HUB GROUP INC Form 10-K February 25, 2013 Table of Contents

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

x Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

OR

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Commission File No. 0-27754

**HUB GROUP, INC.** 

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of

36-4007085 (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation of organization)

**Identification No.)** 

3050 Highland Parkway, Suite 100

**Downers Grove, Illinois 60515** 

(Address and zip code of principal executive offices)

(630) 271-3600

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

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

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

Class A Common Stock, \$.01 par value

(Title of Class)

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 229.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x 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. x

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 definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large Accelerated Filer x 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 x

The aggregate market value of the Registrant  $\,$ s voting stock held by non-affiliates on June 30, 2012, based upon the last reported sale price on that date on the NASDAQ Global Select Market of \$36.13 per share, was \$1,278,187,485.

On February 13, 2013, the Registrant had 36,964,886 outstanding shares of Class A Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share, and 662,296 outstanding shares of Class B Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share.

# **Documents Incorporated by Reference**

The Registrant's definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on May 9, 2013 (the Proxy Statement') is incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K to the extent stated herein. Except with respect to information specifically incorporated by reference in this Form 10-K, the Proxy Statement is not deemed to be filed as a part hereof.

#### PART I

#### Item 1. BUSINESS General

Hub Group, Inc. (Company, we, us or our) is a Delaware corporation that was incorporated on March 8, 1995. We are one of North America's leading asset-light freight transportation management companies. We offer comprehensive intermodal, truck brokerage and logistics services. Since our founding in 1971, we have grown to become the largest intermodal marketing company (IMC) in the United States and one of the largest truck brokers. Through our network, we have the ability to arrange for the movement of freight in and out of every major city in the United States, Canada and Mexico. We utilize an asset-light strategy in order to minimize our investment in equipment and facilities and reduce our capital requirements. We arrange freight movement for our customers through transportation carriers and equipment providers.

In April 2011, we acquired all of the capital stock of Exel Transportation Services, Inc. (ETS). ETS is now our wholly-owned subsidiary, operating independently and renamed Mode Transportation, LLC (Mode). Mode has approximately 221 agents, consisting of 93 sales/operating agents, known as Independent Business Owners (IBOs), who sell and operate the business throughout North America and 128 sales only agents. Mode also has a company managed operation and corporate offices in Dallas, TX, a temperature protected services division operated out of our Downers Grove, IL headquarters and corporate offices in Memphis, TN.

We report two distinct business segments. The first segment is Mode, which includes the acquired Mode business only. The second segment is Hub, which is all business other than Mode. Both segments offer intermodal, truck brokerage and logistics services. Hub Group includes both segments.

Hub operates through a network of operating centers throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Each operating center is strategically located in a market with a significant concentration of shipping customers and one or more railheads. Hub services a large and diversified customer base in a broad range of industries, including consumer products, retail and durable goods.

Mode markets and operates its freight transportation services primarily through its network of IBOs who enter into contracts with Mode. Mode s company managed operation includes a business arranging for the transportation of raw materials and finished products for a major food producer and, to a lesser extent, other highway brokerage, intermodal and logistics operations.

#### **Services Provided**

Our transportation services for both the Hub and the Mode segments can be broadly placed into the following categories:

*Intermodal.* As an IMC, we arrange for the movement of our customers freight in containers and trailers, typically over long distances of 750 miles or more. We contract with railroads to provide transportation for the long-haul portion of the shipment and with local trucking companies, known as drayage companies, for pickup and delivery. As part of our intermodal services, we negotiate rail and drayage rates, electronically track shipments in transit, consolidate billing and handle claims for freight loss or damage on behalf of our customers.

We use our network to access containers and trailers owned by leasing companies, railroads and steamship lines. We are able to track trailers and containers entering a service area and reuse that equipment to fulfill the customers—outbound shipping requirements. This effectively allows us to—capture—containers and trailers and keep them within our network. As of December 31, 2012, Hub has exclusive access to approximately 9,111 rail-owned containers for our dedicated use on the Union Pacific (UP) and the Norfolk Southern (NS) rails. In addition to these rail-owned containers, as of December 31, 2012, we had a total of 14,756 53—private containers for use on the UP and NS. We financed 6,167 of these containers with operating leases and we own 8,589 containers. These financing arrangements are included in Note 12 to the consolidated financial statements.

As of December 31, 2012, approximately 66% of Hub s drayage needs were met by our subsidiary, Comtrak Logistics, Inc. (Comtrak), which assists us in providing reliable, cost effective intermodal services to our customers. Comtrak has terminals in Atlanta, Birmingham, Charleston, Charlotte, Chattanooga, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus (OH), Dallas, Harrisburg, Huntsville, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Memphis, Nashville, Newark, Los Angeles, Perry (FL), Philadelphia, Savannah, Seattle, St. Louis, Stockton, and Titusville (FL). As of December 31, 2012, Comtrak owned 260 tractors, leased or owned 448 trailers, employed 296 drivers and contracted with 2,178 owner-operators.

*Truck Brokerage (Highway Services).* We are one of the largest truck brokers in the United States, providing customers with another option for their transportation needs. We match the customers needs with carriers capacity to provide the most effective service and price combination. We have contracts with a substantial base of carriers allowing us to meet the varied needs of our customers. As part of the truck brokerage services, we negotiate rates, track shipments in transit and handle claims for freight loss and damage on behalf of our customers.

1

Logistics and Other Services. Hub s logistics business operates under the name of Unyson Logistics. Unyson Logistics is comprised of a network of logistics professionals dedicated to developing, implementing and operating customized logistics solutions. Unyson offers a wide range of transportation management services and technology solutions including shipment optimization, load consolidation, mode selection, carrier management, load planning and execution and web-based shipment visibility. Unyson Logistics operates throughout North America, providing operations through its main operating location in St. Louis with additional support locations in Boston, Chicago, Cleveland and Minneapolis. Certain Mode agents provide logistics services. Our multi-modal transportation capabilities through both the Hub and Mode segments include small parcel, heavyweight, expedited, less-than-truckload, truckload, intermodal and railcar.

#### **Hub Network**

Hub s entire network is interactively connected through Hub s proprietary Network Management System and Mode s network is connected through its third party transportation management system. This enables us to move freight into and out of every major city in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

In a typical intermodal transaction, the customer contacts one of Hub s intermodal operating centers or a Mode IBO to place an order. The operating center/IBO determines the price, obtains the necessary intermodal equipment, arranges for it to be delivered to the customer by a drayage company and, after the freight is loaded, arranges for the transportation of the container or trailer to the rail ramp. Relevant information is entered into our system by the assigned operating center/IBO. Our predictive track and trace technology then monitors the shipment to ensure that it arrives as scheduled and alerts the customer service personnel if there are service delays. The operating center/IBO then arranges for and confirms delivery by a drayage company at destination. After unloading, the empty equipment is made available for reloading by the operating center/IBO for the delivery market.

We provide truck brokerage services to our customers in a similar manner. In a typical truck brokerage transaction, the customer contacts one of Hub's highway operating centers or a Mode IBO to obtain a price quote for a particular freight movement. The customer then provides appropriate shipping information to the Hub operating center/IBO. The operating center/IBO makes the delivery appointment and arranges with the appropriate carrier to pick up the freight. Once it receives confirmation that the freight has been picked up, the operating center/IBO monitors the movement of the freight until it reaches its destination and the delivery has been confirmed. If the carrier notifies us that after delivering the load it will need additional freight, we may notify other operating centers or IBOs. Although under no obligation to do so, those parties may then attempt to secure additional freight for the carrier.

## **Marketing and Customers**

We believe that fostering long-term customer relationships is critical to our success. Through these long-term relationships, we are able to better understand our customers needs and tailor our transportation services to the specific customer, regardless of the customer s size or volume. Hub currently has full-time marketing representatives at various operating centers and sales offices with primary responsibility for servicing local, regional and national accounts. These sales representatives directly or indirectly report to our Chief Marketing Officer. This model allows us to provide Hub customers with both a local marketing contact and access to our competitive rates as a result of being a large, national transportation service provider. Mode IBOs and sales agents are located throughout North America and also enjoy local marketing advantages with access to the Hub network and carrier base. Mode IBOs may act to both generate business and to perform the transportation brokerage services. Mode sales agents are focused entirely on the sales effort and utilize an IBO to service the freight.

The Mode acquisition diversified our customer base with more small and medium sized customers. While Hub has traditionally focused to a significant degree on larger national accounts, Mode IBOs and sales agents are often able to devote more attention to smaller and medium sized shippers and develop long-term relationships with them. Further, Mode IBOs and sales agents tend to have more highway brokerage shipments than intermodal shipments, additionally diversifying the company s business mix.

Our marketing efforts have produced a large, diverse customer base, with no one customer representing more than 10% of our total revenue in 2012 in either reporting segment. We service customers in a wide variety of industries, including consumer products, retail and durable goods.

## **Management Information Systems**

A primary component of our business strategy is the continued improvement of our Network Management System and other technology to ensure that we remain a leader among transportation providers in information processing for transportation services. Our Network Management System consists of proprietary software running on a combination of platforms which includes the IBM iSeries and Microsoft Windows Server environments located at a secure offsite data center. All of Hub s operating centers are linked together with the data center using an MPLS (Multi-Protocol Label Switching) network. This configuration provides a real time environment for transmitting data among our operating

centers and headquarters. We also make extensive use of electronic commerce (e-Commerce), allowing each operating center to communicate electronically with each railroad, many drayage companies, certain trucking companies and those customers with e-Commerce capabilities.

2

Hub s Network Management System is the primary mechanism used by Hub operating centers to handle the Hub intermodal and truck brokerage business. The Network Management System processes customer transportation requests, tenders and tracks shipments, prepares customer billing, establishes account profiles and retains critical information for analysis. The Network Management System provides connectivity with each of the major rail carriers. This enables Hub to electronically tender and track shipments in a real time environment. In addition, the Network Management System s e-Commerce features offer customers with e-Commerce capability a completely paperless process, including load tendering, shipment tracking, billing and remittance processing. We aggressively pursue opportunities to establish e-Commerce interfaces with our customers, railroads, trucking companies and drayage companies.

Mode utilizes a third party transportation management system to manage its business, to process customer transportation requests, tender and track shipments and prepare customer billing. The system also provides connectivity with each of the major rail carriers, customers and truck carriers.

To manage our Unyson Logistics business, we use specialized software that includes planning and execution solutions. This sophisticated transportation management software enables us to offer supply chain planning and logistics managing, modeling, optimizing and monitoring for our customers. We use this software when offering logistics management services to customers that ship via multiple modes, including intermodal, truckload, and less-than-truckload, allowing us to optimize mode and carrier selection and routing for our customers. This software is integrated with Hub s Network Management System and our accounting system.

Hub s website, www.hubgroup.com, and Mode s website www.modetransportation.com are each designed to allow Hub and Mode vendors and customers to easily do business online. Through Vendor Interface, Hub tenders loads to drayage carriers using the Internet rather than phones or faxes. Vendor Interface also captures event status information, allows vendors to view outstanding paperwork requirements and helps facilitate paperless invoicing. Hub currently tenders substantially all of its drayage loads using Vendor Interface or e-Commerce. Hub exchanges information on available loads, available carrier capacity and updates to event status information with its truck brokerage vendors using Trucker Advantage or e-Commerce. Mode tenders loads to its drayage carriers and captures event status information through a carrier portal. Through the carrier portal, Mode exchanges information on available loads, available carrier capacity and updates to event status information with its truck brokerage vendors. Through Hub s Customer Advantage and Mode s customer portal, Hub and Mode customers receive immediate pricing, place orders, track shipments, and review historical shipping data through a variety of reports over the Internet. All of Hub s Internet applications are integrated with the Network Management System.

## Relationship with Railroads

A key element of our business strategy is to strengthen our close working relationship with the major intermodal railroads in the United States. Due to our size and relative importance, some railroads have dedicated support personnel to focus on our day-to-day service requirements. On a regular basis, our senior executives and each of the railroads meet to discuss major strategic issues concerning intermodal transportation.

We have relationships with each of the following major railroads:

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Canadian National Canadian Pacific Florida East Coast Kansas City Southern Norfolk Southern Union Pacific

We also have relationships with each of the following major service providers: APL, CMA CGM (America) Inc., COSCO (China Ocean Shipping (Group) Company), Crowley Maritime Corporation, Evergreen Shipping Agency (America) Corp., Express System Intermodal Inc., Domestic Intermodal America, Hamburg Sud Group, Hanjin Shipping, Hapag-Lloyd (America) Inc., Hyundai Merchant Marine, K-Line America, Maersk Sea-Land, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (America) Inc., NYK (Nippon Usen Kaisha) Line, Triton Overseas Transport, Yang Ming (America) Corp., and Zim Integrated Shipping Services.

Transportation rates are market driven. We sometimes negotiate with the railroads or other major service providers on a route or customer specific basis. Consistent with industry practice, some of the rates we negotiate are special commodity quotations (SCQs), which provide discounts from published price lists based on competitive market factors and are designed by the railroads or major service providers to attract new business or to retain existing business. SCQ rates are generally issued for the account of a single IMC. SCQ rates apply to specific customers in specified shipping lanes for a specific period of time, usually up to 12 months.

#### **Relationship with Drayage Companies**

Hub has a Quality Drayage Program, under which participants commit to provide high quality drayage service along with clean and safe equipment, maintain a defined on-time performance level and follow specified procedures designed to minimize freight loss and damage. We negotiate drayage rates for transportation between specific origin and destination points.

We also provide drayage services with our own drayage operations, which we operate through our subsidiary Comtrak. Our drayage operations employ their own drivers and also contract with owner-operators who supply their own trucks.

3

## **Relationship with Trucking Companies**

Our truck brokerage operation has a large number of active trucking companies that we use to transport freight. The Hub operating centers and Mode IBOs deal daily with these carriers on an operational level. Our corporate headquarters handles the administrative and regulatory aspects of the trucking company relationship. Our relationships with these trucking companies are important since these relationships determine pricing, load coverage and overall service.

#### **Risk Management and Insurance**

We require all drayage companies participating in Hub s Quality Drayage Program to carry at least \$1.0 million in general liability insurance, \$1.0 million in truckman s auto liability insurance and a minimum of \$100,000 in cargo insurance. Railroads, which are self-insured, provide limited cargo protection, generally up to \$250,000 per shipment. To cover freight loss or damage when a carrier s liability cannot be established or a carrier s insurance is insufficient to cover the claim, we carry our own cargo insurance with a limit of \$1.0 million per container or trailer and a limit of \$20.0 million in the aggregate. We also carry general liability insurance with limits of \$1.0 million per occurrence and \$2.0 million in the aggregate with a companion \$50.0 million umbrella policy on this general liability insurance.

We maintain separate insurance policies to cover potential exposure from our company-owned drayage operations. We carry commercial general liability insurance with a limit of \$1.0 million per occurrence, subject to a \$2.0 million policy aggregate limit, and trucker s automobile liability insurance with a limit of \$1.0 million per occurrence. Additionally, we have an umbrella excess liability policy with a limit of \$19.0 million. We also maintain motor truck cargo liability insurance with a limit of \$1.0 million per occurrence.

#### **Government Regulation**

Hub Group, Inc. and various subsidiaries, including Mode Transportation, LLC, are licensed by the Department of Transportation as brokers in arranging for the transportation of general commodities by motor vehicle. To the extent that the Hub operating centers and Mode IBOs perform truck brokerage services, they do so under these licenses. The Department of Transportation prescribes qualifications for acting in this capacity, including a \$10,000 surety bond that we have posted. In addition, Hub and Mode each have customs bonds. To date, compliance with these regulations has not had a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition. However, the transportation industry is subject to legislative or regulatory changes that can affect the economics of the industry by requiring changes in operating practices or influencing the demand for, and cost of providing, transportation services.

#### Competition

The transportation services industry is highly competitive. We compete against other IMCs, as well as logistics companies, third party brokers, trucking companies and railroads that market their own intermodal services. Several larger trucking companies have entered into agreements with railroads to market intermodal services nationwide. Competition is based primarily on freight rates, quality of service, reliability, transit time and scope of operations. Several transportation service companies and trucking companies, and all of the major railroads, have substantially greater financial and other resources than we do

#### General

*Employees:* As of December 31, 2012, Hub Group had 1,652 employees consisting of 1,521 Hub employees or 1,224 employees excluding drivers and 131 Mode employees. We are not a party to any collective bargaining agreements and consider our relationship with our employees to be satisfactory.

As of December 31, 2012, Mode had 128 sales only agents and 93 IBOs (sales/operating agents). Nearly all of the sales agents and IBOs are under contract with Mode.

*Other:* No material portion of our operations is subject to renegotiation of profits or termination of contracts at the election of the federal government. Our business is seasonal to the extent that certain customer groups, such as retail, are seasonal.

## **Periodic Reports**

Upon written request, our annual report to the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K will be furnished to stockholders free of charge; write to: Public Relations

Department, Hub Group, Inc., 3050 Highland Parkway, Suite 100, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515. Our filings are also accessible through our website at <a href="https://www.hubgroup.com">www.hubgroup.com</a> as soon as reasonably practicable after we file or furnish such reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

4

#### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS

Because our business is concentrated on intermodal marketing, any decrease in demand for intermodal transportation services compared to other transportation services could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

We derived 65% of our revenue from our intermodal services in both 2012 and 2011 as compared to 70% in 2010. As a result, any decrease in demand for intermodal transportation services compared to other transportation services could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

Because we depend on railroads for our operations, our operating results and financial condition are likely to be adversely affected by any reduction or deterioration in rail service.

We depend on the major railroads in the United States for virtually all of the intermodal services we provide. In many markets, rail service is limited to one or a few railroads. Consequently, a reduction in, or elimination of, rail service to a particular market is likely to adversely affect our ability to provide intermodal transportation services to some of our customers. In addition, the railroads are relatively free to adjust shipping rates up or down as market conditions permit. Rate increases would result in higher intermodal transportation costs, reducing the attractiveness of intermodal transportation compared to truck or other transportation modes, which could cause a decrease in demand for our services. Further, our ability to continue to expand our intermodal transportation business is dependent upon the railroads—ability to increase capacity for intermodal freight and provide consistent service. Our business could also be adversely affected by a work stoppage at one or more railroads or by adverse weather conditions or other factors that hinder the railroads—ability to provide reliable transportation services. In the past, there have been service issues when railroads have merged. As a result, we cannot predict what effect, if any, further consolidations among railroads may have on intermodal transportation services or our results of operations.

Because our relationships with the major railroads are critical to our ability to provide intermodal transportation services, our business may be adversely affected by any change to those relationships.

We have important relationships with certain major U.S. railroads. To date, the railroads have chosen to rely on us, other IMCs and other intermodal competitors to market their intermodal services rather than fully developing their own marketing capabilities. If one or more of the major railroads were to decide to reduce their dependence on us, the volume of intermodal shipments we arrange would likely decline, which could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Because we rely on drayage companies in our intermodal operations, our ability to expand our business or maintain our profitability may be adversely affected by a shortage of drayage capacity.

In certain markets we serve, we use third-party drayage companies for pickup and delivery of intermodal containers. Most drayage companies operate relatively small fleets and have limited access to capital for fleet expansion. In some of our markets, there are a limited number of drayage companies that can meet our quality standards. This could limit our ability to expand our intermodal business or require us to establish more of our own drayage operations in some markets, which could increase our operating costs and could adversely affect our profitability and financial condition. Also, the trucking industry chronically experiences a shortage of available drivers, which may limit the ability of third-party drayage companies to expand their fleets. This shortage also may require them to increase drivers compensation, thereby increasing our cost of providing drayage services to our customers. Therefore, the driver shortage could also adversely affect our profitability and limit our ability to expand our intermodal business.

Because we depend on trucking companies for our truck brokerage services, our ability to maintain or expand our truck brokerage business may be adversely affected by a shortage of trucking capacity.

We derived 21% of our revenue from our truck brokerage services in both 2012 and 2011 as compared to 18% in 2010. We depend upon various third-party trucking companies for the transportation of our customers loads. Particularly during periods of economic expansion, trucking companies may be unable to expand their fleets due to capital constraints or chronic driver shortages, and these trucking companies also may raise their rates. If we face insufficient capacity among our third-party trucking companies, we may be unable to maintain or expand our truck brokerage business. Also, we may be unable to pass rate increases on to our customers, which could adversely affect our profitability.

Table of Contents 12

5

Because we use a significant number of independent contractors, such as owner operators, in our businesses, proposals from legislative, judicial or regulatory authorities that change the independent contractor classification could have a significant impact on our gross margin and operating income.

We use a significant number of independent contractors, such as Mode sales agents and IBOs and Comtrak owner operators, in our businesses, consistent with long-standing industry practices. Legislative, judicial, or regulatory (including tax) authorities could introduce proposals or assert interpretations of existing rules and regulations that would change the independent contractor classification of a significant number of independent contractors doing business with us. The costs associated with potential reclassifications could have a material adverse effect on results of operations and our financial position. In addition, on January 25, 2013, a complaint was filed in federal court by one of our former truck drivers against our subsidiary, Comtrak Logistics, Inc. seeking class certification on behalf of a class comprised of present and former California-based truck drivers for Comtrak who were classified as independent contractors, from January 2009 to the present. The complaint alleges Comtrak has misclassified such drivers as independent contractors and that such drivers were employees. The complaint asserts various violations of the California Labor Code, and claims that Comtrak has engaged in unfair competition practices. The complaint seeks, among other things, declaratory and injunctive relief, compensatory damages and attorney s fees.

We depend on third parties for equipment essential to operate our business, and if we fail to secure sufficient equipment, we could lose customers and revenue.

We depend on third parties for transportation equipment, such as containers, chassis and trailers, necessary for the operation of our business. Our industry has experienced equipment shortages in the past, particularly during the peak shipping season in the fall. A substantial amount of intermodal freight originates at or near the major West Coast ports, which have historically had the most severe equipment shortages. If we cannot secure sufficient transportation equipment at a reasonable price from third parties to meet our customers needs, our customers may seek to have their transportation needs met by other providers. This could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial position.

#### Our business could be adversely affected by strikes or work stoppages by draymen, truckers, longshoremen and railroad workers.

There has been labor unrest, including work stoppages, among various transportation providers. We could lose business from any significant work stoppage or slowdown and, if labor unrest results in increased rates for transportation providers such as draymen, we may not be able to pass these cost increases on to our customers. In late December 2012, a longshoreman strike affecting East Coast and Gulf Coast ports was narrowly averted by an extension of the existing contract until February 6, 2013. As of early February, a tentative agreement was reached for a new six year contract. The tentative agreement is subject to the ratification procedures of both parties. Also in December 2012, clerical workers at the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, supported by dockworkers from a sister union, went on an eight day strike, significantly reducing the amount of freight entering the domestic market via the West Coast ports. The clerical worker strike has subsequently been resolved. In early December 2011, a railroad strike was narrowly averted right before the expiration of the federally mandated cooling period. In the summer of 2008, an owner-operator work stoppage in Northern California caused us to incur an additional \$1.0 million in transportation costs. In the fall of 2002, all of the West Coast ports were shut down as a result of a dispute with the longshoremen. The ports remained closed for nearly two weeks, until reopened as the result of a court order under the Taft-Hartley Act. Our operations were adversely affected by the shutdown. A new contract was agreed to through 2014 by the International Longshoremen and Warehouse Union and the Pacific Maritime Association. In the past several years, there have been strikes involving railroad workers. Future strikes by railroad workers in the United States, Canada or anywhere else that our customers freight travels by railroad could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

## Losing one or more key Mode IBOs or sales agents could have an adverse effect on revenue and net income.

Certain Mode IBOs and sales agents represent a large portion of Mode s overall revenues. Traditionally, transportation agents have shifted from company to company, although most companies, including Mode, attempt to address this situation contractually. If one or more large IBOs or sales agents were to terminate their relationship with Mode, there could be an adverse effect on Mode s business and results of operations.

## Our results of operations are susceptible to changes in general economic conditions and cyclical fluctuations.

Economic recession, customers business cycles, changes in fuel prices and supply, interest rate fluctuations, increases in fuel or energy taxes and other general economic factors affect the demand for transportation services and the operating costs of railroads, trucking companies and drayage companies. We have little or no control over any of these factors or their effects on the transportation industry. Increases in the operating costs of railroads, trucking companies or drayage companies can be expected to result in higher freight rates. Our operating margins could be adversely affected if we were unable to pass through to our customers the full amount of higher freight rates. Economic recession or a

downturn in customers business cycles also may have an adverse effect on our results of operations and growth by reducing demand for our services. Therefore, our results of operations, like the entire freight transportation industry, are cyclical and subject to significant period-to-period fluctuations.

6

Relatively small increases in our transportation costs that we are unable to pass through to our customers are likely to have a significant effect on our gross margin and operating income.

Transportation costs represented 89% of our consolidated revenue in both 2012 and 2011 and 88% in 2010. Because transportation costs represent such a significant portion of our costs, even relatively small increases in these transportation costs, if we are unable to pass them through to our customers, are likely to have a significant effect on our gross margin and operating income.

Our business could be adversely affected by heightened security measures, actual or threatened terrorist attacks, efforts to combat terrorism, military action against a foreign state or other similar event.

We cannot predict the effects on our business of heightened security measures, actual or threatened terrorist attacks, efforts to combat terrorism, military action against a foreign state or other similar events. It is possible that one or more of these events could be directed at U.S. or foreign ports, borders, railroads or highways. Heightened security measures or other events are likely to slow the movement of freight through U.S. or foreign ports, across borders or on U.S. or foreign railroads or highways and could adversely affect our business and results of operations. Any of these events could also negatively affect the economy and consumer confidence, which could cause a downturn in the transportation industry.

If we fail to maintain and enhance our information technology systems, we may be at a competitive disadvantage and lose customers.

Hub s information technology systems are critical to our operations and our ability to compete effectively as an IMC, truck broker and logistics provider. We expect our customers to continue to demand more sophisticated information technology applications from their suppliers. If we do not continue to enhance Hub s Network Management System and the logistics software we use to meet the increasing demands of our customers, we may be placed at a competitive disadvantage and could lose customers.

Our information technology systems are subject to risks that we cannot control and the inability to use our information technology systems could materially adversely affect our business.

Our information technology systems are dependent upon global communications providers, web browsers, telephone systems and other aspects of the Internet infrastructure that have experienced significant system failures and electrical outages in the past. Our systems are susceptible to outages from fire, floods, power loss, telecommunications failures, break-ins and similar events. Our servers are vulnerable to computer viruses, break-ins and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering with our computer systems. The occurrence of any of these events could disrupt or damage our information technology systems and inhibit our internal operations, our ability to provide services to our customers and the ability of our customers and vendors to access our information technology systems. This could result in a loss of customers or a reduction in demand for our services.

Disruptions and other damages to our information technology and other networks and operations and breaches in data security could adversely affect our business.

Our current operations reside on multiple technology platforms. The size and complexity of our computer systems make them potentially vulnerable to breakdown, malicious intrusion and random attack. Failure to prevent or mitigate data loss or other security breaches could expose us or our vendors or customers to a risk of loss or misuse of such information, adversely affect our operating results, result in litigation or potential liability for us and otherwise harm our business. Likewise, data privacy breaches by employees and others who access our systems may pose a risk that sensitive customer or vendor data may be exposed to unauthorized persons or to the public, adversely impacting our customer service, employee relationships and our reputation. While we believe that we have taken appropriate security measures to protect our data and information technology systems and prevent data loss, there can be no assurance that our efforts may not prevent breakdowns or breaches in our systems that could have an adverse effect on our business.

The transportation industry is subject to government regulation, and regulatory changes could have a material adverse effect on our operating results or financial condition.

Hub Group, Inc. and various subsidiaries, including Mode Transportation, LLC, are licensed by the Department of Transportation as motor carrier freight brokers. The Department of Transportation prescribes qualifications for acting in this capacity, including surety bond requirements. Our Comtrak subsidiary is licensed by the Department of Transportation to act as a motor carrier. To date, compliance with these regulations has not had a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition. However, the transportation industry is subject to legislative or regulatory changes, including potential limits on carbon emissions under climate change legislation and Department of Transportation regulations regarding, among other things, driver breaks and restart rules, that can affect the economics of the industry by requiring changes in operating practices or influencing the demand for, and cost of providing, transportation services. We may become subject to

new or more restrictive regulations relating to fuel emissions or limits on vehicle weight and size. Future laws and regulations may be more stringent and require changes in operating practices, influence the demand for transportation services or increase the cost of providing transportation services, any of which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

We are not able to accurately predict how new governmental laws and regulations, or changes to existing laws and regulations, will affect the transportation industry generally, or us in particular. Although government regulation that affects us and our competitors may simply result in higher costs that can be passed along to customers, that may not be the case.

7

Our operations may be subject to various environmental laws and regulations, the violation of which could result in substantial fines or penalties.

From time to time, we arrange for the movement of hazardous materials at the request of our customers. As a result, we may be subject to various environmental laws and regulations relating to the handling of hazardous materials. If we are involved in a spill or other accident involving hazardous materials, or if we are found to be in violation of applicable laws or regulations, we could be subject to substantial fines or penalties and to civil and criminal liability, any of which could have an adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

We derive a significant portion of our revenue from our largest customers and the loss of several of these customers could have a material adverse effect on our revenue and business.

Our largest 20 customers accounted for approximately 34% of our revenue in both 2012 and 2011 and 43% of our revenue in 2010. A reduction in or termination of our services by several of our largest customers could have a material adverse effect on our revenue and business.

## Insurance and claims expenses could significantly reduce our earnings.

Our future insurance claims expenses might exceed historical levels, which could reduce our earnings. If the number or severity of claims increases, our operating results could be adversely affected. We maintain insurance with licensed insurance companies. Our insurance and claims expense could increase when our current coverage expires. If these expenses increase, and we are unable to offset the increase with higher freight rates, our earnings could be materially and adversely affected.

#### Our success depends upon our ability to recruit and retain key personnel including Mode Sales Agents and IBOs.

Our success depends upon attracting and retaining the services of our management team, Mode Sales Agents and IBOs as well as our ability to attract and retain a sufficient number of other qualified personnel to run our business. There is substantial competition for qualified personnel in the transportation services industry. As all key personnel devote their full time to our business, the loss of any member of our management team, several Mode Sales Agents or IBOs or other key persons could have an adverse effect on us. We do not have written employment agreements with any of our executive officers and do not maintain key man insurance on any of our executive officers. Nearly all Mode Sales Agents and IBOs are under contract with Mode.

## Our growth could be adversely affected if we are not able to identify, successfully acquire and integrate future acquisition prospects.

We believe that future acquisitions and/or the failure to make such acquisitions could significantly impact financial results. Financial results most likely to be impacted include, but are not limited to, revenue, gross margin, salaries and benefits, selling general and administrative expenses, depreciation and amortization, interest expense, net income and our debt level.

#### An economic downturn could materially adversely affect our business.

Our operations and performance depend significantly on economic conditions. Uncertainty about global economic conditions poses a risk as consumers and businesses may postpone spending in response to tighter credit, negative financial news and/or declines in income or asset values, which could have a material negative effect on demand for transportation services. We are unable to predict the likely duration and severity of disruptions in the financial markets and the adverse global economic conditions, and if the current uncertainty continues or economic conditions further deteriorate, our business and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. Other factors that could influence demand include fluctuations in fuel costs, labor costs, consumer confidence, and other macroeconomic factors affecting consumer spending behavior. There could be a number of follow-on effects from a credit crisis on our business, including the insolvency of key transportation providers and the inability of our customers to obtain credit to finance development and/or manufacture products resulting in a decreased demand for transportation services. Our revenues and gross margins are dependent upon this demand, and if demand for transportation services declines, our revenues and gross margins could be adversely affected.

Although we believe we have adequate liquidity and capital resources to fund our operations internally, our inability to access the capital markets on favorable terms, or at all, may adversely affect our ability to engage in strategic transactions. The inability to obtain adequate financing from debt or capital sources could force us to self-fund strategic initiatives or even forgo certain opportunities, which in turn could potentially harm our performance.

Uncertainty about global economic conditions could also continue to increase the volatility of our stock price.

We are exposed to credit risk and fluctuations in the market values of our investment portfolio.

Although we have not recognized any material losses on our cash and cash equivalents, future declines in their market values could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and operating results. The value or liquidity of our cash and cash equivalents could decline, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and operating results.

8

#### Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

#### Item 2. PROPERTIES

We directly, or indirectly through our subsidiaries, operate 38 offices throughout the United States and Mexico, including our headquarters in Downers Grove, Illinois and our Company-owned drayage operations located throughout the United States. All of our office space is leased. Most office leases have initial terms of more than one year, and many include options to renew. While some of our leases expire in the near term, we do not believe that we will have difficulty in renewing them or in finding alternative office space. We believe that our offices are adequate for the purposes for which they are currently used.

On January 30, 2012, we paid approximately \$10.0 million to acquire 17 acres of land in Oak Brook, Illinois where we are building a new corporate headquarters which we expect to be completed in late 2013. The estimated cost for the building and related furniture is between \$35 and \$40 million.

#### Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are a party to litigation incident to our business, including claims for personal injury and/or property damage, bankruptcy preference claims, claims regarding freight lost or damaged in transit, improperly shipped or improperly billed. Some of the lawsuits to which we are party are covered by insurance and are being defended by our insurance carriers. Some of the lawsuits are not covered by insurance and we defend those ourselves. We do not believe that the outcome of this litigation will have a materially adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations. See Item 1 Business Risk Management and Insurance.

On January 25, 2013, a complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California (Sacramento Division) by Salvador Robles against our subsidiary, Comtrak Logistics, Inc. The action seeks class certification on behalf of a class comprised of present and former California-based truck drivers for Comtrak who were classified as independent contractors, from January 2009 to the present. The complaint alleges Comtrak has misclassified such drivers as independent contractors and that such drivers were employees. The complaint asserts various violations of the California Labor Code, and claims that Comtrak has engaged in unfair competition practices. The complaint seeks, among other things, declaratory and injunctive relief, compensatory damages and attorney s fees. We believe the complaint is without merit and intend to vigorously defend the action.

#### Item 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

#### **Executive Officers of the Registrant**

In reliance on General Instruction G to Form 10-K, information on executive officers of the Registrant is included in this Part I. The table sets forth certain information as of February 1, 2013 with respect to each person who is an executive officer of the Company.

Name	Age	Position
David P. Yeager	59	Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer
Mark A. Yeager	48	Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and Chief Operating Officer
Christopher R. Kravas	47	Chief Intermodal Officer
Donald G. Maltby	58	Chief Supply Chain Officer
David L. Marsh	45	Chief Marketing Officer
Terri A. Pizzuto	54	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
James J. Damman	55	President Mode Transportation
James B. Gaw	62	Executive Vice President-Sales
Dennis R. Polsen	59	Executive Vice President-Information Services

David C. Zeilstra

43 Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

9

David P. Yeager has served as our Chairman of the Board since November 2008 and as Chief Executive Officer since March 1995. From March 1995 through November 2008, Mr. Yeager served as Vice Chairman of the Board. From October 1985 through December 1991, Mr. Yeager was President of Hub Chicago. From 1983 to October 1985, he served as Vice President, Marketing of Hub Chicago. Mr. Yeager founded the St. Louis Hub in 1980 and served as its President from 1980 to 1983. Mr. Yeager founded the Pittsburgh Hub in 1975 and served as its President from 1975 to 1977. Mr. Yeager received a Masters in Business Administration degree from the University of Chicago in 1987 and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Dayton in 1975. Mr. Yeager is the brother of Mark A. Yeager.

Mark A. Yeager has served as Vice Chairman of the Board since November 2008. He became the President of the Company in January 2005 and has been our Chief Operating Officer and a Director since May 2004. From July 1999 to December 2004, Mr. Yeager was President-Field Operations. From November 1997 through June 1999, Mr. Yeager was Division President, Secretary and General Counsel. From March 1995 to November 1997, Mr. Yeager was Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel. From May 1992 to March 1995, Mr. Yeager served as our Vice President-Quality. Prior to joining us in 1992, Mr. Yeager was an associate at the law firm of Grippo & Elden from January 1991 through May 1992 and an associate at the law firm of Sidley & Austin from May 1989 through January 1991. Mr. Yeager received a Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University in 1989 and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University in 1986. Mr. Yeager is the brother of David P. Yeager.

Christopher R. Kravas has been our Chief Intermodal Officer since October 2007. Prior to this promotion, Mr. Kravas was Executive Vice President-Strategy and Yield Management from December 2003 through September 2007. From February 2002 through November 2003, Mr. Kravas served as President of Hub Highway Services. From February 2001 through December 2001, Mr. Kravas was Vice President-Enron Freight Markets. Mr. Kravas joined Enron after it acquired Webmodal, an intermodal business he founded. Mr. Kravas was Chief Executive Officer of Webmodal from July 1999 through February 2001. From 1989 through June 1999 Mr. Kravas worked for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway in various positions in the intermodal business unit and finance department. Mr. Kravas received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1987 from Indiana University and a Masters in Business Administration in 1994 from the University of Chicago.

Donald G. Maltby was appointed Chief Supply Chain Officer of Hub Supply Chain Solutions as of January 2011. From February 2004 to December 2010, Mr. Maltby served as Executive Vice President-Logistics Services. Mr. Maltby previously served as President of Hub Online, our e-commerce division, from February 2000 through January 2004. Mr. Maltby also served as President of Hub Cleveland from July 1990 through January 2000 and from April 2002 to January 2004. Prior to joining Hub Group, Mr. Maltby served as President of Lyons Transportation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Sherwin Williams Company, from 1988 to 1990. In his career at Sherwin Williams, which began in 1981 and continued until he joined us in 1990, Mr. Maltby held a variety of management positions including Vice-President of Marketing and Sales for their Transportation Division. Mr. Maltby has been in the transportation and logistics industry since 1976, holding various executive and management positions. Mr. Maltby received a Masters in Business Administration from Baldwin Wallace College in 1982 and a Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York in 1976.

David L. Marsh has been our Chief Marketing Officer since October 2007. Prior to this promotion, Mr. Marsh was Executive Vice President-Highway from February 2004 through September 2007. Mr. Marsh previously served as President of Hub Ohio from January 2000 through January 2004. Mr. Marsh joined us in March 1991 and became General Manager with Hub Indianapolis in 1993, a position he held through December 1999. Prior to joining Hub Group, Mr. Marsh worked for Carolina Freight Corporation, a less than truckload carrier, starting in January 1990. Mr. Marsh received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing and Physical Distribution from Indiana University-Indianapolis in December 1989. Mr. Marsh has been a member of the American Society of Transportation and Logistics, the Indianapolis Traffic Club, the Council for Logistics Management and served as an advisor to the Indiana University-Indianapolis internship program for transportation and logistics. Mr. Marsh was honored as the Indiana Transportation Person of the Year in 1999.

Terri A. Pizzuto has been our Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since March 2007. Prior to this promotion, Ms. Pizzuto was Vice President of Finance from July 2002 through February 2007. Prior to joining us, Ms. Pizzuto was a partner in the Assurance and Business Advisory Group at Arthur Andersen LLP. Ms. Pizzuto worked for Arthur Andersen LLP for 22 years holding various positions and serving numerous transportation companies. Ms. Pizzuto received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Illinois in 1981. Ms. Pizzuto is a CPA and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

James J. Damman assumed the role of President of Mode Transportation, following the acquisition of Exel Transportation Services (ETS) from Deutsche Post DHL in April 2011. Prior to this transaction, Mr. Damman served as a President of Exel Transportation Services and President of Technology, Aerospace and Service Logistics Americas for DHL/Exel. Before Exel, he served as a President of Transentric LLC, a supply chain technology provider. Prior to this, Mr. Damman held senior executive roles in operations, marketing, sales and customer service with the Union Pacific Railroad. Mr. Damman has been in Transportation and Supply Chain Management since 1980, holding various executive and management positions. Mr. Damman received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Central Michigan University in 1980 and a Master of Business Administration from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville in 1986.

James B. Gaw has been our Executive Vice President-Sales since February 2004. From December 1996 through January 2004, Mr. Gaw was President of Hub North Central, located in Milwaukee. From 1990 through late 1996, he was Vice President and General Manager of Hub Chicago. Mr. Gaw joined Hub Chicago as Sales Manager in 1988. Mr. Gaw s entire career has been spent in the transportation industry, including 13 years of progressive leadership positions at Itofca, an intermodal marketing company, and Flex Trans. Mr. Gaw received a Bachelor of Science degree from Elmhurst College in 1973.

10

Dennis R. Polsen has been our Executive Vice President-Information Services since February 2004. From September 2001 to January 2004, Mr. Polsen was Vice President-Chief Information Officer and from March 2000 through August 2001, Mr. Polsen was our Vice-President of Application Development. Prior to joining us, Mr. Polsen was Director of Applications for Humana, Inc. from September 1997 through February 2000 and spent 14 years prior to that developing, implementing, and directing transportation logistics applications at Schneider National, Inc. Mr. Polsen received a Masters in Business Administration in May of 1983 from the University of Wisconsin Graduate School of Business and a Bachelor of Business Administration in May of 1976 from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Mr. Polsen is a past member of the American Trucking Association.

David C. Zeilstra has been our Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel since July 1999. From December 1996 through June 1999, Mr. Zeilstra was our Assistant General Counsel. Prior to joining us, Mr. Zeilstra was an associate with the law firm of Mayer, Brown & Platt from September 1994 through November 1996. Mr. Zeilstra received a Juris Doctor degree from Duke University in 1994 and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wheaton College in 1990.

# **Directors of the Registrant**

In addition to David P. Yeager and Mark A. Yeager, the following four individuals are also on our Board of Directors: Gary D. Eppen currently retired and formerly the Ralph and Dorothy Keller Distinguished Service Professor of Operations Management and Deputy Dean for part-time Masters in Business Administration Programs at The University of Chicago Booth School of Business; Charles R. Reaves Chief Executive Officer of Reaves Enterprises, Inc., a real estate development company, Martin P. Slark Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Molex Incorporated, a manufacturer of electronic, electrical and fiber optic interconnection products and systems, and Jonathan P. Ward Operating Partner at Kohlberg & Co., a leading U.S. private equity firm.

#### **PART II**

# Item 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANTS COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our Class A Common Stock ( Class A Common Stock ) trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market tier of the NASDAQ Stock Market under the symbol HUBG. There is no established trading market for shares of our Class B Common Stock (the Class B Common Stock together with the Class A Common Stock, the Common Stock ). Set forth below are the high and low closing prices for shares of the Class A Common Stock for each full quarterly period in 2012 and 2011.

	20	12	20	11
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 36.80	\$ 31.96	\$ 37.82	\$ 32.73
Second Quarter	\$ 37.47	\$ 33.09	\$ 40.86	\$ 34.02
Third Quarter	\$ 36.55	\$ 27.26	\$ 40.16	\$ 25.77
Fourth Quarter	\$ 33.71	\$ 28.17	\$ 34.69	\$ 26.05

On February 13, 2013, there were approximately 387 stockholders of record of the Class A Common Stock and, in addition, there were an estimated 7,897 beneficial owners of the Class A Common Stock whose shares were held by brokers and other fiduciary institutions. On February 13, 2013, there were 12 holders of record of our Class B Common Stock.

We were incorporated in 1995 and have never paid cash dividends on either the Class A Common Stock or the Class B Common Stock. The declaration and payment of dividends are subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors. Any determination as to the payment of dividends will depend upon our results of operations, capital requirements and financial condition of the Company, and such other factors as the Board of Directors may deem relevant. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that the Board of Directors will declare or pay cash dividends on the shares of Common Stock in the future. Our certificate of incorporation requires that any cash dividends must be paid equally on each outstanding share of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock. Our credit facility prohibits us from paying dividends on the Common Stock if there has been, or immediately following the payment of a dividend there would be, a default or an event of default under the credit facility. We are currently in compliance with the covenants contained in the credit facility.

See Note 17 to the consolidated financial statements for information on share repurchases.

11

# Performance Graph

The following line graph compares the Company s cumulative total stockholder return on its Class A Common Stock since December 31, 2007 with the cumulative total return of the Nasdaq Stock Market Index and the Nasdaq Trucking and Transportation Index. These comparisons assume the investment of \$100 on December 31, 2007 in each index and in the Company s Class A Common Stock and the reinvestment of dividends.

12

Stockholders equity

# Item 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

## **Selected Financial Data**

(in thousands except per share data)

Years Ended December 31,

376,300

353,841

315,184

		2012		2011 (1)		2010	2009		2008
Statement of Income Data:									
Revenue	\$ .	3,124,108	\$ 2	2,751,534	\$ 1	,833,737	\$1,510,970	\$ 1	1,860,608
Gross margin		356,066		312,548		213,433	185,690		234,311
Operating income		112,360		94,459		69,882	55,531		95,462
Income from operations before taxes		111,257		94,297		70,093	55,885		96,326
Net income	\$	67,953	\$	58,178	\$	43,458	\$34,265	\$	59,245
Basic earnings per common share									
Income from operations	\$	1.83	\$	1.58	\$	1.17	\$0.92	\$	1.59
Diluted earnings per common share									
Income from operations	\$	1.83	\$	1.57	\$	1.16	\$0.91	\$	1.58
					As of l	December 31,			
		2012		2011		2010	2009		2008
Balance Sheet Data:									
Total assets	\$	919,853	\$	842,684		\$629,407	\$ 573,348	\$	528,231
Non-current portion of capital lease		21,099		23,436					

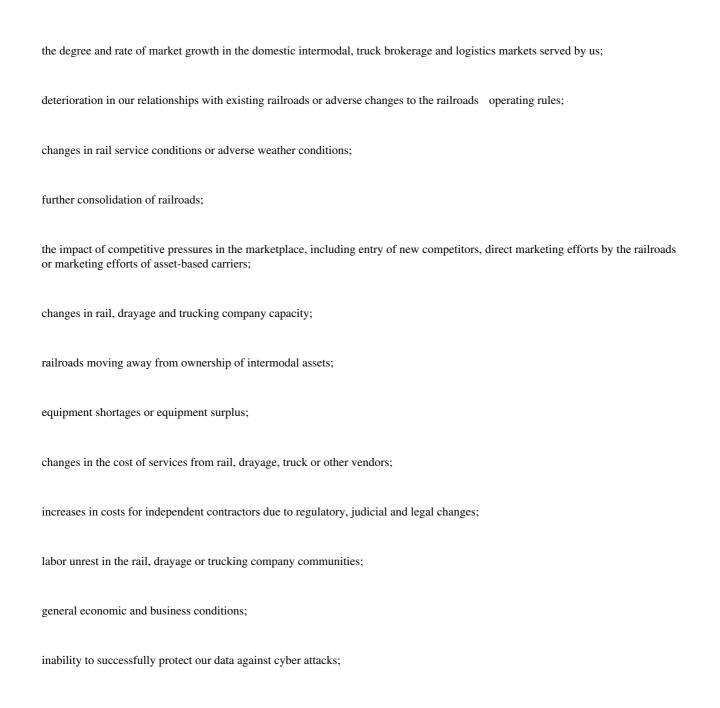
<sup>(1)</sup> Includes the results of operations of Mode Transportation, LLC from April 1, 2011, the date of its acquisition by Hub Group.

500,897

438,865

# Item 7. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

The information contained in this annual report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as expects, hopes, believes, intends, estimates, anticipates, and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are inherently uncertain and subject to risks. Such statements should be viewed with caution. Actual results or experience could differ materially from the forward-looking statements as a result of many factors. We assume no liability to update any such forward-looking statements contained in this annual report. Factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially, in addition to those set forth under Items 1A Risk Factors, include:



significant deterioration in our customers financial condition, particularly in the retail, consumer products and durable goods sectors
fuel shortages or fluctuations in fuel prices;
increases in interest rates;
changes in homeland security or terrorist activity;
difficulties in maintaining or enhancing our information technology systems;
changes to or new governmental regulations;
significant increases to health insurance costs due to the Affordable Care Act;
loss of several of our largest customers and Mode agents;
inability to recruit and retain key personnel and Mode sales agents and IBOs;
inability to recruit and maintain drivers and owner-operators;
changes in insurance costs and claims expense;
changes to current laws which will aid union organizing efforts; and
inshility to alose and suggessfully integrate any future business combinations, including Mode

inability to close and successfully integrate any future business combinations, including Mode.

# CAPITAL STRUCTURE

We have authorized common stock comprised of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock. The rights of holders of Class A Common Stock and Class B Common Stock are identical, except each share of Class B Common Stock entitles its holder to approximately 80 votes, while each share of Class A Common Stock entitles its holder to one vote. We have authorized 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Hub Group, Inc. ( we , us or our ) reports two distinct business segments, Hub and Mode. The Mode segment includes only the business we acquired on April 1, 2011. The Hub segment includes all businesses other than Mode. Hub Group (as opposed to just Hub), refers to the consolidated results for the whole company, including both the Mode and Hub segments. The results of operations of the Mode segment are included in our Consolidated Statements of Income for the entire year of 2012 and for the period April 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011. For the segment financial results, refer to Note 5 to the consolidated financial statements.

We are the largest intermodal marketing company ( IMC ) in the United States and a full service transportation provider offering intermodal, truck brokerage and logistics services. We operate through a nationwide network of operating centers and independent business owners.

14

As an IMC, we arrange for the movement of our customers freight in containers and trailers over long distances. We contract with railroads to provide transportation for the long-haul portion of the shipment and with local trucking companies, known as drayage companies, for local pickup and delivery. As part of the intermodal services, we negotiate rail and drayage rates, electronically track shipments in transit, consolidate billing and handle claims for freight loss or damage on behalf of our customers.

As of December 31, 2012, approximately 66% of Hub s drayage needs were met by our subsidiary, Comtrak Logistics, Inc. (Comtrak), which assists us in providing reliable, cost effective intermodal services to our customers. Comtrak has terminals in Atlanta, Birmingham, Charleston, Charlotte, Chattanooga, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus (OH), Dallas, Harrisburg, Huntsville, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Memphis, Nashville, Newark, Los Angeles, Perry (FL), Philadelphia, Savannah, Seattle, St. Louis, Stockton, and Titusville (FL). As of December 31, 2012, Comtrak owned 260 tractors, leased or owned 448 trailers, employed 296 drivers and contracted with 2,178 owner-operators.

We also arrange for the transportation of freight by truck, providing customers with another option for their transportation needs. We match the customers needs with carriers capacity to provide the most effective service and price combinations. As part of our truck brokerage services, we negotiate rates, track shipments in transit and handle claims for freight loss or damage on behalf of our customers.

Our logistics service consists of complex transportation management services, including load consolidation, mode optimization and carrier management. These service offerings are designed to take advantage of the increasing trend for shippers to outsource all or a greater portion of their transportation needs.

Hub has full time marketing representatives throughout North America who service local, regional and national accounts. We believe that fostering long-term customer relationships is critical to our success and allows us to better understand our customers needs and specifically tailor our transportation services to them.

Hub s yield management group works with pricing and operations to enhance Hub s customer margins. We are working on margin enhancement projects including matching up inbound and outbound loads, reducing empty miles, improving our recovery of accessorial costs, using Comtrak more, and reviewing and improving low margin loads.

Hub s top 50 customers represent approximately 65% of the Hub segment revenue for the year ended December 31, 2012. We use various performance indicators to manage our business. We closely monitor margin and gains and losses for our top 50 customers. We also evaluate on-time performance, cost per load and daily sales outstanding by customer account. Vendor cost changes and vendor service issues are also monitored closely.

Mode has approximately 93 Independent Business Owners ( IBOs ) who sell and operate the business throughout North America and 128 sales only agents. Mode also has a company managed operation and corporate offices in Dallas, a temperature protected services division, Temstar, located in Downers Grove, IL and corporate offices in Memphis. Mode s top 20 customers represent approximately 37% of the Mode segment revenue for the year ended December 31, 2012. We closely monitor revenue and margin for these customers. We believe this acquisition brings us highly complementary service offerings, more scale and a talented sales channel that allows us to better reach small and midsize customers.

15

#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Year Ended December 31, 2012 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2011

The following table summarizes our revenue by segment and business line (in thousands):

		Twelve Ended Decen				Twelve Ended Decen		
	Hub	Mode	Inter- Segment Elims	Hub Group Total	Hub	Mode	Inter- Segment Elims	Hub Group Total
Intermodal	\$ 1,731,487	\$ 354,662	\$ (43,863)	\$ 2,042,286	\$ 1,553,594	\$ 258,087	\$ (16,392)	\$ 1,795,289
Truck brokerage	335,213	318,848	(2,945)	651,116	339,444	238,418	(1,033)	576,829
Logistics	325,589	106,418	(1,301)	430,706	290,876	89,746	(1,206)	379,416
Total revenue	\$ 2,392,289	\$ 779,928	\$ (48,109)	\$ 3,124,108	\$ 2,183,914	\$ 586,251	\$ (18,631)	\$ 2,751,534

#### Revenue

Hub Group s revenue increased 13.5% to \$3.1 billion in 2012 from \$2.8 billion in 2011.

The Hub segment revenue increased 9.5% to \$2.4 billion. Hub segment intermodal revenue increased 11% to \$1.7 billion due to a 10% increase in loads and an increase for price and fuel, partially offset by a decline related to mix. Hub segment truck brokerage revenue decreased 1% to \$335.2 million due to a 5% decline in fuel, price and mix combined, partially offset by a 4% increase in loads. Hub segment logistics revenue increased 12% to \$325.6 million related primarily to a combination of existing and new customer growth and growth from transactional business as opposed to management fee business.

Mode s revenue increased 33.0% to \$779.9 million in 2012 from \$586.3 million in 2011. Mode s intermodal revenue increased 37% while Mode s truck brokerage and logistic revenues increased 34% and 19%, respectively. The increase in revenue was primarily due to Hub Group owning Mode for twelve months in 2012 as compared to nine months in 2011.

Mode s revenue for the period April 1 through December 31 (comparable nine month period) was \$592.7 million in 2012 as compared to \$586.3 million in 2011.

The following is a summary of operating results for our business segments (in thousands):

		Twelve	Months		Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2011								
		<b>Ended Decen</b>	nber 31, 2012										
	Hub	Mode	Inter- Segment Elims	Hub Group Total	Hub	Mode	Inter- Segment Elims	Hub Group Total					
Revenue	\$ 2,392,289	\$ 779,928	\$ (48,109)	\$ 3,124,108	\$ 2,183,914	\$ 586,251	\$ (18,631)	\$ 2,751,534					
Transportation costs	2,128,942	687,209	(48,109)	2,768,042	1,939,263	518,354	(18,631)	2,438,986					
Gross margin	263,347	92,719		356,066	244,651	67,897		312,548					
Costs and expenses:													
Salaries and benefits	113,855	15,288		129,143	107,378	13,666		121,044					
Agent fees and commissions	1,900	53,212		55,112	2,771	38,720		41,491					
General and administrative	45,411	7,421		52,832	42,523	7,428		49,951					
Depreciation and amortization	4,448	2,171		6,619	3,975	1,628		5,603					

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Total costs and expenses	165,614	78,092		243,706	156,647	61,442		218,089
Operating income	\$ 97,733	\$ 14,627	\$	\$ 112,360	\$ 88,004	\$ 6,455	\$	\$ 94,459

16

#### **Gross Margin**

Hub Group s gross margin increased 13.9% to \$356.1 million in 2012 from \$312.5 million in 2011. Hub Group s gross margin as a percentage of sales remained consistent at 11.4%.

The Hub segment gross margin increased 7.6% to \$263.3 million. The Hub segment margin increase of \$18.7 million came from all three business lines. The primary driver was Hub intermodal, which had margin growth because our volume increased 10% and due to our focus on growing and improving drayage operations and fleet utilization.

Mode s gross margin increased 36.6% to \$92.7 million in 2012 from \$67.9 million in 2011 due to Hub Group owning Mode for twelve months in 2012 as compared to nine months in 2011. Mode s gross margin as a percentage of revenue increased to 11.9% in 2012 from 11.6% in 2011.

Mode s gross margin for the comparable nine month period was \$70.5 million in 2012 as compared to \$67.9 million in 2011. Mode s gross margin as a percentage of revenue was 11.9% and 11.6% for the comparable nine month period in 2012 and 2011, respectively.

#### CONSOLIDATED OPERATING EXPENSES

The following table includes certain items in the Consolidated Statements of Income as a percentage of revenue:

	Twelve Mont Decembe	
	2012	2011
Revenue	100.0%	100.0%
Transportation costs	88.6	88.6
Gross margin	11.4	11.4
Costs and expenses:		
Salaries and benefits	4.1	4.5
Agent fees and commissions	1.8	1.5
General and administrative	1.7	1.8
Depreciation and amortization	0.2	0.2
Total costs and expenses	7.8	8.0
Operating income	3.6	3.4

#### **Salaries and Benefits**

Hub Group s salaries and benefits increased to \$129.1 million in 2012 from \$121.0 million in 2011. As a percentage of revenue, Hub Group s salaries and benefits decreased to 4.1% in 2012 from 4.5% in 2011 due to increased revenue and the inclusion of Mode for twelve months in 2012 as compared to nine months in 2011. Mode s business model of using IBOs and sales agents to market and operate their freight versus Hub s employee model lowered salaries and benefit expense as a percentage of revenue.

The Hub segment salaries and benefits increase of \$6.5 million was due to increases in salaries of \$4.2 million, compensation related to restricted stock awards of \$1.5 million, employee benefits of \$0.4 million, payroll taxes of \$0.4 million and employee bonuses of \$0.2 million, partially offset by a decrease in commissions of \$0.2 million.

Mode s salaries and benefits expense increased to \$15.3 million in 2012 from \$13.7 million in 2011. The increase was due to increases in salaries of \$1.0 million, employee bonuses of \$0.3 million, compensation related to restricted stock awards of \$0.3 million, payroll taxes of \$0.2 million, partially offset by a decrease in employee benefits of \$0.1 million. These increases were due to Hub Group owning Mode for twelve months in 2012 as compared to nine months in 2011. Mode s salaries and benefits expense for the comparable nine month period decreased to \$11.1 million in 2012 from \$13.7 million in 2011 due primarily to a reduction in headcount partially offset by severance expense.

Hub s headcount as of December 31, 2012 and 2011 was 1,224 and 1,188, respectively, which excludes drivers, as driver costs are included in transportation costs. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, Mode had 131 and 161 employees, respectively.

#### **Agent Fees and Commissions**

Hub Group s agent fees and commissions increased to \$55.1 million in 2012 from \$41.5 million in 2011. As a percentage of revenue, these expenses increased to 1.8% in 2012 from 1.5% in 2011. The increase in the expense and the percentage of revenue was primarily related to the Mode acquisition and Mode s agent model. The majority of these increases were due to Hub Group owning Mode for twelve months in 2012 as compared to nine months in 2011. Mode s agent fees and commission expense for the comparable nine month period increased to \$40.2 million in 2012 from \$38.7 million in 2011 due primarily to increased margin dollars over the comparable period.

#### **General and Administrative**

Hub Group s general and administrative expenses increased to \$52.8 million in 2012 from \$50.0 million in 2011. As a percentage of revenue, these expenses decreased to 1.7% in 2012 from 1.8% in 2011.

The Hub segment increase of \$2.9 million was due primarily to higher outside consultant expense of \$4.0 million, claims expense of \$2.0 million and employee training of \$0.4 million. These expense increases were partially offset by \$1.7 million of expenses associated with the Mode acquisition purchase in 2011 that did not reoccur in 2012 and decreases in bad debt expense of \$0.8 million, rent expense of \$0.3 million, equipment lease expense of \$0.2 million and office expense of \$0.2 million.

Mode s general and administrative expenses remained consistent at \$7.4 million in both 2012 and 2011, despite Mode being owned by Hub Group for twelve months in 2012 as compared to nine months in 2011. Mode s general and administrative expense for the comparable nine month period decreased to \$5.6 million in 2012 from \$7.4 million in 2011. The decrease was primarily due to integration costs in 2011 that did not reoccur in 2012 and the reduction in rent expense resulting from the relocation of our Mode Memphis office to our Comtrak Memphis location.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Hub Group s depreciation and amortization increased to \$6.6 million in 2012 from \$5.6 million in 2011. This expense as a percentage of revenue remained constant at 0.2% in both 2012 and 2011.

Hub Group s increase in expense was related to Mode being owned by Hub Group for twelve months in 2012 versus nine months in 2011, more intangible amortization and more depreciation related to the addition of computer hardware and software, leasehold improvements and furniture and fixtures.

Mode s depreciation expense for the comparable nine month period was consistent at \$1.6 million for both 2012 and 2011.

## Other Income (Expense)

Interest expense increased to \$1.2 million in 2012 from \$0.6 million in 2011. This increase was due primarily to the interest expense related to our capital leases for chassis. We entered into these leases in August of 2011.

Interest and dividend income remained consistent at \$0.1 million in both 2012 and 2011.

Other income (expense), net decreased to \$0.03 million of expense in 2012 from \$0.3 million of income in 2011. This increase was due primarily to foreign currency translation.

#### **Provision for Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes increased to \$43.3 million in 2012 from \$36.1 million in 2011 due to the increase in pretax income. Our effective tax rate was 38.9% in 2012 and 38.3% in 2011. The rate increase was due primarily to the passage of Proposition 39 on November 6, 2012, by California voters, which requires single sales factor apportionment for most California business taxpayers and also mandates the use of market-based sourcing for sales of services.

#### **Net Income**

Net income increased to \$68.0 million in 2012 from \$58.2 million in 2011 due primarily to higher gross margin at both the Hub and Mode segments.

# **Earnings Per Common Share**

Basic earnings per share increased to \$1.83 in 2012 from \$1.58 in 2011. Basic earnings per share increased primarily due to the increase in net income.

Diluted earnings per share increased to \$1.83 in 2012 from \$1.57 in 2011. Diluted earnings per share increased primarily due to the increase in net income.

18

## Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2010

The following table summarizes our revenue by segment and business line (in thousands):

		Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2011				Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2010					
	Hub	Mode	Inter- Segment Elims	Hub Group Total	Hub	Mode	Inter- Segment Elims	Hub Group Total			
Intermodal	\$ 1,553,594	\$ 258,087	\$ (16,392)	\$ 1,795,289	\$ 1,285,163	\$	\$	\$ 1,285,163			
Truck brokerage	339,444	238,418	(1,033)	576,829	335,000			335,000			
Logistics	290,876	89,746	(1,206)	379,416	213,574			213,574			
Total revenue	\$ 2,183,914	\$ 586,251	\$ (18,631)	\$ 2,751,534	\$ 1,833,737	\$	\$	\$ 1,833,737			

#### Revenue

Hub Group s revenue increased 50.1% to \$2.8 billion in 2011 from \$1.8 billion in 2010.

The Hub segment revenue increased 19.1% to \$2.2 billion. Hub segment intermodal revenue increased 21% to \$1.6 billion due to a 13% increase in loads and an 8% increase for fuel, price and mix. Hub segment truck brokerage revenue increased 1% to \$339.4 million due to a 9% increase in fuel, price and mix, offset by an 8% decrease in loads. Hub segment logistics revenue increased 36% to \$290.9 million related primarily to existing customer growth.

Mode revenue for the year was \$586.3 million.

The following is a summary of operating results for our business segments (in thousands):

			Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2011 Inter-Hub				Hub	Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2010 Inter- Hub						
		Hub		Mode	Seg	gment lims		Group Total		Hub	Mode	Segment Elims		Group Total
Revenue	\$ 2,	183,914	\$ :	586,251	\$ (1	8,631)	\$ 2	,751,534	\$ 1	,833,737	\$	\$	\$ 1	,833,737
Transportation costs	1,	939,263	:	518,354	(1	8,631)	2	,438,986	1	,620,304			1	,620,304
Gross margin Costs and expenses:		244,651		67,897				312,548		213,433				213,433
Salaries and benefits		107,378		13,666				121,044		99,138				99,138
Agent fees and commissions		2,771		38,720				41,491		2,410				2,410
General and administrative		42,523		7,428				49,951		38,211				38,211
Depreciation and amortization		3,975		1,628				5,603		3,792				3,792
Total costs and expenses		156,647		61,442				218,089		143,551				143,551
Operating income	\$	88,004	\$	6,455	\$		\$	94,459	\$	69,882	\$	\$	\$	69,882

## **Gross Margin**

Hub Group s gross margin increased 46.4% to \$312.5 million in 2011 from \$213.4 million in 2010. Hub Group s gross margin as a percentage of sales decreased to 11.4% as compared to last year s 11.6% margin.

The Hub segment gross margin increased 14.6% to \$244.6 million. The Hub segment margin increase of \$31.2 million came primarily from Hub intermodal. Hub intermodal margin grew because our volume increased 13% and due to our focus on growing and improving dray operations.

Mode gross margin for the period was \$67.9 million, which is 11.6% as a percentage of revenue.

19

#### CONSOLIDATED OPERATING EXPENSES

The following table includes certain items in the Consolidated Statements of Income as a percentage of revenue:

	Twelve Months Ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
Revenue	100.0%	100.0%
Transportation costs	88.6	88.4
Gross margin	11.4	11.6
Costs and expenses:		
Salaries and benefits	4.5	5.4
Agent fees and commissions	1.5	0.1
General and administrative	1.8	2.1
Depreciation and amortization	0.2	0.2
Total costs and expenses	8.0	7.8
Operating income	3.4	3.8

#### Salaries and Benefits

Hub Group s salaries and benefits increased to \$121.0 million in 2011 from \$99.1 million in 2010. As a percentage of revenue, Hub Group s salaries and benefits decreased to 4.5% in 2011 from 5.4% in 2010 due to increased revenue and the acquisition of Mode. Mode s business model of using IBOs and sales agents to market and operate their freight versus Hub s employee model lowered salaries and benefit expense as a percentage of revenue.

The Hub segment salaries and benefits increase of \$8.2 million was due to increases in salaries of \$6.2 million, employee benefits of \$1.3 million, compensation related to restricted stock awards of \$1.1 million, commissions of \$0.8 million and payroll taxes of \$0.6 million, offset by a decrease in employee bonuses of \$1.8 million. Severance expense related to the truck brokerage division was approximately \$0.7 million.

The increase in salaries and benefits expense related to Mode was approximately \$13.7 million, including severance expense of \$0.4 million.

Hub s headcount as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 was 1,188 and 1,123, respectively, which excludes drivers, as driver costs are included in transportation costs. As of December 31, 2011 Mode had 161 employees.

#### **Agent Fees and Commissions**

Hub Group s agent fees and commissions increased to \$41.5 million in 2011 from \$2.4 million in 2010. As a percentage of revenue, these expenses increased to 1.5% in 2011 from 0.1% in 2010. The increase in the expense and the percentage of revenue was primarily related to the Mode acquisition and Mode s agent model.

#### **General and Administrative**

Hub Group s general and administrative expenses increased to \$50.0 million in 2011 from \$38.2 million in 2010. As a percentage of revenue, these expenses decreased to 1.8% in 2011 from 2.1% in 2010.

The Hub segment increase of \$4.3 million was due primarily to \$1.7 million of expenses associated with the Mode acquisition, an increase in rent expense of \$0.7 million, an increase in travel and entertainment expense of \$0.6 million, an increase in office expense of \$0.4 million, an increase in equipment leases of \$0.3 million and an increase in general insurance of \$0.2 million partially offset by an increase in Hub s allocation of expenses to Mode of \$0.9 million.

The increase in expense related to Mode was approximately \$7.4 million which includes integration costs and severance expense of \$1.6 million.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Hub Group s depreciation and amortization increased to \$5.6 million in 2011 from \$3.8 million in 2010. This expense as a percentage of revenue remained constant at 0.2% in both 2011 and 2010.

The increase in expense was related primarily to Mode.

#### Other Income (Expense)

Interest expense increased to \$0.6 million in 2011 from \$0.1 million in 2010. This increase was due primarily to interest expense related to our capital leases for chassis. We entered into these leases in August of 2011.

Interest and dividend income remained consistent at \$0.1 million in both 2011 and 2010.

Other income, net increased to \$0.3 million in 2011 from \$0.1 million in 2010. This increase was due primarily to foreign currency translation.

## **Provision for Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes increased to \$36.1 million in 2011 from \$26.6 million in 2010 due to the increase in pretax income. Our effective tax rate was 38.3% in 2011 and 38.0% in 2010. The 2011 effective tax rate was higher due primarily to an increase in state taxes related to our acquisition of Mode.

#### **Net Income**

Net income increased to \$58.2 million in 2011 from \$43.5 million in 2010 due primarily to the higher Hub segment operating income and the inclusion of Mode s results for the nine months ended December 31, 2011.

#### **Earnings Per Common Share**

Basic earnings per share increased to \$1.58 in 2011 from \$1.17 in 2010. Basic earnings per share increased primarily due to the increase in net income and fewer basic weighted average shares outstanding.

Diluted earnings per share increased to \$1.57 in 2011 from \$1.16 in 2010. Diluted earnings per share increased primarily due to the increase in net income and fewer diluted weighted average shares outstanding.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

During 2012, we funded operations, capital expenditures and stock buy backs with cash flows from operations. We believe that our cash, cash flow from operations and borrowings available under our Credit Agreement will be sufficient to meet our cash needs for at least the next twelve months.

Cash provided by operating activities for the year ended December 31, 2012 was approximately \$92.9 million, which resulted primarily from income of \$68.0 million adjusted for non-cash charges of \$36.9 million partially offset by the change in operating assets and liabilities of \$12.0 million.

The Mode acquisition has negatively affected our operating cash flows as the Mode business model has a larger variance between days payable outstanding and days sales outstanding than the Hub segment has historically experienced.

Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$56.4 million and related primarily to the purchase of containers and transportation equipment of \$29.7 million, computer related hardware and software of \$7.7 million, land for our new corporate headquarters of \$9.9 million, construction in process for our new corporate headquarters of \$6.1 million and leasehold improvements of \$1.1 million. We expect capital expenditures to be between \$90 million and \$100 million in 2013. Between \$30 million and \$32 million is for our corporate headquarters, which should be completed in 2013. Another \$50 million is for containers and other transportation equipment and the majority of the remainder is for technology related investments.

The net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2012 was \$14.9 million. We used \$13.0 million of cash to purchase treasury stock, \$2.5 million for capital lease payments, reported \$0.5 million of excess tax benefits from share-based compensation as a financing cash in-flow and we received proceeds from stock options exercised of \$0.1 million.

Cash paid for income taxes of \$28.6 million was less than our income tax expense of \$43.3 million due primarily to timing differences between our tax returns and financial statements. The two largest 2012 timing differences relate to amortization of intangibles and depreciation for containers.

21

On March 31, 2011, we amended our Credit Agreement which increased our maximum unsecured borrowing capacity from \$10.0 million to \$50.0 million and extended the term until March 2014. The interest rate under the Credit Agreement is equal to LIBOR plus 1.75%. The financial covenants require a minimum net worth of \$300.0 million and a cash flow leverage ratio of not more than 2.0 to 1.0. The commitment fee charged on the unused line of credit is 0.375%.

We have standby letters of credit that expire at various dates in 2013. As of December 31, 2012, our letters of credit were \$3.7 million.

Our unused and available borrowings under our bank revolving line of credit were \$46.3 million as of December 31, 2012 and \$47.4 million as of December 31, 2011. We were in compliance with our debt covenants as of December 31, 2012.

#### CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

Minimum annual lease commitments, as of December 31, 2012, under non-cancelable leases, principally for containers, chassis and other equipment and real estate, as well as other commitments are payable as follows (in thousands):

#### **Future Payments Due:**

		Operating				
		Leases and				
	Capital		m . 1			
	Lease		nmitments	Total		
2013	\$ 3,187	\$	30,716	\$ 33,903		
2014	3,187		10,636	13,823		
2015	3,187		8,314	11,501		
2016	3,195		6,611	9,806		
2017	3,187		5,375	8,562		
2018 and thereafter	11,689		11,074	22,763		
	\$ 27,632	\$	72,726	\$ 100,358		

On December 10, 2012, we exercised our purchase option on 4,097 containers that are currently leased. The purchases, totaling \$14.9 million, will occur as the leases expire throughout 2013 and are included in the table above.

#### **Deferred Compensation**

Under our Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan (the Plan ), participants can elect to defer certain compensation. Payments under the Plan are due as follows (in thousands):

#### **Future Payments Due:**

2013	\$ 1,192
2014	1,508
2015	1,484
2016	1,436
2017	721
2018 and thereafter	11,715
	\$ 18,056

#### CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions. In certain circumstances, those estimates and assumptions can affect amounts reported in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. We have made our best estimates and judgments of certain amounts included in the financial statements, giving due consideration to materiality. We do not believe there is a great likelihood that materially different amounts would be reported related to the accounting policies described below. However, application of these accounting policies involves the exercise of judgment and use of assumptions as to future uncertainties and, as a result, actual results could differ from these estimates. The following is a brief discussion of the more significant accounting policies and estimates.

#### Allowance for Uncollectible Trade Accounts Receivable

In the normal course of business, we extend credit to customers after a review of each customer s credit history. An allowance for uncollectible trade accounts has been established through an analysis of the accounts receivable aging, an assessment of collectability based on historical trends and an evaluation based on current economic conditions. To be more specific, we reserve a portion of every account balance that has aged over one year, a portion of receivables for customers in bankruptcy and certain account balances specifically identified as uncollectible. On an annual basis, we perform a hindsight analysis on Hub and Mode separately to determine each segment s experience in collecting account balances over one year old and account balances in bankruptcy. We then use this hindsight analysis to establish our reserves for receivables over one year and in bankruptcy. In establishing a reserve for certain account balances specifically identified as uncollectible, we consider the aging of the customer receivables, the specific details as to why the receivable has not been paid, the customer s current and projected financial results, the customer s ability to meet and sustain their financial commitments, the positive or negative effects of the current and projected industry outlook and the general economic conditions. The Company s level of reserves for its customer accounts receivable fluctuate depending upon all the factors mentioned above. However, we do not expect the reserve for uncollectible accounts to change significantly relative to our accounts receivable balance. Historically, our reserve for uncollectible accounts has approximated actual accounts written off. The allowance for uncollectible accounts is reported on the balance sheet in net accounts receivable. Recoveries of receivables previously charged off are recorded when received.

## **Revenue Recognition**

Revenue is recognized at the time 1) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, 2) services have been rendered, 3) the sales price is fixed and determinable and 4) collectability is reasonably assured. Revenue and related transportation costs are recognized based on relative transit time. Further, in most cases, we report revenue on a gross basis because we are the primary obligor and are responsible for providing the service desired by the customer. The customer views us as responsible for fulfillment including the acceptability of the service. Service requirements may include, for example, on-time delivery, handling freight loss and damage claims, setting up appointments for pick up and delivery and tracing shipments in transit. We have discretion in setting sales prices and as a result, our earnings vary. In addition, we have the discretion to select our vendors from multiple suppliers for the services ordered by our customers. Finally, we have credit risk for our receivables. These three factors, discretion in setting prices, discretion in selecting vendors and credit risk, further support reporting revenue on the gross basis.

#### **Provision for Income Taxes**

Deferred income taxes are recognized for the future tax effects of temporary differences between financial and income tax reporting using tax rates in effect for the years in which the differences are expected to reverse. We believe that it is more likely than not that our deferred tax assets will be realized based on future taxable income projections with the exception of \$0.1 million related to state tax net operating losses for which a valuation allowance has been established. In the event the probability of realizing the remaining deferred tax assets do not meet the more likely than not threshold in the future, a valuation allowance would be established for the deferred tax assets deemed unrecoverable.

Tax liabilities are recorded when, in management s judgment, a tax position does not meet the more likely than not threshold for recognition as prescribed by the guidance. For tax positions that meet the more likely than not threshold, a tax liability may be recorded depending on management s assessment of how the tax position will ultimately be settled.

#### Valuation of Goodwill

We test goodwill for impairment annually in the fourth quarter or when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of this asset might exceed the current fair value. We test goodwill for impairment at the reporting unit level. During the fourth quarter of 2011, we adopted the FASB s new accounting guidance, which allows companies to assess qualitative factors such as current company performance and overall economic factors to determine if it is more-likely-than-not that the goodwill might be impaired and whether it is necessary to perform the quantitative goodwill impairment test. In the quantitative goodwill test, a company compares the carrying value of a reporting unit to its fair value. If the carrying value of the reporting unit exceeds the estimated fair value, a second step is performed, which compares the implied fair value of goodwill to the carrying value, to determine the amount of impairment. In 2012, we performed the qualitative assessment on the Hub reporting unit and the quantitative test on the Mode reporting unit. No impairment charge was recognized based on the results of the goodwill impairment tests.

## Valuation of Other Indefinite-Lived Intangibles

We review other indefinite-lived intangibles for impairment annually in the fourth quarter or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of other indefinite-lived intangibles may not be recoverable. An indefinite lived intangible asset is impaired if its

fair value is less than its carrying value. An impairment loss is measured as the difference between the implied fair value of the reporting unit s indefinite-lived asset and the carrying amount of the asset. The fair value measurement is determined based on assumptions that a market participant would use including expectations regarding future operating performance (which are consistent with our internal projections and operating plans), discount rates, control premiums and other factors which are subjective in nature. As of December 31, 2012, reasonable variations in these assumptions do not have a significant impact on the results of the impairment test. Actual cash flows from operations could differ from management s estimates due to changes in business conditions, operating performance and economic conditions.

In the first quarter of 2013, we will adopt the FASB s new accounting guidance which permits an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of the indefinite lived intangible asset is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the quantitative test discussed above.

## Valuation of Finite-Lived Intangibles and Fixed Assets

We evaluate the potential impairment of finite-lived intangible assets and fixed assets when impairment indicators exist. If the carrying value is no longer recoverable based upon the undiscounted future cash flows of the asset, the amount of the impairment is the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of the asset.

## **Equipment**

We operate tractors and utilize containers and chassis in connection with our business. This equipment may be purchased or leased as part of an operating or capital lease. In addition, we rent equipment from third parties and various railroads under short term rental arrangements. Equipment which is purchased is depreciated on the straight line method over the estimated useful life. Our equipment leases have five to ten year terms and, in some cases, contain renewal options.

#### **Stock Based Compensation**

Share-based compensation includes the restricted stock awards expected to vest based on the grant date fair value. Compensation expense is amortized on a straight-line basis over the vesting period and is included in salaries and benefits.

#### New Pronouncements

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued an update to Topic 820 Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures of the Accounting Standards Codification. This update provides guidance on how fair value accounting should be applied where its use is already required or permitted by other standards. The guidance does not extend the use of fair value accounting. We adopted this guidance effective January 1, 2012, as required, and the adoption did not have a significant impact to our consolidated financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued an update to Topic 220 Comprehensive Income of the Accounting Standards Codification. The update is intended to increase the prominence of other comprehensive income in the financial statements. The guidance requires that we present components of comprehensive income in either one continuous or two separate, but consecutive, financial statements and no longer permits the presentation of comprehensive income in the Consolidated Statement of Shareholders Equity. We adopted this new guidance effective January 1, 2012, as required. The adoption did not have a significant impact on our consolidated financial statements. We are now presenting components of comprehensive income on one statement, our Consolidated Statements of Income and Other Comprehensive Income.

In July 2012, the FASB issued an update to Topic 350 Intangibles Goodwill and Other of the Accounting Standards Codification. The objective of this update is to simplify how entities test indefinite lived intangibles for impairment. The amendments in the update permit an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of the indefinite lived intangible asset is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the quantitative test described in Topic 350. The more-likely-than-not threshold is defined as having a likelihood of more than 50 percent. We will adopt this guidance effective January 1, 2013 as required, and do not expect the adoption to have a significant impact to our consolidated financial statements.

### **OUTLOOK, RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

### **Business Combinations/Divestitures**

We believe that any future acquisitions that we may make could significantly impact financial results. Financial results most likely to be impacted include, but are not limited to, revenue, gross margin, salaries and benefits, selling general and administrative expenses, depreciation and amortization, interest expense, net income and our debt level.

#### Revenue

We believe that the performance of the railroads and a severe or prolonged slow-down of the economy are the most significant factors that could negatively influence our revenue growth rate. Should there be further consolidation in the rail industry causing a service disruption, we believe

our intermodal business would likely be negatively impacted. Should there be a significant service disruption, we expect that there may be some customers who would switch from using our intermodal service to other transportation services. We expect that these customers may choose to continue to utilize other services even when intermodal service levels are restored. Other factors that could negatively influence our growth rate include, but are not limited to, the elimination of fuel surcharges, the entry of new competitors, the loss of Mode IBOs and or sales agents, customer retention, inadequate drayage service and inadequate equipment supply.

24

#### **Gross Margin**

We expect fluctuations in gross margin as a percentage of revenue from quarter-to-quarter caused by various factors including, but not limited to, changes in the transportation business mix, changes in logistics services between transactional business and management fee business, insurance costs, driver recruiting costs, impact of CSA (Compliance Safety Accountability) and other regulations on drayage costs, trailer and container capacity, vendor cost increases, fuel costs, equipment utilization, intermodal industry growth, intermodal industry service levels, accessorials, competitive pricing and accounting estimates.

#### Salaries and Benefits

We estimate that salaries and benefits as a percentage of revenue could fluctuate from quarter-to-quarter as there are timing differences between volume increases and changes in levels of staffing. Factors that could affect the percentage from staying in the recent historical range include, but are not limited to, revenue growth rates significantly higher or lower than forecasted, a management decision to invest in additional personnel to stimulate new or existing businesses, changes in customer requirements, changes in our operating structure, how well we perform against our EPS goals, and changes in railroad intermodal service levels which could result in a lower or higher cost of labor per move.

## **Agent Fees and Commissions**

Agent fees and commissions are directly related to the gross margin earned by the agents. This expense will fluctuate as Mode s gross margin fluctuates.

#### **General and Administrative**

We believe there are several factors that could cause general and administrative expenses to fluctuate as a percentage of revenue. As customer expectations and the competitive environment require the development of web-based business interfaces and the restructuring of our information systems and related platforms, we believe there could be significant expenses incurred, some of which would not be capitalized. Other factors that could cause selling, general and administrative expense to fluctuate include, but are not limited to, changes in insurance premiums, claim expense, bad debt expense and professional services expense. We expect rent expense to decrease when we move to our new corporate headquarters which is expected to be completed by the end of 2013.

### **Depreciation and Amortization**

We estimate that depreciation and amortization of property and equipment will remain consistent in 2013. However, depreciation expense will increase in 2014 when we move to our new corporate headquarters.

## Impairment of Property and Equipment, Goodwill and Indefinite-Lived Intangibles

On an ongoing basis, we assess the realizability of our assets. If, at any point during the year, we determine that an impairment exists, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced by the estimated impairment with a corresponding charge to earnings which we estimate could have a material adverse impact on earnings.

#### Other Income (Expense)

We expect interest expense to be consistent in 2013. Factors that could cause a change in interest income include, but are not limited to, change in interest rates, change in investments, funding working capital needs, funding capital expenditures, funding an acquisition and purchase of treasury stock.

#### **Provision for Income Taxes**

Based on current tax legislation, we estimate that our effective tax rate will be 38.5% in 2013.

## Item 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

We are exposed to market risk related to changes in interest rates on our bank line of credit which may adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. We have no significant exposure to foreign currency exchange rate changes. No derivative financial instruments were outstanding as of December 31, 2012 and 2011. We do not use financial instruments for trading purposes.

As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, other than our outstanding letters of credit, the Company had no outstanding obligations under its bank line of c