PRICELINE COM INC Form 10-Q August 09, 2006

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

# **FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2006

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 0-25581

# PRICELINE.COM INCORPORATED

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

#### **Delaware**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

#### 06-1528493

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

800 Connecticut Avenue

Norwalk, Connecticut 06854

(address of principal executive offices)

(203) 299-8000

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

N/A

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed, since last report)

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 o.

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

Large accelerated filer o

Accelerated filer X

Non-accelerated filer O

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

Number of shares of Common Stock outstanding at August 1, 2006:

Common Stock, par value \$0.008 per share (Class)

40,013,574 (Number of Shares)

# priceline.com Incorporated Form 10-Q

For the Quarter Ended June 30, 2006

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#### PART I FINANCIAL INFORMATION

# **Item 1. Consolidated Financial Statements**

## priceline.com Incorporated CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (unaudited)

(In thousands, except share and per share data)

ASSETS	June 30, 2006	December 31, 2005
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 118,771	\$ 80,341
Restricted cash	21,285	22,308
Short-term investments	72,722	72,745
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful		
accounts of \$1,182 and \$1,377, respectively	53,025	30,043
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	21,050	18,245
Total current assets	286,853	223,682
Property and equipment, net	20,004	18,271
Intangible assets, net	149,270	149,675
Goodwill	213,846	198,417
Deferred taxes	143,009	146,553
Other assets	15,195	17,430
Total assets	\$ 828,177	\$ 754,028
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 56,402	\$ 37,851
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	36,881	29,545
Deferred merchant bookings	10,447	3,619
Total current liabilities	103,730	71,015
Deferred taxes	41,881	42,375
Other long-term liabilities	11,710	10,889
Minority interest	25,630	23,659
Long-term debt	223,261	223,549
Total liabilities	406,212	371,487
Series B mandatorily redeemable preferred stock, \$0.01 par value; 80,000 authorized		
shares; \$1,000 liquidation value per share; 80,000 shares issued and 13,470 shares	12 470	12.470
outstanding	13,470	13,470
Stockholders equity:		
Common stock, \$0.008 par value; authorized 1,000,000,000 shares, 42,731,532 and		
42,195,004 shares issued, respectively	327	323
Treasury stock, 2,734,183 and 2,496,326 shares, respectively	(356,307	) (350,628
Additional paid-in capital	2,075,626	2,069,165
Deferred compensation		(6,810
Accumulated deficit	(1,323,019	) (1,334,572
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	11,868	(8,407
Total stockholders equity	408,495	369,071
Total liabilities and stockholders equity	\$ 828,177	\$ 754,028

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

# priceline.com Incorporated CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)

		ree Months I ie 30, 6	Ended	2005	5		Months End ne 30,	ded	200:	5
Merchant revenues	\$	250,524		\$	246,504	\$	460,962		\$	464,032
Agency revenues	55,	892		18,8	358	86,	,273		33,7	783
Other revenues	1,2	35		1,19	)5	2,3	29		2,13	34
Total revenues	307	,651		266	,557	549	9,564		499	,949
Cost of merchant revenues	201	,847		201	,323	37	1,530		377	,008
Cost of agency revenues										
Cost of other revenues										
Total costs of revenues	201	,847		201	,323	37	1,530		377	,008
Gross profit	105	5,804		65,2	234	178	8,034		122	,941
Operating expenses:										
Advertising Offline	8,8	61		8,08	39	18,	,298		19,	162
Advertising Online	30,	493		12,2	205	52,	,354		22,	137
Sales and marketing	10,	708		10,1	113		,290		18,3	322
Personnel, including stock based compensation										
of \$3,717, \$989, \$6,734 and \$1,703,										
respectively	18,	757		9,76	51	35.	,211		20,9	983
General and administrative, including option	ĺ								ĺ	
payroll taxes of \$130, \$38, \$219 and \$56,										
respectively	7,2	56		5,45	53	12.	,993		9,68	37
Information technology	2,3			2,77		4,6			5,5	
Depreciation and amortization	8,3			5,04			,306		10,	
Restructuring charge (reversal), net	-,-			-,-	•	13:			(33)	
Total operating expenses	86,	767		53,4	144		0,226			,984
St				,			-,			,
Operating income	19,	037		11,7	790	17,	,808		16,9	957
Other income (expense):										
Interest income	2,1	21		1,71	2	3,6	96		3,10	58
Interest expense	(1,5		)	(1,2		) (3,	053	)	(2,5	
Other	(62		)	137		(51		)	(48	
Total other income (expense)	(55		)	610		132			156	
( 1 )	(		,							
Earnings before income taxes, equity in income (loss) of										
investees and minority interests	18,	982		12,4	100	17,	,940		17,	113
Income tax expense	(5,5		)	(330		) (4,	836	)	(45	)
Equity in income (loss) of investees and minority interests	(88)		)	312		(68		)	300	,
Net income	12,			12,3		-	418		17,3	
Preferred stock dividend	ĺ			ĺ		(86		)	(87	
										,
Net income applicable to common stockholders	\$	12,517		\$	12,376	\$	11,553		\$	16,490
Net income applicable to common stockholders per basic										
common share	\$	0.32		\$	0.32	\$	0.29		\$	0.42
Weighted average number of basic common shares outstanding	39,			39,0			,432		38,9	
Net income applicable to common stockholders per diluted										
common share	\$	0.28		\$	0.29	\$	0.28		\$	0.41
Weighted average number of diluted common shares										
outstanding	46.	993		46,5	516	43.	,309		43,0	005
0	,			- ,-		,			,	

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

# priceline.com Incorporated CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2006 (In thousands)

Common Stock **Treasury Stock** Accumulated Additional Other Paid-Accumulated Comprehensive **Deferred** Shares **Amount in Capital Deficit** Income (Loss)Shares Amount CompensatioiTotal Balance, January 1, 2006 \$ 323 \$ 2,069,165 \$ (1,334,572)\$ 42,195 (8,407)(2,496) \$ (350,628)\$ (6,810) \$ 369,071 Net income applicable to common stockholders 11,553 11,553 Unrealized gain on marketable securities 58 58 20,217 20,217 Currency translation adjustment Comprehensive income 31,828 Issuance of restricted stock, net of forfeitures 118 Reclassification of deferred compensation upon adoption of (6,810 6,810 SFAS 123(R) Issuance of preferred stock dividend 40 864 865 Exercise of stock options 379 2 6,649 6,651 Repurchase of common stock (238 ) (5,679 (5,679)5,758 Stock based compensation 5,758 Balance, June 30, 2006 42,732 \$ 327 \$ 2,075,626 \$ (1,323,019)\$ 11,868 (2,734) \$ (356,307)\$ \$ 408,495

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

# priceline.com Incorporated CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (unaudited) (In thousands)

	Six Months Ended June 30,						
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	2006			2005			
Net income	\$	12,418		\$	17,368		
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	4,91	1		4.20	4		
Depreciation Amortization	12,0			4,30 6,90			
Provision for uncollectible accounts, net	1,21			1,38			
Deferred income taxes	(104		)	(381			
Stock based compensation expense	6,73		,	1,70			
Amortization of debt issuance costs	738	) <del>'1</del>		732	3		
Equity in (income) loss of investee, net and minority interests	686			(300			
Restructuring charges (reversals), net	135			(336			
Changes in assets and liabilities:	133			(330			
Accounts receivable	(21,	405	)	(15,6	667		
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(3,1		)	(1,34			
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities	31,3		)	19,8			
Other	(131		)	2,41			
Net cash provided by operating activities	45,4		)	36,6			
INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	7,7	7		30,0	02		
Acquisitions and other equity investments, net of cash acquired	(3,1	04	)	(1,00	00		
Purchase of short-term investments	(72,		)	(49,4			
Redemption of short-term investments	72,4		,	34,8			
Additions to property and equipment	(6,2		)	(6,20			
Change in restricted cash	1,04		,	1,50			
Net cash used in investing activities	(8,2		)	(20,2			
FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	(0,2		,	(20,2			
Repurchase of common stock	(5,6	79	)				
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	6,65		,	2,70	5		
Purchase of shares in subsidiary held by minority interest	(1,5		)	,			
Net cash provided by financing activities	(609		)	2,70	5		
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	1,85			(2,07			
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	38,4			17,0			
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		80,341				101,270	
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	118,771		\$	118,270		
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,							
SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION:							
Cash paid during the period for income taxes	\$	4,992		\$	489		
Cash paid during the period for interest	\$	1,803		\$	1,878		

See Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### priceline.com Incorporated Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

#### 1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Priceline.com Incorporated (priceline.com or the Company) is responsible fd had dited Consolidated Financial Statements included in this document. The Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and include all normal and recurring adjustments that management of the Company considers necessary for a fair presentation of its financial statements. The Company prepared the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements following the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission for interim reporting. As permitted under those rules, the Company condensed or omitted certain footnotes or other financial information that are normally required by GAAP for annual financial statements. These statements should be read in combination with the Consolidated Financial Statements in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

The Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Investments in affiliates in which the Company does not have control, but has the ability to exercise significant influence, are accounted for by the equity method.

Revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities can vary during each quarter of the year. Therefore, the results and trends in these interim financial statements may not be the same as those for the full year. Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year financial information to conform to the current year presentation.

#### 2. BUSINESS ACQUISITION

On July 14, 2005, the Company, through its subsidiary, priceline.com International Limited (priceline.com International), acquired 100% of the total issued share capital of Bookings B.V. (Bookings), an Amsterdam-based provider of online services for the booking of European hotel reservations. The total consideration for all of the Bookings shares was approximately \$135 million, including direct acquisition costs and certain post-closing adjustments. The acquisition has been accounted for as a purchase business combination. The Company s Consolidated Financial Statements include the results of operations of Bookings since the acquisition in July 2005.

#### 3. STOCK-BASED EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

The Company has adopted the following stock compensation plans from which broad-based employee grants may be made: The priceline.com Incorporated 1997 Omnibus Plan (the 1997 Plan ), the priceline.com Incorporated 1999 Omnibus Plan (the 1999 Plan ) and the priceline.com Incorporated 2000 Employee Stock Option Plan (the 2000 Plan ), each of which provides for grants of share based compensation as incentives and rewards to encourage employees, officers, consultants and directors in the long-term success of the Company. The 1997 Plan, 1999 Plan and 2000 Plan provide for grants of options to purchase up to 3,979,166, 7,895,833 and 1,000,000 shares of priceline.com common stock, respectively, at a purchase price equal to the fair market value on the date of grant.

Stock-based compensation issued under the plans generally consists of non-qualified stock options, restricted stock, performance shares and restricted stock units. Stock options are granted to employees at exercise prices equal to the fair market value of the common stock at the date of grant and have a term of 10 years. Generally, stock option grants to employees vest over three years from the grant date. Restricted stock, performance shares and restricted stock units generally vest over periods from 1 to 4 years.

The Company issues new shares upon the issuance of restricted stock and the exercise of stock options, restricted stock units and performance shares.

In addition, the Company has granted restricted stock and restricted stock units in shares of priceline.com International to certain managers of its European operations. These awards generally vest over two to three years.

In December 2004, Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 123 (Revised 2004), Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123(R)) was issued. SFAS 123(R) is a revision of SFAS No. 123, as amended, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation (SFAS 123). SFAS 123(R) eliminated the alternative to use the intrinsic value method of accounting that was provided in SFAS 123, which generally resulted in no compensation expense recorded in the financial statements related to the issuance of stock options. SFAS 123(R) requires that the cost resulting from all share based payment transactions be recognized in financial statements. SFAS 123(R) established fair value as the measurement objective in accounting for share based payment arrangements and requires companies to apply a fair value based measurement method in accounting for share based payment transactions with employees. Prior to January 1, 2006, the Company accounted for stock awards and stock option grants using the intrinsic value method. Compensation expense relating to restricted stock and restricted stock unit grants was recognized over the period during which the employee rendered service to the Company necessary to earn the award, at fair value on date of grant based on the number of shares granted and the quoted price of the Company s common stock.

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted SFAS 123(R) using the modified prospective method. Under this transition method, compensation cost recognized in the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, includes amounts of: (a) compensation cost of all share based awards granted to employees prior to, but unvested as of, January 1, 2006, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the original provisions of SFAS 123, and (b) compensation cost for all stock based awards granted subsequent to January 1, 2006, based on the grant date fair value estimated in accordance with the new provisions of SFAS 123(R). In accordance with the modified prospective method, results for prior periods have not been restated. Stock based compensation cost was approximately \$6.7 million and \$1.7 million for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The related tax benefit for the six months ended June 30, 2006 was approximately \$2.4 million. There was no related tax benefit for the six months ended June 30, 2005.

The fair value of restricted stock, performance shares and restricted stock units is determined based on the number of shares granted and the quoted price of the Company s common stock on the grant date, and the fair value of stock options is determined using the Black-Scholes valuation model. Such value is recognized as expense over the service period, net of estimated forfeitures, using the straight line method under SFAS 123(R).

The adoption of SFAS 123(R) resulted in an increase in net earnings attributable to the cumulative effect of accounting change caused by SFAS 123(R) s requirement to apply an estimated forfeiture rate to unvested awards. The Company previously recorded forfeitures when they occurred. The cumulative effect of accounting change as of January 1, 2006 totaled approximately \$211,000 (\$131,000 net of related tax effect) and was recorded in personnel expense for the six months ended June 30, 2006 since its impact on net income and net income per share was not significant.

Prior to the adoption of SFAS 123(R), deferred compensation related to restricted stock and restricted stock unit awards was classified as a separate component of stockholders equity. In accordance with the provisions of SFAS 123(R), on January 1, 2006, the balance in deferred compensation was reclassified to additional paid-in capital.

SFAS 123(R) also amends SFAS No. 95, Statement of Cash Flows, requiring the benefits of tax deductions in excess of recognized compensation costs to be reported as financing cash flows, rather than as operating cash flows as previously required. There were no significant tax benefits in excess of recognized compensation cost for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006.

The following table summarizes the effect of adopting SFAS 123(R) on the reported amounts for the six months ended June 30, 2006 relative to amounts that would have been reported using the intrinsic value method under previous accounting (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	Intri Meth	nsic Value od		S 123(R) astments		As Reported
Operating income	\$	20,732	\$	(2,924	)	\$ 17,808
Earnings before income taxes, equity in income (loss) of investees and						
minority interests	20,86	54	(2,9	24	)	17,940
Net income	13,34	13	(1,7	90	)	11,553
Net income applicable to common stockholders per basic common share:	\$	0.34	\$	(0.05)	)	\$ 0.29
Net income applicable to common stockholders per diluted common share:	\$	0.32	\$	(0.04	)	\$ 0.28

No stock options were granted during the six months ended June 30, 2006. The fair value of stock options granted during the three months ended June 30, 2005 was estimated at the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model, assuming no dividends and the following weighted average assumptions:

For the Three	Months	Ended
June 30, 2005		

Risk-free interest rate	3.9%
Expected lives	3 years
Volatility	79%

The risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant for periods corresponding with the expected life of the option. The expected lives represent the weighted average period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding giving consideration to vesting schedules and the Company s historical exercise pattern. The expected volatility is based on historical volatility of the Company s common stock.

The following table provides relevant information as to reported results for the three and six months ended June 30, 2005 under the Company s intrinsic value method of accounting for stock options with supplemental information as if the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123 had been applied (in thousands, except per share amounts):

		Three Months June 30, 2005		Six Months une 30, 2005
Net income applicable to common stockholders, as reported	\$	12,376	\$	16,490
Add: Stock-based compensation, as reported, net of taxes	989		1,703	
Deduct: Total stock-based compensation determined under SFAS 123 fair value based method for all stock-based compensation, net of taxes	(2,689		) (5,156	
Adjusted net income, SFAS 123, fair value method for all stock-based compensation	\$	10,676	\$	13,037

Net income applicable to common stockholders per basic common share, as reported	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.42
Net income applicable to common stockholders per diluted common share, as reported	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.41
Net income applicable to common stockholders per basic common share, SFAS 123 adjusted	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.33
Net income applicable to common stockholders per diluted common share, SFAS 123 adjusted	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.33

The following table summarizes stock option activity during the six months ended June 30, 2006:

Stock Options	Shares	Aver	ghted age cise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term	Aggi Intri Valu (000	ie
Outstanding at January 1, 2006	3,871,738	\$	52.37	6.7		
Granted						
Exercised	(379,133)	17.5	4			
Forfeited/Expired	(68,683)	65.0	3			
Outstanding at June 30, 2006	3,423,922	\$	55.98	6.1	\$	25,206
Vested or expected to vest at June 30, 2006	3,361,419	\$	56.62	6.1	\$	24,682
Exercisable at June 30, 2006	2,798,893	\$	63.68	5.6	\$	19,972

The weighted average grant-date fair value per share was \$12.16 for 107,000 options granted during the six months ended June 30, 2005. As of June 30, 2006, the total future compensation cost related to unvested options not yet recognized was \$6.0 million and the weighted average period over which these awards are expected to be recognized was 1.3 years. The intrinsic value of options exercised was approximately \$4.2 million and \$1.6 million for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The number of options that vested was 269,084 with a total fair value of \$3,173,392 and 637,248 with a total fair value of \$6,313,115 for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The following table summarizes the activity of unvested restricted stock, restricted stock units and performance shares ( Share Based Awards ) during the six months ended June 30, 2006:

Share Based Awards	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested at January 1, 2006	426,243	\$ 22.51
Granted	315,180	24.96
Vested	(106,463)	22.20
Performance Shares Adjustment	112,054	25.37
Forfeited/Expired	(14,120)	23.33
Unvested at June 30, 2006	732,894	24.03

The fair value of unvested shares is determined based on the closing stock price on the grant date. As of June 30, 2006, there was \$13.9 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested Share Based Awards to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.5 years.

The unvested Share Based Awards at June 30, 2006 include 167,245 shares underlying a broad-based grant of performance shares to certain employees in February and June 2006, net of actual forfeitures with a weighted average grant date fair value of approximately \$25.37 per share. The 167,245 represents the target number of shares of priceline.com common stock that will be issued to employees if the Company achieves certain financial performance versus a peer group of companies. The actual number of performance shares issued will be determined at the end of the contingency period and could range from zero to an additional 334,490 shares over the target number of shares if the maximum performance threshold associated with the performance shares is met by the Company. Stock based compensation related to the performance shares is recorded based upon the estimated probable outcome at the end of the contingency period. During the three months ended June 30, 2006 the estimated probable number of shares to be issued at the end of the contingency period was increased by 112,054 shares.

Unvested shares at June 30, 2006 also include 104,887 restricted stock units with a weighted average grant date fair value of approximately \$23.78 per share.

The following table summarizes the activity of unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units related to shares of priceline.com International Limited ( PIL Share Based Awards ) during the six months ended June 30, 2006:

PIL Share Based Awards	Shares	Weighted Date Fair	d Average Grant r Value
Unvested at January 1, 2006	96,375	\$	32.50
Granted			
Vested			
Forfeited/Expired	(3,153)	31.29	
Unvested at June 30, 2006	93,222	32.54	

The fair value of unvested shares is determined based on the estimated fair value on the grant date. As of June 30, 2006 there was \$1.7 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested PIL Share Based Awards (based upon the exchange rate as of June 30, 2006) to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.4 years. Unvested shares at June 30, 2006 include 46,459 shares of restricted stock units with a weighted average grant date fair value of approximately \$33.45 per share.

### 4. NET INCOME PER SHARE

The Company computes both basic and diluted earnings per share in accordance with SFAS No. 128, Earnings per Share. Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing net income by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share is based upon the weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding during the period which is calculated using the treasury stock method for stock options, warrants and restricted stock. Stock options and warrants for which the exercise price exceeds the average market price over the period have an anti-dilutive effect on EPS and, accordingly, are excluded from the calculation. Contingently issuable shares are included in weighted average shares outstanding for calculating fully diluted earnings per share based on the number of shares, if any, that would be issuable if the end of the reporting period were the end of the contingency period, if the result would be dilutive. The shares that would be issued upon the conversion of the Company s 1% and 2.25% Senior Convertible Notes (See Note 9 to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements) are included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share if their inclusion is dilutive to earnings per share.

A reconciliation of net income and the weighted average number of shares outstanding used in calculating diluted earnings per share is as follows (in thousands):

For the Three Months Ended June 30,		For the Six Montl Ended June 30,					
			_		~		16,490
		- '-	,			т.	
\$	13,289	\$	13,617	\$	12,189	\$	17,539
39,	481	39,	022	39,4	432	38,9	947
996	5	481		752		445	
756	)	1,2	53			488	
57	60	<i>5</i> 7	60	2.1/	25	2.17	25
3,7	00	3,7	00	3,12	23	3,12	23
46.	993	46.	516	43.1	309	43.0	005
.0,	,,,,	.0,		,.		,	, , ,
4,1	74	4,4	13	7,80	08	7,84	13
	200 \$ 7772 \$ 39, 996 5,77	<b>2006</b> \$ 12,517 772	2006       200         \$ 12,517       \$         772       1,2         \$ 13,289       \$         39,481       39,         996       481         756       1,2         5,760       5,7         46,993       46,	2006     2005       \$ 12,517     \$ 12,376       772     1,241       \$ 13,289     \$ 13,617       39,481     39,022       996     481       756     1,253       5,760     5,760       46,993     46,516	2006         2005         200           \$ 12,517         \$ 12,376         \$           772         1,241         636           \$ 13,289         \$ 13,617         \$           39,481         39,022         39,           996         481         752           756         1,253         5,760         3,12           46,993         46,516         43,43	2006         2005         2006           \$ 12,517         \$ 12,376         \$ 11,553           772         1,241         636           \$ 13,289         \$ 13,617         \$ 12,189           39,481         39,022         39,432           996         481         752           756         1,253           5,760         5,760         3,125           46,993         46,516         43,309	2006         2005         2006         2006           \$ 12,517         \$ 12,376         \$ 11,553         \$ 772           \$ 13,289         \$ 13,617         \$ 12,189         \$ 39,481           \$ 39,481         \$ 39,022         \$ 39,432         \$ 38,5           \$ 996         481         752         445           \$ 5,760         5,760         \$ 3,125         \$ 3,125           46,993         46,516         43,309         43,6

#### 5. RESTRUCTURING

At June 30, 2006, the Company had a restructuring liability of \$1.5 million for the estimated remaining costs related to leased property vacated by the Company in 2000. During the first quarter of 2006, the Company recorded a \$135,000 restructuring charge based upon a re-evaluation of the estimated disposal costs related to the vacated leased property.

The Company estimates that, based on current available information, the remaining net cash outflows associated with its restructuring related commitments will be paid in 2006-2011. The current portion of the restructuring accrual in the amount of \$838,000 is recorded in Accrued expenses and the \$676,000 non-current portion is recorded in Other long-term liabilities on the Company s Consolidated Balance Sheet.

### 6. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

The following table summarizes, by major security type, the Company s marketable securities as of June 30, 2006 (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Loss	Estimated Fair Value
Commercial paper	\$ 42,317		\$ (23	) \$ 42,294
U.S. government agency securities	14,843		(10	) 14,833
U.S. government agency discount notes	15,605		(10	) 15,595
Total	\$ 72,765		\$ (43	) \$ 72,722

Contractual maturities of marketable securities classified as available-for-sale as of June 30, 2006 are all within one year. No material gains or losses were realized for the three months or six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005.

#### 7. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Company s intangible assets consist of the following (in thousands):

	June 30, 2006			December 31, 2005				*********
	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Gross Carrying Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Amount	Amortization Period	Weighted Average Useful Life
Supply and distribution agreements	\$ 139,405	\$ (19,110 )	\$ 120,295	\$ 129,781	\$ (12,616 )	\$ 117,165	3 - 13 years	13 years
Technology	19,640	(8,715)	10,925	17,270	(5,283)	11,987	3 years	3 years
Patents	1,494	(1,051 )	443	1,494	(1,021 )	473	3 years	3 years
Customer lists	10,293	(7,304)	2,989	9,689	(4,842 )	4,847	2 - 3 years	2 years
Internet domain names	6,443	(376 )	6,067	6,443	(54)	6,389	10 years	10 years
Tradenames	9,558	(1,115 )	8,443	8,848	(148 )	8,700	5 years	5 years
Other	326	(218)	108	326	(212 )	114	3 - 15 years	9 years
Total intangible assets	\$ 187,159	\$ (37,889 )	\$ 149,270	\$ 173,851	\$ (24,176 )	\$ 149,675		

Intangible assets with determinable lives are primarily amortized on a straight-line basis. Intangible assets amortization expense was approximately \$6.1 million and \$3.4 million for the three months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and approximately \$12.1 million and \$6.9 million for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The annual estimated amortization expense for intangible assets for the next five years and thereafter is as follows (in thousands):

2006	\$ 12,025
2007	19,717
2008	15,015
2009	13,086
2010	12,754
Thereafter	76,673
	\$ 149,270
11	

#### 8. OTHER ASSETS

Other assets at June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005 consist of the following (in thousands):

	June 30, 2006	<b>December 31, 2005</b>
Investment in pricelinemortgage.com	\$ 10,700	\$ 10,724
Deferred debt issuance costs, net	3,915	4,653
Other	580	2,053
Total	\$ 15,195	\$ 17,430

Investment in pricelinemortgage.com represents the Company s 49% equity investment in pricelinemortgage.com and, accordingly, the Company recognizes its pro rata share of pricelinemortgage.com s operating results, not to exceed an amount that the Company believes represents the investment s estimated fair value. The Company recognized approximately \$35,000 and \$24,000 of losses from its investment in pricelinemortgage.com in the three and six month periods ended June 30, 2006, respectively. For the three and six month periods ended June 30, 2005, the Company recognized approximately \$396,000 and \$421,000 of income from its investment in pricelinemortgage.com, respectively. The Company earned advertising fees from pricelinemortgage.com of approximately \$4,000 and \$15,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Additionally, the Company earned advertising fees from pricelinemortgage.com of approximately \$15,000 and \$26,000 in the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The excess of the carrying value of the Company s equity investment in pricelinemortgage.com over its equity in the underlying net assets was approximately \$1.1 million as of June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

In February 2005, the company invested \$1 million in an online advertising company (the Investee), representing 20% of its outstanding equity. The investment was accounted for under the cost method. An additional \$1.2 million was invested in January 2006, increasing the Company s ownership to approximately 42% of the outstanding equity and, accordingly, the Company began accounting for its investment under the equity method of accounting. The Company recognized approximately \$183,000 and \$219,000 of net loss from its pro rata share of the Investee s operating results for the three month and six month periods ended June 30, 2006. Online advertising fees paid by the Company to the Investee were \$158,000 and \$239,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and were \$435,000 and \$513,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

In June 2006, the Company purchased the Investee s remaining outstanding equity for an additional \$2.0 million. The acquisition has been accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. The Investee s results of operations are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Company since the date of acquisition. Net assets acquired totaled \$1.6 million and consisted principally of intangible assets and accounts receivable. Goodwill resulting from this acquisition amounted to approximately \$2.6 million.

Deferred debt issuance costs arose from the Company s issuance of \$125 million aggregate principal amount of 1% Notes in August 2003 and \$100 million aggregate principal amount of 2.25% Notes in June 2004. Deferred debt issuance costs of approximately \$4.3 million and \$3.3 million, respectively, consisting primarily of underwriting commissions and professional service fees, are being amortized using the effective interest rate method over approximately five years.

#### 9. CONVERTIBLE DEBT

In August 2003, the Company issued, in a private placement, \$125 million aggregate principal amount of Convertible Senior Notes due August 1, 2010, with an interest rate of 1% (the 1% Notes). The 1% Notes are convertible, subject to certain conditions, into the Company s common stock, par value \$0.008 per share, at the option of the holder, at a conversion price of approximately \$40.00 per share, subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of specified events. Each \$1,000 principal amount of 1% Notes will initially be convertible into 25 shares of the Company s common stock if, on or

prior to August 1, 2008, the closing price of the Company s common stock for at least 20 trading days in the 30 consecutive trading days ending on the first day of a conversion period is more than 110% of the then current conversion price of the 1% Notes, or after August 1, 2008, if the closing price of the Company s common stock is more than 110% of the then current conversion price of the 1% Notes. The 1% Notes are also convertible in certain other circumstances, such as a change in control of the Company. In addition, the 1% Notes will be redeemable at the Company s option beginning in 2008, and the holders may require the Company to repurchase the 1% Notes on August 1, 2008 or in certain other circumstances. Interest on the 1% Notes is payable on February 1 and August 1 of each year.

In November 2003, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement whereby it swapped the fixed 1% interest on its 1% Notes for a floating interest rate based on the 3-month U.S. Dollar LIBOR, minus the applicable margin of 221 basis points, on \$45 million notional value of debt. This agreement expires August 1, 2010. The Company designated this interest rate swap agreement as a fair value hedge. The changes in the fair value of the interest rate swap agreement and the underlying debt are recorded as offsetting gains and losses in interest income and expense in the Consolidated Statement of Operations. Hedge ineffectiveness of \$6,000 was recorded as interest expense for the three months ended June 30, 2006 and \$4,000 was recorded as an offset to interest expense for the six months ended June 30, 2006. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2005, hedge ineffectiveness of \$26,000 and \$11,000, respectively, was recorded as interest income. The fair value cost to terminate this swap as of June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, was approximately \$1.9 million and \$1.5 million, respectively, and has been recorded as a credit in other long-term liabilities with a related adjustment to the carrying value of debt.

In June 2004, the Company issued, in a private placement, \$100 million aggregate principal amount of Convertible Senior Notes due January 15, 2025, with an interest rate of 2.25% (the 2.25% Notes ). The 2.25% Notes are convertible, subject to certain conditions, into the Company s common stock, par value \$0.008 per share, at the option of the holder, at a conversion price of approximately \$37.95 per share, subject to adjustment upon the occurrence of specified events. Each \$1,000 principal amount of 2.25% Notes will initially be convertible into 26.3505 shares of the Company s common stock if, on or prior to January 15, 2025, certain conditions occur. The 2.25% Notes are also convertible in certain other circumstances, such as a change in control of the Company. In the event that all or substantially all of the Company s common stock is acquired prior to January 15, 2010, in a transaction in which the consideration paid to holders of the Company s common stock consists of all or substantially all cash, the Company would be required to make additional payments to the holders of the 2.25% Notes of amounts ranging from \$0 to \$16.8 million depending upon the date of the transaction and the then current stock price of the Company. The Company s obligation to make this payment is treated as an embedded derivative which, pursuant to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities ( SFAS 133 ), must be assigned its own value separate and apart from the value of the 2.25% Notes. The estimated value of the derivative has been established based upon several quantitative and qualitative factors and will be amortized as interest expense ratably over approximately a 5 ½ year period. Pursuant to SFAS 133, any subsequent change in the value of the derivative is recognized as income or expense in the period in which the change in value occurs. Amortization expense and the effect of marking the instrument to market has not been material in any period. In addition, the 2.25% Notes will be redeemable at the Company s option beginning January 20, 2010, and the holders may require the Company to repurchase the 2.25% Notes on January 15, 2010, 2015 or 2020, or in certain other circumstances. Interest on the 2.25% Notes is payable on January 15 and July 15 of each year.

The Company used a portion of the net proceeds from the issuance of the 1% Notes and the 2.25% Notes in the acquisitions of Travelweb and Active Hotels in 2004, and in the acquisition of Bookings in July 2005. The remaining proceeds are available for general corporate purposes, strategic uses and working capital requirements.

#### 10. TREASURY STOCK

In the fourth quarter of 2005, the Company s Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to \$50 million of the Company s common stock from time to time in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. Under this program, the Company repurchased 237,857 shares of its common stock at an aggregate cost of \$5.7 million in the six months ended June 30, 2006. All shares were repurchased at prevailing market prices. In December 2005, the Company repurchased 833,333 warrants to purchase its common stock at their then-current fair market value of \$12.2 million.

The Company may make additional repurchases of shares under its stock repurchase program, depending on prevailing market conditions, alternate uses of capital and other factors. Whether and when to initiate and/or complete any purchase of common stock and the amount of common stock purchased will be determined in the Company s complete discretion. As of June 30, 2006, there were approximately 2.7 million shares of the Company s common stock held in treasury.

#### 11. REDEEMABLE PREFERRED STOCK

In February 2006 and 2005, the Company issued Delta Air Lines, Inc. a dividend on the Series B Redeemable Preferred Stock in the amount of 40,240 shares of the Company s common stock. As a result, the Company recorded a non-cash dividend charge of \$865,000 and \$878,000 in the first quarter of 2006 and 2005, respectively.

#### 12. GOODWILL

A substantial majority of the Company s goodwill relates to its acquisitions of Travelweb LLC, Active Hotels Ltd. ( Active Hotels ), and Bookings.

Change in goodwill for the period ended June 30, 2006 consists of the following (in thousands):

Balance at January 1, 2006	\$ 198,	417
Acquisition	2,551	
Adjustment to pre-acquisition liabilities	(102	)
Purchase of minority interest	376	
Currency translation adjustments	12,604	
Balance at June 30, 2006	\$ 213,	846

#### 13. TAXES

Income tax expense includes U.S. and international income taxes, determined using an estimate of the Company s annual effective tax rate. A deferred tax liability is recognized for all taxable temporary differences, and a deferred tax asset is recognized for all deductible temporary differences and operating loss and tax credit carryforwards. A valuation allowance is recognized if it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized.

The Company recognizes income tax expense related to income generated outside of the United States based upon the applicable tax rates of the foreign countries in which the income is generated. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, the substantial majority of the Company s foreign-sourced income has been generated in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. In connection with the acquisitions of Active Hotels and Bookings, the Company instituted structural and financial arrangements which it believes are reasonable and customary, but which are subject to review and approval by the relevant foreign taxing jurisdiction. To the extent such arrangements are not approved by the foreign taxing jurisdictions, it could result in a cumulative adjustment to tax expense and a higher future effective tax rate.

The Company s 2006 effective tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory rate of 35% primarily due to the foreign tax benefit of certain structural and financial arrangements and lower foreign tax rates, partly offset by state income taxes.

The Company has significant deferred tax assets, resulting principally from domestic net operating loss carryforwards ( NOLs ). As required by SFAS No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes, the Company periodically evaluates the likelihood of the realization of deferred tax assets, and reduces the carrying amount of these deferred tax assets by a valuation allowance to the extent it believes a portion will not be realized. The Company considers many factors when assessing the likelihood of future realization of our deferred tax assets, including its recent cumulative earnings experience by taxing jurisdiction, expectations of future taxable income, the carryforward periods available to it for tax reporting purposes, and other relevant factors. Through June 30, 2005, the Company provided a valuation allowance for the full amount of the deferred tax asset. Management concluded in the third quarter 2005, based upon its assessment of positive and negative evidence, that it is more likely than not that a portion of the deferred tax assets will be realized. Accordingly, the Company recorded a non-cash tax benefit in the third quarter 2005, resulting from a \$170.5 million reversal of a portion of its valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets. It is the Company s belief that it is more likely than not that its remaining deferred tax assets will not be realized and, accordingly, a valuation allowance remains against those assets. The valuation allowance may need to be adjusted in the future if facts and circumstances change, causing a reassessment of the realization of its deferred tax assets. The deferred tax asset, net of the valuation allowance, amounted to \$155.1 million at June 30, 2006, and \$158.7 million at December 31, 2005. The current portion, in the amount of \$12.1 million, is recorded in prepaid expenses and other current assets on the Consolidated Balance Sheet at June 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

The Company has recorded a deferred tax liability in the amount of \$41.9 million at June 30, 2006, and \$42.4 million at December 31, 2005, primarily related to the assignment of estimated fair value to certain purchased identifiable intangible assets associated with the acquisitions of Active Hotels and Bookings.

#### 14. MINORITY INTERESTS

In connection with the Company s acquisitions of Active Hotels in September 2004 and Bookings in July 2005 and the reorganization of its European operations, key managers of Bookings and Active Hotels purchased shares of priceline.com International. In addition, these key managers were granted restricted stock and restricted stock units in priceline.com International shares that vest over time. As of June 30, 2006, the total aggregate minority interest in priceline.com International on a fully diluted basis was approximately 8.3%.

The holders of the minority interest in priceline.com International have the right to put their shares to the Company and the Company has the right to call their shares at a purchase price reflecting the fair market value of the shares at the time of the exercise of the put or call right. Subject to certain exceptions, (a) certain of the shares are subject to the put and call options in March 2006, 2007 and 2008 and (b) certain of the shares are subject to the put and call options in August 2006, 2007 and 2008. In April 2006, the Company repurchased shares underlying minority interest with a carrying value of \$1.2 million for an aggregate purchase price of \$1.6 million based upon the fair value. The excess of the purchase price over the carrying value is recorded as goodwill.

All purchased securities and vested granted securities described above can be put by the holders of the securities or called by the Company shortly after the consummation of a change in control of the Company. The Company obtains an independent valuation of priceline.com International at each exercise date. Based upon the latest valuation obtained in March 2006, the aggregate fair value of the minority interest in priceline.com International was \$33.0 million at June 30, 2006 including unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units.

#### 15. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Litigation Related to Hotel Occupancy and Other Taxes

Statewide Putative Class Actions

A number of cities and counties have filed putative class actions on behalf of themselves and other allegedly similarly situated cities and counties within the same respective state against the Company and other defendants, including, but not in all cases, Hotels.com, L.P.; Hotel.com GP, LLC; Hotwire, Inc.; Cheaptickets, Inc.; Cendant Travel Distribution Services Group, Inc.; Expedia, Inc.; Internetwork Publishing Corp. (d/b/a

Lodging.com); Lowestfare.com, Inc.; Maupintour Holding LLC; Orbitz, Inc.; Orbitz, LLC; Site59.com, LLC; Travelocity.com, Inc.; Travelocity.com LP; Travelweb, LLC and Travelnow.com, Inc. Each complaint alleges, among other things, that the defendants violated each jurisdiction s respective hotel occupancy tax ordinance with respect to the charges and remittance of amounts to cover taxes under each ordinance. Each complaint typically seeks compensatory damages, disgorgement, penalties available by law, attorneys fees and other relief. Such actions include:

City of Los Angeles v. Hotels.com, Inc., et al.: On December 30, 2004, a putative class action complaint was filed in the Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles by the City of Los Angeles on behalf of itself and a putative class of California cities, counties and other municipalities that have enacted occupancy taxes. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts unfair competition claims under California Business and Professions Code § 17200, et seq. (Section 17200). On May 19, 2005, the court ordered limited discovery. On August 31, 2005, the City of Los Angeles filed an amended complaint adding a claim for a declaratory judgment. On September 26, 2005, the court sustained the defendants—demurrers on the ground of improper joinder of defendants and claims, and therefore, dismissed the amended complaint, with leave to file a second amended complaint. On February 8, 2006, the City of Los Angeles filed a second amended complaint that asserts the same claims but includes additional allegations of fact. On March 27, 2006, the defendants filed demurrers to the second amended complaint. Those demurrers have been fully briefed and are scheduled to be argued before the court on August 17, 2006. On March 31, 2006, the defendants filed a petition to coordinate of this matter with the City of San Diego case (discussed below). On July 12, 2006, that petition was granted, and, as a result, this case and the City of San Diego case will now proceed in the Superior Court of Los Angeles.

City of Fairview Heights v. Orbitz, Inc., et al.: On October 5, 2005, a putative class action complaint was filed in the Circuit Court, Twentieth Judicial Circuit, St. Clair County, Illinois by the City of Fairview Heights on behalf of itself and a putative class of Illinois taxing authorities that are allegedly authorized to impose a tax on the business of renting hotel rooms. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for violation of the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Practices Act, 815 ILCS 505/1, similar laws in other states, conversion and unjust enrichment. On November 28, 2005, the Company and certain other defendants removed this action to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Illinois. On January 17, 2006, the defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. On February 10, 2006, the City of Fairview Heights moved to remand this action to state court. On July 12, 2006, the court granted defendants motion to dismiss all claims other than the tax claim, denied defendants motion to dismiss the tax claim, and denied plaintiff s motion to remand. The parties are scheduled to appear before the Court on August 10, 2006 for a scheduling conference.

City of Findlay v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On October 25, 2005, a putative class action complaint was filed in the Common Pleas Court of Hancock County, Ohio by the City of Findlay on behalf of itself and a putative class of Ohio cities, counties and townships that have enacted occupancy or excise taxes on lodging. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for violation of the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1345, et seq., conversion, a constructive trust and a declaratory judgment. On November 22, 2005, the Company and certain other defendants removed this action to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio. On January 30, 2006, the defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. On July 26, 2006, the court granted defendants motion to dismiss the Consumer Sales Practices Act claims and denied defendants motion to dismiss the remaining claims. The parties are scheduled to appear before the court on August 21, 2006 for a case management conference.

City of Rome, Georgia, et al., v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On November 18, 2005, a putative class action complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia by the City of Rome, Hart County and the City of Cartersville on behalf of themselves and a putative class of Georgia cities, counties and governments which have enacted transient occupancy taxes and/or excise taxes on lodging. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for violation of Georgia s Uniform Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, conversion, unjust enrichment, a constructive trust and a declaratory judgment. On February 6, 2006, the Company and certain other defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. On May 8, 2006, the Court granted defendants motion to dismiss all

claims relating to the Georgia sales and use tax and denied defendants motion to dismiss the excise tax claims. The plaintiffs filed an amended complaint on June 7, 2006 naming additional plaintiffs and the parties are presently taking discovery.

Pitt County v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On December 1, 2005, a putative class action complaint was filed in the North Carolina General Court of Justice, Superior Court Division by Pitt County on behalf of itself and a putative class of North Carolina political subdivisions that impose occupancy taxes. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for violation of North Carolina General Statute § 75-1, et seq., conversion, a constructive trust and a declaratory judgment. On February 13, 2006, the defendants removed this action to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. On March 13, 2006, the defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. Oral argument on that motion has been scheduled for October 17, 2006.

City of San Antonio, Texas v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On May 8, 2006, a putative class action complaint was filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, San Antonio Division, by the City of San Antonio on behalf of itself and putative classes of Texas municipalities. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claim for conversion and a declaratory judgment. On June 30, 2006, the Company and other defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. That motion is being briefed.

City of Gallup, New Mexico v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On May 17, 2006, a putative class action was filed in the Eleventh Judicial District Court, County of McKinley, New Mexico, by the City of Gallup on behalf of itself and a putative class of New Mexico municipalities which have enacted lodgers taxes. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for conversion and a declaratory judgment. On June 23, 2006 defendants removed the action to the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico. On July 31, 2006, the Company and other defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. That motion is being briefed.

Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Inc. and Marshall County v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On June 12, 2006, a putative class action was filed in the United Stated District Court for the Northern District of Indiana, Hammond Division, by the Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau and Marshall County on behalf of themselves and a putative class of Indiana counties, convention and visitors bureaus and any other local governments which have enacted or benefit from taxes on innkeepers. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for conversion, unjust enrichment, and breach of fiduciary duties. The Company and its subsidiaries have not been served with the complaint.

City of Orange, Texas v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On July 18, 2006, a putative class action was filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Beaumont Division, by the City of Orange on behalf of itself and a putative class of Texas municipalities containing hotels in which rooms were marketed, distributed, sold or resold by defendants. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for conversion, civil conspiracy, and a declaratory judgment. Travelweb LLC has been served with the complaint, but the Company and Lowestfare.com Inc. have not.

Leon County and Doris Maloy, Leon County Tax Collector v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On July 27, 2006, a putative class action was filed in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, by Leon County and its tax collector on behalf of themselves and a putative class of Florida counties that collect tourist development taxes. The Company and Lowestfare.com Inc. have been served with the complaint, but Travelweb LLC has not.

<u>City of Jacksonville v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.</u>: In July 2006, a putative class action was filed in the Circuit Court, Fourth Judicial Circuit, in and for Duval County, Florida by the City of Jacksonville on behalf of itself and a putative class of Florida counties that collect tourist development taxes and/or convention development taxes and that have elected self administration of such taxes. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for conversion, unjust enrichment, a constructive trust, and a declaratory judgment. The Company and its subsidiaries have not been served with the complaint.

The Company intends to defend vigorously against the claims in all of the aforementioned proceedings. The Company is unable at this time to predict the outcome of these proceedings or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

Actions Filed on Behalf of Individual Cities

Several cities across the country have filed actions relating to the collection of occupancy taxes against the Company and other defendants, including, but not in all cases, Hotels.com, L.P.; Hotel.com GP, LLC; Hotwire, Inc.; Cheaptickets, Inc.; Cendant Travel Distribution Services Group, Inc.; Expedia, Inc.; Internetwork Publishing Corp. (d/b/a Lodging.com); Lowestfare.com, Inc.; Maupintour Holding LLC; Orbitz, Inc.; Orbitz, LLC; priceline.com, Inc.; Site59.com, LLC; Travelocity.com, Inc.; Travelocity.com LP; Travelweb, LLC and Travelnow.com, Inc.. In each, the complaint alleges, among other things, that each of these defendants violated each city s respective hotel occupancy tax ordinance with respect to the charges and remittance of amounts to cover taxes under each ordinance. Each complaint typically seeks compensatory damages, disgorgement, penalties available by law, attorneys fees and other relief. Such actions include:

City of Chicago, Illinois v. Hotels.com, L.P., et al.: On November 1, 2005, the City of Chicago, Illinois filed a complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for conversion, imposition of a constructive trust, and a demand for a legal accounting. On January 31, 2006, the defendants moved to dismiss the complaint. Oral argument is scheduled for September 12, 2006.

<u>City of San Diego, California, v. Hotels.com L.P., et al.</u>: On February 9, 2006, the City of San Diego, California filed a complaint in Superior Court for the County of San Diego. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts unfair competition claims under Section 17200. On March 31, 2006, the defendants filed with a petition to coordinate this matter with the *City of Los Angeles* case (discussed above). On July 12, 2006, that petition was granted, and, as a result, this case will now be coordinated with the *City of Los Angeles* action and will proceed in the Superior Court of Los Angeles.

<u>City of Atlanta, Georgia, et al., v. Hotels.com L.P., et al.</u>: On March 29, 2006, the City of Atlanta, Georgia filed a complaint in the Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for a declaratory judgment, conversion, unjust enrichment, a constructive trust and a demand for an equitable accounting. On June 5, 2006, certain defendants, including the Company and its subsidiaries, answered the complaint. The parties are presently taking discovery.

<u>City of Charleston, South Carolina, et al., v. Hotel.com, et al.</u>: On April 26, 2006, the City of Charleston, South Carolina filed a complaint in the Court of Common Pleas, Ninth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina. In addition to the tax claims, the complaint also asserts claims for conversion, a constructive trust and a demand for a legal accounting. On May 31, 2006, defendants removed the case to the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Charleston Division. On July 7, 2006, the defendants answered the complaint. The parties are presently negotiating the scheduling of the matter.

Town of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina v. Hotels.com, et al.: On May 23, 2006, the Town of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina filed a complaint in the Court of Common Pleas, Ninth Judicial Circuit of South Carolina. On July 21, 2006, the defendants removed the case to the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Charleston Division.

The Company intends to defend vigorously against the claims in all of the aforementioned proceedings. The Company is unable at this time to predict the outcome of these proceedings or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

Consumer Class Actions

Marshall, et al. v. priceline.com, Inc.: On February 17, 2005, a putative class action complaint was filed in the Superior Court of the State of Delaware for New Castle County by Jeanne Marshall and three other individuals on behalf of themselves and a putative class of allegedly similarly situated consumers nationwide against the Company. The complaint alleged that the Company violated the Delaware Consumer Fraud Act, Del. Code Ann. Tit. 6, § 2511, et seq., relating to its disclosures and charges to customers to cover taxes under city hotel occupancy tax ordinances nationwide, and service fees. The Company moved to dismiss the complaint on April 21, 2005. The Company also moved to stay discovery until a determination of its motion to dismiss the complaint and the Court granted that stay on May 11, 2005. On June 10, 2005, plaintiffs filed an amended complaint that asserts claims

under the Delaware Consumer Fraud Act and for breach of contract and the implied duty of good faith and fair dealing. The amended complaint seeks compensatory damages, punitive damages, attorneys fees and other relief. On July 15, 2005, the Company filed a motion to dismiss the amended complaint. The Company s motion to dismiss was heard by the Court on November 4, 2005 and the parties are awaiting a decision.

Bush, et al. v. Cheaptickets, Inc., et al. On February 17, 2005, a putative class action complaint was filed in Superior Court for County of Los Angeles by Ronald Bush and three other individuals on behalf of themselves and other allegedly similarly situated California consumers against the Company and several of the same defendants as named in the *City of Los Angeles* action (discussed above). The complaint alleges each of the defendants engaged in acts of unfair competition in violation of Section 17200 relating to their respective disclosures and charges to customers to cover taxes under the above ordinances of the City of Los Angeles and other California cities, and service fees. The complaint seeks restitution, relief for alleged conversion, including punitive damages, injunctive relief, and imposition of a constructive trust. On July 1, 2005, plaintiffs filed an amended complaint, adding claims pursuant to California s Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Civil Code §1750, *et seq.* and claims for breach of contract and the implied duty of good faith and fair dealing. On December 2, 2005, the court ordered limited discovery and ordered that motions challenging the amended complaint would be coordinated with any similar motions filed in the *City of Los Angeles* action.

The Company intends to defend vigorously against the claims in all of the aforementioned proceedings. The Company is unable at this time to predict the outcome of these proceedings or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

#### Other Possible Actions

At various times the Company has also received inquiries, threats of litigation or proposed tax assessments from municipalities and other taxing jurisdictions relating to its charges and remittance of amounts to cover state and local hotel occupancy and other related taxes. The City of New Orleans, Louisiana, the City of Madison, Wisconsin, and the State of Wisconsin Department of Revenue, among others, have stated that they may assert claims against the Company for allegedly unpaid state or local hotel occupancy or related taxes. The Company is unable at this time to predict whether any such assertions will result in litigation.

The Company intends to defend vigorously against the claims in all of the aforementioned proceedings. The Company is unable at this time to predict the outcome of these proceedings or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

#### Litigation Related to Securities Matters

On March 16, March 26, April 27, and June 5, 2001, respectively, four putative class action complaints were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York naming priceline.com, Inc., Richard S. Braddock, Jay Walker, Paul Francis, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., BancBoston Robertson Stephens, Inc. and Salomon Smith Barney, Inc. as defendants (01 Civ. 2261, 01 Civ. 2576, 01 Civ. 3590 and 01 Civ. 4956). Shives *et al.* v. Bank of America Securities LLC *et al.*, 01 Civ. 4956, also names other defendants and states claims unrelated to the Company. The complaints allege, among other things, that priceline.com and the individual defendants violated the federal securities laws by issuing and selling priceline.com common stock in priceline.com s March 1999 initial public offering without disclosing to investors that some of the underwriters in the offering, including the lead underwriters, had allegedly solicited and received excessive and undisclosed commissions from certain investors. By Orders of Judge Mukasey and Judge Scheindlin dated August 8, 2001, these cases were consolidated for pre-trial purposes with hundreds of other cases, which contain allegations concerning the allocation of shares in the initial public offerings of companies other than priceline.com, Inc. By Order of Judge Scheindlin dated August 14, 2001, the following cases were consolidated for all purposes: 01 Civ. 2261; 01 Civ. 2576; and 01 Civ. 3590. On April 19, 2002, plaintiffs filed a Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint in these cases. This Consolidated Amended Class Action Complaint makes similar allegations to those described above but with respect to both the Company s March 1999 initial public offering and the Company s August 1999 second public offering of common stock. The named defendants are priceline.com, Inc., Richard S. Braddock, Jay S. Walker, Paul E. Francis, Nancy B. Peretsman, Timothy G. Brier,

Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co., Goldman Sachs & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., Robertson Stephens, Inc. (as successor-in-interest to BancBoston), Credit Suisse First Boston Corp. (as successor-in-interest to Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corp.), Allen & Co., Inc. and Salomon Smith Barney, Inc. Priceline, Richard Braddock, Jay Walker, Paul Francis, Nancy Peretsman, and Timothy Brier, together with other issuer defendants in the consolidated litigation, filed a joint motion to dismiss on July 15, 2002. On November 18, 2002, the cases against the individual defendants were dismissed without prejudice and without costs. In addition, counsel for plaintiffs and the individual defendants executed Reservation of Rights and Tolling Agreements, which toll the statutes of limitations on plaintiffs claims against those individuals. On February 19, 2003, Judge Scheindlin issued an Opinion and Order granting in part and denying in part the issuer s motion. None of the claims against the Company were dismissed. On June 26, 2003, counsel for the plaintiff class announced that they and counsel for the issuers had agreed to the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (the Memorandum ) to settle claims against the issuers. The terms of that Memorandum provide that class members will be guaranteed \$1 billion in recoveries by the insurers of the issuers and that settling issuer defendants will assign to the class members certain claims that they may have against the underwriters. Issuers also agree to limit their abilities to bring certain claims against the underwriters. If recoveries in excess of \$1 billion are obtained by the class from any non-settling defendants, the settling defendants monetary obligations to the class plaintiffs will be satisfied; any amount recovered from the underwriters that is less than \$1 billion will be paid by the insurers on behalf of the issuers. The Memorandum, which is subject to the approval of each issuer, was approved by a special committee of the priceline.com Board of Directors on Thursday, July 3, 2003. Thereafter, counsel for the plaintiff class and counsel for the issuers agreed to the form of a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement with Defendant Issuers and Individuals ( Settlement Agreement ). The Settlement Agreement implements the Memorandum and contains the same material provisions. On June 11, 2004, a special committee of the priceline.com Board of Directors authorized the Company s counsel to execute the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Company. The Settlement Agreement is subject to final approval by the Court and the process to obtain that approval is still pending.

Subsequent to the Company s announcement on September 27, 2000, that revenues for the third quarter 2000 would not meet expectations, it was served with the following putative class action complaints:

Weingarten v. priceline.com Incorporated and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 1901 (District of Connecticut).

Twardy v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 1884 (District of Connecticut).

Berdakina v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 1902 (District of Connecticut).

Mazzo v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 1924 (District of Connecticut).

Fialkov v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 1954 (District of Connecticut).

Ayach v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 2062 (District of Connecticut).

Zia v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 1968 (District of Connecticut).

Mazzo v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 1980 (District of Connecticut).

Bazag v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 2122 (District of Connecticut).

Breier v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker 3:00 CV 2146 (District of Connecticut).

Farzam et al. v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2176 (District of Connecticut).

Caswell v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2169 (District of Connecticut).

Howard Gunty Profit Sharing Plan v. priceline.com Inc.

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 1917 (District of Connecticut).

Cerelli v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 1918 (District of Connecticut).

Mayer v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 1923 (District of Connecticut).

Anish v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 1948 (District of Connecticut).

Atkin v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 1994 (District of Connecticut).

Lyon v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2066 (District of Connecticut).

Kwan v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2069 (District of Connecticut).

Krim v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2083 (District of Connecticut).

Karas v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2232 (District of Connecticut).

Michols v. priceline.com Inc.,

Richard S. Braddock, Daniel H. Schulman and Jay S. Walker

3:00 CV 2280 (District of Connecticut).

All of these cases were assigned to Judge Dominic J. Squatrito. On September 12, 2001, Judge Squatrito ordered that these cases be consolidated under the Master File No. 3:00cv1884 (DJS), and he designated lead plaintiffs and lead plaintiffs counsel. On October 29, 2001, plaintiffs served a Consolidated Amended Complaint. On February 5, 2002, Amerindo Investment Advisors, Inc., who was one of the lead plaintiffs in the consolidated action, made a motion for leave to withdraw as lead plaintiff. The Court granted that motion on May 30, 2002. On February 28, 2002, the Company filed a motion to dismiss the Consolidated Amended Complaint. On October 7, 2004, the Court issued a Memorandum of Decision granting, in part, and denying, in part, the Company s motion. A scheduling order was entered by the Court on November 2, 2004 and the parties are now proceeding with discovery. On December 8, 2005, the Court issued a Memorandum of Decision and Order stating that the November 2, 2004 scheduling order would be revised, but only after the parties have provided more details about the status of discovery. Plaintiffs filed a motion for class certification on January 7, 2005 and the Company filed its opposition to that motion. On April 4, 2006, the Court issued a Memorandum of Decision granting, in part, and denying, in part, the plaintiffs motion. The Court certified a class and approved five of the six proposed class representatives. On May 4, 2006, the case was transferred to Judge Christopher F. Droney. Plaintiffs filed a motion for an order approving the proposed notice of class certification on May 5, 2006 and the Company filed its response to that motion. On May 18, 2006, the case was transferred to Judge Alfred V. Covello. The Company intends to defend vigorously against this action. The Company is unable to predict the outcome of these suits or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

In addition, on November 1, 2000 the Company was served with a complaint that purported to be a shareholder derivative action against its Board of Directors and certain of its current and former executive officers, as well as the Company (as a nominal defendant). The complaint alleged breach of fiduciary duty and waste of corporate assets. The action is captioned Mark Zimmerman v. Richard Braddock, J. Walker, D. Schulman, P. Allaire, R. Bahna, P. Blackney, W. Ford, M. Loeb, N. Nicholas, N. Peretsman, and priceline.com Incorporated, 18473-NC (Court of Chancery of Delaware, County of New Castle, State of Delaware). On February 6, 2001, all defendants moved to dismiss the complaint for failure to make a demand upon the Board of Directors and failure to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted. Pursuant to a stipulation by the parties, an amended complaint was filed on June 21, 2001. Defendants renewed their motion to dismiss on August 20, 2001, and plaintiff served his opposition to that motion on October 26, 2001. Defendants filed their reply brief on January 7, 2002. On December 20, 2002, the Court granted defendants motion without prejudice. On April 25, 2003, a second amended complaint, adding H. Miller, was filed and a motion seeking leave of court to file the second amended complaint was filed on July 28, 2003. That motion was fully briefed, and oral argument took place on May 9, 2005. Immediately following oral argument, the Court dismissed three of the four counts in the second amended complaint. All of the counts against defendants Allaire, Bahna, Blackney, Ford, Loeb, Miller, Peretsman and Schulman have now been dismissed. On September 8, 2005, the Court granted plaintiff leave to file the second amended complaint as to the one remaining count. Defendants filed a motion requesting that the Court certify its September 8, 2005 order for interlocutory appeal to the Delaware Supreme Court, and the Court granted that motion on October 6, 2005. On October 17, 2005, the Delaware Supreme Court accepted the interlocutory appeal. The appeal was fully briefed, and oral argument took place on February 22, 2006. In an Order dated April 3, 2006, the Delaware Supreme Court stated that the appeal would be scheduled for oral argument and determination by the Court en banc without further briefing. The en banc oral argument took place on June 28, 2006. Discovery in the case and the time in which Defendants are required to respond to the second amended complaint have been stayed pending the Delaware Supreme Court s entry of mandate. The Company intends to defend vigorously against this action. The Company is unable to predict the outcome of the suit or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

On November 7, 2003, the Company was served with a complaint that purported to be a shareholder derivative action against its Board of Directors and certain of its current and former executive officers, as well as the Company (as a nominal defendant). The complaint alleged, among other things, breach of fiduciary duty, waste of corporate assets and misappropriation of corporate information. The claims in the complaint appear to be substantially repetitive of the claims pending in the derivative action in Delaware which is described above. The action is captioned Don Powell v. Richard S. Braddock, Jay S. Walker, Daniel H. Schulman, Paul A. Allaire, Ralph M. Bahna, Paul J. Blackney, William E. Ford, Marshall Loeb, N. J. Nicholas, Jr., Nancy B. Peretsman, and Heidi G. Miller and priceline.com Incorporated (Superior Court, Judicial District of Stamford/Norwalk, State of Connecticut). On January 28, 2004, defendants Blackney, Nicholas, Peretsman and Loeb moved to dismiss the complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction. On January 29, 2004, defendant Miller moved to dismiss the complaint for lack of personal

jurisdiction and for insufficient service of process. On February 27, 2004, defendants Braddock, Walker, Schulman, Allaire, Bahna, Blackney, Loeb, Nicholas, Peretsman, Miller and priceline.com moved to dismiss the complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction and defendants Braddock and Schulman also moved to dismiss the complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction and insufficient service of process. At a hearing on May 3, 2004, the Court stated that it would not rule on the pending motions until the pending motions in the Delaware action described above are decided. The Court conducted a subsequent status conference on January 10, 2005, at which it requested that the parties report back no later than March 15, 2005 on the status of the Delaware derivative suit. On March 15, 2005, the parties informed the Court in writing that the oral argument in the Delaware case had been postponed until May 9, 2005, and that the parties would contact the Court with a status report after that hearing was held. The Delaware Court dismissed three of the four counts in the second amended complaint in the Delaware derivative suit. All of the counts against the defendants Allaire, Bahna, Blackney, Ford, Loeb, Miller, Peretsman and Schulman have now been dismissed. The parties in the Connecticut action advised the Connecticut Court of the Delaware Court s ruling by letter dated June 6, 2005. The Delaware Court subsequently granted plaintiff leave to file the second amended complaint as to the one remaining count. Defendants sought an interlocutory appeal of the Delaware Court s order, and the Delaware Supreme Court accepted that appeal. The parties in the Connecticut action advised the Connecticut Court of those developments by letter dated November 3, 2005. The Company intends to defend vigorously against this action. The Company is unable to predict the outcome of this suit or reasonably estimate a range of possible loss, if any.

#### Other Litigation

On January 6, 1999, the Company received notice that a third party patent applicant and patent attorney, Thomas G. Woolston, purportedly had filed in December 1998 with the United States Patent and Trademark Office a request to declare an interference between a patent application filed by Woolston and the Company s U.S. Patent 5,794,207. The Company is currently awaiting information from the Patent Office regarding whether it will initiate an interference proceeding.

From time to time, the Company has been and expects to continue to be subject to legal proceedings and claims in the ordinary course of business, including claims of alleged infringement of third party intellectual property rights by it. Such claims, even if not meritorious, could result in the expenditure of significant financial and managerial resources, divert management s attention from the Company s business objectives and could adversely affect the Company s business, results of operations, financial condition and cash flows.

With respect to all the above matters, the Company will continue to evaluate the possibility of a loss and will, in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standard No. 5, Accounting for Contingencies, record appropriate provisions, if and when a loss is considered probable and reasonably estimable.

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

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with our financial statements, including the notes to those statements, included elsewhere in this Form 10-Q, and the Section entitled Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements in this Form 10-Q. As discussed in more detail in the Section entitled Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements, this discussion contains forward-looking statements, which involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause those differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in Risk Factors.

#### Overview

*General*. We are a leading online travel company that offers our customers a broad range of travel services, including airline tickets, hotel rooms, car rentals, vacation packages and cruises. We offer our customers a unique choice: the ability to purchase travel services in a traditional, price-disclosed manner or the opportunity to use our unique *Name Your Own Price*® service, which allows our customers to make offers for travel services at discounted prices. At present, we derive substantially all of our revenues from the following sources:

- Transaction revenues from our *Name Your Own Price*® airline ticket, hotel room and rental car services, as well as our vacation packages service;
- Commissions earned from the sale of price-disclosed hotel rooms, rental cars, cruises and other travel services;
- Customer processing fees charged in connection with the sale of both *Name Your Own Price*® and price-disclosed airline tickets, hotel rooms and rental cars services;
- Worldspan, L.P. reservation booking fees related to both our *Name Your Own Price*® airline ticket, hotel room and rental car services, and price-disclosed airline tickets and rental car services;
- Transaction revenue from our price-disclosed hotel room service; and
- Other revenues derived primarily from selling advertising on our websites.

Trends. The online sale of travel services has been one of the fastest growing sectors of the Internet since the late 1990s. While the online market for travel services continues to experience significant annualized growth, we believe that the domestic market share of third-party distributors, like priceline.com, has declined over the recent past and that the growth of the domestic online market for travel services has slowed. We believe the decline in market share is attributable, in part, to a concerted initiative by travel suppliers to direct customers to their own websites in an effort to reduce distribution expenses and establish more direct control over their pricing. In addition, over the course of 2005, and through the first half of 2006, airlines and hotel chains generally experienced year-over-year increases in load factors (a common metric that measures airplane customer usage) and occupancy rates (a common metric that measures hotel customer usage), respectively, which leaves them with less excess inventory to provide third party intermediaries like priceline.com. Notwithstanding these trends, we continue to believe that the market for online travel services is an attractive market with continued opportunity for growth, in particular, in certain international markets.

Because we believe that an opportunity for growth exists in certain international markets, and since prior to the fourth quarter of 2004 substantially all of our revenue was generated in the U.S., we have taken steps to expand the markets we serve. In September 2004, we acquired Active Hotels Ltd., a U.K. based online hotel service. Active Hotels gives us a strong presence in the U.K. s online hotel market. Furthermore, in July 2005, we acquired Amsterdam-based Bookings B.V., one of Europe s leading Internet hotel reservation services, with offices primarily in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Berlin, Loule, Paris, Rome, Pisa and Vienna. All of our European operations, including

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Active Hotels and Bookings, are majority-owned by us. A minority interest in our European business is held by our European managers responsible for that business. We work with a range of chain-owned and independently owned hotels across Europe and in major cities around the world to provide hotel reservations on various websites in multiple languages.

Our European operations represented approximately one-third of our gross bookings in the first half of 2006 and were a substantial contributor to our consolidated operating income during that period and we expect that over the remainder of 2006 they will represent a growing percentage of our total gross bookings and operating income. As our European operations become more meaningful contributors to our results, we have seen, and expect to continue to see, changes in certain of our operating expenses and other financial metrics. For example, because our European operations utilize online affiliate and search marketing as principal means of generating traffic to their websites, our online advertising expense has increased significantly since our acquisition of those companies, a trend we expect to continue throughout the remainder of 2006. In addition, and as discussed in more detail below, since the acquisitions of Active Hotels and Bookings, we have seen the effects of seasonal fluctuation on our results change as a result of different revenue recognition policies that apply to our European hotel service (as well as our domestic retail hotel service) and the increased importance of European hotel bookings to our results of operations.

The financial prospects of our domestic business have been and continue to be significantly dependent upon the sale of leisure airline tickets and, as a result, the health of our domestic business has been directly related to the health of the airline industry. Most domestic airlines, and many of our major suppliers, have experienced, and continue to experience, significant losses. These losses have been compounded by competition from low-cost carriers and, more recently, by high fuel prices, which we believe increase the possibility of the additional bankruptcy and/or the liquidation or consolidation of one or more of the major domestic airlines. As a result of these and other factors, many of the major airlines have deeply discounted retail airline tickets to maintain market share, simplified fare structures by removing restrictions associated with certain airline tickets and reduced their total capacity to increase load factors. These actions have had, and continue to have, a detrimental effect on our overall airline business and, in particular, our *Name Your Own Price*® airline ticket service, which is negatively impacted by 1) increased load factors as airlines have less excess inventory to provide to third party intermediaries in general, and to lower yielding opaque services, in particular, like our *Name Your Own Price*® service, and 2) deep retail discounting because it hurts our value proposition and makes users less willing to accept the trade-offs associated with the *Name Your Own Price*® service, for what has become, in many cases, modest fare savings.

We rely on fees paid to us by Worldspan, L.P. and other global distribution systems, or GDSs, for travel bookings made through GDSs for a portion of our gross profit and a substantial portion of our operating income. We rebate certain GDS costs to certain suppliers (e.g., airlines, hotels, etc.) in exchange for contractual considerations such as those relating to inventory, pricing and availability, and expect to continue to do so in the future. During 2006, most agreements between GDSs and the major domestic airlines expired, and most airlines have negotiated new agreements with reduced distribution costs for the airlines that go into effect September 1, 2006. The structure of these new agreements, along with airline pressure on us to operate under the new structures, may require us to reduce our aggregate compensation and book through lower cost channels to receive airlines full content and avoid airline service fees. At this time, we cannot predict the effect that the new agreements will have, but we expect that our GDS booking fees will be significantly reduced. If we were denied access to airlines full content or had to impose service fees on our airline tickets, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Additionally, some travel suppliers are encouraging third-party travel intermediaries, such as us, to develop technology to bypass the traditional GDSs, such as enabling direct connections to the travel suppliers or using alternative global distribution methods recently developed by new entrants, such as G2 Switchworks Corp., to the global distribution marketplace. Such new entrants propose using technology that is less complex than traditional global distribution systems, and that enables the distribution of airline tickets in a manner that is more cost-effective to the airline suppliers. To this end, in the first quarter 2006, we entered into an agreement with G2 Switchworks for the provision of GDS services. In addition, to further reduce our dependence on Worldspan, L.P., in the first quarter 2006, we entered into an agreement for the provision of GDS services with Sabre Inc. Development of the technology to connect to such alternative GDSs, or to enable direct connections to travel

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suppliers, requires the use of information technology resources and could cause us to incur additional operating expenses, increase the frequency/duration of system problems and delay other projects. Furthermore, our contractual obligations to Worldspan, L.P. may limit our ability to pursue the most financially attractive GDS options during the term of our agreement with Worldspan, L.P., which expires December 31, 2007.

As a result of the continued decline in sales of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets over the last several years, we have taken and expect to continue to take steps to diversify our revenue among non-opaque services, such as allowing our customers to purchase price-disclosed retail airline, hotel and rental car travel services, which we believe will help broaden our customer appeal.

We intend to continue to execute on our strategy of diversifying our service offerings and markets, through both continued internal development of services and, if appropriate, acquisitions. As a result of the diversification described above, the growth rates for our agency businesses, which are generally comprised of our price-disclosed retail services, have, over the recent past, significantly exceeded the growth rates for our merchant businesses, which are comprised primarily of our slower-growing *Name Your Own Price*® Services.

We believe that our success will depend in large part on our ability to maintain profitability, primarily from our leisure travel business, to continue to promote the priceline.com brand and, over time, to offer other travel services and further expand into international markets. Factors beyond our control, such as the outbreak of an epidemic or pandemic disease; natural disasters such as hurricanes, tsunamis or earthquakes; terrorist attacks, hostilities in the Middle East or elsewhere; or the liquidation of major domestic airlines now in bankruptcy, the bankruptcy of an additional carrier or the withdrawal from our system of a major airline (or the consolidation of our major airline suppliers) or hotel supplier, could adversely affect our business and results of operations and impair our ability to effectively implement all or some of the initiatives described above. We intend to continue to invest in marketing and promotion, technology and personnel within parameters consistent with attempts to improve operating results. We also intend to broaden the scope of our business, and to that end, we explore strategic alternatives from time to time in the form of, among other things, mergers and acquisitions. Our goal is to improve volume and sustain gross margins in an effort to maintain profitability. The uncertain environment described above makes the prediction of future results of operations difficult, and accordingly, we cannot provide assurance that we will sustain revenue growth and profitability.

Seasonality. Prior to introducing a retail travel option to our customers, substantially all of our business was conducted under the Name Your Own Price® system and accordingly, because those services are non-refundable in nature, we recognize travel revenue at the time a booking was generated. We recognize revenue generated from our retail hotel service, however, including our European operations, at the time that the customer checks out of the hotel. As a result, we have seen and expect to continue to see, that a meaningful amount of retail hotel bookings generated earlier in the year, as customers plan and reserve their spring and summer vacations, will not be recognized until future quarters. From a cost perspective, however, we expense the substantial majority of our advertising activities as they are incurred, which is typically in the quarter in which bookings are generated. Therefore, as our retail hotel business continues to grow, we expect our quarterly results to become increasingly impacted by these seasonal factors.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements. In July 2006, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 48 (FIN 48), Uncertainty in Income Taxes. FIN 48 applies to all tax positions and clarifies the recognition of tax benefits in the financial statements by providing for a two-step approach of recognition and measurement. The first step involves assessing whether the tax position is more likely than not to be sustained upon examination based upon its technical merits. The second step involves measurement of the amount to recognize. Tax positions that meet the more likely than not threshold are measured at the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being realized upon ultimate finalization with the taxing authority. FIN 48 will become effective in the first quarter of 2007. Management is currently evaluating the effect, if any, that adoption of FIN 48 will have on our consolidated results of operations and financial position.

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#### **Results of Operations**

Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2006 compared to the Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2005

#### **Operating Metrics**

Our financial results are driven by certain operating metrics that encompass the selling activity generated by our travel services. Specifically, sales of airline tickets, hotel room nights and rental car days capture the volume of units purchased by our customers. Gross Bookings capture the total dollar value inclusive of taxes and fees of all travel services purchased by our customers.

The number of airline tickets, hotel room nights and rental car days sold through our websites and the related gross bookings were as follows:

		Hotel		
	Airline	Room	Rental	Gross
	Tickets	Nights	Car Days	Bookings
Three Months ended				
June 30, 2006	821,000	5.0 million	2.0 million	\$927 million
Three Months ended				
June 30, 2005	789,000	2.7 million	1.5 million	\$569 million
Six Months ended				
June 30, 2006	1.5 million	9.1 million	3.6 million	\$1,674 million
Six Months ended				
June 30, 2005	1.5 million	5.3 million	2.8 million	\$1,079 million

Airline tickets sold increased by 4.1% and 0.8% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, over the same periods in 2005. The increase in the number of airline tickets sold in the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, compared to the same period in 2005, was primarily attributable to an increase in the sale of retail airline tickets, partially offset by a significant percentage decrease in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets.

Hotel room nights sold increased by 82.5% and 72.8% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, over the same periods in 2005. The increase in the number of hotel room nights sold in the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, compared to the same period in 2005, was primarily due to growth in our hotel room nights sold through (1) our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively, and (2) our retail hotel service. This increase was partially offset by a decrease in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® hotel room nights. Our retail hotel service, which was launched in March 2005, benefited from the enhanced integration of our retail and *Name Your Own Price*® services. We believe that the benefit to our retail hotel service came partially at the expense of sales of *Name Your Own Price*® hotel room nights during the quarter, as some amount of demand that may otherwise have been directed to the *Name Your Own Price*® service instead was directed to our retail hotel service.

Rental car days sold increased by 30.3% and 28.7% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, over the same period in 2005, due to increases in sales of our retail and opaque rental car services, which benefited from the launch of enhanced integration of retail and *Name Your Own Price*® services in the first quarter 2006, as well as from the launch of new features in 2005, including options for one-way destination and off-airport car rentals.

Gross bookings increased by 62.8% and 55.1% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2005. The increase was driven primarily by an increase of 128.7%

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and 114.4% in agency bookings for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, which was primarily attributable to (1) growth in our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively; (2) the increased sale of retail airline tickets; (3) the increased sale of retail rental cars; and (4) the inclusion of agency gross bookings relating to our retail hotel service launched in March 2005. Merchant gross bookings increased by 5.0% and 2.4% for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, over the same periods in 2005. The increase was primarily due to an increase in merchant gross bookings relating to our retail hotel service, an increase in the sale of opaque rental car days and an increase in merchant gross bookings related to our vacation package service, partially offset by a decrease in the sale of opaque airline tickets and merchant price-disclosed airline tickets.

#### Revenues

We classify our revenue into three categories:

- Merchant revenues are derived from transactions where we are the merchant of record and are responsible for, among other things, collecting receipts from our customers, remitting payments to our suppliers and establishing the price of the services we offer. Merchant revenues include (1) transaction revenues representing the selling price of Name Your Own Price® airline tickets, hotel rooms, rental cars and price-disclosed vacation packages; (2) transaction revenues representing the amount charged to a customer, less the amount charged by suppliers in connection with the hotel rooms provided through our merchant price-disclosed hotel service; (3) customer processing fees charged in connection with the sale of Name Your Own Price® airline tickets, hotel rooms and rental cars and merchant price-disclosed hotels; and (4) ancillary fees, including Worldspan, L.P. reservation booking fees related to certain of the aforementioned transactions.
- Agency revenues are derived from travel related transactions where we are not the merchant of record and where the prices of our services are determined by third parties. Agency revenues include travel commissions, customer processing fees and Worldspan, L.P. reservation booking fees related to certain of the aforementioned transactions and are reported at the net amounts received, without any associated cost of revenue.
- Other revenues are derived primarily from advertising on our websites.

We continue to experience a shift in the mix of our airline ticket business from a business historically focused exclusively on the sale of merchant (opaque) *Name Your Own Price*® travel services to a business that includes the sale of retail, price-disclosed travel services. Because merchant *Name Your Own Price*® travel services are reported on a gross basis and retail travel services are primarily recorded on a net basis, revenue increases and decreases are impacted by changes in the mix of the sale of merchant and retail travel services and, consequently, gross profit has become an increasingly important measure of evaluating growth in our business. Additionally, our European operations contributed approximately \$47.1 million and \$69.5 million to our revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006. Revenues generated by our European operations are primarily recorded on a net basis.

	Three Months End June 30, (\$000)	led	% Change	Six Months Ended June 30, (\$000)	I	% Change
	2006	2005		2006	2005	
Merchant Revenues	\$ 250,524	\$ 246,504	1.6	% \$ 460,962	\$ 464,032	(0.7 %)
Agency Revenues	55,892	18,858	196.4	% 86,273	33,783	155.4 %
Other Revenues	1,235	1,195	3.4	% 2,329	2,134	9.1 %
Total Revenues	\$ 307,651	\$ 266,557	15.4	% \$ 549,564	\$ 499,949	9.9 %

#### Merchant Revenues

Merchant revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 were generally flat compared to the same periods in 2005, primarily due to a decrease in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets and room nights, which was offset by an increase in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® rental car days and merchant price-disclosed hotel room nights. Additionally, in the three months ended June 30, 2006, an increase in average revenue per *Name Your Own Price*® room night compared to the same period in 2005 more than offset the decrease in *Name Your Own Price*® room nights sold. We believe that the decrease in the number of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets and room nights sold was due to the availability of retail alternatives on our website and inventory constraints in our *Name Your Own Price*® airline service, due in part to high domestic load factors among airlines.

#### Agency Revenues

Agency revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 increased 196.4% and 155.4%, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2005, primarily as a result of (1) growth in our European operations, which contributed \$46.3 million and \$67.6 million of agency revenue for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, and \$10.7 million and \$17.7 million of agency revenue for the three and six months ended June 30, 2005, respectively; and (2) increased sales of retail hotel room nights and rental car days. Results from our European operations are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively.

#### Other Revenues

Other revenues during the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 consisted primarily of: (1) advertising revenues; and (2) fees for referring customers to pricelinemortgage.com for home financing services. Other revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 increased 3.4% and 9.1%, respectively, compared to the same periods in 2005, primarily as a result of higher online advertising revenue.

#### Cost of Revenues and Gross Profit

	Thro June (\$00		End	ed			%			Months En e 30, (0)	ded				%	
	2006	<b>i</b>		2005	;		Change		2000	5		2005	;		Change	
Cost of Merchant Revenues	\$	201,847		\$	201,323		0.3	%	\$	371,530		\$	377,008		(1.5	%)
% of Merchant Revenues	80.6		%	81.7		%			80.6	ó	%	81.2	,	%		
Cost of Agency Revenues																
% of Agency Revenues	0.0		%	0.0		%			0.0		%	0.0		%		
Cost of Other Revenues																
% of Other Revenues	0.0		%	0.0		%			0.0		%	0.0		%		
Total Cost of Revenues	\$	201,847		\$	201,323		0.3	%	\$	371,530		\$	377,008		(1.5	%)
% of Revenues	65.6		%	75.5		%			67.6	ó	%	75.4		%		

#### Cost of Revenues

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, cost of revenues was generally flat compared to the same periods in 2005, due primarily to the fact that merchant revenues were generally flat in the same periods. Cost of revenues entirely reflect merchant *Name Your Own*Price® transactions, whose revenues are recorded gross with a corresponding cost of revenue while retail transactions are recorded net with no corresponding cost of revenues.

#### Cost of Merchant Revenues

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, cost of merchant revenues consisted primarily of: (1) the cost of opaque hotel rooms from our suppliers, net of applicable taxes, (2) the cost of opaque airline tickets from our suppliers, net of the federal air transportation tax, segment fees and passenger facility charges imposed in connection with the sale of airline tickets; and (3) the cost of opaque rental cars from our suppliers, net of applicable taxes. Cost of merchant revenues for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 were generally flat compared to the same periods in 2005, due primarily to the fact that merchant revenues were generally flat in the same periods. Merchant price-disclosed hotel revenues are recorded at their net amounts, which are amounts received less amounts paid to suppliers and therefore, there are no associated costs of merchant price-disclosed hotel revenues.

#### Cost of Agency Revenues

Agency revenues are recorded at their net amount, which are amounts received less amounts paid to suppliers, if any, and therefore, there are no costs of agency revenues.

#### Cost of Other Revenues

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, there were no costs of other revenues.

#### Gross Profit

Total gross profit for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 increased by 62.2% and 44.8% compared to the same periods in 2005, primarily as a result of increased revenue from (1) our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively; (2) increased sales of retail travel services; and (3) increased sales of *Name Your Own Price*® rental car days. These increases were partially offset by decreases in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets and hotel room nights. However, in the three months ended June 30, 2006, an increase in average revenue per room night compared to the same period in 2005 more than offset the decrease in *Name Your Own Price*® room nights sold. The contribution to gross profit from airline ticket sales during the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 was negatively impacted by a decrease in net GDS fees per ticket as compared to the same periods in 2005, which contributed to lower margins on retail ticket sales in particular. Total gross margin (gross profit expressed as a percentage of total revenue) increased during the three months ended June 30, 2006, compared to the same period in 2005, because *Name Your Own Price*® transactions, whose revenues are recorded gross with a corresponding cost of revenue, represented a smaller percentage of transactions compared to retail, price-disclosed transactions which are primarily recorded net with no corresponding cost of revenues. Because *Name Your Own Price*® transactions are reported gross and retail transactions are primarily recorded on a net basis, we believe that gross profit has become an increasingly important measure of evaluating growth in our business.

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		ree Months le 30, 00)	End	ed			%			Months Er e 30, 00)	nded				%	
	200	6		200	5		Change		2000	6		200	5		Change	
Merchant Gross Profit	\$	48,677		\$	45,181		7.7	%	\$	89,432		\$	87,024		2.8	%
Merchant Gross Margin	19.	4	%	18.3	3	%			19.4	1	%	18.8	3	%		
Agency Gross Profit	\$	55,892		\$	18,858		196.4	%	\$	86,273		\$	33,783		155.4	%
Agency Gross Margin	100	0.0	%	100	.0	%			100	.0	%	100	.0	%		
Other Gross Profit	\$	1,235		\$	1,195		3.3	%	\$	2,329		\$	2,134		9.1	%
Other Gross Margin	100	0.0	%	100	.0	%			100	.0	%	100	.0	%		
Total Gross Profit	\$	105,804		\$	65,234		62.2	%	\$	178,034		\$	122,941		44.8	%
Total Gross Margin	34.	4	%	24.5	5	%			32.4	1	%	24.6	5	%		
Merchant Gross Profit																

Merchant gross profit consists of merchant revenues less the cost of merchant revenues. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, merchant gross profit increased from the same periods in 2005, primarily due to an increase in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® rental car days and merchant price-disclosed hotel room nights which was partially offset by a decrease in the sale of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets and hotel room nights. Additionally, in the three months ended June 30, 2006, an increase in average revenue per room night compared to the same period in 2005 more than offset the decrease in *Name Your Own Price*® room nights sold. The contribution to merchant gross profit from *Name Your Own Price*® airline ticket sales during the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 was negatively impacted by a decrease in net GDS fees per ticket as compared to the same periods in 2005. Merchant gross margin increased primarily because *Name Your Own Price*® transactions, whose revenues are recorded gross with a corresponding cost of revenue, represented a smaller percentage of transactions in the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, when compared to merchant price-disclosed hotel transactions, which are recorded net with no corresponding cost of revenues.

#### Agency Gross Profit

Agency gross profit consists of agency revenues, which are recorded net of agency costs, if any. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, agency gross profit increased over the same periods in 2005, primarily as a result of (1) growth in our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively; and (2) increased sales of retail hotel room nights and rental car days.

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#### Other Gross Profit

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, other gross profit increased from the same period in 2005 primarily as a result of higher online advertising revenues.

#### **Operating Expenses**

#### Advertising

		ree Montl ie 30, 00)	ns Ei	ıded						Months 1 e 30, (00)	Ende	d				
	200	6		200:	5		% Change		200	6		200	5		% Change	
Offline Advertising	\$	8,861		\$	8,089		9.5	%	\$	18,298		\$	19,162		(4.5	%)
% of Total Gross Profit	8.4		%	12.4	1	%			10.3	3	%	15.	6	%		
Online Advertising	\$	30,493		\$	12,205		149.8	%	\$	52,354		\$	22,137		136.5	%
% of Total Gross Profit	28.	8	%	18.7	7	%			29.4	4	%	18.	0	%		

Offline advertising expenses consist primarily of: (1) the expenses associated with domestic television and radio advertising; and (2) agency fees, the cost for creative talent and production costs for television and radio commercials. For the six months ended June 30, 2006, offline advertising expenses were lower than in the same period in 2005, as we shifted some of our domestic advertising budget to online advertising. Online advertising expenses primarily consist of the costs of (1) search engine keyword purchases; (2) affiliate programs; (3) banner and pop-up advertisements; and (4) e-mail advertisements. For the three months ended June 30, 2006, online advertising expenses increased over the same period in 2005, primarily due to an increase in online advertising expenses related to our European operations, which rely primarily on online advertising to drive their businesses and an increase in our domestic online advertising.

#### Sales and Marketing

	Three Mont June 30, (\$000)	nded			C/			Months l e 30, 00)	Ende	ed			G/		
	2006		200	5		% Change		200	6		200	5		% Change	
Sales and Marketing	\$ 10,708		\$	10,113		5.9	%	\$	20,290		\$	18,322		10.7	%
% of Total Gross Profit	10.1	%	15.:	5	%			11.	4	%	14.	9	%		

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of (1) credit card processing fees associated with merchant transactions; (2) fees paid to third-party service providers that operate our call centers; and (3) provisions for credit card charge-backs. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, sales and marketing expenses, which are substantially variable in nature, increased over the same periods in 2005, primarily due to increased gross booking volumes.

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#### Personnel

	Three June 3 (\$000)	,	ded					Months I e 30, 00)	Ende	d				
	2006	. ,		5	% Change		200	6		200	5		% Change	
Personnel	\$ 1	\$ 18,757		9,761	92.2	%	\$	35,211		\$	20,983		67.8	%
% of Total Gross Profit	17.7	%	15.0	)	%		19.	8	%	17.	1	%		

Personnel expenses consist of compensation to our personnel, including salaries, bonuses, taxes, employee health benefits and stock based compensation. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, personnel expenses increased over the same periods in 2005, primarily due to increased personnel expenses associated with our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively, increased employee bonus expense and an increase in stock-based compensation due mainly to the adoption of SFAS 123(R) on January 1, 2006, which requires companies to record non-cash compensation expense related to stock options granted to employees. Stock based compensation expense was approximately \$3.7 million and \$6.7 million, for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, respectively, and approximately \$1.0 million and \$1.7 million for the three and six months ended June 30, 2005, respectively.

#### General and Administrative

	Three M June 30, (\$000)		Ended					Months I e 30, 00)	Ende	ed				
	2006		200	5	% Change		200	6		200	5		% Change	
General and Administrative	\$ 7,2	56	\$	5,453	33.1	%	\$	12,993		\$	9,687		34.1	%
% of Total Gross Profit	6.9	%	8.4		%		7.3		%	7.9		%		

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of: (1) fees for outside professionals; (2) occupancy expenses; (3) business insurance; and (4) litigation related expenses. General and administrative expenses increased during the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 over the same periods during 2005, due to increased general and administrative expenses associated with our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively, approximately \$900,000 of professional fees incurred for advisory services associated with acquisition activity that was pursued during the three months ended June 30, 2006, additional fees for outside professionals and expenses related to pending litigation.

#### Information Technology

		ree Mon ie 30, 00)	ths E	nded					Months ne 30, 00)	End	ed				
	200	,		200:	5	% Chai	nge	200	,		200	5		% Change	
Information Technology	\$	2,332		\$	2,776	(16.0	) %)	\$	4,639		\$	5,516		(15.9	%)
% of Total Gross Profit	2.2			4.3		%		2.6					%		

Information technology expenses consist primarily of: (1) system maintenance and software license fees; (2) data communications and other expenses associated with operating our Internet sites; and (3) payments to

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outside contractors. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, information technology expenses decreased domestically from the same periods in 2005 in part due to efficiencies resulting from the integration of Travelweb s operations. This decrease was partially offset by increased information technology expenses associated with our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively.

#### Depreciation and Amortization

	Three Mont June 30, (\$000)	ths Ended		Six Months Endo June 30, (\$000)	ed	
	2006	2005	% Change	2006	2005	% Change
Depreciation and Amortization	\$ 8,360	\$ 5,047	65.6 %	\$ 16,306	\$ 10,513	55.1 %
% of Total Gross Profit	7.9	% 7.7	%	9.2 %	8.6	%

Depreciation and amortization expenses consist of: (1) amortization of intangible assets with determinable lives;

(2) amortization of internally developed and purchased software, (3) depreciation of computer equipment; and (4) depreciation of leasehold improvements, office equipment and furniture and fixtures. For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, depreciation and amortization expense increased from the same periods in 2005, primarily as a result of increased non-cash acquisition related amortization expenses associated with our European operations, which are substantially comprised of Active Hotels and Bookings, which were acquired in the third quarters of 2004 and 2005, respectively.

#### Restructuring Charge (Reversal)

	Three Mor June 30, (\$000)	nths Ended		Six Months June 30, (\$000)	s Ended	
	2006	2005	% Change	2006	2005	% Change
Restructuring Charge (Reversal)	\$	\$	0.0	% \$ 135	\$ (336	) (140.2 %)
% of Total Gross Profit	0.0	% 0.0	%	0.1	% 0.3	%

In the six months ended June 30, 2006, we recorded a net restructuring charge of approximately \$135,000 related to vacated leased property. In the six months ended June 30, 2005, we recorded a net restructuring reversal of approximately \$336,000 related to estimated costs to complete certain restructuring activities in Europe.

### Interest

	Ju	nree Mont ne 30, 000)	hs Eı	nded					Jui	Months 1 ne 30,	Ende	ed				
	20	06		200	)5		% Change		200	)6		200	5		% Change	
Interest Income	\$	2,121		\$	1,712		23.9	%	\$	3,696		\$	3,168		16.7	%
Interest Expense	(1.	,554	)	(1,	239	)	25.4	%	(3,	053	)	(2,	531	)	20.6	%
Total	\$	567		\$	473		19.9	%	\$	643		\$	637		0.9	%

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2006, interest income on cash and marketable securities increased over the same periods in 2005, primarily due to higher prevailing interest rates. Interest expense increased

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for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 over the same period in 2005 due primarily to an increase in prevailing interest rates on the variable portion of the interest rate swap agreement related to our 1% Convertible Senior Notes.

#### Taxes

	Three Mon June 30, (\$000)	ths Ended	Six Montl June 30, (\$000)	ns Ended	
	2006	2005	% Change 2006	2005	% Change
Income tax expense	\$ 5,578	\$ 336	1,560.1 % \$ 4,83	36 \$ 45	10,646.7 %

Income tax expense includes U.S. and international income taxes, determined using an estimate of our annual effective tax rate. The Company s 2006 effective tax rate differs from the U.S. statutory tax rate of 35% primarily due to the foreign tax benefit of certain structural and financial arrangements and lower foreign tax rates, partly offset by state income taxes.

We commenced recording a U.S. tax provision in the third quarter of 2005 upon recording the reversal of a portion of our valuation allowance on our deferred tax assets. Therefore, income tax expense for the three and six month periods ended June 30, 2005 is lower than expected tax expense at the U.S. statutory rate of 35% because it only includes a provision for alternative minimum tax in the U.S. as well as international income taxes. The non-cash U.S. income tax provision will materially negatively impact future net income and earnings per share as compared to prior periods. Due to our significant net operating loss carryforwards, we do not expect to pay cash taxes on our U.S. federal taxable income tax for the foreseeable future. We expect to make cash payments for U.S. alternative minimum tax and for certain international taxes. In connection with the acquisitions of Active Hotels and Bookings, we instituted structural and financial arrangements which we believe are reasonable and customary, but which are subject to review and approval by the relevant foreign taxing jurisdiction. To the extent such arrangements are not approved by the foreign taxing jurisdictions, it could result in a cumulative adjustment to tax expense and a higher future effective tax rate.

#### Equity in Income (Loss) of Investees and Minority Interests

	Three Months Ended June 30, (\$000)						Ju	Six Months Ended June 30, (\$000)						
	200	06		20	05		% Change	200	06		200	<b>)</b> 5	% Change	
Equity in Income (Loss) of Investees and Minority Interests	\$	(887	)	\$	312		(284.3	%)\$	(686	)	\$	300	(228.7	%)
			- 1			. 4		20.2	006 1	2005		. 1 (1)		

Equity in income of investees and minority interests for the three and six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, represented (1) minority interests associated with the 8.3% ownership of priceline.com International that is held by certain managers of that business; and (2) equity in income (loss) of investees, principally comprised of our pro rata share of pricelinemortgage.com s net results. The change in equity in income of investees and minority interests versus the prior year was primarily due to an increase in the minority interest in the earnings of priceline.com International and a decrease in earnings of pricelinemortgage.com.

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

As of June 30, 2006, we had \$212.8 million in cash, cash equivalents, short-term investments and restricted cash. Approximately \$21.3 million is restricted cash on deposit collateralizing letters of credit issued in favor of our credit card processor, certain suppliers and landlords. We generally invest excess cash to make such funds readily available for operating purposes. Cash equivalents and short-term investments are primarily comprised of highly liquid, high quality, investment grade debt instruments.

Our merchant transactions are structured such that we collect cash up front from our customers and then we pay most of our suppliers at a subsequent date. We therefore tend to experience significant swings in supplier payables depending on the absolute level of our cost of revenue during the last few weeks of every quarter. This can cause volatility in working capital levels and impact cash balances more or less than our operating income would indicate.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2006 was \$45.4 million, resulting from net income of \$12.4 million, non-cash items not affecting June 30, 2006 cash flows of \$26.4 million and \$6.7 million of changes in working capital. The changes in working capital for the six months ended June 30, 2006, were primarily related to a \$21.4 million increase in accounts receivable, offset by a \$31.3 million increase in accounts payable, accrued expenses and other current liabilities. The increases in accounts receivable and accounts payable were primarily seasonal in nature. Our bookings and revenues are generally higher in the second quarter of the year than in the fourth quarter of the year which results in higher accounts receivable and accounts payable at June 30 compared to December 31. We do not believe there has been any significant change in credit risk regarding our accounts receivable. Accounts receivable are generally higher than the prior year due to the acquisition of Bookings B.V. and the growth in our European revenues. Non-cash items were primarily associated with stock-based compensation expense, depreciation and amortization, primarily related to intangible assets acquired in our acquisitions of Travelweb, Active Hotels and Bookings. Net cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended June 30, 2005 was \$36.7 million, resulting from net income of \$17.4 million, non-cash items not affecting June 30, 2005 cash flows of \$14.0 million and \$5.3 million of changes in working capital. The changes in working capital for the six months ended June 30, 2005, were primarily related to a \$19.9 million increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses, partially offset by a \$15.7 million increase in accounts receivable. The increases in accounts payable and accounts receivable were primarily seasonal in nature. Non-cash items were primarily associated with the depreciation and amortization, primarily related to intangible assets acquired in our acquisitions of Travelweb

Net cash used in investing activities was \$8.3 million and \$20.3 million for the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Investing activities were affected by \$0.1 million of net redemptions of short-term investments for the six months ended June 30, 2006. Net purchases of \$14.6 million of short-term investments affected investing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2005. During the six months ended June 30, 2006, we invested \$3.1 million, net of cash acquired, in acquisitions. Cash invested in purchases of property and equipment was \$6.3 million and \$6.2 million in the six months ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Net cash used in financing activities was approximately \$0.6 million for the six months ended June 30, 2006. The cash used in financing activities during the six months ended June 30, 2006 was primarily related to \$5.7 million of treasury stock purchases and the purchase of \$1.6 million of stock in priceline.com International held by minority interest shareholders, partially offset by \$6.7 million of proceeds from the exercise of employee stock options. Net cash provided by financing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2005 was primarily related to \$2.7 million of proceeds from the exercise of employee stock options.

As more fully discussed in Note 14 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, as of June 30, 2006, the total aggregate minority interest in priceline.com International on a fully diluted basis was approximately 8.3%. Based upon the latest valuation obtained in March 2006, the aggregate fair value of the minority interest in priceline.com International was \$33.0 million at June 30, 2006, including unvested restricted stock and restricted stock units. We expect the future fair value of the minority interest to grow significantly based upon expected continued strong performance of the European business.

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We believe that our existing cash balances and liquid resources will be sufficient to fund our operating activities, capital expenditures and other obligations through at least the next twelve months. However, if during that period or thereafter, we are not successful in generating sufficient cash flow from operations or in raising additional capital when required in sufficient amounts and on terms acceptable to us, we may be required to reduce our planned capital expenditures and scale back the scope of our business plan, either of which could have a material adverse effect on our future financial condition or results of operations. If additional funds were raised through the issuance of equity securities, the percentage ownership of our then current stockholders would be diluted. There are no assurances that we will generate sufficient cash flow from operations in the future, that revenue growth or sustained profitability will be realized or that future borrowings or equity sales will be available in amounts sufficient to make anticipated capital expenditures or finance our strategies.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.

As of June 30, 2006, we did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have, or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future effect on our financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

#### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Sections of this Form 10-Q including, in particular, our Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations above, contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict; therefore, actual results may differ materially from those expressed, implied or forecasted in any such forward-looking statements.

Expressions of future goals and expectations or similar expressions including, without limitation, may, will, should, could, currently expect, anticipates, intends, believes, estimates, predicts, potential, targets, or continue, reflecting something o fact are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The factors described below in the section entitled Factors That May Affect Future Results could cause our actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. Unless required by law, we undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. However, readers should carefully review the reports and documents we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission, particularly the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and any Current Reports on Form 8-K.

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#### **Risk Factors**

The following risk factors and other information included in this Quarterly Report should be carefully considered. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations. If any of the following risks occur, our business, financial condition, operating results and cash flows could be materially adversely affected.

We are dependent on the airline industry and certain airlines.

Our financial prospects are significantly dependent upon our sale of leisure airline tickets. Leisure travel, including the sale of leisure airline tickets, is dependent on personal discretionary spending levels. As a result, sales of leisure airline tickets and other leisure travel services tend to decline during general economic downturns and recessions. In addition, unforeseen events, such as terrorist attacks, political instability, regional hostilities, increases in fuel prices, imposition of taxes or surcharges by regulatory authorities, travel-related accidents, travel-related health concerns and unusual weather patterns also may adversely affect the leisure travel industry. As a result, our business also is likely to be affected by those events. Further, work stoppages or labor unrest at any of the major airlines could materially and adversely affect the airline industry and, as a consequence, have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

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During the three months ended June 30, 2006, sales of airline tickets from our five largest and two largest airline suppliers accounted for approximately 83% and 43% of total airline tickets sold, respectively. As a result, we are currently substantially dependent upon the continued participation of these airlines in priceline.com in order to maintain and continue to grow our total gross profit.

Our arrangements with the airlines that participate in our system either *Name Your Own Price*® or price-disclosed service generally do not require the airlines to provide any specific quantity of airline tickets or to make tickets available for any particular route or at any particular price, and can generally be terminated upon little or no notice. During the course of our business, we are in continuous dialogue with our major airline suppliers about the nature and extent of their participation in our system. The significant reduction on the part of any of our major suppliers of their participation in our system for a sustained period of time or their complete withdrawal could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. Moreover, the airline industry has experienced a shift in market share from full-service carriers to low-cost carriers that focus primarily on discount fares to leisure destinations and we expect this trend to continue. Some low-cost carriers, such as Southwest and JetBlue, do not distribute their tickets through us or other third-party intermediaries. In addition, certain airlines have significantly limited or eliminated sales of airline tickets through opaque channels, preferring to consistently show the lowest available price on their own website. If one or more participating airlines were to further limit or eliminate discounting through opaque channels, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Due to our dependence on the airline industry, we could be severely affected by changes in that industry, and, in many cases, we will have no control over such changes or their timing. Several major U.S. airlines are struggling financially and have either filed for reorganization under the United States Bankruptcy Code or discussed publicly the risks of bankruptcy. Two of our largest airline suppliers, Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines, are currently operating under the protection of federal bankruptcy laws. If any of our suppliers currently in bankruptcy liquidates or does not emerge from bankruptcy and we are unable to replace such supplier as a participant in priceline.com, our business would be adversely affected. In addition, in the event that another of our major suppliers voluntarily or involuntarily declares bankruptcy and is subsequently unable to successfully emerge from bankruptcy, and we are unable to replace such supplier, our business would be adversely affected. To the extent other major U.S. airlines that participate in our system declare bankruptcy, they may be unable or unwilling to honor tickets sold for their flights. Our policy in such event would be to direct customers seeking a refund or exchange to the airline, and not to provide a remedy ourselves. Because we are the merchant-of-record on sales of *Name Your Own Price*® airline tickets to our customers, however, we could experience a significant increase in demands for refunds or credit card charge-backs from customers, which could materially and adversely affect our operations and financial results. In addition, because *Name Your Own Price*® customers do not choose the airlines on which they are to fly, the bankruptcy of a major U.S. airline or even the possibility of a major U.S. airline declaring bankruptcy could discourage customers from using our *Name Your Own Price*® system to book airline tickets.

If one of our major airline suppliers merges or consolidates with, or is acquired by, another company that either does not participate in the priceline.com system or that participates on substantially lower levels, the surviving company may elect not to participate in our system or to participate at lower levels than the previous supplier. For example, in September 2005, US Airways and America West merged. US Airways was a meaningful participant in our *Name Your Own Price*® system, but America West participated on a very limited basis. The resulting entity participates in our *Name Your Own Price*® system, but at much lower levels than US Airways historical participation, which is the equivalent of US Airways significantly reducing its participation in, our *Name Your Own Price*® system. The loss of any major airline participant in our *Name Your Own Price*® system could result in other major airlines electing to terminate their participation in the *Name Your Own Price*® system, which would further negatively impact our business, results of operations and financial condition. In addition, fewer independent suppliers reduces opacity and competition among suppliers. In such event, if we are unable to divert sales to other suppliers, our business results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected.

In addition, given the concentration of the airline industry, particularly in the domestic market, our competitors could exert pressure on other airlines not to supply us with tickets. Moreover, the airlines may attempt to establish their own buyer-driven commerce service or participate or invest in other similar services.

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We are dependent on certain hotels.

Our financial prospects are significantly dependent upon the sale of hotel room nights. During the three months ended June 30, 2006, sales of *Name Your Own Price*® hotel room nights from our five largest hotel suppliers accounted for approximately 35% of total *Name Your Own Price*® hotel room nights sold. As a result, we are currently substantially dependent upon the continued participation of these hotels in priceline.com s hotel service in order to maintain and continue to grow our total gross profit.

We currently have more than 40 national hotel chains participating in the *Name Your Own Price*® system. However, our arrangements with the hotels that participate in our *Name Your Own Price*® system generally:

- do not require the hotels to make available to our customers any specific quantity of hotel rooms;
- do not require the hotels to provide particular prices or levels of discount;
- do not require the hotels to deal exclusively with us in the public sale of discounted hotel rooms; and
- generally, can be terminated upon little or no notice.

As a general matter, during the course of our business, we are in continuous dialogue with our major hotel suppliers about the nature and extent of their participation in our system. Improving economic conditions are creating increased demand for hotel rooms and some hotels may reduce the amount of inventory they sell through our service or increase the negotiated rates at which they are willing to provide inventory. If hotel occupancy rates improve to the point that our hotel suppliers no longer place the same value on our distribution systems, such suppliers may reduce the amount of inventory they make available through priceline.com and/or our European operations. The significant reduction on the part of any of our major suppliers of their participation in our system for a sustained period of time or their complete withdrawal could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our merchant price-disclosed hotel service facilitates the purchase of hotel rooms by customers pursuant to a retail merchant model, which is based on merchant arrangements we make directly with individual hotel chains and independent hotel properties. We receive access to inventory directly from a hotel at a negotiated rate, and determine the retail price at which we will offer our services to the consumer, within contractual limitations. Many hotels use merchant arrangements with companies like ours to dispose of excess hotel room inventory at wholesale rates. If hotels experience increased demand for rooms, they might reduce the amount of room inventory they make available through our merchant price-disclosed hotel service. The recent improvement in occupancy rates discussed above could cause hotels to reduce the amount of inventory they make available through our merchant price-disclosed hotel service.

In addition, certain hotels have begun initiatives to reduce margins received by third party intermediaries on retail merchant transactions, which is the primary method we employ to distribute retail hotel room reservations. Many hotels distribute room inventory through their own websites and therefore might increase negotiated rates for merchant rate inventory sold through our merchant price-disclosed hotel service, decreasing the margin available to us. While our merchant price-disclosed hotel agreements with our leading hotel suppliers provide for specified discounts, if one or more participating hotels were to require us to limit our merchant margins, upon contract renewal or otherwise, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our European operations business model exposes us to certain risks that we have not traditionally experienced in the hotel business.

Our European operations distribute hotel rooms primarily through a retail model, whereby they secure a reservation with a customer—s credit card, but are not compensated by the hotel property until such customer checks out of the hotel property. This requires our European operations to pursue collection of commissions relating to hotel room reservations from the hotel properties after the customer has completed his or her stay. We do not have

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extensive experience in collecting commissions from hotel properties and failure to sustain an adequate collection rate could negatively impact the business of our European operations.

In addition, our European operations rely heavily on various third parties to distribute hotel room reservations, and our European operations distribution channels are concentrated among a number of third parties. Should one or more of such third parties cease distribution of our European operations reservations, or suffer deterioration in its search engine ranking, due to changes in search engine algorithms or otherwise, the business of our European operations could be negatively affected. Similarly, a significant amount of our European business is directed to our own websites through participation in pay-per-click advertising campaigns on Internet search engines whose pricing and operating dynamics can experience rapid change both technically and competitively. If a major search engine changes its pricing, operating or competitive dynamics in a negative manner, our business, results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected.

Historically, the majority of our European operations business has been located in the U.K. The strategy of our European operations involves rapid expansion into other European countries, many of which have different customs, different levels of customer acceptance of the Internet and different legislation, regulatory environments and tax schemes. Compliance with foreign legal, regulatory or tax requirements will place demands on our time and resources, and we may nonetheless experience unforeseen and potentially adverse legal, regulatory or tax consequences. If our European operations are unsuccessful in rapidly expanding into other European countries, our business, results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected.

We are exposed to fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

As a result of our acquisitions of our European operations, we are conducting a significant and growing portion of our business outside the United States and are reporting our results in U.S. dollars. As a result, we face exposure to adverse movements in currency exchange rates. The results of operations of our European operations are exposed to foreign exchange rate fluctuations as the financial results of our European operations are translated from local currency into U.S. dollars upon consolidation. If the U.S. dollar weakens against the local currency, the translation of these foreign-currency-denominated balances will result in increased net assets, net revenues, operating expenses, and net income or loss. Similarly, our net assets, net revenues, operating expenses, and net income or loss will decrease if the U.S. dollar strengthens against local currency. Additionally, foreign exchange rate fluctuations may adversely impact our results of operations as exchange rate fluctuations on transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency result in gains and losses that are reflected in our Consolidated Statement of Operations.

We may lose or be subject to reduction of global distribution system fees.

We rely on fees paid to us by Worldspan, L.P. and other global distribution systems, or GDSs, for travel bookings made through GDSs for a portion of our gross profit and a substantial portion of our operating income. We rebate certain GDS costs to certain suppliers (e.g., airlines, hotels, etc.) in exchange for contractual considerations such as those relating to inventory, pricing and availability, and expect to continue to do so in the future. During 2006, most agreements between GDSs and the major domestic airlines expired, and most airlines have negotiated new agreements with reduced distribution costs for the airlines that go into effect September 1, 2006. The structure of these new agreements, along with airline pressure on us to operate under the new structures, may require us to reduce our aggregate compensation and book through lower cost channels to receive airlines full content and avoid airline service fees. At this time, we cannot predict the effect that the new agreements will have, but we expect that our GDS booking fees will be significantly reduced. If we were denied access to airlines full content or had to impose service fees on our airline tickets, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Additionally, some travel suppliers are encouraging third-party travel intermediaries, such as us, to develop technology to bypass the traditional GDSs, such as enabling direct connections to the travel suppliers or using alternative global distribution methods recently developed by new entrants, such as G2 Switchworks Corp., to the global distribution marketplace. Such new entrants propose using technology that is less complex than traditional global distribution systems, and that enables the distribution of airline tickets in a manner that is more

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cost-effective to the airline suppliers. To this end, in the first quarter 2006, we entered into an agreement with G2 Switchworks for the provision of GDS services. In addition, to further reduce our dependence on Worldspan, L.P., in the first quarter 2006, we entered into an agreement for the provision of GDS services with Sabre Inc. Development of the technology to connect to such alternative GDSs, or to enable direct connections to travel suppliers, requires the use of information technology resources and could cause us to incur additional operating expenses, increase the frequency/duration of system problems and delay other projects. Furthermore, our contractual obligations to Worldspan, L.P. may limit our ability to pursue the most financially attractive GDS options during the term of our agreement with Worldspan, L.P., which expires on December 31, 2007.

Our ability to satisfy customers may be adversely affected by a number of factors outside of our control.

Most of our revenue is derived from the leisure travel industry, and is, therefore, subject to increase and decrease with the level of activity in the leisure travel industry, a factor almost entirely out of our control. The travel industry is seasonal and our revenue varies significantly from quarter to quarter. Factors that may adversely affect leisure travel activity include, without limitation, economic downturns and recessions; global security issues, political instability, acts of terrorism, civil unrest, hostilities and war; increased fuel costs; increased airport security that could reduce the convenience of air travel; inclement weather or natural disaster such as hurricane, tsunami or earthquake; increased occurrence of, or widely publicized travel-related accidents; the outbreak of an epidemic or pandemic such as SARS or avian bird flu; and the financial condition of travel suppliers.

Intense competition could reduce our market share and harm our financial performance.

We compete with both online and traditional sellers of the services offered on priceline.com. The market for the services we offer is intensely competitive, and current and new competitors can launch new sites at a relatively low cost. In addition, the major online travel companies with which we compete have significantly greater financial resources and capital than we do. For instance, the Cendant Corporation currently owns Orbitz.com, Inc., Cheaptickets.com and European travel sites Gullivers.com, ebookers plc and octopustravel, and Sabre Group owns Travelocity.com and lastminute.com plc, a European full-service travel site. In addition, InterActive recently spun-off its online travel business, including Hotels.com and Hotwire.com, our primary competitor in the sale of opaque travel services, into Expedia, which, as a stand-alone company, continues to have significantly greater resources and capital than priceline.com. We may not be able to effectively compete with industry conglomerates such as Cendant, Sabre or Expedia, each of which have access to significantly greater and more diversified resources than we do.

We currently or potentially compete with a variety of companies with respect to each service we offer. With respect to our travel services, these competitors include:

- Internet travel services such as Expedia, Hotels.com and Hotwire, which are owned by Expedia; Travelocity and lastminute.com, which are owned by the Sabre Group; and Orbitz.com, Cheaptickets, Gullivers.com, ebookers plc and octopustravel, which are currently owned by the Cendant Corporation;
- travel suppliers such as airlines, hotel companies and rental car companies, many of which have their own branded websites to which they drive business;
- large online portal and search companies, such as AOL (including AOL Travel), Yahoo! (including Yahoo! Travel) and Google;
- traditional travel agencies;
- online travel search sites such as SideStep.com, Mobissimo.com, Cheapflights.com, FareChase.com, Kayak.com (sometimes referred to as meta-search ) and travel research sites that have search functionality, such as TripAdvisor and Travelzoo; and

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operators of travel industry reservation databases such as Galileo, Worldspan, L.P. and Amadeus.

Competitors of our European operations include, among others, Expedia (including hotels.com), Cendant Corporation (including Travelport, ebookers, octopustravel, Gullivers.com, Flairview and LateRooms), Sabre Group (including lastminute.com), Superbreak, Venere, hotel.de and Hotel Reservation Service.

In addition, many airline, hotel and rental car suppliers are focusing on driving online demand to their own websites in lieu of third-party distributors such as us. Certain suppliers have attempted to charge additional fees to customers who book airline reservations through an online channel other than their own website. Furthermore, many low cost airlines, which are having increasing success in the marketplace, distribute their inventory exclusively through their own websites. Suppliers who sell on their own websites typically do not charge a processing fee, and, in some instances, offer advantages such as bonus miles or loyalty points, which could make their offerings more attractive to consumers than models like ours.

We potentially face competition from a number of large Internet companies and services that have expertise in developing online commerce and in facilitating Internet traffic, including Amazon.com, AOL, MSN, Google.com and Yahoo!, which compete with us either directly or indirectly through affiliations with other e-commerce or off-line companies. We also compete with meta-search companies, which are companies that leverage their search technology to aggregate travel search results across supplier, travel agent and other websites. For example, Yahoo! owns FareChase.com, a travel search-engine that searches for fares and hotel rates at travel supplier and third-party websites, and refers traffic to those sites, and AOL is party to a marketing and technology agreement, and holds a minority interest in, Kayak.com, another leading meta-search company. Other established search engine companies as well as start-ups are attempting to enter the online travel marketplace in this manner. If Yahoo!, Google or other portals decide to refer significant traffic to travel search engines, it could result in more competition from supplier websites and higher customer acquisition costs for third-party sites such as ours. Competition from these and other sources could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Many of our current and potential competitors, including Internet directories, search engines and large traditional retailers, have longer operating histories, larger customer bases, greater brand recognition and significantly greater financial, marketing, personnel, technical and other resources than priceline.com. Some of these competitors may be able to secure products and services on more favorable terms than we can. In addition, many of these competitors may be able to devote significantly greater resources to:

- marketing and promotional campaigns;
- attracting traffic to their websites;
- attracting and retaining key employees;
- securing vendors and inventory; and
- website and systems development.

Increased competition could result in reduced operating margins, loss of market share and damage to our brand. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors or that competition will not have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our business could be negatively affected by changes in search engine algorithms and dynamics.

We utilize Internet search engines, principally through the purchase of travel-related keywords, to generate traffic to our websites. Our European operations, in particular, rely to a significant extent upon third-party distribution partners that derive substantial business from search engines. Recently, at least one major search engine changed the logic which determines the placement and display of results of a user s search, such that the placement of links to our sites, and particularly those of our European operations and their affiliates, was negatively affected. In a similar way, a significant amount of our European business is directed to our own websites through

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participation in pay-per-click advertising campaigns on Internet search engines whose pricing and operating dynamics can experience rapid change both technically and competitively. If a major search engine changes its algorithms in a manner that further negatively affects the search engine ranking of us or our third-party distribution partners or changes its pricing, operating or competitive dynamics in a negative manner, our business, results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected.

Defending against intellectual property claims could be expensive and disruptive to our business.

From time to time, in the ordinary course of our business, we have been subject to, and are currently subject to, legal proceedings and claims relating to the intellectual property rights of others, and we expect that third parties will continue to assert intellectual property claims, in particular patent claims, against us, particularly as we expand the complexity and scope of our business. We endeavor to defend our intellectual property rights diligently, but intellectual property litigation is extremely expensive and time consuming, and has and is likely to continue to divert managerial attention and resources from our business objectives. Successful infringement claims against us could result in significant monetary liability or prevent us from operating our business, or portions of our business. In addition, resolution of claims may require us to obtain licenses to use intellectual property rights belonging to third parties, which may be expensive to procure, or possibly to cease using those rights altogether. Any of these events could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Acquisitions could result in operating difficulties.

As part of our business strategy, in September 2004, we acquired Active Hotels and, in July 2005, Bookings. We may enter into additional business combinations and acquisitions in the future. Acquisitions may result in dilutive issuances of equity securities, use of our cash resources, incurrence of debt and amortization of expenses related to intangible assets acquired. In addition, the process of integrating an acquired company, business or technology may create unforeseen operating difficulties and expenditures. The acquisitions of Active Hotels and Bookings were accompanied by a number of risks, including, without limitation:

- the need to implement or remediate controls, procedures and policies appropriate for a larger public company at companies that prior to the acquisition lacked such controls, procedures and policies;
- the difficulty of assimilating the operations and personnel of Active Hotels and Bookings, which are principally located in Cambridge, England, and Amsterdam, The Netherlands, respectively, with and into our operations, which are headquartered in Norwalk, Connecticut;
- the potential disruption of our ongoing business and distraction of management;
- the difficulty of incorporating acquired technology and rights into our services and unanticipated expenses related to such integration;
- the failure to further successfully develop acquired technology resulting in the impairment of amounts currently capitalized as intangible assets;
- the impairment of relationships with customers of Active Hotels, Bookings or our own customers as a result of any integration of operations;
- the impairment of relationships with employees of Active Hotels, Bookings or our own business as a result of any integration of new management personnel;
- the potential unknown liabilities associated with Active Hotels or Bookings.

We may experience similar risks in connection with any future acquisitions. We may not be successful in addressing these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with the acquisitions of Active Hotels and Bookings or that we could encounter in future acquisitions, which would harm our business or cause us to fail to realize the anticipated benefits of our acquisitions. We currently have approximately \$316 million assigned primarily to the intangible assets and goodwill of Active Hotels and Bookings, and therefore, the occurrence of any

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of the aforementioned risks could result in a material adverse impact, including a material impairment of these assets, which could cause us to have to write-down goodwill. Any such write-down of goodwill could adversely impact our operating results, which would cause our stock price to decline significantly.

Our growth cannot be assured. Even if we do experience growth, we cannot assure you that we will grow profitably.

Our business strategies are dependent on the growth of our business. For us to achieve significant growth, consumers and travel suppliers must continue to accept our website as a valuable commercial tool. Consumers who have historically purchased travel services using traditional commercial channels, such as local travel agents and calling suppliers directly, must instead purchase these services on our website. Similarly, travel suppliers will also need to accept or expand their use of our website and view our website as an efficient and profitable channel of distribution for their travel products. Our ability to enhance awareness of the priceline.com brands and offer services that will attract and retain a significant number of new consumers and travel suppliers is not certain, and therefore, our growth may be limited.

We may not be able to keep up with rapid technological and other changes.

The markets in which we compete are characterized by rapidly changing technology, evolving industry standards, consolidation, frequent new service and product announcements, introductions and enhancements and changing consumer demands. We may not be able to keep up with these rapid changes. In addition, these market characteristics are heightened by the emerging nature of the Internet and the apparent need of companies from many industries to offer Internet-based products and services. As a result, our future success will depend on our ability to adapt to rapidly changing technologies, to adapt our services to evolving industry standards and to continually improve the performance, features and reliability of our service in response to competitive service and product offerings and the evolving demands of the marketplace. In addition, the widespread adoption of new Internet, networking or telecommunications technologies or other technological changes could require us to incur substantial expenditures to modify or adapt our services or infrastructure.

Online or internal security breaches could harm our business.

The secure transmission of confidential information over the Internet is essential in maintaining consumer and supplier confidence in the priceline.com services. Substantial or ongoing security breaches whether instigated internally or externally on our system or other Internet-based systems could significantly harm our business. We currently require buyers to guarantee their offers with their credit card, either online or through our toll-free telephone service. We rely on licensed encryption and authentication technology to effect secure transmission of confidential information, including credit card numbers from and to our customers. It is possible that advances in computer circumvention capabilities, new discoveries or other developments could result in a compromise or breach of customer transaction data.

We incur substantial expense to protect against and remedy security breaches and their consequences. However, we cannot guarantee that our security measures will prevent security breaches. A party (whether internal, external, an affiliate or unrelated third party) that is able to circumvent our security systems could steal customer transaction data, proprietary information or cause significant interruptions in our operations. For instance, several major websites have experienced significant interruptions as a result of improper direction of excess traffic to those sites, and computer viruses have substantially disrupted e-mail and other functionality in a number of countries, including the United States. Security breaches also could damage our reputation and expose us to a risk of loss or litigation and possible liability. Security breaches could also cause customers and potential customers to lose confidence in our security, which would have a negative effect on the value of our brand. Our insurance policies carry low coverage limits, which may not be adequate to reimburse us for losses caused by security breaches.

Companies that we have acquired, such as our European operations, and that we may acquire in the future, may employ security and networking standards at levels we find unsatisfactory. The process of enhancing infrastructure to attain improved security and network standards may be time consuming and expensive and may

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require resources and expertise that are difficult to obtain. Such acquisitions increase the number of potential vulnerabilities, and can cause delays in detection of an attack, as well as the timelines of recovery from any given attack. Failure to raise any such standards that we find unsatisfactory could expose us to security breaches that would have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We also face risks associated with security breaches affecting third parties conducting business over the Internet. Consumers generally are concerned with security and privacy on the Internet, and any publicized security problems could inhibit the growth of the Internet and, therefore, the priceline.com service as a means of conducting commercial transactions. Additionally, security breaches at the third-party, supplier or distributor systems upon which we rely could result in negative publicity.

Our processing, storage, use and disclosure of personal data could give rise to liabilities as a result of governmental regulation, conflicting legal requirements or differing views of personal privacy rights.

In our processing of travel transactions, we receive and store a large volume of personally identifiable data. This data is increasingly subject to legislation and regulations in numerous jurisdictions around the world, including the Commission of the European Union through its Data Protection Directive and variations of that directive in the member states of the European Union. This government action is typically intended to protect the privacy of personal data that is collected, processed and transmitted in or from the governing jurisdiction. We could be adversely affected if legislation or regulations are expanded to require changes in our business practices or if governing jurisdictions interpret or implement their legislation or regulations in ways that negatively affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

In addition, in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 in the United States, government agencies have been contemplating or developing initiatives to enhance national and aviation security, including the Transportation Security Administration s Computer-Assisted Passenger Prescreening System, known as CAPPS II. These initiatives may result in conflicting legal requirements with respect to data handling. As privacy and data protection has become a more sensitive issue, we may also become exposed to potential liabilities as a result of differing views on the privacy of travel data. Travel businesses have also been subjected to investigations, lawsuits and adverse publicity due to allegedly improper disclosure of passenger information. These and other privacy developments that are difficult to anticipate could adversely impact our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We rely on the value of the priceline.com brand, and the costs of maintaining and enhancing our brand awareness are increasing.

We believe that maintaining and expanding the priceline.com brand, and other owned brands, including Lowestfare.com, Rentalcars.com, Breezenet.com, MyTravelGuide.com, Travelweb, Active Hotels and Bookings, are important aspects of our efforts to attract and expand our user and advertiser base. As our larger competitors spend increasingly more on advertising, we are required to spend more in order to maintain our brand recognition. Promotion of the priceline.com brand will depend largely on our success in satisfying our customers. In addition, we have spent considerable money and resources to date on the establishment and maintenance of the priceline.com brands, and we will continue to spend money on, and devote resources to advertising, marketing and other brand-building efforts to preserve and enhance consumer awareness of the priceline.com brands. We may not be able to successfully maintain or enhance consumer awareness of the priceline.com brands, and, even if we are successful in our branding efforts, such efforts may not be cost-effective. If we are unable to maintain or enhance customer awareness of the priceline.com brands in a cost-effective manner, our business, results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected.

We may be unable to generate sufficient cash to repay or repurchase our \$225 million Convertible Senior Notes and the Notes could result in dilution to our earnings per share.

In August 2003, we issued \$125 million aggregate principal amount of Convertible Senior Notes due August 1, 2010, with an interest rate of 1% (the 1% Notes ) and in June 2004, we issued \$100 million aggregate principal amount of Convertible Senior Notes due January 15, 2025, with an interest rate of 2.25% (the 2.25%)

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Notes , and collectively with the 1% Notes, the Notes ). The holders of the 1% Notes may require us to repurchase the notes on August 1, 2008 and the holders of the 2.25% Notes may require us to repurchase the notes on January 15, 2010, 2015 or 2020. It is possible that we may not have sufficient funds or may be unable to arrange for additional financing to pay the principal amount or repurchase price due. We are increasingly reliant on our European operations as a source of cash flow and in the event we are required to repay or repurchase the notes, we would likely incur expenses to repatriate such cash to the United States. If we are unable to repurchase, repay or refinance the Notes when due, we would be in default under our indentures and our business, results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected.

In the event that all or substantially all of our common stock is acquired prior to January 15, 2010, in a transaction in which the consideration paid to holders of our common stock consists of all, or substantially all, cash, we would be required to make additional payments to the holders of the 2.25% Notes of amounts ranging from \$0 to \$16.8 million depending upon the date of the transaction and our then current stock price.

Pursuant to Financial Accounting Standards Board Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 04-08, The Effect of Contingently Convertible Debt on Diluted Earnings per Share, (EITF 04-08) contingently convertible debt, such as the Notes, must be included in diluted earnings per share, regardless of whether the market price contingency contained in the debt instrument has been met. EITF 04-08 could result in a material reduction in our diluted earnings per share in future periods. See Notes 4 and 9 to our Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of net income per share and convertible debt, respectively.

Our success depends on our ability to protect our intellectual property.

We regard our intellectual property as critical to our success, and we rely on trademark, copyright and patent law, trade secret protection and confidentiality and/or license agreements with our employees, customers, partners and others to protect our proprietary rights. If we are not successful in protecting our intellectual property, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

While we believe that our issued patents and pending patent applications help to protect our business, there can be no assurance that:

- any patent can be successfully defended against challenges by third parties;
- pending patent applications will result in the issuance of patents;
- competitors or potential competitors of priceline.com will not devise new methods of competing with us that are not covered by our patents or patent applications;
- because of variations in the application of our business model to each of our services, our patents will be effective in preventing one or more third parties from utilizing a copycat business model to offer the same service in one or more categories;
- new prior art will not be discovered which may diminish the value of or invalidate an issued patent;
- a third party will not have or obtain one or more patents that prevent us from practicing features of our business or require us to pay for a license to use those features; or
- our operations do not or will not infringe valid, enforceable patents of third parties.

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There has been recent discussion in the press regarding the examination and issuance of so called business-method patents. As a result, the United States Patent and Trademark Office has indicated that it intends to intensify the review process applicable to such patent applications. The new procedures are not expected to have a direct effect on patents already granted. We cannot anticipate what effect, if any, the new review process will have on our pending patent applications.

We pursue the registration of our trademarks and service marks in the U.S. and internationally. However, effective trademark, service mark, copyright and trade secret protection may not be available in every country in which our services are made available online. We have licensed in the past, and expect to license in the future, certain of our proprietary rights, such as trademarks or copyrighted material, to third parties. These licensees may take actions that might diminish the value of our proprietary rights or harm our reputation.

Our business is dependent upon third-party systems and service providers.

We rely on certain third-party computer systems and third-party service providers, including the computerized central reservation systems of the airline, hotel and rental car industries to satisfy demand for airline tickets, hotel room and rental car reservations. In particular, our travel business is substantially dependent upon the computerized reservation systems of operators of global distribution systems for the travel industry. Any interruption in these third-party services systems or deterioration in their performance could prevent us from booking airline, hotel and rental car reservations and have a material adverse effect on our business. Our agreements with third-party service providers are terminable upon short notice and often do not provide recourse for service interruptions. In the event our arrangement with any of such third parties is terminated, we may not be able to find an alternative source of systems support on a timely basis or on commercially reasonable terms and, as a result, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

A substantial portion of our computer hardware for operating our services is currently located at a web hosting facility operated by SAVVIS. If SAVVIS is, for any reason, unable to support our website, we would need to quickly complete the activation of our secondary site at the AT&T web hosting facility. Any of these conditions could cause disruptions to our business or exposure to potentially damaging press coverage of the problems, and would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition.

Our communications infrastructure is provided by vendors such as AT&T, Verizon, IX EUROPE, Verizon Busines B.V. and TrueServer BV. If they are unable, for any reason, to support the communications infrastructure they provide us, instabilities in our systems could increase until such time as we were able to replace their services.

While we do maintain redundant systems and hosting services for some of our business, it is possible that we could experience an interruption in our business, and we do not carry business interruption insurance sufficient to compensate us for losses that may occur.

Capacity constraints and system failures could harm our business.

We rely on supplier and distribution systems, including those of Worldspan, L.P., Pegasus Solutions, Sabre Inc., G2 Switchworks Corp., ITA and Navitaire. If any of these systems becomes inaccessible, or partially inaccessible to us, due to system failure or otherwise, for any significant amount of time, our ability to process reservations could be adversely affected, in which case our results would suffer. We also depend upon Paymentech to process our credit card transactions. If Paymentech was wholly or partially compromised, our cash flows could be disrupted until such a time as a replacement process could be put in place with a different vendor. As we add complexity to our systems infrastructure by adding new supplier and distribution, our total system availability could decline and our results could suffer.

A substantial amount of our computer hardware for operating our services is currently located at the facilities of SAVVIS in New Jersey, AT&T in New York City, IX EUROPE in London, England, TrueServer BV and Redbus Interhouse Netherlands. These systems and operations are vulnerable to damage or interruption from human error, floods, fires, power loss, telecommunication failures and similar events. They are also subject to break-ins, sabotage, intentional acts of vandalism and similar misconduct. Despite any precautions we may take, the

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occurrence of a natural disaster or other unanticipated problems at the SAVVIS facility, the AT&T facility, the IX EUROPE facility or the Netherlands facility could result in lengthy interruptions in our services. In addition, the failure by SAVVIS, Verizon, AT&T, IX EUROPE, Verizon Business B.V. or TrueServer BV to provide our required data communications capacity could result in interruptions in our service. Any system failure that causes an interruption in service or decreases the responsiveness of the priceline.com service could impair our reputation, damage our brand name and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

If our systems cannot be expanded to cope with increased demand or fails to perform, we could experience:

- unanticipated disruptions in service;
- slower response times;
- decreased customer service and customer satisfaction; or
- delays in the introduction of new products and services,

any of which could impair our reputation, damage the priceline.com brand and materially and adversely affect our revenues. Publicity about a service disruption also could cause a material decline in our stock price.

Like many online businesses, we have experienced system failures from time to time. For example, in May 2001, our primary website was interrupted for a period of 12 hours. In addition to placing increased burdens on our engineering staff, these outages create a significant amount of user questions and complaints that need to be addressed by our customer support personnel. Any unscheduled interruption in our service could result in an immediate loss of revenues that can be substantial and may cause some users to switch to our competitors. If we experience frequent or persistent system failures, our reputation and brand could be permanently harmed. We have been taking steps to increase the reliability and redundancy of our system. These steps are expensive, may reduce our margins and may not be successful in reducing the frequency or duration of unscheduled downtime.

We use both internally developed systems and third-party systems to operate the priceline.com service, including transaction processing, order management and financial systems that were designed to be scaleable and stable. However, if the number of users of our services increases substantially, or if critical third-party systems stop operating as designed, we will need to significantly expand and upgrade our technology, transaction processing systems, financial systems and other infrastructure. We do not know whether we will be able to upgrade our systems and infrastructure to accommodate such conditions in a timely manner.

Companies that we have acquired, such as our European operations, and that we may acquire in the future, may present known or unknown capacity/stability or other types of system challenges. The process of enhancing infrastructure to attain improved capacity/scalability and other system characteristics may be time consuming and expensive and may require resources and expertise that are difficult to obtain. Such acquisitions increase potential downtime, customer facing problems and compliance problems. Failure to successfully make any such improvements to such infrastructures could expose us to potential capacity, stability, and system problems that would have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Uncertainty regarding state and local taxes

We file tax returns in such states as required by law based on principles applicable to traditional businesses. In addition, we pay sales and other taxes, including hotel occupancy taxes, to suppliers related to travel services sold through the priceline.com service. We believe that this practice is consistent with the tax laws of all jurisdictions. On an ongoing basis, we conduct a review and interpretation of the tax laws in various states and other jurisdictions relating to the payment of state and local hotel occupancy and other related taxes. In connection with our review, we have met and had discussions with taxing authorities in certain jurisdictions but the ultimate resolution in any particular jurisdiction cannot be determined at this time. Currently, hotels collect and remit hotel occupancy and related taxes to the various tax authorities based on the amounts collected by the hotels. Consistent with this practice, we recover the taxes on the underlying cost of the hotel room night from customers and pay that amount to

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the hotel operators for payment to the appropriate tax authorities. As discussed in Note 15 to our Consolidated Financial Statements, several jurisdictions have initiated lawsuits indicating the position that sales or hotel occupancy tax is applicable to the differential between the price paid by a customer utilizing our service and the cost of the underlying room. Historically, we have not collected taxes on this differential. Additional state and local jurisdictions could assert that we are subject to sales or hotel occupancy taxes on this differential and could seek to collect such taxes, either retroactively or prospectively or both. A number of proposals have been made at state and local levels that could impose additional taxes on the sale of products and services through the Internet or the income derived from these sales. Such actions may result in substantial tax liabilities for past and/or future sales and could have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations. To the extent that any tax authority succeeds in asserting that any such tax collection responsibility exists, it is likely that, with respect to future transactions, we would collect any such additional tax obligation from our customers, which would have the effect of increasing the cost of hotel room nights to our customers and, consequently, could reduce our hotel sales. We will continue to assess the risks of the potential financial impact of additional tax exposure, and to the extent appropriate, we will reserve for those estimated liabilities.

Current economic conditions in the United States are triggering active consideration on ways to generate additional tax revenues by both the federal and state and local governments. We cannot predict what changes in tax law or interpretations of such laws may be adopted or assure that such changes or interpretations would not materially impact our business.

Our business is exposed to risks associated with credit card fraud and charge-backs.

To date, our results have been negatively impacted by purchases made using fraudulent credit cards. Because we act as the merchant-of-record in a majority of our transactions, we may be held liable for accepting fraudulent credit cards on our website as well as other payment disputes with our customers. Additionally, we are held liable for accepting fraudulent credit cards in certain retail transactions when we do not act as merchant of record. Accordingly, we calculate and record an allowance for the resulting credit card charge-backs. If we are unable to combat the use of fraudulent credit cards on our website, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

Two large stockholders beneficially own approximately 32% of our stock.

Hutchison Whampoa Limited and Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited, which is a 49.97% shareholder of Hutchison Whampoa Limited, owned approximately 32% of our outstanding common stock as of June 30, 2006, and have the right to appoint three representatives to our Board of Directors. Ian F. Wade and Dominic Kai Ming Lai are Hutchison Whampoa Limited s representatives on our Board of Directors. Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited currently has no representative on our Board of Directors, however, it retains its right to appoint an additional director in the future. These stockholders could exert significant influence over us and our strategic direction, and deter or prevent certain fundamental transactions involving our company.

In June 2000, we entered into definitive agreements with subsidiaries of Hutchison Whampoa Limited to introduce our services to several Asian markets. Under the terms of the agreements we license our business model and provide our expertise in technology, marketing and operations to Hutchison-Priceline Limited. Hutchison-Priceline Limited reimburses us for the cost of services provided and is required to pay us a licensing fee for any year in which Hutchison-Priceline Limited achieves profitability. We and Hutchison Whampoa Limited currently own approximately 15% and 85%, respectively, of the outstanding equity securities of Hutchison-Priceline Limited. Jeffery H. Boyd, our President and Chief Executive Officer, is priceline.com s representative on the board of directors of Hutchison-Priceline Limited.

In May 2004, we filed a shelf registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering up to 10 million shares of priceline.com common stock held by Hutchison Whampoa Limited and Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited. Any sale of a significant number of shares by these stockholders could cause our stock price to decline significantly.

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Fluctuations in our financial results make quarterly comparisons and financial forecasting difficult.

Our revenues and operating results have varied significantly from quarter to quarter because our business experiences seasonal fluctuations, which reflect seasonal trends for the travel services offered by our websites. Traditional leisure travel bookings in the United States are higher in the second and third calendar quarters of the year as consumers take spring and summer vacations. In the first and fourth quarters of the calendar year, demand for travel services in the United States generally declines and the number of bookings flattens. Travel revenues in Europe, on the other hand, have been higher in the third and fourth quarters than in the first and second quarters. Furthermore, prior to introducing a retail travel option to our customers, substantially all of our business was conducted under the *Name Your Own Price*® system and accordingly, because those services are non-refundable in nature, we recognize travel revenue at the time a booking was generated. We recognize revenue generated from our retail hotel service, however, including our European operations, at the time that the customer checks out of the hotel. As a result, we have seen and expect to continue to see, that a meaningful amount of retail hotel bookings generated earlier in the year, as customers plan and reserve their spring and summer vacations, will not be recognized until future quarters. This could result in a disproportionate amount of our annual earnings being recognized in later quarters.

Our results may also be affected by seasonal fluctuations in the inventory made available to us by airlines, hotels and rental car suppliers. Our revenues and operating results may continue to vary significantly from quarter to quarter because of these factors. As a result, quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our revenues and operating results may not be meaningful. In addition, due to our limited operating history, a relatively new and unproven business model and an uncertain environment in the travel industry, it may be difficult to predict our future revenues or results of operations.

Because of these fluctuations and uncertainties, our operating results may fail to meet the expectations of securities analysts and investors. If this happens, the trading price of our common stock would almost certainly be materially adversely affected.

If we lose our key personnel or cannot recruit additional personnel, our business may suffer.

We depend on the continued services and performance of our executive officers and other key personnel. These individuals have acquired specialized knowledge and skills with respect to priceline.com and our operations. We do not have key person life insurance policies. Our ability to retain key employees could be materially adversely affected by the decline in the market price of our common stock, limitations on our ability to pay cash compensation that is equivalent to cash paid by traditional businesses or, in some instances, larger or better capitalized competitors, and limitations imposed by our employee benefit plans on our ability to issue additional equity incentives. If we do not succeed in attracting new employees or retaining and motivating current and future employees or executive officers, our business could suffer significantly.

Our financial results will be materially impacted by income taxes in the future.

We commenced recording a U.S. tax provision in the third quarter of 2005 upon recording the reversal of a portion of our valuation allowance on our deferred tax assets. This non-cash provision will materially negatively impact future net income and earnings per share as compared to prior periods. Due to our significant net operating loss carryforwards, we do not expect to pay cash taxes on our U.S. federal taxable income tax for the foreseeable future. We expect to make cash payments for U.S. alternative minimum tax and for certain international taxes.

Our stock price is highly volatile.

The market price of our common stock is highly volatile and is likely to continue to be subject to wide fluctuations in response to factors such as the following, some of which are beyond our control:

- quarterly variations in our operating results;
- operating results that vary from the expectations of securities analysts and investors;

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- changes in expectations as to our future financial performance, including financial estimates by securities analysts and investors;
- changes in our capital structure;
- changes in market valuations of other Internet or online service companies;
- announcements of technological innovations or new services by us or our competitors;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant contracts, acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments;
- loss of a major supplier participant, such as an airline or hotel chain;
- changes in the status of our intellectual property rights;
- lack of success in the expansion of our business model geographically;
- announcements by third parties of significant claims or proceedings against us or adverse developments in pending proceedings;
- additions or departures of key personnel; and
- stock market price and volume fluctuations.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock could adversely affect the market price of our common stock by introducing a large number of sellers to the market. Given the volatility that exists for our shares, such sales could cause the market price of our common stock to decline significantly. In addition, fluctuations in our stock price and our price-to-earnings multiple may have made our stock attractive to momentum, hedge or day-trading investors who often shift funds into and out of stocks rapidly, exacerbating price fluctuations in either direction, particularly when viewed on a quarterly basis.

The trading prices of Internet company stocks in general, including ours, have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations. To the extent that the public s perception of the prospects of Internet or e-commerce companies is negative, our stock price could decline further, regardless of our results. Other broad market and industry factors may decrease the market price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance. Market fluctuations, as well as general political and economic conditions, such as a recession or interest rate or currency rate fluctuations, also may decrease the market price of our common stock. Negative market conditions could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital.

We are defendants in a number of securities class action litigations. In the past, securities class action litigation often has been brought against a company following periods of volatility in the market price of its securities. To the extent our stock price declines or is volatile, we may in the future be the target of additional litigation. This additional litigation could result in substantial costs and divert management s attention and resources.

We are party to legal proceedings which, if adversely decided, could materially adversely affect us.

We are a party to the legal proceedings described in Note 15 to our Consolidated Financial Statements. The defense of the actions described in Note 15 may increase our expenses and an adverse outcome in any of such actions could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Regulatory and legal uncertainties could harm our business.

The products and services we offer through the priceline.com service are regulated by federal and state governments. Our ability to provide such products and services is and will continue to be affected by such regulations. The implementation of unfavorable regulations or unfavorable

interpretations of existing regulations by courts or regulatory bodies could require us to incur significant compliance costs, cause the development of the

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affected markets to become impractical and otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. See *Uncertainty regarding state and local taxes*.

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

We manage our exposure to interest rate risk and foreign currency risk through internally established policies and procedures and, when deemed appropriate, through the use of derivative financial instruments. We use derivative financial instruments, including an interest rate hedge to manage interest risk and forward contracts to manage currency risk. Additional information regarding our interest rate hedge is contained within Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Derivative Financial Instruments in our December 31, 2005 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The objective of our policies is to mitigate potential income statement, cash flow and fair value exposures resulting from possible future adverse fluctuations in rates. We evaluate our exposure to market risk by assessing the anticipated near-term and long-term fluctuations in interest rates and foreign exchange rates. This evaluation includes the review of leading market indicators, discussions with financial analysts and investment bankers regarding current and future economic conditions and the review of market projections as to expected future rates. We utilize this information to determine our own investment strategies as well as to determine if the use of derivative financial instruments is appropriate to mitigate any potential future market exposure that we may face. Our policy does not allow speculation in derivative instruments for profit or execution of derivative instrument contracts for which there are no underlying exposures. We do not use financial instruments for trading purposes and are not a party to any leveraged derivatives.

We did not experience any material changes in interest rate exposures during the three months and six months ended June 30, 2006. Based upon economic conditions and leading market indicators at June 30, 2006, we do not foresee a significant adverse change in interest rates in the near future.

As of June 30, 2006, the carrying value of our debt is \$223.3 million. We estimate that the fair market value of our debt was approximately \$218.4 million as of June 30, 2006.

As of June 30, 2006, we held an interest rate swap agreement on \$45 million notional value of our fixed rate debt. The fair value cost to terminate this swap as of June 30, 2006 was approximately \$1.9 million. A 10% adverse fluctuation in the 3-month LIBOR rate as of June 30, 2006, would increase the cost to terminate the interest rate swap by approximately \$424,000. Any increase or decrease in the fair value of the Company s interest rate sensitive derivative instruments would be substantially offset by a corresponding decrease or increase in the fair value of the hedged underlying asset, liability, or cash flow.

As a result of our acquisitions of our European operations, we will conduct a significant and growing portion of our business outside the United States but will report our results in U.S. dollars. As a result, we will face exposure to adverse movements in currency exchange rates. The results of operations of our European operations are exposed to foreign exchange rate fluctuations as the financial results of our European operations are translated from local currency into U.S. dollars upon consolidation. If the U.S. dollar weakens against the local currency, the translation of these foreign-currency-denominated balances will result in increased net assets, net revenues, operating expenses, and net income or loss. Similarly, our net assets, net revenues, operating expenses, and net income or loss will decrease if the U.S. dollar strengthens against local currency. Additionally, foreign exchange rate fluctuations may adversely impact our results of operations as exchange rate fluctuations on transactions denominated in currencies other than the entity s functional currency result in gains and losses that are reflected in our Consolidated Statement of Operations. Our European operations are subject to risks typical of international business, including, but not limited to, differing economic conditions, changes in political climate, differing tax structures, other regulations and restrictions, and foreign exchange rate volatility.

As of June 30, 2006, contracts with notional values of 2.3 million British Pounds and 17.2 million Euros were outstanding to minimize the impact of short-term foreign currency fluctuations on our consolidated operating results. We may enter into additional forward contracts or other economic hedges in the future.

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Additionally, fixed rate investments are subject to interest rate volatility. To the extent that changes in interest rates and currency exchange rates affect general economic conditions, priceline.com would also be affected by such changes.

#### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Prior to filing this report, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that as of June 30, 2006, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective in timely alerting them to material information required to be included in our periodic SEC reports. It should be noted that the design of any system of controls is based in part upon certain assumptions, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals.

In addition, we reviewed our internal controls, and, except as further described in the following paragraph, there have been no significant changes in our internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect those controls to the date of their last evaluation. In the course of this evaluation, we modify and refine our internal processes as conditions warrant.

In July 2005, we acquired Bookings, and as a result of that acquisition, we have undertaken a review of Bookings internal controls and intend to make changes, if necessary, that we believe to be appropriate to those internal controls as we integrate its business with ours. In addition, in the second quarter of 2006, we started to implement a new financial accounting system at Bookings, which is expected to improve efficiency and support growth. The implementation of this financial accounting system is expected to occur in phases starting in 3rd quarter 2006 through 2007 and will likely affect the processes that constitute the Company s internal control over financial reporting. As we further integrate Bookings business and continue with the system implementation, we will continue to review its internal controls and may take further steps to ensure that its internal controls are effective and integrated appropriately.

#### **PART II - OTHER INFORMATION**

#### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

A description of material legal proceedings to which we are a party is contained in Note 15 to our Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2006.

#### Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

We held our Annual Meeting of Stockholders on June 1, 2006. Listed below are descriptions of the matters voted on and the results of such meeting.

	Matter Voted On	For	Withheld
1.	<b>Election of Directors</b>		
	Jeffery H. Boyd	36,114,304	686,002
	Ralph M. Bahna	35,968,586	831,720
	Howard W. Barker, Jr.	36,094,434	705,872
	Jeffrey E. Epstein	36,093,740	706,566
	James M. Guyette	36,154,864	645,442
	Dominic Kai Ming Lai	36,078,816	721,490
	Nancy B. Peretsman	35,427,065	1,373,241
	Craig W. Rydin	36,092,457	707,849
	Ian F. Wade	28,544,237	8,256,069

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		For	Against	Abstaining	Broker Non-Votes
2.	Ratification of appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP as independent registered				
	public accounting firm, for fiscal year ending December 31, 2006	36,665,613	38,916	95,776	

### **Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K**

### (a) Exhibits

### Exhibit

Description
Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Dividends.
Certification of the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Certification of Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

## (b) Reports on Form 8-K

On May 4, 2006, we filed a report on Form 8-K in connection with the company s first quarter 2006 earnings; and on May 24, 2006, we filed a report on Form 8-K in connection with presentation materials to be presented at Goldman Sachs.

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#### **SIGNATURES**

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

PRICELINE.COM INCORPORATED

(Registrant)

Date: August 9, 2006 By: /s/ Robert J. Mylod, Jr.

Name: Robert J. Mylod, Jr.
Title: Chief Financial Officer

(On behalf of the Registrant and as principal financial officer)

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## **Exhibit Index**

Exhibit Number	Description
12.1 31.1 31.2 32.1 32.2	Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges and Preferred Dividends.  Certification of the Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.  Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.  Certification of Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.  Certification of Chief Financial Officer, pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.