ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD Form 10-Q November 04, 2009

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

#### Form 10-Q

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

For the Period Ended September 30, 2009

or

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

Commission file number 001-31909

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Bermuda

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

Maxwell Roberts Building 1 Church Street Hamilton, Bermuda

(Address of principal executive offices)

**Not Applicable** 

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**HM 11** (*Zip Code*)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code (441) 295-8201

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 periods that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes b No o

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 o No o

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 b Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o (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 o No b

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer s classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

As of October 30, 2009, there were 83,153,623 outstanding ordinary shares, with a par value of 0.15144558¢ per ordinary share, outstanding.

# **INDEX**

		Page
PART I FINA	NCIAL INFORMATION	2
Item 1.	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	2
	Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets as at September 30, 2009 (Unaudited) and	
	December 31, 2008	2
	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations, for the Three and Nine	
	Months Ended September 30, 2009 and 2008	4
	Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders Equity, for the	
	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 and 2008	5
	<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, for the Three</u>	
	and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 and 2008	6
	<u>Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, for the Nine Months Ended</u>	
	<u>September 30, 2009 and 2008</u>	7
	Notes to the Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements	9
<u>Item 2.</u>	Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	32
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	65
Item 4.	Controls and Procedures	67
PART II. OTH	HER INFORMATION	68
Item 1.	Legal Proceedings	68
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	68
Item 2.	<u>Unregistered Sale of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	68
Item 3.	<u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	68
<u>Item 4.</u>	Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders	68
<u>Item 5.</u>	Other Information	68
<u>Item 6.</u>	<u>Exhibits</u>	68
<b>SIGNATURES</b>		69
CERTIFICATION	ONS	
EX-31.1		
EX-31.2 EX-32.1		
<u>134-32.1</u>		
	1	

#### **PART I**

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### Item 1. Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# **UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS** (\$ in millions, except share and per share amounts)

	As at September 30, 2009 (Unaudited)		As at December 31 2008		
ASSETS					
Investments					
Fixed income maturities, available for sale at fair value					
(amortized cost \$4,619.5 and \$4,365.7)	\$	4,838.2	\$	4,433.1	
Fixed income maturities, trading at fair value					
(amortized cost \$330.5 and \$Nil)		346.1			
Other investments, equity method		25.9		286.9	
Short-term investments, available for sale at fair value					
(amortized cost \$427.6 and \$224.9)		427.6		224.9	
Short-term investments, trading at fair value					
(amortized cost \$4.0 and \$Nil)		4.0			
Total investments		5,641.8		4,944.9	
Cash and cash equivalents		948.8		809.1	
Reinsurance recoverables					
Unpaid losses		333.5		283.3	
Ceded unearned premiums		114.9		46.3	
Receivables					
Underwriting premiums		755.7		677.5	
Other		65.5		46.5	
Funds withheld		85.2		85.0	
Deferred policy acquisition costs		180.1		149.7	
Derivatives at fair value		3.6		11.8	
Receivable for securities sold		47.3		177.2	
Office properties and equipment		27.6		33.8	
Other assets		14.8		15.5	
Intangible assets		8.2		8.2	
Total assets	\$	8,227.0	\$	7,288.8	

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

2

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# **UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS** (\$ in millions, except share and per share amounts)

		_	As at tember 30, 2009 naudited)	As at December 31, 2008	
LIABILITIES					
Insurance reserves					
Losses and loss adjustment expenses		\$	3,314.0	\$	3,070.3
Unearned premiums		,	1,006.3		810.7
Chemine promising			1,000.0		01017
Total insurance reserves			4,320.3		3,881.0
Payables			,		- ,
Reinsurance premiums			121.3		103.0
Deferred taxation			89.7		63.6
Current taxation			22.4		9.0
Accrued expenses and other payables			205.6		192.5
Liabilities under derivative contracts			6.0		11.1
Total payables			445.0		379.2
Long-term debt			249.6		249.5
Total liabilities		\$	5,014.9	\$	4,509.7
Commitments and contingent liabilities (see Note 11)					
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY					
Ordinary shares: 83,094,615 shares of 0.15144558¢ each (2008)	81,506,503)	\$	0.1		0.1
Preference shares:					
4,600,000 5.625% shares of par value 0.15144558¢ each (2008	4,600,000)				
5,327,500 7.401% shares of par value 0.15144558¢ each (2008	8,000,000)				
Additional paid-in capital			1,760.6		1,754.8
Retained earnings			1,176.8		884.7
Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of taxes			274.6		139.5
Total shareholders equity			3,212.1		2,779.1
Total liabilities and shareholders equity		\$	8,227.0	\$	7,288.8

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

3

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# **UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**(\$ in millions, except share and per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 2008				Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 2008			
	2002		2000		2009		2000	
Revenues								
Net earned premiums	\$ 470.9	\$	434.2	\$	1,346.8	\$	1,223.1	
Net investment income	58.9		19.3		190.3		128.9	
Realized and unrealized investment gains			(=0.4)				/= - = \	
(losses)	14.6		(58.1)		7.2		(56.3)	
Change in fair value of derivatives	(2.0)		(0.7)		(5.9)		(5.9)	
Total Revenues	542.4		394.7		1,538.4		1,289.8	
Expenses								
Losses and loss adjustment expenses	235.1		413.4		720.6		808.9	
Policy acquisition expenses	79.6		70.4		239.0		211.8	
Operating and administrative expenses	63.7		51.6		172.1		159.5	
Interest on long-term debt	3.9		3.8		11.8		11.7	
Net foreign exchange (gains) losses	(7.9)		2.7		(8.7)		3.4	
Other income	(3.1)		(1.3)		(5.0)		(4.3)	
Total Expenses	371.3		540.6		1,129.8		1,191.0	
Income (loss) from operations before								
income tax	171.1		(145.9)		408.6		98.8	
Income tax (expense) recovery	(25.3)		19.8		(61.0)		(16.8)	
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 145.8	\$	(126.1)	\$	347.6	\$	82.0	
Per Share Data								
Weighted average number of ordinary								
shares and share equivalents								
Basic	83,056,587		81,375,969		82,519,807		83,458,963	
Diluted	85,993,289		81,375,969		84,952,620		86,113,072	
Basic earnings per ordinary share adjusted								
for preference share dividend	\$ 1.69	\$	(1.63)	\$	4.37	\$	0.73	
Diluted earnings per ordinary share								
adjusted for preference share dividend	\$ 1.63	\$	(1.63)	\$	4.25	\$	0.71	

The basic and diluted number of ordinary shares for the three months ended September 30, 2008 are the same, as the inclusion of dilutive securities would be anti-dilutive.

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

4

**Table of Contents** 

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY (\$ in millions)

		ths Ended lber 30,
	2009	2008
Ordinary shares Beginning and end of period	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Preference shares Beginning and end of period		
Additional paid-in capital Beginning of period New shares issued	1,754.8 25.1	1,846.1
Ordinary shares repurchased and cancelled Preference shares repurchased and cancelled	(34.1)	(100.2)
Share-based compensation  End of period	14.8 1,760.6	8.2 1,754.1
Retained earnings	0045	050.0
Beginning of period  Net income for the period	884.7 347.6	858.8 82.0
Dividends on ordinary and preference shares	(55.5)	(58.7)
End of period	1,176.8	882.1
Accumulated other comprehensive income: Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments		
Beginning of period	87.6	80.2
Change for the period	5.7	(15.0)
End of period	93.3	65.2
Loss on derivatives	4.40	(4.6)
Beginning of period Reclassification to interest payable	(1.4) 0.1	(1.6) 0.1
End of period	(1.3)	(1.5)
Unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) on investments		
Beginning of period Change for the period	53.3 129.3	34.0 (96.4)
Change for the period	129.3	(90.4)

11

End of period	182.6	(62.4)
Total accumulated other comprehensive income	274.6	1.3
Total Shareholders equity	\$ 3,212.1	\$ 2,637.6

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

5

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (\$ in millions)

		nths Ended nber 30, 2008	Nine Months Ende September 30, 2009 2008		
Net income	\$ 145.8	\$ (126.1)	\$ 347.6	\$ 82.0	
Other comprehensive income, net of taxes: Available for sale investments: Reclassification adjustment for net realized losses (gains) on					
investments included in net income	4.6	1.1	15.0	(2.7)	
Change in net unrealized gains and losses on investments Amortization of loss on derivative contract	86.1	(43.8)	114.3 0.1	(93.7) 0.1	
Change in foreign currency translation adjustment	14.8	(29.2)	5.7	(15.0)	
Other comprehensive (loss) income	105.5	(71.9)	135.1	(111.3)	
Comprehensive (loss) income	\$ 251.3	\$ (198.0)	\$ 482.7	\$ (29.3)	

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

6

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (\$ in millions)

	e Months End 2009	-	nber 30, 2008
Cash flows provided by operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 347.6	\$	82.0
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash flows from operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	7.2		10.3
Share-based compensation expense	14.8		8.2
Net realized and unrealized (gains) losses	(7.2)		56.3
Net realized (gains) losses included in net investment income	(20.2)		48.3
Loss on derivative contracts	0.1		0.1
Changes in:			
Insurance reserves:			
Losses and loss adjustment expenses	154.5		219.2
Unearned premiums	195.6		183.2
Reinsurance recoverables:			
Unpaid losses	(50.6)		63.2
Ceded unearned premiums	(68.6)		(0.5)
Accrued investment income and other receivables	(19.0)		(42.8)
Deferred policy acquisition costs	(30.4)		(32.8)
Reinsurance premiums payables	15.8		16.8
Premiums receivable	(106.7)		(143.9)
Funds withheld	(0.2)		27.1
Deferred taxes	26.1		(24.1)
Income tax payable	13.4		(60.5)
Accrued expenses and other payables	13.1		36.1
Fair value of derivatives and settlement of liabilities under derivatives	3.1		4.1
Other assets	0.7		(6.0)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 489.1	\$	444.3

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

7

#### ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

# UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (\$ in millions)

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See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements

8

#### 1. History and Organization

Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited ( Aspen Holdings ) was incorporated on May 23, 2002 and holds subsidiaries that provide insurance and reinsurance on a worldwide basis. Its principal operating subsidiaries are Aspen Insurance UK Limited ( Aspen U.K. ), Aspen Insurance Limited ( Aspen Bermuda ), Aspen Specialty Insurance Company ( Aspen Specialty ) and Aspen Underwriting Limited (corporate member of Lloyd s Syndicate 4711, AUL ), (collectively, the Insurance Subsidiaries ).

#### 2. Basis of Preparation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (GAAP) for interim financial information and in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 2009. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Aspen Holdings and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, which are collectively referred to herein as the Company. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated on consolidation.

The balance sheet at December 31, 2008 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but does not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2008 contained in Aspen s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (File No. 001-31909).

Assumptions and estimates made by management have a significant effect on the amounts reported within the consolidated financial statements. The most significant of these relate to the losses and loss adjustment expenses, the value of investments, reinsurance recoverables and the fair value of derivatives. All material assumptions and estimates are regularly reviewed and adjustments made as necessary, but actual results could be significantly different from those expected when the assumptions or estimates were made.

#### **New Accounting Pronouncements Adopted in 2009**

In June 2009, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement No. 168 The FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles a replacement of FASB Statement No. 162 (the Codification). The Codification establishes the FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) as the source of authoritative accounting principles to be applied in preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP. The Codification supersedes all existing U.S. accounting standards; all other accounting literature not included in the Codification (other than Securities and Exchange Commission guidance for publicly traded companies) is considered non-authoritative. The Codification was effective on a prospective basis for interim and annual reporting periods ending after September 15, 2009. The adoption of the Codification changed the Company s references to U.S. GAAP accounting standards but did not impact the consolidated results of operations, financial condition or cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

In May 2009, the FASB issued new guidance for accounting for subsequent events. The new guidance which is now part of ASC 855 *Subsequent Events*, requires disclosures of the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated and whether that date is the date the financial statements were issued or the date the financial statements

were available to be issued. Additionally, the guidance replaces Type 1 and Type 2 subsequent events with recognized and

9

#### **Table of Contents**

non-recognized subsequent events. The guidance requires prospective application and is effective for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2009. The adoption of the new guidance requires additional disclosures and has not had an impact on the consolidated results of operations, financial condition or cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

In April 2009, the FASB issued new guidance related to the disclosure of the fair value of financial instruments. The new guidance, which is now part of ASC 825 *Financial Instruments*, requires disclosures about the fair value of financial instruments in interim financial statements as well as in annual financial statements. Additionally, the new guidance requires disclosure of the methods and significant assumptions used to estimate the fair value of financial instruments on an interim basis as well as changes of the methods and significant assumptions from prior periods. It does not change the accounting treatment for these financial instruments. The provisions of the new guidance have not had an impact on the consolidated financial statements for the three or nine months ended September 30, 2009.

In April 2009, the FASB issued new guidance for determining when a market is not orderly and for estimating fair market value when the volume or level of activity for the asset or liability has significantly decreased. The new guidance, which is now part of ASC 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, was effective for interim periods ending after June 15, 2009. The adoption of the new guidance has not had an impact on the consolidated financial statements for the three or nine months ended September 30, 2009.

In April 2009, the FASB issued new guidance for the accounting for other-than-temporary impairments. Under the new guidance, which is now part of ASC 320 *Investments Debt and Equity Securities*, debt securities where the amortized cost is greater than the fair market value shall be assessed to determine if the impairment is other-than-temporary. If a company intends to sell a security (that is, it has decided to sell the security) or it is more likely than not that it will be required to sell a security prior to recovery of its cost basis, a security would be written down to fair value with the full charge recorded in earnings. If a company does not intend to sell a security and it is not more likely than not that it will be required to sell the security prior to recovery, the amount of other-than-temporary impairment related to credit losses would be recognized in earnings. Any remaining difference between the fair value and the cost basis would be recognized as part of other comprehensive income. The adoption of the new guidance has not had a material impact on the consolidated financial statements for the three or nine months ended September 30, 2009.

In May 2008, the FASB issued new guidance for the accounting for financial guarantee insurance contracts. Under the new guidance, which is now part of ASC 944 *Financial Services Insurance*, an insurance enterprise is required to recognize a claim liability prior to an event of default when there is evidence that credit deterioration has occurred in an insured financial obligation. The guidance also clarifies recognition and measurement for premium revenue and claim liabilities. It is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and all interim periods within the fiscal year except for some disclosures about the insurance enterprise s risk management activities. The adoption of the new guidance has not had an impact on the consolidated financial statements for the three or nine months ended September 30, 2009.

In March 2008, the FASB issued new guidance on the disclosure of derivative instruments and hedging activities. The new guidance, which is now part of ASC 815 *Derivatives and Hedging Activities*, changes the disclosure requirements for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Entities are required to provide enhanced disclosures about (a) how and why an entity uses derivative instruments, (b) how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for and (c) how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity s financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. The guidance requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. The Company adopted the disclosures required by the new guidance in the first quarter of 2009. The provisions of the new

#### **Table of Contents**

guidance only required additional disclosure which did not have an impact on the consolidated results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

#### Accounting standards not yet adopted

In August 2009, the FASB issued new guidance for the accounting for the fair value measurement of liabilities. The new guidance, which is now part of ASC 820 Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures, provides clarification that in certain circumstances in which a quoted price in an active market for the identical liability is not available, a company is required to measure the fair value using one or more of the following techniques: the quoted price of the identical liability when traded as an asset and the quoted prices for similar liabilities, or similar liabilities when traded as assets or another valuation technique that is consistent with the principles of ASC 820. The new guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after August 27, 2009. The Company does not expect that the provisions of the new guidance will have an impact on the Company s consolidated financial statements.

In June 2009, the FASB issued revised guidance on the accounting for variable interest entities. The revised guidance which was issued as Statement No. 167, *Amendments to FASB Interpretation No. 46R* has not yet been adopted into the Codification. The revised guidance replaces the quantitative approach previously required for determining the primary beneficiary of a variable interest entity with an approach focused on the power to direct activities that significantly impact an entity s economic performance and the obligation to absorb losses of the entity or the right to receive benefits from the entity. It also requires ongoing assessment of whether an enterprise is a variable interest entity. The statement is effective for each annual reporting period that begins after November 15, 2009. The Company is currently evaluating the impact, if any, that the provisions of the revised guidance will have on its consolidated financial statements.

In June 2009, the FASB issued new guidance on the accounting for the transfer of financial assets. The new guidance, which was issued as Statement No. 166, Accounting For Transfers of Financial Assets an amendment of FASB Statement No. 140 has not yet been adopted into the Codification. The new guidance eliminates the concept of a qualifying special purpose entity and therefore any qualifying special purpose entities in existence before the effective date will need to be evaluated for consolidation. The criteria for reporting a transfer of financial assets has also changed. The guidance is effective on a prospective basis on January 1, 2010 and interim and annual periods thereafter. The Company does not expect that the provisions of the new guidance will have an impact on the Company s consolidated financial statements.

11

#### 3. Earnings Per Ordinary Share

Basic earnings per ordinary share are calculated by dividing net income available to holders of Aspen s ordinary shares by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding. Diluted earnings per ordinary share are based on the weighted average number of ordinary shares and dilutive potential ordinary shares outstanding during the period of calculation using the treasury stock method. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 2008					Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 2008			
	(\$ in millions, except share and per share amounts)								
Earnings Basic									
Net income as reported	\$	145.8	\$	(126.1)	\$	347.6	\$	82.0	
Preference dividends		(5.6)		(6.9)		(18.3)		(20.8)	
Preference stock repurchase gain						31.5			
Net income available to ordinary shareholders		140.2		(133.0)		360.8		61.2	
Diluted Net income available to ordinary shareholders		140.2		(133.0)		360.8		61.2	
Ordinary shares Basic									
Weighted average ordinary shares		83,056,587		81,375,969		82,519,807		83,458,963	
Diluted Weighted average ordinary shares		83,056,587		81,375,969		82,519,807		83,458,963	
		, ,		, ,		,		, ,	
Weighted average effect of dilutive securities		2,936,702			2,432,813			2,654,109	
Total	85,993,289		81,375,969		84,952,620		0 86,113,		
Earnings per ordinary share Basic	\$	1.69	\$	(1.63)	\$	4.37	\$	0.73	
Diluted	\$	1.63	\$	(1.63)	\$	4.25	\$	0.71	

The basic and diluted number of shares for the three months ended September 30, 2008 is the same as the inclusion of dilutive securities in a loss-making period would be anti-dilutive.

*Purchase of preference shares.* On March 31, 2009, we purchased 2,672,500 of our 7.401% \$25 liquidation price preference shares (NYSE: AHL-PA) at a price of \$12.50 per share. The purchase resulted in a first quarter gain of approximately \$31.5 million, net of a non-cash charge of \$1.2 million reflecting the write off of the pro-rata portion of

the original issuance costs of the 7.401% preference shares.

12

#### **Table of Contents**

Dividends. On October 28, 2009, the Company s Board of Directors declared the following quarterly dividends:

	Dividend	Payable on:	Record Date:
Ordinary shares	\$ 0.15	November 25, 2009	November 11, 2009
5.625% preference shares	\$ 0.703125	January 1, 2010	December 15, 2009
7.401% preference shares	\$ 0.462563	January 1, 2010	December 15, 2009

#### 4. Segment Reporting

The Company has four reportable business segments: property reinsurance; casualty reinsurance; international insurance; and U.S. insurance. The Company has considered similarities in economic characteristics, products, customers, distribution, and the regulatory environment of the Company s operating segments and quantitative thresholds to determine the Company s reportable segments.

*Property Reinsurance*. Our property reinsurance segment is written on both a treaty and facultative basis and consists of the following principal lines of business: treaty catastrophe, treaty risk excess, treaty pro rata, and property facultative. Treaty reinsurance contracts provide for automatic coverage of a type or category of risk underwritten by our ceding clients. We also write some structured reinsurance contracts out of Aspen Bermuda. These contracts are tailored to the individual client circumstances and although written by a single team are accounted for within the business segment that best reflects the economic characteristics of the contract. We also include within this segment credit, surety and political risk reinsurance contracts written by the Zurich branch of Aspen U.K. This portfolio is written principally on a treaty basis.

Casualty Reinsurance. Our casualty reinsurance segment is written on both a treaty and facultative basis and consists of the following principal lines of business: U.S. treaty, international treaty, and casualty facultative. The casualty treaty reinsurance we write includes excess of loss and pro rata reinsurance which are applied to portfolios of primary insurance policies. Our excess of loss positions come most commonly from layered reinsurance structures with underlying ceding company retentions. We also write some structured reinsurance contracts.

International Insurance. Our international insurance segment consists of the following principal lines of business: U.K. commercial property and construction, U.K. commercial liability, excess casualty (which now includes non-marine and transportation liability), professional liability, marine hull, energy property damage, marine, energy and construction liability, aviation, financial institutions, management and technology liability, specie, financial and political risk insurance and specialty reinsurance written principally by Aspen U.K. and our Lloyd s operations, Syndicate 4711. Specialty reinsurance consists of marine and aviation reinsurance as well as terrorism, nuclear, personal accident, crop and satellite. Our international insurance lines are written on a primary and excess of loss basis and our specialty reinsurance is written on both a treaty pro rata and excess of loss basis.

*U.S. Insurance*. Our U.S. insurance segment consists principally of property and casualty insurance written on an excess and surplus lines basis. We also write property insurance that provides lead underwriting support to a select group of U.S. program managers. This is referred to as our risk solutions business.

We do not allocate our assets by segment as we evaluate underwriting results of each segment separately from the results of our investment portfolio. Segment profit or loss for each of the Company s operating segments is measured by underwriting profit or loss. Underwriting profit or loss provides a basis for management to evaluate the segment s underwriting performance.

#### **Table of Contents**

The following tables provide a summary of gross and net written and earned premiums, underwriting results, ratios and reserves for each of our business segments for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 Property Casualty International U.S.											
	Reinsurance			nsurance	Ins	surance ions, exce <sub>l</sub>	Ins	surance		stments		Total
Gross written premiums	\$	171.2	\$	96.5	\$	183.9	\$	38.7	\$		\$	490.3
Net written premiums	_	163.4	_	98.7	_	170.9	_	29.1			_	462.1
Gross earned premiums		155.4		113.4		214.3		39.1				522.2
Net earned premiums		140.9		115.2		187.8		27.0				470.9
Losses and loss expenses		36.5		72.6		113.2		12.8				235.1
Policy acquisition expenses Operating and administrative	;	24.4		19.2		31.0		5.0				79.6
expenses		21.0		9.9		24.5		8.3				63.7
Underwriting profit		59.0		13.5		19.1		0.9				92.5
Net investment income										58.9		58.9
Realized investment gains										14.6		14.6
Segment profit	\$	59.0	\$	13.5	\$	19.1	\$	0.9	\$	73.5	\$	166.0
Change in fair value of derivatives Interest on long term debt Net foreign exchange gains (losses)												(2.0) (3.9) 7.9
Other income												3.1
Net income before tax											\$	171.1
Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses		375.2	\$	1,467.6	\$	976.0	\$	161.7			\$	2,980.5
Ratios Loss ratio		25.9%		63.0%		60.3%		47.4%	)			49.9%
Policy acquisition expense												
ratio Operating and administrative		17.3%		16.7%		16.5%		18.5%	)			16.9%
expense ratio	,	14.9%		8.6%		13.0%		30.7%	)			13.5%
Expense ratio		32.2%		25.3%		29.5%		49.2%				30.4%
Combined ratio		58.1%		88.3%		89.8%		96.6%	)			80.3%

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 Property Casualty International U.S.										
	Rei	nsurance	Rei	nsurance (\$ iı		surance ions, exce		surance ercentag		estments	Total
Gross written premiums Net written premiums	\$	152.8 140.2	\$	79.7 79.8	\$	180.8 162.2	\$	28.0 21.6	\$		\$ 441.3 403.8
Gross earned premiums		152.3		113.7		185.4		31.5			482.9
Net premiums earned		138.8		112.9		158.6		23.9			434.2
Losses and loss expenses		164.6		75.9		141.8		31.1			413.4
Policy acquisition expenses Operating and administrative		23.4		16.6		26.5		3.9			70.4
expenses		14.7		9.6		21.1		6.2			51.6
Underwriting profit/(loss)		(63.9)		10.8		(30.8)		(17.3)			(101.2)
Net investment income Realized investment losses										19.3 (58.1)	19.3 (58.1)
Segment profit/(loss)	\$	(63.9)	\$	10.8	\$	(30.8)	\$	(17.3)	\$	(38.8)	\$ (140.0)
Change in fair value of derivatives Interest on long term debt Net foreign exchange gains											(0.7) (3.8)
(losses) Other income											(2.7) 1.3
Net income before tax											\$ (145.9)
Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses	\$	495.6	\$	1,324.7	\$	886.3	\$	133.8			\$ 2,840.4
Ratios		110.68		6 <b>7.0</b> 8		00.46		120.10			0.5.00
Loss ratio		118.6%		67.2%		89.4%		130.1%			95.2%
Policy acquisition expense ratio Operating and administrative	)	16.8%		14.7%		16.7%		16.3%			16.2%
expense ratio		10.6%		8.5%		13.3%		25.7%			11.9%
Expense ratio		27.4%		23.2%		30.0%		42.0%			28.1%
Combined ratio		146.0%		90.4%		119.4%		172.1%			123.3%
				15							

#### **Table of Contents**

The following table provides a summary of gross and net written and earned premiums, underwriting results, ratios and reserves for each of our business segments for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008.

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 Property Casualty International U.S.										
				nsurance	Ins	surance	Ins	surance		estments	Total
				( <b>\$</b> ii	n mill	ions, exce	pt p	ercentag	ges)		
Gross written premiums Net written premiums Gross earned premiums	\$	571.7 523.9 451.5	\$	342.3 343.5 324.7	\$	617.3 495.8 622.4	\$	130.1 90.2 108.1	\$		\$ 1,661.4 1,453.4 1,506.7
Net earned premiums Losses and loss expenses Policy acquisition expenses Operating and administrative		412.0 97.3 77.1		325.9 213.8 61.1		533.0 357.4 88.9		75.9 52.1 11.9			1,346.8 720.6 239.0
expenses		51.3		30.0		65.9		24.9			172.1
Underwriting profit/(loss)		186.3		21.0		20.8		(13.0)			215.1
Net investment income Realized investment gains										190.3 7.2	190.3 7.2
Segment profit/(loss)	\$	186.3	\$	21.0	\$	20.8	\$	(13.0)	\$	197.5	\$ 412.6
Change in fair value of derivatives Interest on long term debt Net foreign exchange gains Other income											(5.9) (11.8) 8.7 5.0
Net income before tax											\$ 408.6
Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses	\$	375.2	\$	1,467.6	\$	976.0	\$	161.7			\$ 2,980.5
Ratios Loss ratio		23.6%		65.6%		67.1%		68.6%			53.5%
Policy acquisition expense rational Operating and administrative	)	18.7%		18.7%	)	16.7%		15.7%			17.7%
expense ratio		12.5%		9.2%		12.4%		32.8%			12.8%
Expense ratio		31.2%		27.9%	)	29.1%		48.5%			30.5%
Combined ratio		54.8%		93.5%	)	96.2%		117.1%			84.0%
				16							

#### **Table of Contents**

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008 Property Casualty International U.S.										
				nsurance	Ins	surance lions, exce		surance ercentag		estments	Total
Gross written premiums	\$	507.5	\$	318.6	\$	639.0	\$	101.2	\$		\$ 1,566.3
Net written premiums		481.1		314.3		555.8		78.2			1,429.4
Gross earned premiums		437.1		297.1		529.3		87.1			1,350.6
Net earned premiums		389.4		293.4		471.7		68.6			1,223.1
Losses and loss expenses		240.9		191.7		323.1		53.2			808.9
Policy acquisition expenses Operating and administrative		72.9		46.0		80.5		12.4			211.8
expenses		49.7		32.8		58.2		18.8			159.5
Underwriting profit/(loss)		25.9		22.9		9.9		(15.8)			42.9
Net investment income										128.9	128.9
Realized investment losses										(56.3)	(56.3)
Segment profit/(loss)	\$	25.9	\$	22.9	\$	9.9	\$	(15.8)	\$	72.6	\$ 115.5
Change in fair value of derivatives											(5.9)
Interest on long term debt Net foreign exchange gains											(11.7)
(losses)											(3.4)
Other income											4.3
Net income before tax											\$ 98.8
Net reserves for loss and loss											
adjustment expenses	\$	495.6	\$	1,324.7	\$	886.3	\$	133.8			\$ 2,840.4
Ratios											
Loss ratio		61.9%		65.3%		68.5%		77.6%			66.1%
Policy acquisition expense rational Operating and administrative	)	18.7%		15.7%		17.1%		18.1%			17.3%
expense ratio		12.8%		11.2%		12.3%		27.4%			13.1%
Expense ratio		31.5%		26.9%		29.4%		45.5%			30.4%
Combined ratio		93.4%		92.2%		97.9%		123.1%			96.5%
				17							
				17							

#### 5. Investments

*Fixed Maturities* Available For Sale. The following presents the cost, gross unrealized gains and losses, and estimated fair value of available for sale investments in fixed maturities:

	As at September 30, 2009									
	Cost or Amortized			Gross realized		ross ealized	Es	timated Fair		
		Cost	(	Gains	L	osses	,	Value		
U.S. Government Securities	\$	585.3	\$	26.5	\$	(0.6)	\$	611.2		
U.S. Agency Securities		387.3		27.1		(0.4)		414.0		
Municipal Securities		20.0		1.0				21.0		
Corporate Securities		1,911.7		95.4		(1.0)		2,006.1		
Foreign Government Securities		423.0		16.8		(0.2)		439.6		
Asset-backed Securities		139.7		5.8		(0.2)		145.3		
Non-agency Residential Mortgage-backed Securities		41.2		8.0		(0.7)		48.5		
Non-agency Commercial Mortgage-backed Securities		191.2		3.2		(4.8)		189.6		
Agency Mortgage-backed Securities		920.1		42.9		(0.1)		962.9		
Total fixed income	\$	4,619.5	\$	226.7	\$	(8.0)		4,838.2		

	As at December 31, 2008									
			(	Gross	(	Gross	Es	timated		
	Cost or		Uni	realized	Un	realized		Fair		
	Aı	mortized								
		Cost	(	Gains		Losses		Value		
				(\$ in m	illion	s)				
U.S. Government Securities	\$	601.3	\$	49.9	\$	(0.5)	\$	650.7		
U.S. Agency Securities		356.6		36.7		(0.2)		393.1		
Municipal Securities		7.7		0.3				8.0		
Corporate Securities		1,426.0		29.0		(30.5)		1,424.5		
Foreign Government Securities		363.6		20.9				384.5		
Asset-backed Securities		218.1				(12.6)		205.5		
Non-agency Residential Mortgage-backed Securities		80.0		0.4		(24.1)		56.3		
Non-agency Commercial Mortgage-backed Securities		253.9				(34.7)		219.2		
Agency Mortgage-backed Securities		1,058.5		33.2		(0.4)		1,091.3		
Total fixed income	\$	4,365.7	\$	170.4	\$	(103.0)		4,433.1		

#### **Table of Contents**

The following table provides the contractual maturity distribution of our available for sale fixed income investments as of September 30, 2009. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities because issuers of securities may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	Cost Amor Co	tized	Fair Value llions)	
Due one year or less	\$ 3	00.3	\$ 303	5.2
Due after one year through five years	1,8	33.4	1,92	1.1
Due after five years through ten years	1,0	65.8	1,120	6.0
Due after ten years	1	27.8	139	9.6
Subtotal	3,3	27.3	3,49	1.9
Non-agency Residential Mortgage-backed Securities		41.2	48	8.5
Non-agency Commercial Mortgage-backed Securities	1	91.2	189	9.6
Agency Mortgage-backed Securities	9	20.1	962	2.9
Other asset-backed securities	1	39.7	14:	5.3
Total	\$ 4,6	19.5	\$ 4,838	8.2

Net Investment Gains (Losses). The following table sets forth net investment gains (losses) for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended September 30,					Nine Months Ended September 30,				
	2009 2008				_	2009	2008			
	(\$ in millions)									
Available-for-sale securities:										
Realized gains on sale	\$	6.7	\$	4.0	\$	20.2	\$	8.3		
Realized losses on sale		(0.3)		(6.3)		(10.0)		(8.8)		
Impairments:										
Total other-than-temporary impairments		(1.8)		(55.8)		(19.9)		(55.8)		
Trading securities:										
Realized gains on sale		1.3				1.3				
Unrealized gains on sale		9.0				16.1				
Unrealized losses on sale		(0.3)				(0.5)				
Net investment gains (losses)	\$	14.6	\$	(58.1)	\$	7.2	\$	(56.3)		

Proceeds from sales and maturities of fixed maturity investments during the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 were \$563.8 million and \$692.3 million, respectively. Proceeds from securities sold during the nine months

ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 were \$1,536.6 million and \$1,642.6 million, respectively.

19

#### **Table of Contents**

*Fixed Maturities* Trading. The following table presents the cost, gross unrealized gains and losses, and estimated fair value of trading investments in fixed maturities:

	Cost or		G Unr	at Septe ross ealized ains	G Unr L	Fross ealized osses	imated Fair ⁄alue
				( <b>\$ in</b> 1	millior	ıs)	
U.S. Government Securities	\$ 3	3.0	\$	0.1	\$		\$ 3.1
U.S. Agency Securities	(	).4					0.4
Municipal Securities	1	.7		0.1			1.8
Corporate Securities	315	5.0		15.7		(0.5)	330.2
Foreign Government Securities	10	).4		0.2		, ,	10.6
Total fixed income	\$ 330	).5	\$	16.1	\$	(0.5)	\$ 346.1

The Company classifies these financial instruments as held for trading as this most closely reflects the facts and circumstances of the investments held. The trading portfolio was established in 2009.

*Gross unrealized loss*. The following tables summarize as at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, by type of security, the aggregate fair value and gross unrealized loss by length of time the security has been in an unrealized loss position for our available for sale portfolio.

	As at September 30, 2009											
	0-12 months					Over 1	2 moi	nths	Total			
			G	ross			G	ross			G	ross
	Fair		Unr	ealized		Fair	Unr	ealized	Fair		Unrealized	
	1	Value	I	JOSS	1	Value	]	Loss	V	alue	I	JOSS
			(\$ in millions)									
U.S. Government Securities	\$	36.2	\$	(0.6)	\$	2.0	\$		\$	38.2	\$	(0.6)
U.S. Agency Securities		15.1		(0.4)						15.1		(0.4)
Foreign Government Securities		26.4		(0.2)						26.4		(0.2)
Corporate Securities		19.9		(0.3)		53.3		(0.7)		73.2		(1.0)
Asset-backed Securities		0.5				8.0		(0.2)		8.5		(0.2)
Non-agency Residential												
Mortgage-backed Securities		2.9		(0.7)		8.0				10.9		(0.7)
Non-agency Commercial												
Mortgage-backed Securities		10.7		(1.2)		51.6		(3.6)		62.3		(4.8)
Agency Mortgage-backed Securities		14.9		(0.1)		1.5				16.4		(0.1)
Total	\$	126.6	\$	(3.5)	\$	124.4	\$	(4.5)	\$	251.0	\$	(8.0)

					As	at Dece	embe	r 31, 2008	8			
		0-12	mont	hs		Over 1	2 mo	nths		To	otal	
			(	Fross			(	Fross			Gross	
	]	Fair		realized		Fair	Unı	realized		Fair	ir Unrea	
	V	<sup>7</sup> alue	]	Loss	1	Value	]	Loss		Value		Loss
					(\$ in millions)							
U.S. Government Securities	\$	7.4	\$	(0.4)	\$	1.0	\$	(0.1)	\$	8.4	\$	(0.5)
U.S. Agency Securities		11.4		(0.2)				` ,		11.4		(0.2)
Corporate Securities		326.8		(19.0)		192.0		(11.5)		518.8		(30.5)
Asset-backed Securities		190.4		(11.1)		15.0		(1.5)		205.4		(12.6)
Non-agency Residential												
Mortgage-backed Securities		55.9		(24.0)		0.4		(0.1)		56.3		(24.1)
Non-agency Commercial												
Mortgage-backed Securities		114.2		(7.2)		105.0		(27.5)		219.2		(34.7)
Agency Mortgage-backed												
Securities		42.3		(0.4)						42.3		(0.4)
Total	\$	748.4	\$	(62.3)	\$	313.4	\$	(40.7)	\$	1,061.8	\$	(103.0)

As at September 30, 2009, the Company held 138 fixed maturities (December 31, 2008 634 fixed maturities) in an unrealized loss position with a fair value of \$251.0 million (December 31, 2008 \$1,061.8 million) and gross unrealized losses of \$8.0 million (December 31, 2008 \$103.0 million). The Company believes that the gross unrealized losses are attributable mainly to a combination of widening credit spreads and interest rate movements and has concluded that the period of those investments in an unrealized loss position is temporary.

Other-than-temporary impairments. The Company recorded other-than-temporary impairments for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 of \$1.8 million (2008 \$55.8 million) and \$19.9 million (2008 \$55.8 million), respectively. We review all of our investments in fixed maturities designated available for sale for potential impairment each quarter based on criteria including issuer-specific circumstances, credit ratings actions and general macro-economic conditions. The process of determining whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary requires considerable judgment. As part of the assessment process we evaluate whether it is more likely than not that we will sell any fixed maturity security in an unrealized loss position before its market value recovers to amortized cost. Once a security has been identified as other-than-temporarily impaired, the amount of any impairment included in net income is determined by reference to that portion of the unrealized loss that is considered to be credit related. Non-credit related unrealized losses are included in other comprehensive income. Other-than-temporary impairment is discussed further in Note 2 of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Other investments. Other investments as at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008 are as follows:

	Sept	ember 30, 2009	Decem	ıber i	31, 2008			
		Carrying		Carrying				
	Cost	Value	Cost		Value			
		(\$ iı	n millions)					
Investment funds	\$	\$	\$ 311.3	\$	286.9			

Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. 25.0 25.9

Total other investments \$ 25.0 \$ 25.9 \$ 311.3 \$ 286.9

Investment funds. Investment funds represented our investments in funds of hedge funds which were recorded using the equity method of accounting. Adjustments to the carrying value of these investments were made based on the net asset values reported by the fund managers, resulting in a carrying value that approximated fair value. Realized and unrealized gains of \$Nil (2008 loss of \$42.2 million) and \$20.2 million (2008 loss of \$48.3 million) were recognized through the statement of operations in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. We invested \$150.0 million in the share capital of two funds in 2006, a further \$247.5 million in one of these funds and \$112.5 million in the

21

#### **Table of Contents**

share capital of a third fund in 2007. In 2008, we sold share capital in the funds that cost \$198.6 million for proceeds of \$177.2 million realizing a loss of \$21.4 million. In February 2009, we gave notice to redeem the balance of the funds in June 2009. As a result, we recognized proceeds from the redemption of funds of \$307.1 million at June 30, 2009.

The Company s involvement with the funds ceased at June 30, 2009. The carrying value of the receivables represents the Company s maximum exposure to loss at the balance sheet date. Of the \$16.3 million receivable at September 30, 2009, \$4.8 million was received by October 31, 2009 with the remaining balance of \$11.5 million to be received subsequent to the completion of the audited financial statements for the fund.

Cartesian Iris 2009A. On May 19, 2009, Aspen Holdings invested \$25 million in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. through our wholly owned subsidiary, Acorn Limited. Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is a Delaware Limited Partnership formed to provide capital to Iris Re, a newly formed Class 3 Bermudian reinsurer focusing on insurance linked securities. In addition to the investment in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P., Aspen provides certain underwriting and actuarial services in return for a percentage of profits from Iris Re. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, a fee of \$0.1 million was payable to Aspen.

The Company accounts for its investment in accordance with the equity method of accounting. Adjustments to the carrying value of this investment are made based on the Company s share of capital including its share of income and expenses, which is provided in the quarterly management accounts of the partnership. The adjusted carrying value approximates fair value. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, the Company s share of gains and losses increased the value of our investment by \$1.2 million (2008-\$Nil) and \$0.9 million (2008-\$Nil), respectively. The increase in value has been recognized in realized and unrealized gains and losses in the condensed consolidated statement of operations. For more information see Note 12(c).

The Company s involvement with Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is limited to its investment in the partnership and it is not committed to making further investments in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P.; accordingly, the carrying value of the investment represents the Company s maximum exposure to a loss as a result of its involvement with the partnership at each balance sheet date.

22

#### 6. Fair Value Measurements

The Company s estimates of fair value for financial assets and liabilities are based on the framework established in the fair value accounting guidance. The framework prioritizes the inputs, which refer broadly to assumptions market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability, into three levels, which are described in more detail below.

The Company considers prices for actively traded Treasury securities to be derived based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets, which are Level 1 inputs in the fair value hierarchy. The Company considers prices for other securities priced via vendors, indices, or broker-dealers to be derived based on inputs that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly, which are Level 2 inputs in the fair value hierarchy.

The Company considers securities, other financial instruments and derivative insurance contracts subject to fair value measurement whose valuation is derived by internal valuation models to be based largely on unobservable inputs, which are Level 3 inputs in the fair value hierarchy. There have been no changes in the Company s use of valuation techniques during the year.

Our fixed income securities are traded on the over-the-counter market, based on prices provided by one or more market makers in each security. Securities such as U.S. Government, U.S. Agency, Foreign Government and investment grade corporate bonds have multiple market makers in addition to readily observable market value indicators such as expected credit spread, except for Treasury securities, over the yield curve. We use a variety of pricing sources to value our fixed income securities including those securities that have pay down/prepay features such as mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities in order to ensure fair and accurate pricing. The fair value estimates of the investment grade securities in our portfolio do not use significant unobservable inputs or modeling techniques.

The following table presents the table within the fair value hierarchy at which the Company s financial assets are measured on a recurring basis at September 30, 2009.

	<b>September 30, 2009</b>						
	Level 1 Level 2 (\$ in millions)						
Fixed income maturities available for sale, at fair value Short-term investments available for sale, at fair value Fixed income maturities, trading at fair value Short-term investments, trading at fair value	\$	1,050.8 337.2 10.6	\$	3,773.4 90.4 335.5 4.0	\$	14.0	
Derivatives at fair value						3.6	
Total	\$	1,398.6	\$	4,203.2	\$	17.6	

	<b>December 31, 2008</b>					
	Level 1	Level 2 (\$ in millions)	Level 3			
Fixed income maturities available for sale, at fair value	\$ 1,035.2	\$ 3,395.1	\$ 2.8			

Short-term investments available for sale, at fair value	\$ 141.2	\$ 83.7	
Derivatives at fair value			11.8
Total	\$ 1,176.4	\$ 3,478.8	\$ 14.6

Fixed income maturities classified as Level 3 include holdings where there are significant unobservable inputs in determining the assets—fair value and also securities of Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc. (Lehman Brothers). Although the market value of Lehman Brothers bonds was based on broker dealer quoted prices, management believes that the valuation is based, in part, on market expectations of future recoveries out of bankruptcy proceedings, which involve significant unobservable inputs to the valuation. Derivatives at fair value consist of the credit insurance contract as described in Note 8.

23

#### **Table of Contents**

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for all assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using Level 3 inputs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009.

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2009								
	Fixed Maturity Investments		ivatives at r Value illions)	Total					
Level 3 assets as of July 1, 2009 Securities transferred in/(out) of Level 3 Total unrealized gains or (losses):	\$ 18.3	\$	5.4	\$ 23.7					
Included in earnings Included in comprehensive income Sales	1.5 (5.8)	)	(1.8)	(1.8) 1.5 (5.8)					
Level 3 assets as of September 30, 2009	\$ 14.0	\$	3.6	\$ 17.6					

	Nine Months Ended Septe Fixed Derivativ Maturity at Investments Fair Valu (\$ in millions				s Total		
Level 3 assets as of January 1, 2009 Securities transferred in/(out) of Level 3 Total unrealized gains or (losses): Included in earnings	\$	2.8 14.0	\$	11.8	\$	14.6 14.0 (5.5)	
Included in carrings Included in comprehensive income Settlements Sales		3.0 (5.8)		(2.7)		3.0 (2.7) (5.8)	
Level 3 assets as of September 30, 2009	\$	14.0	\$	3.6	\$	17.6	

The following table presents the Company s liabilities within the fair value hierarchy at which the Company s financial liabilities are measured on a recurring basis at September 30, 2009.

<b>September 30, 2009</b>							
Level							
1	Level 2	Level 3					
(\$ in millions)							

Liabilities under derivative contracts:

Credit insurance contract \$ \$ 6.0

December 31, 2008
Level

1 Level 2 Level 3
(\$ in millions)

Liabilities under derivative contracts:

Credit insurance contract

\$ \$ \$ 11.1

24

#### **Table of Contents**

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for the liabilities under derivative contracts measured at fair value on a recurring basis using Level 3 inputs during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009.

	En	Three Months Ended  September 30, 2009 (\$ in millions)		Months Inded Imber 30,
	-			2009 (\$ in millions)
Beginning Balance Settlements	\$	7.7 (1.7)	\$	11.1 (5.1)
Ending Balance	\$	6.0	\$	6.0

#### 7. Reinsurance

We purchase retrocession and reinsurance to limit and diversify our own risk exposure and to increase our own insurance underwriting capacity. These agreements provide for recovery of a portion of losses and loss expenses from reinsurers. As is the case with most reinsurance treaties, we remain liable to the extent that reinsurers do not meet their obligations under these agreements, and therefore, in line with our risk management objectives, we evaluate the financial condition of our reinsurers and monitor concentrations of credit risk. In addition, we have entered into reinsurance agreements and derivative instruments as described below:

Ajax Re. On April 25, 2007, we entered into a reinsurance agreement that provided us with coverage incepting on August 18, 2007. Under the reinsurance agreement, Ajax Re Limited (Ajax Re) provided us with \$100 million of aggregate indemnity protection for certain losses from individual earthquakes in California occurring between August 18, 2007 and May 1, 2009. The reinsurance agreement was fully collateralized by proceeds received by Ajax Re from the issuance of catastrophe bonds. The amount of the recovery was limited to the lesser of our losses and the proportional amount of \$100 million based on the Property Claims Services (PCS) reported losses and the attachment level of \$23.1 billion and the exhaustion level of \$25.9 billion. For further information, see Note 12(c). At the balance sheet date and at expiry of the contract on May 1, 2009, no recovery was due from Ajax Re.

In order to ensure that Ajax Re had sufficient funding to service the LIBOR portion of interest due on the bonds issued by Ajax Re, Ajax Re entered into a total return swap (the swap) with Lehman Brothers Special Financing, Inc. (Lehman Financing), whereby Lehman Financing directed Ajax Re to invest the proceeds from the bonds into permitted investments. Lehman Brothers also provided a guarantee of Lehman Financing s obligations under the swap.

On September 15, 2008, Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy, which is a termination event under the swap. Ajax Re terminated the swap on September 16, 2008. Nevertheless, Aspen remained within its risk tolerances during the period of cover without benefit of this reinsurance.

25

## 8. Derivative Contracts

The following table summarizes information on the location and amounts of derivative fair values on the consolidated balance sheet as at September 30, 2009:

Derivatives Not Designated as		otional	Asset Derivatives Balance Sheet		Liability Deri Balance Sheet	vatives			
Hedging Instruments Under ASC 815		mount (\$ in llions)	Location	Fair Value Location (\$ in millions)		Location Value (\$ in		V2 (\$	air alue S in lions)
Credit insurance contract	\$	452.4	Derivatives at fair value	\$	3.6	Liabilities under derivatives	\$	6.0	

As at December 31, 2008:

Asset Deriva Notional Balance Sheet		ative	S	Liability Deri Balance Sheet	ivati	ves	
	(\$ in	Location	Fair Value Location (\$ in millions)		Location	on V (S (S (S)	
¢.	450 4	Derivatives at	ф	0.1	Liabilities under	¢.	11 1
		Derivatives at			derivatives	Э	11.1
	Aı	Amount (\$ in millions)  \$ 452.4	Notional Balance Sheet  Amount (\$ in millions)  Derivatives at fair value Derivatives at	Notional Balance Sheet  Amount Location Value (\$ in (\$ millions) Derivatives at \$ 452.4 fair value Derivatives at	Amount (\$ in millions)  Derivatives at \$ 452.4 fair value Derivatives at Derivatives at	Notional Balance Sheet  Amount Location Sin (\$ in millions)  Derivatives at \$452.4 fair value Derivatives at Derivatives at Sheet  Balance Sheet Fair Value Location (\$ in millions)  Liabilities under \$9.1 derivatives	Notional Balance Sheet Fair Amount Location Value Location V (\$ in

The following table provides the total unrealized and realized gains/(losses) recorded in earnings for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008:

			Amor Gain/ Recogn	(Los	s)
		Nine Months Ended			
Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments Under ASC 815	Se Location of Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income	eptember <b>S0</b> ptember 3 2009 2008 (\$ millions)			008
Credit Insurance Contract Foreign Exchange Contract	Change in Fair Value of Derivatives Net Foreign Exchange Gains and Losses	\$ \$	(5.9) 1.8	\$ \$	(5.9) (3.8)

Amount of
Gain/(Loss)
Recognized in
Income
Three Months
Ended
eptember **So**ptember 30,
2009 2008

Derivatives Not Designated as
Hedging Instruments Under ASC 815
Location of Gain/(Loss) Recognized in Income 2009 2008
(\$ millions)

Credit Insurance Contract	Change in Fair Value of Derivatives	\$ (2.0)	\$ (2.1)
Foreign Exchange Contract	Change in Fair Value of Derivatives	\$	\$ 1.4
Foreign Exchange Contract	Net Foreign Exchange Gains and Losses	\$	\$ (3.8)

*Credit insurance contract.* On November 28, 2006, the Company entered into a credit insurance contract which, subject to its terms, insures the Company against losses due to the inability of one or more of our reinsurance counterparties to meet their financial obligations to the Company.

The Company considers the contract to be a derivative instrument because the final settlement is expected to take place two years after expiry of cover and include an amount attributable to outstanding and IBNR claims which may not at that point in time be due and payable to the Company.

As a result of the application of derivative accounting guidance, the contract is treated as an asset or a liability and measured at the directors estimate of its fair value. Changes in the estimated fair value from time to time will be included in the consolidated statement of operations.

The contract is for a maximum of five years and provides 90% cover for a named panel of reinsurers up to individual defined sub-limits. The contract does allow, subject to certain conditions, for substitution

26

#### **Table of Contents**

and replacement of panel members if the Company s panel of reinsurers changes. Payments are made on a quarterly basis throughout the period of the contract based on the aggregate limit, which was set initially at \$477 million but is subject to adjustment. The carrying value of the derivative is the Company s maximum exposure to loss.

Foreign exchange contract. The Company uses forward exchange contracts to manage foreign currency risk. A forward foreign currency exchange contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specified currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. Foreign currency exchange contracts will not eliminate fluctuations in the value of our assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies but rather allow us to establish a rate of exchange for a future point in time. The foreign currency contracts are recorded as derivatives at fair value with changes recorded as a net foreign exchange gain or loss in the Company statement of operations.

#### 9. Reserves for Losses and Adjustment Expenses

The following table represents a reconciliation of beginning and ending consolidated loss and loss adjustment expenses (LAE) reserves:

	As at September 30,		As at		
		2009 (\$ in	December 31, 2008 millions)		
Provision for losses and LAE at start of year Less reinsurance recoverable	\$	3,070.3 (283.3)	\$	2,946.0 (304.7)	
Net loss and LAE at start of year		2,787.0		2,641.3	
Net loss and LAE expenses disposed of		(10.0)		(15.4)	
Provision for losses and LAE for claims incurred: Current year Prior years		791.6 (71.0)		1,203.0 (83.5)	
Total incurred		720.6		1,119.5	
Losses and LAE payments for claims incurred: Current year Prior years		(122.8) (497.7)		(205.2) (534.2)	
Total paid		(620.5)		(739.4)	
Foreign exchange losses (gains)		103.4		(219.0)	
Net losses and LAE reserves at period end Plus reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses at period end		2,980.5 333.5		2,787.0 283.3	
Loss and LAE reserves at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008	\$	3,314.0	\$	3,070.3	

For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, there were reserve releases of \$71.0 million compared to \$95.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 in our estimate of the ultimate claims to be paid in respect of prior accident years.

The net loss and loss expenses disposed of represents reductions in reserves for several Lloyd syndicates which we originally assumed under reinsurance to close arrangements accounted for by the syndicates prior to 2007.

27

#### 10. Capital Structure

The following table provides a summary of the Company s authorized and issued share capital at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008.

	As at September 30, 2009 \$ in		As at December 31, 20		, 2008 \$ in	
	Number	Th	ousands	Number	Th	ousands
Authorized Share Capital Ordinary shares 0.15144558¢ per share Non-Voting shares 0.15144558¢ per share Preference shares 0.15144558¢ per share	969,629,030 6,787,880 100,000,000	\$	1,469 10 152	969,629,030 6,787,880 100,000,000	\$	1,469 10 152
Issued Share Capital Issued ordinary shares of 0.15144558¢ per share	83,094,615		126	81,506,503		123
Issued preference shares of 0.15144558¢ each with a liquidation preference of \$50 per share	4,600,000		7	4,600,000		7
Issued preference shares of 0.15144558¢ each with a liquidation preference of \$25 per share	5,327,500		8	8,000,000		12
Total issued share capital			141			142
Additional paid-in capital (\$ in millions)		\$	1,760.6		\$	1,754.8

Additional paid-in capital includes the aggregate liquidation preferences of our preference shares of \$363.2 million (2008 \$430.0 million) less issue costs of \$9.6 million (2008 \$10.8 million).

*Purchase of preference shares.* On March 31, 2009, we purchased 2,672,500 of our 7.401% \$25 liquidation price preference shares (NYSE: AHL-PA) at a price of \$12.50 per share. For earnings per share purposes, the purchase resulted in a first quarter gain of approximately \$31.5 million, net of a non-cash charge of \$1.2 million reflecting the write off of the pro-rata portion of the original issuance costs of the 7.401% preference shares.

*Ordinary Shares*. The following table summarizes transactions in our ordinary shares during the nine month period ended September 30, 2009.

	Number of Shares
Shares in issue at December 31, 2008	81,506,503
Share transactions in the nine months ended September 30, 2009:	
Shares issued to the Names trust upon exercise of investor options	1,815

Shares issued to employees under the share incentive plan Shares issued through registered public offerings

366,297 1,220,000

Shares in issue at September 30, 2009

83,094,615

28

#### **Table of Contents**

#### 11. Share Based Payments

The Company has issued options and other equity incentives under four arrangements: investor options, employee awards, non-employee director awards and the employee share purchase plans. When options are exercised or other equity awards have vested, new shares are issued as the Company does not currently hold treasury shares. The Company applies a fair-value based measurement method and an estimate of future forfeitures in the calculation of the compensation costs of stock options and restricted share units.

Investor Options. The investor options were issued on June 21, 2002 to Wellington Investment Holdings (Jersey) Limited (Wellington Investment) and members of Syndicate 2020 who were not corporate members of Syndicate 2020. The options conferred to the members of Syndicate 2020 are held for their benefit by Appleby Services (Bermuda) Ltd. (formerly Appleby Trust (Bermuda) Limited) (Names Trustee). The subscription price payable under the options is initially £10 and increases by 5% per annum, less any dividends paid. Option holders are not entitled to participate in any dividends prior to exercise and would not rank as a creditor in the event of liquidation. If not exercised, the options will expire on June 21, 2012. Wellington Investment exercised all of its options on March 28, 2007.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, the Names Trustee exercised 627 options and 4,469 options on a cash and cashless basis, respectively (2008 2,868 and 17,391, respectively).

*Employee and Non-Executive Director awards.* Employee options and other awards are granted under the Aspen 2003 Share Incentive Plan and non-executive director awards are granted under the 2006 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors.

Stock options are granted with an exercise price equivalent to the fair value of the share on the grant date. The weighted average value at grant date is determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Stock options typically vest over a three-year period with a ten-year contract period (except for options granted in 2007 which have a 7-year exercise period) with vesting dependent on time and performance conditions established at the time of grant. No options were granted during 2009. However, 106,166 and 164,625 options were exercised in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Compensation costs charged against income in respect of employee options for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 were \$0.5 million and \$1.6 million, respectively (2008 \$1.1 million and \$3.1 million).

Restricted share units (RSU s) to employees vest equally over a two or three-year period. Some of the grants vest at year-end, while some other grants vest on the anniversary of the date of grant. The fair value of the restricted share units is based on the closing price on the date of the grant. The fair value is expensed through the income statement evenly over the vesting period. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, the Company granted to employees nil and 42,291 restricted share units, respectively. In the case of non-employee directors (other than the Chairman whose RSU s vest annually over a three-year period), one-twelfth of the RSU s vest on each one month anniversary of the date of grant, with 100% of the RSU s becoming vested on the first anniversary of the date of grant. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, the Company granted to non-employee directors nil and 33,755 restricted share units, respectively.

Compensation costs charged against income in respect of restricted share units for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 were \$0.7 million and \$2.1 million, respectively (2008 \$1.0 million and \$2.1 million).

#### **Table of Contents**

The fair value of performance share awards is based on the value of the average of the high and low of the share price on the date of the grant less a deduction for expected dividends which would not accrue during the vesting period. Performance shares vest over a three or four-year period with shares eligible for vesting dependent on the achievement of performance targets at the end of specified periods as established at the time of grant. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, the Company granted nil and 912,919 performance shares, respectively.

Compensation costs charged against income in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 in respect of performance shares were \$5.5 million and \$11.9 million, respectively (2008 \$0.6 million credit and \$3.7 million charge).

Employee Share Purchase Plans. On April 30, 2008, the shareholders of the Company approved the Employee Share Purchase Plan (the ESPP), the U.K. Sharesave Plan and the international plan, which are implemented by a series of consecutive offering periods as determined by the Board. In respect of the ESPP, employees can save up to \$500 per month over a two-year period, at the end of which they will be eligible to purchase Company shares at a discounted price. In respect of the U.K. Sharesave Plan, employees can save up to £250 per month over a three-year period, at the end of which they will be eligible to purchase Company shares at a discounted price. The purchase price will be eighty-five percent (85%) of the fair market value of a share on the offering date which may be adjusted upon changes in capitalization of the Company. No shares were issued under the plan during 2008 or 2009.

#### 12. Commitments and Contingencies

#### (a) Restricted assets

We are obliged by the terms of our contractual obligations to U.S. policyholders and by undertakings to certain regulatory authorities to facilitate the issue of letters of credit or maintain certain balances in trust funds for the benefit of policyholders.

The following table shows the forms of collateral or other security provided to policyholders as at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008.

	-	As at tember 30, 2009 in millions, o	As at cember 31, 2008 rcentages)
Assets held in multi-beneficiary trusts Assets held in single beneficiary trusts Letters of credit issued under our revolving credit facilities(1) Secured letters of credit(2)	\$	1,409.7 55.9 59.3 412.3	\$ 1,345.6 54.0 84.6 422.4
Total	\$	1,937.2	\$ 1,906.6
Total as % of cash and invested assets		29.4%	33.1%

<sup>(1)</sup> These letters of credit are not secured by cash or securities, though we have the ability to issue secured letters of credit under the revolving credit facility

(2) As of September 30, 2009, the Company had funds on deposit of \$588.7 million and £21.2 million (December 31, 2008 \$604.6 million and £25.3 million) as collateral for the secured letters of credit.

Funds at Lloyd s. AUL operates in Lloyd s as the corporate member for Syndicate 4711. Lloyd s determines Syndicate 4711 s required regulatory capital principally based on the syndicate s annual business plan. Such capital, called Funds at Lloyd s, comprises: cash, investments and a fully collateralized letter of credit. The amounts of cash, investments and letter of credit at September 30, 2009 amount to \$212.6 million (December 31, 2008 \$200.3 million).

30

#### (b) Operating leases

Amounts outstanding under operating leases as of September 30, 2009 were:

						Later	
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Years	Total
			(	\$ in millio	ons)		
Operating Lease Obligations	2.9	7.7	7.4	6.5	6.4	27.1	58.0

#### (c) Variable interest entities

*Ajax Re.* As disclosed in Note 7, we entered into a reinsurance agreement with Ajax Re that provided the Company with \$100 million of aggregate indemnity protection for certain losses from individual earthquakes in California occurring between August 18, 2007 and May 1, 2009.

Ajax Re was a special purpose Cayman Islands exempted company licensed as a restricted Class B reinsurer in the Cayman Islands and formed solely for the purpose of entering into certain reinsurance agreements and other risk transfer agreements with subsidiaries of Aspen to provide up to \$1 billion of reinsurance protection covering various perils, subject to Ajax Re s ability to raise the necessary capital.

The Company has determined that Ajax Re had the characteristics of a variable interest entity that are addressed by the guidance included in ASC 810, *Consolidation*. As a result, Ajax Re was not consolidated because the majority of the expected losses and expected residual returns would not be absorbed by the Company but rather by the bond holders of Ajax Re.

Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. As disclosed in Note 5, on May 19, 2009, Aspen Holdings invested \$25 million in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. through our wholly owned subsidiary, Acorn Limited. Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is a Delaware Limited Partnership formed to provide capital to Iris Re, a newly formed Class 3 Bermudian reinsurer focusing on insurance linked securities. In addition to the investment in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P., Aspen provides certain underwriting and actuarial services in return for a percentage of profits. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, a fee of \$0.1 million was payable to Aspen. The Company s investment in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. represents 31.25% of the equity invested in the partnership.

The Company has determined that Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. has the characteristics of a variable interest entity that are addressed by the guidance in ASC 810, *Consolidation*. As a result, Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is not consolidated because the majority of the expected losses and expected residual returns will not be absorbed by the Company. The Company has no decision-making power, those powers having been reserved for the general partner.

The Company s involvement with Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is limited to its investment in the partnership and it is not committed to making further investments in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P.; accordingly, the carrying value of the investment represents the Company s maximum exposure to a loss as a result of its involvement with the partnership at each balance sheet date.

#### 13. Subsequent Events

The Company has considered subsequent events through November 4, 2009, the date of filing of this report.

#### **Table of Contents**

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

The following is a discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in this Form 10-Q and the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, as well as the discussions of critical accounting policies, contained in our Financial Statements in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Some of the information contained in this discussion and analysis or set forth elsewhere in this Form 10-Q, including information with respect to our plans and strategy for our business and in Outlook and Trends below, includes forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties. Please see the section captioned Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements in this report and the Risk Factors in Item 1A of our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K for more information on factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results described in or implied by any forward-looking statements contained in this discussion and analysis.

#### **Recent Developments**

On October 6, 2009, Aspen U.K. and Aspen Bermuda entered into a \$200 million secured letter of credit facility with Barclays Bank plc. All letters of credit issued under the facility will be used to support reinsurance obligations of the parties to the agreement and their respective subsidiaries.

#### Overview

We are a Bermuda holding company. We write insurance and reinsurance business through our wholly-owned subsidiaries in three major jurisdictions: Aspen U.K. and AUL, corporate member of Syndicate 4711 at Lloyd s of London (United Kingdom), Aspen Bermuda (Bermuda) and Aspen Specialty (United States). Aspen U.K. also has branches in Paris, France; Zurich, Switzerland; Dublin, Ireland; Singapore; Australia; and Canada. We operate in global markets for property and casualty insurance and reinsurance.

The most significant features of our results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 were:

Net income after tax for the three months ended September 30, 2009 of \$145.8 million, compared with a net loss after tax of \$126.1 million for the third quarter of 2008. For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, net income after tax was \$347.6 million compared to \$82.0 million for the same period last year.

A combined ratio of 80.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2009 versus 123.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2008;

Third quarter net investment income of \$58.9 million, up 205.2% over the same quarter last year and down 18.4% over the second quarter of 2009;

Diluted earnings per ordinary share after preference share dividends of \$1.63 for the three months ended September 30, 2009 increased by \$3.26 over the comparative period in 2008. Diluted earnings per ordinary share after preference share dividends was \$4.25 for the nine months ended September 30, 2009, an increase of 498.6% compared to the same period last year; and

Table of Contents 56

32

#### **Table of Contents**

Tangible book value per ordinary share at September 30, 2009 was \$34.30, an increase of 26.4% compared to \$27.14 at September 30, 2008.

Tangible book value per ordinary share is based on total shareholders equity, less intangible assets and preference shares (liquidation preference less issue expenses), divided by the number of ordinary shares in issue at the end of the period.

Shareholders equity and ordinary shares in issue as at September 30, 2009 and September 30, 2008 were:

	Sep	As at tember 30, 2009 (\$ in millions an	-	As at ember 30, 2008 t for share
Total shareholders equity	\$	3,212.1	\$	2,637.6
Intangible assets Preference shares less issue expenses		(8.2) (353.6)		(8.2) (419.2)
Net tangible assets attributable to ordinary shareholders	\$	2,850.3	\$	2,210.2
Ordinary shares		83,094,615		81,450,413
Diluted ordinary shares		86,192,623		84,325,027

The following overview of our results for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 and of our financial condition at September 30, 2009, is intended to identify important trends and should be read in conjunction with the more detailed discussion further below.

*Gross written premiums*. Total gross written premiums increased by 11.1% to \$490.3 million in the third quarter of 2009 when compared to 2008 with the increase attributable mainly to property and casualty reinsurance segments.. The table below shows our gross written premiums for each segment for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each segment.

Business Segment			ree Months aber 30, 2009		the Three Months led September 30, 2008
	(\$ in million		% increase/ (decrease)	1	(\$ in millions)
Property reinsurance Casualty reinsurance International insurance U.S. insurance	\$	171.2 96.5 183.9 38.7	12.0% 21.1 1.7 38.2	\$	152.8 79.7 180.8 28.0
Total	\$	490.3	11.1%	\$	441.3

Gross written premiums for the quarter have increased to \$490.3 million from \$441.3 million in the third quarter of 2008 due mainly to increased contributions from our property reinsurance and casualty reinsurance segments. The casualty reinsurance segment has benefited principally from \$13.0 million of premium adjustments, particularly in our U.S. treaty business. The property reinsurance segment has benefited from a \$27.3 million contribution from the newly established credit, surety and political risk business line compensating for reductions in premiums written in our treaty risk excess business line. Our U.S. insurance segment has also experienced growth in the quarter particularly in the property line due mainly to new business subsequent to the reshaping of the portfolio in 2008 and increased prices for catastrophe-exposed business. Gross written premiums in the international insurance segment have increased marginally by 1.7% to \$183.9 million when compared to the third quarter of 2008 due to a \$4.7 million contribution from the specie and management and technology liability business lines which commenced underwriting after the third quarter of 2008, compensating for a small net reduction in premiums written in the other business lines.

33

#### **Table of Contents**

*Reinsurance*. Total reinsurance ceded for the quarter of \$28.2 million has decreased by \$9.3 million from the third quarter of 2008. Ceded written premiums in the third quarter of 2008 included \$7.4 million of reinstatement premiums in relation to Hurricanes Ike and Gustav.

Loss ratio. We monitor the ratio of losses and loss adjustment expenses to net earned premium (the loss ratio) as a measure of relative underwriting performance where a lower ratio represents a better result than a higher ratio. The loss ratios for our four business segments for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 were as follows:

Business Segment	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008
Property reinsurance	25.9%	118.6%
Casualty reinsurance	63.0%	67.2%
International insurance	60.3%	89.4%
U.S. insurance	47.4%	130.1%
Total Loss Ratio	49.9%	95.2%

The loss ratio for the quarter of 49.9% has decreased by 45.3 percentage points compared to the third quarter of 2008 mainly due to the hurricane losses incurred in 2008 with no comparable events in the third quarter of 2009. The property reinsurance loss ratio of 25.9% is 92.7 percentage points below the third quarter of 2008 due mainly to the absence of catastrophes but also due to \$19.1 million of prior year reserve releases in the quarter compared to a \$3.3 million release in the third quarter of 2008.

The underlying changes in accident year loss ratios by segment are shown in the table below. The prior year adjustment in the table below reflects claims development and excludes premium adjustments.

				Accident Year Loss Ratio Excluding
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009	Total Loss Ratio	Prior Year Adjustment	Hurricane Claims Adjustment	Prior Year Adjustments
Property reinsurance	25.9%	12.0%		37.9%
Casualty reinsurance	63.0%	8.3%		71.3%
International insurance	60.3%	8.9%		69.2%
U.S. insurance	47.4%	1.6%		49.0%
Total	49.9%	9.0%		58.9%

Loss Ratio Excluding Prior Year

Hurricane

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		Prior Year		Reserve and
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008	Total Loss Ratio	Claims Adjustment	Claims Adjustment	Hurricane Adjustments
Property reinsurance	118.6%	2.4%	(94.5)%	26.5%
Casualty reinsurance	67.2%	8.6%		75.8%
International insurance	89.4%	1.2%	(25.1)%	65.5%
U.S. insurance	130.1%	2.9%	(62.8)%	70.2%
Total	95.2%	3.6%	(42.8)%	56.0%

Reserve releases. The loss ratios take into account changes in our assessments of reserves for unpaid claims and loss adjustment expenses arising from earlier years. In the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, we recorded a reduction in the level of reserves for prior years. The amounts of these reductions and their effect on the loss ratio in each period are shown in the following table:

#### **Table of Contents**

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008		
Reserve releases (\$ in millions)	\$ 44.2	\$ 15.6		
% of net premiums earned	9.4%	3.6%		

Reserve releases in the quarter increased by \$28.6 million from the third quarter in 2008 due mainly to an increase in releases in the property reinsurance and the international insurance segments. Property reinsurance reserve releases increased by \$15.8 million to \$19.1 million due to better than expected development on outstanding claims particularly in our risk excess and property pro-rata lines of business. Our international insurance segment has also seen net reserve releases of \$16.4 million as a result of favorable loss experience across most lines of business. These have been partially offset by reductions in reserve releases of \$0.2 million in the casualty reinsurance segment and reserve strengthening in the U.S. insurance segment. The U.S. insurance segment strengthened prior year reserves by \$0.8 million due to adverse experience from the casualty insurance business line compared to reserve releases of \$0.7 million in the third quarter of 2008. Further information relating to the movement of prior year reserves can be found below under Reserves for Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses.

Expense ratio. We monitor the ratio of expenses to net earned premium (the expense ratio ) as a measure of the cost effectiveness of our policy acquisition, operating and administrative processes. The table below presents the contribution of the policy acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses to the expense ratio and the total expense ratios for each of the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008
Policy acquisition expenses	16.9%	16.2%
Operating and administrative expenses	13.5%	11.9%
Expense ratio	30.4%	28.1%

The policy acquisition expense ratio of 16.9% for the quarter has increased marginally from 16.2% in the third quarter of 2008, due mainly to an adjustment in acquisition expenses in casualty reinsurance and a change in the mix of business for U.S. insurance which has seen an increase in the proportion of property insurance business written that has higher average commission rates than casualty business.

The increase in the operating and administrative expense ratio to 13.5% from 11.9% in the third quarter of 2008 was driven predominantly by performance-related remuneration linked to our improved performance during the period.

*Net investment income.* In the third quarter of 2009, we generated net investment income of \$58.9 million (2008 \$19.3 million). The increase in net investment income was due primarily to the comparative quarter in 2008 experiencing a loss of \$42.2 million from our investment in funds of hedge funds. Investment income from fixed maturities decreased by \$2.6 million compared to September 30, 2008 as a result of lower bond yields.

Change in fair value of derivatives. In the three months ended September 30, 2009, we recorded a reduction of \$2.0 million (2008 \$2.1 million reduction in the credit insurance contract less an adjustment of \$1.4 million in changes in foreign exchange) in the estimated fair value of our credit insurance contract including an interest expense charge of \$0.2 million (2008 \$0.2 million). Further information on these contracts can be found in Note 8 to the financial statements.

Other revenues and expenses. Other revenues and expenses in the three months ended September 30, 2009 included \$7.9 million of foreign currency exchange gains (2008 \$2.7 million loss) and \$14.6 million of realized and unrealized investment gains (2008 \$58.1 million loss). Realized and unrealized gains included \$8.7 million (2008 \$Nil) of unrealized gains and \$1.3 million (2008 \$Nil) of net realized gains from our fixed income maturities trading portfolio for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The realized investment gains

35

#### **Table of Contents**

in 2009 include a charge of \$1.8 million for investments we believe to be other-than-temporarily impaired (2008 \$55.8 million).

Other-than-temporary impairments. We review all of our investments in fixed maturities designated as available for sale for potential impairment each quarter based on criteria including issuer-specific circumstances, credit ratings actions and general macro-economic conditions. The process of determining whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary requires considerable judgment. As part of the assessment process we evaluate whether it is more likely than not that we will sell any fixed maturity security in an unrealized loss position before its market value recovers to amortized cost. Once a security has been identified as other-than-temporarily impaired, the amount of any impairment included in net income is determined by reference to the portion of the unrealized loss that is considered credit-related. Non-credit related unrealized losses are included in other comprehensive income. Other-than-temporary impairment losses of \$1.8 million for the quarter are credit-related and therefore are included in the income statement. The other-than-temporary impairment charge of \$55.8 million in the third quarter of 2008 was attributable mainly to the write-down of Lehman Brothers bonds subsequent to that company s collapse in September 2008.

Taxes. The estimated effective rate of tax for the quarter is 14.8% (2008 13.6% credit). This is subject to revision in future periods if circumstances change and in particular, depending on the relative claims experience of those parts of business underwritten in Bermuda where the rate of tax on corporate profits is zero while the U.K. corporate tax rate is 28%.

Dividends. The dividend has been maintained at \$0.15 per ordinary share for the quarter.

Dividends paid on our preference shares in the three months ended September 30, 2009 were \$5.6 million (2008 \$6.9 million). The reduction between the two periods is due to the repurchase and cancellation on March 31, 2009 of 2,672,500 of our 7.401% \$25 liquidation preference shares.

*Shareholders equity and financial leverage.* Total shareholders equity increased by \$239.6 million to \$3,212.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009. The most significant movements were:

net retained income after tax for the period of \$127.6 million; and

unrealized appreciation on investments, net of taxes of \$90.7 million.

As at September 30, 2009, total ordinary shareholders equity was \$2,858.5 million compared to \$2,359.9 million at December 31, 2008. The remainder of our total shareholders equity, as at September 30, 2009, was funded by two classes of preference shares with a total value as measured by their respective liquidation preferences of \$353.6 million net of share issuance costs (December 31, 2008 \$419.2 million).

The amounts outstanding under our senior notes, less amortization of expenses, of \$249.6 million (December 31, 2008 \$249.5 million) were the only material debt that we had outstanding as of September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008.

Management monitors the ratio of debt to total capital, with total capital being defined as shareholders equity plus outstanding debt. At September 30, 2009, this ratio was 7.2% (December 31, 2008 8.2%).

Our preference shares are classified in our balance sheet as equity but may receive a different treatment in some cases under the capital adequacy assessments made by certain rating agencies. Such securities are often referred to as hybrids as they have certain attributes of both debt and equity. We also monitor the ratio of the total of debt and hybrids to total capital which was 17.4% as of September 30, 2009 (December 31, 2008 22.1%).

#### **Table of Contents**

Capital Management. On March 31, 2009, we repurchased and cancelled 2,672,500 of our 7.401% \$25 liquidation value preference shares (NYSE: AHL-PA) at a price of \$12.50 per share. The purchase resulted in a gain attributable to ordinary shareholders of \$31.5 million for the first quarter of 2009, which was not recognized in the income statement but was included in the calculation of earnings per share.

Liquidity. Management monitors the liquidity of Aspen Holdings and of each of its Insurance Subsidiaries. With respect to Aspen Holdings, management monitors its ability to service debt, to finance dividend payments and to provide financial support to the Insurance Subsidiaries. As at September 30, 2009, Aspen Holdings held \$8.9 million (2008 \$25.0 million) in cash and cash equivalents which, taken together with dividends declared or expected to be declared by subsidiary companies and our credit facilities, management considered sufficient to provide Aspen Holdings liquidity at such time.

At September 30, 2009, our subsidiaries held \$939.9 million (2008 \$716.6 million) in cash and cash equivalents that are readily realizable securities. Management monitors the value, currency and duration of the cash and investments within its Insurance Subsidiaries to ensure that they are able to meet their insurance and other liabilities as they become due and was satisfied that there was a comfortable margin of liquidity as at September 30, 2009 and for the foreseeable future.

As of September 30, 2009, we had in issue \$441.3 million and £18.8 million in letters of credit to cedants, for which the Company had funds on deposit of \$588.7 million and £21.2 million as collateral for the secured letters of credit. Further information relating to letters of credit is found below under Liquidity.

37

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Outlook and Trends**

*Property Reinsurance*. Within our property reinsurance segment, we had commented last quarter on the highly satisfactory pricing environment for U.S. catastrophe with pricing on average up 17% at the half year stage and the favorable impact this had on written premium. The proportional treaty and risk excess business lines have also performed well given challenging conditions where rates have increased between 3% and 5%.

Casualty Reinsurance. The pricing conditions in the casualty reinsurance segment continue to be mixed with some rate increases in international business, with the U.S. closer to flat. Whereas in 2008 rate decreases were common, they are now less frequent with most business renewing on an as before basis. The international casualty line which represents approximately 30% of this segment is showing more positive trends. Specifically, we are experiencing more positive movement in professional lines and disciplined general liability pricing. We continue to believe that U.S. casualty rates across the market as a whole are inadequate and that pricing improvement is needed.

International Insurance. In our international insurance segment as a whole, average rate increases are still in the double digits, although we continue to see significant variation by line of business. In energy and marine hull accounts, there has been some moderation from the high increases seen in previous quarters this year but average rates rises in these lines were 10% and 9%, respectively in the quarter. Significant price increases are also being achieved in the financial institutions account, particularly on larger clients. In aviation, the important October renewal season has completed and our current pricing confidence is well supported. For the quarter, we experienced average rate increases of 19% with increments of approximately 25% in airline business on average. Elsewhere in the segment, U.K. property rates are broadly flat within a range of +5% and -5%. Employers liability and public liability renewals in the U.K. are also tending to renew at close to expiring prices. In our U.K. professional liability line, conditions are still challenging but the rating trend is still upwards and we have achieved average rate increases in this line of 5% year-to-date.

*U.S. Insurance*. In our U.S. insurance segment, the rating environment is unchanged from the second quarter. We continue to see some evidence of better pricing in catastrophe-exposed property risks but this is not the case in other property lines or casualty lines.

#### **Application of Critical Accounting Policies**

Our condensed consolidated financial statements are based on the selection of accounting policies and the application of significant accounting estimates, which require management to make significant estimates and assumptions. 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 property and liability losses, premiums receivable in respect of assumed reinsurance, the fair value of derivatives and the value of investments, including the extent of any other-than-temporary impairment. For a detailed discussion of our critical accounting policies please refer to our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and the notes to the financial statements contained in this report.

We have discussed the application of these critical accounting estimates with our Board of Directors and Audit Committee.

38

#### **Table of Contents**

**Business Segment** 

# Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 Compared to the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008

The following is a discussion and analysis of our consolidated results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 starting with a discussion of segmental results and then summarizing our consolidated results under Total Income Statement Third quarter below.

#### **Underwriting Results by Operating Segments**

The Company is currently organized into four business segments: property reinsurance, casualty reinsurance, international insurance, and U.S. insurance. The Company has considered similarities in economic characteristics, products, customers, distribution, and the regulatory environment of the Company s operating segments and quantitative thresholds to determine the Company s reportable segments.

Management measures segment results on the basis of the combined ratio, which is obtained by dividing the sum of the losses and loss expenses, acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses by net premiums earned. Indirect operating and administrative expenses are allocated to segments based on each segment supportional share of gross earned premiums. As a relatively new company, our historical combined ratio may not be indicative of future underwriting performance. We do not manage our assets by segment; accordingly, investment income and total assets are not allocated to the individual segments. Please refer to the tables in Note 4 in our unaudited financial statements of this report for a summary of gross and net written and earned premiums, underwriting results and combined ratios and reserves for each of our four business segments for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008.

The contributions of each segment to gross written premiums in the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 were as follows:

	<b>Gross Written Premiums</b>		
	For the Three Months Ended	For the Three Months	
	September 30,	Ended September 30,	
<b>Business Segment</b>	2009 % of total gross	2008 s written premiums	
Property reinsurance	34.9%	34.6%	
Casualty reinsurance	19.7%	18.1%	
International insurance	37.5%	41.0%	
U.S. insurance	7.9%	6.3%	
Total	100.0%	100.0%	

# **Gross Written Premiums**

ror the Inree	
Months	For the Three Months
Ended	Ended September 30,
<b>September 30, 2009</b>	2008

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# (\$ in millions)

Property reinsurance Casualty reinsurance International insurance U.S. insurance	\$	171.2 96.5 183.9 38.7	\$ 152.8 79.7 180.8 28.0
Total	\$	490.3	\$ 441.3
	39		

#### **Property Reinsurance**

Our property reinsurance segment is mainly written on a treaty basis and includes catastrophe, risk excess, and proportional treaty risks. We also write U.S. and international property facultative risks. Our property reinsurance business is written out of Bermuda, London, the U.S., Paris, Zurich and Singapore. Aspen U.K. s Paris branch writes property facultative business in continental Europe and the Zurich branch writes property and casualty reinsurance in Europe. We also write some structured risks out of Aspen Bermuda. We also include within this segment credit, surety and political risk reinsurance contracts written by the Zurich branch of Aspen U.K. This portfolio is written principally on a treaty basis.

Gross written premiums. Gross written premiums in our property reinsurance segment increased by 12.0% compared to the three months ended September 30, 2008. This increase is attributed mainly to new premiums from the credit and surety line of business which began writing business in 2009 in addition to our geographic expansion into Singapore where we write property treaty and facultative business. The reduction in written premiums by our risk excess business line is due to a large contract which had previously been written on a combined risk excess and pro-rata basis which renewed on a pro-rata basis only.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Lines of Business	Gross Written Premiums For the Three Months For the Three Months					
	Ended September 30, 2009			Ended September 30, 2008		
		(\$ in llions)	% increase/ (decrease)		(\$ in millions)	
Treaty catastrophe	\$	69.7	7.2	\$	65.0	
Treaty risk excess		24.8	(31.7)		36.3	
Treaty pro rata		36.6	0.3		36.5	
Property facultative		12.8	(14.7)		15.0	
Credit, surety and political risk reinsurance		27.3	Nm*			
Total	\$	171.2	12.0%	\$	152.8	

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The net loss ratio for the three months ended September 30, 2009 was 25.9% compared to 118.6% in 2008. An absence of significant catastrophe-related losses in the quarter compared to losses from Hurricanes Ike and Gustav in the third quarter of 2008 is the main driver for the reduction in the net loss ratio. Reserve releases in the quarter were \$19.1 million, up from \$3.3 million in the third quarter of 2008 with the increase driven by better than expected development on outstanding claims, particularly in our risk excess and property pro-rata lines.

<sup>\*</sup> Not meaningful This line of business was not operational at September 30, 2008.

Further information relating to the movement of prior year reserves is found below under Reserves for Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses.

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Total expenses were \$45.4 million equivalent to 32.2% of net premiums earned for the three months ended September 30, 2009 compared with \$38.1 million or 27.4% of net premiums earned for the three months ended September 30, 2008. The increase in the expense ratio is driven by the higher operating and administrative expense ratio which increased to 14.9% from 10.6% in the third quarter of 2008. The increase in operating and administrative expenses of \$6.3 million from the third quarter of 2008 is attributable mainly to an increase in performance-related expenses.

40

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Casualty Reinsurance**

Our casualty reinsurance segment is written mainly on a pro rata and treaty basis with a small proportion of facultative risks. Casualty treaty reinsurance is primarily written on an excess of loss basis and includes coverage for claims arising from automobile accidents, employers liability, professional indemnity and other third party liabilities. It is written in respect of cedants located mainly in the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe and Australia. We also write some structured reinsurance contracts out of Aspen Bermuda.

*Gross written premiums*. Gross written premium increased by 21.1% to \$96.5 million due mainly to additional premiums of \$13.0 million for the 2006 and 2007 years in our U.S. casualty treaty line. The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Lines of Business  U.S. treaty	<b>Gross Written Premiums</b>									
	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009			For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008						
						(\$ in millions)		<b>%</b>		
								increase/	(\$ in millions)	
			(decrease)							
	\$	74.8	24.5%	\$	60.1					
	International treaty		16.3	6.5		15.3				
	Casualty facultative		5.4	25.6		4.3				
Total	\$	96.5	21.1%	\$	79.7					

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. Losses and loss adjustment expenses for the third quarter of 2009 decreased by \$3.3 million when compared to the third quarter of 2008. The decrease is attributable mainly to the third quarter of 2008 including a \$10 million increase in loss provisions for potential exposure associated with the global financial crisis. Prior year reserve releases are further discussed below under Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses.

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Total expenses were \$29.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009 equivalent to 25.3% of net premiums earned (2008 23.2%). Policy acquisition expenses have increased by \$2.6 million in the third quarter of 2009 compared to the same period in 2008, as the comparative period included an adjustment to brokerage in the international treaty business line. Operating and administrative expenses of \$9.9 million are broadly in line with the same period in 2008.

#### **International Insurance**

Our international insurance segment comprises marine hull, marine, energy and construction liability, energy property damage, aviation, professional liability, excess casualty, financial institutions, financial and political risk, specie, management and technology liability, U.K. commercial property (including construction) and U.K. commercial liability insurance. The U.K. commercial liability line of business consists of U.K. employers—and public liability insurance. Our specialty reinsurance lines of business include aviation, marine and other specialty reinsurance.

Gross written premiums. Overall premiums have increased marginally to \$183.9 for the quarter from \$180.8 million in the equivalent period in 2008. The increase in gross written premium is attributable to a \$4.7 million contribution from the specie and management and technology liability business lines which commenced underwriting after the third quarter of 2008, compensating for a small net reduction in premiums written in the other business lines. We have written 26% less premium in energy property insurance than the comparable period of 2008 due to a lack of demand for wind cover and we have written 50% less premium in financial institutions due to the repositioning of the business line following the global financial crisis.

41

#### **Table of Contents**

Gross written premiums in our U.K. commercial property and liability lines have also been adversely impacted by exchange rate movements as premiums are written in British Pounds which has weakened against the U.S. Dollar during the period.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each line:

	<b>Gross Written Premiums</b>					
Lines of Business		For the Th Ended Sep 20	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008			
		(\$ in illions)	% increase/ (decrease)	(\$	in millions)	
Marine, energy and construction liability	\$	19.7	39.7%	\$	14.1	
Energy property insurance		16.5	(26.0)		22.3	
Marine hull		13.1	22.4		10.7	
Aviation insurance		23.5	21.8		19.3	
U.K. commercial property and construction		13.2	(28.6)		18.5	
U.K. commercial liability		15.9	(31.8)		23.3	
Professional liability		17.8	33.8		13.3	
Excess casualty		18.3	4.0		17.6	
Financial institutions		7.9	(50.0)		15.8	
Financial and political risk		7.4	34.5		5.5	
Management and technology liability		2.5	Nm*			
Specie		2.2	Nm*			
Specialty reinsurance		25.9	27.0		20.4	
Total	\$	183.9	1.7%	\$	180.8	

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The loss ratio for the quarter was 60.3% compared to 89.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2008, a decrease of 29.1 percentage points. During the third quarter of 2008, the segment was impacted by Hurricanes Ike and Gustav which increased the loss ratio by 25.1 percentage points during that quarter. The three months ended September 30, 2009 were not impacted by any such catastrophic events with the only notable net loss being \$7.0 million following a failed satellite launch. Prior year reserve releases have increased by \$14.5 million to \$16.4 million due to generally favorable loss experience across a number of lines of business.

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Policy acquisition expenses were \$31.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009 equivalent to 16.5% of net premiums earned (2008 \$26.5 million or 16.7% of net earned premium). The increase in operating and administrative expenses to \$24.5 million in the third quarter of 2009 from \$21.1 million for the comparative period in 2008 is attributable mainly to an increase in profit-related staff costs. The additional costs have been partly offset by favorable movements in the exchange rates between the U.S. Dollar and the British Pound.

<sup>\*</sup> Not meaningful This line of business was not operational at September 30, 2008.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### U.S. Insurance

We write both U.S. property and casualty insurance on an excess and surplus lines basis. We also write property insurance that provides underwriting support to a select group of U.S. program managers. This is referred to as our risk solutions business.

*Gross written premiums*. Gross written premiums increased by 38.2% compared to the third quarter of 2008 due mainly to new business subsequent to the reshaping of our property insurance line in 2008 and increased prices for catastrophe-exposed business. Casualty premium is broadly in line with the prior period while an additional \$2.5 million contribution was recognized in the new risk solutions line of business.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

	<b>Gross Written Premiums</b>						
	F	or the Th	ree Months	For the	For the Three Months		
	E	anded Sep	otember 30,	Ended	September 30,		
Lines of Business	2009				2008		
	(	\$ in	<b>%</b>				
	millions)		increase/	(\$ in millions)			
			(decrease)				
U.S. property	\$	17.3	61.7%	\$	10.7		
U.S. casualty		18.9	9.2%		17.3		
U.S. risk solutions		2.5	Nm*				
Total	\$	38.7	38.2%	\$	28.0		

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The loss ratio has decreased from 130.1% for the third quarter of 2008 to 47.4% for the same period in 2009 mainly as a result of the prior period experiencing \$15.0 million of losses related to Hurricanes Ike and Gustav. In the third quarter of 2008, there were reserve releases of \$0.7 million compared to \$0.8 million of reserve strengthening in the third quarter of 2009 due to a small deterioration in casualty insurance which exhibited marginally worse than expected experience.

*Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses*. Policy acquisition expenses have increased to \$5.0 million in the current period from \$3.9 million for the equivalent period in 2008 due mainly to higher earned premium and changes in the business mix.

Operating and administrative expenses have increased to \$8.3 million in 2009 from \$6.2 million in 2008 due mainly to an increase related to certain reorganization costs.

#### **Total Income Statement** Third quarter

<sup>\*</sup> Not meaningful This line of business was not operational at September 30, 2008.

Our statements of operations consolidates the underwriting results of our four segments and includes certain other revenue and expense items that are not allocated to the business segments.

Gross written premiums. Gross written premiums for the third quarter of 2009 have increased by 11.1% to \$490.3 million when compared to the third quarter of 2008 due mainly to increased contributions from our property reinsurance and casualty reinsurance segments. The casualty reinsurance segment has benefited principally from \$13.0 million of premium adjustments, particularly in our U.S. treaty business. The property reinsurance segment has benefited from a \$27.3 million contribution from the newly established credit, surety and political risk business line compensating for reductions in premiums written in our treaty risk excess business line. Our U.S. insurance segment has also experienced growth in the quarter particularly in the property line due mainly to new business subsequent

43

#### **Table of Contents**

to the reshaping of the portfolio in 2008 and increased prices for catastrophe exposed business. Gross written premiums in the international insurance segment have increased marginally by 1.7% to \$183.9 million when compared to the third quarter of 2008 due to a \$4.7 million contribution from the specie and management and technology liability business lines which commenced underwriting after the third quarter of 2008, compensating for a small net reduction in premiums written in the other business lines.

*Reinsurance ceded.* Total reinsurance ceded for the three months ended September 30, 2009 of \$28.2 million decreased by \$9.3 million from the third quarter of 2008. The reduction in ceded written premiums in the quarter is due to the comparative period including \$7.4 million of reinstatement premiums associated with Hurricanes Ike and Gustav.

*Gross premiums earned*. Gross premiums earned reflect the portion of gross premiums written which are recorded as revenues over the policy periods of the risks we write. The earned premium recorded in any year includes premium from policies incepting in prior years and excludes premium to be earned subsequent to the reporting date. Gross premiums earned in the third quarter of 2009 increased by 8.1% compared to the third quarter of 2008 reflecting the earning of the newer business lines written in the second half of 2008.

*Net premiums earned.* Net premiums earned have increased by \$36.7 million or 8.5% in the third quarter of 2009 compared to 2008 which is consistent with the increase in gross earned premiums. The increase in gross earned premiums has been partially offset by an increase in ceded earned premiums resulting from the increases in reinsurance purchased to cover new lines.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The decrease in losses and loss adjustment expenses resulted from the prior year experiencing \$186.0 million of losses from Hurricanes Ike and Gustav. Reserve releases are higher in the current quarter due generally to favorable development across most lines.

The underlying changes in accident year loss ratios by segment are shown in the table below. The prior year adjustment in the table below reflects claims development and excludes premium adjustments.

	Total	Prior	Hurricane	Accident Year Loss Ratio Excluding Prior
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009	Loss Ratio	Year Adjustment	Claims Adjustment	Year Adjustments
201 0110 11100 112010110 221000 24 <b>F</b> 0011100 2 0 0, <b>2</b> 002	24020	11-ujus 11-1-1-1	11ujusviiiv	Jus
Property reinsurance	25.9%	12.0%		37.9%
Casualty reinsurance	63.0%	8.3%		71.3%
International insurance	60.3%	8.9%		69.2%
U.S. insurance	47.4%	1.6%		49.0%
Total	49.9%	9.0%		58.9%

Loss Ratio Excluding

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	Total	Prior Year	Hurricane	Prior Year Reserve and
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008	Loss Ratio	Claims Adjustment	Claims Adjustment	Hurricane Adjustments
Property reinsurance	118.6%	2.4%	(94.5)%	26.5%
Casualty reinsurance	67.2%	8.6%		75.8%
International insurance	89.4%	1.2%	(25.1)%	65.5%
U.S. insurance	130.1%	2.9%	(62.8)%	70.2%
Total	95.2%	3.6%	(42.8)%	56.0%
4	4			

# **Table of Contents**

*Expenses*. We monitor the ratio of expenses to gross earned premium (the gross expense ratio ) as a measure of the cost effectiveness of our policy acquisition, operating and administrative processes. The table below presents the contribution of the policy acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses to the expense ratio and the total expense ratios for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008. We also show the effect of reinsurance which impacts on the reported net expense ratio by expressing the expenses as a proportion of net earned premiums.

	Expense Ratios				
	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008			
Policy acquisition expenses Operating and administrative expenses	15.2% 12.2%	14.6% 10.7%			
Gross expense ratio Effect of reinsurance	27.4% 3.0%	25.3% 2.8%			
Total net expense ratio	30.4%	28.1%			
	45				

#### **Table of Contents**

Changes in the acquisition and operating and administrative ratios to gross earned premiums and the impact of reinsurance on net earned premiums by segment for each of the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 are shown in the following table:

	For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009				For the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008					
Ratios Based on Gross	<b>Property</b>	CasualtyInt	ernational	U.S.		Property	CasualtyInto	ernational	U.S.	
Earned Premium	Insuranc <b>R</b>	einsuranc <b>∉</b> n	ısurance In	surance	Total	Insuranc Re	einsuranc <b>ē</b> r	nsurance Ir	asurance	Total
Policy acquisition expense ratio Operating and	15.7%	16.9%	14.5%	12.8%	15.2%	15.4%	14.6%	14.3%	12.4%	14.6%
idministrative expense atio	13.5	8.7	11.4	21.2	12.2	9.7	8.4	11.4	19.7	10.7
Gross expense ratio Effect of reinsurance	29.2 3.0	25.6 (0.3)	25.9 3.6	34.0 15.2	27.4 3.0	25.1 2.3	23.0 0.2	25.7 4.3	32.1 9.9	25.3 2.8
Fotal net expense ratio	32.2%	25.3%	29.5%	49.2%	30.4%	27.4%	23.2%	30.0%	42.0%	28.1%

The policy acquisition ratio, gross of the effect of reinsurance, has increased to 15.2% for the three months ended September 30, 2009 from 14.6% for the comparative period in 2008. The third quarter of 2008 had an adjustment to brokerage in the casualty reinsurance segment which contributed to a lower expense figure in that period. The increase was also due to changes in business mix in the U.S. insurance and international insurance segments which changed the relative contributions from business lines which have different average acquisition costs.

Between the two periods we have experienced a \$12.1 million increase in our operating and administrative expenses. The increase is due mainly to profit related staff costs but also to \$1.8 million of expenses associated with the new teams.

Net investment income. Net investment income consists of interest on fixed income securities, short term investments and money market holdings, and the change in value of other investments, less investment management fees. In the third quarter of 2009, we generated net investment income of \$58.9 million (2008 \$19.3 million). The \$39.6 million increase in investment income was primarily due to the 2008 period having losses of \$42.2 million from our investment in funds of hedge funds reported in investment income in the three months ended September 30, 2008. Book yield on our fixed income portfolio of 4.4% is broadly in line with the second quarter of 2009, however, it has decreased from 4.9% in the third quarter of 2008 due mainly to the decrease in interest rates. The portfolio duration increased from 3.2 years at the end of the second quarter of 2009 to 3.3 years. This compares with 3.5 years in the third quarter of 2008. The average credit quality of our fixed income portfolio is AA+, with 73% (2008 88%) of the portfolio being rated AA or higher.

Change in fair value of derivatives. In the three months ended September 30, 2009, we recorded a reduction of \$2.0 million (2008 \$0.7 million) in the estimated fair value of our credit insurance contract including \$0.2 million (2008 \$0.3 million) of interest expense. Further information on these contracts can be found in Note 8 to the financial statements.

Other-than-temporary impairments. We review all of our fixed maturities for potential impairment each quarter based on criteria including issuer-specific circumstances, credit ratings actions and general macro-economic conditions. The process of determining whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary requires considerable judgment. As part of the assessment process we also evaluate whether it is more likely than not that we will sell any fixed maturity security in an unrealized loss position before its market value recovers to amortized cost. Once a security has been identified as other-than-temporarily impaired, the amount of any impairment included in net income is determined by reference to the portion of the unrealized loss that is considered credit-related. Non-credit related unrealized losses are included in other comprehensive income. The realized investments losses in the third quarter of 2009 include a \$1.8 million charge for investments we believe to be other-than-temporarily impaired (2008 \$55.8 million). Other-than-temporary impairment losses of \$1.8 million for the quarter were credit related and therefore are included in the income statement. The other-than-temporary impairment charge of

46

#### **Table of Contents**

\$55.8 million in the third quarter of 2008 was attributable mainly to the write-down of Lehman Brothers bonds subsequent to that company s collapse in September 2008.

*Income before tax.* In the third quarter of 2009, income before tax was \$171.1 million and comprised \$92.5 million of underwriting profit, \$58.9 million in net investment income, \$22.5 million of net realized and unrealized investment and foreign exchange gains \$3.9 million of interest expense and \$1.1 million of other income. In the third quarter of 2008, we reported a loss before tax of \$145.9 million which comprised \$101.2 million of underwriting loss, \$19.3 million in net investment income, \$60.8 million of net foreign exchange and investment losses, \$0.6 million of other income and \$3.8 million of interest expense. Underwriting losses in the third quarter of 2008 were heavily impacted by Hurricanes Ike and Gustav. Our higher net investment income in the quarter was due to the absence of losses from our investments funds of hedge funds which we redeemed with effect on June 30, 2009.

Income tax expense. Income tax expense for the three months ended September 30, 2009 was \$25.3 million. Our effective consolidated tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2009 was 14.8% (2008 13.6% credit). The charge represents an estimate of the tax rate which will apply to our pre-tax income for 2009. As discussed in the Overview above, the effective tax rate may be subject to revision.

Net income after tax. Net income after tax for the three months ended September 30, 2009 was \$145.8 million, equivalent to \$1.69 basic earnings per ordinary share adjusted for the \$5.6 million preference share dividends and \$1.63 fully diluted earnings per ordinary share adjusted for the preference share dividends on the basis of the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the three months ended September 30, 2009. The net loss for the three months ended September 30, 2008 was \$126.1 million equivalent to a basic and diluted loss of \$1.63 per ordinary share.

# Results of Operations for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 Compared to the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008

The following is a discussion and analysis of our consolidated results of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 starting with a discussion of segmental results and then summarizing our consolidated results under Total Income Statement Nine months ended September 30, 2009 below.

#### **Underwriting Results by Operating Segments**

Casualty reinsurance

Please refer to the tables in Note 4 in our unaudited financial statements of this report for a summary of gross and net written and earned premiums, underwriting results and combined ratios and reserves for each of our four business segments for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008. The contributions of each segment to gross written premiums in the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 were as follows:

	Gross Wi	ritten Premiums		
	For the Nine Months	For the Nine Months		
	Ended	For the Mine Months		
<b>Business Segment</b>	September 30, 2009	Ended September 30, 2008		
	% of total gross written premiums			
Property reinsurance	34.4%	32.4%		

Table of Contents 82

20.6%

20.3%

International insurance U.S. insurance	37.2% 7.8%	40.8% 6.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

47

#### **Table of Contents**

Business Segment	M E	Gross Writ For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009				
		(\$ in millions)				
Property reinsurance	\$	571.7	\$	507.5		
Casualty reinsurance		342.3		318.6		
International insurance		617.3		639.0		
U.S. insurance		130.1		101.2		
Total	\$	1,661.4	\$	1,566.3		

# **Property Reinsurance**

For a description of our property reinsurance segment, refer to Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 Compared to the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 Property Reinsurance, above.

*Gross written premiums*. Gross written premiums in our property reinsurance segment increased by 12.7% compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2008. This increase is mainly due to the \$42.9 million contribution from our new credit, surety and political risk team.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Lines of Business	Gross Written For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009				Premiums For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008	
		(\$ in illions)	% increase/ (decrease)		(\$ in millions)	
Treaty catastrophe	\$	264.8	3.5	\$	255.8	
Treaty risk excess		93.3	(12.1)		106.2	
Treaty pro rata		129.3	22.3		105.7	
Property facultative		41.4	4.0		39.8	
Credit, surety and political risk reinsurance		42.9	Nm*			
Total	\$	571.7	12.6%	\$	507.5	

<sup>\*</sup> Not meaningful This line of business was not operational at September 30, 2008.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The net loss ratio for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was 23.6% compared to 61.9% in 2008 due to a lack of hurricane losses in 2009 and a \$27.1 million increase in prior year reserve releases compared to the prior period. The loss ratio in 2008 was adversely affected by \$131.2 million of losses from Hurricanes Ike and Gustav and a high incidence of risk losses particularly in the first quarter of 2008. Reserve releases in the year to date were \$46.6 million, up from \$19.5 million in the nine months ending September 30, 2008 due mainly to favorable loss experience in relation to reductions in loss provisions for 2008 hurricane losses and better than expected development on outstanding claims. Further information relating to the movement of prior year reserves is found below under Reserves for Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses.

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Total expenses were \$128.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 equivalent to 31.2% of net premiums earned (2008 31.5%). The policy acquisition expense ratio for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 of 18.7% is in line with 2008. The increase in the operating and administrative expenses to \$51.3 million from \$49.7 million for the comparative period in 2008 is mainly attributable to profit related staff costs partly offset by continued cost management and favorable movement in the exchange rate between the U.S. Dollar and British Pounds between the two periods.

48

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Casualty Reinsurance**

For a description of our casualty reinsurance segment, refer to Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 Compared to the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 Casualty Reinsurance.

*Gross written premiums*. The 7.4% increase in gross written premiums for the segment was due mainly to an increased contribution from our U.S. treaty business unit which has recorded additional premiums from adjustable contracts. The reduction in premiums from the international treaty business line was due to increased competition. The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Lines of Business  U.S. treaty International treaty Casualty facultative	Gross Written Premiums					
		For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009				
	,	\$ in lions)	% increase/ (decrease)	(\$ i	n millions)	
	\$	237.8 92.8 11.7	21.0% (16.0) 1.7	\$	196.6 110.5 11.5	
Total	\$	342.3	7.4%	\$	318.6	

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. Losses and loss adjustment expenses increased by \$22.1 million in 2009 compared to the equivalent period in 2008, due primarily to a \$29.4 million decrease in prior year reserve releases. The change in reserve releases is mainly due to the international casualty treaty line which experienced a reserve strengthening of \$5.6 million in the period compared to a \$22.6 million release in the nine months ended September 30, 2008. The reserve strengthening for international casualty was due to adverse development on our auto and general liability accounts. Prior year reserve movements are further discussed below under Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses.

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Total expenses were \$91.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 equivalent to 27.9% of net premiums earned (2008 26.9%). The policy acquisition expense ratio has increased to 18.7% in 2009 from 15.7% in 2008 driven mainly by a \$2.0 million increase in profit commission accruals but also due to 2008 including an adjustment to brokerage which resulted in a lower expense. This has been offset by a decrease in the operating and administrative expense ratio from 11.2% in 2008 to 9.2% in the current year due to a \$3.0 million reallocation of expenses to property reinsurance, and favorable movement in the exchange rate between the U.S. Dollar and British Pound between the two periods.

#### **International Insurance**

For a description of our international insurance segment, refer to Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2009 Compared to the Three Months Ended September 30, 2008 International Insurance.

Gross written premiums. Overall premiums have reduced by \$21.7 million in the period compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2008, mainly due to our response to market conditions in certain lines of business and adverse exchange rate movements impacting our U.K. property and liability business lines. The contribution from our professional liability and excess casualty business lines has increased as these new lines were still being established in the first half of 2008. Marine, energy and construction liability has also benefited from additional premiums from loss affected contracts in 2008. Even though rates for Gulf of Mexico energy risks have improved significantly, some clients chose to buy less insurance or retain the risk altogether. Our premiums written in financial institutions have also decreased due to the repositioning of this line following the global financial crisis. We also declined a number of risks that did not meet our underwriting criteria.

49

#### **Table of Contents**

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each line:

	<b>Gross Written Premiums</b>					
Lines of Business	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009				For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008	
		(\$ in illions)	% increase/ (decrease)	(	(\$ in millions)	
Marine, energy and construction liability	\$	140.7	21.0%	\$	116.3	
Energy property insurance		73.9	(15.4)		87.4	
Marine hull		44.4	(5.1)		46.8	
Aviation insurance		55.5	3.5		53.6	
U.K. commercial property and construction		44.3	(19.6)		55.1	
U.K. commercial liability		36.8	(39.2)		60.5	
Professional liability		35.2	24.4		28.3	
Excess casualty		50.2	6.1		47.3	
Financial institutions		15.3	(45.2)		27.9	
Financial and political risk		20.2	(35.5)		31.3	
Management and technology liability		7.0	Nm*			
Specie		4.0	Nm*			
Specialty reinsurance		89.8	6.3		84.5	
Total	\$	617.3	(3.4)%	\$	639.0	

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The net loss ratio for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was 67.1% compared to 68.5% in 2008. The improvement in the loss ratio in the period is due mainly to \$39.8 million of losses from Hurricanes Ike and Gustav in 2008. The reduction in reserve releases from \$20.0 million in 2008 to \$12.7 million in 2009 is predominately due to increased provisions for those lines affected by the global financial crisis and to adverse development on our marine, energy and construction liability and non-marine and transportation liability (which now forms part of excess casualty) business lines. Current year losses have been impacted by our aviation and specialty reinsurance lines which have suffered from a \$10.6 million net loss associated with the Air France disaster and a \$7.0 million satellite loss. In the first half of 2008, the segment suffered from a \$6.4 million satellite loss, a \$15.9 million pollution loss in France and a \$3.4 million airline loss. Prior year reserve releases are further discussed under Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses.

*Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses.* Total expenses were \$154.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 equivalent to 29.1% of net premiums earned (2008 29.4%). The acquisition expense ratio has reduced by 0.4 percentage points in the period due to changes in the relative contributions from the business lines.

Operating and administrative expenses have increased by \$7.7 million compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2008 mainly due to the recognition of profit-related staff costs, increases in personnel costs associated

<sup>\*</sup> Not Meaningful These lines of business were not operational at September 30, 2008.

with the establishment of our new underwriting teams and costs associated with the Lloyd s syndicate.

50

# **Table of Contents**

#### U.S. Insurance

We write both U.S. property and casualty insurance on an excess and surplus lines basis. We also write property insurance that provides underwriting support to a select group of U.S. program managers. We refer to this as our risk solutions business.

*Gross written premiums*. Gross written premiums increased by 28.6% compared to the prior period of 2008. The written premium increase is the result of new business written as the property account has been reshaped, increased prices for catastrophe exposed business and the program property business written by the new risk solutions team.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

	Gross Written Premiums							
	]	For the Ni	ne Months	For the	Nine Months			
	I	Ended Sep	tember 30,	Ended September 30,				
Lines of Business		20	009		2008			
		( <b>\$</b> in	<b>%</b>					
	mi	increase/	( <b>\$ i</b> :	n millions)				
			(decrease)					
U.S. property	\$	66.5	57.2%	\$	42.3			
U.S. casualty		61.1	3.7		58.9			
U.S. risk solutions		2.5	Nm*					
Total	\$	130.1	28.6%	\$	101.2			

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. Losses for the period have decreased by \$1.1 million. Even though the period in 2008 experienced losses of \$15.0 million from Hurricanes Ike and Gustav, the period benefitted from \$8.1 million of reserve releases. In contrast, the nine-month period in 2009 experienced reserve strengthening of \$6.9 million. This strengthening is attributable to adverse loss development on our casualty line where incurred development has been greater than expected.

*Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses.* Policy acquisition expenses have decreased by \$0.5 million due to changes in the mix of property business. Operating and administrative expenses have increased from \$18.8 million in 2008 to \$24.9 million in 2009 due primarily to reorganization costs. The expense ratio continues to be adversely impacted in the short-term as a result of the investment we have made to rebuild the account and reshape our U.S. operations.

# Total Income Statement Nine Months ended September 30, 2009

Our statements of operations consolidates the underwriting results of our four segments and includes certain other revenue and expense items that are not allocated to the business segments.

<sup>\*</sup> Not Meaningful This line of business was not operational at September 30, 2008.

Gross written premiums. Gross written premiums increased in the first nine months of 2009 by 6.1% compared to the corresponding period in 2008 as a result of a number of factors including the \$42.9 million contribution from our new credit, surety and political risk team included in the property reinsurance segment, an increased contribution from our U.S. casualty treaty business unit which has recorded additional premiums from adjustable contracts and new U.S. insurance business written as the property account has been reshaped, increased prices for catastrophe-exposed business and the program property business written by the new risk solutions team.

Reinsurance ceded. Our reinsurance spend of \$208.0 million is 51.9% higher than the corresponding period of 2008, because in 2007 we had taken the opportunity to purchase property covers at favorable prices for two wind seasons. We have experienced a general increase in price for reinsurance in 2009, an increase due to the purchase of reinsurance for our newer lines and due to reinstatement costs following losses in our financial institutions and aviation insurance business lines.

51

#### **Table of Contents**

*Gross premiums earned*. Gross premiums earned in the first nine months of 2009 increased by 11.6% compared to 2008 primarily from the new lines of business which have now earned premium through a full year and also as a result of the favorable market conditions particularly in property reinsurance and U.S. property insurance.

*Net premiums earned.* Net premiums earned have increased by 10.1% in the first nine months of 2009 compared to the first nine months of 2008 due to additional premiums from our new lines of business being partially offset by additional reinsurance costs.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The loss ratio decreased from 66.1% in the nine months period of 2008 to 53.5% in the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Excluding the impact of Hurricanes Ike and Gustav, the loss ratio has increased in 2009 by 2.6 percentage points predominantly as a result of a reduction in prior year reserve releases by \$24.6 million. Further information relating to movements in prior year reserves can be found below under Reserves for Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses.

The underlying changes in loss ratios by segment are shown in the table below. The prior year adjustment in the table below reflects claims development and does not reflect the impact of prior year premium adjustments.

	Total	Prior Year	Hurricane	Loss Ratio Excluding Prior Year
For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009	Loss Ratio	Claims Adjustment	Claims Adjustment	Reserve Adjustments
Property reinsurance	23.6%	11.3%		34.9%
Casualty reinsurance	65.6%	5.7%		71.3%
International insurance	67.1%	2.4%		69.5%
U.S. insurance	68.6%	(9.1)%		59.5%
Total	53.5%	5.3%		58.8%

	Prior Year	Hurricane	Excluding Prior Year Reserve and
Total Loss Ratio	Claims Adjustment	Claims Adjustment	Hurricane Adjustments
61.9%	5.0%	(33.7)%	33.2%
65.3%	16.4%		81.7%
68.5%	4.2%	(8.4)%	64.3%
77.6%	11.8%	(21.9)%	67.5%
	Ratio 61.9% 65.3% 68.5%	Year  Total Loss Claims Ratio Adjustment  61.9% 5.0% 65.3% 16.4% 68.5% 4.2%	Year         Hurricane           Total Loss         Claims         Claims           Ratio         Adjustment         Adjustment           61.9%         5.0%         (33.7)%           65.3%         16.4%           68.5%         4.2%         (8.4)%

Loss

Total 66.1% 7.8% (15.2)% 58.7%

*Expenses.* We monitor the ratio of expenses to gross earned premium (the gross expense ratio ) as a measure of the cost effectiveness of our policy acquisition, operating and administrative processes. The table below presents the contribution of the policy acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses to the expense ratio and the total expense ratios for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008.

	Expen	se Ratios
	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009	For the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2008
Policy acquisition expenses Operating and administrative expenses	15.9% 11.4%	15.7% 11.8%
Gross expense ratio Effect of reinsurance	27.3% 3.2%	27.5% 2.9%
Total net expense ratio	30.5%	30.4%
	52	

#### **Table of Contents**

We also show the effect of reinsurance which impacts on the reported net expense ratio by expressing the expenses as a proportion of net earned premiums. Changes in the acquisition and operating and administrative ratios to gross earned premiums and the impact of reinsurance on net earned premiums by segment for each of the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 are shown in the following table (ratios shown as percentages):

	For the Nine Months Ended September 2009					For the Nine Months Ended September 30, For the Nine Months E 2009 2008							ths Ended 2008	Septembe	er 30,
latios based on Fross Earned Premiun		CasualtyInt Leinsurance					CasualtyInt insuranc <b>4</b> 1			Total					
olicy acquisition expen	se														
atio	17.1%	18.8%	14.3%	11.0%	15.9%	16.7%	15.5%	15.2%	14.2%	15.7%					
perating and dministrative expense															
atio	11.4	9.2	10.6	23.0	11.4	11.4	11.0	11.0	21.6	11.8					
iross expense ratio	28.5	28.0	24.9	34.0	27.3	28.1	26.5	26.2	35.8	27.5					
ffect of reinsurance	2.7	(0.1)	4.2	14.5	3.2	3.4	0.4	3.2	9.7	2.9					
otal net expense ratio	31.2%	27.9%	29.1%	48.5%	30.5%	31.5%	26.9%	29.4%	45.5%	30.4%					

The policy acquisition ratio, gross of the effect of reinsurance, has increased marginally to 15.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 from 15.7% for the comparative period in 2008. The operating and administrative expense ratio has improved to 11.4% in 2009 from 11.8% in 2008 driven by increased earned premium, cost management initiatives and favorable movements in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and British Pound between the two periods.

Net investment income. Net investment income consists of interest on fixed income securities, short term investments and money market holdings, and the change in value of other investments, less investment management fees. In the first nine months of 2009, we generated net investment income of \$190.3 million (2008 \$128.9 million). The \$61.4 million increase in investment income was primarily due to \$20.2 million of gains from our investment in funds of hedge funds compared to \$48.3 million of losses in the comparable period of 2008. The contribution from fixed income investments and cash has reduced by \$7.1 million as during the period, the book yield on our fixed income portfolio has decreased from 4.9% to 4.4%. During the same period, the fixed income portfolio duration has decreased from 3.5 years to 3.3 years.

Change in fair value of derivatives. In the nine months ended September 30, 2009, we recorded a reduction of \$5.8 million (2008 \$3.8 million credit insurance contract; \$1.4 million foreign exchange contract) in the estimated fair value of our credit insurance contract including \$0.4 million (2008 \$0.6 million) of interest expense. In the third quarter of 2009, we held foreign currency derivative contracts to purchase \$18.8 million of foreign currencies. The foreign currency contracts are recorded as derivatives at fair value with the gain or loss recorded in net foreign exchange gains and losses. For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, the impact of foreign currency contracts on net income was a charge of \$1.8 million (2008 \$3.8 million). Further information on these contracts can be found in Notes 7 and 8 to the financial statements.

Other-than-temporary impairments. We review all of our fixed maturities for potential impairment each quarter based on criteria including issuer-specific circumstances, credit ratings actions and general macro-economic conditions. The

process of determining whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary requires considerable judgment. As part of the assessment process we also evaluate whether it is more likely than not that we will sell any fixed maturity security in an unrealized loss position before its market value recovers to amortized cost. Once a security has been identified as other-than-temporarily impaired, the amount of any impairment included in net income is determined by reference to the portion of the unrealized loss that is considered credit-related. Non-credit related unrealized losses are included in other comprehensive income. The realized investments losses in the nine months ended September 30, 2009 include a \$19.9 million charge for investments we believe to be other-than-temporarily impaired (2008 \$55.8 million). Other-than-temporary impairment losses of \$19.9 million for the nine-month period are credit related and therefore are included in the income statement. The other-than-temporary

53

#### **Table of Contents**

impairment charge of \$55.8 million in the third quarter of 2008 was attributable mainly to the write-down of Lehman Brothers bonds subsequent to that company s collapse in September 2008.

Income before tax. In the first nine months of 2009, income before tax was \$408.6 million and comprised \$215.1 million of underwriting profit, \$190.3 million in net investment income, \$15.9 million of net foreign exchange and investment gains, \$11.8 million of interest expense and \$0.9 million of other expenses. In the first nine months of 2008, income before tax was \$98.8 million and comprised \$42.9 million of underwriting profit, \$128.9 million in net investment income, \$59.7 million of net foreign exchange and investment losses, \$11.7 million of interest expense and \$1.6 million of other expenses. The higher underwriting profit in the first nine months of 2009 was due primarily to the lack of catastrophes in the period which was partly offset by a \$24.6 million reduction in prior year reserve releases. Our higher investment income in the first nine months of 2009 compared to the prior period was due to a positive contribution from our fund of hedge fund investments, compared to a loss from the fund of hedge funds in the prior period.

*Income tax expense*. Income tax expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was \$61.0 million. Our consolidated tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was 15.0% (2008 17.0%). The charge represents an estimate of the tax rate which will apply to our pre-tax income for 2009. As discussed in the Overview above, the effective tax rate may be subject to revision.

Net income after tax. Net income after tax for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was \$347.6 million, equivalent to \$4.37 basic earnings per ordinary share adjusted for the \$18.3 million preference share dividends and \$4.25 fully diluted earnings per ordinary share adjusted for the preference share dividends on the basis of the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 was \$82.0 million equivalent to basic earnings of \$0.73 per ordinary share and fully diluted earnings of \$0.71 per share.

#### **Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses**

As of September 30, 2009, we had total net loss and loss adjustment expense reserves of \$2,980.5 million (December 31, 2008 \$2,787.0 million). This amount represented our best estimate of the ultimate liability for payment of losses and loss adjustment expenses. Of the total gross reserves for unpaid losses of \$3,314.0 million at the balance sheet date of September 30, 2009, a total of \$1,999.4 million or 60.0% represented IBNR claims (December 31, 2008 \$3,070.3 million and 58.3%, respectively). The following tables analyze gross and net loss and loss adjustment expense reserves by segment.

	As at September 30, 2009									
Business Segment  Property reinsurance	Gross	Reinsurance Recoverable (\$ in millions)			Net					
	\$ 415.2	\$	(40.0)	\$	375.2					
Casualty reinsurance	1,474.0		(6.4)		1,467.6					
International insurance	1,217.2		(241.2)		976.0					
U.S. insurance	207.6		(45.9)		161.7					
Total losses and loss expense reserves	\$ 3,314.0	\$	(333.5)	\$	2,980.5					

Business Segment	As at December 31, Reinsurance Gross Recoverable(1) (\$ in millions)				2008 Net		
Property reinsurance	\$ 488.5	\$	(37.9)	\$	450.6		
Casualty reinsurance	1,311.1		(5.9)		1,305.2		
International insurance	1,117.4		(210.9)		906.5		
U.S. insurance	153.3		(28.6)		124.7		
Total losses and loss expense reserves	\$ 3,070.3	\$	(283.3)	\$	2,787.0		

#### **Table of Contents**

(1) The 2008 net reserve position for each of our segments has been revised with no overall effect on the total. As a result of a re-allocation of reinsurance recoverables among the segments, the net reserve position for property reinsurance increased by \$69.9 million from \$380.7 million to \$450.6 million, for casualty reinsurance decreased by \$3.6 million from \$1,308.8 million to \$1,305.2 million, for international insurance decreased by \$97.2 million from \$1,003.7 million to \$906.5 million and for U.S. insurance increased by \$30.9 million from \$93.8 million to \$124.7 million.

The increase in reinsurance recoverables in 2009 is due to increased recoveries in our international insurance segment related mainly to losses from Hurricane Ike, the Air France disaster and the global financial crisis. This has been offset by the continued settlement of losses associated with Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, there was a reduction of our estimate of the ultimate net claims to be paid in respect of prior accident years of \$71.0 million. An analysis of this reduction by line of business is as follows for each of the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008:

	Fo	For the Three Months Ended				For the Nine Months Ended			
<b>Business Segment</b>	September 30, September 30, 2009 2008				-	mber 30, 2009	September 30, 2008		
G		( <b>\$ in</b>	millions)		(\$ in million			illions)	
Property reinsurance	\$	19.1	\$	3.3	\$	46.6	\$	19.5	
Casualty reinsurance		9.5		9.7		18.6		48.0	
International insurance		16.4		1.9		12.7		20.0	
U.S. insurance		(0.8)		0.7		(6.9)		8.1	
Total Losses and loss expense									
reserves reductions	\$	44.2	\$	15.6	\$	71.0	\$	95.6	

The key elements which gave rise to the net favorable development during the three months ended September 30, 2009 were as follows:

*Property Reinsurance:* The reserve release in the current quarter is a result of better than expected incurred development on all classes in the segment, including settlement of Hurricane Ike and Gustav claims, spread across several accident years.

Casualty Reinsurance: The release in the quarter is largely driven by the U.S. casualty lines (\$9.5 million) which continue to exhibit favorable development across the 2003 2006 accident years.

*International Insurance:* All areas in the segment were either flat or showed reserve releases. The most significant of these were releases of \$6.6 million in U.K. liability, \$2.4 million in aviation, \$4.7 million in specialty reinsurance, and \$1.2 million in U.K. property, with the balance of \$1.5 million spread through several other lines.

*U.S. Insurance:* The small deterioration this quarter is from casualty insurance which exhibited marginally worse than expected experience.

We did not make any significant changes in assumptions used in our reserving process. However, because the period of time we have been in operation is relatively short, for longer tail lines in particular, our loss experience is limited and reliable evidence of changes in trends of numbers of claims incurred, average settlement amounts, numbers of claims outstanding and average losses per claim will necessarily take years to develop.

For a more detailed description see Management's Discussion and Analysis Critical Accounting Policies and Management's Discussion and Analysis Reserves for Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses, included in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

55

# **Table of Contents**

#### **Balance Sheet**

# Total cash and investments

At September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, total cash and investments, including accrued interest receivable, were \$6.7 billion and \$6.0 billion, respectively. The composition of our investment portfolio is summarized below:

	As at Septen  Estimated  Fair  Value	nber 30, 2009 Percentage of Fixed Income Portfolio	As at Decen  Estimated  Fair  Value	nber 31, 2008 Percentage of Fixed Income Portfolio
Marketable Securities Available for Sale				
U.S. Government Securities	\$ 611.2	9.1%	\$ 650.7	10.9%
U.S. Government Agency Securities	414.0	6.2%	393.1	6.6%
Municipal Securities	21.0	0.3%	8.0	0.1%
Corporate Securities	2,006.1	30.0%	1,424.5	23.8%
Foreign Government	439.6	6.6%	384.5	6.4%
Asset-backed Securities	145.3	2.2%	205.5	3.4%
Mortgage-backed Securities	1,201.0	17.9%	1,366.8	22.9%
Total Fixed Income Available for Sale Marketable Securities Trading	4,838.2	72.3%	4,433.1	74.1%
Corporate Securities	330.2	4.9%		
U.S. Government Securities	3.1	1.5 70		
Municipal Securities	1.8			
U.S. Government Agency Securities	0.4			
Foreign Government Securities	10.6	0.2%		
Total Fixed Income Trading	346.1	5.1%		
Total Other Investments	25.9	0.4%	286.9	4.9%
Total Short-term Investments Available for Sale	427.6	6.4%	224.9	3.8%
Total Short-term Investments Trading	4.0	0.1%		
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	948.8	14.2%	809.1	13.5%
Total Receivable for Securities Sold	47.3	0.7%	177.2	3.0%
Total Accrued Interest Receivable	54.0	0.8%	43.7	0.7%
<b>Total Cash and Investments</b>	\$ 6,691.9	100.0%	\$ 5,974.9	100.0%

Fixed maturities. At September 30, 2009, the average credit quality of our fixed income portfolio is AA+, with 95% of the portfolio being rated A or higher. At December 31, 2008, the average credit quality of our fixed income portfolio was AAA, with 92% of the portfolio being rated A or higher. Our fixed income portfolio duration increased marginally from 3.1 years as at December 31, 2008 to 3.3 years as at September 30, 2009.

*Mortgage-Backed Securities.* The following tables summaries the fair value of our mortgage-backed securities (MBS) by rating and class at September 30, 2009:

	AAA	A and Below	ı	Total
Agency	\$ 962.9	\$	\$	962.9
Non-agency Commercial	169.5	20.1		189.6
Non-agency Residential	12.6	35.9		48.5
<b>Total Mortgage-backed Securities</b>	\$ 1,145.0	\$ 56.0	\$	1,201.0

Our mortgage-backed portfolio is supported by loans diversified across a number of geographic and economic sectors.

56

#### **Table of Contents**

*Alternative-A securities.* We define Alternative-A (alt-A) mortgages as those considered less risky than sub-prime mortgages, but with lower credit quality than prime mortgages. At September 30, 2009, we had \$9.0 million invested in alt-A securities (December 31, 2008 \$8.7 million).

*Sub-prime securities.* We define sub-prime related investments as those supported by, or contain, sub-prime collateral based on creditworthiness. We do not invest directly in sub-prime related securities.

Other investments. Other investments as at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008 are as follows:

	September 30, 2009 Fair			December 31, 20		
	Cost	Value	s S in milli	Cost ions)	Fair	Value
Investment funds Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P	\$ 25.0	\$ 25	\$ 5.9	311.3	\$	286.9
Total other investments	\$ 25.0	\$ 25	5.9 \$	311.3	\$	286.9

Investment funds. Investment funds represented our investments in funds of hedge funds which were recorded using the equity method of accounting. Adjustments to the carrying value of these investments were made based on the net asset values reported by the fund managers, resulting in a carrying value that approximates fair value. Realized and unrealized gains or losses of \$nil (2008 loss of \$42.2 million) and \$20.2 million (2008 loss of \$48.3 million) have been recognized through the statement of operations in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. We invested \$150.0 million in the share capital of two funds in 2006, a further \$247.5 million in one of these funds and \$112.5 million in the share capital of a third fund in 2007. In 2008, we sold share capital in the funds that cost \$198.6 million for proceeds of \$177.2 million realizing a loss of \$21.4 million. In February 2009, we gave notice to redeem the balance of the funds with effect on June 30, 2009. As a result, we recognized proceeds from the redemption of funds of \$307.1 million at June 30, 2009.

Our involvement with the funds ceased at June 30, 2009. The carrying value of the receivables represents our maximum exposure to loss at the balance sheet date of the \$16.3 million receivable at September 30, 2009, \$4.8 million was received by October 31, 2009 with the remaining balance of \$11.5 million to be received subsequent to the completion of the audited financial statements for the funds.

Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. On May 19, 2009, we invested \$25 million with Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. through our wholly owned subsidiary, Acorn Limited. Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is a Delaware Limited Partnership formed to provide capital to Iris Re, a newly formed Class 3 Bermuda reinsurer focusing on insurance linked securities. In addition to returns on our investment, we will receive a fee for providing advice on risk selection, pricing and portfolio design. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, a fee of \$0.1 million was payable to Aspen.

#### **Valuation of Investments**

Valuation of Fixed Income and Short Term Available for Sale Investments and Fixed Income and Short Term Trading Investments. All of the fixed income securities are traded on the over the counter market, based on prices provided by one or more market makers in each security. In addition, there are readily observable market value indicators. We use a variety of pricing sources to value our fixed income securities including those securities that have prepayment

features such as mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities in order to ensure fair and accurate pricing. The fair value estimates of the securities in our portfolio are not sensitive to significant unobservable inputs or modeling techniques.

57

#### **Table of Contents**

*Valuation of Other Investments*. The value of our investments in funds of hedge funds were based upon monthly net asset values using fair value reported by the underlying funds to our funds of hedge funds managers. The financial statements of our funds of hedge funds were subject to annual audits evaluating the net asset positions of the underlying investments. We periodically reviewed the performance of our funds of hedge funds and evaluated the reasonableness of the valuations.

The value of our investment in Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is based on our shares of the capital position of the partnership which includes income and expenses reported by the limited partnership as provided in its quarterly management accounts. Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is subject to annual audit evaluating the financial statements of the partnership. We periodically review the management accounts of Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. and evaluate the reasonableness of the valuation of our investment.

Other-than-temporary impairment. We review all of our fixed maturities for potential impairment each quarter based on criteria including issuer-specific circumstances, credit ratings actions and general macro-economic conditions. The process of determining whether a decline in value is other-than-temporary requires considerable judgment. As part of the assessment process we also evaluate whether it is more likely than not that we will sell any fixed maturity security in an unrealized loss position before its market value recovers to amortized cost. Once a security has been identified as other-than-temporarily impaired, the amount of any impairment included in net income is determined by reference to that portion of the unrealized loss that is considered to be credit related. Non-credit related unrealized losses are included in other comprehensive income. Other-than-temporary impairment is discussed further in Notes 2 and 5 of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

# **Capital Management**

On March 31, 2009, we repurchased and cancelled 2,672,500 of our 7.401% \$25 liquidation value preference shares (NYSE: AHL-PA) at a price of \$12.50 per share. The repurchase resulted in a first quarter gain attributable to ordinary shareholders of approximately \$31.5 million which was not recognized in the income statement but was included in the calculation of earnings per share.

The following table shows our capital structure at September 30, 2009 compared to December 31, 2008.

	Sept	As at tember 30, 2009 (\$ in	Decen millions	As at nber 31, 2008
Share capital, additional paid-in capital and retained income and accumulated other comprehensive income attributable to ordinary shareholders  Preference shares (liquidation preference less issue expenses)  Long-term debt	\$	2,858.5 353.6 249.6	\$	2,359.9 419.2 249.5
Total capital	\$	3,461.7	\$	3,028.6

Management monitors the ratio of debt to total capital, with total capital being defined as shareholders equity plus outstanding debt. At September 30, 2009, this ratio was 7.2% (December 31, 2008 8.2%).

Our preference shares are classified in our balance sheet as equity but may receive a different treatment in some cases under the capital adequacy assessments made by certain rating agencies. Such securities are often referred to as hybrids as they have certain attributes of both debt and equity. We also monitor the ratio of the total of debt and hybrids to total capital which was 17.4% as of September 30, 2009 (December 31, 2008 22.1%).

Access to capital. Our business operations are in part dependent on our financial strength and the market s perception thereof, as measured by shareholders equity, which was \$3,212.1 million at September 30, 2009 (December 31, 2008 \$2,779.1 million). We believe our financial strength provides

58

#### **Table of Contents**

us with the flexibility and capacity to obtain funds through debt or equity financing. Our continuing ability to access the capital markets is dependent on, among other things, our operating results, market conditions and our perceived financial strength. We regularly monitor our capital and financial position, as well as investment and securities market conditions, both in general and with respect to Aspen Holdings securities. Our ordinary shares and all our preference shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

#### Liquidity

Liquidity is a measure of a company s ability to generate cash flows sufficient to meet short-term and long-term cash requirements of its business operations. Management monitors the liquidity of Aspen Holdings and of each of its Insurance Subsidiaries and arranges credit facilities to enhance short-term liquidity resources on a stand-by basis.

*Holding company.* We monitor the ability of Aspen Holdings to service debt, to finance dividend payments to ordinary and preference shareholders and to provide financial support to the Insurance Subsidiaries.

As at September 30, 2009, Aspen Holdings held \$8.9 million (December 31, 2008 \$32.4 million) in cash and cash equivalents which management considers sufficient to provide Aspen Holdings liquidity at such time, taken together with dividends declared or expected to be declared by subsidiary companies and our credit facilities. Holding company liquidity depends on dividends, capital distributions and interest payments from our Insurance Subsidiaries.

In the nine months ended September 30, 2009, Aspen U.K. Holdings paid Aspen Holdings a dividend of \$138.0 million. In the nine months ended September 30, 2008, Aspen Bermuda and Aspen U.K. Holdings paid Aspen Holdings dividends totaling \$70.0 million. Aspen Holdings also received interest of \$27.4 million (2008 \$27.4 million) from Aspen U.K. Holdings in respect of an intercompany loan.

The ability of our Insurance Subsidiaries to pay us dividends or other distributions is subject to the laws and regulations applicable to each jurisdiction, as well as the Insurance Subsidiaries need to maintain capital requirements adequate to maintain their insurance and reinsurance operations and their financial strength ratings issued by independent rating agencies. For a discussion of the various restrictions on our ability and our Insurance Subsidiaries ability to pay dividends, see Part I, Item 1 Business Regulatory Matters in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. Also for a more detailed discussion of our Insurance Subsidiaries ability to pay dividends see Note 15 of our annual financial statements in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Insurance subsidiaries. As of September 30, 2009, the Insurance Subsidiaries held approximately \$939.9 million (December 31, 2008 \$777.2 million) in cash and short-term investments that are readily realizable securities. Management monitors the value, currency and duration of cash and investments held by its Insurance Subsidiaries to ensure that they are able to meet their insurance and other liabilities as they become due and was satisfied that there was a comfortable margin of liquidity as at September 30, 2009 and for the foreseeable future.

On an ongoing basis, our Insurance Subsidiaries sources of funds primarily consist of premiums written, investment income and proceeds from sales and redemptions of investments.

Cash is used primarily to pay reinsurance premiums, losses and loss adjustment expenses, brokerage commissions, general and administrative expenses, taxes, interest and dividends and to purchase new investments.

The potential for individual large claims and for accumulations of claims from single events means that substantial and unpredictable payments may need to be made within relatively short periods of time.

#### **Table of Contents**

We manage these risks by making regular forecasts of the timing and amount of expected cash outflows and ensuring that we maintain sufficient balances in cash and short-term investments to meet these estimates. Notwithstanding this policy, if our cash flow forecast is incorrect, we could be forced to liquidate investments prior to maturity, potentially at a significant loss.

The liquidity of our Insurance Subsidiaries is also affected by the terms of our contractual obligations to policyholders and by undertakings to certain regulatory authorities to facilitate the issue of letters of credit or maintain certain balances in trust funds for the benefit of policyholders. The following table shows the forms of collateral or other security provided to policyholders as at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008:

	As at September 30, 2009 (\$ in millions ex		As at December 31, 2008 scept percentages)	
Assets held in multi-beneficiary trusts Assets held in single beneficiary trusts Letters of credit issued under our revolving credit facilities (1) Secured letters of credit (2)	\$	1,409.7 55.9 59.3 412.3	\$	1,345.6 54.0 84.6 422.4
Total	\$	1,937.2	\$	1,906.6
Total as % of cash and invested assets	29.4%			33.1%

- (1) These letters of credit are not secured by cash or securities, though we have the ability to issue secured letters of credit under the revolving credit facility.
- (2) As of September 30, 2009, the Company had funds on deposit of \$588.7 million and £21.2 million (December 31, 2008 \$604.6 million and £25.3 million) as collateral for the secured letters of credit.

Funds at Lloyd s. AUL operates in Lloyd s as the corporate member for Syndicate 4711. Lloyd s determines Syndicate 4711 s required regulatory capital principally based on the syndicate s annual business plan. Such capital, called Funds at Lloyd s, comprises cash, investments and a fully collateralized letter of credit. The amounts of cash, investments and letter of credit at September 30, 2009 amount to \$212.6 million (December 31, 2008 \$200.3 million).

Further information on these arrangements can be found in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Consolidated cash flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Total net cash flow from operations from December 31, 2008 through September 30, 2009 was \$489.1 million, an increase of \$44.8 million over the comparative period. The increase was due mainly to an increase in premium receipts from increases in written premium net claims settlements. For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, our cash flow from operations provided us with sufficient liquidity to meet our operating requirements. On August 27, 2009, we paid a dividend of \$0.15 per ordinary share to shareholders of record on August 12, 2009. On October 1, 2009, dividends totaling \$3.2 million on our Perpetual Preferred Income Equity Replacement Securities (Perpetual PIERS) were paid to our

dividend disbursing agent, for payment to our Perpetual PIERS holders of record on September 15, 2009. On October 1, 2009, dividends totaling \$2.5 million on our Perpetual Non-Cumulative Preference Shares ( Perpetual Preference Shares ) were paid to our dividend disbursing agent, for payment to our Perpetual Preference Share holders of record on September 15, 2009.

Credit Facility. On August 2, 2005, we entered into a five-year \$400 million revolving credit facility pursuant to a credit agreement dated as of August 2, 2005 (the credit facilities) by and among the Company, certain of our direct and indirect subsidiaries, including the Insurance Subsidiaries (collectively, the Borrowers) the lenders party thereto, Barclays Bank plc, as administrative agent and letter of credit issuer, Bank of America, N.A. and Calyon, New York Branch, as co-syndication agents, Credit Suisse, Cayman Islands Branch and Deutsche Bank AG, New York Branch, as co-documentation agents and The Bank of New York, as collateral agent. On September 1, 2006, the aggregate limit available under the credit facility was increased to \$450 million.

60

#### **Table of Contents**

The facility can be used by any of the Borrowers to provide funding for our Insurance Subsidiaries, to finance the working capital needs of the Company and our subsidiaries and for general corporate purposes of the Company and our subsidiaries. The revolving credit facility provides for a \$250 million sub-facility for collateralized letters of credit. The facility will expire on August 2, 2010. As of September 30, 2009, no borrowings were outstanding under the credit facilities, though we had \$59.3 million of outstanding uncollateralized letters of credit. The fees and interest rates on the loans and the fees on the letters of credit payable by the Borrowers increase based on the consolidated leverage ratio of the Company.

Under the credit facilities, we must maintain at all times a consolidated tangible net worth of not less than approximately \$1.1 billion plus 50% of consolidated net income and 50% of aggregate net cash proceeds from the issuance by the Company of its capital stock, each as accrued from January 1, 2005. On June 28, 2007, we amended the credit agreement to permit dividend payments on existing and future hybrid capital notwithstanding a default or an event of default under the credit agreement. On April 13, 2006, the agreement was amended to remove any downward adjustment on maintaining the Company s consolidated tangible net worth in the event of a net loss. The Company must also not permit its consolidated leverage ratio of total consolidated debt to consolidated tangible net worth to exceed 35%. In addition, the credit facilities contain other customary affirmative and negative covenants as well as certain customary events of default, including with respect to a change in control. The various affirmative and negative covenants, include, among others, covenants that, subject to important exceptions, restrict the ability of the Company and its subsidiaries to: create or permit liens on assets; engage in mergers or consolidations; dispose of assets; pay dividends or other distributions, purchase or redeem the Company s equity securities or those of its subsidiaries and make other restricted payments; permit the rating of any insurance subsidiary to fall below A.M. Best financial strength rating of B++ or Standard & Poor s ( S&P ) financial strength rating of A-; make certain investments; agree with others to limit the ability of the Company s subsidiaries to pay dividends or other restricted payments or to make loans or transfer assets to the Company or another of its subsidiaries. The credit facilities also include covenants that restrict the ability of our subsidiaries to incur indebtedness and guarantee obligations.

On April 29, 2009, Aspen Bermuda replaced its existing letter of credit facility with Citibank Europe dated October 29, 2008 in a maximum aggregate amount of up to \$450 million with a new letter of credit facility in a maximum aggregate amount of up to \$550 million. As at September 30, 2009 we had \$395.9 million of outstanding collateralized letters of credit under this facility.

On October 6, 2009, Aspen U.K. and Aspen Bermuda entered into a \$200 million secured letter of credit facility with Barclays Bank plc, which is described on our current report on Form 8-K filed on October 7, 2009. No letters of credit were outstanding under this facility as at September 30, 2009.

### **Contractual Obligations and Commitments**

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations (other than our obligations to employees, our Perpetual PIERS and our Perpetual Preference Shares) under long-term debt, operating leases and reserves relating to insurance and reinsurance contracts as of September 30, 2009:

	20	009	20	010	2	011	 012 millior	_	013	Later Years	7	Fotal
Operating Lease Obligations Long-Term Debt Obligations (1)	\$	2.9	\$	7.7	\$	7.4	\$ 6.5	\$	6.4	27.1 250.0	\$ \$	58.0 250.0

Reserves for Losses and loss

adjustment expenses (2) \$ 154.0 \$ 931.0 \$ 608.4 \$ 398.2 \$ 273.6 \$ 948.8 \$ 3,314.0

- (1) The long-term debt obligations disclosed above do not include the \$15 million annual interest payments on our outstanding senior notes.
- (2) In estimating the time intervals into which payments of our reserves for losses and loss adjustment expenses fall, as set out above, we have utilized actuarially assessed payment patterns. By the nature of the insurance and reinsurance contracts under which these liabilities are assumed, there can be no certainty that actual payments will fall in the periods shown and there could be a material acceleration or deceleration of claims payments depending on factors outside our control. This uncertainty is heightened by the short time in which we have operated, thereby providing limited Company-specific claims loss payment patterns. The total amount of payments in respect of our reserves, as well as the timing of such payments, may differ materially from our current estimates for the reasons set out above under

  Critical Accounting Policies-Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses.

61

#### **Table of Contents**

Further information on operating leases is given in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

For a discussion of derivative instruments we have entered into, please see Note 8 to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 included elsewhere in this report.

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

*Ajax Re.* Ajax Re was a variable interest entity under the guidance contained in ASC 820 *Consolidations*. We had a variable interest in the entity, however we were not the primary beneficiary of the entity and therefore we were not required to consolidate its results into our consolidated financial statements. For further details on the Ajax Re transactions please see Note 7 to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 included elsewhere in this report.

We are not party to any transaction, agreement or other contractual arrangement to which an affiliated entity unconsolidated with us is a party, other than that noted above with Ajax Re, that management believes is reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on our financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.

Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is a variable interest entity under the guidance contained in ASC 820 Consolidations. On May 19, 2009 we invested \$25.0 million with Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. through our wholly owned subsidiary, Acorn Limited. Cartesian Iris 2009A L.P. is a Delaware Limited Partnership formed to provide capital to Iris Re, a newly formed Class 3 Bermuda reinsurer focusing on insurance linked securities. In addition to returns on our investment, we will receive a fee for providing advice on risk selection, pricing and portfolio design. In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, a fee of \$0.1 million was payable to Aspen. For more information please see Note 5 and 12(c) to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 included elsewhere in this report.

### **Effects of Inflation**

Inflation may have a material effect on our consolidated results of operations by its effect on interest rates and on the cost of settling claims. The potential exists, after a catastrophe or other large property loss, for the development of inflationary pressures in a local economy as the demand for services such as construction typically surges. We believe this had an impact on the cost of claims arising from the 2005 hurricanes. The cost of settling claims may also be increased by global commodity price inflation. We seek to take both these factors into account when setting reserves for any events where we think they may be material.

Our calculation of reserves for losses and loss expenses in respect of casualty business includes assumptions about future payments for settlement of claims and claims-handling expenses, such as medical treatments and litigation costs. We write casualty business in the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia and certain other territories, where claims inflation has in many years run at higher rates than general inflation. To the extent inflation causes these costs to increase above reserves established for these claims, we will be required to increase our loss reserves with a corresponding reduction in earnings. The actual effects of inflation on our results cannot be accurately known until claims are ultimately settled.

In addition to general price inflation we are exposed to a persisting long-term upwards trend in the cost of judicial awards for damages. We seek to take this into account in our pricing and reserving of casualty business.

#### **Table of Contents**

We also seek to take into account the projected impact of inflation on the likely actions of central banks in the setting of short-term interest rates and consequent effects on the yields and prices of fixed interest securities. We consider that although inflation is currently low, in the medium-term there is a risk that inflation, interest rates and bond yields will rise with the result that the market value of certain of our fixed interest investments may reduce.

### **Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

This Form 10-Q contains, and the Company may from time to time make other verbal or written, forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that involve risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding our capital needs, business strategy, expectations and intentions. Statements that use the terms do not believe. believe. anticipate, expect, plan, estimate, project, similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and because our business is subject to numerous risks, uncertainties and other factors, our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. The risks, uncertainties and other factors set forth in the Company s 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and other cautionary statements made in this report, as well as the following factors, should be read and understood as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this report.

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

the continuing and uncertain impact of the current depressed credit environment, the banking crises and economic recessions in many of the countries in which we operate and of the measures being taken by governments to counter these issues;

the risk of a material decline in the value or liquidity of all or parts of our investment portfolio;

changes in insurance and reinsurance market conditions;

changes in our ability to exercise capital management initiatives or to arrange banking facilities as a result of prevailing market changes or changes in our financial position;

our ability to execute our business plan to enter new markets, introduce new products and develop new distribution channels, including their integration into our existing operations;

increased counterparty risk due to the impairment of financial institutions;

changes in the total industry losses, or our share of total industry losses, resulting from past events such as Hurricanes Ike and Gustav and, with respect to such events, our reliance on loss reports received from cedants and loss adjustors, our reliance on industry loss estimates and those generated by modeling techniques, changes in rulings on flood damage or other exclusions as a result of prevailing lawsuits and case law, any changes in our reinsurers credit quality and the amount and timing of reinsurance recoverables;

the impact of acts of terrorism and related legislation and acts of war;

the possibility of greater frequency or severity of claims and loss activity, including as a result of natural or man-made (including economic and political risks) catastrophic events, than our underwriting, reserving,

Table of Contents 114

conti

reinsurance purchasing or investment practices have anticipated;

evolving interpretive issues with respect to coverage after major loss events;

63

#### **Table of Contents**

the level of inflation in repair costs due to limited availability of labor and materials after catastrophes;

the effectiveness of our loss limitation methods;

changes in the availability, cost or quality of reinsurance or retrocessional coverage;

the reliability of, and changes in assumptions to, natural and man-made catastrophe pricing, accumulation and estimated loss models:

loss of key personnel;

a decline in our operating subsidiaries ratings with S&P, A.M. Best or Moody s Investor Service;

changes in general economic conditions, including inflation, foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates and other factors that could affect our investment portfolio;

increased competition on the basis of pricing, capacity, coverage terms or other factors and the related demand and supply dynamics as contracts come up for renewal;

decreased demand for our insurance or reinsurance products and cyclical changes in the insurance and reinsurance sectors;

changes in government regulations or tax laws in jurisdictions where we conduct business; and

Aspen Holdings or Aspen Bermuda becoming subject to income taxes in the United States or the United Kingdom.

In addition, any estimates relating to loss events involve the exercise of considerable judgment and reflect a combination of ground-up evaluations, information available to date from brokers and cedants, market intelligence, initial tentative loss reports and other sources. Due to the complexity of factors contributing to the losses and the preliminary nature of the information used to prepare estimates, there can be no assurance that our ultimate losses will remain within the stated amounts.

The foregoing review of important factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included in this report. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or review any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise or disclose any difference between our actual results and those reflected in such statements.

If one or more of these or other risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may vary materially from what we projected. Any forward-looking statements you read in this report reflect our current views with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to our operations, results of operations, growth strategy and liquidity. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or individuals acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the points made above. You should specifically consider the factors identified in this report which could cause actual results to differ before making an investment decision.

64

# **Table of Contents**

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

*Interest rate risk*. Our investment portfolio consists primarily of fixed income securities. Accordingly, our primary market risk exposure is to changes in interest rates. Fluctuations in interest rates have a direct impact on the market valuation of these securities. As interest rates rise, the market value of our fixed-income portfolio falls, and the converse is also true. Our strategy for managing interest rate risk includes maintaining a high quality portfolio with a relatively short duration to reduce the effect of interest rate changes on book value.

As at September 30, 2009, our fixed income portfolio had an approximate duration of 3.3 years. The table below depicts interest rate change scenarios and the effect on our interest-rate sensitive invested assets:

Effect of Changes in Interest Rates on Portfolio Given a Parallel Shift in the Yield Curve									
<b>Movement in Rates in Basis Points</b>	-100	-50	0	50	100				
	(\$ in millions, except percentages)								
Market value \$ in millions Gain/(loss) \$ in millions Percentage of portfolio	\$ 5,799.0 183.1 3.26%	\$ 5,707.4 91.5 1.63%	\$ 5,615.9 0.0 0.00%	\$ 5,524.4 (91.5) (1.63)%	\$ 5,432.8 (183.1) (3.26)%				

*Equity risk.* We had invested in two funds of hedge funds where the underlying hedge funds consisted of diverse strategies and securities. In February 2009, we gave notice to redeem our remaining investments in funds of hedge funds with effect on June 30, 2009, which would reduce our exposure to equity risk. As the notices of redemption have taken effect, we are no longer exposed to changes in the net asset value of the funds.

Foreign currency risk. Our reporting currency is the U.S. Dollar. The functional currencies of our segments are U.S. Dollars, British Pounds, Euros, Swiss Francs, Australian Dollars and Singaporean Dollars. As of September 30, 2009, approximately 83% of our cash, cash equivalents and investments were held in U.S. Dollars, approximately 8% were in British Pounds and approximately 9% were in other currencies. For the nine months ended September 30, 2009, approximately 17% of our gross premiums were written in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar and the British Pound and we expect that a similar proportion will be written in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar and the British Pound in the remainder of 2009. Other foreign currency amounts are re-measured to the appropriate functional currency and the resulting foreign exchange gains or losses are reflected in the statement of operations. Functional currency amounts of assets and liabilities are then translated into U.S. Dollars. The unrealized gain or loss from this translation, net of tax, is recorded as part of shareholders equity. The change in unrealized foreign currency translation gain or loss during the period, net of tax, is a component of comprehensive income. Both the re-measurement and translation are calculated using current exchange rates for the balance sheets and average exchange rates for the statement of operations. We may experience exchange losses to the extent our foreign currency exposure is not hedged, which in turn would adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. Management estimates that a 10% change in the exchange rate between British Pounds and U.S. Dollars as at September 30, 2009, would have impacted reported net comprehensive income by approximately \$18.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. We manage our foreign currency risk by seeking to match our liabilities under insurance and reinsurance policies that are payable in foreign currencies with investments that are denominated in these currencies. This may involve the use of forward exchange contracts from time to time. A forward exchange contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specified currency at a future date at a price set at the time of the contract. Foreign currency exchange contracts will not eliminate fluctuations in the value of our assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies, but rather allows us to establish a rate of exchange for a future point in time. All realized gains and losses on foreign exchange forward contracts are recognized in the Statements of Operations. There were no outstanding foreign currency

#### **Table of Contents**

contracts at September 30, 2009 compared to \$90.5 million of U.S. and foreign currency contracts at September 30, 2008.

*Credit risk.* We have exposure to credit risk primarily as a holder of fixed income securities. Our risk management strategy and investment policy is to invest in debt instruments of high credit quality issuers and to limit the amount of credit exposure with respect to particular ratings categories, business sectors and any one issuer. As at September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, the average rating of fixed income securities in our investment portfolio was AA+ and AAA, respectively.

In addition, we are exposed to the credit risk of our insurance and reinsurance brokers to whom we make claims payments for our policyholders, as well as to the credit risk of our reinsurers and retrocessionaires who assume business from us. Other than fully collateralized reinsurance the substantial majority of our reinsurers have a rating of A (Excellent), the third highest of fifteen rating levels, or better by A.M. Best and the minimum rating of any of our material reinsurers is A- (Excellent), the fourth highest of fifteen rating levels, by A.M. Best.

We have also entered into a credit insurance contract which, subject to its terms, insures us against losses due to the inability of one or more of our reinsurance counterparties to meet their financial obligations to the Company. Payments are made on a quarterly basis throughout the period of the contract based on the aggregate limit, which was set initially at \$477 million but is subject to adjustment. See Note 8 to the unaudited financial statements for the three months ended September 30, 2009 above.

The table below shows our reinsurance recoverables as of September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, and our reinsurers ratings.

A.M. Best	As at September 30, 2009 (\$ in millions)	As at December 31, 2008 (\$ in millions)
A++	5.9	15.9
A+	33.5	69.5
A	245.7	160.8
A-	26.0	28.6
Other	2.6	2.5
Not rated	19.8	6.0
Total	333.5	283.3

66

#### **Table of Contents**

#### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

### **Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

The Company, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company s management, including the Company s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the design and operation of the Company s disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period of this report. Our management does not expect that our disclosure controls or our internal controls will prevent all errors 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. As a result of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision-making can be faulty, and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons or by collusion of two or more people. The design of any system of controls also is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions; over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate. As a result of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatement due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Accordingly, our disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the disclosure requirements are met. Based on the evaluation of the disclosure controls and procedures, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Company s disclosure controls and procedures were effective in ensuring that information required to be disclosed in the reports filed or submitted to the Commission under the Exchange Act by the Company is recorded, processed, summarized and reported in a timely fashion, and is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company s Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

# **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

The Company s management has performed an evaluation, with the participation of the Company s Chief Executive Officer and the Company s Chief Financial Officer, of changes in the Company s internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2009. Based upon that evaluation, the Company s management is not aware of any change in its internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2009 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company s internal control over financial reporting.

67

#### **Table of Contents**

#### OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Similar to the rest of the insurance and reinsurance industry, we are subject to litigation and arbitration in the ordinary course of business. We are not currently involved in any material pending litigation or arbitration proceedings.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no significant changes in the Company s risk factors as discussed in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008. However, also please refer to the Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements provided elsewhere in this report.

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

In connection with the options held by the Names Trustee as described further in Note 10 to our financial statements, the Names Trustee may exercise the options on a monthly basis. The options were exercised on a cashless basis at the exercise price as described in Note 10 to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. As a result, we issued the following unregistered shares to the Names Trustee and its beneficiaries as described below.

Number of Shares Issued Shares Issued

August 17, 2009 106

None of the transactions involved any underwriters, underwriting discounts or commissions, or any public offering and we believe that each transaction, if deemed to be a sale of a security, was exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act by virtue of Section 4(2) thereof or Regulation S for offerings of securities outside the United States. Such securities were restricted as to transfers and appropriate legends were affixed to the share certificates and instruments in such transactions.

### **Item 3.** Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

#### **Item 4.** Submissions of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

### Item 5. Other Information

None.

### Item 6. Exhibits

(a) The following sets forth those exhibits filed pursuant to Item 601 of Regulation S-K:

# **Exhibit** Number **Description** 31.1 Officer Certification of Christopher O Kane, Chief Executive Officer of Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, filed with this report. 31.2 Officer Certification of Richard Houghton, Chief Financial Officer of Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited, as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, filed with this report. 32.1 Officer Certification of Christopher O Kane, Chief Executive Officer of Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited, and Richard Houghton, Chief Financial Officer of Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, submitted with this report. 68

### **Table of Contents**

# **SIGNATURES**

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

# ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Registrant)

Date: November 4, 2009

By: /s/ Christopher O Kane

Christopher O Kane Chief Executive Officer

Date: November 4, 2009

By: /s/ Richard Houghton

Richard Houghton Chief Financial Officer

69