

COSTAR GROUP INC
Form 10-K
February 25, 2011

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010

Commission file number 0-24531

CoStar Group, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 52-2091509
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1331 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005
(Address of principal executive offices) (zip code)

(202) 346-6500
Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(877) 739-0486
Registrant's facsimile number, including area code

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

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Stock, \$.01 par value	NASDAQ Global Select Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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

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

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

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

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 registrant was required to submit and post such files.) Yes No

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, 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 Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

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

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

Based on the closing price of the common stock on June 30, 2010 on the Nasdaq Stock Market, Nasdaq Global Select Market, the aggregate market value of registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was approximately \$658 million.

As of February 18, 2011, there were 20,761,799 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement, which is expected to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission within 120 days after the end of the registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2010, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Report.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I		
Item 1.	<u>Business</u>	4
Item 1A.	<u>Risk Factors</u>	15
Item 1B.	<u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	22
Item 2.	<u>Properties</u>	22
Item 3.	<u>Legal Proceedings</u>	23
Item 4.	<u>[Removed and Reserved]</u>	23
PART II		
Item 5.	<u>Market for the Registrant's Common Stock, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	24
Item 6.	<u>Selected Consolidated Financial and Operating Data</u>	26
Item 7.	<u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	27
Item 7A.	<u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	44
Item 8.	<u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	44
Item 9.	<u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	44
Item 9A.	<u>Controls and Procedures</u>	45
Item 9B.	<u>Other Information</u>	46
PART III		
Item 10.	<u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	46
Item 11.	<u>Executive Compensation</u>	46
Item 12.	<u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	46
Item 13.	<u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	46
Item 14.	<u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	46
PART IV		
Item 15.	<u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	46
	<u>Signatures</u>	48
	<u>Index to Exhibits</u>	49
	<u>Index to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-1

PART I

Item 1. Business

In this report, the words “we,” “our,” “us,” “CoStar” or the “Company” refer to CoStar Group, Inc. and its direct and indirect subsidiaries. This report also refers to our websites, but information contained on those sites is not part of this report.

CoStar Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation, is the number one provider of information, marketing and analytic services to the commercial real estate industry in the United States (U.S.) and United Kingdom (U.K.) based on the fact that we offer the most comprehensive commercial real estate database available, have the largest research department in the industry, provide more information, marketing and analytic services than any of our competitors and believe we generate more revenues than any of our competitors. CoStar’s integrated suite of services offers customers online access to the most comprehensive database of commercial real estate information, which has been researched and verified by our team of researchers, currently covering the U.S., as well as London and other parts of the U.K. and parts of France. We manage our business geographically in two operating segments; our primary areas of measurement and decision-making are the U.S. and International, which includes the U.K. and France.

Since our founding in 1987, CoStar’s strategy has been to provide commercial real estate professionals with critical knowledge to explore and complete transactions by offering the most comprehensive, timely and standardized information on U.S. commercial real estate. As a result of our January 2003 acquisition of Focus Information Limited (now, CoStar U.K. Limited), June 2004 acquisition of Scottish Property Network, December 2006 acquisition of Grecom S.A.S., February 2007 acquisition of Property Investment Exchange Limited, and July 2009 acquisition of Property and Portfolio Research, Inc. (“PPR”) and its wholly owned U.K. subsidiary, Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. (“PPR UK”), we have extended our offering of comprehensive commercial real estate information to include London and other parts of the U.K. and parts of France. Information about CoStar’s revenues from, and long-lived assets located in, foreign countries is included in Notes 2 and 11 to our consolidated financial statements. CoStar’s revenues, net income, assets and liabilities, broken out by segment are set forth in Note 11 to our consolidated financial statements. Information about risks associated with our foreign operations is included in “Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.”

We deliver our content to our U.S. customers primarily via an integrated suite of online service offerings that includes information about space available for lease, comparable sales information, tenant information, information about properties for sale, internet marketing services, property information for clients’ websites, information about industry professionals and their business relationships, analytic information, data integration, and industry news. We also provide market research and analysis for commercial real estate investors and lenders via our PPR service offerings, and portfolio and debt management and reporting capabilities through our Resolve Technology, Inc. (“Resolve Technology”) service offerings. We have created and are continually improving a standardized information platform where the commercial real estate industry and related businesses can continuously interact and easily facilitate transactions due to the efficient exchange of accurate information we supply.

We have a number of assets that provide a unique foundation for our standardized platform, including the most comprehensive proprietary database in the industry; the largest research department in the industry; proprietary data collection, information management and quality control systems; a large in-house product development team; a broad suite of web-based information, marketing and analytic services; a large team of analysts and economists and a large base of clients. Our database has been developed and enhanced for more than 23 years by a research department that makes thousands of daily database updates. In addition to our internal efforts to grow the database, we have obtained and assimilated over 52 proprietary databases.

We intend to continue to grow our standardized platform of commercial real estate information, marketing and analytic services. In 2004, we began research for a 21-market U.S. expansion effort. By the end of the first quarter of 2006, we had successfully launched service in each of those 21 markets. In addition, following our acquisition of National Research Bureau in January 2005, we launched various research initiatives as part of our expansion into real estate information for retail properties. We launched the new retail component of our flagship product, CoStar Property Professional, in May 2006. In July 2006, we announced our intention to commence actively researching commercial properties in approximately 81 new Core Based Statistical Areas (“CBSAs”) across the U.S. in an effort to expand the geographical coverage of our service offerings, including our new retail service. In the fourth quarter of 2007, we released our CoStar Property Professional service in the 81 new CBSAs across the U.S. In 2008, we released CoStar Showcase, an internet marketing service that provides commercial real estate professionals the opportunity to make their listings accessible to all visitors to our public websites, www.CoStar.com and www.showcase.com.

During the second half of 2009, as part of our strategy for providing subscribers with tools for conducting primary research and analysis on commercial real estate, we expanded subscribers' capabilities to use our database of research-verified commercial property information to conduct in-depth analysis and generate online reports of trends in sales and leasing activity. Furthermore, in July 2009, we added analytic and market forecasting services to our platform of research and marketing services with our acquisition of PPR, and in October 2009 we acquired Resolve Technology's business intelligence and portfolio management software used by institutional real estate investment companies.

We also intend to continue to expand the coverage of our service offerings within our International segment. In December 2006, our U.K. subsidiary, CoStar Limited, acquired Grecom S.A.S., a provider of commercial property information and market-level surveys, studies and consulting services, located in Paris, France. In February 2007, CoStar Limited also acquired Property Investment Exchange Limited, a provider of commercial property information and operator of an online investment property exchange located in London, England. Our July 2009 acquisition of PPR and PPR UK also expanded the market research capabilities of our U.K. operations. Further information about CoStar's acquisitions is included in Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements.

CoStar intends to integrate its U.K. and French operations more fully with its U.S. operations and eventually to introduce a consistent international platform of service offerings. In 2007, we introduced the "CoStar Group" as the brand encompassing our worldwide operations.

Following our acquisitions of PPR and Resolve Technology in 2009, we began integrating their respective product and service offerings with our own, including the services we have successfully integrated following prior acquisitions. We believe that our recent U.S. and International expansion and integration efforts have created a platform for long-term growth.

Our subscription-based information services, consisting primarily of CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, CoStar COMPS Professional and FOCUS services, currently generate more than 94% of our total revenues. CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, and CoStar COMPS Professional are generally sold as a suite of similar services and comprise our primary service offering in our U.S. operating segment. FOCUS is our primary service offering in our International operating segment. The majority of our contracts for our subscription-based information services typically have a minimum term of one year and renew automatically. Upon renewal, many of the subscription contract rates may change in accordance with contract provisions or as a result of contract renegotiations. To encourage clients to use our services regularly, we generally charge a fixed monthly amount for our subscription-based information services rather than fees based on actual system usage. Contract rates are generally based on the number of sites, number of users, organization size, the client's business focus, geography and the number of services to which a client subscribes. Our subscription clients generally pay contract fees on a monthly basis, but in some cases may pay us on a quarterly or annual basis.

Industry Overview

The market for commercial real estate information and analysis is vast based on the variety, volume and value of transactions related to commercial real estate. Each transaction has multiple participants and multiple information requirements, and in order to facilitate transactions, industry participants must have extensive, accurate and current information and analysis. Members of the commercial real estate and related business community require daily access to current data such as space availability, properties for sale, rental rates, vacancy rates, tenant movements, sales comparables, supply, new construction, absorption rates and other important market developments to carry out their businesses effectively. Market research (including historical and forecast conditions) and applied analytics have also become instrumental to the success of commercial real estate industry participants operating in the current economic environment. There is a strong need for an efficient marketplace, where commercial real estate professionals can

exchange information, evaluate opportunities using standardized data and interpretive analyses, and interact with each other on a continuous basis.

A large number of parties involved in the commercial real estate and related business community make use of the services we provide in order to obtain information they need to conduct their businesses, including:

- Sales and leasing brokers
- Property owners
- Property managers
- Pension fund managers
- Real estate developers
- Tenant vendors
- Investment bankers
- Commercial bankers
- Mortgage bankers
- Mortgage brokers
- Retailers
- Government agencies
- Mortgage-backed security issuers
- Appraisers
- Reporters
- Building services vendors
- Communications providers
- Insurance companies' managers
- Institutional advisors
- Investors and asset managers

The commercial real estate and related business community generally has operated in an inefficient marketplace because of the fragmented approach to gathering and exchanging information within the marketplace. Various organizations, including hundreds of brokerage firms, directory publishers and local research companies, collect data on specific markets and develop software to analyze the information they have independently gathered. This highly fragmented methodology has resulted in duplication of effort in the collection and analysis of information, excessive internal cost and the creation of non-standardized data containing varying degrees of accuracy and comprehensiveness, resulting in a formidable information gap.

The creation of a standardized information platform for commercial real estate requires an infrastructure including a standardized database, accurate and comprehensive research capabilities, experienced analysts, easy to use technology and intensive participant interaction. By combining our extensive database, approximately 957 researchers and outside contractors, our experienced team of analysts and economists, technological expertise and broad customer base, we believe that we have created such a platform.

CoStar's Comprehensive Database

CoStar has spent more than 23 years building and acquiring a database of commercial real estate information, which includes information on leasing, sales, comparable sales, tenants, and demand statistics, as well as digital images.

As of January 31, 2011, our database of real estate information covered the U.S., London, England and other parts of the U.K. and parts of France, and contained:

- Approximately 1.5 million sale and lease listings;
- Approximately 4.0 million total properties;
- Approximately 11.1 billion square feet of sale and lease listings;
- Approximately 8.9 million tenants;
- Approximately 1.8 million sales transactions valued in the aggregate at approximately \$3.7 trillion; and
-

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Approximately 11.2 million digital attachments, including building photographs, aerial photographs, plat maps and floor plans.

This highly complex database is comprised of hundreds of data fields, tracking such categories as:

- Location
- Site and zoning information
- Building characteristics
 - Space availability
 - Tax assessments
 - Ownership
- Sales and lease comparables
- Space requirements
- Number of retail stores
- Mortgage and deed information
 - For-sale information
 - Income and expense histories
 - Tenant names
 - Lease expirations
 - Contact information
 - Historical trends
 - Demographic information
 - Retail sales per square foot

CoStar Research

We have developed a sophisticated data collection organization utilizing a multi-faceted research process. In 2010, our full time researchers and contractors drove millions of miles, conducted hundreds of thousands of on-site building inspections, and conducted millions of interviews of brokers, owners and tenants.

Research Department. As of January 31, 2011, we had approximately 957 commercial real estate research professionals and outside contractors performing research. Our research professionals undergo an extensive training program so that we can maintain consistent research methods and processes throughout our research department. Our researchers collect and analyze commercial real estate information through millions of phone calls, e-mails, internet updates and faxes each year, in addition to field inspections, public records review, news monitoring and direct mail. Each researcher is responsible for maintaining the accuracy and reliability of database information. As part of their update process, researchers develop cooperative relationships with industry professionals that allow them to gather useful information. Because of the importance commercial real estate professionals place on our data and our prominent position in the industry, many of these professionals routinely take the initiative and proactively report available space and transactions to our researchers.

CoStar has an extensive field research effort that includes physical inspection of properties in order to research new markets, find additional inventory, photograph properties and verify existing information.

CoStar utilizes 144 high-tech field research vehicles in 41 states and the U.K. Of these vehicles, 98 are custom-designed energy efficient hybrid cars that are equipped with computers, proprietary Global Positioning System tracking software, high resolution digital cameras and handheld laser instruments to help precisely measure buildings, geo-code them and position them on digital maps. Some of our researchers also use custom-designed trucks with the same equipment as well as pneumatic masts that extend up to an elevation of twenty-five feet to allow for unobstructed building photographs from “birds-eye” views. Each CoStar vehicle uses wireless technology to track and transmit field data. A typical site inspection consists of photographing the building, measuring the building, geo-coding the building, capturing “For Sale” or “For Lease” sign information, counting parking spaces, assessing property condition and construction, and gathering tenant information. Certain researchers canvass properties, interviewing tenants suite by suite. In addition, many of our field researchers are photographers who take photographs of commercial real estate properties to add to CoStar’s database of digital images.

Data and Image Providers. We license a small portion of our data and images from public record providers and third party data sources. Licensing agreements with these entities provide for our use of a variety of commercial real estate information, including property ownership, tenant information, demographic information, maps and aerial photographs, all of which enhance various CoStar services. These license agreements generally grant us a non-exclusive license to use the data and images in the creation and supplementation of our information, marketing and analytic services and include what we believe are standard terms, such as a contract term ranging from one to five years, automatic renewal of the contract and fixed periodic license fees or a combination of fixed periodic license fees plus additional fees based upon our usage.

Management and Quality Control Systems. Our research processes include automated and non-automated controls to ensure the integrity of the data collection process. A large number of automated data quality tests check for potential errors, including occupancy date conflicts, available square footage greater than building area, typical floor space greater than land area and expired leases. We also monitor changes to critical fields of information to ensure all information is kept in compliance with our standard definitions and methodology. Our non-automated quality control procedures include:

- calling our information sources on recently updated properties to re-verify information;

- performing periodic research audits and field checks to determine if we correctly canvassed buildings;
- providing training and retraining to our research professionals to ensure accurate data compilation; and
- compiling measurable performance metrics for research teams and managers for feedback on data quality.

Finally, one of the most important and effective quality control measures we rely on is feedback provided by the commercial real estate professionals using our data every day.

Proprietary Technology

As of January 31, 2011, CoStar had a staff of 154 product development, database and network professionals. CoStar's information technology professionals focus on developing new services for our customers and delivering research automation tools that improve the quality of our data and increase the efficiency of our research analysts.

Our information technology team is responsible for developing and maintaining CoStar services, including CoStar Property Professional, CoStar COMPS, CoStar Tenant, CoStar Showcase, CoStar Commercial MLS, CoStar Connect, FOCUS, SPN, Shopproperty, PPR products and services, and Resolve Portfolio Maximizer and Request. In 2008, CoStar released CoStar Showcase, an internet marketing service that provides commercial real estate professionals the opportunity to make their listings accessible to all visitors to our public websites, www.CoStar.com and www.showcase.com. In 2009, we expanded subscribers' capabilities to use CoStar's database of research-verified commercial property information to conduct in-depth analysis and generate reports on trends in sales and leasing activity online. In 2010, we launched Showcase in the U.K. via www.Showcase.co.uk.

Our information technology team is responsible for developing the infrastructure necessary to support CoStar's business processes, our comprehensive database of commercial real estate information, marketing and analytic services and our extensive image library. The team implements technologies and systems that introduce efficient workflows and controls that increase the production capacity of our research teams and improve the quality of our data. Over the years, the team has developed data collection and quality control mechanisms that we believe are unique to the commercial real estate industry. The team continues to develop and modify our enterprise information management system that integrates CoStar sales, research, field research, customer support and accounting information. We use this system to maintain our commercial real estate research information, manage contacts with the commercial real estate community, provide research workflow automation and conduct daily automated quality assurance checks. In addition, our information technology team has also developed fraud-detection technology to detect and prevent unauthorized access to our services.

Our information technology professionals also maintain the servers and network components necessary to support CoStar services and research systems. Our encrypted virtual private network provides remote researchers and salespeople secure access to CoStar applications and network resources. CoStar maintains a comprehensive data protection policy that provides for use of encrypted data fields and off-site storage of all system backups, among other protective measures. CoStar's services are continually monitored in an effort to ensure our customers fast and reliable access.

Services

Our suite of information, marketing and analytic services is branded and marketed to our customers. Our services are derived from a database of building-specific information and offer customers specialized tools for accessing, analyzing and using our information. Over time, we expect to continue to enhance our existing information, marketing and analytic services and develop additional services that make use of our comprehensive database to meet the needs of our existing customers as well as potential new categories of customers.

Our various information, marketing and analytic services are described in detail in the following paragraphs as of January 31, 2011:

CoStar Property Professional® CoStar Property Professional, or "CoStar Property," is the Company's flagship service. It provides subscribers a comprehensive inventory of office, industrial, retail and multifamily properties and land in markets throughout the U.S., including for-lease and for-sale listings, historical data, building photographs, maps and floor plans. Commercial real estate professionals use CoStar Property to identify available space for lease, evaluate

leasing and sale opportunities, value assets and position properties in the marketplace. Our clients also use CoStar Property to analyze market conditions by calculating current vacancy rates, absorption rates or average rental rates, and forecasting future trends based on user selected variables. CoStar Property provides subscribers with powerful map-based search capabilities as well as a user controlled, password protected extranet (or electronic “file cabinet”) where brokers may share space surveys and transaction-related documents online, in real time, with team members. When used together with CoStar Connect, CoStar Property enables subscribers to share space surveys and transaction-related documents with their clients, accessed through their corporate website. CoStar Property, along with all of CoStar’s other core information, marketing and analytic services, is delivered solely via the internet.

CoStar COMPS Professional® CoStar COMPS Professional, or “COMPS Professional,” provides comprehensive coverage of comparable sales information in the U.S. commercial real estate industry. It is the industry’s most comprehensive database of comparable sales transactions and is designed for professionals who need to research property comparables, identify market trends, expedite the appraisal process and support property valuations. COMPS Professional offers subscribers numerous fields of property information, access to support documents (e.g., deeds of trust) for new comparables, demographics and the ability to view for-sale properties alongside sold properties in three formats – plotted on a map, aerial image or in a table.

CoStar Tenant® CoStar Tenant is a detailed online business-to-business prospecting and analytical tool providing commercial real estate professionals with the most comprehensive commercial real estate-related U.S. tenant information available. CoStar Tenant profiles tenants occupying space in commercial buildings across the U.S. and provides updates on lease expirations - one of the service’s key features - as well as occupancy levels, growth rates and numerous other facts. Delivering this information via the internet allows users to target prospective clients quickly through a searchable database that identifies only those tenants meeting certain criteria.

CoStar Showcase® CoStar Showcase offers commercial real estate professionals a simple way to get their for-sale and for-lease listings in front of a broad internet audience who search on Google, Yahoo, Bing, Showcase.com and Costar.com to find commercial properties. When customers sign up for CoStar Showcase, their listings become accessible to visitors to Showcase.com and Costar.com, who can search those listings for free. To drive traffic to CoStar Showcase subscriber listings, CoStar invests in Google, Yahoo and Bing keyword based pay-per-click advertising to capture the high volume traffic of users actively searching for commercial properties on those search engines. As part of their CoStar Showcase subscription, subscribers also receive customized websites for each of their brokers that displays their bio, photo, contact information and updated listings that they can use to promote their services. CoStar Showcase can be purchased as a firm-wide annual subscription by firms who want all of their brokers to be able to access the service, or it can be purchased by individual brokers on a month-to-month basis. When individual brokers sign up for CoStar Showcase, they also receive access to CoStar Commercial MLS (described below).

CoStar Property Express® CoStar Property Express provides access, via an annual subscription, to a “light” or scaled down version of CoStar Property. Commercial real estate professionals use CoStar Property Express to look up and search for-lease and for-sale listings in CoStar’s comprehensive national database. CoStar Property Express provides base building information, photos, floor plans, maps and a limited number of reports.

CoStar Listings Express® CoStar Listings Express provides access via an annual subscription to a listings only version of CoStar Property Express. Commercial real estate professionals use CoStar Listings Express to look up and search for lease and for sale listings in CoStar’s comprehensive national database. CoStar Listings Express provides base building information, photos, floor plans, maps and a limited number of reports on only properties that are either for lease or for sale. CoStar Listings Express does not provide information on fully leased properties, as found in CoStar Property Professional and CoStar Property Express.

CoStar COMPS Express® CoStar COMPS Express provides users with immediate, subscription free access with payment by credit card to the CoStar COMPS Professional system on a report-by-report basis. Subscribers also use this on-demand service to research comparable sales information outside of their subscription markets.

CoStar Connect® CoStar Connect allows commercial real estate firms to license CoStar’s technology and information to market their U.S. property listings on their corporate websites. Customers enhance the quality and depth of their listing information through access to CoStar’s database of content and digital images. The service automatically updates via the CoStar Property database and manages customers’ online property information, providing comprehensive listings coverage and significantly reducing the expense of building and maintaining their websites’

content and functionality.

CoStar Commercial MLS® CoStar Commercial MLS is the industry's most comprehensive collection of researched for sale listings. CoStar Commercial MLS draws upon CoStar's large database of digital images and includes office, industrial, multifamily and retail properties, as well as shopping centers and raw land. CoStar Commercial MLS represents an efficient means for sellers to market their properties to a large audience and for buyers to easily identify target properties.

CoStar Advertising® CoStar Advertising offers property owners a highly targeted and cost effective way to market a space for lease or a property for sale directly to the individuals looking for that type of space through interactive advertising. Our advertising model is based on varying levels of exposure, enabling the advertiser to target as narrowly or broadly as its budget permits. With the CoStar Advertising program, when the advertiser's listings appear in a results set, they receive priority positioning and are enhanced to stand out. The advertiser can also purchase exposure in additional submarkets, or the entire market area so that this ad will appear even when this listing would not be returned in a results set.

CoStar Professional Directory® CoStar Professional Directory, a service available exclusively to CoStar Property Professional subscribers, provides detailed contact information for approximately 1.4 million commercial real estate professionals, including specific information about an individual's current and prior activities such as completed transactions, current landlord representation assignments, sublet listings, major tenants and owners represented and local and national affiliations. Commercial real estate brokers can input their biographical information and credentials and upload their photo to create personal profiles. Subscribers use CoStar Professional Directory to network with their peers, identify and evaluate potential business partners, and maintain accurate mailing lists of other industry professionals for their direct mail marketing efforts.

CoStar Market Report™ The CoStar Market Report provides in-depth current and historical analytical information covering office, industrial and retail properties across the U.S. Published quarterly, each market report includes details such as absorption rates, vacancy rates, rental rates, average sales prices, capitalization rates, existing inventory and current construction activity. This data is presented using standard definitions and calculations developed by CoStar, and offers real estate professionals critical and unbiased information necessary to make intelligent commercial real estate decisions. CoStar Market Reports are available to CoStar Property Professional subscribers at no additional charge.

Metropolis™ The Metropolis service is a single interface that combines commercial real estate data from multiple information providers into a comprehensive resource. The Metropolis service allows a user to input a property address and then view detailed information on that property from multiple information providers, including CoStar services. This technology offers commercial real estate professionals a simple and convenient solution for integrating a wealth of third party information and proprietary data, and is currently available for the Southern California markets.

PPR® Our subsidiary PPR, and its U.K. subsidiary, PPR UK, offer products and services designed to meet the research needs of commercial real estate investors and lenders. PPR covers metropolitan areas throughout the United States, the U.K., and Europe, with offerings including historical and forecast market data and analysis by market and property type, and services including access to PPR's analysts, economists, and strategists to develop and deliver custom research solutions. Key tools include analysis of underlying property data, assessment of current market fundamentals, forecasts of future market performance, and credit default models.

PPR Portal™ is PPR's primary delivery platform for research, forecasts, analytics, and granular data surrounding a specific address and property type. Information is organized around clearly defined tabs, for ease of access. The information is presented in written, table data, graphic, and map formats, and can easily be downloaded by the user for integration into their own analytical framework. PPR's Portal is used by lenders, investors, and owners to identify and price investment opportunities, manage assets and portfolios, and source and service capital.

PPR COMPASS™ is PPR's premier commercial real estate risk management tool. It allows users to calculate Probability of Default, Loss Given Default, Expected Loss, and Confidence Interval (of Expected Loss) results for a loan or a portfolio. It provides direct comparisons of credit risk and refinance risk across Time, Market, Property Type, and Loan Structure for all macroeconomic forecast scenarios. COMPASSCRE is used by lenders, issuers, ratings agencies, and regulators to estimate required loss reserves and economic capital, target lending opportunities, set

pricing strategy, objectively compare/price loans, more effectively allocate capital, and manage refinance risk.

Resolve Portfolio Maximizer® Resolve Portfolio Maximizer is an industry leading real estate portfolio management software solution. Resolve Portfolio Maximizer allows users to model partnership structures, calculate waterfall distributions and fees, model and analyze debt obligations, and create multiple “what if” scenarios for alternative investment decisions.

Request™ Request is the first business intelligence software solution built specifically for managing commercial real estate investments. Request helps users eliminate some of the difficulties of consolidating real estate investment data from disparate sources and facilitates standardization of information presentation and reporting across an organization. Request also provides a platform for users to develop business intelligence and reporting capabilities.

FOCUS™ CoStar's U.K. subsidiary, CoStar U.K. Limited, offers several services; its primary service is FOCUS. FOCUS is a digital online service offering information on the U.K. commercial real estate market. This service seamlessly links data on individual properties and companies across the U.K., including comparable sales, available space, requirements, tenants, lease deals, planning information, socio-economics and demographics, credit ratings, photos and maps.

Showcase.co.uk Showcase.co.uk offers commercial real estate professionals a simple way to get their for-sale and for-lease listings in front of a broad internet audience who search on Google, Yahoo, Bing, and Showcase.co.uk to find commercial properties. When customers sign up for Showcase.co.uk, their listings become accessible to visitors to www.Showcase.co.uk and other CoStar URLs who can search those listings for free. To drive traffic to Showcase.co.uk subscriber listings, CoStar UK Limited invests in Google, Yahoo and Bing keyword based pay-per-click advertising to capture the high volume traffic of users actively searching for commercial properties on those search engines. As part of their Showcase.co.uk subscription, subscribers also receive customized websites for each of their brokers that displays their bio, photo, contact information and updated listings that they can use to promote their services. Showcase.co.uk is available as a firm-wide annual subscription by firms who want all of their brokers to be able to access the service or can be purchased by a single location of a national firm on an annual subscription basis.

SPN™ SPN provides users online access to a comprehensive database of information for properties located in Scotland, including available space, comparable sales and lease deals.

Propex™ Propex gives users access to the commercial property investment market. It is used by U.K. investment agencies and professional investors and is a secure online exchange through which investment deals may be introduced. It is a primary channel for the distribution of live transaction data and property research data in the U.K. investment market. Propex also provides private investors with a gateway into the commercial property investment market. It is a free-access listing website, which provides details of commercial property investments. It is used by U.K. agencies to sell investments suitable for the private investor.

Shopproperty.co.uk™ Shopproperty is a listing database of available retail units across the U.K. on a free-access website. Shopproperty.co.uk is the only specialist listing website with fully licensed Goad street-trader plans.

Grecam™ Our French subsidiary, Grecam S.A.S., provides commercial real estate information throughout the Paris region through its Observatoire Immobilier D' Entreprise ("OIE") service offering. The OIE service provides commercial property availability and transaction information to its subscribers through both an online service and market reports.

Clients

We draw clients from across the commercial real estate and related business community. Commercial real estate brokers have traditionally formed the largest portion of CoStar clients, however, we also provide services to owners, landlords, financial institutions, retailers, vendors, appraisers, investment banks, governmental agencies, and other parties involved in commercial real estate. The following chart lists U.S. and U.K. clients that are well known or have the highest annual subscription fees in each of the various categories, each as of January 31, 2011.

Brokers	Lenders, Investment Bankers	Institutional Advisors, Asset Managers
CB Richard Ellis	Deutsche Bank	BlackRock
CB Richard Ellis — U.K.	Wells Fargo	Prudential
Colliers	JP Morgan Chase Bank	Prudential — U.K.
Colliers International UK — U.K.	Key Bank	Metropolitan Life
Cushman & Wakefield	TD Bank	ING Clarion Partners
Cushman & Wakefield — U.K.	Citibank	Progressive Casualty Insurance Co.
Weichert Commercial Brokerage	AEGON USA Realty Advisors, Inc.	USAA Real Estate Company
Jones Lang LaSalle	Bank of America, N.A.	NorthMarq Capital
Jones Lang LaSalle — U.K.	East West Bank	AEW Capital Management LP
Grubb & Ellis	Q10 Capital LLC	Manulife Financial
Drivers Jonas Deloitte — U.K.	GE Capital	Hartford Investment Management Company
King Sturge — U.K.		
Lambert Smith Hampton — U.K.		
Charles Dunn Company, Inc.	Owners, Developers	Appraisers, Accountants
Marcus & Millichap	Hines	Integra
Mohr Partners	LNR Property Corp	Deloitte
Newmark Knight Frank	Shorenstein Company, LLC	Marvin F. Poer
CRESA Partners	Tishman Speyer	KPMG
Studley	The British Land Company - UK	Thomson Reuters
Coldwell Banker Commercial NRT	Industrial Developments International (IDI)	FirstService PGP Valuation
UGL Services		
NAI Global		
Cassidy Turley		
Binswanger		
Re/Max		
Carter	Retailers	Government Agencies
USI Real Estate Brokerage Services	Starbucks	U.S. General Services Administration
DAUM Commercial Real Estate Services	In-N-Out Burger	County of Los Angeles
HFF	Taco Bell	Internal Revenue Service
U.S. Equities Realty	Massage Envy	City of Chicago
Sperry Van Ness	7-Eleven	Cook County Assessor's Office
DTZ — U.K.	Dollar General Corporation	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Savills Commercial — U.K.	Walgreens	Scottish Enterprise — U.K.
Capita Symonds — U.K.	Denny's	Federal Reserve Bank of New York
GVA Grimley — U.K.	Rent-A-Center	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
BNP Paribas — U.K.	Spencer Gifts LLC	Transportation Security Administration
Avision Young Commercial Real Estate		
	Property Managers	Vendors
	Transwestern Commercial Services	Turner Construction Company
	Lincoln Property Company	Kastle Systems
	PM Realty Group	Comcast Corporation

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Boston Properties
Duke Realty Corporation
Kimco Realty Corporation
Vornado/Charles E. Smith

Navisys Group
Osprey Management Company
Leggat McCall Properties
Asset Plus Corporation

ADT Security
Cox Communications, Inc.
Time Warner Cable, Inc.
Verizon Communications, Inc.

For the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, no single client accounted for more than 5% of our revenues.

Sales and Marketing

As of January 31, 2011, we had 262 sales, marketing and customer support employees, with the majority of our direct sales force located in field sales offices. Our sales teams are primarily located in 23 field sales offices throughout the U.S. and in offices located in London, England; Manchester, England; Glasgow, Scotland and Paris, France. Our inside sales team is located in our downtown Washington, DC. office. This team prospects for new clients and performs service demonstrations exclusively by telephone and over the internet to support the direct sales force.

Our local offices typically serve as the platform for our in-market sales, customer support and field research operations for their respective regions. The sales force is responsible for selling to new prospects, training new and existing clients, providing ongoing customer support, renewing existing client contracts and identifying cross-selling opportunities. In addition, the sales force has primary front line responsibility for customer care.

Our sales strategy is to aggressively attract new clients, while providing ongoing incentives for existing clients to subscribe to additional services. We actively manage client accounts in order to retain clients by providing frequent service demonstrations as well as company-client contact and communication. We place a premium on training new and existing client personnel on the use of our services so as to promote maximum client utilization and satisfaction with our services. Our strategy also involves entering into multi-year, multi-market license agreements with our larger clients.

We seek to make our services essential to our clients' businesses. To encourage clients to use our services regularly, we generally charge a fixed monthly amount for our subscription-based services rather than fees based on actual system usage. Contract rates are generally based on the number of sites, number of users, organization size, the client's business focus, geography and the number of services to which a client subscribes. Our subscription clients generally pay contract fees on a monthly basis, but in some cases may pay us on a quarterly or annual basis.

Our customer service and support staff is charged with ensuring high client satisfaction by providing ongoing customer support.

Our primary marketing methods include: service demonstrations; face to face networking; web-based marketing; direct marketing; communication via our corporate website and news services; participation in trade show and industry events; print advertising in trade magazines and other business publications; client referrals; and CoStar Advisor™, the Company's newsletter, which is distributed to our clients and prospects. We currently offer dozens of webinars each year aimed at helping customers learn more about the commercial real estate industry and how to use our services. The webinars are available both as live presentations and as on-demand programs hosted on our website. On a monthly basis, we issue the CoStar Commercial Repeat Sales Index (CCRSI), a comprehensive set of benchmarks that investors and other market participants can use to better understand commercial real estate price movements. The Index is produced using our underlying data and is publicly distributed by CoStar through the news media and made available online at www.costar.com/ccrsi.

Web-based marketing and direct marketing are the most cost-effective means for us to find prospective clients. Our web-based marketing efforts include paid advertising with major search engines and commercial real estate news sites and our direct marketing efforts include direct mail, email and telemarketing, and make extensive use of our unique, proprietary database. Once we have identified a prospective client, our most effective sales method is a service demonstration. We use various forms of advertising to build brand identity and reinforce the value and benefits of our services. We also sponsor and attend local association activities and events, including industry-leading events for commercial brokers and retail and financial services institutions, and attend and/or exhibit at industry trade shows and

conferences to reinforce our relationships with our core user groups.

Competition

The market for information, marketing and analytic services generally is competitive and rapidly changing. In the commercial real estate industry, the principal competitive factors for commercial real estate information, marketing and analytic services and providers are:

- quality and depth of the underlying databases;
- ease of use, flexibility, and functionality of the software;
 - timeliness of the data;
- breadth of geographic coverage and services offered;
 - client service and support;
- perception that the service offered is the industry standard;
 - price;
- effectiveness of marketing and sales efforts;
- proprietary nature of methodologies, databases and technical resources;
 - vendor reputation;
 - brand loyalty among customers; and
 - capital resources.

We compete directly and indirectly for customers with the following categories of companies:

• online services or websites targeted to commercial real estate brokers, buyers and sellers of commercial real estate properties, insurance companies, mortgage brokers and lenders, such as LoopNet, Inc., Cityfeet.com, Inc., Reed Business Information Limited, officespace.com, MrOfficeSpace.com, TenantWise, Inc., WorkplaceIQ, RealPoint LLC and RealUp;

- publishers and distributors of information, marketing and analytic services, including regional providers and national print publications, such as Black's Guide, CBRE Economic Advisors, Marshall & Swift, Yale Robbins, Inc., Reis, Inc., Real Capital Analytics, Inc. and The Smith Guide, Inc.;

• locally controlled real estate boards, exchanges or associations sponsoring property listing services and the companies with whom they partner, such as Xceligent, Catalyst, the National Association of Realtors, CCIM Institute, Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR) the Commercial Association of Realtors Data Services and the Association of Industrial Realtors (AIR);

• real estate portfolio management software solutions, such as Cougar Software, Yardi Systems, MRI Software, Argus Software and Intuit Inc.;

- in-house research departments operated by commercial real estate brokers; and
 - public record providers.

As the commercial real estate information, marketing and analytic services marketplace develops, additional competitors (including companies which could have greater access to data, financial, product development, technical, analytic or marketing resources than we do) may enter the market and competition may intensify. A company like Bloomberg L.P. has the resources and has previously announced an intention to move into the commercial real estate information business. Further, a company like Google, which has a far-reaching web presence and substantial data aggregation capabilities, could easily enter the commercial real estate marketing arena. While we believe that we have successfully differentiated ourselves from existing competitors, current or future competitors could materially harm our business.

Proprietary Rights

To protect our proprietary rights in our methodologies, database, software, trademarks and other intellectual property, we depend upon a combination of:

- trade secret, copyright, trademark, database protection and other laws;
- nondisclosure, noncompetition and other contractual provisions with employees and consultants;
 - license agreements with customers;
 - patent protection; and
 - technical measures.

We seek to protect our software's source code, our database and our photography as trade secrets and under copyright law. Although copyright registration is not a prerequisite for copyright protection, we have filed for copyright registration for many of our databases, photographs, software and other materials. Under current U.S. copyright law, the arrangement and selection of data may be protected, but the actual data itself may not be. In addition, with respect to our U.K. databases, certain database protection laws provide additional protections of these databases. We license our services under license agreements that grant our clients non-exclusive, non-transferable licenses. These agreements restrict the disclosure and use of our information and prohibit the unauthorized reproduction or transfer of the information, marketing and analytic services we license.

We also attempt to protect the secrecy of our proprietary database, our trade secrets and our proprietary information through confidentiality and noncompetition agreements with our employees and consultants. Our services also include technical measures designed to discourage and detect unauthorized copying of our intellectual property. We have established an internal antipiracy team that uses fraud-detection technology to continually monitor our services to detect and prevent unauthorized access, and we actively prosecute individuals and firms that engage in this unlawful activity.

We have filed trademark applications to register trademarks for a variety of names for CoStar services and other marks, and have obtained registered trademarks for a variety of our marks, including "CoStar," "COMPS," "CoStar Property," "CoStar Tenant," "CoStar Showcase" and "CoStar Group." Depending upon the jurisdiction, trademarks are generally valid as long as they are in use and/or their registrations are properly maintained and they have not been found to become generic. We consider our trademarks in the aggregate to constitute a valuable asset. In addition, we have filed several patent applications covering certain of our methodologies and software and currently have one patent in the U.K. which expires in 2021 covering, among other things, certain of our field research methodologies, and six patents in the U.S. which expire in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 (2 patents) and 2025, covering, among other things, critical elements of CoStar's proprietary field research technology and mapping tools. We regard the rights under our patents as valuable to our business but do not believe that our business is materially dependent on any single patent.

Employees

As of January 31, 2011, we employed 1,389 employees. None of our employees are represented by a labor union. We have experienced no work stoppages. We believe that our employee relations are excellent.

Available Information

Our investor relations internet website is <http://www.costar.com/investors.aspx>. The reports we file with or furnish to the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our annual report, quarterly reports and current reports, are available free of charge on our internet website as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. You may review and copy any of the information we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission at the Commission's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. You may obtain information regarding the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The Securities and Exchange Commission maintains an internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the Commission at <http://www.sec.gov>.

Item 1A.

Risk Factors

Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

We have made forward-looking statements in this Report and make forward-looking statements in our press releases and conference calls that are subject to risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements include information that is not purely historic fact and include, without limitation, statements concerning our financial outlook for 2011 and beyond, our possible or assumed future results of operations generally, and other statements and information regarding assumptions about our revenues, EBITDA, fully diluted net income, taxable income, cash flow from operating activities, available cash, operating costs, amortization expense, intangible asset recovery, net income per share, diluted net income per share, weighted-average outstanding shares, capital and other expenditures, effective tax rate, equity compensation charges, future taxable income, purchase amortization, financing plans, geographic expansion, acquisitions, contract renewal rate, capital structure, contractual obligations, legal proceedings and claims, our database, database growth, services and facilities, employee relations, future economic performance, our ability to

liquidate or realize our long-term investments, management's plans, goals and objectives for future operations, and growth and markets for our stock. Sections of this Report which contain forward-looking statements include "Business," "Risk Factors," "Properties," "Legal Proceedings," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk," "Controls and Procedures" and the Financial Statements and related Notes.

Our forward-looking statements are also identified by words such as "believes," "expects," "thinks," "anticipates," "intend," "estimates" or similar expressions. You should understand that these forward-looking statements are estimates reflecting our judgment, beliefs and expectations, not guarantees of future performance. They are subject to a number of assumptions, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. The following important factors, in addition to those discussed or referred to under the heading "Risk Factors," and other unforeseen events or circumstances, could affect our future results and could cause those results or other outcomes to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements: commercial real estate market conditions; general economic conditions; changes or consolidations within the commercial real estate industry; customer retention; our ability to attract new clients; our ability to sell additional services to existing clients; our ability to integrate our U.S. and international product offerings; competition; foreign currency fluctuations; our ability to identify, acquire and integrate acquisition candidates; our ability to obtain any required financing on favorable terms; global credit market conditions affecting investments; our ability to continue to expand successfully; our ability to effectively penetrate the market for retail real estate information and gain acceptance in that market; our ability to control costs; litigation; changes in accounting policies or practices; release of new and upgraded services by us or our competitors; data quality; development of our sales force; employee retention; technical problems with our services; managerial execution; changes in relationships with real estate brokers and other strategic partners; legal and regulatory issues; and successful adoption of and training on our services.

Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of, and are based on information available to us on, the date of this Report. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained or referred to in this section. We do not undertake any obligation to update any such statements or release publicly any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this Report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

Risk Factors

A downturn or consolidation in the commercial real estate industry may decrease customer demand for our services. A reversal of recent improvements in the commercial real estate industry's leasing activity and absorption rates or a renewed downturn in the commercial real estate market may affect our ability to generate revenues and may lead to more cancellations by our current or future customers, either of which could cause our revenues or our revenue growth rate to decline and reduce our profitability. A depressed commercial real estate market has a negative impact on our core customer base, which could decrease demand for our information, marketing and analytic services. Also, companies in this industry are consolidating, often in order to reduce expenses. Consolidation, or other cost-cutting measures by our customers, may lead to more cancellations of our information, marketing and analytic services by our customers, reduce the number of our existing clients, reduce the size of our target market or increase our clients' bargaining power, all of which could cause our revenues to decline and reduce our profitability.

Negative general economic conditions could increase our expenses and reduce our revenues. Our business and the commercial real estate industry are particularly affected by negative trends in the general economy. The success of our business depends on a number of factors relating to general global, national, regional and local economic conditions, including perceived and actual economic conditions, recessions, inflation, deflation, exchange rates, interest rates, taxation policies, availability of credit, employment levels, and wage and salary levels. Negative general economic

conditions could adversely affect our business by reducing our revenues and profitability. If we experience greater cancellations or reductions of services and failures to timely pay, and we do not acquire new clients or sell new services to our existing clients, our revenues may decline and our financial position would be adversely affected. Adverse national and global economic events, as well as any significant terrorist attack, are likely to have a dampening effect on the economy in general, which could negatively affect our financial performance and our stock price. Market disruptions may also contribute to extreme price and volume fluctuations in the stock market that may affect our stock price for reasons unrelated to our operating performance. In addition, a significant

increase in inflation could increase our expenses more rapidly than expected, the effect of which may not be offset by corresponding increases in revenue. Conversely, deflation resulting in a decline of prices could reduce our revenues. In the current economic environment, it is difficult to predict whether we will experience significant inflation or deflation in the near future. A significant increase in either could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

Our revenues and financial position will be adversely affected if we are not able to attract and retain clients. Our success and revenues depend on attracting and retaining subscribers to our information, marketing and analytic services. Our subscription-based information, marketing and analytic services generate the largest portion of our revenues. However, we may be unable to attract new clients, and our existing clients may decide not to add, not to renew or to cancel subscription services. In addition, in order to increase our revenue, we must continue to attract new customers, continue to keep our cancellation rate low and continue to sell new services to our existing customers. We may not be able to continue to grow our customer base, keep the cancellation rate for customers and services low or sell new services to existing customers as a result of several factors, including without limitation: economic pressures, a decision that customers have no need for our services; a decision to use alternative services; customers' and potential customers' pricing and budgetary constraints; consolidation in the real estate and/or financial services industries; data quality; technical problems; or competitive pressures. If clients decide to cancel services or not to renew their subscription agreements, and we do not sell new services to our existing clients or attract new clients, then our renewal rate, and revenues may decline.

If we are not able to successfully identify, finance and/or integrate acquisitions, our business operations and financial position could be adversely affected. We have expanded our markets and services in part through acquisitions of complementary businesses, services, databases and technologies, and expect to continue to do so in the future. Our strategy to acquire complementary companies or assets depends on our ability to identify, and the availability of, suitable acquisition candidates. We may incur costs in the preliminary stages of an acquisition, but may ultimately be unable or unwilling to consummate the proposed transaction for various reasons. In addition, acquisitions involve numerous risks, including the ability to realize or capitalize on synergy created through combinations; managing the integration of personnel and products; managing geographically remote operations, such as SPN in Scotland, Grecam S.A.S. in France, CoStar U.K. Limited, Propex and Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. in the U.K.; the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns; the inherent risks in entering markets and sectors in which we have either limited or no direct experience; and the potential loss of key employees or clients of the acquired companies. We may not successfully integrate acquired businesses or assets and may not achieve anticipated benefits of an acquisition, including expected synergy. Acquisitions could result in dilutive issuances of equity securities, the incurrence of debt, one-time write-offs of goodwill and substantial amortization expenses of other intangible assets. We may be unable to obtain financing on favorable terms, or at all, if necessary to finance future acquisitions making it impossible or more costly to acquire complementary businesses. If we are able to obtain financing, the terms may be onerous and restrict our operations.

If we are unable to hire qualified persons for, or retain and continue to develop, our sales force, or if our sales force is unproductive, our revenues could be adversely affected. In order to support revenues and future revenue growth, we need to continue to develop, train and retain our sales force. Our ability to build and develop a strong sales force may be affected by a number of factors, including: our ability to attract, integrate and motivate sales personnel; our ability to effectively train our sales force; the ability of our sales force to sell an increased number of services; our ability to manage effectively an outbound telesales group; the length of time it takes new sales personnel to become productive; the competition we face from other companies in hiring and retaining sales personnel; and our ability to effectively manage a multi-location sales organization. If we are unable to hire qualified sales personnel and develop and retain the members of our sales force, including sales force management, or if our sales force is unproductive, our revenues or growth rate could decline and our expenses could increase.

Competition could render our services uncompetitive. The market for information systems and services in general is highly competitive and rapidly changing. Competition in this market may increase further as a result of current recessionary economic conditions, as customer bases and customer spending have decreased and service providers are competing for fewer customer resources. Our existing competitors, or future competitors, may have greater name recognition, larger customer bases, better technology or data, lower prices, easier access to data, greater user traffic or greater financial, technical or marketing resources than we have. Our competitors may be able to undertake more effective marketing campaigns, obtain more data, adopt more aggressive pricing policies, make more attractive offers to potential employees, subscribers, distribution partners and content providers or may be able to respond more quickly to new or emerging technologies or changes in user requirements. If we are unable to retain customers or obtain new customers, our revenues could decline. Increased competition could result in lower revenues and higher expenses, which would reduce our profitability.

If we are unable to increase our revenues or our operating costs are higher than expected, our profitability may continue to decline and our operating results may fluctuate significantly. We may not be able to accurately forecast our revenues or future revenue growth rate. Many of our expenses, particularly personnel costs and occupancy costs, are relatively fixed. As a result, we may not be able to adjust spending quickly enough to offset any unexpected increase in expenses or revenue shortfall. We may experience higher than expected operating costs, including increased personnel costs, occupancy costs, selling and marketing costs, investments in geographic expansion, acquisition costs, communications costs, travel costs, software development costs, professional fees and other costs. If operating costs exceed our expectations and cannot be adjusted accordingly, our profitability may be reduced and our results of operations and financial position will be adversely affected. Additionally, we may not be able to sustain our historic revenue growth rates, and our percentage revenue growth rates may decline. Our ability to increase our revenues and operating profit will depend on increased demand for our services. Our sales are affected by, among other things, general economic and commercial real estate conditions. Reduced demand, whether due to changes in customer preference, a further weakening of the U.S. or global economy, competition or other reasons, may result in decreased revenue and growth, adversely affecting our operating results.

International operations expose us to additional business risks, which may reduce our profitability. Our international operations and expansion subject us to additional business risks, including: currency exchange rate fluctuations; adapting to the differing business practices and laws in foreign countries; difficulties in managing foreign operations; limited protection for intellectual property rights in some countries; difficulty in collecting accounts receivable and longer collection periods; costs of enforcing contractual obligations; impact of recessions in economies outside the U.S.; and potentially adverse tax consequences. In addition, international expansion imposes additional burdens on our executive and administrative personnel, systems development, research and sales departments, and general managerial resources. If we are not able to manage our international operations successfully, we may incur higher expenses and our profitability may be reduced. Finally, the investment required for additional international expansion could exceed the profit generated from such expansion, which would reduce our profitability and adversely affect our financial position.

Fluctuating foreign currencies may negatively impact our business, results of operations and financial position. Due to our acquisitions of CoStar U.K. Limited (formerly FOCUS Information Limited), SPN, Grecam S.A.S., Propex, and Property and Portfolio Research Ltd., a portion of our business is denominated in the British Pound and Euro and as a result, fluctuations in foreign currencies may have an impact on our business, results of operations and financial position. Foreign currency exchange rates have fluctuated and may continue to fluctuate. Significant foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations may negatively impact our international revenue, which in turn affects our consolidated revenue. Currencies may be affected by internal factors, general economic conditions and external developments in other countries, all of which can have an adverse impact on a country's currency. Currently, we are not party to any hedging transactions intended to reduce our exposure to exchange rate fluctuations. We may seek to enter into hedging transactions in the future, but we may be unable to enter into these transactions successfully, on acceptable terms or at all. We cannot predict whether we will incur foreign exchange losses in the future. Further, significant foreign exchange fluctuations resulting in a decline in the British Pound or Euro may decrease the value of our foreign assets, as well as decrease our revenues and earnings from our foreign subsidiaries, which would reduce our profitability and adversely affect our financial position.

Negative conditions in the global credit markets may affect the liquidity of a portion of our long-term investments. Currently, our long-term investments include mostly AAA rated auction rate securities ("ARS"), which are primarily student loan securities supported by guarantees from the Federal Family Education Loan Program ("FFELP") of the U.S. Department of Education. Continuing negative conditions in the global credit markets have prevented some investors from liquidating their holdings of auction rate securities because the amount of securities submitted for sale has exceeded the amount of purchase orders for such securities. As of December 31, 2010, we held \$32.2 million par value of ARS, all of which failed to settle at auctions. When an auction fails for ARS in which we have invested,

we may be unable to liquidate some or all of these securities at par. In the event we need or desire to immediately access these funds, we will not be able to do so until a future auction on these investments is successful, a buyer is found outside the auction process or an alternative action is determined. If a buyer is found but is unwilling to purchase the investments at par, we may incur a loss, which would reduce our profitability and adversely affect our financial position.

Our ARS investments are not currently trading and therefore do not currently have a readily determinable market value. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of the ARS no longer approximates par value. We have used a discounted cash flow model to determine the estimated fair value of our investment in ARS as of December 31, 2010. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for interest rates, credit spreads, timing and amount of cash flows, liquidity risk premiums, expected holding periods and default risk of the ARS. Based on this assessment of fair value, as of December 31, 2010, we determined there was a decline in the fair value of our ARS investments of approximately \$3.0 million. The decline was deemed to be a temporary impairment and was recorded as an unrealized loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss in stockholders' equity. If the issuers of these ARS are unable to successfully close future auctions and/or their credit ratings deteriorate, we may be required to record additional unrealized losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss or an other-than-temporary impairment charge to earnings on these investments, which would reduce our profitability and adversely affect our financial position.

We have not made any material changes in the accounting methodology used to determine the fair value of the ARS. We do not expect any material changes in the near term to the underlying assumptions used to determine the unobservable inputs used to calculate the fair value of the ARS as of December 31, 2010. However, if changes in these assumptions occur, and, should those changes be significant, we may be required to record additional unrealized losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss or an other-than-temporary impairment charge to earnings on these investments.

Our current or future geographic expansion plans may not result in increased revenues, which may negatively impact our business, results of operations and financial position. Expanding into new markets and investing resources towards increasing the depth of our coverage within existing markets imposes additional burdens on our research, systems development, sales, marketing and general managerial resources. During 2011, we plan to continue to increase the depth of our coverage in the U.S., U.K and France, and we may expand into additional geographies. If we are unable to manage our expansion efforts effectively, if our expansion efforts take longer than planned or if our costs for these efforts exceed our expectations, our financial position could be adversely affected. In addition, if we incur significant costs to improve data quality within existing markets, or are not successful in marketing and selling our services in these markets or in new markets, our expansion may have a material adverse effect on our financial position by increasing our expenses without increasing our revenues, adversely affecting our profitability.

We may be subject to legal liability for collecting, displaying or distributing information. Because the content in our database is collected from various sources and distributed to others, we may be subject to claims for breach of contract, defamation, negligence, unfair competition or copyright or trademark infringement or claims based on other theories. We could also be subject to claims based upon the content that is accessible from our website through links to other websites or information on our website supplied by third parties. Even if these claims do not result in liability to us, we could incur significant costs in investigating and defending against any claims. Our potential liability for information distributed by us to others could require us to implement measures to reduce our exposure to such liability, which may require us to expend substantial resources and limit the attractiveness of our information, marketing and analytic services to users.

Litigation or government investigations in which we become involved may significantly increase our expenses and adversely affect our stock price. Currently and from time to time, we are a party to various lawsuits. Any lawsuits, threatened lawsuits or government investigations in which we are involved could cost us a significant amount of time and money to defend, could distract management's attention away from operating our business, could result in negative publicity and could adversely affect our stock price. In addition, if any claims are determined against us or if a settlement requires us to pay a large monetary amount or take other action that materially restricts or impedes our operations, our profitability could be significantly reduced and our financial position could be adversely affected. We cannot make assurances that we will have any or sufficient insurance to cover any litigation claims.

An impairment in carrying value of goodwill could negatively impact our consolidated results of operations and net worth. Goodwill and identifiable intangible assets not subject to amortization are tested annually by each reporting unit on October 1st of each year for impairment and are tested for impairment more frequently based upon the existence of one or more indicators. We consider our operating segments, U.S. and International, as our reporting

units under Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) authoritative guidance for consideration of potential impairment of goodwill. We assess the impairment of long-lived assets, identifiable intangibles and goodwill whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. The existence of one or more of the following indicators could cause us to test for impairment prior to the annual assessment:

- Significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results;
- Significant changes in the manner of our use of acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business;
 - Significant negative industry or economic trends; or
- Significant decline in our market capitalization relative to net book value for a sustained period.

These types of events or indicators and the resulting impairment analysis could result in goodwill impairment charges in the future, which would reduce our profitability. Impairment charges could negatively affect our financial results in the periods of such charges, which may reduce our profitability. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$79.6 million of goodwill, \$55.3 million in our U.S. segment and \$24.3 million in our International segment.

Our stock price may be negatively affected by fluctuations in our financial results. Our operating results, revenues and expenses may fluctuate as a result of changes in general economic conditions and also for many other reasons, many of which are outside of our control, such as: cancellations or non-renewals of our services; competition; our ability to control expenses; loss of clients or revenues; technical problems with our services; changes or consolidation in the real estate industry; our investments in geographic expansion and to increase coverage in existing markets; interest rate fluctuations; the timing and success of new service introductions and enhancements; successful execution of our expansion plans; data quality; the development of our sales force; managerial execution; employee retention; foreign currency and exchange rate fluctuations; inflation; successful adoption of and training on our services; litigation; acquisitions of other companies or assets; sales, brand enhancement and marketing promotional activities; client support activities; changes in client budgets; or our investments in other corporate resources. In addition, changes in accounting policies or practices may affect our level of net income. Fluctuations in our financial results, revenues and expenses may cause the market price of our common stock to decline.

Market volatility may have an adverse effect on our stock price. The trading price of our common stock has fluctuated widely in the past, and we expect that it will continue to fluctuate in the future. The price could fluctuate widely based on numerous factors, including: economic factors; quarter-to-quarter variations in our operating results; changes in analysts’ estimates of our earnings; announcements by us or our competitors of technological innovations or new services; general conditions in the commercial real estate industry; developments or disputes concerning copyrights or proprietary rights or other legal proceedings; and regulatory developments. In addition, the stock market in general, and the shares of internet-related and other technology companies in particular, have experienced extreme price fluctuations. This volatility has had a substantial effect on the market prices of securities issued by many companies for reasons unrelated to the operating performance of the specific companies and may have the same effect on the market price of our common stock.

We may not be able to successfully introduce new or upgraded information, marketing and analytic services, which could decrease our revenues and our profitability. Our future business and financial success will depend on our ability to continue to introduce new and upgraded services into the marketplace. To be successful, we must adapt to rapid technological changes by continually enhancing our information, marketing and analytic services. Developing new services and upgrades to services imposes heavy burdens on our systems department, management and researchers. This process is costly, and we cannot assure you that we will be able to successfully develop and enhance our services. In addition, successfully launching and selling a new service puts pressure on our sales and marketing resources. If we are unable to develop new or upgraded services, then our customers may choose a competitive service over ours and our revenues may decline and our profitability may be reduced. In addition, if we incur significant costs in developing new or upgraded services, are not successful in marketing and selling these new services or upgrades, or

our customers fail to accept these new services, it could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations by decreasing our revenues and reducing our profitability.

Our expansion into the commercial real estate analytics sector may not be successful or may not result in increased revenues, which may negatively impact our business, results of operations and financial position. Expanding into the commercial real estate market research and forecasting arena imposes additional burdens on our research, systems development, sales, marketing and general management resources. During 2011, we expect to continue to expand our presence in the commercial real estate analytics sector. If we are unable to manage this expansion effectively or if our costs for this effort exceed our expectations, our financial position could be

adversely affected. In addition, if we incur additional costs to expand our analytics services and we are not successful in marketing or selling these expanded services, our expansion may have a material adverse effect on our financial position by increasing our expenses without increasing our revenues, adversely affecting our profitability.

As a result of consolidation of facilities, we may incur additional costs. We have taken, and may continue to take, actions that may increase our cost structure in the short-term but are intended to reduce certain portions of our long-term cost structure, such as consolidation of office space. As a result of consolidation of office space, we may reduce our long-term occupancy costs, but incur restructuring charges. If our long-term cost reduction efforts are ineffective or our estimates of cost savings are inaccurate, our profitability could be negatively impacted. Expected savings from relocating facilities can be highly variable and uncertain. For instance, we may not meet the requirements necessary to receive the full property tax abatement provided by the District of Columbia as incentive for us to relocate our headquarters to downtown Washington, DC and may incur greater property taxes than anticipated in connection with the move to our new headquarters. Further, we may not be successful in achieving the operating efficiencies or operating cost reductions expected from these efforts in the amounts or at the times we anticipate.

If we are unable to enforce or defend our ownership and use of intellectual property, our business, competitive position and operating results could be harmed. The success of our business depends in large part on the intellectual property involved in our methodologies, database, services and software. We rely on a combination of trade secret, patent, copyright and other laws, nondisclosure and noncompetition provisions, license agreements and other contractual provisions and technical measures to protect our intellectual property rights. However, current law may not provide for adequate protection of our databases and the actual data. In addition, legal standards relating to the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of proprietary rights in internet related businesses are uncertain and evolving, and we cannot assure you of the future viability or value of any of our proprietary rights. Our business could be significantly harmed if we are not able to protect our content and our other intellectual property. The same would be true if a court found that our services infringe other persons' intellectual property rights. Any intellectual property lawsuits or threatened lawsuits in which we are involved, either as a plaintiff or as a defendant, could cost us a significant amount of time and money and distract management's attention from operating our business. In addition, if we do not prevail on any intellectual property claims, this could result in a change to our methodology or information, marketing and analytic services and could reduce our profitability.

Technical problems that affect either our customers' ability to access our services, or the software, internal applications and systems underlying our services, could lead to reduced demand for our information, marketing and analytic services, lower revenues and increased costs. Our business increasingly depends upon the satisfactory performance, reliability and availability of our website, the internet and our service providers. Problems with our website, the internet or the services provided by our local exchange carriers or internet service providers could result in slower connections for our customers or interfere with our customers' access to our information, marketing and analytic services. If we experience technical problems in distributing our services, we could experience reduced demand for our information, marketing and analytic services. In addition, the software, internal applications and systems underlying our services are complex and may not be efficient or error-free. Our careful development and testing may not be sufficient to ensure that we will not encounter technical problems when we attempt to enhance our software, internal applications and systems. Any inefficiencies, errors or technical problems with our software, internal applications and systems could reduce the quality of our services or interfere with our customers' access to our information, marketing and analytic services, which could reduce the demand for our services, lower our revenues and increase our costs.

If we are not able to obtain and maintain accurate, comprehensive or reliable data, we could experience reduced demand for our information, marketing and analytic services. Our success depends on our clients' confidence in the comprehensiveness, accuracy and reliability of the data and analysis we provide. The task of establishing and

maintaining accurate and reliable data and analysis is challenging. If our data, including the data we obtain from third parties, or analysis is not current, accurate, comprehensive or reliable, we could experience reduced demand for our services or legal claims by our customers, which could result in lower revenues and higher expenses. Our U.S. researchers use integrated internal research processes to update our database. Any inefficiencies, errors, or technical problems with this application could reduce the quality of our data, which could result in reduced demand for our services, lower revenues and higher costs.

Temporary or permanent outages of our computers, software or telecommunications equipment could lead to reduced demand for our information, marketing and analytic services, lower revenues and increased costs. Our operations depend on our ability to protect our database, computers and software, telecommunications equipment and facilities against damage from potential dangers such as fire, power loss, security breaches, computer viruses and telecommunications failures. Any temporary or permanent loss of one or more of these systems or facilities from an accident, equipment malfunction or some other cause could harm our business. If we experience a failure that prevents us from delivering our information, marketing and analytic services to clients, we could experience reduced demand for our information, marketing and analytic services, lower revenues and increased costs.

Changes in accounting and reporting policies or practices may affect our financial results or presentation of results, which may affect our stock price. Changes in accounting and reporting policies or practices could reduce our net income, which reductions may be independent of changes in our operations. These reductions in reported net income could cause our stock price to decline. For example, in 2006, we adopted authoritative guidance for stock compensation, which required us to expense the value of granted stock options.

Our business depends on retaining and attracting highly capable management and operating personnel. Our success depends in large part on our ability to retain and attract management and operating personnel, including our President and Chief Executive Officer, Andrew Florance, and our other officers and key employees. Our business requires highly skilled technical, sales, management, web development, marketing and research personnel, who are in high demand and are often subject to competing offers. To retain and attract key personnel, we use various measures, including employment agreements, awards under a stock incentive plan and incentive bonuses for key executive officers. These measures may not be enough to retain and attract the personnel we need or to offset the impact on our business of the loss of the services of Mr. Florance or other key officers or employees.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

On February 5, 2010, we purchased an office building located at 1331 L Street, NW, in downtown Washington, DC, through our wholly owned subsidiary, 1331 L Street Holdings, LLC (“Holdings”), for use as our new headquarters and have since relocated to this location. This facility is used primarily by our U.S. segment. The lease for our previous headquarters in Bethesda, MD expired on October 15, 2010.

On February 2, 2011, Holdings and GLL L-Street 1331, LLC (“GLL”), an affiliate of Munich-based GLL Real Estate Partners GmbH, entered into a purchase and sale agreement pursuant to which (i) Holdings agreed to sell to GLL its interest in the 169,429 square-foot office building located at 1331 L Street, NW, in downtown Washington, DC, and (ii) CoStar Realty Information, Inc. (“CoStar Realty”), our wholly owned subsidiary, agreed to enter into a lease expiring May 31, 2025 (with two 5-year renewal options) with GLL to lease back 149,514 square feet of the office space located in this building, which we will continue to use as our corporate headquarters. The closing of the sale took place on February 18, 2011.

Our principal facility in the U.K. is located in London, England, where we occupy approximately 11,000 square feet of office space. Our lease for this facility has a maximum term ending October 20, 2018, with early termination at our option on October 18, 2013, with advance notice. This facility is used primarily by our International segment.

In addition to our downtown Washington, DC and London, England facilities, our research operations are principally run out of leased spaces in San Diego, California; Columbia, Maryland; White Marsh, Maryland; Glasgow, Scotland;

and Paris, France. Additionally, we lease office space in a variety of other metropolitan areas, which generally house our field sales offices. These locations include, without limitation, the following: New York; Los Angeles; Chicago; San Francisco; Boston; Manchester, England; Orange County, California; Philadelphia; Houston; Atlanta; Phoenix; Detroit; Pittsburgh; Fort Lauderdale; Denver; Dallas; Kansas City; Cleveland; Cincinnati; Indianapolis; Austin; Salt Lake City; Seattle; and St. Louis. Our subsidiaries, PPR and Resolve Technology, share space with CoStar in one facility leased in Boston, Massachusetts.

We believe these facilities are suitable and appropriately support our business needs.

Item 3.

Legal Proceedings

Currently, and from time to time, we are involved in litigation incidental to the conduct of our business. We are not a party to any lawsuit or proceeding that, in the opinion of our management based on consultations with legal counsel, is likely to have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations.

Item 4.

[Removed and Reserved]

23

PART II

Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Stock, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Price Range of Common Stock. Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "CSGP." The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low daily closing prices per share of our common stock, as reported by the Nasdaq Global Select Market.

	High	Low
Year Ended December 31, 2009		
First Quarter	\$35.93	\$24.23
Second Quarter	\$40.09	\$31.10
Third Quarter	\$41.57	\$33.97
Fourth Quarter	\$44.43	\$38.35
Year Ended December 31, 2010		
First Quarter	\$42.97	\$38.22
Second Quarter	\$45.95	\$38.80
Third Quarter	\$49.53	\$37.66
Fourth Quarter	\$57.75	\$48.86

As of February 3, 2011, there were 438 holders of record of our common stock.

Dividend Policy. We have never declared or paid any dividends on our common stock. Any future determination to pay dividends will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors, subject to applicable limitations under Delaware law, and will be dependent upon our results of operations, financial position and other factors deemed relevant by our Board of Directors. We do not anticipate paying any dividends on our common stock during the foreseeable future, but intend to retain any earnings for future growth of our business.

Recent Issues of Unregistered Securities. We did not issue any unregistered securities during the year ended December 31, 2010.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities. The following table is a summary of our repurchases of common stock during each of the three months in the quarter ended December 31, 2010:

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Month, 2010	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1 through 31	3/4	3/4	3/4	3/4

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

November 1 through 30	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
December 1 through 31	30,400	(1) \$55.70	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
Total	30,400	\$55.70	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$

(1) The number of shares purchased consists of shares of common stock tendered by employees to the Company to satisfy the employees' tax withholding obligations arising as a result of vesting of restricted stock grants under the Company's 1998 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended, and the Company's 2007 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended, which shares were purchased by the Company based on their fair market value on the vesting date. None of these share purchases were part of a publicly announced program to purchase common stock of the Company.

Stock Price Performance Graph

The stock performance graph below shows how an initial investment of \$100 in our common stock would have compared to:

- An equal investment in the Standards & Poor's Stock 500 ("S&P 500") Index.
- An equal investment in the S&P 500 Application Software Index.

The comparison covers the period beginning December 31, 2005, and ending on December 31, 2010, and assumes the reinvestment of any dividends. You should note that this performance is historical and is not necessarily indicative of future price performance.

Company / Index	12/31/05	12/31/06	12/31/07	12/31/08	12/31/09	12/31/10
CoStar Group, Inc.	100	124.07	109.45	76.30	96.76	133.33
S&P 500 Index	100	115.79	122.16	76.96	97.33	111.99
S&P 500 Application Software Index	100	105.33	117.00	63.96	102.21	137.37

Item Selected Consolidated Financial and Operating Data

6.

Selected Consolidated Financial and Operating Data
(in thousands, except per share data and other operating data)

The following table provides selected consolidated financial and other operating data for the five years ended December 31, 2010. The consolidated statement of operations data shown below for each of the three years ended December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010 and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2009 and 2010 are derived from audited consolidated financial statements that are included in this report. The consolidated statement of operations data for each of the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2007 and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2006, 2007, and 2008 shown below are derived from audited consolidated financial statements for those years that are not included in this report.

Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:	Year Ended December 31,				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Revenues	\$ 158,889	\$ 192,805	\$ 212,428	\$ 209,659	\$ 226,260
Cost of revenues	56,136	76,704	73,408	73,714	83,599
Gross margin	102,753	116,101	139,020	135,945	142,661
Operating expenses	88,672	98,249	99,232	104,110	119,886
Income from operations	14,081	17,852	39,788	31,835	22,775
Interest and other income, net	6,845	8,045	4,914	1,253	735
Income before income taxes	20,926	25,897	44,702	33,088	23,510
Income tax expense, net	8,516	9,946	20,079	14,395	10,221
Net income	\$ 12,410	\$ 15,951	\$ 24,623	\$ 18,693	\$ 13,289
Net income per share - basic	\$0.66	\$0.84	\$1.27	\$0.95	\$0.65
Net income per share - diluted	\$0.65	\$0.82	\$1.26	\$0.94	\$0.64
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic	18,751	19,044	19,372	19,780	20,330
Weighted average shares outstanding - diluted	19,165	19,404	19,550	19,925	20,707

Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:	As of December 31,				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cash, cash equivalents, short-term and long-term investments	\$ 158,148	\$ 187,426	\$ 224,590	\$ 255,698	\$ 239,316
Working capital	154,606	167,441	183,347	203,660	184,247
Total assets	275,437	321,843	334,384	404,579	439,648
Total liabilities	25,327	40,038	30,963	45,573	58,146
Stockholders' equity	250,110	281,805	303,421	359,006	381,502

Other Operating Data:	As of December 31,				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of subscription client sites	13,257	14,467	15,920	16,020	16,781
Millions of properties in database	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.6	4.0

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains "forward-looking statements," including statements about our beliefs and expectations. There are many risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Potential factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those discussed in any forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those stated above in Item 1A. under the headings "Risk Factors — Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements" and "—Risk Factors," as well as those described from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

All forward-looking statements are based on information available to us on the date of this filing and we assume no obligation to update such statements. The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and the consolidated financial statements and related notes in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Overview

CoStar Group, Inc. ("CoStar") is the number one provider of information, marketing and analytic services to the commercial real estate industry in the U.S. and the U.K. based on the fact that we offer the most comprehensive commercial real estate database available, have the largest research department in the industry, provide more information, marketing and analytic services than any of our competitors and believe we generate more revenues than any of our competitors. We have created a standardized information, marketing and analytic platform where members of the commercial real estate and related business community can continuously interact and facilitate transactions by efficiently exchanging accurate and standardized commercial real estate information. Our integrated suite of online service offerings includes information about space available for lease, comparable sales information, tenant information, information about properties for sale, internet marketing services, analytical capabilities, information for clients' websites, information about industry professionals and their business relationships, data integration, and industry news. We also provide market research and analysis for commercial real estate investors and lenders via our PPR service offerings and portfolio and debt management and reporting capabilities through our Resolve Technology service offerings. Our service offerings span all commercial property types, including office, industrial, retail, land, mixed-use, hospitality and multifamily.

Since 1994, we have expanded the geographical coverage of our existing information and marketing services and developed new information, marketing and analytic services. In addition to internal growth, this expansion included the acquisitions of Chicago ReSource, Inc. in Chicago in 1996 and New Market Systems, Inc. in San Francisco in 1997. In August 1998, we expanded into the Houston region through the acquisition of Houston-based real estate information provider C Data Services, Inc. In January 1999, we expanded further into the Midwest and Florida by acquiring LeaseTrend, Inc. and into Atlanta and Dallas/Fort Worth by acquiring Jamison Research, Inc. In February 2000, we acquired COMPS.COM, Inc., a San Diego-based provider of commercial real estate information. In November 2000, we acquired First Image Technologies, Inc., a California-based provider of commercial real estate software. In September 2002, we expanded further into Portland, Oregon through the acquisition of certain assets of Napier Realty Advisors (doing business as REAL-NET). In January 2003, we established a base in the U.K. with our acquisition of London-based FOCUS Information Limited. In May 2004, we expanded into Tennessee through the acquisition of Peer Market Research, Inc., and in September 2004, we extended our coverage of the U.K. through the acquisition of Scottish Property Network. In September 2004, we strengthened our position in Denver, Colorado through the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of RealComp, Inc., a local comparable sales information provider.

In January 2005, we acquired National Research Bureau, a Connecticut-based provider of U.S. shopping center information. In December 2006, our U.K. subsidiary, CoStar Limited, acquired Grecom S.A.S. (“Grecom”), a provider of commercial property information and market-level surveys, studies and consulting services located in Paris, France. In February 2007, CoStar Limited also acquired Property Investment Exchange Limited (“Propex”), a provider of commercial property information and operator of an electronic platform that facilitates the exchange of investment property located in London, England. In April 2008, we acquired the assets of First CLS, Inc. (doing business as the Dorey Companies and DoreyPRO), an Atlanta-based provider of local commercial real estate information. Most recently, in July 2009, we acquired Massachusetts-based Property and Portfolio Research, Inc. (“PPR”), a provider of real estate analysis, market forecasts and credit risk analytics to the commercial real estate industry, and its wholly owned U.K. subsidiary Property and Portfolio Research Ltd., and in October 2009, we acquired Massachusetts-based Resolve Technology, a provider of business intelligence and portfolio management software serving the institutional real estate investment industry. The PPR and Resolve Technology acquisitions are discussed later in this section under the heading “Recent Acquisitions.”

We have consistently worked to expand our service offerings, both in terms of geographical coverage and the scope of services offered, in order to position the company for future revenue growth. In 2004, we began our expansion into 21 new metropolitan markets throughout the U.S. and began expanding the geographical coverage of many of our existing U.S. and U.K. markets. We completed our expansion into the 21 new markets in the first quarter of 2006. In early 2005, in conjunction with the acquisition of National Research Bureau, we launched a major effort to expand our coverage of retail real estate information. The retail component of our flagship product, CoStar Property Professional, was unveiled in May 2006 at the International Council of Shopping Centers' convention in Las Vegas.

During the second half of 2006, in order to expand the geographical coverage of our service offerings, we began actively researching commercial properties in 81 new Core Based Statistical Areas ("CBSAs") in the U.S., we increased our U.S. field research fleet by adding 89 vehicles and we hired researchers to staff these vehicles. We released our CoStar Property Professional service in the 81 new CBSAs across the U.S. in the fourth quarter of 2007. Throughout our recent expansion efforts, we have remained focused on ensuring that CoStar continues to provide the quality of information our customers expect. As such, in 2010 we expanded our research operations, and we plan to continue to grow our research operations slightly in 2011 in order to continue to meet customer expectations.

During the second half of 2009, as a part of our strategy to provide subscribers with tools for conducting primary research and analysis on commercial real estate, we expanded subscribers' capabilities to use CoStar's database of research-verified commercial property information to conduct in-depth analysis and generate reports on trends in sales and leasing activity online. Further, in July 2009, we acquired PPR and its wholly owned subsidiary, providers of real estate investment analysis and market forecasting services.

In connection with our acquisitions of Propex, Grecam and PPR's wholly owned subsidiary Property and Portfolio Research Ltd., we intend to expand the coverage of our service offerings within the U.K. and to integrate our international operations more fully with those in the U.S. We have gained operational efficiencies as a result of consolidating a majority of our U.K. research operations in one location in Glasgow and combining the majority of our remaining U.K. operations in one central location in London.

We intend to eventually introduce a consistent international platform of service offerings. In 2007, we introduced the "CoStar Group" as the brand encompassing our international operations, and in early 2010 we launched Showcase, our Internet marketing service that provides commercial real estate professionals the opportunity to make their listings accessible to all visitors to our public websites, in the U.K. We believe that our recent U.S. and international expansion and integration efforts have created a platform for long-term growth, which we intend to continue to develop, invest in and expand.

We expect to continue to develop and distribute new services, expand existing services within our current platform, and expand and develop our sales and marketing organization. For instance, in July 2009, we expanded subscribers' analytic capabilities to use our online database to conduct in-depth analysis and generate reports on sales and leasing activity through our acquisition of PPR and in October 2009, we acquired Resolve Technology, which enabled us to provide our customers with additional tools for analyzing commercial real estate markets. Any future expansion, including expansion through acquisitions and expansion internationally, could reduce our profitability and increase our capital expenditures. Therefore, while we expect current service offerings to remain profitable, driving overall earnings throughout 2011 and providing substantial cash flow for our business, it is possible that any new investments could cause us to generate losses and negative cash flow from operations in the future.

Our goal is to provide additional tools that make our research and analytics even more valuable to subscribers. For example, we are currently focusing on integration and further development of the PPR and Resolve Technology service offerings. We have launched an initiative to develop a discounted cash flow (DCF) forecasting and valuation solution that effectively integrates the combined capabilities of CoStar's market and property information and PPR's

analytics and forecasting expertise with Resolve Technology's real estate investment software expertise. In order to implement this initiative, we have incurred, and expect to continue to incur additional costs, including costs of hiring additional personnel. While our investments in PPR and Resolve Technology have resulted and may continue to result in an increase in expenses, our revenues have also increased as a result of these acquisitions, and we have experienced increased cross-selling opportunities among CoStar and the acquired companies.

In some cases, the business operations of some of our clients continue to be negatively affected by challenging economic conditions in the U.S. and the world, resulting at times in business consolidations and, in some circumstances, business failure. If cancellations, reductions of services and failures to pay continue at the current rate or increase, and we are unable to offset the resulting decrease in revenue by increasing sales to new or existing customers, our revenues may decline or grow at reduced rates. Additionally, current economic conditions may cause customers to reduce expenses, and customers may be forced to purchase fewer services from us or cancel all services. We compete against many other commercial real estate information, marketing and analytic service providers for business. If customers choose to cancel our services for cost-cutting or other reasons, our revenue could decline.

There are clear signs of improving conditions in the commercial real estate industry, including heightened leasing activity and positive net absorption of office space, resulting from modest office-related job growth and recent business expansions in the U.S. The extent and duration of continued improvement of the economy and the commercial real estate industry is unknown, as is the extent and duration of any benefits resulting from any of the governmental or private sector initiatives designed to strengthen the economy. Because of these uncertainties and any resulting impact on our business, we may not be able to accurately forecast our revenue or earnings. Based on current economic conditions, we believe that the Company is positioned to generate continued, sustained earnings from current operations in 2011 and for the foreseeable future.

Our financial reporting currency is the U.S. dollar. Changes in exchange rates can significantly affect our reported results and consolidated trends. We believe that our increasing diversification beyond the U.S. economy through our international businesses benefits our stockholders over the long term. We also believe it is important to evaluate our operating results before and after the effect of currency changes, as it may provide a more accurate comparison of our results of operations over historical periods. Currency exchange rate volatility may continue, which may impact (either positively or negatively) our reported financial results and consolidated trends and period-to-period comparisons of our consolidated operations.

We currently issue stock options and/or restricted stock to our officers, directors and employees, and as a result we record additional compensation expense in our consolidated statements of operations. We plan to continue the use of stock-based compensation for our officers, directors and employees, which may include, among other things, restricted stock, restricted stock units or stock option grants that typically will require us to record additional compensation expense in our consolidated statements of operations and reduce our net income.

We recently decided to take advantage of favorable market conditions to lower our long-term occupancy costs as a tenant. As part of our overall strategy to consolidate our London office locations and reduce occupancy costs, we relocated our London offices and in July 2010 entered into a settlement pursuant to which we terminated our lease for our former London offices. In addition, in September 2010, we consolidated our three facilities located in the Boston, Massachusetts area, including the facilities used by CoStar, PPR and Resolve Technology, into one facility. We recorded a lease restructuring charge of approximately \$1.3 million in general and administrative expense in the third quarter of 2010 as a result of the Boston office consolidation. In December 2010, we consolidated our New York and Iselin, New Jersey offices into one facility. The consolidation of these facilities did not result in a lease restructuring charge.

On February 5, 2010, we took advantage of favorable market conditions and purchased an office building in downtown Washington, DC for \$41.25 million for use as our new headquarters and have since relocated to this location. The lease for our previous headquarters in Bethesda, MD expired on October 15, 2010; therefore, we incurred overlapping occupancy costs through the end of the Bethesda lease term as we transitioned to our new headquarters. We were able to create value through our occupancy of the building in Washington, DC and on February 18, 2011 sold the building for aggregate consideration of \$101.0 million, \$15.0 million of which is being

held in escrow to fund additional build-out and planned improvements at the building. As part of the sale, we entered into a long-term lease with the buyer to lease back approximately 88% of the office space, where our corporate headquarters will remain. We expect that the lease-back arrangement will result in additional expense of approximately \$4.5 million to \$5.0 million in 2011.

Our subscription-based information services, consisting primarily of CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, CoStar COMPS Professional, and FOCUS services currently generate more than 94% of our total revenues. CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, and CoStar COMPS Professional are generally sold as a suite of similar services and comprise our primary service offering in our U.S. operating segment. FOCUS is our primary service offering in our International operating segment. The majority of our contracts for our subscription-based information services typically have a minimum term of one year and renew automatically. Upon renewal, many of the subscription contract rates may change in accordance with contract provisions or as a result of contract renegotiations. To encourage clients to use our services regularly, we generally charge a fixed monthly amount for our subscription-based information services rather than fees based on actual system usage. Contract rates are generally based on the number of sites, number of users, organization size, the client's business focus, geography and the number of services to which a client subscribes. Our subscription clients generally pay contract fees on a monthly basis, but in some cases may pay us on a quarterly or annual basis. We recognize this revenue on a straight-line basis over the life of the contract. Annual and quarterly advance payments result in deferred revenue, substantially reducing the working capital requirements generated by accounts receivable.

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, our contract renewal rate for subscription-based services was approximately 90% and 85%, respectively, and therefore our cancellation rate was approximately 10% and 15%, respectively, for the same periods of time. Our contract renewal rate is a quantitative measurement that is typically closely correlated with our revenue results. As a result, management also believes that the rate may be a reliable indicator of short-term and long-term performance. Our trailing twelve-month contract renewal rate may decline if negative economic conditions lead to greater business failures and/or consolidations among our clients, further reductions in customer spending, or decreases in our customer base.

Application of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and revenues and expenses during the period reported. The following accounting policies involve a "critical accounting estimate" because they are particularly dependent on estimates and assumptions made by management about matters that are highly uncertain at the time the accounting estimates are made. In addition, while we have used our best estimates based on facts and circumstances available to us at the time, different acceptable assumptions would yield different results. Changes in the accounting estimates we use are reasonably likely to occur from period to period, which may have a material impact on the presentation of our financial condition and results of operations. We review these estimates and assumptions periodically and reflect the effects of revisions in the period that they are determined to be necessary.

Fair Value of Auction Rate Securities

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received in the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. There is a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which categorizes assets and liabilities by the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include: Level 1, defined as observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; Level 2, defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions. Our Level 3 assets consist of auction rate securities ("ARS"), whose underlying assets are primarily student loan securities supported by guarantees from the Federal Family Education Loan Program ("FFELP") of the U.S. Department of Education.

Our ARS investments are not currently trading and therefore do not currently have a readily determinable market value. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of the ARS no longer approximates par value. We have used a discounted cash flow model to determine the estimated fair value of our investment in ARS as of December 31, 2010. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for interest rates, credit spreads, timing and amount of cash flows, liquidity risk premiums, expected holding periods and default risk of the ARS. Based on this assessment of fair value, as of December 31, 2010, we determined there was a decline in the fair value of our ARS investments of approximately \$3.0 million. The decline was deemed to be a temporary impairment and recorded as an unrealized loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss in stockholders' equity. If the issuers of these ARS are unable to successfully close future auctions and/or their credit ratings deteriorate, we may be required to record additional unrealized losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss or an other-than-temporary impairment charge to earnings on these investments, which would reduce our profitability and adversely affect our financial position.

We have not made any material changes in the accounting methodology used to determine the fair value of the ARS. We do not expect any material changes in the near term to the underlying assumptions used to determine the unobservable inputs used to calculate the fair value of the ARS as of December 31, 2010. However, if changes in these assumptions occur, and, should those changes be significant, we may be exposed to additional unrealized losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss or an other-than-temporary impairment charge to earnings on these investments.

Fair Value of Deferred Consideration

Our Level 3 liabilities consist of a \$3.2 million liability as of December 31, 2010 for deferred consideration related to the October 19, 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology. The deferred consideration is for (i) a potential deferred cash payment two years after closing based on the incremental growth of Resolve Technology's revenue, and (ii) other potential deferred cash payments for successful completion of operational and sales milestones during the period from closing through October 31, 2013, which period may be extended by the parties to a date no later than December 31, 2014.

We used a discounted cash flow model to determine the estimated fair value of our Level 3 liabilities as of December 31, 2010. The significant assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include the discount rate, estimates for future incremental revenue growth and probabilities for completion of operational and sales milestones.

We have not made any material changes in the accounting methodology used to determine the fair value of the deferred consideration. We do not expect any material changes in the near term to the underlying assumptions used to determine the unobservable inputs used to calculate the fair value of the deferred consideration as of December 31, 2010. However, if changes in these assumptions occur, and, should those changes be significant, we may be required to recognize additional liabilities related to this deferred consideration.

Stock-Based Compensation

We account for equity instruments issued in exchange for employee services using a fair-value based method and we recognize the fair value of such equity instruments as an expense in the consolidated statements of operations. We estimated the fair value of each option granted on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, which requires us to estimate the dividend yield, expected volatility, risk-free interest rate and expected life of the stock option. These assumptions and the estimation of expected forfeitures are based on multiple factors, including historical employee behavior patterns of exercising options and post-employment termination behavior, expected future employee option exercise patterns, and the historical volatility of the Company's stock price.

We do not expect any material changes in the near term to the underlying assumptions used to calculate stock-based compensation expense for the twelve months ended December 31, 2010. However, if changes in these assumptions occur, and, should those changes be significant, they could have a material impact on our stock-based compensation expense.

Valuation of Long-Lived and Intangible Assets and Goodwill

We assess the impairment of long-lived assets, identifiable intangibles and goodwill whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Judgments made by management relate to the expected useful lives of long-lived assets and our ability to realize any undiscounted cash flows of the carrying amounts of such assets. The accuracy of these judgments may be adversely affected by several factors, including the factors listed below:

- Significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results;
- Significant changes in the manner of our use of the acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business;
 - Significant negative industry or economic trends; or
- Significant decline in our market capitalization relative to net book value for a sustained period.

When we determine that the carrying value of long-lived and identifiable intangible assets may not be recovered based upon the existence of one or more of the above indicators, we test for impairment.

Goodwill and identifiable intangible assets that are not subject to amortization are tested annually for impairment by each reporting unit on October 1 of each year and are also tested for impairment more frequently based upon the existence of one or more of the above indicators. We consider our operating segments, U.S. and International, as our reporting units under FASB authoritative guidance for consideration of potential impairment of goodwill.

The goodwill impairment test is a two-step process. The first step is to determine the fair value of each reporting unit. We estimate the fair value of each reporting unit based on a projected discounted cash flow model that includes significant assumptions and estimates including our future financial performance and a weighted average cost of capital. The fair value of each reporting unit is compared to the carrying amount of the reporting unit. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds the fair value, then the second step of the process is performed to measure the impairment loss. We measure impairment loss based on a projected discounted cash flow method using a discount rate determined by our management to be commensurate with the risk in our current business model. As of October 1, 2010, the date of our most recent impairment analysis, the estimated fair value of each of our reporting units substantially exceeded the carrying value of our reporting units. There have been no events or changes in circumstances since the date of our impairment analysis on October 1, 2010 that would indicate that the carrying value of each reporting unit may not be recoverable.

Accounting for Income Taxes

As part of the process of preparing our consolidated financial statements, we are required to estimate our income taxes in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This process requires us to estimate our actual current tax exposure and assess the temporary differences resulting from differing treatment of items, such as deferred revenue or deductibility of certain intangible assets, for tax and accounting purposes. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are included within our consolidated balance sheets. We must then also assess the likelihood that our deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income, and, to the extent we believe that it is more-likely-than-not that some portion or all of our deferred tax assets will not be realized, we must establish a valuation allowance. To the extent we establish a valuation allowance or change the allowance in a period, we must reflect the corresponding increase or decrease within the tax provision in the consolidated statements of operations.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We prepare and publicly release quarterly unaudited financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP. We also disclose and discuss certain non-GAAP financial measures in our public releases, investor conference calls and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The non-GAAP financial measures that we may disclose include EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share. EBITDA is our net income (loss) before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization. We typically disclose EBITDA on a consolidated and an operating segment basis in our earnings releases, investor conference calls and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Adjusted EBITDA is different from EBITDA because we further adjust EBITDA for stock-based compensation expense, acquisition related costs, restructuring costs, headquarters acquisition and transition related costs and settlements and impairments incurred outside our ordinary course of business. Non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share are similarly adjusted for stock-based compensation expense, acquisition related costs, restructuring costs, headquarters acquisition and transition related costs and settlement and impairment costs incurred outside our ordinary course of business as well as purchase amortization and other related costs. We may disclose adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share on a consolidated basis in our earnings releases, investor conference calls and filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The non-GAAP financial measures that we use may not be comparable to

similarly titled measures reported by other companies. Also, in the future, we may disclose different non-GAAP financial measures in order to help our investors more meaningfully evaluate and compare our results of operations to our previously reported results of operations or to those of other companies in our industry.

We view EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share as operating performance measures and as such we believe that the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure is net income (loss). In calculating EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share, we exclude from net income (loss) the financial items that we believe should be separately identified to provide additional analysis of the financial components of the day-to-day operation of our business. We have outlined below the type and scope of these exclusions and the material limitations on the use of these non-GAAP financial measures as a result of these exclusions. EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share are not measurements of financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered as a measure of liquidity, as an alternative to net income (loss) or as an indicator of any other measure of performance derived in accordance with GAAP. Investors and potential investors in our securities should not rely on EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share as a substitute for any GAAP financial measure, including net income (loss). In addition, we urge investors and potential investors in our securities to carefully review the GAAP financial information included as part of our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q that are filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as well as our quarterly earnings releases, and compare the GAAP financial information with our EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share.

EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share may be used by management to internally measure our operating and management performance and may be used by investors as supplemental financial measures to evaluate the performance of our business. We believe that these non-GAAP measures, when viewed with our GAAP results and the accompanying reconciliation, provide additional information that is useful to understand the factors and trends affecting our business. We have spent more than 23 years building our database of commercial real estate information and expanding our markets and services partially through acquisitions of complementary businesses. Due to the expansion of our information, marketing and analytic services, which included acquisitions, our net income (loss) has included significant charges for purchase amortization, depreciation and other amortization, acquisition costs and restructuring costs. EBITDA, adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share exclude these charges and provide meaningful information about the operating performance of our business, apart from charges for purchase amortization, depreciation and other amortization, acquisition costs, restructuring costs and settlement and impairment costs incurred outside our ordinary course of business. We believe the disclosure of these non-GAAP measures can help investors meaningfully evaluate and compare our performance from quarter to quarter and from year to year. We also believe these non-GAAP measures are measures of our ongoing operating performance because the isolation of non-cash charges, such as amortization and depreciation, and other items, such as interest, income taxes, stock-based compensation expenses, acquisition costs, headquarters acquisition and transition related costs, restructuring costs and settlement and impairment costs incurred outside our ordinary course of business, provides additional information about our cost structure, and, over time, helps track our operating progress. In addition, investors, securities analysts and others have regularly relied on EBITDA and may rely on adjusted EBITDA, non-GAAP net income or non-GAAP net income per diluted share to provide a financial measure by which to compare our operating performance against that of other companies in our industry.

Set forth below are descriptions of the financial items that have been excluded from our net income (loss) to calculate EBITDA and the material limitations associated with using this non-GAAP financial measure as compared to net income (loss):

- Purchase amortization in cost of revenues may be useful for investors to consider because it represents the use of our acquired database technology, which is one of the sources of information for our database of commercial real estate information. We do not believe these charges necessarily reflect the current and ongoing cash charges related to our operating cost structure.

- Purchase amortization in operating expenses may be useful for investors to consider because it represents the estimated attrition of our acquired customer base and the diminishing value of any acquired trade names. We do not believe these charges necessarily reflect the current and ongoing cash charges related to our operating cost structure.
- Depreciation and other amortization may be useful for investors to consider because they generally represent the wear and tear on our property and equipment used in our operations. We do not believe these charges necessarily reflect the current and ongoing cash charges related to our operating cost structure.
- The amount of net interest income we generate may be useful for investors to consider and may result in current cash inflows or outflows. However, we do not consider the amount of net interest income to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of our business.

- Income tax expense (benefit) may be useful for investors to consider because it generally represents the taxes which may be payable for the period and the change in deferred income taxes during the period and may reduce the amount of funds otherwise available for use in our business. However, we do not consider the amount of income tax expense (benefit) to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of our business.

Set forth below are descriptions of the financial items that have been excluded from our net income (loss) to calculate adjusted EBITDA and the material limitations associated with using this non-GAAP financial measure as compared to net income (loss):

- Purchase amortization in cost of revenues, purchase amortization in operating expenses, depreciation and other amortization, interest income, net, and income tax expense (benefit) as previously described above with respect to the calculation of EBITDA.
- Stock-based compensation expense may be useful for investors to consider because it represents a portion of the compensation of our employees and executives. Determining the fair value of the stock-based instruments involves a high degree of judgment and estimation and the expenses recorded may bear little resemblance to the actual value realized upon the future exercise or termination of the related stock-based awards. Therefore, we believe it is useful to exclude stock-based compensation in order to better understand the long-term performance of our core business.
- The amount of acquisition related costs incurred may be useful for investors to consider because they generally represent professional service fees and direct expenses related to the acquisition. Because we do not acquire businesses on a predictable cycle we do not consider the amount of acquisition related costs to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of our business.
- The amount of restructuring costs incurred may be useful for investors to consider because they generally represent costs incurred in connection with a change in the makeup of our properties or personnel. We do not consider the amount of restructuring related costs to be a representative component of the day-to-day operating performance of our business.
- The amount of headquarters acquisition and transition related costs incurred may be useful for investors to consider because they generally represent the overlapping rent and building carrying costs, legal costs and other related costs incurred to relocate our headquarters. We do not believe these charges necessarily reflect the current and ongoing charges related to our operating cost structure.
- The amount of material settlement and impairment costs incurred outside of our ordinary course of business may be useful for investors to consider because they generally represent gains or losses from the settlement of litigation matters. We do not believe these charges necessarily reflect the current and ongoing cash charges related to our operating cost structure.

The financial items that have been excluded from our net income (loss) to calculate non-GAAP net income and non-GAAP net income per diluted share are stock-based compensation, acquisition related costs, restructuring costs, headquarter acquisition and transition related costs and settlement and impairment costs incurred outside our ordinary course of business. These items are discussed above with respect to the calculation of adjusted EBITDA along with the material limitations associated with using this non-GAAP financial measure as compared to net income (loss). We subtract an assumed provision for income taxes to calculate non-GAAP net income. We assume a 40% tax rate in order to approximate our long-term effective corporate tax rate.

Non-GAAP net income per diluted share is a non-GAAP financial measure that represents non-GAAP net income divided by the number of diluted shares outstanding for the period used in the calculation of GAAP net income per

diluted share.

Management compensates for the above-described limitations of using non-GAAP measures by using a non-GAAP measure only to supplement our GAAP results and to provide additional information that is useful to understand the factors and trends affecting our business.

34

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

The following table shows our EBITDA reconciled to our net income and our net cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities for the indicated periods (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Net income	\$24,623	\$18,693	\$13,289
Purchase amortization in cost of revenues	2,284	2,389	1,471
Purchase amortization in operating expenses	4,880	3,412	2,305
Depreciation and other amortization	9,637	8,875	9,873
Interest income, net	(4,914)	(1,253)	(735)
Income tax expense, net	20,079	14,395	10,221
EBITDA	\$56,589	\$46,511	\$36,424
Net cash flows provided by (used in)			
Operating activities	\$40,908	\$38,445	\$39,269
Investing activities	\$52,430	\$4,532	\$(40,504)
Financing activities	\$11,475	\$2,172	\$2,042

Consolidated Results of Operations

The following table provides our selected consolidated results of operations for the indicated periods (in thousands of dollars and as a percentage of total revenue):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2008		2009		2010	
Revenues	\$ 212,428	100.0 %	\$ 209,659	100.0 %	\$ 226,260	100.0 %
Cost of revenues	73,408	34.6	73,714	35.2	83,599	36.9
Gross margin	139,020	65.4	135,945	64.8	142,661	63.1
Operating expenses:						
Selling and marketing	41,705	19.6	42,508	20.3	52,455	23.2
Software development	12,759	6.0	13,942	6.6	17,350	7.7
General and administrative	39,888	18.8	44,248	21.1	47,776	21.1
Purchase amortization	4,880	2.3	3,412	1.6	2,305	1.0
Total operating expenses	99,232	46.7	104,110	49.7	119,886	53.0
Income from operations	39,788	18.7	31,835	15.2	22,775	10.1
Interest and other income, net	4,914	2.3	1,253	0.6	735	0.3
Income before income taxes	44,702	21.0	33,088	15.8	23,510	10.4
Income tax expense, net	20,079	9.5	14,395	6.9	10,221	4.5

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Net income	\$ 24,623	11.6 %	\$ 18,693	8.9 %	\$ 13,289	5.9 %
------------	-----------	--------	-----------	-------	-----------	-------

Comparison of Year Ended December 31, 2010 and Year Ended December 31, 2009

Revenues. Revenues increased to \$226.3 million in 2010, from \$209.7 million in 2009. The increase in revenues of approximately \$16.6 million is primarily due to additional revenue from our July 2009 acquisition of PPR. Our subscription-based information services consist primarily of CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, CoStar COMPS Professional, FOCUS services and Propex services. As of December 31, 2010, our subscription-based information services represented more than 94% of our total revenues.

Gross Margin. Gross margin increased to \$142.7 million in 2010, from \$135.9 million in 2009. The increase in the amount of gross margin was principally due to a \$16.6 million increase in revenue partially offset by an increase in cost of revenues. The gross margin percentage decreased to 63.1% in 2010, from 64.8% in 2009. The decrease in the percentage of gross margin was principally due to an increase in the cost of revenues. Cost of revenues increased to \$83.6 million in 2010, from \$73.7 million in 2009. The increase in cost of revenues was principally due to additional cost of revenues of approximately \$7.4 million included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR and our October 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology.

Selling and Marketing Expenses. Selling and marketing expenses increased to \$52.5 million in 2010, from \$42.5 million in 2009, and increased as a percentage of revenues to 23.2% in 2010, from 20.3% in 2009. The increase in the amount and percentage of selling and marketing expenses was primarily due to increased costs of approximately \$6.1 million due to increased sales personnel costs, as well as additional selling and marketing expenses of approximately \$1.7 million included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR and our October 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology.

Software Development Expenses. Software development expenses increased to \$17.4 million in 2010, from \$13.9 million in 2009, and increased as a percentage of revenues to 7.7% in 2010, from 6.6% in 2009. The increase in the amount and percentage of software development expense was primarily due to additional software development expenses included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR and our October 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses increased to \$47.8 million in 2010, from \$44.2 million in 2009, and remained relatively constant as a percentage of revenues at 21.1% in 2010 and 2009. The increase in the amount of general and administrative expenses was principally due to \$2.8 million recorded for the settlement of two litigation matters in June 2010, the 2010 lease restructuring charge of approximately \$1.3 million, and additional general and administrative expense of approximately \$2.0 million included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR and our October 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology, partially offset by a decrease in bad debt expense of approximately \$3.0 million.

Purchase Amortization. Purchase amortization decreased to \$2.3 million in 2010, from \$3.4 million in 2009, and decreased as a percentage of revenues to 1.0% in 2010, from 1.6% in 2009. The decrease in purchase amortization expense is due to the completion of amortization for certain identifiable intangible assets in 2010.

Interest and Other Income, Net. Interest and other income, net decreased to approximately \$700,000 in 2010, from \$1.3 million in 2009, primarily due to lower short-term investment balances.

Income Tax Expense, Net. Income tax expense, net decreased to \$10.2 million in 2010, from \$14.4 million in 2009. This decrease was primarily due to lower income before income taxes.

Comparison of Business Segment Results for Year Ended December 31, 2010 and Year Ended December 31, 2009

We manage our business geographically in two operating segments, with our primary areas of measurement and decision-making being the U.S. and International, which includes the U.K. and France. Management relies on an internal management reporting process that provides revenue and operating segment EBITDA, which is our net income before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization. Management believes that operating segment EBITDA is an appropriate measure for evaluating the operational performance of our operating segments. EBITDA is used by management to internally measure our operating and management performance and to evaluate the performance of our business. However, this measure should be considered in addition to, not as a substitute for or superior to, income from operations or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

Segment Revenues. CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, and CoStar COMPS Professional are generally sold as a suite of similar services and comprise our primary service offering in our U.S. operating segment. U.S. revenues increased to \$208.5 million from \$191.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. This increase in U.S. revenue was primarily due to additional revenues as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR. FOCUS is our primary service offering in our International operating segment. International revenues decreased approximately \$300,000 primarily due to foreign currency fluctuations, offset by intersegment revenues of approximately \$1.3 million attributable to services performed by Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. for PPR. PPR

and Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. were acquired in July 2009. Intersegment revenues are eliminated from total revenues.

Segment EBITDA. U.S. EBITDA decreased to \$39.6 million from \$47.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The decrease in U.S. EBITDA was due primarily to additional personnel cost of approximately \$8.1 million, increased legal settlement charges of approximately \$800,000, and a lease restructuring charge of approximately \$1.3 million related to the consolidation of our three facilities located in Boston, Massachusetts, partially offset by a decrease in bad debt expense of approximately \$2.2 million. International EBITDA increased to a loss of \$3.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 from a \$1.2 million loss for the year ended December 31, 2009. This increased loss was primarily due to approximately \$2.0 million paid in connection with the settlement of our litigation with Nokia U.K. Limited. International EBITDA includes a corporate allocation of approximately \$400,000 and \$500,000 for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The corporate allocation represents costs incurred for U.S. employees involved in international management and expansion activities.

Comparison of Year Ended December 31, 2009 and Year Ended December 31, 2008

Revenues. Revenues decreased to \$209.7 million in 2009, from \$212.4 million in 2008. Revenues from customers in our International operations decreased \$4.3 million primarily due to foreign currency fluctuations. The decrease in International revenues was partially offset by an increase in U.S. revenues of approximately \$1.5 million. The increase in U.S. revenues is primarily due to additional revenue of approximately \$8.5 million from our July 2009 acquisition of PPR partially offset by decreased sales resulting from a difficult commercial real estate and economic environment. Our subscription-based information services consist primarily of CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, CoStar COMPS Professional, FOCUS services and Propex services. As of December 31, 2009, our subscription-based information services represented more than 95% of our total revenues.

Gross Margin. Gross margin decreased to \$135.9 million in 2009, from \$139.0 million in 2008. The gross margin percentage decreased to 64.8% in 2009, from 65.4% in 2008. The decrease in the amount and percentage of gross margin was principally due to a \$2.8 million decrease in revenue in 2009.

Selling and Marketing Expenses. Selling and marketing expenses increased to \$42.5 million in 2009, from \$41.7 million in 2008, and increased as a percentage of revenues to 20.3% in 2009, from 19.6% in 2008. The increase in the amount and percentage of selling and marketing expenses was primarily due to additional selling and marketing expenses of approximately \$1.7 million incurred by PPR and included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR. The increase was offset by an approximately \$900,000 decrease due to foreign currency fluctuations.

Software Development Expenses. Software development expenses increased to \$13.9 million in 2009, from \$12.8 million in 2008, and increased as a percentage of revenues to 6.6% in 2009, from 6.0% in 2008. The increase in the amount and percentage of software development expenses was due to additional software development expenses of approximately \$600,000 incurred by PPR and included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR as well as additional development expenses of approximately \$400,000 incurred by Resolve Technology, and included as a result of our October 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses increased to \$44.2 million in 2009, from \$39.9 million in 2008, and increased as a percentage of revenues to 21.1% in 2009, from 18.8% in 2008. The increase in the amount and percentage of general and administrative expenses was principally a result of an increase of acquisition and deal related costs of approximately \$700,000, an increase in legal fees of \$2.0 million and additional general and administrative expenses of approximately \$1.1 million incurred by PPR and included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR.

Purchase Amortization. Purchase amortization decreased to \$3.4 million in 2009, from \$4.9 million in 2008, and decreased as a percentage of revenues to 1.6% in 2009, from 2.3% in 2008. The decrease in purchase amortization

expense is due to the completion of amortization for certain identifiable intangible assets in 2009.

Interest and Other Income, Net. Interest and other income, net decreased to \$1.3 million in 2009, from \$4.9 million in 2008. Interest and other income, net decreased due to lower average interest rates in 2009 compared to 2008.

Income Tax Expense, Net. Income tax expense, net decreased to \$14.4 million in 2009, from \$20.1 million in 2008. This decrease was due to lower income before income taxes as a result of our decreased profitability.

Comparison of Business Segment Results for Year Ended December 31, 2009 and Year Ended December 31, 2008

We manage our business geographically in two operating segments, with our primary areas of measurement and decision-making being the U.S. and International, which includes the U.K. and France. Management relies on an internal management reporting process that provides operating segment revenue and EBITDA, which is our net income before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization. Management believes that operating segment EBITDA is an appropriate measure for evaluating the operational performance of our segments. EBITDA is used by management to internally measure our operating and management performance and to evaluate the performance of our business. However, this measure should be considered in addition to, not as a substitute for or superior to, income from operations or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

Segment Revenues. CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, and CoStar COMPS Professional are generally sold as a suite of similar services and comprise our primary service offering in our U.S. operating segment. U.S. revenues increased to \$191.6 million from \$190.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. This increase in U.S. revenue is due to additional revenues of approximately \$8.5 million included as a result of our July 2009 acquisition of PPR, partially offset by a decrease of approximately \$7.0 million in U.S. revenues due to decreased sales resulting from a difficult commercial real estate and economic environment. FOCUS is our primary service offering in our International operating segment. International revenues decreased approximately \$4.3 million primarily due to foreign currency fluctuations, partially offset by intersegment revenues of approximately \$900,000 attributable to services performed by Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. for PPR. Intersegment revenues are eliminated from total revenues.

Segment EBITDA. U.S. EBITDA decreased to \$47.7 million from \$58.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decrease in U.S. EBITDA was due primarily to additional costs incurred by PPR, which we acquired in July of 2009 and increased legal fees. International EBITDA decreased to a loss of \$1.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009 from a \$2.2 million loss for the year ended December 31, 2008. This decreased loss is primarily due to a lower corporate allocation in 2009 as compared to 2008. International EBITDA includes a corporate allocation of approximately \$500,000 and \$1.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The corporate allocation represents costs incurred for U.S. employees involved in international management and expansion activities.

Consolidated Quarterly Results of Operations

The following tables summarize our consolidated results of operations on a quarterly basis for the indicated periods (in thousands, except per share amounts, and as a percentage of total revenues):

	2009				2010			
	Mar. 31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Mar. 31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31
Revenues	\$51,370	\$50,064	\$53,590	\$54,635	\$55,093	\$55,838	\$57,144	\$58,185
Cost of revenues	16,894	16,744	19,149	20,927	21,200	20,360	20,762	21,277
Gross margin	34,476	33,320	34,441	33,708	33,893	35,478	36,382	36,908
Operating expenses	23,735	25,129	27,490	27,756	28,791	30,987	30,247	29,861
Income from operations	10,741	8,191	6,951	5,952	5,102	4,491	6,135	7,047
Interest and other income, net	442	322	263	226	238	196	156	145
Income before income taxes	11,183	8,513	7,214	6,178	5,340	4,687	6,291	7,192
	5,077	3,897	2,889	2,532	2,451	1,436	2,909	3,425

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Income tax expense,
net

Net income	\$6,106	\$4,616	\$4,325	\$3,646	\$2,889	\$3,251	\$3,382	\$3,767
Net income per share - basic	\$0.31	\$0.24	\$0.22	\$0.18	\$0.14	\$0.16	\$0.17	\$0.18
Net income per share - diluted	\$0.31	\$0.24	\$0.22	\$0.18	\$0.14	\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.18

38

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

	2009				2010			
	Mar. 31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Mar. 31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31
Revenues	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %	100. %
Cost of revenues	32.9	33.4	35.7	38.3	38.5	36.5	36.3	36.6
Gross margin	67.1	66.6	64.3	61.7	61.5	63.5	63.7	63.4
Operating expenses	46.2	50.2	51.3	50.8	52.3	55.5	52.9	51.3
Income from operations	20.9	16.4	13.0	10.9	9.3	8.0	10.7	12.1
Interest and other income, net	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
Income before income taxes	21.8	17.0	13.5	11.3	9.7	8.4	11.0	12.4
Income tax expense, net	9.9	7.8	5.4	4.6	4.4	2.6	5.1	5.9
Net income	11.9 %	9.2 %	8.1 %	6.7 %	5.2 %	5.8 %	5.9 %	6.5 %

Recent Acquisitions

PPR. On July 17, 2009, we acquired all of the issued and outstanding equity securities of PPR, and its wholly owned subsidiary Property and Portfolio Research Ltd., providers of real estate analysis, market forecasts and credit risk analytics to the commercial real estate industry. We acquired PPR from DMG Information, Inc. ("DMGI") in exchange for 572,999 shares of CoStar common stock, which had an aggregate value of approximately \$20.9 million as of the closing date. On July 17, 2009, we issued 433,667 shares of our common stock to DMGI, and we issued the remaining 139,332 shares to DMGI on September 28, 2009 after taking into account post-closing purchase price adjustments.

Resolve Technology. On October 19, 2009, we acquired all of the outstanding capital stock of Resolve Technology, a Delaware corporation, for approximately \$4.5 million, consisting of approximately \$3.4 million in cash and 25,886 shares of CoStar common stock, which had an aggregate value of approximately \$1.1 million as of the closing date. The shares are subject to a three-year lockup, pursuant to which one-third were released in October 2010. The purchase price is subject to certain post-closing adjustments. Additionally, the seller may be entitled to receive (i) a potential deferred cash payment due approximately two years after closing based on the incremental growth of Resolve Technology's revenue as of September 2011 over its revenue as of September 2009, and (ii) other potential deferred cash payments for successful completion of operational and sales milestones during the period from closing through no later than October 31, 2013, which period may be extended by the parties to a date no later than December 31, 2014.

Accounting Treatment. These acquisitions were accounted for as purchase business combinations. For each of the PPR and Resolve Technology acquisitions, the purchase price was allocated to various working capital accounts, developed technology, customer base, trademarks, non-competition agreements and goodwill. The acquired customer base for the acquisitions, which consists of one distinct intangible asset for each acquisition and is composed of acquired customer contracts and the related customer relationships, is being amortized on a 125% declining balance method over ten years. The identified intangibles are amortized over their estimated useful lives. Goodwill for these acquisitions is not amortized, but is subject to annual impairment tests. The results of operations of PPR and Resolve Technology have been consolidated with those of the Company since the respective dates of the acquisitions and are not considered material to our consolidated financial statements. Accordingly, pro forma financial information has not been presented for any of the acquisitions.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our principal sources of liquidity are cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments. Total cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments were \$210.1 million at December 31, 2010 compared to \$226.0 million at December 31, 2009. The decrease in cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments for the year ended December 31, 2010 was primarily due to the purchase of a 169,429 square-foot office building located at 1331 L Street, NW in downtown Washington, DC for a purchase price of \$41.25 million in cash, and approximately \$1.7 million in acquisition costs, as well as other purchases of property and equipment of approximately \$14.4 million, partially offset by net cash flows from operating and financing activities of \$41.3 million.

Changes in cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments are dependent upon changes in, among other things, working capital items such as accounts receivable, accounts payable, various accrued expenses and deferred revenues, as well as changes in our capital structure due to stock option exercises, purchases and sales of short-term investments and similar events.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2010 was \$39.3 million compared to \$38.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The \$800,000 increase in net cash provided by operating activities is primarily due to a \$4.4 million net increase in changes in operating assets and liabilities due to differences in timing of collection of receipts and payments of disbursements partially offset by a decrease of approximately \$3.6 million from net income plus non-cash items. The \$4.4 million net increase in changes in operating assets and liabilities was primarily related to an increase in changes in accounts payable and other liabilities of approximately \$5.2 million and approximately \$3.0 million in increased change in deferred revenue primarily associated with cash received for annual billings. The increase in the change in accounts payable and other liabilities of approximately \$5.2 million includes increased changes in accruals of deferred rent of approximately \$2.6 million, \$800,000 accrued in June 2010 in anticipation of the settlement of a litigation matter, \$900,000 remaining in the lease restructuring charge associated with our Boston lease consolidation in September 2010 and increased accruals associated with the operations of our recent acquisitions and new headquarters. These increases in changes in operating assets and liabilities were partially offset by a decrease in the changes in income tax receivable of approximately \$4.9 million, as the tax legislation enacted during the fourth quarter of 2010 allowed us to deduct 100% of qualifying assets purchased after September 8, 2010, resulting in an income tax receivable recorded for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$40.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010, compared to net cash provided by investing activities of \$4.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. This \$45.0 million increased change in net cash used in investing activities was primarily due to the February 2010 purchase of our new headquarters in downtown Washington, DC, as well as capital improvements for our facilities in 2010, partially offset by the \$3.2 million in net cash payments for acquisitions.

Net cash provided by financing activities was relatively consistent at \$2.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 compared to \$2.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Contractual Obligations. The following table summarizes our principal contractual obligations at December 31, 2010 and the effect such obligations are expected to have on our liquidity and cash flows in future periods (in thousands):

	Total	2011	2012-2013	2014-2015	2016 and thereafter
Operating leases	\$47,453	\$8,691	\$13,105	\$6,908	\$18,749
Purchase obligations(1)	6,763	2,797	3,366	600	¾
Total contractual principal cash obligations	\$54,216	\$11,488	\$16,471	\$7,508	\$18,749

(1) Amounts do not include (i) contracts with initial terms of twelve months or less, or (ii) multi-year contracts that may be terminated by a third party or us. Amounts do not include unrecognized tax benefits of \$1.8 million due to uncertainty regarding the timing of future cash payments.

In 2010, we purchased our new headquarters in downtown Washington, DC, and made capital expenditures of approximately \$14.4 million. We expect to make total capital expenditures in 2011 of approximately \$7.0 million to \$10.0 million.

On February 2, 2011, 1331 L Street Holdings, LLC (“Holdings”), our wholly owned subsidiary, and GLL L-Street 1331, LLC (“GLL”), an affiliate of Munich-based GLL Real Estate Partners GmbH, entered into a purchase and sale agreement pursuant to which (i) Holdings agreed to sell to GLL its interest in the 169,429 square-foot office building located at 1331 L Street, NW, in downtown Washington, DC, and (ii) CoStar Realty Information, Inc. (“CoStar Realty”), our wholly owned subsidiary, agreed to enter into a lease expiring May 31, 2025 (with two 5-year renewal options) with GLL to lease back 149,514 square feet of the office space located in this building, which we will continue to use as our corporate headquarters. The closing of the sale took place on February 18, 2011. The aggregate consideration paid by GLL to Holdings pursuant to the purchase and sale agreement was \$101.0 million in cash, \$15.0 million of which is being held in escrow to fund additional build-out and planned improvements at the building.

The lease is effective as of June 1, 2010 and will expire May 31, 2025. The initial base rent is \$38.50 per square foot of occupied space, escalating 2.5% per year commencing June 1, 2011. Our obligation to pay rent increases proportionately over the course of the first year of the lease as certain scheduled completion dates for our build out, on a floor-by-floor basis, are reached. Our occupied space under the lease will consist of the entire rented premises as of June 1, 2011, from and after which we will owe rent on the entire leased premises. Annual lease payments for 2011 will be approximately \$5.0 million. This obligation is not included in the above December 31, 2010 contractual obligation table.

Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including our operating results, expansion efforts, and our level of acquisition activity or other strategic transactions.

To date, we have grown in part by acquiring other companies and we may continue to make acquisitions. Our acquisitions may vary in size and could be material to our current operations. We may use cash, stock, debt or other means of funding to make these acquisitions. In the third quarter of 2009, we issued 572,999 shares of common stock to DMGI, Inc. for all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of PPR and its wholly owned subsidiary. In October 2009, we acquired Resolve Technology for approximately \$3.4 million (\$2.9 million was paid upon acquisition and \$450,000 was deferred until February 2010) in cash and 25,886 shares of CoStar common stock, which had an aggregate value of approximately \$1.1 million as of the closing date. The shares are subject to a three-year lockup, pursuant to which one-third were released in October 2010. Additionally, the seller may be entitled to receive (i) a potential deferred cash payment due approximately two years after closing based on the incremental growth of Resolve Technology's revenue as of September 2011 over its revenue as of September 2009, and (ii) other potential deferred cash payments for successful completion of additional operational and sales milestones during the period from closing through October 31, 2013, which period may be extended by the parties to a date no later than December 31, 2014.

Based on current plans, we believe that our available cash combined with positive cash flow provided by operating activities should be sufficient to fund our operations for at least the next 12 months.

As of December 31, 2010, we had \$32.2 million par value of long-term investments in student loan ARS, which failed to settle at auctions. The majority of these investments are of high credit quality with AAA credit ratings and are primarily securities supported by guarantees from the Federal Family Education Loan Program ("FFELP") of the U.S. Department of Education. While we continue to earn interest on these investments, the investments are not liquid in the short term. In the event we need to immediately access these funds, we may have to sell these securities at an amount below par value. Based on our ability to access our cash, cash equivalents and other short-term investments and our expected operating cash flows, we do not anticipate having to sell these investments below par value in order to operate our business in the foreseeable future.

On December 8, 2009, a former employee filed a lawsuit against us in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California alleging violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and California state wage-and-hour laws and is seeking unspecified damages under those laws. The complaint also seeks to declare a class of all similarly situated employees to pursue similar claims. In May 2010, the parties reached a preliminary agreement to settle this lawsuit, and in June 2010, we accrued approximately \$800,000 in anticipation of making a settlement payment that will formally resolve this litigation. We anticipate the payment will be due during the second quarter of 2011.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on existing intangibles or expected future cash flows from those intangibles, which is effective for all fiscal years and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2008. Early adoption of this guidance is not permitted. This guidance requires additional footnote disclosures about the impact of

our ability or intent to renew or extend agreements related to existing intangibles or expected future cash flows from those intangibles, how we account for costs incurred to renew or extend such agreements, the time until the next renewal or extension period by asset class, and the amount of renewal or extension costs capitalized, if any. For any intangibles acquired after December 31, 2008, this guidance requires that we consider our experience regarding renewal and extensions of similar arrangements in determining the useful life of such intangibles. If we do not have experience with similar arrangements, this guidance requires that we use the assumptions of a market participant putting the intangible to its highest and best use in determining the useful life. We adopted this guidance on January 1, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our results of operations or financial position.

In June 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance related to determining whether instruments granted in share-based payment transactions are participating securities. This guidance clarifies that unvested share-based payment awards with a right to receive non-forfeitable dividends are participating securities. This guidance is effective for all annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2008. Adoption of this standard will require the two-class method of calculating basic earnings per share to the extent that unvested share-based payments have the right to receive non-forfeitable dividends. We adopted this guidance on January 1, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our results of operations or financial position.

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance related to the initial recognition, measurement and subsequent accounting for assets and liabilities arising from pre-acquisition contingencies in a business combination. It requires that such assets acquired or liabilities assumed be initially recognized at fair value at the acquisition date if fair value can be determined during the measurement period. When fair value cannot be determined, companies should typically account for the acquired contingencies using existing guidance. This guidance requires that companies expense acquisition and deal-related costs that were previously allowed to be capitalized. This guidance also requires that a systematic and rational basis for subsequently measuring and accounting for the assets or liabilities be developed depending on their nature. This guidance was effective for contingent assets or liabilities arising from business combinations with an acquisition date on or after January 1, 2009. The adoption of this guidance changes the accounting treatment and disclosure for certain specific items in a business combination with an acquisition date subsequent to December 31, 2008. We adopted this guidance on January 1, 2009, and expensed acquisition and deal-related costs associated primarily with the acquisitions of PPR and Resolve Technology.

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance for determining whether a market is active or inactive, and whether a transaction is distressed. This guidance is applicable to all assets and liabilities (financial and non-financial) and will require enhanced disclosures. We adopted this guidance for our interim period ending June 30, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our results of operations or financial position, but did require additional disclosures in our financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance requiring disclosures in interim reporting periods concerning the fair value of financial instruments that were previously only required in the annual financial statements. We adopted the provisions of this guidance for our interim period ending June 30, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our results of operations or financial position, but did require additional disclosures in our financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that redefines what constitutes an other-than-temporary impairment, defines credit and non-credit components of an other-than-temporary impairment, prescribes their financial statement treatment, and requires enhanced disclosures relating to such impairments. We adopted this guidance for our interim period ending June 30, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our results of operations or financial position, but did require additional disclosures in our financial statements.

In May 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued. This guidance was effective for all interim and annual reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. This guidance has not and is not expected to result in significant changes in the subsequent events that we report, either through recognition or disclosure, in our financial statements.

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to amend the manner in which entities evaluate whether consolidation is required for variable interest entities (VIE). Previously, variable interest holders were required to determine whether they had a controlling financial interest in a VIE based on a quantitative analysis of the expected gains and/or losses of the entity. The new guidance requires an enterprise with a variable interest in a VIE to

qualitatively assess whether it has a controlling financial interest in the entity, and if so, whether it is the primary beneficiary. This guidance also requires that companies continually evaluate VIEs for consolidation, rather than assessing whether consolidation is required based upon the occurrence of triggering events. This guidance enhances disclosures to provide financial statement users with greater transparency about transfers of financial assets and a transferor's continuing involvement with transferred financial assets. This guidance will be effective for the first annual reporting period beginning after November 15, 2009. This guidance did not materially impact our results of operations, financial position or related disclosures.

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which replaced the previous hierarchy of U.S. GAAP and establishes the FASB Codification as the single source of authoritative U.S. GAAP recognized by the FASB to be applied by nongovernmental entities. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. This guidance did not materially impact our results of operations or financial position, but did require changes to our disclosures in our financial statements.

In July 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to improve the consistency with which companies apply fair value measurements guidance to liabilities. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after September 30, 2009. This guidance did not materially impact our results of operations, financial position or related disclosures.

In October 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that amends existing guidance for identifying separate deliverables in a revenue-generating transaction where multiple deliverables exist, and provides guidance for measuring and allocating revenue to one or more units of accounting. In addition, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on arrangements that include software elements. Under this guidance, tangible products containing software components and non-software components that are essential to the functionality of the tangible product will no longer be within the scope of the software revenue recognition guidance. This guidance is effective using the prospective application or the retrospective application for revenue arrangements entered into or materially modified in fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2010 with earlier application permitted. This guidance did not materially impact our results of operations or financial position.

In January 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that amends the disclosure requirements related to recurring and nonrecurring fair value measurements. This guidance requires new disclosures on the transfers of assets and liabilities between Level 1 (assets and liabilities measured using observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets) and Level 2 (assets and liabilities measured using inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable) of the fair value measurement hierarchy, including the amount and reason of the transfers. Additionally, this guidance requires a roll forward of activities on purchases, sales, issuance, and settlements of the assets and liabilities measured using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3 fair value measurements). This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, with the exception of the additional disclosure for Level 3 assets and liabilities, which is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010, and for interim periods within those fiscal years. This guidance did not materially impact our results of operations or financial position, but did require changes to our disclosures in our interim and annual financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that amends the disclosure requirements related to subsequent events. This guidance includes the definition of a Securities and Exchange Commission filer, removes the definition of a public entity, redefines the reissuance disclosure requirements and allows public companies to omit the disclosure of the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after February 2010. This guidance did not materially impact our results of operations or financial position, but did require changes to our disclosures in our financial statements.

In April 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance related to the criteria that should be met for determining whether the milestone method of revenue recognition is appropriate. A vendor can recognize consideration that is contingent upon achievement of a milestone in its entirety as revenue in the period in which the milestone is achieved if the milestone is: (a) commensurate with either the vendor's performance to achieve the milestone or the enhancement of the value of the item delivered; (b) relates solely to past performance; and (c) is reasonable relative to all deliverables and payment terms in the arrangement. This guidance is effective on a prospective basis for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2010 with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our results of operations or financial position.

Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We provide information, marketing and analytic services to the commercial real estate and related business community in the U.S., U.K. and France. Our functional currency for our operations in the U.K. and France is the local currency. As such, fluctuations in the British Pound and Euro may have an impact on our business, results of operations and financial position. For the year ended December 31, 2010, revenue denominated in foreign currencies was approximately 8.4% of total revenue. For the year ended December 31, 2010, our revenue would have decreased by approximately \$1.9 million if the U.S. dollar exchange rate used strengthened by 10%. In addition, we have assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. A 10% strengthening of the U.S. dollar exchange rate against all currencies with which we have exposure at December 31, 2010 would have resulted in an increase of approximately \$900,000 in the carrying amount of net assets. For the year ended December 31, 2010, our revenue would have increased by approximately \$1.9 million if the U.S. dollar exchange rate used weakened by 10%. In addition, we have assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. A 10% weakening of the U.S. dollar exchange rate against all currencies with which we have exposure at December 31, 2010 would have resulted in a decrease of approximately \$900,000 in the carrying amount of net assets. We currently do not use financial instruments to hedge our exposure to exchange rate fluctuations with respect to our foreign subsidiaries. We may seek to enter hedging transactions in the future to reduce our exposure to exchange rate fluctuations, but we may be unable to enter into hedging transactions successfully, on acceptable terms or at all. As of December 31, 2010, accumulated other comprehensive loss included a loss from foreign currency translation adjustments of approximately \$5.9 million.

We do not have material exposure to market risks associated with changes in interest rates related to cash equivalent securities held as of December 31, 2010. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$210.1 million of cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments. If there is an increase or decrease in interest rates, there will be a corresponding increase or decrease in the amount of interest earned on our cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments. Based on our ability to access our cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, and our expected operating cash flows, we do not believe that increases or decreases in interest rates will impact our ability to operate our business in the foreseeable future.

Included within our long-term investments are investments in mostly AAA rated student loan ARS. These securities are primarily securities supported by guarantees from the FFELP of the U.S. Department of Education. As of December 31, 2010, auctions for \$32.2 million of our investments in auction rate securities failed. As a result, we may not be able to sell these investments at par value until a future auction on these investments is successful. In the event we need to immediately liquidate these investments, we may have to locate a buyer outside the auction process, who may be unwilling to purchase the investments at par, resulting in a loss. Based on an assessment of fair value of these investments in ARS as of December 31, 2010, we determined that there was a decline in the fair value of our ARS investments of approximately \$3.0 million, which was deemed to be a temporary impairment and recorded as an unrealized loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss in stockholders' equity. If the issuers are unable to successfully close future auctions and their credit ratings deteriorate, we may be required to adjust the carrying value of these investments as a temporary impairment and recognize a greater unrealized loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss or as an other-than-temporary impairment charge to earnings. Based on our ability to access our cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments, and our expected operating cash flows, we do not anticipate having to sell these securities below par value in order to operate our business in the foreseeable future. See Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements for further discussion.

We have approximately \$98.4 million in intangible assets as of December 31, 2010. As of December 31, 2010, we believe our intangible assets will be recoverable, however, changes in the economy, the business in which we operate and our own relative performance could change the assumptions used to evaluate intangible asset recoverability. In the event that we determine that an asset has been impaired, we would recognize an impairment charge equal to the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the asset. We continue to monitor these

assumptions and their effect on the estimated recoverability of our intangible assets.

Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

Financial Statements meeting the requirements of Regulation S-X are set forth beginning at page F-1. Supplementary data is set forth in “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” under the caption “Consolidated Results of Operations.”

Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure

None.

Item 9A.

Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosure. In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, management recognized that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and management is required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures.

As of December 31, 2010, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based on the foregoing, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective and were operating at the reasonable assurance level.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management of CoStar is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting and for the assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. As defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission, internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or supervised by, the Company's principal executive and principal financial officers, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

The Company's internal control over financial reporting is supported by written policies and procedures, that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the Company's assets; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of the Company's management and directors; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In connection with the preparation of the Company's annual financial statements, management of the Company has undertaken an assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010 based on criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission ("the COSO Framework"). Management's assessment included an evaluation of the design of the Company's internal control over financial reporting and testing of the operational effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Based on this assessment, management did not identify any material weakness in the Company's internal control, and management has concluded that the Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2010.

Ernst & Young LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm that audited the Company's financial statements included in this report, has issued an attestation report on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, a copy of which is included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

There have been no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during our most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Item 9B. Other Information.

None.

PART III

Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Item 11. Executive Compensation

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The information required by this Item is incorporated by reference to our Proxy Statement for our 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

PART IV

Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules

(a)(1) The following financial statements are filed as a part of this report: CoStar Group, Inc. Consolidated Financial Statements.

(a)(2) Financial statement schedules:

Schedule II – Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

Years Ended December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010 (in thousands):

Allowance for doubtful accounts and billing adjustments (1)	Balance at Beginning	Charged to Expense	Write-offs, Net of	Balance at End
---	----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	----------------

	of Year		Recoveries	of Year
Year ended December 31, 2008	\$2,959	\$4,042	\$3,788	\$3,213
Year ended December 31, 2009	\$3,213	\$4,172	\$4,522	\$2,863
Year ended December 31, 2010	\$2,863	\$1,471	\$1,919	\$2,415

(1) Additions to the allowance for doubtful accounts are charged to bad debt expense. Additions to the allowance for billing adjustments are charged against revenues.

Additional financial statement schedules are omitted because they are not applicable or not required or because the required information is incorporated herein by reference or included in the financial statements or related notes included elsewhere in this report.

(a)(3) The documents required to be filed as exhibits to this Report under Item 601 of Regulation S-K are listed in the Exhibit Index included elsewhere in this report, which list is incorporated herein by reference.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 of the Securities Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, on the 24th day of February 2011.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.

By: /s/ Andrew C. Florance
Andrew C. Florance
President and Chief Executive Officer

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that each individual whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Andrew C. Florance and Brian J. Radecki, and each of them individually, as their true and lawful attorneys-in-fact and agents, with full power of substitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments to this report, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and to all documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in connection therewith, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, herein by ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents or any of them, or his or their substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1934, as amended, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Capacity	Date
/s/ Michael R. Klein Michael R. Klein	Chairman of the Board	February 24, 2011
/s/ Andrew C. Florance Andrew C. Florance	Chief Executive Officer and President and a Director (Principal Executive Officer)	February 24, 2011
/s/ Brian J. Radecki Brian J. Radecki	Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	February 24, 2011
/s/ David Bonderman David Bonderman	Director	February 24, 2011
/s/ Warren H. Haber	Director	February 24, 2011

Warren H. Haber

/s/ Josiah O. Low, III

Director

February 24,
2011

Josiah O. Low, III

/s/ Christopher J. Nassetta

Director

February 18,
2011

Christopher J. Nassetta

/s/ Michael J. Glosserman

Director

February 21,
2011

Michael J. Glosserman

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description
2.1	Offer Document by CoStar Limited for the share capital of Focus Information Limited (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 to Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement on Form S-3 of the Registrant (Reg. No. 333-106769) filed with the Commission on August 14, 2003).
3.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of the Registrant (Reg. No. 333-47953) filed with the Commission on March 13, 1998 (the "1998 Form S-1").
3.2	Certificate of Amendment of Restated Certificate of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 1999).
3.3	Amended and Restated By-Laws (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008).
4.1	Specimen Common Stock Certificate (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999).
*10.1	CoStar Group, Inc. 1998 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2005).
*10.2	CoStar Group, Inc. 2007 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed June 8, 2010).
*10.3	CoStar Group, Inc. 2007 Stock Incentive Plan French Sub-Plan (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007).
*10.4	Form of Stock Option Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its officers, directors and employees (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004).
*10.5	Form of Stock Option Agreement between the Registrant and Andrew C. Florance (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004).
*10.6	Form of Restricted Stock Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its officers, directors and employees (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004).
*10.7	Form of 2007 Plan Restricted Stock Grant Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its officers, directors and employees (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 8-K filed June 22, 2007).
*10.8	Form of 2007 Plan Incentive Stock Option Grant Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its officers and employees (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008).
*10.9	Form of 2007 Plan Incentive Stock Option Grant Agreement between the Registrant and Andrew C. Florance (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008).
*10.10	Form of 2007 Plan Nonqualified Stock Option Grant Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its officers and employees (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December

31, 2008).

- *10.11 Form of 2007 Plan Nonqualified Stock Option Grant Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its directors (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008).
- *10.12 Form of 2007 Plan Nonqualified Stock Option Grant Agreement between the Registrant and Andrew C. Florance (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008).
- *10.13 Form of 2007 Plan French Sub-Plan Restricted Stock Agreement between the Registrant and certain of its employees (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007).

INDEX TO EXHIBITS — (CONTINUED)

Exhibit No.	Description
*10.14	CoStar Group, Inc. Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as amended (filed herewith).
*10.15	Employment Agreement for Andrew C. Florance (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement on Form S-1 of the Registrant (Reg. No. 333-47953) filed with the Commission on April 27, 1998).
*10.16	First Amendment to Andrew C. Florance Employment Agreement, effective January 1, 2009 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.16 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008).
*10.17	Executive Service Contract dated February 16, 2007, between Property Investment Exchange Limited and Paul Marples (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007).
*10.18	Form of Indemnification Agreement between the Registrant and each of its officers and directors (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004).
10.19	Agreement for Lease between CoStar UK Limited and Wells Fargo & Company, dated August 25, 2009 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.26 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009).
10.20	Sub-Underlease between CoStar UK Limited and Wells Fargo & Company, dated November 18, 2009 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009).
10.21	Purchase and Sale Agreement between 1331 L Street LLC and 1331 L Street Holdings, LLC, dated January 20, 2010 (Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2010).
21.1	Subsidiaries of the Registrant (filed herewith).
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm (filed herewith).
31.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith).
31.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith).
32.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith).
32.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (filed herewith).
* Management Contract or Compensatory Plan or Arrangement.	

COSTAR GROUP, INC.

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010	F-4
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2009 and 2010	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010	F-6
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010	F-7
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-8

F-1

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of CoStar Group, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of CoStar Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the Index at Item 15(a). These financial statements and schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of CoStar Group, Inc. at December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), CoStar Group, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 24, 2011 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

McLean, Virginia

February 24, 2011

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of CoStar Group, Inc.

We have audited CoStar Group, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on criteria established in Internal Control—Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). CoStar Group, Inc.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, CoStar Group, Inc. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2010, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2010 and 2009, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2010 of CoStar Group, Inc. and our report dated February 24, 2011 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

McLean, Virginia

February 24, 2011

F-3

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(in thousands, except per share data)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Revenues	\$212,428	\$209,659	\$226,260
Cost of revenues	73,408	73,714	83,599
Gross margin	139,020	135,945	142,661
Operating expenses:			
Selling and marketing	41,705	42,508	52,455
Software development	12,759	13,942	17,350
General and administrative	39,888	44,248	47,776
Purchase amortization	4,880	3,412	2,305
	99,232	104,110	119,886
Income from operations	39,788	31,835	22,775
Interest and other income, net	4,914	1,253	735
Income before income taxes	44,702	33,088	23,510
Income tax expense, net	20,079	14,395	10,221
Net income	\$24,623	\$18,693	\$13,289
Net income per share ³ / ₄ basic	\$1.27	\$0.95	\$0.65
Net income per share ³ / ₄ diluted	\$1.26	\$0.94	\$0.64
Weighted average outstanding shares ³ / ₄ basic	19,372	19,780	20,330
Weighted average outstanding shares ³ / ₄ diluted	19,550	19,925	20,707

See accompanying notes.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands except per share data)

	December 31,	
	2009	2010
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$205,786	\$206,405
Short-term investments	20,188	3,722
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$2,863 and \$2,415 as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively	12,855	13,094
Deferred income taxes, net	3,450	5,203
Income tax receivable	¾	4,940
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	5,128	5,809
Total current assets	247,407	239,173
Long-term investments	29,724	29,189
Deferred income taxes, net	1,978	¾
Property and equipment, net	19,162	69,921
Goodwill	80,321	79,602
Intangibles and other assets, net	23,390	18,774
Deposits and other assets	2,597	2,989
Total assets	\$404,579	\$439,648
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$3,667	\$3,123
Accrued wages and commissions	9,696	12,465
Accrued expenses	14,167	18,411
Deferred revenue	14,840	16,895
Deferred rent	1,377	4,032
Total current liabilities	43,747	54,926
Deferred income taxes, net	¾	1,450
Income taxes payable	1,826	1,770
Commitments and contingencies	¾	¾
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 2,000 shares authorized; none outstanding	¾	¾
Common stock, \$0.01 par value; 30,000 shares authorized; 20,617 and 20,773 issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively	206	208
Additional paid-in capital	364,635	374,981
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(7,565)	(8,706)
Retained earnings	1,730	15,019
Total stockholders' equity	359,006	381,502

Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$404,579	\$439,648
--	-----------	-----------

See accompanying notes.

F-5

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
(in thousands)

	Comprehensive Income	Common Stock Shares	Common Stock Amount	Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings Accumulated Deficit	Total Stockholders' Equity
Balance at December 31, 2007		19,474	\$ 195	\$ 317,570	\$5,626	\$(41,586)	\$281,805
Net income	\$ 24,623	¾	¾	¾	¾	24,623	24,623
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(14,061)	¾	¾	¾	(14,061)	¾	(14,061)
Net unrealized loss on investments	(5,361)	¾	¾	¾	(5,361)	¾	(5,361)
Comprehensive income	\$ 5,201						
Exercise of stock options		198	2	6,555	¾	¾	6,557
Restricted stock grants		102	1	¾	¾	¾	1
Restricted stock grants surrendered		(49)	(1)	(695)	¾	¾	(696)
Stock compensation expense, net of forfeitures		¾	¾	4,907	¾	¾	4,907
ESPP		8	¾	329	¾	¾	329
Excess tax benefit for exercised stock options		¾	¾	5,317	¾	¾	5,317
Balance at December 31, 2008		19,733	197	333,983	(13,796)	(16,963)	303,421
Net income	18,693	¾	¾	¾	¾	18,693	18,693
Foreign currency translation adjustment	3,671	¾	¾	¾	3,671	¾	3,671
Net unrealized gain on investments	2,560	¾	¾	¾	2,560	¾	2,560
	\$ 24,924						

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Comprehensive income							
Exercise of stock options	85	$\frac{3}{4}$	2,232	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	2,232	
Restricted stock grants	237	2	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	2	
Restricted stock grants surrendered	(44)	$\frac{3}{4}$	(672)	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	(672)	
Stock compensation expense, net of forfeitures	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	6,438	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	6,438	
ESPP	7	$\frac{3}{4}$	230	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	230	
Consideration for PPR	573	6	20,897	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	20,903	
Consideration for Resolve Technology	26	1	1,124	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1,125	
Excess tax benefit for exercised stock options	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	403	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	403	
Balance at December 31, 2009	20,617	206	364,635	(7,565)	1,730	359,006	
Net income	13,289	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	13,289	13,289
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(1,064)	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	(1,064)	$\frac{3}{4}$	(1,064)
Net unrealized loss on investments	(77)	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	(77)	$\frac{3}{4}$	(77)
Comprehensive income	\$ 12,148						
Exercise of stock options	138	2	3,720	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	3,722	
Restricted stock grants	113	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	
Restricted stock grants surrendered	(103)	$\frac{3}{4}$	(2,906)	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	(2,906)	
Stock compensation expense, net of forfeitures	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	8,270	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	8,270	
ESPP	8	$\frac{3}{4}$	360	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	360	
Excess tax benefit for exercised stock options	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	902	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	902	

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Balance at December 31, 2010	20,773	\$ 208	\$ 374,981	\$(8,706)	\$ 15,019	\$381,502
------------------------------------	--------	--------	------------	------------	-----------	-----------

See accompanying notes.

F-6

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Operating activities:			
Net income	\$24,623	\$18,693	\$13,289
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation	8,360	7,583	8,607
Amortization	8,441	7,093	5,042
Deferred income tax expense, net	2,148	(2,428)	1,675
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	4,042	4,172	1,471
Excess tax benefit from stock options	(5,317)	(403)	(902)
Stock-based compensation expense	4,940	6,460	8,306
Fixed asset write-off	¾	603	674
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:			
Accounts receivable	(6,196)	(1,610)	(1,776)
Interest receivable	533	97	70
Income tax receivable	¾	¾	(4,940)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,464	(1,521)	(714)
Deposits and other assets	652	(1,013)	(385)
Accounts payable and other liabilities	(3,044)	1,531	6,690
Deferred revenue	262	(812)	2,162
Net cash provided by operating activities	40,908	38,445	39,269
Investing activities:			
Purchases of investments	(4,839)	¾	¾
Sales of investments	63,949	17,159	16,854
Purchases of property and equipment and other assets	(3,656)	(9,420)	(57,358)
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(3,024)	(3,207)	¾
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	52,430	4,532	(40,504)
Financing activities:			
Excess tax benefit from stock options	5,317	403	902
Repurchase of restricted stock to satisfy tax withholding obligations	(695)	(672)	(2,904)
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and ESPP	6,853	2,441	4,044
Net cash provided by financing activities	11,475	2,172	2,042
Effect of foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	(2,616)	655	(188)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	102,197	45,804	619
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	57,785	159,982	205,786
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$159,982	\$205,786	\$206,405

See accompanying notes.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2010

1. ORGANIZATION

CoStar Group, Inc. (the “Company”) has created a comprehensive, proprietary database of commercial real estate information covering the United States (“U.S.”), as well as parts of the United Kingdom and France. Based on its unique database, the Company provides information, marketing and analytic services to the commercial real estate and related business community and operates within two segments, U.S. and International. The Company’s information, marketing and analytic services are typically distributed to its clients under subscription-based license agreements, which typically have a minimum term of one year and renew automatically.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Accounting policies are consistent for each operating segment.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Reclassifications

Certain previously reported amounts in Note 9 and the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows have been reclassified to conform to the Company’s current presentation.

Revenue Recognition

The Company primarily derives revenues by providing access to its proprietary database of commercial real estate information. The Company generally charges a fixed monthly amount for its subscription-based services. Subscription contract rates are based on the number of sites, number of users, organization size, the client’s business focus, geography and the number of services to which a client subscribes. Subscription-based license agreements typically have a minimum term of one year and renew automatically.

Revenue is recognized when (1) there is persuasive evidence of an arrangement, (2) the fee is fixed and determinable, (3) services have been rendered and payment has been contractually earned and (4) collectability is reasonably assured.

Revenues from subscription-based services are recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the agreement. Deferred revenue results from advance cash receipts from customers or amounts billed in advance to customers from the sales of subscription licenses and is recognized over the term of the license agreement.

Cost of Revenues

Cost of revenues principally consists of salaries and related expenses for the Company's researchers who collect and analyze the commercial real estate data that is the basis for the Company's information, marketing and analytic services. Additionally, cost of revenues includes the cost of data from third party data sources, which is expensed as incurred, and the amortization of database technology.

F-8

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES — (CONTINUED)

Significant Customers

No single customer accounted for more than 5% of the Company's revenues for each of the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Foreign Currency Translation

The Company's functional currency in its foreign locations is the local currency. Assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars as of the balance sheet date. Revenues, expenses, gains and losses are translated at the average exchange rates in effect during each period. Gains and losses resulting from translation are included in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss). Net gains or losses resulting from foreign currency exchange transactions are included in the consolidated statements of operations. There were no material gains or losses from foreign currency exchange transactions for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

The components of accumulated other comprehensive loss were as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2009	2010
Foreign currency translation adjustment	\$(4,850)	\$(5,914)
Accumulated net unrealized loss on investments, net of tax	(2,715)	(2,792)
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss	\$(7,565)	\$(8,706)

Advertising Costs

The Company expenses advertising costs as incurred. Advertising expenses were approximately \$2.8 million, \$3.3 million and \$3.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Income Taxes

Deferred income taxes result from temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and the basis reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements. Deferred tax liabilities and assets are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and the tax basis of assets and liabilities using enacted rates expected to be in effect during the year in which the differences reverse. Valuation allowances are provided against assets, including net operating losses, if it is anticipated that some or all of an asset may not be realized through future taxable earnings or implementation of tax planning strategies. Interest and penalties related to income tax matters are recognized in income tax expense.

Net Income Per Share

Net income per share is computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period on a basic and diluted basis. The Company's potentially dilutive securities include stock options and restricted stock. Diluted net income per share considers the impact of potentially dilutive securities except

in periods in which there is a net loss, as the inclusion of the potentially dilutive common shares would have an anti-dilutive effect.

F-9

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES — (CONTINUED)

Stock-Based Compensation

Equity instruments issued in exchange for employee services are accounted for using a fair-value based method and the fair value of such equity instruments is recognized as expense in the consolidated statements of operations.

Stock-based compensation cost is measured at the grant date of the share-based awards based on their fair values, and is recognized on a straight line basis as expense over the vesting periods of the awards, net of an estimated forfeiture rate.

Cash flows resulting from excess tax benefits are classified as part of net cash flows from operating and financing activities. Excess tax benefits represent tax benefits related to stock-based compensation in excess of the associated deferred tax asset for such equity compensation. Net cash proceeds from the exercise of stock options and ESPP were approximately \$6.9 million; \$2.4 million and \$4.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively. There were approximately \$5.3 million, \$403,000 and \$902,000 of excess tax benefits realized from stock option exercises for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Stock-based compensation expense for stock options and restricted stock under equity incentive plans and stock purchases under the employee stock purchase plan included in the Company's results of operations for the years ended December 31, was as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Cost of revenues	\$547	\$888	\$1,504
Selling and marketing	400	1,125	1,518
Software development	423	588	949
General and administrative	3,570	3,859	4,335
Total	\$4,940	\$6,460	\$8,306

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents consist of money market fund investments and U.S. Government Securities. As of December 31, 2009 and 2010, cash of approximately \$519,000 and \$190,000, respectively, was held to support letters of credit for security deposits.

Investments

The Company determines the appropriate classification of debt and equity investments at the time of purchase and reevaluates such designation as of each balance sheet date. The Company considers all of its investments to be available-for-sale. Short-term investments consist of commercial paper, government/federal notes and bonds and corporate obligations with maturities greater than 90 days at the time of purchase. Available-for-sale short-term

investments with contractual maturities beyond one year are classified as current in the Company's consolidated balance sheets because they represent the investment of cash that is available for current operations. Long-term investments consist of auction rate securities ("ARS"). Investments are carried at fair value.

F-10

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES — (CONTINUED)

Concentration of Credit Risk and Financial Instruments

The Company performs ongoing credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition and generally does not require that its customers' obligations to the Company be secured. The Company maintains reserves for credit losses, and such losses have been within management's expectations. The large size and widespread nature of the Company's customer base and the Company's lack of dependence on individual customers mitigate the risk of nonpayment of the Company's accounts receivable. The carrying amount of the accounts receivable approximates the net realizable value. The carrying value of the Company's financial instruments including cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments, long-term investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued expenses approximates fair value.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on the Company's assessment of the collectability of customer accounts. The Company regularly reviews the allowance by considering factors such as historical experience, the aging of the balances, and current economic conditions that may affect a customer's ability to pay.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost. All repairs and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. Depreciation and amortization are calculated on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives of the assets:

Building	Thirty-nine years
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of lease term or useful life
Furniture and office equipment	Five to ten years
Research vehicles	Five years
Computer hardware and software	Two to five years

Qualifying internal-use software costs incurred during the application development stage, which consist primarily of outside services and purchased software license costs, are capitalized and amortized over the estimated useful life of the asset. All other costs are expensed as incurred.

Goodwill, Intangibles and Other Assets

Goodwill represents the excess of costs over the fair value of assets of businesses acquired. Goodwill and intangible assets acquired in a purchase business combination and determined to have an indefinite useful life are not amortized, but instead tested for impairment at least annually by reporting unit. The Company's operating segments, U.S. and International, are the reporting units tested for potential impairment. The goodwill impairment test is a two-step process. The first step is to determine the fair value of each reporting unit. The estimate of the fair value of each reporting unit is based on a projected discounted cash flow model that includes significant assumptions and estimates including the Company's future financial performance and a weighted average cost of capital. The fair value of each reporting unit is compared to the carrying amount of the reporting unit. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds the fair value, then the second step of the process is performed to measure the impairment loss. The impairment loss is measured based on a projected discounted cash flow method using a discount rate determined by the Company's management to be commensurate with the risk in its current business model.

Intangible assets with estimable useful lives that arose from acquisitions on or after July 1, 2001, are amortized over their respective estimated useful lives using a method of amortization that reflects the pattern in which the economic benefits of the intangible assets are consumed or otherwise used up, and are reviewed at least annually for impairment.

F-11

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES — (CONTINUED)

Goodwill, Intangibles and Other Assets— (Continued)

Acquired database technology, customer base and trade names and other are related to the Company's acquisitions (see Notes 3, 7 and 8). Acquired database technology and trade names and other are amortized on a straight-line basis over periods ranging from two to ten years. The acquired intangible asset characterized as customer base consists of one distinct intangible asset composed of acquired customer contracts and the related customer relationships. Acquired customer bases that arose from acquisitions prior to July 1, 2001 are amortized on a straight-line basis principally over a period of ten years. Acquired customer bases that arose from acquisitions on or after July 1, 2001 are amortized on a 125% declining balance method over ten years. The cost of capitalized building photography is amortized on a straight-line basis over five years.

Long-Lived Assets

Long-lived assets, such as property, plant, and equipment, and purchased intangibles subject to amortization, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset or asset group. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized by the amount for which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset.

Assets to be disposed of would be separately presented in the balance sheet and reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell, and would no longer be depreciated. The assets and liabilities of a disposed group classified as held for sale would be presented separately in the appropriate asset and liability sections of the balance sheet.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In April 2008, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued authoritative guidance on existing intangibles or expected future cash flows from those intangibles, which is effective for all fiscal years and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2008. Early adoption of this guidance is not permitted. This guidance requires additional footnote disclosures about the impact of the Company's ability or intent to renew or extend agreements related to existing intangibles or expected future cash flows from those intangibles, how the Company accounts for costs incurred to renew or extend such agreements, the time until the next renewal or extension period by asset class, and the amount of renewal or extension costs capitalized, if any. For any intangibles acquired after December 31, 2008, this guidance requires that the Company consider its experience regarding renewal and extensions of similar arrangements in determining the useful life of such intangibles. If the Company does not have experience with similar arrangements, this guidance requires that the Company use the assumptions of a market participant putting the intangible to its highest and best use in determining the useful life. The Company adopted this guidance on January 1, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

In June 2008, the FASB issued authoritative guidance related to determining whether instruments granted in share-based payment transactions are participating securities. This guidance clarifies that unvested share-based payment awards with a right to receive non-forfeitable dividends are participating securities. This guidance is effective

for all annual and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2008. Adoption of this standard will require the two-class method of calculating basic earnings per share to the extent that unvested share-based payments have the right to receive non-forfeitable dividends. The Company adopted this guidance on January 1, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

F-12

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES — (CONTINUED)

Recent Accounting Pronouncements— (Continued)

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance related to the initial recognition, measurement and subsequent accounting for assets and liabilities arising from pre-acquisition contingencies in a business combination. It requires that such assets acquired or liabilities assumed be initially recognized at fair value at the acquisition date if fair value can be determined during the measurement period. When fair value cannot be determined, companies should typically account for the acquired contingencies using existing guidance. This guidance requires that companies expense acquisition and deal-related costs that were previously allowed to be capitalized. This guidance also requires that a systematic and rational basis for subsequently measuring and accounting for the assets or liabilities be developed depending on their nature. This guidance was effective for contingent assets or liabilities arising from business combinations with an acquisition date on or after January 1, 2009. The adoption of this guidance changes the accounting treatment and disclosure for certain specific items in a business combination with an acquisition date subsequent to December 31, 2008. The Company adopted this guidance on January 1, 2009, and expensed acquisition and deal-related costs of approximately \$700,000 associated primarily with the acquisitions of Property and Portfolio Research, Inc. (“PPR”) and Resolve Technology, Inc. (“Resolve Technology”).

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance for determining whether a market is active or inactive, and whether a transaction is distressed. This guidance is applicable to all assets and liabilities (financial and non-financial) and will require enhanced disclosures. The Company adopted this guidance for its interim period ending June 30, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company’s results of operations or financial position, but did require additional disclosures in the Company’s financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance requiring disclosures in interim reporting periods concerning the fair value of financial instruments that were previously only required in the annual financial statements. The Company adopted the provisions of this guidance for the interim period ending June 30, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company’s results of operations or financial position, but did require additional disclosures in the Company’s financial statements.

In April 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that redefines what constitutes an other-than-temporary impairment, defines credit and non-credit components of an other-than-temporary impairment, prescribes their financial statement treatment, and requires enhanced disclosures relating to such impairments. The Company adopted this guidance for the interim period ending June 30, 2009. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company’s results of operations or financial position, but did require additional disclosures in the Company’s financial statements.

In May 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosure of events that occur after the balance sheet date but before financial statements are issued. This guidance was effective for all interim and annual reporting periods ending after June 15, 2009. This guidance has not and is not expected to result in significant changes in the subsequent events that the Company reports, either through recognition or disclosure, in its financial statements.

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to amend the manner in which entities evaluate whether consolidation is required for variable interest entities (VIE). Previously, variable interest holders were required to determine whether they had a controlling financial interest in a VIE based on a quantitative analysis of the expected

gains and/or losses of the entity. The new guidance requires an enterprise with a variable interest in a VIE to qualitatively assess whether it has a controlling financial interest in the entity, and if so, whether it is the primary beneficiary. This guidance also requires that companies continually evaluate VIEs for consolidation, rather than assessing whether consolidation is required based upon the occurrence of triggering events. This guidance enhances disclosures to provide financial statement users with greater transparency about transfers of financial assets and a transferor's continuing involvement with transferred financial assets. This guidance will be effective for the first annual reporting period beginning after November 15, 2009. This guidance did not materially impact the Company's results of operations, financial position or related disclosures.

F-13

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES — (CONTINUED)

Recent Accounting Pronouncements— (Continued)

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which replaced the previous hierarchy of U.S. GAAP and establishes the FASB Codification as the single source of authoritative U.S. GAAP recognized by the FASB to be applied by nongovernmental entities. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009. This guidance did not materially impact the Company's results of operations or financial position, but did require changes to the disclosures in the Company's financial statements.

In July 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance to improve the consistency with which companies apply fair value measurements guidance to liabilities. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after September 30, 2009. This guidance did not materially impact the Company's results of operations, financial position or related disclosures.

In October 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that amends existing guidance for identifying separate deliverables in a revenue-generating transaction where multiple deliverables exist, and provides guidance for measuring and allocating revenue to one or more units of accounting. In addition, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on arrangements that include software elements. Under this guidance, tangible products containing software components and non-software components that are essential to the functionality of the tangible product will no longer be within the scope of the software revenue recognition guidance. This guidance is effective using the prospective application or the retrospective application for revenue arrangements entered into or materially modified in fiscal years beginning on or after June 15, 2010 with earlier application permitted. This guidance did not materially impact the Company's results of operations or financial position.

In January 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that amends the disclosure requirements related to recurring and nonrecurring fair value measurements. This guidance requires new disclosures on the transfers of assets and liabilities between Level 1 (assets and liabilities measured using observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets) and Level 2 (assets and liabilities measured using inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable) of the fair value measurement hierarchy, including the amount and reason of the transfers. Additionally, this guidance requires a roll forward of activities on purchases, sales, issuance, and settlements of the assets and liabilities measured using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3 fair value measurements). This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009, with the exception of the additional disclosure for Level 3 assets and liabilities, which is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010, and for interim periods within those fiscal years. This guidance did not materially impact the Company's results of operations or financial position, but did require changes to the disclosures in its interim and annual financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance that amends the disclosure requirements related to subsequent events. This guidance includes the definition of a Securities and Exchange Commission filer, removes the definition of a public entity, redefines the reissuance disclosure requirements and allows public companies to omit the disclosure of the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after February 2010. This guidance did not materially impact the Company's results of operations or financial position, but did require changes to the Company's disclosures in its financial statements.

In April 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance related to the criteria that should be met for determining whether the milestone method of revenue recognition is appropriate. A vendor can recognize consideration that is contingent upon achievement of a milestone in its entirety as revenue in the period in which the milestone is achieved if the milestone is: (a) commensurate with either the vendor's performance to achieve the milestone or the enhancement of the value of the item delivered; (b) relates solely to past performance; and (c) is reasonable relative to all deliverables and payment terms in the arrangement. This guidance is effective on a prospective basis for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2010 with early adoption permitted. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

F-14

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

3. ACQUISITIONS

On July 17, 2009, the Company acquired all of the issued and outstanding equity securities of PPR, and its wholly owned subsidiary Property and Portfolio Research Ltd., providers of real estate analysis, market forecasts and credit risk analytics to the commercial real estate industry. The Company acquired PPR from DMG Information, Inc. (“DMGI”) in exchange for 572,999 shares of CoStar common stock, which had an aggregate value of approximately \$20.9 million as of the closing date. On July 17, 2009, 433,667 shares of the Company’s common stock were issued to DMGI, and the remaining 139,332 shares were issued to DMGI on September 28, 2009 after taking into account post-closing purchase price adjustments.

The purchase price for the PPR acquisition was allocated as follows (in thousands):

Working capital	\$(5,479)
Acquired trade names and other	810
Acquired customer base	5,300
Acquired database technology	3,700
Goodwill	16,572
Total purchase consideration	\$20,903

On October 19, 2009, the Company acquired all of the outstanding capital stock of Resolve Technology, Inc. (“Resolve Technology”), a Delaware corporation, for approximately \$4.5 million, consisting of approximately \$3.4 million in cash and 25,886 shares of CoStar common stock, which had an aggregate value of approximately \$1.1 million as of the closing date. The shares are subject to a three-year lockup, pursuant to which one-third were released in October 2010. Additionally, the seller may be entitled to receive (i) a potential deferred cash payment due approximately two years after closing based on the incremental growth of Resolve Technology’s revenue as of September 2011 over its revenue as of September 2009, and (ii) other potential deferred cash payments for successful completion of operational and sales milestones during the period from closing through no later than October 31, 2013, which period may be extended by the parties to a date no later than December 31, 2014.

The purchase price for the Resolve Technology acquisition was allocated as follows (in thousands):

Purchase price in cash and stock	\$4,499
Deferred consideration	3,052
Total purchase consideration	\$7,551
Working capital	\$(550)
Acquired trade names and other	430
Acquired customer base	890
Acquired database technology	1,200
Goodwill	5,581
Total purchase consideration	\$7,551

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

3. ACQUISITIONS— (CONTINUED)

These acquisitions were accounted for as purchase business combinations. For each of the PPR and Resolve Technology acquisitions, the purchase price was allocated to various working capital accounts, developed technology, customer base, trademarks, non-competition agreements and goodwill. The acquired customer base for the acquisitions, which consists of one distinct intangible asset for each acquisition and is composed of acquired customer contracts and the related customer relationships, is being amortized on a 125% declining balance method over ten years. The identified intangibles are being amortized over their estimated useful lives. Goodwill for these acquisitions is not amortized, but is subject to annual impairment tests. Goodwill includes acquired workforce. The results of operations of PPR and Resolve Technology have been consolidated with those of the Company since the respective dates of the acquisitions and are not considered material to the Company's consolidated financial statements. Accordingly, pro forma financial information has not been presented for either of the acquisitions.

4. INVESTMENTS

The Company determines the appropriate classification of debt and equity investments at the time of purchase and re-evaluates such designation as of each balance sheet date. The Company considers all of its investments to be available-for-sale. Short-term investments consist of commercial paper, government/federal notes and bonds and corporate obligations with maturities greater than 90 days at the time of purchase. Available-for-sale short-term investments with contractual maturities beyond one year are classified as current in the Company's consolidated balance sheets because they represent the investment of cash that is available for current operations. Long-term investments consist of variable rate debt instruments with an auction reset feature, referred to as ARS. Investments are carried at fair market value.

Scheduled maturities of investments classified as available-for-sale as of December 31, 2010 are as follows (in thousands):

Maturity	Fair Value
Due in:	
2011	\$46
2012-2015	3,603
2016-2020	73
2021 and thereafter	29,189
Available-for-sale investments	\$32,911

The realized gains on the Company's investments for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 were approximately \$329,000, \$4,000 and \$11,000, respectively. The realized losses on the Company's investments for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 were approximately \$489,000, \$5,000 and \$41,000, respectively.

Unrealized holding gains and losses, net of the related tax effect, on available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings and are reported as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in stockholders' equity until realized. Realized gains and losses from the sale of available-for-sale securities are determined on a specific-identification basis. A decline in market value of any available-for-sale security below cost that is deemed to be other-than-temporary results in a reduction in carrying amount to fair value. The impairment is charged to earnings and a new cost basis for the security is established. Dividend and interest income are recognized when earned.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

4. INVESTMENTS — (CONTINUED)

As of December 31, 2010, the amortized cost basis and fair value of investments classified as available-for-sale are as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
C o l l a t e r a l i z e d d e b t obligations	\$46	\$¾	\$¾	\$46
C o r p o r a t e d e b t securities	3,407	196	¾	3,603
Government-sponsored enterprise obligations	74	¾	(1)	73
Auction rate securities	32,175	¾	(2,986)	29,189
Available-for-sale investments	\$35,702	\$196	\$(2,987)	\$32,911

As of December 31, 2009, the amortized cost basis and fair value of investments classified as available-for-sale are as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
C o l l a t e r a l i z e d d e b t obligations	\$12,987	\$5	\$(14)	\$12,978
C o r p o r a t e d e b t securities	6,396	331	¾	6,727
Residential mortgage-backed securities	394	¾	(7)	387
Government-sponsored enterprise obligations	97	¾	(1)	96
Auction rate securities	32,750	¾	(3,026)	29,724
Available-for-sale investments	\$52,624	\$336	\$(3,048)	\$49,912

The unrealized losses on the Company's investments as of December 31, 2009 and 2010 were generated primarily from changes in interest rates. The losses are considered temporary, as the contractual terms of these investments do not permit the issuer to settle the security at a price less than the amortized cost of the investment. Because the Company does not intend to sell these instruments and it is more likely than not that the Company will not be required to sell these instruments prior to anticipated recovery, which may be maturity, it does not consider these investments to be other-than-temporarily impaired as of December 31, 2009 and 2010. See Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements for further discussion on the fair value of the Company's financial assets.

The components of the Company's investments in an unrealized loss position for more than twelve months consists of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,			
	2009		2010	
	Aggregate Fair	Gross Unrealized	Aggregate Fair	Gross Unrealized

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

	Value	Losses	Value	Losses
Collateralized debt obligations	\$7,578	\$(14)	\$34	\$34
Residential mortgage-backed securities	387	(7)	34	34
Government-sponsored enterprise obligations	96	(1)	73	(1)
Auction rate securities	29,724	(3,026)	29,189	(2,986)
	\$37,785	\$(3,048)	\$29,262	\$(2,987)

F-17

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

4. INVESTMENTS — (CONTINUED)

The Company did not have any investments in an unrealized loss position for less than twelve months as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

The gross unrealized gains on the Company's investments as of December 31, 2009 and 2010 were approximately \$336,000 and \$196,000, respectively.

5. FAIR VALUE

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received in the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. There is a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which categorizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. These tiers include: Level 1, defined as observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets; Level 2, defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

The following table represents the Company's fair value hierarchy for its financial assets (cash, cash equivalents and investments) and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Cash	\$55,496	\$ ¾	\$ ¾	\$ 55,496
Money market funds	150,909	¾	¾	150,909
Collateralized debt obligations	¾	46	¾	46
Corporate debt securities	¾	3,603	¾	3,603
Government-sponsored enterprise obligations	¾	73	¾	73
Auction rate securities	¾	¾	29,189	29,189
Total assets measured at fair value	\$206,405	\$ 3,722	\$ 29,189	\$ 239,316
Liabilities:				
Deferred consideration	\$¾	\$ ¾	\$ 3,222	\$ 3,222
Total liabilities measured at fair value	\$¾	\$ ¾	\$ 3,222	\$ 3,222

The following table represents the Company's fair value hierarchy for its financial assets (cash, cash equivalents and investments) and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets:				
Cash	\$38,721	\$¾	\$¾	\$38,721
Money market funds	167,065	¾	¾	167,065
Collateralized debt obligations	¾	12,978	¾	12,978
Corporate debt securities	¾	6,727	¾	6,727
Residential mortgage-backed securities	¾	387	¾	387
Government-sponsored enterprise obligations	¾	96	¾	96
Auction rate securities	¾	¾	29,724	29,724
Total assets measured at fair value	\$205,786	\$20,188	\$29,724	\$255,698

Liabilities:

Deferred consideration	\$34	\$34	\$3,082	\$3,082
Total liabilities measured at fair value	\$34	\$34	\$3,082	\$3,082

F-18

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

5. FAIR VALUE — (CONTINUED)

The Company's Level 2 assets consist of collateralized debt obligations, corporate debt securities, residential mortgage-backed securities and government-sponsored enterprise obligations, which do not have directly observable quoted prices in active markets. The Company's Level 2 assets are valued using matrix pricing.

The Company's Level 3 assets consist of ARS, whose underlying assets are primarily student loan securities supported by guarantees from the Federal Family Education Loan Program ("FFELP") of the U.S. Department of Education.

The following table summarizes changes in fair value of the Company's Level 3 assets from December 31, 2007 to December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

	Auction Rate Securities
Balance at December 31, 2007	\$53,975
Unrealized loss included in other comprehensive loss	(3,710)
Settlements	(20,925)
Balance at December 31, 2008	29,340
Unrealized gain included in other comprehensive loss	684
Settlements	(300)
Balance at December 31, 2009	29,724
Unrealized gain included in other comprehensive loss	40
Settlements	(575)
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$29,189

ARS are variable rate debt instruments whose interest rates are reset approximately every 28 days. The underlying securities have contractual maturities greater than twenty years. The ARS are recorded at fair value.

As of December 31, 2010, the Company held ARS with \$32.2 million par value, all of which failed to settle at auction. The majority of these investments are of high credit quality with AAA credit ratings and are primarily student loan securities supported by guarantees from the FFELP of the U.S. Department of Education. The Company may not be able to liquidate and fully recover the carrying value of the ARS in the near term. As a result, these securities are classified as long-term investments in the Company's consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2010.

While the Company continues to earn interest on its ARS investments at the contractual rate, these investments are not currently trading and therefore do not currently have a readily determinable market value. Accordingly, the estimated fair value of the ARS no longer approximates par value. The Company has used a discounted cash flow model to determine the estimated fair value of its investment in ARS as of December 31, 2010. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates for interest rates, credit spreads, timing and amount of cash flows, liquidity risk premiums, expected holding periods and default risk. Based on this assessment of fair value, as of December 31, 2010, the Company determined there was a decline in the fair value of its ARS investments of approximately \$3.0 million. The decline was deemed to be a temporary impairment and recorded as an unrealized loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss in stockholders' equity. In addition, while a majority of the ARS are currently rated AAA, if the issuers are unable to successfully close future auctions and/or their credit ratings

deteriorate, the Company may be required to record additional unrealized losses in accumulated other comprehensive loss or an other-than-temporary impairment charge to earnings on these investments.

F-19

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

5. FAIR VALUE — (CONTINUED)

As of December 31, 2010, the Company's Level 3 liabilities consist of a \$3.2 million liability for deferred consideration related to the October 19, 2009 acquisition of Resolve Technology. The deferred consideration includes (i) a potential deferred cash payment due approximately two years after closing based on the incremental growth of Resolve Technology's revenue as of September 2011 over its revenue as of September 2009, and (ii) other potential deferred cash payments for successful completion of operational and sales milestones during the period from closing through no later than October 31, 2013, which period may be extended by the parties to a date no later than December 31, 2014.

The following table summarizes changes in fair value of the Company's Level 3 liabilities from December 31, 2008 to December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

	Deferred Consideration
Balance at December 31, 2008	\$ ¾
Deferred consideration upon acquisition	3,052
Accretion for 2009	30
Balance at December 31, 2009	3,082
Accretion for 2010	140
Balance at December 31, 2010	\$ 3,222

The Company used a discounted cash flow model to determine the estimated fair value of its Level 3 liabilities as of December 31, 2010. The significant assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include the discount rate, estimates for future incremental revenue growth and probabilities for completion of operational and sales milestones.

6. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consists of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2009	2010
Building	\$¾	\$42,920
Leasehold improvements	10,333	16,290
Furniture, office equipment and research vehicles	20,279	21,116
Computer hardware and software	28,259	24,354
	58,871	104,680
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(39,709)	(34,759)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 19,162	\$ 69,921

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

7. GOODWILL

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by operating segment consist of the following (in thousands):

	United States	International	Total
Goodwill, December 31, 2008	\$31,547	\$ 22,781	\$54,328
Acquisitions	23,858	¾	23,858
Effect of foreign currency translation	¾	2,280	2,280
Purchase accounting adjustment	(145)	¾	(145)
Goodwill, December 31, 2009	55,260	25,061	80,321
Effect of foreign currency translation	¾	(719)	(719)
Goodwill, December 31, 2010	\$55,260	\$ 24,342	\$79,602

The Company recorded goodwill of approximately \$1.1 million in connection with the First CLS, Inc. acquisition in April 2008, which was decreased by \$145,000 in 2009, upon completion of purchase accounting. Approximately \$1.7 million in additional goodwill was recorded in connection with the First CLS, Inc. acquisition as a result of the payment of deferred consideration of \$1.7 million in August 2009. The Company recorded goodwill of approximately \$16.6 million in connection with the July 2009 acquisition of PPR. In July 2009, the Company had recorded \$12.1 million in goodwill for the PPR acquisition, which was increased by \$4.5 million in December 2009 upon completion of the Company's review of the income tax attributes and deferred taxes related to the PPR purchase accounting. The Company recorded goodwill of approximately \$5.6 million in connection with the Resolve Technology acquisition in October 2009.

During the fourth quarters of 2009 and 2010, the Company completed the annual impairment test of goodwill and concluded that goodwill was not impaired.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

8. INTANGIBLES AND OTHER ASSETS

Intangibles and other assets consist of the following (in thousands, except amortization period data):

	December 31,		Weighted-Average Amortization Period (in years)
	2009	2010	
Building photography	\$ 11,504	\$ 11,771	5
Accumulated amortization	(9,089)	(10,311)	
Building photography, net	2,415	1,460	
Acquired database technology	25,790	26,034	4
Accumulated amortization	(21,144)	(22,150)	
Acquired database technology, net	4,646	3,884	
Acquired customer base	55,770	55,380	10
Accumulated amortization	(41,208)	(43,349)	
Acquired customer base, net	14,562	12,031	
Acquired trade names and other	9,755	9,640	7
Accumulated amortization	(7,988)	(8,241)	
Acquired trade names and other, net	1,767	1,399	
Intangibles and other assets, net	\$ 23,390	\$ 18,774	

Amortization expense for intangibles and other assets was approximately \$8.4 million, \$7.1 million and \$5.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

In the aggregate, amortization for intangibles and other assets existing as of December 31, 2010 for future periods is expected to be approximately \$3.3 million, \$3.3 million, \$2.4 million, \$1.8 million and \$1.7 million for the years ending December 31, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015, respectively.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

9. INCOME TAXES

The components of the provision (benefit) for income taxes attributable to operations consist of the following (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Current:			
Federal	\$ 18,289	\$ 15,194	\$ 7,061
State	3,842	1,593	1,424
Foreign	¾	26	61
Total current	22,131	16,813	8,546
Deferred:			
Federal	(408)	(2,097)	1,706
State	(52)	(199)	(6)
Foreign	(1,592)	(122)	(25)
Total deferred	(2,052)	(2,418)	1,675
Total provision for income taxes	\$ 20,079	\$ 14,395	\$ 10,221

The components of deferred tax assets and liabilities consists of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2009	2010
Deferred tax assets:		
Reserve for bad debts	\$ 1,093	\$ 921
Accrued compensation	3,156	3,030
Stock compensation	3,168	3,087
Net operating losses	2,985	3,365
Accrued reserve	238	961
Capital loss carryovers	348	312
Unrealized loss on securities	1,076	1,074
Deferred rent	501	1,546
Deferred revenue	214	1,154
Other liabilities	209	226
Total deferred tax assets	12,988	15,676
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Prepays	(638)	(725)
Depreciation	(587)	(2,396)
Intangibles	(3,350)	(4,132)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(4,575)	(7,253)
Net deferred tax asset	8,413	8,423
Valuation allowance	(2,985)	(4,670)
Net deferred taxes	\$ 5,428	\$ 3,753

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

9. INCOME TAXES — (CONTINUED)

For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010, a valuation allowance has been established for certain deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of realization. The valuation allowance for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010 includes an allowance for unrealized losses, capital loss carryforwards, foreign deferred tax assets and state net operating loss carryforwards. The valuation allowance for the deferred tax asset for unrealized losses has been recorded as an adjustment to accumulated other comprehensive loss.

The Company established the valuation allowance because it is more likely than not that a portion of the deferred tax asset for certain items will not be realized based on the weight of available evidence. A valuation allowance was established for the unrealized losses on securities and the capital loss carryovers as the Company has not historically generated capital gains, and it is uncertain whether the Company will generate sufficient capital gains in the future to absorb the capital losses. A valuation allowance was established for the foreign deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of future foreign taxable income. The Company has not had sufficient taxable income historically to utilize the foreign deferred tax assets, and it is uncertain whether the Company will generate sufficient taxable income in the future. Similarly, the Company has established a valuation allowance for net operating losses in certain states where it is uncertain whether the Company will generate sufficient taxable income before the losses expire.

The Company's change in valuation allowance was a decrease of approximately \$62,000 for the year ended December 31, 2009 and an increase of approximately \$1.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The increase for the year ended December 31, 2010 is primarily due to the increase in the valuation allowance for foreign deferred tax assets.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company had U.S. income of approximately \$30.2 million and a foreign loss of approximately \$6.7 million.

The Company's provision for income taxes resulted in effective tax rates that varied from the statutory federal income tax rate as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Expected federal income tax provision at statutory rate	\$ 15,646	\$ 11,581	\$ 8,229
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	2,505	1,778	1,372
Foreign income taxes, net effect	497	347	(1,688)
Stock compensation	87	300	289
Increase in valuation allowance	1,023	1,446	1,657
Disregarded entity election	¾	(1,477)	(992)
Nondeductible compensation	¾	140	945
Other adjustments	321	280	409
Income tax expense, net	\$ 20,079	\$ 14,395	\$ 10,221

The Company paid approximately \$13.4 million, \$19.4 million, and \$12.9 million in income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

The Company has net operating loss carryforwards for international income tax purposes of approximately \$11.8 million, which do not expire.

F-24

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

9. INCOME TAXES — (CONTINUED)

The following tables summarize the activity related to the Company's unrecognized tax benefits (in thousands):

Unrecognized tax benefit as of December 31, 2007	\$233
Increase for current year tax positions	1,451
Decrease for prior year tax positions	(9)
Expiration of the statute of limitation for assessment of taxes	(117)
Unrecognized tax benefit as of December 31, 2008	1,558
Increase for current year tax positions	69
Increase for prior year tax positions	257
Expiration of the statute of limitation for assessment of taxes	(28)
Unrecognized tax benefit as of December 31, 2009	1,856
Increase for current year tax positions	70
Decrease for prior year tax positions	(116)
Expiration of the statute of limitation for assessment of taxes	(44)
Unrecognized tax benefit as of December 31, 2010	\$1,766

Approximately \$244,000 and \$217,000 of the unrecognized tax benefit as of December 31, 2010, and 2009, respectively, would favorably affect the annual effective tax rate, if recognized in future periods. During 2010, the Company recognized approximately \$20,000 of interest and \$7,000 of penalties, and had total accruals of approximately \$184,000 for interest and \$61,000 for penalties as of December 31, 2010. During 2009, the Company recognized approximately \$10,000 of interest benefit and \$20,000 of penalties, and had total accruals of approximately \$164,000 for interest and \$54,000 for penalties as of December 31, 2009. During 2008, the Company recognized approximately \$145,000 of interest and \$9,000 of penalties, and had total accruals of approximately \$173,000 for interest and \$34,000 for penalties as of December 31, 2008. The Company does not anticipate the amount of the unrecognized tax benefits to change significantly over the next twelve months.

The Company's federal and state income tax returns for tax years 2006 through 2009 remain open to examination. The Company's U.K. income tax returns for tax years 2004 through 2009 remain open to examination.

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

The Company leases office facilities and office equipment under various noncancelable-operating leases. The leases contain various renewal options. Rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 was approximately \$8.0 million, \$9.1 million and \$12.0 million, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments as of December 31, 2010 are as follows (in thousands):

2011	\$8,691
2012	7,774
2013	5,331
2014	3,567
2015	3,341
2016 and thereafter	18,749
	\$47,453

F-25

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

10. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES — (CONTINUED)

On December 8, 2009, a former employee filed a lawsuit against the Company in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California alleging violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act and California state wage-and-hour laws and is seeking unspecified damages under those laws. The complaint also seeks to declare a class of all similarly situated employees to pursue similar claims. In May 2010, the parties reached a preliminary agreement to settle this lawsuit, and in June 2010, the Company accrued approximately \$800,000 in general and administrative expense in anticipation of making a settlement payment that will formally resolve this litigation. The Company anticipates the payment will be due during the second quarter of 2011.

Currently, and from time to time, the Company is involved in litigation incidental to the conduct of its business. In accordance with GAAP, the Company records a provision for a liability when it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated. At the present time, while it is reasonably possible that an unfavorable outcome may occur as a result of one or more of the Company's current litigation matters, management has concluded that it is not probable that a loss has been incurred in connection with the Company's current litigation other than as described above. In addition, other than as described above, the Company is unable to estimate the possible loss or range of loss that could result from an unfavorable outcome in the Company's current litigation and accordingly, the Company has not recognized any liability in the consolidated financial statements for unfavorable results, if any, other than described above. Legal defense costs are expensed as incurred.

11. SEGMENT REPORTING

The Company manages its business geographically in two operating segments, with the primary areas of measurement and decision-making being the U.S. and International, which includes the U.K. and France. The Company's subscription-based information services, consisting primarily of CoStar Property Professional®, CoStar Tenant®, CoStar COMPS Professional®, and FOCUS™ services, currently generate approximately 94% of the Company's total revenues. CoStar Property Professional, CoStar Tenant, and CoStar COMPS Professional are generally sold as a suite of similar services and comprise the Company's primary service offering in the U.S. operating segment. FOCUS is the Company's primary service offering in the International operating segment. Management relies on an internal management reporting process that provides revenue and operating segment EBITDA, which is the Company's net income before interest, income taxes, depreciation and amortization. Management believes that operating segment EBITDA is an appropriate measure for evaluating the operational performance of our operating segments. EBITDA is used by management to internally measure operating and management performance and to evaluate the performance of the business. However, this measure should be considered in addition to, not as a substitute for or superior to, income from operations or other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

11. SEGMENT REPORTING— (CONTINUED)

Summarized information by operating segment was as follows (in thousands):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Revenues			
United States	\$ 190,075	\$ 191,556	\$ 208,463
International			
External customers	22,353	18,103	17,797
Intersegment revenue	¾	898	1,266
Total international revenue	22,353	19,001	19,063
Intersegment eliminations	¾	(898)	(1,266)
Total revenues	\$ 212,428	\$ 209,659	\$ 226,260
EBITDA			
United States	\$ 58,813	\$ 47,697	\$ 39,607
International	(2,224)	(1,186)	(3,183)
Total EBITDA	\$ 56,589	\$ 46,511	\$ 36,424
Reconciliation of EBITDA to net income			
EBITDA	\$ 56,589	\$ 46,511	\$ 36,424
Purchase amortization in cost of revenues	(2,284)	(2,389)	(1,471)
Purchase amortization in operating expenses	(4,880)	(3,412)	(2,305)
Depreciation and other amortization	(9,637)	(8,875)	(9,873)
Interest income, net	4,914	1,253	735
Income tax expense, net	(20,079)	(14,395)	(10,221)
Net income	\$ 24,623	\$ 18,693	\$ 13,289

Intersegment revenue is attributable to services performed by Property and Portfolio Research Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of PPR, for PPR. Intersegment revenue is recorded at an amount the Company believes approximates fair value. U.S. EBITDA includes a corresponding cost for the services performed by Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. for PPR. PPR and Property and Portfolio Research Ltd. were acquired in July 2009.

International EBITDA includes a corporate allocation of approximately \$1.1 million, \$500,000 and \$400,000 for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively. The corporate allocation represents costs incurred for U.S. employees involved in management and expansion activities of the Company's International operating segment.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

11. SEGMENT REPORTING— (CONTINUED)

Summarized information by operating segment consists of the following (in thousands):

	December 31,	
	2009	2010
Property and equipment, net		
United States	\$14,851	\$67,076
International	4,311	2,845
T o t a l p r o p e r t y a n d e q u i p m e n t , net	\$19,162	\$69,921
Goodwill		
United States	\$55,260	\$55,260
International	25,061	24,342
Total goodwill	\$80,321	\$79,602
Assets		
United States	\$424,479	\$469,449
International	44,558	39,038
Total segment assets	\$469,037	\$508,487
Reconciliation of segment assets to total assets		
Total segment assets	\$469,037	\$508,487
Investment in subsidiaries	(18,344)	(18,344)
Intercompany receivables	(46,114)	(50,495)
Total assets	\$404,579	\$439,648
Liabilities		
United States	\$37,838	\$52,482
International	46,678	47,944
Total segment liabilities	\$84,516	\$100,426
Reconciliation of segment liabilities to total liabilities		
Total segment liabilities	\$84,516	\$100,426
Intercompany payables	(38,943)	(42,280)
Total liabilities	\$45,573	\$58,146

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

12. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Preferred Stock

The Company has 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized for issuance. The Board of Directors may issue the preferred stock from time to time as shares of one or more classes or series.

Common Stock

The Company has 30,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value, authorized for issuance. Dividends may be declared and paid on the common stock, subject in all cases to the rights and preferences of the holders of preferred stock and authorization by the Board of Directors. In the event of liquidation or winding up of the Company and after the payment of all preferential amounts required to be paid to the holders of any series of preferred stock, any remaining funds shall be distributed among the holders of the issued and outstanding common stock.

13. NET INCOME PER SHARE

The following table sets forth the calculation of basic and diluted net income per share (in thousands except per share data):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2008	2009	2010
Numerator:			
Net income	\$24,623	\$18,693	\$13,289
Denominator:			
Denominator for basic net income per share $\frac{3}{4}$ weighted-average outstanding shares	19,372	19,780	20,330
Effect of dilutive securities:			
Stock options and restricted stock	178	145	377
Denominator for diluted net income per share $\frac{3}{4}$ weighted-average outstanding shares	19,550	19,925	20,707
Net income per share $\frac{3}{4}$ basic	\$1.27	\$0.95	\$0.65
Net income per share $\frac{3}{4}$ diluted	\$1.26	\$0.94	\$0.64

Stock options to purchase approximately 250,200, 483,800 and 167,000 shares that were outstanding as of December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the exercise price of the stock options was greater than the average share price of the common shares during the period and, therefore, the effect would have been anti-dilutive.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

14. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

Stock Incentive Plans

In June 1998, the Company's Board of Directors adopted the 1998 Stock Incentive Plan (as amended, the "1998 Plan") prior to consummation of the Company's initial public offering. In April 2007, the Company's Board of Directors adopted the CoStar Group, Inc. 2007 Stock Incentive Plan (as amended, the "2007 Plan"), subject to stockholder approval, which was obtained on June 7, 2007. All shares of common stock that were authorized for issuance under the 1998 Plan that, as of June 7, 2007, remained available for issuance under the 1998 Plan (excluding shares subject to outstanding awards) were rolled into the 2007 Plan and, as of that date, no shares of common stock were available under the 1998 Plan. The 1998 Plan continues to govern unexercised and unexpired awards issued under the 1998 Plan prior to June 7, 2007. The 1998 Plan provided for the grant of stock and stock options to officers, directors and employees of the Company and its subsidiaries. Stock options granted under the 1998 Plan could be incentive or non-qualified. The exercise price for an incentive stock option may not be less than the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The vesting period of the options and restricted stock grants was determined by the Board of Directors and was generally three to four years. Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control, as defined in the 1998 Plan, all outstanding unexercisable options and restricted stock grants under the 1998 Plan immediately become exercisable.

The 2007 Plan provides for the grant of stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, and stock appreciation rights to officers, employees, directors and consultants of the Company and its subsidiaries. Stock options granted under the 2007 Plan may be non-qualified or may qualify as incentive stock options. Except in limited circumstances related to a merger or other acquisition, the exercise price for an option may not be less than the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. The vesting period for each grant of options, restricted stock, restricted stock units and stock appreciation rights under the 2007 Plan is determined by the Board of Directors and is generally three to four years, subject to minimum vesting periods for restricted stock and restricted stock units of at least one year. The Company has reserved the following shares of common stock for issuance under the 2007 Plan (including an increase of 1,300,000 shares of common stock pursuant to an amendment to the 2007 Plan approved by the Stockholders on June 2, 2010): (a) 2,300,000 shares of common stock, plus (b) 121,875 shares of common stock that were authorized for issuance under the 1998 Plan that, as of June 7, 2007, remained available for issuance under the 1998 Plan (not including any Shares that were subject as of such date to outstanding awards under the 1998 Plan), and (c) any shares of common stock subject to outstanding awards under the 1998 Plan as of June 7, 2007 that on or after such date cease for any reason to be subject to such awards (other than by reason of exercise or settlement of the awards to the extent they are exercised for or settled in vested and nonforfeitable shares). Unless terminated sooner, the 2007 Plan will terminate in April 2017, but will continue to govern unexercised and unexpired awards issued under the 2007 Plan prior to that date. Approximately 430,000 and 1.9 million shares were available for future grant under the 2007 Plan as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

14. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS — (CONTINUED)

Stock Incentive Plans — (Continued)

Option activity was as follows:

	Number of Shares	Range of Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Weighted- Average Remaining Contract Life (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value (in thousands)
Outstanding at December 31, 2007	967,845	16.20 - \$54.12	\$33.25		
Granted	93,900	43.99 - \$55.07	\$45.76		
Exercised	(198,434)	17.77 - \$45.18	\$33.05		
Canceled or expired	(47,725)	39.00 - \$52.13	\$46.36		
Outstanding at December 31, 2008	815,586	16.20 - \$55.07	\$33.98		
Granted	267,756	25.00 - \$40.13	\$31.05		
Exercised	(85,228)	17.35 - \$36.38	\$26.20		
Canceled or expired	(44,818)	30.06 - \$46.81	\$39.40		
Outstanding at December 31, 2009	953,296	16.20 - \$55.07	\$33.60		
Granted	160,892	40.06 - \$54.51	\$43.49		
Exercised	(137,724)	16.20 - \$45.18	\$27.01		
Canceled or expired	(30,768)	18.31 - \$44.86	\$37.83		
Outstanding at December 31, 2010	945,696	17.34 - \$55.07	\$36.10	5.70	\$20,293
Exercisable at December 31, 2008	701,975	16.20 - \$54.12	\$31.84		
Exercisable at December 31, 2009	650,063	16.20 - \$55.07	\$33.60		
Exercisable at December 31, 2010	609,274	17.34 - \$55.07	\$35.21	4.05	\$13,618

The aggregate intrinsic value is calculated as the difference between (i) the closing price of the common stock at December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 and (ii) the exercise prices of the underlying awards, multiplied by the shares underlying options as of December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, that had an exercise price less than the closing price on that date. Options to purchase 198,434, 85,228, and 137,724 shares were exercised for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively. The aggregate intrinsic value of options exercised, determined as of the date of option exercise, was \$3.4 million, \$1.2 million and \$2.5 million, respectively.

At December 31, 2010, there was \$9.9 million of unrecognized compensation cost related to stock-based payments, net of forfeitures, which is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average-period of 2.2 years.

The weighted-average grant date fair value of each option granted during the years ended December 2008, 2009 and 2010 was \$27.81, \$12.72 and \$16.54, respectively.

F-31

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

14. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS — (CONTINUED)

Stock Incentive Plans — (Continued)

The Company estimated the fair value of each option granted on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, using the assumptions noted in the following table:

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2008		2009		2010	
Dividend yield	0	%	0	%	0	%
Expected volatility	59	%	43	%	40	%
Risk-free interest rate	3.0	%	2.2	%	2.2	%
Expected life (in years)	5		5		5	

The assumptions above and the estimation of expected forfeitures are based on multiple facts, including historical employee behavior patterns of exercising options and post-employment termination behavior, expected future employee option exercise patterns, and the historical volatility of the Company's stock price.

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

Range of Exercise Price	Number of Shares	Options Outstanding		Options Exercisable	
		Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life (in years)	Weighted- Average Exercise Price	Number of Shares	Weighted- Average Exercise Price
\$17.34 - \$22.87	122,167	1.50	\$20.19	122,167	\$20.19
\$23.08 - \$24.01	1,625	1.06	\$23.80	1,625	\$23.80
\$25.00 - \$25.00	124,357	8.16	\$25.00	39,222	\$25.00
\$25.01 - \$30.06	110,290	2.63	\$28.77	110,290	\$28.77
\$36.48 - \$39.00	168,564	6.07	\$37.92	100,551	\$38.54
\$39.53 - \$42.10	52,978	5.01	\$40.04	38,762	\$40.02
\$42.29 - \$42.29	106,600	9.19	\$42.29	¾	\$0.00
\$42.71 - \$44.86	146,886	6.04	\$44.18	106,457	\$44.40
\$45.18 - \$54.51	97,229	6.46	\$51.60	80,200	\$50.98
\$55.07 - \$55.07	15,000	7.67	\$55.07	10,000	\$55.07
\$17.34 - \$55.07	945,696	5.70	\$36.10	609,274	\$35.21

The following table presents unvested restricted stock awards activity for the year ended December 31, 2010:

Unvested restricted stock at December 31,	Weighted-Average	
	Number of Shares	Grant Date Fair Value per Share
2009	419,347	\$ 39.40

Edgar Filing: COSTAR GROUP INC - Form 10-K

Granted	106,931	\$	43.01
Vested	(169,363)	\$	47.54
Canceled	(42,541)	\$	38.63
Unvested restricted stock at December 31, 2010	314,374	\$	39.09

F-32

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

14. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS — (CONTINUED)

Employee 401(k) Plan

The Company maintains a 401(k) Plan (the “401(k)”) as a defined contribution retirement plan for all eligible employees. The 401(k) provides for tax-deferred contributions of employees’ salaries, limited to a maximum annual amount as established by the Internal Revenue Service. In 2008, the Company matched 100% of employee contributions up to a maximum of 6% of total compensation. In 2009 and 2010, the Company matched 50% of employee contributions up to a maximum of 6% of total compensation. Amounts contributed to the 401(k) by the Company to match employee contributions for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 were approximately \$2.6 million, \$1.4 million and \$1.5 million, respectively. The Company paid administrative expenses in connection with the 401(k) plan of approximately \$28,000 for the year ended December 31, 2008 and \$0 for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Employee Pension Plan

The Company maintains a company personal pension plan for all eligible employees in the Company’s London, England office. The plan is a defined contribution plan. Employees are eligible to contribute a portion of their salaries, subject to a maximum annual amount as established by the Inland Revenue. The Company contributes a match subject to the percentage of the employees’ contribution. Amounts contributed to the plan by the Company to match employee contributions for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010 were approximately \$265,000, \$130,000 and \$160,000, respectively.

Employee Stock Purchase Plan

As of August 1, 2006, the Company introduced an Employee Stock Purchase Plan (“ESPP”), pursuant to which eligible employees participating in the plan authorize the Company to withhold from the employees’ compensation and use the withheld amounts to purchase shares of the Company’s common stock at 90% of the market price. Participating employees are able to purchase common stock under this plan during the offering period. The offering period begins the second Saturday before each of the Company’s regular pay dates and ends on each of the Company’s regular pay dates. There were 72,237 and 64,106 shares available for purchase under the plan as of December 31, 2009 and 2010, respectively and approximately 6,600 and 8,100 shares of the Company’s common stock were purchased during 2009 and 2010, respectively.

15. LEASE RESTRUCTURING CHARGES

Effective September 24, 2010, the Company consolidated its three facilities located in the Boston, Massachusetts area, including the facilities used by CoStar, PPR, and Resolve Technology, into one facility. The consolidation of the facilities resulted in a lease restructuring charge of approximately \$1.3 million recorded in general and administrative expense in the third quarter of 2010. The third quarter lease restructuring charge included amounts for the abandonment of certain lease space and the impairment of leasehold improvements. The amount of the lease restructuring charge was based upon management’s best estimate of amounts and timing of certain events that will occur in the future. It is possible that the actual outcome of these events may differ from estimates. Changes will be made to the restructuring accrual when any such differences become determinable.

COSTAR GROUP, INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — (CONTINUED)

15. LEASE RESTRUCTURING CHARGES — (CONTINUED)

The following table summarizes the amount included in accrued expenses related to these restructuring charges at December 31, 2010 (in thousands):

	Lease Restructuring Accrual
Accrual balance at December 31, 2009	\$ 34
Original charge	1,160
Rent payments made in 2010	(229)
Accrual balance at December 31, 2010	\$ 931

16. PURCHASE OF BUILDING

In February 2010, the Company purchased a 169,429 square-foot office building located at 1331 L Street, NW in downtown Washington, DC together with the tenancy in the underlying ground lease for the property for a purchase price of \$41.25 million in cash. This facility is being used primarily by the Company's U.S. segment. The Company began relocating its Bethesda-based employees and infrastructure to the new building starting in July 2010 and completed its relocation by October 15, 2010, the expiration date of the lease of its Bethesda property.

In connection with the purchase of the building, the Company assumed the ground lease for the parcel of land under the building. The lease, which expires February 29, 2088, requires the payment of minimum annual rent of \$778,000 through February 29, 2012, then approximately \$918,000 annually through February 29, 2024. Thereafter, the minimum rate is adjusted to fair market value, as defined in the lease, once every 7 years.

The purchase of the building was accounted for as an asset acquisition. The total purchase price of \$41.25 million, plus \$1.7 million of direct transaction costs was allocated to the building. No other significant assets or liabilities were acquired in this transaction.

17. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On February 2, 2011, 1331 L Street Holdings, LLC ("Holdings"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, and GLL L-Street 1331, LLC ("GLL"), an affiliate of Munich-based GLL Real Estate Partners GmbH, entered into a purchase and sale agreement pursuant to which (i) Holdings agreed to sell to GLL its interest in the 169,429 square-foot office building located at 1331 L Street, NW, in downtown Washington, DC, and (ii) CoStar Realty Information, Inc. ("CoStar Realty"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, agreed to enter into a lease expiring May 31, 2025 (with two 5-year renewal options) with GLL to lease back 149,514 square feet of the office space located in this building, which the Company will continue to use as its corporate headquarters. The closing of the sale took place on February 18, 2011. The aggregate consideration paid by GLL to Holdings pursuant to the purchase and sale agreement was \$101.0 million in cash, \$15.0 million of which is being held in escrow to fund additional build-out and planned improvements at the building.

The lease is effective as of June 1, 2010 and will expire May 31, 2025. The initial base rent is \$38.50 per square foot of occupied space, escalating 2.5% per year commencing June 1, 2011. The Company's obligation to pay rent

increases proportionately over the course of the first year of the lease as certain scheduled completion dates for the Company's build out, on a floor-by-floor basis, are reached. The Company's occupied space under the lease will consist of the entire rented premises as of June 1, 2011, from and after which the Company will owe rent on the entire leased premises. Annual lease payments for 2011 will be approximately \$5.0 million.

F-34
