6%

Comparison of Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 and 2011

Premiums. Gross premiums written increased by \$20.9 million, or 11.4%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011. The increase in gross premiums written was primarily due to increased new business and growth from new products introduced in 2011. We also started to see rate improvement in almost all lines, which contributed to the premium growth. This growth was partially offset by non-recurring business in our environmental line of business and the non-renewal of business that did not meet our underwriting requirements (which included inadequate pricing and/or terms and conditions) and continued competition.

The table below illustrates our gross premiums written by line of business for each of the periods indicated.

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 2011		Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Professional liability	\$ 59.2	\$ 55.0	\$ 4.2	7.6%
Healthcare	47.0	45.3	1.7	3.8%
General casualty	48.4	41.0	7.4	18.0%
Programs	23.3	19.9	3.4	17.1%
General property	18.5	13.6	4.9	36.0%
Other*	7.8	8.5	(0.7)	(8.2%)
	\$ 204.2	\$ 183.3	\$ 20.9	11.4%

* Includes our inland marine, environmental and mergers and acquisitions lines of business.

Net premiums written increased by \$13.9 million, or 9.9%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase in net premiums written was primarily due to higher gross premiums written. We ceded 24.7% of gross premiums written for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to 23.7% for the same period in 2011.

Net premiums earned increased by \$17.8 million, or 13.1%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011 primarily due to the growth of our U.S. insurance operations during 2012 and 2011.

Net losses and loss expenses. Net losses and loss expenses decreased by \$18.1 million, or 15.6%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease in net losses and loss expenses was primarily due to net favorable prior year reserve development in 2012 compared to net unfavorable prior year reserve development in 2011.

Table of Contents

Overall, our U.S. insurance segment recorded net favorable reserve development of \$7.2 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to net unfavorable reserve development of \$22.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as shown in the tables below. In the tables, a negative number represents net favorable reserve development and a positive number represents net unfavorable reserve development.

	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx	XxXx
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year										
	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
	(\$ in millions)										
Professional liability	\$	\$	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.1)	\$ (6.8)	\$ (0.5)	\$ (1.8)	\$ (1.7)	\$ 6.1	\$ (5.0)
Healthcare		0.5	(1.1)	(3.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)		(0.5)	3.4		(4.7)
General casualty	(0.1)	(0.1)	1.2	(0.3)	(4.4)						(3.7)
General property			0.3	(0.2)		(0.2)	1.4	(0.4)	(0.4)	1.1	1.6
Programs						(0.1)	(0.6)	0.1	3.5	1.2	4.1
Other										0.5	0.5
	\$ (0.1)	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.3	\$ (3.6)	\$ (6.5)	\$ (9.1)	\$ 0.3	\$ (2.6)	\$ 4.8	\$ 8.9	\$ (7.2)

Overall, loss emergence was favorable for loss years 2002 to 2009, reflecting actual loss emergence lower than anticipated. The unfavorable reserve development for the 2010 loss year was due to higher than expected loss emergence from a terminated program and medical malpractice policies included in the healthcare line. The 2011 loss year includes adverse development primarily related to certain errors and omissions products.

	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX	X.xXX
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year									
	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011									
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
	(\$ in millions)									
Professional liability	\$	\$	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.7)	\$ 24.3	\$ (0.2)	\$ 0.4	\$ (1.6)	\$ 6.3	\$ 28.4
Healthcare	(0.1)	(0.5)	(0.5)	1.0	0.6	0.3	(1.1)	0.5	0.1	0.3
General casualty		(0.3)	(0.8)	(5.6)						(6.7)
General property			(0.3)	(0.6)	0.1		(1.1)	(0.3)	1.2	(1.0)
Programs							0.1	0.3	0.8	1.2
	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.8)	\$ (1.7)	\$ (5.9)	\$ 25.0	\$ 0.1	\$ (1.7)	\$ (1.1)	\$ 8.4	\$ 22.2

The loss and loss expense ratio for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 63.7% compared to 85.5% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. Net favorable reserve development recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2012 decreased the loss and loss expense ratio by 4.7 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio for the current loss year was 68.4%. In comparison, net unfavorable reserve development during the three months ended March 31, 2011 increased the loss and loss expense ratio by 16.4 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio for that loss year was 69.1%.

The table below is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending reserves for losses and loss expenses. Losses incurred and paid are reflected net of reinsurance recoverables.

Table of Contents

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Net reserves for losses and loss expenses, January 1	\$ 1,224.1	\$ 1,035.1
Included related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	104.9	93.6
Prior period non-catastrophe	(8.6)	23.8
Prior period property catastrophe	1.4	(1.6)
Total incurred	\$ 97.7	\$ 115.8
Paid related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	1.0	0.5
Prior period non-catastrophe	60.7	40.5
Prior period property catastrophe	1.1	
Total paid	\$ 62.8	\$ 41.0
Foreign exchange revaluation		
Net reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	1,259.0	1,109.9
Losses and loss expenses recoverable	461.3	425.8
Reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	\$ 1,720.3	\$ 1,535.7

Acquisition costs. Acquisition costs increased by \$1.8 million, or 9.9%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase was primarily caused by increased net premiums earned. The acquisition cost ratio decreased to 13.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 from 13.4% for the same period in 2011.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses increased by \$0.2 million, or 0.6%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The general and administrative expense ratio decreased to 20.2% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 from 22.7% in the same period in 2011 as a result of our continued expense management and increased net premiums earned.

Table of Contents**International Insurance Segment**

The following table summarizes the underwriting results and associated ratios for the international insurance segment for each of the periods indicated.

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 2011	
	(\$ in millions)	
Revenues		
Gross premiums written	\$ 113.6	\$ 111.3
Net premiums written	72.6	74.9
Net premiums earned	79.9	76.3
Expenses		
Net losses and loss expenses	\$ 38.1	\$ 71.2
Acquisition costs	(0.5)	(1.8)
General and administrative expenses	22.4	20.7
Underwriting income (loss)	19.9	(13.8)
Ratios		
Loss and loss expense ratio	47.7%	93.3%
Acquisition cost ratio	(0.7%)	(2.4%)
General and administrative expense ratio	28.0%	27.2%
Expense ratio	27.3%	24.8%
Combined ratio	75.0%	118.1%

Comparison of Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 and 2011

Premiums. Gross premiums written increased by \$2.3 million, or 2.1%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011. The increase was primarily a result of new business, including \$3.6 million from new products, specifically our trade credit and small to mid-sized enterprise (SME) insurance products. However, this increase was partially offset by decreases in other lines due to the non-renewal of business that did not meet our underwriting requirements (which included inadequate pricing and/or terms and conditions) and continued competition in our international insurance segment. In addition, the three months ended March 31, 2011 also included \$3.9 million of non-recurring business.

The table below illustrates our gross premiums written by line of business for each of the periods indicated.

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Dollar	Percentage
	2012	2011	Change	Change
General property	\$ 36.8	\$ 37.2	\$ (0.4)	(1.1%)
Professional liability	31.0	28.9	2.1	7.3%
General casualty	21.7	23.4	(1.7)	(7.3%)
Healthcare	20.0	20.6	(0.6)	(2.9%)
Other *	4.1	1.2	2.9	241.7%
	\$ 113.6	\$ 111.3	\$ 2.3	2.1%

* Includes our trade credit line of business

Net premiums written decreased by \$2.3 million, or 3.1%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. We ceded to reinsurers 36.1% of gross premiums written for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to 32.7% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. Net premiums written decreased primarily due to an increase in premiums ceded under our professional liability treaty combined with increased cessions on our trade credit line of business.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Net premiums earned increased \$3.6 million, or 4.7%, primarily due to higher net premiums written in the latter half of 2011.

Table of Contents

Net losses and loss expenses. Net losses and loss expenses decreased by \$33.1 million, or 46.5%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease in net losses and loss expenses was due to minimal catastrophe loss activity in 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, which included \$43.2 million for the Asia-Pacific catastrophes. This was partially offset by lower prior year development for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011.

Overall, our international insurance segment recorded net favorable reserve development of \$20.3 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to net favorable reserve development of \$28.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011, as shown in the tables below. In the tables, a negative number represents net favorable reserve development and a positive number represents net unfavorable reserve development.

	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
	(\$ in millions)										
General property	\$	\$	\$ 0.1	\$ 1.0	\$ (0.8)	\$ 0.9	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.6)	\$ (6.6)	\$ 4.4	\$ (1.7)
Professional liability		(0.1)	(1.1)	(1.7)	(6.8)	(6.1)	2.3				(13.5)
General casualty	(1.6)	(0.7)	(1.2)	(1.7)	(8.9)	(1.1)	(4.5)			20.0	0.3
Healthcare		(0.5)	(0.3)	(0.6)	(0.4)	(3.6)					(5.4)
	\$ (1.6)	\$ (1.3)	\$ (2.5)	\$ (3.0)	\$ (16.9)	\$ (9.9)	\$ (2.3)	\$ (0.6)	\$ (6.6)	\$ 24.4	\$ (20.3)

The net favorable reserve development for loss years 2002 to 2010 is a result of actual loss emergence being lower than anticipated. The unfavorable reserve development in our general casualty line for loss year 2011 was due to adverse development on an individual claim, estimated to reach our full limit of \$20.0 million, net of reinsurance.

	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total	
	(\$ in millions)										
General property	\$	\$ (0.1)	\$ (0.4)	\$ (2.0)	\$ 0.8	\$ (0.1)	\$ (5.4)	\$ (8.6)	\$ (2.2)	\$ (18.0)	
Professional liability	2.0	(1.0)	(2.5)	(4.3)	(8.1)		9.0			(4.9)	
General casualty	(0.5)	(1.3)	5.2	(10.4)	11.3	(7.7)		7.2		3.8	
Healthcare		(0.3)	(0.4)	(0.5)	(8.3)					(9.5)	
	\$ 1.5	\$ (2.7)	\$ 1.9	\$ (17.2)	\$ (4.3)	\$ (7.8)	\$ 3.6	\$ (1.4)	\$ (2.2)	\$ (28.6)	

The loss and loss expense ratio for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 47.7%, compared to 93.3% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The net favorable reserve development recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2012 decreased the loss and loss expense ratio by 25.4 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio related to the current loss year was 73.1%. Comparatively, the net favorable reserve development recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2011 decreased the loss and loss expense ratio by 37.5 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio related to that period's business was 130.8%. The \$43.2 million of catastrophe losses, which occurred during the three months ended March 31, 2011, added 56.6 percentage points to that period's loss and loss expense ratio. Excluding favorable prior year development and catastrophe losses, the 2011 loss ratio would have been 74.2%.

The table below is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending reserves for losses and loss expenses. Losses incurred and paid are reflected net of reinsurance recoverables.

Table of Contents

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Net reserves for losses and loss expenses, January 1	\$ 1,684.7	\$ 1,695.7
Incurring related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	58.4	56.6
Current period property catastrophe		43.2
Prior period non-catastrophe	(21.8)	(24.5)
Prior period property catastrophe	1.5	(4.1)
Total incurred	\$ 38.1	\$ 71.2
Paid related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe		0.6
Current period property catastrophe		
Prior period non-catastrophe	41.0	46.9
Prior period property catastrophe	7.6	2.7
Total paid	\$ 48.6	\$ 50.2
Foreign exchange revaluation	4.3	5.1
Net reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	1,678.5	1,721.8
Losses and loss expenses recoverable	594.8	549.1
Reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	\$ 2,273.3	\$ 2,270.9

Acquisition costs. Acquisition costs increased by \$1.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The negative cost represents ceding commissions received on ceded premiums in excess of the brokerage fees and commissions paid on gross premiums written. The acquisition cost ratio increased from negative 2.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2011 to negative 0.7% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 due to earned premium growth in products with higher acquisition costs.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses increased \$1.7 million, or 8.2%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase in general and administrative expenses was primarily due to increased salary and related costs incurred as we continue to expand internationally. The general and administrative expense ratio increased to 28.0% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 from 27.2% for the same period in 2011 due to the higher expenses, partially offset by higher net premiums earned.

Table of Contents**Reinsurance Segment**

The following table summarizes the underwriting results and associated ratios for the reinsurance segment for each of the periods indicated.

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
(\$ in millions)		
Revenues		
Gross premiums written	\$ 363.1	\$ 266.1
Net premiums written	362.5	266.0
Net premiums earned	168.7	123.1
Expenses		
Net losses and loss expenses	\$ 89.4	\$ 117.4
Acquisition costs	27.7	21.8
General and administrative expenses	17.0	16.4
Underwriting income (loss)	34.6	(32.5)
Ratios		
Loss and loss expense ratio	53.0%	95.4%
Acquisition cost ratio	16.4%	17.7%
General and administrative expense ratio	10.0%	13.3%
Expense ratio	26.4%	31.0%
Combined ratio	79.4%	126.4%

Comparison of Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 and 2011

Premiums. Gross premiums written increased by \$97.0 million, or 36.5%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011. The increase in gross premiums written was primarily due to the continued growth of our specialty unit, which increased \$73.1 million on new business growth, combined with increased participations on renewing business. Within the specialty products, crop reinsurance premiums increased \$50.1 million while marine contributed a further \$13.0 million. Property reinsurance increased \$34.4 million due to increased rates and new business opportunities, primarily in the United States, Bermuda and for our Lloyd's syndicate. This was partially offset by decreased casualty premiums due to the non-renewal of business that did not meet our underwriting requirements (which included inadequate pricing and/or terms and conditions) and continued competition.

The table below illustrates our gross premiums written by geographic location for our reinsurance operations.

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Dollar Change	Percentage Change
	2012	2011		
United States	\$ 184.7	\$ 123.4	\$ 61.3	49.7%
Bermuda	110.0	97.4	12.6	12.9%
Europe	39.8	30.4	9.4	30.9%
Singapore	28.6	14.9	13.7	91.9%
	\$ 363.1	\$ 266.1	\$ 97.0	36.5%

The table below illustrates our gross premiums written by line of business for each of the periods indicated.

Table of Contents

	Three Months Ended		Dollar Change	Percentage Change
	March 31, 2012	March 31, 2011		
Property	\$ 153.6	\$ 119.2	\$ 34.4	28.9%
Specialty	113.9	40.8	73.1	179.2%
Casualty	95.6	106.1	(10.5)	(9.9%)
	\$ 363.1	\$ 266.1	\$ 97.0	36.5%

Net premiums written increased by \$96.5 million, or 36.3%, consistent with the increase in gross premiums written.

Net premiums earned increased \$45.6 million, or 37.0%, as a result of the increase in net premiums written during the year ended December 31, 2011 and the three months ended March 31, 2012. Premiums related to our reinsurance business earn at a slower rate than those related to our direct insurance business. Direct insurance premiums typically earn ratably over the term of a policy. Reinsurance premiums under a quota share reinsurance contract are typically earned over the same period as the underlying policies, or risks, covered by the contract. As a result, the earning pattern of a quota share reinsurance contract may extend up to 24 months, reflecting the inception dates of the underlying policies. Property catastrophe premiums and premiums for other treaties written on a losses occurring basis generally earn ratably over the term of the reinsurance contract.

Net losses and loss expenses. Net losses and loss expenses decreased by \$28.0 million, or 23.9%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease in net losses and loss expenses was due to minimal catastrophe loss activity in 2012 compared to the same period in 2011, which included \$89.0 million for the Asia-Pacific catastrophes. This was partially offset by growth in net premiums earned and lower prior year development for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the same period in 2011.

Overall, our reinsurance segment recorded net favorable prior year reserve development of \$12.0 million and \$37.9 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively, as shown in the tables below. In the tables, a negative number represents net favorable reserve development and a positive number represents net unfavorable reserve development.

	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x	Xx.x
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year										
	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Total
	(\$ in millions)										
Specialty	\$	\$ (0.1)	\$ (2.1)	\$ (3.7)	\$ (0.5)	\$ (0.6)	\$	\$	\$ (0.2)	\$ (1.7)	\$ (8.9)
Property			(0.7)	0.2		0.2	(0.3)	0.9	4.7	0.1	5.1
Casualty	0.5	(0.8)	3.7	(3.8)	(1.7)	(5.8)	(0.6)			0.3	(8.2)
	\$ 0.5	\$ (0.9)	\$ 0.9	\$ (7.3)	\$ (2.2)	\$ (6.2)	\$ (0.9)	\$ 0.9	\$ 4.5	\$ (1.3)	\$ (12.0)

	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x	xxx.x
	Loss Reserve Development by Loss Year										
	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011										
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total	
	(\$ in millions)										
Specialty	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ (0.2)	\$ (5.8)	\$ (2.0)	\$ (8.0)	
Property		(0.4)	(0.1)	(1.4)	(1.0)	(2.3)	(1.8)	(3.0)	(1.8)	(11.8)	
Casualty		(1.7)	(2.5)	(10.4)	(4.9)	(1.0)	(0.4)		2.8	(18.1)	
	\$	\$ (2.1)	\$ (2.6)	\$ (11.8)	\$ (5.9)	\$ (3.3)	\$ (2.4)	\$ (8.8)	\$ (1.0)	\$ (37.9)	

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

The loss and loss expense ratio for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 53.0%, compared to 95.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2011. Net favorable reserve development recognized during the three months ended March 31, 2012 reduced the loss and loss expense ratio by 7.1 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio related to the current loss year was 60.1%. In comparison, net favorable reserve development recognized in the three months ended March 31, 2011 reduced the loss and loss expense ratio by 30.8 percentage points. Thus, the loss and loss expense ratio related to that loss year was 126.2%, which included 72.3 percentage points related to catastrophe losses. Excluding net favorable prior year development and catastrophe losses, the 2011 loss ratio would have been 53.9%.

-45-

Table of Contents

The table below is a reconciliation of the beginning and ending reserves for losses and loss expenses. Losses incurred and paid are reflected net of reinsurance recoverables.

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 2011 (\$ in millions)	
Net reserves for losses and loss expenses, January 1	\$ 1,313.4	\$ 1,220.8
Incurred related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	101.4	66.3
Current period property catastrophe		89.0
Prior period non-catastrophe	(12.0)	(34.6)
Prior period property catastrophe		(3.3)
Total incurred	\$ 89.4	\$ 117.4
Paid related to:		
Current period non-catastrophe	0.6	0.5
Prior period non-catastrophe	54.1	40.9
Prior period property catastrophe	11.0	3.4
Total paid	\$ 65.7	\$ 44.8
Foreign exchange revaluation		
Net reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	1,337.1	1,293.4
Losses and loss expenses recoverable	0.7	0.6
Reserve for losses and loss expenses, March 31	\$ 1,337.8	\$ 1,294.0

Acquisition costs. Acquisition costs increased by \$5.9 million, or 27.1%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011, primarily due to the increase in net premiums earned. The acquisition cost ratio was 16.4% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to 17.7% for the three months ended March 31, 2011, primarily due to the change in mix of business.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses increased \$0.6 million, or 3.7%, for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011. The general and administrative expense ratios for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 were 10.0% and 13.3%, respectively, reflecting the higher growth in net premiums earned relative to expenses in 2012.

Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses

Reserves for losses and loss expenses by segment were comprised of the following:

	U.S. Insurance		International Insurance		Reinsurance		Total	
	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
Case reserves	\$ 413.8	\$ 387.6	\$ 536.3	\$ 522.6	\$ 471.6	\$ 456.2	\$ 1,421.7	\$ 1,366.4
IBNR	1,306.5	1,274.8	1,737.0	1,726.4	866.2	857.5	3,909.7	3,858.7
Reserve for losses and loss expenses	1,720.3	1,662.4	2,273.3	2,249.0	1,337.8	1,313.7	5,331.4	5,225.1
Reinsurance recoverables	(461.3)	(438.3)	(594.8)	(564.3)	(0.7)	(0.3)	(1,056.8)	(1,002.9)

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Net reserve for losses and loss expenses	\$ 1,259.0	\$ 1,224.1	\$ 1,678.5	\$ 1,684.7	\$ 1,337.1	\$ 1,313.4	\$ 4,274.6	\$ 4,222.2
--	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------

We participate in certain lines of business where claims may not be reported for many years. Accordingly, management does not solely rely upon reported claims on these lines for estimating ultimate liabilities. We also use statistical and actuarial methods to estimate expected ultimate losses and loss expenses. Loss reserves do not represent an exact calculation of liability. Rather, loss

Table of Contents

reserves are estimates of what we expect the ultimate resolution and administration of claims will cost. These estimates are based on various factors including underwriters' expectations about loss experience, actuarial analysis, comparisons with the results of industry benchmarks and loss experience to date. Loss reserve estimates are refined as experience develops and as claims are reported and resolved. Establishing an appropriate level of loss reserves is an inherently uncertain process. Ultimate losses and loss expenses may differ from our reserves, possibly by material amounts.

The following tables provide our ranges of loss and loss expense reserve estimates by business segment as of March 31, 2012:

	Reserve for Losses and Loss Expenses Gross of Reinsurance Recoverable (1)		
	Carried Reserve	Low Estimate	High Estimate
	(\$ in millions)		
U.S. insurance	\$ 1,720.3	\$ 1,385.3	\$ 1,918.6
International insurance	2,273.3	1,697.9	2,574.3
Reinsurance	1,337.8	1,070.4	1,551.5

	Reserve for Losses and Loss Expenses Net of Reinsurance Recoverable (2)		
	Carried Reserve	Low Estimate	High Estimate
	(\$ in millions)		
U.S. insurance	\$ 1,259.0	\$ 1,000.7	\$ 1,401.1
International insurance	1,678.5	1,236.3	1,900.0
Reinsurance	1,337.1	1,069.7	1,550.3

(1) For statistical reasons, it is not appropriate to add together the ranges of each business segment in an effort to determine the low and high range around the consolidated loss reserves. On a gross basis, the consolidated low estimate is \$4,430.5 million and the consolidated high estimate is \$5,767.5 million.

(2) For statistical reasons, it is not appropriate to add together the ranges of each business segment in an effort to determine the low and high range around the consolidated loss reserves. On a net basis, the consolidated low estimate is \$3,532.9 million and the consolidated high estimate is \$4,625.2 million.

Our range for each business segment was determined by utilizing multiple actuarial loss reserving methods along with various assumptions of reporting patterns and expected loss ratios by loss year. The various outcomes of these techniques were combined to determine a reasonable range of required loss and loss expense reserves. While we believe our approach to determine the range of loss and loss expense is reasonable, there are no assurances that actual loss experience will be within the ranges of loss and loss expense noted above.

Our selection of the actual carried reserves is generally above the midpoint of the range. We believe that we should be prudent in our reserving practices due to the lengthy reporting patterns and relatively large limits of net liability for any one risk of our direct excess casualty business and of our casualty reinsurance business. Thus, due to this uncertainty regarding estimates for reserve for losses and loss expenses, we have carried our consolidated reserve for losses and loss expenses, net of reinsurance recoverable, above the midpoint of the low and high estimates for the consolidated net losses and loss expenses. We believe that relying on the more prudent actuarial indications is appropriate for these lines of business.

Table of Contents**Reinsurance Recoverable**

The following table illustrates our reinsurance recoverable as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011:

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Ceded case reserves	\$ 214.3	\$ 196.5
Ceded IBNR reserves	842.5	806.4
Reinsurance recoverable	\$ 1,056.8	\$ 1,002.9

We remain obligated for amounts ceded in the event our reinsurers do not meet their obligations. Accordingly, we have evaluated the reinsurers that are providing reinsurance protection to us and will continue to monitor their credit ratings and financial stability. We generally have the right to terminate our treaty reinsurance contracts at any time, upon prior written notice to the reinsurer, under specified circumstances, including the assignment to the reinsurer by A.M. Best of a financial strength rating of less than A-. Approximately 94% of ceded reserves as of March 31, 2012 were recoverable from reinsurers who had an A.M. Best rating of A- or higher.

Liquidity and Capital Resources**General**

Our operating subsidiaries depend upon cash inflows from premium receipts, net of commissions, investment income and proceeds from sales and redemptions of investments. Cash outflows for our operating subsidiaries are in the form of claims payments, reinsurance premium payments, purchase of investments, operating expenses and income tax payments as well as dividend payments to the holding company.

Historically, our operating subsidiaries have generated sufficient cash flows to meet all of their obligations. Because of the inherent volatility of our business, the seasonality in the timing of payments by insureds and cedents, the irregular timing of loss payments, and the impact of a change in interest rates and credit spreads on the investment income as well as seasonality in coupon payment dates for fixed income securities, cash flows from operating activities may vary between periods. We expect that annual positive cash flows from operating activities will be sufficient to cover claims payments, reinsurance premium payments, operating expenses and income tax payments. In the unlikely event that paid losses exceed operating cash flows in any given period, we would use our cash balances available, or liquidate a portion of our investment portfolio in order to meet our short-term liquidity needs. Our total investments and cash totaled \$8.4 billion as of March 31, 2012, the main components of which were investment grade fixed income securities and cash and cash equivalents.

Holdings is a holding company and transacts no business of its own. Cash flows to Holdings may comprise dividends, advances and loans from its subsidiary companies. Holdings is therefore reliant on receiving dividends and other permitted distributions from its subsidiaries to make dividend payments on its common shares. Under Swiss law, distributions to shareholders may be paid out only if the company has sufficient distributable profits from previous fiscal years, or if the company has freely distributable reserves, each as presented on the audited annual stand-alone statutory balance sheet. Distributions to shareholders out of the share and participation capital may be made by way of a capital reduction in the form of a reduction in the par value of the common shares to achieve a similar result as the payment of a dividend.

Allied World Bermuda is a holding company and transacts no business of its own. Cash flows to Allied World Bermuda may comprise dividends, advances and loans from its subsidiary companies. Allied World Bermuda is therefore reliant on receiving dividends and other permitted distributions from its subsidiaries to make principal and interest payments on its senior notes.

Capital Activities

In May 2010, we established a share repurchase program in order to repurchase Holdings' common shares. Repurchases under this authorization may be effected from time to time through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, and tender offers or otherwise. The timing, form and amount of the share repurchases under the program will depend on a variety of factors, including market conditions, the company's capital position, legal requirements and other factors. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we repurchased through open market purchases 1,430,804 shares at a total cost of \$93.0 million, for an average price of \$65.01 per share. We have classified the repurchased shares as treasury shares, at cost on the consolidated balance sheets.

Table of Contents

In May 2012, we established a new \$500 million share repurchase program. Under the terms of this new share repurchase program, common shares repurchased shall be designated for cancellation and shall be cancelled upon shareholder approval.

In February 2011, we repurchased a warrant owned by American International Group, Inc. (AIG) in a privately negotiated transaction. The warrant entitled AIG to purchase 2,000,000 of our common shares for \$34.20 per share. We repurchased the warrant for an aggregate purchase price of \$53.6 million. The repurchase of the warrant was recognized as a reduction in additional paid-in capital in the consolidated balance sheets. The repurchase was executed separately from the company's share repurchase program.

We believe our company's capital position continues to remain well within the range needed for our business requirements and we have sufficient liquidity to fund our ongoing operations.

Restrictions and Specific Requirements

The jurisdictions in which our operating subsidiaries are licensed to write business impose regulations requiring companies to maintain or meet various defined statutory ratios, including solvency and liquidity requirements. Some jurisdictions also place restrictions on the declaration and payment of dividends and other distributions. See Liquidity and Capital Resources in Item 7A of Part II of the Company's 2011 Form 10-K.

Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd uses trust accounts primarily to meet security requirements for inter-company and certain reinsurance transactions. We also have cash and cash equivalents and investments on deposit with various state or government insurance departments or pledged in favor of ceding companies in order to comply with reinsurance contract provisions and relevant insurance regulations. In addition, Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd currently has access to up to \$1.7 billion in letters of credit under two letter of credit facilities, \$900 million with Citibank Europe plc and \$800 million with a syndication of lenders (the Credit Facility). These facilities are used to provide security to reinsureds and are collateralized by us, at least to the extent of letters of credit outstanding at any given time.

The Credit Facility as of March 31, 2012 has not changed significantly since December 31, 2011. See Restrictions and Specific Requirements in Item 7 of Part II of the Company's 2011 Form 10-K. The Credit Facility contains representations, warranties and covenants customary for similar bank loan facilities, including certain covenants that, among other things, require the Company to maintain certain leverage ratios, consolidated net worth and financial strength rating. Allied World Bermuda is in compliance with all covenants under the Credit Facility as of March 31, 2012. The Credit Facility will terminate on November 27, 2012.

Security arrangements with ceding insurers may subject our assets to security interests or require that a portion of our assets be pledged to, or otherwise held by, third parties. Both of our letter of credit facilities are fully collateralized by assets held in custodial accounts at the Bank of New York Mellon held for the benefit of the banks. Although the investment income derived from our assets while held in trust accrues to our benefit, the investment of these assets is governed by the terms of the letter of credit facilities or the investment regulations of the state or territory of domicile of the ceding insurer, which may be more restrictive than the investment regulations applicable to us under Bermuda law. The restrictions may result in lower investment yields on these assets, which may adversely affect our profitability.

As of March 31, 2012, we had a combined unused letters of credit capacity of \$849.1 million from the Credit Facility and Citibank Europe plc. We believe that this remaining capacity is sufficient to meet our future letter of credit needs.

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, \$2,019.7 million and \$2,029.1 million, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents and investments were deposited, pledged or held in escrow accounts in favor of ceding companies and other counterparties or government authorities to comply with reinsurance contract provisions and insurance laws.

In addition, as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, a further \$1,107.3 million and \$1,044.2 million, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents and investments were pledged as collateral for our Credit Facility.

We do not currently anticipate that the restrictions on liquidity resulting from restrictions on the payment of dividends by our subsidiary companies or from assets committed in trust accounts or to collateralize the letter of credit facilities will have a material impact on our ability to carry out our normal business activities, including interest and dividend payments, respectively, on our senior notes (described below) and common shares.

Table of Contents**Sources and Uses of Funds**

Our sources of funds primarily consist of premium receipts, net of commissions, investment income, net proceeds from capital raising activities that may include the issuance of common shares, senior notes and other debt or equity issuances, and proceeds from sales and redemption of investments. Cash is used primarily to pay losses and loss expenses, purchase reinsurance, pay general and administrative expenses and taxes, and pay dividends and interest, with the remainder made available to our investment portfolio managers for investment in accordance with our investment policy.

Cash flows from operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2012 were \$142.8 million compared to \$174.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease in cash flows from operations was impacted by increased paid loss activity for 2011 catastrophe events in the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to the three months ended March 31, 2011.

Cash flows from investing activities consist primarily of proceeds on the sale of investments and payments for investments acquired in addition to an increase in restricted cash. We had net cash provided by investing activities of \$152.8 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to net cash used in investing activities of \$128.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The increase in cash flows provided by investing activities reflects net sales of securities that were pending reinvestment shortly after the end of the quarter. These funds will be reinvested in securities classified as trading.

Cash flows from financing activities consist primarily of capital raising activities, which include the issuance of common shares or debt, and the repurchase of our shares, the payment of dividends and the repayment of debt. Cash flows used in financing activities were \$103.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to \$110.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2011. The decrease in cash flows used in financing activities was due to the repurchase of the founder warrant and common shares totaling \$113.6 million during the three months ended March 31, 2011. For the three months ended March 31, 2012, we repurchased common shares totaling \$93.0 million.

Our funds are primarily invested in liquid, high-grade fixed income securities. As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, 90.1% and 92.6%, respectively, of our fixed income portfolio consisted of investment grade securities. As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, net accumulated unrealized gains on our available for sale fixed maturity investments were \$3.7 million and \$17.6 million, respectively. The decrease in net unrealized gains was due to the sale of certain available for sale securities during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and reinvesting the proceeds in fixed maturity investments where mark-to-market changes are reflected in the consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. We expect this trend to continue for the remainder of 2012. The maturity distribution of our fixed income portfolio (on a fair value basis) as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 was as follows:

	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Due in one year or less	\$ 592.8	\$ 661.6
Due after one year through five years	2,675.1	2,686.1
Due after five years through ten years	623.1	725.5
Due after ten years	110.0	94.2
Mortgage-backed	1,823.7	1,818.1
Asset-backed	490.8	513.2
Total	\$ 6,315.5	\$ 6,498.7

We have investments in other invested assets, comprising interests in hedge funds and private equity funds, the market value of which was \$522.1 million as of March 31, 2012. Some of these funds have redemption notice requirements. For each of our funds, liquidity is allowed after certain defined periods based on the terms of each fund. See Note 4(d) Investments Other Invested Assets to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for additional details on our other invested assets.

We do not believe that inflation has had a material effect on our consolidated results of operations. The potential exists, after a catastrophe loss, for the development of inflationary pressures in a local economy. The effects of inflation are considered implicitly in pricing. Loss reserves are established to recognize likely loss settlements at the date payment is made. Those reserves inherently recognize the effects of inflation. The actual effects of inflation on our results cannot be accurately known, however, until claims are ultimately resolved.

Table of Contents**Financial Strength Ratings**

Financial strength ratings represent the opinions of rating agencies on our capacity to meet our obligations. In the event of a significant downgrade in ratings, our ability to write business and to access the capital markets could be impacted. Our financial strength ratings as of March 31, 2012 have not changed since December 31, 2011. See Item 1. Business in our 2011 Form 10-K.

Long-Term Debt

In July 2006, Allied World Bermuda issued \$500.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.50% senior notes due August 1, 2016, with interest payable August 1 and February 1 each year, commencing February 1, 2007. Allied World Bermuda can redeem the senior notes prior to maturity, subject to payment of a make-whole premium; however, Allied World Bermuda currently has no intention of redeeming the notes.

In November 2010, Allied World Bermuda issued \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of 5.50% senior notes due November 1, 2020, with interest payable May 15 and November 15 each year, commencing May 15, 2011. Allied World Bermuda can redeem the senior notes prior to maturity, subject to payment of a make-whole premium; however, Allied World Bermuda currently has no intention of redeeming the notes.

The senior notes issued in 2006 and 2010 have been unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed for the payment of the principal and interest by Holdings.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of March 31, 2012, we did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

We believe that we are principally exposed to three types of market risk: interest rate risk, credit risk and currency risk.

The fixed income securities in our investment portfolio are subject to interest rate risk and credit risk. Any changes in interest rates and credit spreads have a direct effect on the market values of fixed income securities. As interest rates rise, the market values fall, and vice versa. As credit spreads widen, the market values fall, and vice versa.

In the table below changes in market values as a result of changes in interest rates is determined by calculating hypothetical March 31, 2012 ending prices based on yields adjusted to reflect the hypothetical changes in interest rates, comparing such hypothetical ending prices to actual ending prices, and multiplying the difference by the principal amount of the security. The sensitivity analysis is based on estimates. The estimated changes of our fixed maturity investments and cash and cash equivalents are presented below and actual changes for interest rate shifts could differ significantly.

	Interest Rate Shift in Basis Points						
	-200	-100	-50	0	+50	+100	+200
	(\$ in millions)						
Total market value	\$ 7,489.3	\$ 7,473.9	\$ 7,441.5	\$ 7,428.6	\$ 7,306.4	\$ 7,229.8	\$ 7,071.3
Market value change from base	60.7	45.3	12.9	0.0	(122.2)	(198.8)	(357.3)
Change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation)	0.8%	0.6%	0.2%	0.0%	(1.6)%	(2.7)%	(4.8)%

In the table below changes in market values as a result of changes in credit spreads are determined by calculating hypothetical March 31, 2012 ending prices adjusted to reflect the hypothetical changes in credit spreads, comparing such hypothetical ending prices to actual ending prices, and multiplying the difference by the principal amount of the security. The sensitivity analysis is based on estimates. The estimated changes of our non-cash, non-U.S. Treasury fixed maturity investments are presented below and actual changes in credit spreads could differ significantly.

Table of Contents

	Credit Spread Shift in Basis Points						
	-200	-100	-50	0	+50	+100	+200
	(\$ in millions)						
Total market value	\$ 5,598.1	\$ 5,462.3	\$ 5,394.4	\$ 5,326.5	\$ 5,258.6	\$ 5,190.7	\$ 5,054.9
Market value change from base	271.6	135.8	67.9	0.0	(67.9)	(135.8)	(271.6)
Change in unrealized appreciation/(depreciation)	5.1%	2.5%	1.3%	0.0%	(1.3)%	(2.5)%	(5.1)%

In addition to credit spread risk, our portfolio is also exposed to the risk of securities being downgraded or of issuers defaulting. In an effort to minimize this risk, our investment guidelines have been defined to ensure that the assets held are well diversified and are primarily high-quality securities. As of March 31, 2012, we held assets totaling \$6.3 billion of fixed income securities. Of those assets, approximately 9.9% were rated below investment grade (Ba1/BB+ or lower) with the remaining 90.1% rated in the investment grade category. The average credit quality of the fixed maturity portfolios was AA- by Standard & Poor s.

As of March 31, 2012, we held \$2,158.5 million, or 25.7%, of our total investments and cash and cash equivalents in corporate bonds, \$1,018.5 million of which were issued by entities within the financial services industry. These corporate bonds had an average credit rating of A+ by Standards & Poor s.

As of March 31, 2012, we held \$1,823.7 million, or 21.7%, of our total investments and cash and cash equivalents in mortgage-backed securities, which included agency pass-through mortgage-backed securities (13.8%), non-agency residential mortgage-backed securities (4.2%) and non-agency commercial mortgage-backed securities (3.7%). The agency pass-through mortgage-backed securities are exposed to prepayment risk, which occurs when holders of individual mortgages increase the frequency with which they prepay the outstanding principal before the maturity date to refinance at a lower interest rate cost, and extension risk when payments occur slower than expected. Given the proportion that these securities comprise of the overall portfolio, and the current interest rate environment and condition of the credit market, prepayment risk is not considered significant at this time.

We held \$309.7 million of non-agency commercial mortgage-backed securities. These securities are subject to the risk of non-payment due to increased levels of delinquencies, defaults and losses on commercial loans that cumulatively create shortfalls beyond the level of subordination in our specific securities. As of March 31, 2012, 9.9% of our non-agency commercial mortgage-backed securities were rated below Aaa/AAA.

Additionally as of March 31, 2012, we held \$128.2 million in non-agency residential mortgage-backed securities and \$226.2 million of high yield (below investment grade) non-agency residential mortgage-backed securities, which is included in the \$1,823.7 million referenced above. As of March 31, 2012, the average credit rating of the non-agency residential mortgage-backed securities was AA-. As of March 31, 2012, 93.9% of the high yield non-agency residential mortgage-backed securities were rated below investment grade, and the average credit rating was CCC by Standard & Poor s.

As of March 31, 2012, we held investments in other invested assets, comprising hedge funds and private equity funds, with a fair value of \$522.1 million. Investments in these funds may involve certain risks related to, among other things, the illiquid nature of the fund shares and the limited operating history of the fund, as well as risks associated with the strategies employed by the managers of the funds. The funds' objectives are generally to seek attractive long-term returns with lower volatility by investing in a range of diversified investment strategies. As our reserves and capital continue to build, we may consider additional investments in these or other alternative investments.

During 2011, concerns about sovereign and corporate credits throughout the European Economic Area became elevated. As of March 31, 2012, our direct exposure to European credit across all of Europe was \$664.6 million and is included within fixed maturity investments trading, at fair value and equity securities trading, at fair value in the consolidated balance sheets. Of that, approximately \$203.8 million was invested in debt issued or guaranteed by European nations, \$21.0 million was invested in structured products and \$439.8 million was invested in debt and equity securities of European corporations (not guaranteed by a sovereign nation) as outlined in the table below. As of March 31, 2012, we had no direct sovereign exposure to Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal or Spain.

Table of Contents

	\$XXX,X	\$XXX,X	\$XXX,X	\$XXX,X
	Total Exposure by European Country			
	Sovereign and Sovereign Guaranteed	Structured Products	Corporate Bonds and Equities	Total Exposure
	(\$ in millions)			
Belgium	\$ 21.7	\$	\$ 13.4	\$ 35.1
Denmark	35.0			35.0
France			45.3	45.3
Germany	72.5		14.0	86.5
Italy			1.7	1.7
Luxembourg			16.5	16.5
Netherlands	38.6		28.3	66.9
Norway			55.3	55.3
Russia			16.5	16.5
Spain			22.6	22.6
Sweden			28.6	28.6
Switzerland	11.2		43.8	55.0
United Kingdom	24.8	21.0	153.8	199.6
Total Exposure	\$ 203.8	\$ 21.0	\$ 439.8	\$ 664.6

The U.S. dollar is our reporting currency and the functional currency of all of our operating subsidiaries. However, we enter into insurance and reinsurance contracts where the premiums receivable and losses payable are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. In addition, we maintain a portion of our investments and liabilities in currencies other than the U.S. dollar, primarily the Euro, British Sterling, Swiss Franc and the Canadian dollar. Receivables in non-U.S. currencies are generally converted into U.S. dollars at the time of receipt. When we incur a liability in a non-U.S. currency, we carry such liability on our books in the original currency. These liabilities are converted from the non-U.S. currency to U.S. dollars at the time of payment. As a result, we have an exposure to foreign currency risk resulting from fluctuations in exchange rates. We utilize a hedging strategy to minimize the potential loss of value caused by currency fluctuations by using foreign currency forward contract derivatives that expire within 90 days from purchase.

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, 3.6% and 3.1%, respectively, of our total investments and cash and cash equivalents were denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Of our business written during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, approximately 15% and 14%, respectively, was written in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. The increase in the amount of gross premiums written in currencies other than the U.S. dollar is due to the increased business written by our international offices.

Our foreign exchange gain is set forth in the chart below.

	\$XXX,X	\$XXX,X
	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(\$ in millions)	
Realized exchange (loss) gain	\$ (3.8)	\$ 0.3
Unrealized exchange gain	3.9	0.1
Foreign exchange gain	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.4

Item 4. Controls and Procedures.

In connection with the preparation of this quarterly report, our management has performed an evaluation, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act)) as of March 31, 2012. Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified by SEC rules and forms and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management,

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosures. Based on their evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of March 31, 2012, our company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that information

Table of Contents

required to be disclosed in our reports filed under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified by SEC rules and forms and accumulated and communicated to management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

Our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, does not expect that our disclosure controls and procedures or our internal control over financial reporting will prevent all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide an absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within our company have been detected.

No changes were made in our internal controls over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f), during the quarter ended March 31, 2012 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II

OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings.

We are and in the future may become involved in various claims and legal proceedings that arise in the normal course of our business. While any claim or legal proceeding contains an element of uncertainty, we do not currently believe that any claim or legal proceeding to which we are presently a party to is likely to have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

In April 2006, a complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia (Atlanta Division) entitled *New Cingular Wireless Headquarters, LLC et al. v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.* Among the 78 insurers named as defendants is our insurance subsidiary in Bermuda, Allied World Assurance Company, Ltd. Plaintiffs allege that the broker defendants used a variety of illegal schemes and anti-competitive practices that resulted in the plaintiffs either paying more for insurance products or receiving less beneficial terms than the competitive market would have produced. Plaintiffs seek equitable and legal remedies, including injunctive relief, consequential and punitive damages, treble damages and attorneys' fees. In October 2006, the litigation was transferred to the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey for pretrial purposes. The District Court subsequently stayed the litigation while its decision to grant motions to dismiss the related class actions was being appealed. On appeal, the District Court's dismissals were affirmed in large part but were vacated in part and remanded to the District Court. Because of the stay and the pending order, neither our subsidiary nor any of the other defendants have responded to the complaint and written discovery that had begun has not been completed. In October 2011, the District Court lifted the stay and authorized the filing of renewed class action motions to dismiss. While it is not possible to predict the outcome of the litigation, the Company does not believe that the outcome will have a material adverse effect on its operations or financial position.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

Our business is subject to a number of risks, including those identified in Item 1A. of Part I of our 2011 Form 10-K, that could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and/or liquidity and that could cause our operating results to vary significantly from period to period. There have been no material changes to the risk factors described in our 2011 Form 10-K. The risks described in our 2011 Form 10-K are not the only risks we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to us or that we currently deem to be immaterial also could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and/or liquidity.

Table of Contents**Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.**

(c) The following table summarizes our repurchases of our common shares during the three months ended March 31, 2012:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Dollar Value (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
January 1 - 31, 2012	524,328	\$ 63.00	524,328	\$ 141,141,451
February 1 - 29, 2012	466,972	64.24	466,972	111,143,016
March 1 - 31, 2012	439,504	68.25	439,504	81,150,239
Total	1,430,804	\$ 65.01	1,430,804	\$ 81,150,239(1)

(1) In May 2010, the company established a share repurchase program in order to repurchase Holdings' common shares. Repurchases may be effected from time to time through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, tender offers or otherwise.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities.

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information.

None.

Item 6. Exhibits.

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1(1)	Articles of Association of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG, as amended and restated.
3.2(2)	Organizational Regulations of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG, as amended and restated.
10.1	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2008, by and between Allied World Reinsurance Company and John R. Bender.
10.2	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2008, by and between Allied World National Assurance Company and John J. McElroy.
10.3(3)	Form of Employment Agreement Amendment for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy.
10.4(4)	Form of Indemnification Agreement for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy.
10.5	Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG 2012 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

- 10.6 Form of RSU Award Agreement for employees under the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG 2012 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.
- 10.7 Form of Performance-Based Compensation Award Agreement under the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG 2012 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.
- 31.1 Certification by Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification by Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1* Certification by Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2* Certification by Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Table of Contents

101.1**Interactive data files pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T: (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 and (v) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

- (1) Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on May 9, 2012.
- (2) Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on February 28, 2012.
- (3) Incorporated herein by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on March 1, 2011. The Employment Agreement Amendments, dated as of March 1, 2012, for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy are materially identical to the form filed as Exhibit 10.40 thereto.
- (4) Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on December 1, 2010. The Indemnification Agreements, dated as of March 1, 2012, for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy are materially identical to the form filed as Exhibit 10.4 thereto.

Management contract or compensatory plan, contract or arrangement.

* These certifications are being furnished solely pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1350, chapter 63 of title 18 United States Code) and are not being filed as part of this report.

** In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the information in Exhibit 101.1 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

ALLIED WORLD ASSURANCE COMPANY HOLDINGS, AG

Dated: May 9, 2012

By: /s/ Scott A. Carmilani
Name: Scott A. Carmilani
Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

Dated: May 9, 2012

By: /s/ Joan H. Dillard
Name: Joan H. Dillard
Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

-57-

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
3.1(1)	Articles of Association of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG, as amended and restated.
3.2(2)	Organizational Regulations of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG, as amended and restated.
10.1	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2008, by and between Allied World Reinsurance Company and John R. Bender.
10.2	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement, dated as of October 1, 2008, by and between Allied World National Assurance Company and John J. McElroy.
10.3(3)	Form of Employment Agreement Amendment for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy.
10.4(4)	Form of Indemnification Agreement for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy.
10.5	Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG 2012 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.
10.6	Form of RSU Award Agreement for employees under the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG 2012 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.
10.7	Form of Performance-Based Compensation Award Agreement under the Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG 2012 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan.
31.1	Certification by Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification by Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1*	Certification by Chief Executive Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.2*	Certification by Chief Financial Officer, as required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.1**	Interactive data files pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T: (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 and (v) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.
(1)	Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on May 9, 2012.
(2)	Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on February 28, 2012.
(3)	Incorporated herein by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on March 1, 2011. The Employment Agreement Amendments, dated as of March 1, 2012, for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy are materially identical to the form filed as Exhibit 10.40 thereto.
(4)	Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, AG filed with the SEC on December 1, 2010. The Indemnification Agreements, dated as of March 1, 2012, for John R. Bender and John J. McElroy are materially identical to the form filed as Exhibit 10.4 thereto.

Edgar Filing: Allied World Assurance Co Holdings, AG - Form 10-Q

Management contract or compensatory plan, contract or arrangement.

- * These certifications are being furnished solely pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (subsections (a) and (b) of Section 1350, chapter 63 of title 18 United States Code) and are not being filed as part of this report.

- ** In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the information in Exhibit 101.1 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q is deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act, is deemed not filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act and otherwise is not subject to liability under these sections.