

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD
Form 10-Q
May 08, 2008

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the period ended March 31, 2008, or

Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Commission file number 001-31909

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Bermuda

(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation or Organization) Not Applicable
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) Maxwell Roberts Building
1 Church Street
Hamilton, Bermuda
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) HM 11
(Zip Code)
(441) 295-8201
Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer or a non-accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

Edgar Filing: ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD - Form 10-Q

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

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

As of May 1, 2008, there were 85,395,229 ordinary shares, with a par value of 0.15144558¢ per ordinary share, outstanding.

INDEX

	Page
Part I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION	3
Item 1. Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements	3
Consolidated Balance Sheets	
as at March 31, 2008 (Unaudited) and December 31, 2007	3
Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations, for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	4
Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity, for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	5
Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	6
Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	7
Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements	9
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	29
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	49
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	51
Part II. OTHER INFORMATION	52
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	52
Item 1A. Risk Factors	52
Item 2. Unregistered Sale of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	52
Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities	52
Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders	52
Item 5. Other Information	52
Item 6. Exhibits	53
SIGNATURES	54
CERTIFICATIONS	54

Table of Contents

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED
 UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
 (\$ in millions, except share and per share amounts)

Three

Months Ended

March 31, 2008	2007	Revenues	Net earned premiums	\$391.6	\$439.0	Net investment income	39.1
67.5	Realized investment gains (losses)	1.0	(4.8)	Change in fair value of derivatives	(2.2)	(7.6)	Total Revenues
429.5	494.1	Expenses	Losses and loss adjustment expenses	207.2	225.5	Policy acquisition expenses	76.4
77.7	Operating and administrative expenses	50.8	45.3	Interest on long-term debt	3.9	3.9	Net foreign exchange gains
(4.3)	(5.5)	Total Expenses	334.0	346.9	Income from operations before income tax	95.5	147.2
Income tax expense	(14.3)	(25.3)	Net Income	\$81.2	\$121.9	Per Share Data	Weighted average number of ordinary shares and share equivalents
Basic	85,510,759	87,819,188	Diluted	87,956,836	90,487,698	Basic earnings per ordinary share adjusted for preference share dividend	\$0.87
\$0.85	\$1.27					Diluted earnings per ordinary share adjusted for preference share dividend	\$0.85

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED
 UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN
 SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

(\$ in millions)

Three

Months Ended

March 31, 2008	2007	Ordinary shares	Beginning and end of period	\$0.1	\$0.1	Preference shares	
		Beginning and end of period	—	Additional paid-in capital	Beginning of period	1,846.1	1,921.7
Share-based compensation	3.4	1.8	End of period	1,849.5	1,923.5	Retained earnings	
Beginning of period	858.8	450.5	Net income for the period	81.2	121.9	Dividends on ordinary and preference shares	(19.8) (20.1)
End of period	920.2	552.3	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income:				
Cumulative foreign currency translation adjustments			Beginning of period	80.2	59.1	Change for the period, net of income tax of \$Nil and \$Nil	5.4 5.2
End of period	85.6	64.3	Loss on derivatives				
Beginning and end of period	(1.6)	(1.8)	Unrealized appreciation/(depreciation) on investments:				
Beginning of period	34.0	(40.3)	Change for the period, net of income tax of \$9.0 and \$2.3	34.9	11.2		
End of period	68.9	(29.1)	Total accumulated other comprehensive income	152.9	33.4	Total	
Shareholders' Equity	\$2,922.7	\$2,509.3					

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED
 UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS
 OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
 (\$ in millions)

Three

Months Ended

March 31, 2008	2007	Net income	\$81.2	\$121.9	Other comprehensive income, net of taxes:		
		Reclassification adjustment for net realized (gain) loss on					
		investments included in net income	(0.8)	2.4	Change in net unrealized gains and losses on investments	35.7	8.8
		Change in foreign currency translation adjustment	5.4	5.2	Other comprehensive income	40.3	16.4
		Comprehensive income	\$121.5	\$138.3			

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

6

Table of Contents

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED
 UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (\$ in millions)

Three

Months Ended

March 31, 2008	2007	Cash flows provided by operating activities:	Net income	\$81.2	\$121.9
		Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash flows from operating activities:	Depreciation and amortization	2.9	10.0
		Share-based compensation expense	3.4	1.8	
		Net realized (gains) losses	(1.0)	4.8	
		Other investments (gains) losses	16.9	(9.9)	
		Changes in: Insurance reserves:	Losses and loss adjustment expenses	(6.6)	
		(39.7) Unearned premiums	172.6	163.5	
		Reinsurance recoverables:	Unpaid losses	28.7	37.4
		Unearned premiums	(44.8)	(46.3)	
		Accrued investment income and other receivables	9.5	22.7	
		Deferred policy acquisition costs	(17.7)	(20.4)	
		Reinsurance premiums payables	57.9	42.6	
		Premiums receivable	(113.9)	(134.7)	
		Funds withheld	4.5	7.8	
		Deferred taxes	10.2	4.1	
		Income tax payable	(16.1)	33.8	
		Accrued expenses and other payables	(20.5)	(66.2)	
		Fair value of derivatives and settlement of liabilities under derivatives	0.2	3.7	
		Other assets	(3.9)	(3.3)	
		Net cash provided by operating activities	\$163.5	\$133.6	

The 2007 statement of cash flows has been revised to classify the change in funds withheld in accordance with the current period presentation in the consolidated balance sheets. Previously, the \$7.8 million decrease in funds withheld at March 31, 2007 was included in the change in premiums receivable.

See accompanying notes to unaudited consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents

ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED
NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

and Organization 1. History

Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited (“Aspen Holdings”) was incorporated on May 23, 2002 and holds subsidiaries that provide insurance and reinsurance on a worldwide basis. Its principal operating subsidiaries are Aspen Insurance UK Limited (“Aspen U.K.”), Aspen Insurance Limited (“Aspen Bermuda”) and Aspen Specialty Insurance Company (“Aspen Specialty”) (collectively, the “Insurance Subsidiaries”).

Preparation 2. Basis of

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and in accordance with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Results for the three months ended March 31, 2008 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ended December 31, 2008. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Aspen Holdings and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, which are collectively referred to herein as the “Company.” All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated on consolidation.

The balance sheet at December 31, 2007 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but does not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements. These unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2007 contained in Aspen’s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (File No. 001-31909).

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

New Accounting Pronouncements

Adopted in 2008

In February 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued SFAS 159, “The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities ” which permits all entities to choose to measure eligible items at fair value at specified election dates. Unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected are reported in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. SFAS 159 is effective as of the beginning of an entity’s first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. The adoption of SFAS No. 159 has not impacted our consolidated financial statements as no items have been elected for measurement at fair value upon initial adoption.

In September 2007, the FASB issued SFAS 157, “Fair Value Measurements.” This statement provides guidance for using fair value to measure assets and liabilities. The statement emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement. Therefore, a fair value measurement should be determined based on the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. As a basis for considering market participant assumptions in fair value measurements, this statement establishes a fair value hierarchy that distinguishes between (1) market participant assumptions developed based on market data

Table of Contents

obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity (observable inputs) and (2) the reporting entity's own assumptions about market participant assumptions developed based on the best information available in the circumstances (unobservable inputs). SFAS 157 also requires tabular disclosures of the fair value measurements by level within the fair value hierarchy. It is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years although early adoption is permitted. The Company has adopted SFAS 157 for the fiscal year beginning on January 1, 2008. Additional information can be found in Note 6.

Accounting standards not yet adopted

On March 8, 2008, the FASB issued Statement No. 161, Disclosures About Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities — an amendment of FASB statement 133 ("FAS 161"). This Statement changes the disclosure requirements for derivative instruments and hedging activities. Entities are required to provide enhanced disclosures about (a) how and why an entity uses derivative instruments, (b) how derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for under Statement 133 and its related interpretations, and (c) how derivative instruments and related hedged items affect an entity's financial position, financial performance, and cash flows. The statement requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit-risk-related contingent features in derivative agreements. It is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption encouraged.

The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of FAS 161 on the Company's financial statements.

On December 4, 2007, the FASB issued Statement No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combinations ("FAS 141(R)") and Statement No. 160, Accounting and Reporting of Non-controlling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements, an amendment of ARB No. 51 ("FAS 160"). FAS 141(R) expands the scope of acquisition accounting to all transactions and circumstances under which control of a business is obtained. Under FAS 160, non-controlling interests classified as a component of consolidated shareholders' equity and minority interests are eliminated such that earnings attributable to non-controlling interests are reported as part of consolidated earnings and not as a separate component of income or expense. FAS 141(R) and FAS 160 are required to be adopted simultaneously and are effective for the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. Earlier adoption is prohibited.

The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of FAS 141(R) and FAS 160 on the Company's financial statements.

3. Earnings

Per Ordinary Share

Basic earnings per ordinary share are calculated by dividing net income adjusted for preference share dividends available to holders of Aspen's ordinary shares by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding. Diluted earnings per ordinary share are based on the weighted average number of ordinary shares and dilutive potential ordinary shares outstanding during the period of calculation using the treasury stock method. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively:

Table of Contents

Three

Months Ended

March 31, 2008	2007	(\$ in millions, except share and per share amounts)		Earnings	Basic	Net income as reported	\$81.2	\$121.9	Preference dividends
(6.9)	(6.9)	Net income available to ordinary shareholders	74.3	115.0	Diluted	Net income available to ordinary shareholders	74.3	115.0	Ordinary shares
87,819,188	Diluted	Weighted average ordinary shares	85,510,759	87,819,188	Weighted average effect of dilutive securities	2,446,077	2,668,510	Total	87,956,836
\$0.87	\$1.31	Diluted	\$0.85	\$1.27				Earnings per ordinary share	Basic

On April 30, 2008, the Company's Board of Directors declared the following quarterly dividends:

Dividend	Payable on:	Record date:	Ordinary shares	\$0.15	May 27, 2008	May 12, 2008	5.625% preference shares	\$0.703125	July 1, 2008	June 15, 2008	7.401% preference shares	\$0.462563	July 1, 2008	June 15, 2008
----------	-------------	--------------	-----------------	--------	--------------	--------------	--------------------------	------------	--------------	---------------	--------------------------	------------	--------------	---------------

4. Segment

Reporting

As a result of a shift in the Company's operating structure and the implementation of a number of strategic initiatives in 2007, the Company changed the composition of its business segments to reflect the change in the manner in which the business is managed. The Company is currently organized into four business segments: Property Reinsurance, Casualty Reinsurance, International Insurance, and U.S. Insurance. These segments form the basis of how the Company monitors the performance of its operations.

Previously, the Property and Casualty Insurance segment was comprised of U.S. property and casualty insurance business written on an excess and surplus lines basis, U.K. commercial property and liability insurance and international property facultative business. With the appointment of Nathan Warde, as head of U.S. Insurance, and Matthew Yeldham, as head of International Insurance, we have now redesignated U.S. property and casualty insurance business as a separate segment, now called U.S. Insurance. The U.K. commercial property and casualty insurance business now forms part of our International Insurance segment which also consists of marine, energy, liability and aviation insurance, professional liability insurance, non-marine and transportation lines of business, global excess casualty, political risk and financial institutions insurance as well as specialty reinsurance. We have also re-allocated our international property facultative business to the Property Reinsurance segment, which was previously part of our Property and Casualty insurance segment.

Property Reinsurance. Our Property Reinsurance segment is written on both a treaty and facultative basis and consists of the following principal lines of business: treaty catastrophe, treaty risk excess, treaty pro rata, property facultative. Treaty reinsurance contracts provide for automatic coverage of a type or category of risk underwritten by our ceding clients. We also write

Table of Contents

some structured reinsurance contracts out of Aspen Bermuda. These contracts are tailored to the individual client circumstances and although written by a single team are accounted for within the business segment that best reflects the economic characteristics of the contract.

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

International Insurance. Our International Insurance segment consists of the following lines of business: U.K. commercial property, U.K. commercial liability, excess casualty, professional liability, marine hull, energy and liability, non-marine and transportation, aviation insurance, financial institutions and political risk insurance and specialty reinsurance written by Aspen U.K. Specialty reinsurance consists of marine and aviation reinsurance as well as terrorism, nuclear, personal accident, crop and satellite. Our international insurance lines are written on a primary, quota share and facultative basis and our specialty reinsurance is written on both a treaty pro rata and excess of loss basis.

U.S. Insurance. Our U.S. Insurance segment consists of property and casualty insurance written on an excess and surplus lines basis.

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

Table of Contents

The following tables provide a summary of gross and net written and earned premiums, underwriting results, ratios and reserves for each of our business segments for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007:

Three months ended March 31, 2008 Property

Reinsurance Casualty

Reinsurance International

Insurance U.S.

Insurance Investing Total	(\$ in millions, except percentages)										Gross written premiums	\$184.2	\$182.1	\$199.3									
\$30.6	\$—	\$596.2	Net written premiums	175.4	180.0	142.0	22.2	—	519.6	Gross earned premiums	140.3												
95.7	165.3	26.0	—	427.3	Net earned premiums	127.0	94.7	150.2	19.7	—	391.6	Losses and loss expenses											
38.0	61.5	97.7	10.0	—	207.2	Policy acquisition expenses	25.9	17.7	28.0	4.8	—	76.4	Operating and administrative expenses										
16.6	10.7	17.9	5.6	—	50.8	Underwriting profit/(loss)	46.5	4.8	6.6	(0.7)	—	57.2											
Net investment income	—										39.1	39.1	Realized investment gains	—		1.0	1.0	Segment profit/(loss)					
\$46.5	\$4.8	\$6.6	\$(0.7)	\$40.1	\$97.3	Change in fair value of derivatives											(2.2)	Interest on long term debt					
										(3.9)	Realized exchange gains											4.3	Net income before tax
\$95.5	Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses	\$424.7	\$1,302.5	\$883.9	\$63.2	\$2,674.3	Ratios																
Loss ratio	29.9%	64.9%	65.0%	50.8%	52.9%	Policy acquisition expense ratio	20.4%																
18.7%	18.6%	24.3%	19.5%	Operating and administration expense ratio	13.1%	11.3%	11.9%	28.6%															
13.0%	Expense ratio	33.5%	30.0%	30.5%	52.9%	32.5%	Combined ratio	63.4%	94.9%	95.5%													
103.7%	85.4%																						

13

Other investments. Other investments represent the Company's investments in funds of hedge funds which are recorded using the equity method of accounting. Adjustments to the carrying value of these investments are made based on the net asset values reported by the fund managers, which results in a carrying value that approximates fair value. Unrealized losses of \$16.9 million (2007 — gains of \$9.9 million) have been recognized through the statement of operations in the three months ended March 31, 2008. The Company's involvement with the funds is limited to the making and holding of these investments and it is not committed to making further investments in the funds; accordingly, the carrying value of the investments represents the Company's maximum exposure to loss as a result of its involvement with the funds at each balance sheet date.

The value of our investments in funds of hedge funds are based upon monthly net asset values reported by the underlying funds to our fund of hedge fund managers. The financial statements of our funds of hedge funds are subject to annual audits evaluating the net asset positions of the

Table of Contents

underlying investments. We periodically review the performance of our funds of hedge funds and evaluate the reasonableness of the valuations.

As we account for these investments using the equity method of accounting, they have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy under FAS 157.

Other investments as at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007 are as follows:

March 31, 2008	December 31, 2007	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value	(\$ in millions)	Investment funds
\$510.0	\$544.5	\$510.0	\$561.4				

Gross unrealized loss. The following tables summarize as at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, by type of security the aggregate fair value and gross unrealized loss by length of time the security has been in an unrealized loss position.

As at March 31, 2008	0-12 months	Over 12 months	Total	Fair
value	Gross			
Unrealized				
loss	Fair			
value	Gross			
Unrealized				
loss	Fair			
value	Gross			
Unrealized				
loss	(\$ in millions)			
U.S. Government Securities	\$26.9	\$(0.1)	\$—	—\$26.9
U.S. Agency Securities	3.8	—	3.8	—
Corporate Securities	256.6	(7.7)	193.3	(5.7)
Foreign Government	27.3	—	27.3	—
Asset-backed Securities	49.8	(0.4)	77.1	(0.4)
Mortgage-backed Securities	216.2	(3.0)	119.9	(2.8)
Total	336.1	(5.8)	\$535.6	\$(10.8)
			\$370.4	\$(9.1)
			\$906.0	\$(19.9)

As at December 31, 2007	0-12 months	Over 12 months	Total	Fair
value	Gross			
Unrealized				
loss	Fair			
value	Gross			
Unrealized				
loss	Fair			
value	Gross			
Unrealized				
loss	(\$ in millions)			
U.S. Government Securities	\$26.9	\$(0.1)	\$11.4	—\$38.3
U.S. Agency Securities	—	—5.9	—5.9	—
Corporate Securities	221.0	(3.0)	393.5	(6.2)
Foreign Government	13.7	—	13.7	—
Asset-backed Securities	(0.1)	139.8	(1.7)	153.5
Mortgage-backed		(1.8)	153.5	(1.8)
Total	4.6	—25.4	—20.8	(0.5)
			30.0	(0.5)

Edgar Filing: ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD - Form 10-Q

Securities 106.9 (0.6) 185.3 (3.1) 292.2 (3.7) Total \$373.1 \$(3.8) \$761.3 \$(11.5) \$1,134.4 \$(15.3)
Other-than-temporary impairments. As at March 31, 2008, the Company held 426 fixed income securities in an unrealized loss position with a fair value of \$906.0 million and gross unrealized losses of \$19.9 million. The Company believes that the gross unrealized losses are the result of widening credit spreads, in addition to interest rate movements and intends to hold such investments until the carrying value is recovered. The unrealized losses are not a result of structural, credit or collateral issues. The Company did not record any other-than-temporary impairments in 2007.

Classification within the fair value hierarchy under FAS 157. During the first quarter of 2008, the Company adopted FAS 157.

All of the fixed income securities are traded on the over the counter market, based on prices provided by one or more market makers in each security. Securities such as U.S. Government,

Table of Contents

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

The Company considers prices for actively traded treasury securities to be derived based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets (Level 1 inputs as defined in FAS 157). The Company considers prices for other securities priced via vendors, indices, or broker-dealers to be derived based on inputs that are observable for the asset, either directly or indirectly (Level 2 inputs as defined in FAS 157). The Company considers securities and other financial instruments subject to fair value measurement whose valuation is derived by internal valuation models to be based largely on unobservable inputs (Level 3 inputs as defined in FAS 157). There have been no changes in the Company's use of valuation techniques since its adoption of FAS 157. The Company's assets subject to FAS 157 are allocated between Levels 1, 2 and 3 as follows:

					March
31, 2008	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	(\$ in millions)	Fixed income maturities available for sale, at fair value
\$1,139.6	\$3,332.6	\$—	Short-term investments available for sale, at fair value	46.5	262.8
	—	15.4	Total	\$1,186.1	\$3,595.4
					\$15.4

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for all assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using Level 3 inputs during the three months ended March 31, 2008.

					Three
Months					
Ended March 31,	2008	(\$ in millions)	Beginning Balance	\$17.3	Total unrealized gains or (losses):
Included in earnings	(1.9)	Ending Balance	\$15.4		

The Company's liability subject to FAS 157 is allocated between Levels 1, 2 and 3 as follows:

						March
31, 2008	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	(\$ in millions)	Liabilities under derivatives contracts	—\$17.3
\$—	\$17.3				Total	\$—

Table of Contents

The following table presents a reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances for the liability measured at fair value on a recurring basis using Level 3 inputs during the three months ended March 31, 2008.

Months	Three
Ended March 31, 2008 (\$ in millions)	
Beginning Balance	\$19.0
Total realized losses	Included in earnings
Settlements	0.3
Ending Balance	(2.0) \$17.3

Net investment income for the quarter has been impacted by a negative accounting adjustment of \$7.8 million relating to interest on cash advances on client monies held at December 31, 2007.

7. Reinsurance

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

Ajax Re. On April 25, 2007, we entered into a reinsurance agreement that provides us with coverage incepting on August 18, 2007. Under the reinsurance agreement, Ajax Re Limited (“Ajax Re”) will provide us with \$100 million of aggregate indemnity protection for certain losses from individual earthquakes in California occurring between August 18, 2007 and May 1, 2009. The reinsurance agreement is fully collateralized by proceeds received by Ajax Re from the issuance of catastrophe bonds. The amount of the recovery is limited to the lesser of our losses and the proportional amount of \$100 million based on the PCS reported losses and the attachment level of \$23.1 billion and the exhaustion level of \$25.9 billion. The \$100 million of aggregate indemnity protection is exhausted when the reported industry insured losses by PCS reach \$25.9 billion.

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

The Company considers that under “Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities,” as amended (“SFAS 133”) this contract is a financial guarantee insurance contract that does not qualify for exemption from treatment for accounting purposes as a derivative. This is because it provides for the final settlement, expected to take place two years after expiry of cover, to include an amount attributable to outstanding and IBNR claims which may not at that point in time be due and payable to the Company.

As a result of the application of derivative accounting rules under SFAS 133, the contract is treated as an asset and measured at the directors’ estimate of its fair value. Changes in the estimated fair value from time to time will be included in the consolidated statement of operations.

The contract is for a maximum of five years and provides 90% cover for a named panel of reinsurers up to individual defined sub-limits. The contract does allow, subject to certain conditions, for substitution and replacement of panel members if the Company’s panel of reinsurers changes. Payments are made on a quarterly basis throughout the period

of the contract based on the aggregate limit, which was set initially at \$477 million but is subject to adjustment.

18

Table of Contents

The impact of this contract on net income in the three months ended March 31, 2008 is a change in the fair value of \$2.2 million (2007 — \$2.3 million) and includes an interest expense charge of \$0.3 million (2007 — \$0.4 million).

Catastrophe Swap. On August 17, 2004, Aspen Bermuda entered into a risk transfer swap (“cat swap”) with a non-insurance counterparty. The cat swap is for a 3-year term during which Aspen Bermuda has and will make quarterly payments on an initial notional amount (\$100 million). In return Aspen Bermuda will receive payments of up to \$100 million in total if there are hurricanes making landfall in Florida and causing damage in excess of \$39 billion or earthquakes in California causing insured damage in excess of \$23 billion. The Company has recovered \$26.3 million under this agreement. We decided not to extend the development period under the cat swap and we will not be making any further recoveries or payments under this agreement.

This cat swap falls within the scope of SFAS 133 “Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities”, as amended (“SFAS 133”) and is therefore measured in the balance sheet at fair value with any changes in the fair value shown on the consolidated statement of operations.

The contract expired on August 20, 2007 and has no impact on net income in the three months ended March 31, 2008. The impact of this contract on group net income in the three months ended March 31, 2007 was a net charge of \$5.4 million.

8. Reserves

for Losses and Adjustment Expenses

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

	As at	
March 31,		
2008	As at	
December 31,		
2007		
(\$ in millions)		
Provision for losses and LAE at start of year	\$2,946.0	\$2,820.0
Less reinsurance recoverable	(304.7)	(468.3)
Net loss and LAE at start of year	2,641.3	2,351.7
Loss reserve portfolio transfer	(4.4)	11.0
Provision for losses and LAE for claims incurred:		
Current year	246.7	1,027.2
Prior years	(39.5)	(107.4)
Total incurred	207.2	919.8
Losses and LAE payments for claims incurred:		
Current year	(2.0)	(110.5)
Prior years	(176.4)	(585.1)
Total paid	(178.4)	(695.6)
Foreign exchange (gains)/losses	8.6	54.4
Net losses and LAE reserves at period end	2,674.3	2,641.3
Plus reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses at period end	276.0	304.7
Loss and LAE reserves at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007	\$2,950.3	\$2,946.0

For the three months ended March 31, 2008, there was a reduction of \$39.5 million compared to \$26.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 in our estimate of the ultimate claims to be paid in respect of prior accident years.

The loss reserve portfolio transfers in 2008 and 2007 both represent loss reserves assumed from a Lloyd’s syndicate through a quota share arrangement relating to the portion of liabilities accounted for by the syndicate prior to 2006.

grants were measured and recognized according to the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 "Accounting For Stock Based Compensation." Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 123

20

Table of Contents

(revised 2004) “Share Based Payments” which requires all entities to apply a fair-value based measurement method and an estimate of future forfeitures in the calculation of the compensation costs of stock options and restricted share units.

(a) Investor Options

The investor options were issued on June 21, 2002 in consideration for: the transfer of an underwriting team from Wellington Underwriting plc (“Wellington”); the right to seek to renew certain business written by Syndicate 2020; an agreement in which Wellington agreed not to compete with Aspen U.K. through March 31, 2004; the use of the Wellington name and logo and the provision of certain outsourced services to the Company, the Company conferred the option to subscribe for up to 6,787,880 ordinary shares of Aspen Holdings to Wellington and members of Syndicate 2020 who were not corporate members of Wellington. The options conferred to the members of Syndicate 2020 are held for their benefit by Appleby Services (Bermuda) Ltd. (formerly Appleby Trust (Bermuda) Limited) (“Names’ Trustee”). The options held by Wellington were transferred to one of its affiliates in December 2005, Wellington Investment Holdings (Jersey) Limited (“Wellington Investment”). The subscription price payable under the options is initially £10 and increases by 5% per annum, less any dividends paid. Option holders are not entitled to participate in any dividends prior to exercise and would not rank as a creditor in the event of liquidation. If not exercised, the options will expire after a period of ten years.

Wellington Investment exercised all of its options on a cashless basis on March 28, 2007 at an exercise price of \$22.52 per share. This resulted in the issue of 426,083 ordinary shares by the Company.

In connection with our initial public offering, the Names’ Trustee exercised 440,144 Names’ Options on both a cash and cashless basis, pursuant to which 152,583 ordinary shares were issued. At December 31, 2007, the Names’ Trustee held 1,306,163 Names’ Options. During the three months ended March 31, 2008, the Names’ Trustee exercised 12,059 Names’ Options on a cashless basis resulting in the issue of 2,100 ordinary shares.

The following table summarizes information about investor options to purchase ordinary shares outstanding at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007:

	At March 31, 2008	At December 31, 2007	Exercise Price	Expiration	Options	Options	Option Holder	Outstanding	Exercisable	Outstanding	Exercisable
Wellington Investment	—	—	—	—	—	—	Names’ Trustee (Appleby Trust (Bermuda) Limited)	1,294,104	1,294,104	1,294,104	1,306,163
	1,294,104	1,306,163	1,306,163	\$ 23.50 (1)	June 21, 2012	Total		1,294,104	1,294,104	1,306,163	1,306,163

(1) Exercise price at March 17, 2008 being the most recent exercise date. Exercise price at any date is the amount in U.S.\$ converted at an average exchange rate over a five-day period prior to the exercise date from an underlying price of £10 per share increased by 5% per annum from June 21, 2002 to date of exercise, less the amount of any prior dividend or distribution per share.

(b) Employee equity incentives

Employee options and other awards are granted under the Aspen 2003 Share Incentive Plan, as amended (the “Share Incentive Plan”).

Table of Contents

Options. The following table summarizes information about employee options outstanding to purchase ordinary shares at March 31, 2008.

Options	Weighted	Average Fair	Value at	Grant Date	Remaining	contractual	time	Option Holder	Outstanding	Exercisable	Exercise Price	2003 Option grants	2,823,062	2,480,525	\$16.20			
\$5.31	5 yrs 5 mths	2004 Option grants	158,254	158,254	\$24.44	\$5.74	6 yrs 9 mths	2006 Option grants	February 16	729,190	—\$23.65	\$6.99	7 yrs 11 mths	2006 Option grants	August 4	142,158	—\$23.19	\$4.41
8 yrs 5 mths	2007 Option grants	May 4	588,639	—\$27.28	\$6.13	6 yrs 1 mth	2007 Option grants	October 22	15,198	—\$27.52	\$5.76	6 yrs 6 mths						

With respect to the 2003 options, 65% of the options are subject to time-based vesting with 20% vesting upon grant and 20% vesting on each December 31 of the calendar years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006. The remaining 35% of the initial grant options are subject to performance-based vesting and if performance targets are not met they cliff vest on December 31, 2009. When options are exercised, new shares are issued as the Company does not hold treasury shares.

The 2004 options vest over a three-year period with vesting subject to the achievement of Company performance targets. The options lapse if the criteria are not met. As at December 31, 2004 not all performance targets were met and 242,626 options were cancelled.

The 525,881 employee options granted in 2005 were cancelled because the applicable performance targets were not met.

The 2006 options vest at the end of a three-year period with vesting subject to the achievement of one-year and three-year performance targets. The options lapse if the criteria are not met. As at December 31, 2007, the performance targets for one-third of the options were met.

The 2007 option grants are not subject to performance conditions and will vest at the end of the three-year period from the date of grant. The options will be exercisable for a period of seven years from the date of grant.

The table below shows the number of options exercised and forfeited by each type of option grant as at March 31, 2008:

Option Holder	Exercised	Forfeited	2003 Option grants	701,455	359,513	2004 Option grants	77,342	264,517	Options
2005 Option grants	—525,881	2006 Option grants	—343,300	2007 Option grants	—19,002				

The intrinsic value of options exercised in the three months ended March 31, 2008 was \$Nil (2007 — \$Nil).

Edgar Filing: ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD - Form 10-Q

Outstanding 2004 Grants 95,850 95,850 — 2005 Grants 48,913 47,793 1,120 — 2006 Grants 184,356
103,852 —80,504 2007 Grants 120,387 3,180 —117,207 2008 Grants 23,895 —23,895

Restricted share units vest over a three-year period, with one-third of the grant vesting each year, subject to the participants' continued employment. Some of the grants vest at year-end, while some other grants vest on the anniversary of the date of grant over a three-year period. Holders of restricted share units will be paid one ordinary share for each unit that vests as soon as practicable following the vesting date. Holders of restricted share units generally will not be entitled to any rights of a holder of ordinary shares, including the right to vote, unless and until their units vest and ordinary shares are issued but they are entitled to receive dividend equivalents. Dividend equivalents will be denominated in cash and paid in cash if and when the underlying units vest.

The fair value of the restricted share units is based on the closing price on the date of the grant. The fair value is expensed through the income statement evenly over the vesting period.

Table of Contents

Compensation cost charged against income was \$0.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 (2007 — \$0.7 million).

Performance Shares. The following table summarizes information about performance shares by year of grant as at March 31, 2008.

As

at March 31, 2008

Performance Share Awards	Performance Share Holder	Amount							
Granted	Amount								
Earned	Amount								
Forfeited	Amount								
Outstanding 2004 Grants	150,074	25,187	124,887	—	2005 Grants	131,227	—	131,227	—
2006 Grants	317,954	105,985	89,970	121,999	2007 Grants	439,203	103,366	14,258	321,579

Performance share awards are not entitled to dividends before they vest. Performance shares that vest will only be issued following the approval of the board of directors of the final performance target in the three-year period, and subject to the participant's continued employment.

The fair value of the performance share awards is based on the value of the average of the high and the low of the share price on the date of the grant less a deduction for expected dividends which would not accrue during the vesting period.

One-third of the 2004, 2005 and 2006 performance shares vest based on the achievement of one-year performance targets in the year of grant, and two-thirds vest based on the achievement of an average performance target over a three-year period.

Of the 150,074 performance share awards granted in 2004, as at December 31, 2004, all targets had not been met with respect to the one-third portion of the grant and therefore 24,267 share grants were cancelled. The remaining two-thirds of the 2004 grant have also been cancelled as performance targets were not met.

With respect to the performance share awards granted in 2005, of the 131,227 performance shares, all targets had not been met and therefore all shares were cancelled.

With respect to the performance share awards granted in 2006, one-third of the grant was fully earned as the performance targets for the one-third portion of the grant were fully met but will not be issuable until the Return on Equity ("ROE") for 2008 has been approved by the Board of Directors.

The 2007 performance shares are subject to a four-year vesting period. Twenty-five percent of the grant will be eligible for vesting each year based on the following formula, and will only be issuable at the end of the four-year period. If the ROE achieved in any given year is less than 10%, then the portion of the performance shares subject to the vesting conditions in such year will be forfeited (i.e. 25% of the initial grant). If the ROE achieved in any given year is between 10% and 15%, then the percentage of the performance shares eligible for vesting in such year will be between 10% and 100% on a straight-line basis. If the ROE achieved in any given year is between 15% and 25%, then the percentage of the performance shares eligible for vesting in such year will be between 100% and 200% on a straight-line basis.

On April 29, 2008, the Compensation Committee approved the grant of 591,749 performance shares with a grant date of May 2, 2008. The performance shares will be subject to a three-year vesting period with a separate annual ROE target for each year. One-third of the grant will be eligible for vesting each year based on the following formula, and will only be issuable at the end of the three-year period. If the ROE achieved in any given year is less than 10%, then the portion of the performance shares subject to the vesting conditions in such year will be forfeited (i.e. 33.33% of the initial grant). If the ROE achieved in any given year is between 10% and 15%, then the percentage of the performance shares eligible for vesting in such year will be between 10% and 100% on a straight-line basis. If the ROE achieved in any given year is between 15% and 25%, then the percentage of the performance shares eligible for vesting in such year will be

24

Table of Contents

between 100% and 200% on a straight-line basis. Notwithstanding the vesting criteria for each given year, if in any given year, the shares eligible for vesting are greater than 100% for the portion of such year's grant (i.e. the ROE was greater than 15% in such year) and the average ROE over such year and the preceding year is less than 10%, then only 100% (and no more) of the shares that are eligible for vesting in such year shall vest. If the average ROE over the two years is greater than 10%, then there will be no diminution in vesting and the shares eligible for vesting in such year will vest in accordance with the vesting schedule without regard to the average ROE over the two-year period.

Compensation cost charged against income in respect of performance shares was \$2.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 (2007 — \$0.5 million).

A summary of performance share activity under the Company's Share Incentive Plan for the three months ended March 31, 2008 is presented below:

Months Ended	Three
March 31, 2008 Performance Share Activity	Number of
Shares	Weighted Average
Grant date	
Fair Value Outstanding performance share awards, beginning of period	617,801 \$24.38 Earned (103,366)
\$24.50 Forfeited (70,857) \$22.38 Outstanding performance share awards, end of period	443,578 \$23.77
(c) Non-employee equity incentives	

Non-employee director options are granted under the Aspen 2006 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors (the "Director Stock Option Plan"). On May 2, 2007 the shareholders approved the amendment to the Director Stock Option Plan to allow the issuance of restricted share units and to rename the Plan the "2006 Stock Incentive Plan for Non-Employee Directors."

Options. The following table summarizes information about non-employee director options outstanding to purchase ordinary shares at March 31, 2008.

Options	Option Holder	Outstanding	Exercisable	Exercise
Price	Fair Value at	Grant Date	Remaining	
Contractual Time Non-Employee Directors — 2006 Option grants (May 25)	17,740	—\$21.96	\$4.24	8 yrs 2 months
Non-Employee Directors — 2007 Option grants (July 30)	4,024	—\$24.76	\$4.97	9 yrs 4 months

The options issued in 2006 and 2007 vest at the end of a three-year period from the date of grant subject to continued service as a director. Vested options are exercisable for a period of ten years from the date of grant.

Table of Contents

The amounts for the 2006 and 2007 non-employee director options granted were estimated on the date of the grant using a modified Black-Scholes option pricing model under the following assumptions:

									Grant date
July 30, 2007	May 25, 2006	Per share weighted average fair value	\$4.97	\$4.24	Risk-free interest rate	4.64%			
4.85%	Dividend yield	2.4%	2.7%	Expected life	5 years	5 years	Share price volatility	19.55%	20.05%

Restricted Share Units. The following table summarizes information about restricted share units issued to non-employee directors as at March 31, 2008:

									As at
March 31, 2008									
Restricted Share Units	Amount								
Granted	Amount								
Vested	Amount								
Forfeited	Amount								

Outstanding Non-Employee Directors — 2007 15,915 10,702 3,075 2,138 Chairman 7,380 —7,380

Subject to the director remaining on the Board of Directors, one-twelfth of the restricted share units will vest on each one month anniversary of the date of grant, with 100% of the restricted share units becoming vested and issued on the first anniversary of the grant date. Restricted share units entitle the holder to receive one ordinary share unit for each unit that vests. Holders of restricted share units are not entitled to any rights of a holder of ordinary shares, including the right to vote, unless and until their units vest and ordinary shares are issued but they are entitled to receive dividend equivalents with respect to their units. Dividend equivalents will be denominated in cash and paid in cash if and when the underlying units vest.

In respect of the restricted share units granted to the Chairman, one-third of the grants vests on the anniversary date of grant over a three-year period.

The fair value of the restricted share units is based on the closing price on the date of the grant.

Compensation cost charged against income was \$0.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 (2007 — \$Nil).

Table of Contents

(b) Operating leases

Amounts outstanding under operating leases as of March 31, 2008 were:

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Later						
years	Total	(\$ in millions) Operating Lease Obligations									
		6.2	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.4	40.5	77.3			

(c) Variable interest entities

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

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

The Company has determined that Ajax Re has the characteristics of a variable interest entity that are addressed by FASB Interpretation No. 46R "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" ("FIN 46R"). In accordance with FIN 46R, Ajax Re is not consolidated because the majority of the expected losses and expected residual returns will not be absorbed by the Company but rather by the bond holders of Ajax Re.

Table of Contents

Item 2.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF
FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following is a discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007. This discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes contained in this Form 10-Q and the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, as well as the discussions of critical accounting policies, contained in our Financial Statements in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Some of the information contained in this discussion and analysis or set forth elsewhere in this Form 10-Q, including information with respect to our plans and strategy for our business and in "Outlook and Trends" below, includes forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties. Please see the section captioned "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" in this report and the "Risk Factors" in Item 1A, of our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K for more information on factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results described in or implied by any forward-looking statements contained in this discussion and analysis.

Overview

We are a Bermudian holding company. We provide property and casualty reinsurance in the global market through Aspen U.K. and Aspen Bermuda. We provide property and liability insurance principally in the United Kingdom and in the United States through Aspen U.K. and Aspen Specialty and we provide marine, liability, hull, energy, non-marine transport, aviation, professional liability, political risk, excess casualty, and financial institutions insurance and specialty reinsurance worldwide principally through Aspen U.K. See also "Recent Developments" below for a discussion of our Lloyd's syndicate.

The most significant features of our results were:

- Tangible book value per ordinary share at March 31, 2008 was \$29.22, an increase of 23.7% compared to \$23.62 at March 31, 2007 (1);
- The combined ratio for the first quarter of 2008 was 85.4% compared to 79.4% for the same quarter in 2007;
- Net earned premium for the quarter decreased by 10.8% to \$391.6 million compared to the same period in 2007;
- Net income after tax of \$81.2 million for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 reduced by 33.4% compared to \$121.9 million for the comparative quarter in 2007;
- Net investment income in the first quarter of 2008 decreased by 42.1% to \$39.1 million compared to the first quarter of 2007; and
- Diluted earnings per ordinary share after payment of preference share dividends of \$0.85 for the quarter ended March 31, 2008 reduced by 33.1% over the comparative quarter in 2007.

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

at March 31, 2008 and March 31, 2007 were:

29

Table of Contents

As at

March 31, 2008 As at
 March 31, 2007 (\$ in millions, except for share amounts) Total shareholders' equity \$2,922.7 \$2,509.3
 Intangible assets (8.2) (8.2) Preference shares less issue expenses (419.2) (419.2) \$2,495.3 \$2,081.9
 Ordinary shares 85,395,154 88,133,866 Diluted ordinary shares 87,606,822 90,797,595

The following overview of our results for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 and of our financial condition at March 31, 2008 is intended to identify important trends and should be read in conjunction with the more detailed discussion further below.

Gross written premiums. Total gross written premiums decreased by 6.3% in the first quarter of 2008 compared to 2007. The table below shows our gross written premiums for each segment for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each segment.

Business Segment For the three months ended

March 31, 2008 For the
 three months
 ended

March 31, 2007	(\$ in millions)	% increase		
/(decrease)	(\$ in millions)			
(18.4)	223.3		Property reinsurance \$184.2 (4.1)%	Casualty reinsurance 182.1
(6.3)%	\$636.5		International insurance 199.3 7.5	U.S. insurance 30.6 (14.3) 35.7 Total \$596.2

We wrote less business in the first quarter than in the corresponding period of 2007 as a result of a number of factors including: a less favorable pricing environment in some lines of business, in particular U.S. casualty treaty reinsurance, property treaty pro rata and U.S. excess and surplus lines insurance; and changes in renewal dates for certain U.S. casualty and energy risks. These reductions were partially offset by a \$24.0 million contribution from our new insurance lines of business principally, professional liability, non-marine transportation and political risk insurance.

Reinsurance. Total reinsurance ceded in the three months ended March 31, 2008 of \$76.6 million was \$4.8 million less than in the corresponding period in 2007. The overall decrease is due to reductions in spend from the property reinsurance, casualty reinsurance and U.S. insurance lines offset by increases for international insurance associated with the new lines of business in this segment. The reduction in ceded premium for property reinsurance is due to the purchase in 2007 of property cover for two wind seasons at favorable prices; the reduction for casualty reinsurance is due to the non-renewal of certain U.S. casualty protections; and U.S. insurance ceded costs have reduced due to lower gross written premium volumes.

Table of Contents

Loss ratio. We monitor the ratio of losses and loss adjustment expenses to net earned premium (the “loss ratio”) as a measure of relative underwriting performance where a lower ratio represents a better result than a higher ratio. The loss ratios for our four business segments for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 were as follows:

Segment	Business
For the three months ended March 31, 2008	For the three months ended March 31, 2007
Property reinsurance 29.9%	41.8%
Casualty reinsurance 64.9%	57.2%
International insurance 65.0%	55.4%
U.S. insurance 50.8%	59.6%
Total Loss Ratio 52.9%	51.4%

The combination of limited catastrophic event related losses during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 and reserve releases compared to reserve strengthening in the comparative period has produced a lower loss ratio in property reinsurance for the quarter. Casualty reinsurance has experienced worsening loss ratios due to rate pressures and a \$7.7 million reduction in prior year reserve releases compared to the first quarter of 2007. The international insurance segment has been impacted by a \$6.4 million satellite loss in the quarter and a \$5.8 million reduction in prior period reserve releases. Within the U.S. insurance segment, U.S. property insurance has benefited from improved loss experience and both the U.S. property and casualty insurance lines have benefited from prior year releases.

Reserve releases. The loss ratios take into account changes in our assessments of reserves for unpaid claims and loss adjustment expenses arising from earlier years. In each of the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, we recorded a reduction in the level of reserves for prior years. The amounts of these reductions and their effect on the loss ratio in each period are shown in the following table:

the three months ended March 31, 2008	For the three months ended March 31, 2007
Reserve releases (\$ in millions) \$39.5	\$26.3
% of net premiums earned 10.1%	6.0%

The increase in reserve releases compared to the first quarter of 2007 is due to a combination of a \$13.6 million reserve release for property reinsurance compared to a \$7.8 million reserve strengthening in 2007, accompanied by a \$4.7 million release in 2008 for U.S. insurance compared to a \$0.6 million strengthening in 2007. International insurance has experienced a \$5.8 million reduction in reserve releases in the period due primarily to strengthening of reserves associated with prior year losses. Casualty reinsurance reserve releases have reduced from \$22.0 million in the first quarter of 2007 to \$14.3 million in the first quarter of 2008 due primarily to a reduction in releases from the U.S. casualty business line.

Further information relating to the movement of prior year reserves can be found below under “Reserves for Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses.”

Expense ratio. We monitor the ratio of expenses to net earned premium (the “expense ratio”) as a measure of the cost effectiveness of our policy acquisition, operating and administrative processes. The table below presents the contribution of the policy acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses to the expense ratio and the total expense ratios for each of the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007:

For

the three months

ended March 31, 2008 For the three months

ended March 31, 2007 Policy acquisition expenses 19.5% 17.7% Operating and administrative expenses 13.0%

10.3% Expense ratio 32.5% 28.0%

31

Table of Contents

The overall increase in the policy acquisition ratio is driven by the recognition of \$7.5 million in profit commissions and no claims bonuses (March 31, 2007 — \$3.0 million). The most significant variances were in the U.S. casualty reinsurance business line and our U.S. insurance segment due to favorable loss experience in the first quarter of 2008.

Between the two periods we have experienced a \$5.5 million increase in our operating and administrative expenses. The increase is attributed mainly to our investment in new underwriting teams of \$2.8 million with the balance related to annual salary award increases and strengthening of our IT and risk management.

Net investment income. In the first quarter of 2008, we generated net investment income of \$39.1 million (2007 — \$67.5 million). The reduction in income was due primarily to the losses from our investment in funds of hedge funds, partially offset by increased yields on our fixed interest portfolio. Net investment income for the quarter also included a one-off negative accounting adjustment of \$7.8 million relating to interest on cash advances on client monies held at December 31, 2007.

Change in fair value of derivatives. In the three months ended March 31, 2008 we recorded a reduction of \$2.2 million (2007 — \$2.3 million) in the estimated fair value of our credit insurance contract including an interest expense charge of \$0.3 million (2007 — \$0.4 million). We also recorded a reduction of \$5.4 million in the estimated fair value of our catastrophe swap in the three months ended March 31, 2007. The contract expired in August 2007 and has no impact on net income for the three months ended March 31, 2008. Further information on these contracts can be found in Note 7 to the financial statements.

Other revenues and expenses. Other revenues and expenses in the three months ended March 31, 2008 included \$4.3 million of foreign currency exchange gains (2007 — \$5.5 million gain) and \$1.0 million of realized investment gains (2007 — \$4.8 million loss). The foreign currency exchange gains in the period is primarily due to the increase in value of our Euro denominated assets when converted into U.S. Dollars as the U.S. Dollar has weakened against the Euro in the period. The investment losses in 2007 were the result of transactions to re-position components of our fixed interest portfolio and to increase investment income. Interest expense was \$3.9 million in the three months ended March 31, 2008 (2007 — \$3.9 million).

Taxes. The estimated effective rate of tax for the period is 15.0% (2007 — 17.2%). This is subject to revision in future periods if circumstances change and in particular, depending on the relative claims experience of those parts of business conducted in Bermuda where the rate of tax on corporate profits is zero and where the U.K. corporate tax rate is 28%.

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

Dividends paid on our preference shares in the three months ended March 31, 2008 were \$6.9 million (2007 — \$6.9 million).

Shareholders' equity and financial leverage. Total shareholders' equity increased by \$105.1 million to \$2,922.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008. The most significant movements were:

- retained income after tax for the period of \$61.4 million;
 - unrealized gains on investments of \$34.9 million (net of tax).
- net
 - increase in
 - increase in

unrealized gains in foreign currency translation accounted for as Other Comprehensive Income of \$5.4 million; and

As at March 31, 2008 total ordinary shareholders' equity was \$2,503.5 million compared to \$2,398.4 million at December 31, 2007. The remainder of our total shareholders' equity, as at March 31, 2008, was funded by two classes of preference shares with a total value as measured by their respective liquidation preferences of \$419.2 million net of share issuance costs (December 31, 2007 — \$419.2 million).

The amounts outstanding under our senior notes, less amortization of expenses, of \$249.5 million were the only material debt that we had outstanding as of March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007.

Table of Contents

Management monitors the ratio of debt to total capital, with total capital being defined as shareholders' equity plus outstanding debt. At March 31, 2008, this ratio was 7.9% (December 31, 2007 — 8.1%).

Our preference shares are classified in our balance sheet as equity but may receive a different treatment in some cases under the capital adequacy assessments made by certain rating agencies. Such securities are often referred to as 'hybrids' as they have certain attributes of both debt and equity. We also monitor the ratio of the total of debt and hybrids to total capital which was 21.1% as of March 31, 2008 (December 31, 2007 — 21.8%).

Capital Management. On March 20, 2008, 139,555 shares were acquired and cancelled in completion of the accelerated share purchase contract we entered into on November 9, 2007, with Goldman Sachs for the purchase of ordinary shares to the fixed value of \$50 million. Under this arrangement we acquired and cancelled a total of 1,770,693 ordinary shares. The share repurchase of \$50 million was funded from available cash on hand.

The share repurchase transaction completed the \$300 million share repurchase program authorized by the Company's Board of Directors as announced on November 8, 2006.

On February 6, 2008, our Board authorized a new share repurchase program for up to \$300 million of our ordinary shares. The authorization covers the period to March 1, 2010.

Liquidity. Management monitors the liquidity of Aspen Holdings and of each of its Insurance Subsidiaries. With respect to Aspen Holdings, management monitors its ability to service debt, to finance dividend payments and to provide financial support to the Insurance Subsidiaries. As at March 31, 2008, Aspen Holdings held \$9.1 million in cash and cash equivalents which, taken together with dividends declared or expected to be declared by subsidiary companies and our credit facilities, management considered sufficient to provide Aspen Holdings liquidity at such time.

At March 31, 2008, our subsidiaries held \$686.6 million in cash and cash equivalents that are readily realizable securities. Management monitors the value, currency and duration of the cash and investments within its Insurance Subsidiaries to ensure that they are able to meet their insurance and other liabilities as they become due and was satisfied that there was a comfortable margin of liquidity as at March 31, 2008 and for the foreseeable future.

As of March 31, 2008, we had in issue \$419.0 million and £46.3 million in letters of credit to cedants, for which \$444.9 million and £49.5 million were held as collateral for the secured letters of credit. Our reinsurance receivables decreased by 9.4% from \$304.7 million at December 31, 2007 to \$276.0 million at March 31, 2008, mainly as a result of further amounts received from our reinsurers in respect of 2005 hurricane claims.

Outlook and Trends

The following is a summary of our observations on current market rates, trends and conditions.

Overall. In summary, overall rates are continuing to trend downwards but there are significant variations by line of business. Therefore, we have written less new business and accepted reduced retention rates on renewals in order to preserve underwriting margins and return on capital.

Property Reinsurance. In this segment, rates are down overall, particularly in the risk excess lines of business. Rates in the catastrophe and pro rata lines of business are also down approximately 5%. In risk excess, terms and conditions are weakening more quickly than in other areas of our book making risk selection even more crucial. Prices for the

larger industrial type risks are often inadequate, particularly given weak original terms and conditions. Despite the large number of single risk losses in the quarter there are no signs that they are leading to any improvement in terms and conditions. U.S. catastrophe pricing continues to fall but remains attractive, particularly in coastal regions. Non-peak zone regions are attracting significant capacity and prices are low. Pricing on Japanese excess of loss renewals was down 5% to 10%, while we achieved some modest improvement on loss affected pro-rata treaties during the April 1 renewal period.

Casualty Reinsurance. In this segment, overall rates were down marginally on renewal business for this segment. We are seeing much higher reductions in certain segments of the market place and

33

Table of Contents

have therefore opted to non-renew business where this is the case. International treaty business held up well and we recorded a slight increase on the book we renewed. Loss-impacted programs are attracting rate increases with competition remaining disciplined despite new entrants diluting signings for some established players. Our U.S. casualty reinsurance book experienced an average rate reduction of about 5% in the quarter.

International Insurance. In our international insurance segment, we saw rates decrease modestly overall versus last year. The largest rate decreases were in energy physical damage insurance and U.K. liability insurance where rates were down 15% and 11% on average, which was worse than we had expected. We wrote less business in these lines as a result. We recorded modest increases in both marine hull and marine liability. We expect that marine hull rates will remain relatively firm for the remainder of the year given loss activity in 2007 with continuing downward pricing pressure in marine liability. There is limited renewal activity in aviation in the second quarter but prices have remained weak. However, there were three large aviation hull losses in the quarter and we expect to see some signs of pressure abating as a result. We did not have any participation in these losses. Financial institutions and political risk insurance lines are seeing stable to modestly upward rate trends but excess casualty and professional lines are experiencing continued rate pressure.

U.S. Insurance. In our U.S. insurance segment, rates have declined substantially with bigger declines on property reflecting two benign Atlantic wind seasons. Despite recent price softening, the margins for property remain mostly attractive. However, the trend is down and any further significant rate deterioration will have a negative impact on profitability. Competition remains acute with incumbent carriers willing to give up ground on rate and coverage terms. Casualty pricing continues to be impacted by increased competition and new entrants. We also recorded significant deterioration on our casualty book, though it was less pronounced on average than the rate deterioration recorded for our property account.

Recent Developments

On March 28, 2008, we announced that we had received approval from Lloyd's to establish a new Lloyd's Syndicate, called Syndicate 4711, which commenced underwriting for business incepting from May 1, 2008.

Syndicate 4711 is managed by a newly created Lloyd's managing agency, Aspen Management Agency Limited, which is authorized by the Financial Services Authority in the U.K. Syndicate 4711 is supported by a corporate member, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aspen Holdings. The active underwriter of Syndicate 4711 is Matthew Yeldham, head of international insurance at Aspen Holdings. Mr. Yeldham retains his existing responsibilities in addition to assuming his new role with Syndicate 4711.

Syndicate 4711's business plan for 2008 is to renew certain participations on selected classes of business currently written by Aspen U.K. These classes include energy, hull, marine liability, transportation-related liability, aviation and certain specialty reinsurance lines.

In 2008, Aspen Holdings plans to write approximately \$100 million of its forecast gross written premiums in Syndicate 4711. This is not expected to have a material impact on our consolidated gross written premium in 2008.

Application of Critical Accounting Policies

Our condensed consolidated financial statements are based on the selection of accounting policies and the application of significant accounting estimates, which require management to make significant estimates and assumptions. We believe that some of the more critical judgments in the areas of accounting estimates and assumptions that affect our

financial condition and results of operations are related to reserves for property and liability losses, premiums receivable in respect of assumed reinsurance and the fair value of derivatives and the value of other investments. For a detailed discussion of our critical accounting policies please refer to our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. There were no material changes in

34

Table of Contents

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

Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008 Compared to the Three Months Ended March 31, 2007

The following is a discussion and analysis of our consolidated results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 starting with a discussion of segmental results and then summarizing our consolidated results under “Total Income Statement — First quarter” below.

Underwriting Results by Operating Segments

As a result of a shift in the Company’s operating structure and the implementation of a number of strategic initiatives in 2007, the Company changed the composition of its business segments to reflect the change in the manner in which the business is managed. The Company is currently organized into four business segments: Property Reinsurance, Casualty Reinsurance, International Insurance, and U.S. Insurance. These segments form the basis of how the Company monitors the performance of its operations.

Previously, the Property and Casualty Insurance segment was comprised of U.S. property and casualty insurance business written on an excess and surplus lines basis, U.K. commercial property and liability insurance and international property facultative business. With the appointment of Nathan Warde, as head of U.S. Insurance, and Matthew Yeldham, as head of International Insurance, we have now redesignated U.S. property and casualty insurance business as a separate segment, now called U.S. Insurance. The U.K. commercial property and casualty insurance business now forms part of our International Insurance segment which also consists of marine, energy, liability and aviation insurance, professional liability insurance, non-marine and transportation lines of business, global excess casualty, political risk and financial institutions insurance as well as specialty reinsurance. We have also re-allocated our international property facultative business to the Property Reinsurance segment, which was previously part of our Property and Casualty insurance segment.

Management measures segment results on the basis of the combined ratio, which is obtained by dividing the sum of the losses and loss expenses, acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses by net premiums earned. Indirect operating and administrative expenses are allocated to segments based on each segment’s proportional share of gross earned premiums. As a relatively new company, our historical combined ratio may not be indicative of future underwriting performance. We do not manage our assets by segment; accordingly, investment income and total assets are not allocated to the individual segments.

Please refer to the tables in Note 4 in our unaudited financial statements of this report for a summary of gross and net written and earned premiums, underwriting results and combined ratios and reserves for each of our four business segments for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007.

The contributions of each segment to gross written premiums in the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 were as follows:

	Gross
written premiums Business Segment For the three months	

Edgar Filing: ASPEN INSURANCE HOLDINGS LTD - Form 10-Q

ended March 31, 2008 For the three months

ended March 31, 2007 % of total gross written premiums Property reinsurance 30.9% 30.2% Casualty
reinsurance 30.6% 35.1% International insurance 33.4% 29.1% U.S. insurance 5.1% 5.6% Total 100.0%
100.0%

35

Table of Contents

Gross

written premiums Business Segment	For the three months								
ended March 31, 2008	For the three months								
ended March 31, 2007	(\$ in millions)	Property reinsurance	\$184.2	\$192.1	Casualty reinsurance	182.1	223.3		
International insurance	199.3	185.4	U.S. insurance	30.6	35.7	Total	\$596.2	\$636.5	

Property Reinsurance

Our property reinsurance segment is mainly written on a treaty basis and includes catastrophe, risk excess and proportional treaty risks. We also have a small proportion of property facultative risks. We have written no significant retrocession business in this quarter. We also write some structured reinsurance contracts out of Aspen Bermuda. These contracts are tailored to the individual client circumstances and although written by a single team are accounted for within the business segment to which the contract most closely relates.

In the first quarter of 2006, we opened a branch office of Aspen U.K. in Paris which writes property facultative business in continental Europe. We have recently established a branch of Aspen U.K. in Zurich which focuses on property and casualty reinsurance in continental Europe.

Gross written premiums. Gross written premiums in our property reinsurance segment decreased by 4.1% compared to the three months ended March 31, 2007. This reduction reflects softening markets, increased competition, the non-renewal of a number of accounts that no longer meet our internal profitability requirements, and some prior year estimated premium reductions for the treaty pro rata business line.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Gross written premiums Lines of Business	For the three months ended								
March 31, 2008	For the three months								
ended March 31, 2007	(\$ in millions)	% increase/(decrease)	(\$ in millions)	Treaty catastrophe	\$111.6				
(5.9)%	\$118.6	Treaty risk excess	29.9	30.0	23.0	Treaty pro rata	32.7	(22.1)	42.0
17.6	8.5	Total	\$184.2	(4.1)%	\$192.1				10.0

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. The net loss ratio for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was 29.9% compared to 41.8% in 2007. The loss ratio in 2007 was affected by \$22.5 million of losses associated with Windstorm Kyrill and a \$7.8 million prior year reserve strengthening. The 2008 quarter has experienced a number of smaller losses, but has benefited from a \$13.6 million prior year reserve release. The reduction in loss ratio for the quarter is mainly due to the movement in prior year reserves.

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

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Total expenses were \$42.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 equivalent to 33.5% of net premiums earned (2007 — 27.3%). Policy acquisition expenses have decreased from \$27.4 million in 2007 to \$25.9 million for the first quarter in 2008, mainly as a result of the reduction in written premium for the period. The increase in the operating and administrative expenses to \$16.6 million from \$14.5 million for the comparative

Table of Contents

period in 2007 is attributable to increases in personnel costs associated with the establishment of our Zurich branch, and increased I.T. infrastructure costs associated with enhancements to our systems.

Casualty Reinsurance

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

Gross written premiums. The 18.4% decrease in gross written premiums for the segment was due mainly to a reduction in business written by our U.S. casualty team in London where market conditions are challenging and due to the changes in the timing of renewals for certain key contracts. The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Gross written premiums Lines of Business	For the three months ended March 31, 2008	For the three months ended March 31, 2007	(\$ in millions)	% increase/(decrease)	(\$ in millions)
U.S. treaty	\$89.6	\$131.3		(31.8)%	
Non-U.S. treaty	89.5	1.3	88.4		
Casualty facultative	3.0		(16.7)		3.6
Total	\$182.1	\$223.3		(18.4)%	

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. Losses and loss adjustment expenses increased by \$0.7 million in the quarter compared to the equivalent period in 2007, despite a reduction in written premium. The increase was primarily due to a smaller reserve release of \$14.3 million in the quarter, whereas the comparative period benefited from a reserve release of \$22.0 million. Prior year reserve releases are further discussed below under "Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses."

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Total expenses were \$28.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 equivalent to 30.0% of net premiums earned (2007 — 27.4%). Policy acquisition expenses of \$17.7 million have not reduced in line with gross earned premiums due to the recognition in the first quarter of 2008 of \$3.5 million of additional profit commissions following the commutation of certain U.S. treaties. Operating and administrative expenses have increased to \$10.7 million from \$9.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2007 mainly due to the increase in personnel costs, and increased I.T. infrastructure costs associated with enhancements to our systems.

International Insurance

Our international insurance segment mainly comprises marine hull, liability, energy, non-marine transport, aviation, professional liability, excess casualty, financial institutions, political risk, U.K. commercial property and U.K. commercial liability insurance. The commercial liability line of business consists of U.K. employers' and public liability insurance. Our specialty reinsurance lines of business include aviation, marine and other specialty reinsurance.

Gross written premiums. Overall premiums have increased \$13.9 million compared to 2007, mainly due to the \$24.0 million of premium contributed by new lines of business. Written premium for existing lines decreased by \$10.1 million mainly attributed to specialty reinsurance which experienced reducing rates and a prior year premium adjustment.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each line:

37

Table of Contents

Gross written premiums Lines of Business For the three months ended March 31, 2008 For the three months ended March 31, 2007 (\$ in millions) % increase/(decrease) (\$ in millions) Marine and specialty liability insurance \$54.8 0.6% \$54.5 Energy property insurance 23.4 (17.0) 28.2 Marine hull 18.6 13.4 16.4 Aviation insurance 11.2 3.7 10.8 U.K. commercial property 9.4 25.3 7.5 U.K. commercial liability 20.1 (8.6) 22.0 Non-marine and transportation liability 7.0 Nm * — Professional liability 7.6 Nm * — Excess Casualty 2.0 Nm * — Financial Institutions 2.9 Nm * — Political Risk 4.5 Nm * — Specialty reinsurance 37.8 (17.8) 46.0 Total \$199.3 7.5% \$185.4

* Not meaningful—These lines of business were not operational at March 31, 2007.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. Losses and loss adjustment expenses represented 65.0% of net premiums earned for the three months ended March 31, 2008 compared to 55.4% in 2007. The current period has been adversely affected by a \$6.4 million satellite loss and deterioration on a 2007 underwriting year marine hull loss. The comparative period also suffered a satellite loss of \$7.4 million but the loss ratio benefited from a larger reserve release of \$12.7 million compared to \$6.9 million in 2008. Prior year reserve releases are further discussed under ‘‘Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses.’’

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. The acquisition expense ratio for this segment increased by 1.2 percentage points due in part to additional profit commission accruals totaling \$2.4 million and as a result of the change in business mix following the addition of new business lines. The increase in operating and administrative expenses to \$17.9 million in the first quarter of 2008 from \$14.7 million for the comparative period in 2007 is attributed to increases in personnel costs associated with the new business lines and additional I.T. costs associated with setting up infrastructure for the new teams.

U.S. Insurance

We write both U.S. property and casualty insurance on an excess and surplus lines basis.

Gross written premiums. Gross written premiums decreased by 14.3% compared to the first quarter of 2007 due primarily to strong competition and business being declined due to rate adequacy.

The table below shows our gross written premiums for each line of business for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, and the percentage change in gross written premiums for each such line:

Gross written premiums Lines of Business For the three months ended March 31, 2008 For the three months ended March 31, 2007 (\$ in millions) % increase/(decrease) (\$ in millions) U.S. property \$10.5 (15.3)% \$12.4 U.S. casualty 20.1 (13.7) 23.3 Total \$30.6 (14.3)% \$35.7

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. Losses for the period have decreased by \$9.3 million when compared to the prior period primarily due to better loss experience for the commercial property account and a \$5.3 million increase in the prior year reserve release in 2008 compared to 2007.

Table of Contents

Policy acquisition, operating and administrative expenses. Policy acquisition expenses have decreased to \$4.8 million from \$5.6 million for the equivalent period in 2007 due to the lower premium volumes. The acquisition ratio had increased due to the recognition of \$1.0 million of profit commission in the period (2007: \$Nil) which has added 5.1% to the expense ratio. Operating and administrative expenses have reduced from \$6.2 million in 2007 to \$5.6 million in 2008 due primarily to the comparative period incurring reorganization costs.

Total Income Statement — First quarter

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

Gross written premiums. We wrote less business in the first quarter than in the corresponding period of 2007 as a result of a number of factors including the prevailing less favorable pricing environment in some lines of business, such as U.S. casualty reinsurance, property reinsurance, property treaty pro rata reinsurance and specialty reinsurance. This was partially offset by increases in premiums from our new lines of business.

Reinsurance ceded. Our reinsurance spend of \$76.6 million is broadly consistent with the first quarter of 2007, although the underlying protections have changed as a result of opportunities taken during 2007 to purchase property covers at favorable prices for two wind seasons and reinsurance purchases in the quarter for our new lines of business.

Gross premiums earned. Gross premiums earned reflect the portion of gross premiums written which are recorded as revenues over the policy periods of the risks we write. Therefore, the earned premium recorded in any year includes premium from policies incepting in prior years and excludes premium to be earned subsequent to the balance sheet date. Gross premiums earned in the first quarter of 2008 decreased by 9.9% compared to the first quarter of 2007 primarily as a result of the reduction in business written in the property reinsurance, casualty reinsurance and U.S. insurance segments.

Net premiums earned. Net premiums earned have decreased by 10.8% in 2008 compared to 2007. Although gross earned premiums have decreased by 9.9% for the same period, net earned premiums have decreased by an additional 0.9 percentage points as a result of earnings from multi-year property reinsurance purchased in the second quarter of 2007 and reinsurance costs from our U.S. insurance segment.

Losses and loss adjustment expenses. In the first quarter of 2008 we suffered \$29.1 million of losses associated with a number of mid-sized events compared to \$34.6 million of catastrophe losses in the comparative period in 2007. Although in absolute terms reserve releases have increased by \$13.3 million and large losses are lower when compared to 2007, the net loss ratio in 2007 is two percentage points higher in 2008 compared to 2007 due to a reduction in net earned premiums. Further information relating to movements in prior year reserves can be found below under “Reserves for Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses.”

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

	For
the three months ended March 31, 2008	
Ratio	
Prior Year	
Total Loss	

Adjustment Accident Year Loss

Ratio Excluding

Prior Year

Adjustments Property reinsurance 29.9% 10.7% 40.6% Casualty reinsurance 64.9% 15.1% 80.0%

International insurance 65.0% 4.6% 69.6% U.S. insurance 50.8% 24.4% 75.2% Total 52.9% 10.1%
63.0%

39

Table of Contents

For

the three months ended March 31, 2007 Total Loss

Ratio Prior Year

Adjustment Accident Year

Loss Ratio

Excluding Prior

Year Adjustments Property reinsurance 41.8% (5.1)% 36.7% Casualty reinsurance 57.2% 22.0% 79.2%
International insurance 55.4% 8.7% 64.1% U.S. insurance 59.6% (1.9)% 57.7% Total 51.4% 6.0%
57.4%

Expenses. We monitor the ratio of expenses to gross earned premium (the “gross expense ratio”) as a measure of the cost effectiveness of our policy acquisition, operating and administrative processes. The table below presents the contribution of the policy acquisition expenses and operating and administrative expenses to the expense ratio and the total expense ratios for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007. We also show the effect of reinsurance which impacts on the reported net expense ratio by expressing the expenses as a proportion of net earned premiums.

Expense Ratios For the three months

ended March 31, 2008 For the three months

ended March 31, 2007 Policy acquisition expenses 17.9% 16.4% Operating and administrative expenses 11.9%
9.6% Gross expense ratio 29.8% 26.0% Effect of reinsurance 2.7% 2.0% Total net expense ratio 32.5%
28.0%

Changes in the acquisition and operating and administrative ratios to gross earned premiums and the impact of reinsurance on net earned premiums by segment for each of the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007 are shown in the following table:

For the three months ended March 31, 2008 For the three months ended March 31, 2007 Ratios

based on

Gross Earned Premium Property

Reinsurance Casualty

Reinsurance International

Insurance U.S.

Insurance Total Property

Reinsurance Casualty

Reinsurance International

Insurance U.S.

Insurance Total Policy acquisition expense ratio 18.5 18.5 16.9 18.5 17.9 17.0 17.4 15.6 14.4 16.4

Operating and administrative

expense ratio 11.8 11.2 10.9 21.7 11.9 9.0 8.9 9.0 15.9 9.6 Gross expense ratio 30.3 29.7 27.8

40.2 29.8 26.0 26.3 24.6 30.3 26.0 Effect of reinsurance 3.2 0.3 2.7 12.8 2.7 1.3 1.1 2.7 6.1

2.0 Total net expense ratio 33.5 30.0 30.5 53.0 32.5 27.3 27.4 27.3 36.4 28.0

The policy acquisition ratio, gross of the effect of reinsurance, has increased to 17.9% for the three months ended March 31, 2008 from 16.4% for the comparative period in 2007. The increase is driven mainly by the increase in profit commissions for the casualty reinsurance, international insurance and U.S. insurance segments. The increase in

the acquisition ratio for property reinsurance is mainly due to changes in the mix of business written within the segment.

Between the two periods we have experienced a \$5.5 million increase in our operating and administrative expenses due to a rise in personnel and accommodation costs resulting from the introduction of new teams and an increase in I.T. infrastructure costs associated with the enhancements of our systems.

Net investment income. Net investment income consists of interest on fixed income securities and the equity in net income of other investments. In the first quarter of 2008, we generated net investment income of \$39.1 million (2007 — \$67.5 million). The \$28.4 million decrease in investment income was primarily due to losses from our investment in funds of hedge funds of \$16.9 million compared to gains of \$9.9 million in the first quarter of 2007. During the quarter the book yield on our fixed income portfolio decreased by 15 basis points from 5.05% to 4.90% and the portfolio

40

Table of Contents

duration decreased marginally from 3.40 years to 3.35 years. Net investment income for the quarter also included a one-off negative accounting adjustment of \$7.8 million relating to 2007.

Change in fair value of derivatives. In the three months ended March 31, 2008, we recorded a reduction of \$2.2 million (2007 — \$2.3 million) in the estimated fair value of our credit insurance contract including \$0.3 million (2007 — \$0.4 million) of interest expense. We also recorded a reduction of \$5.4 million in the estimated fair value of our catastrophe swap in the three months ended March 31, 2007. The contract expired in August 2007 and has no impact on net income for the three months ended March 31, 2008. Further information on these contracts can be found in Note 7 to the financial statements.

Income before tax. In the first quarter of 2008, income before tax was \$95.5 million and comprised \$57.2 million of underwriting profit, \$39.1 million in net investment income, \$5.3 million of net foreign exchange and investment gains/(losses), \$3.9 million of interest expense and \$2.2 million of other expenses. In the first quarter of 2007, income before tax was \$147.2 million and comprised \$90.5 million of underwriting profit, \$67.5 million in net investment income, \$0.7 million of net exchange and investment gains/(losses), \$4.2 million of interest expense and \$7.3 million of other expenses. Our lower underwriting profit in the quarter compared to the prior period was mainly due to lower earned premium in the quarter partially offset by lower losses. As discussed above, the significant decrease in investment income was the biggest contributor to our reduced net income for the quarter.

Income tax expense. Income tax expense for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was \$14.3 million. Our consolidated tax rate for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was 15.0% (2007 — 17.2%). As required by FAS 109 and APB 28, the charge represents an estimate of the tax rate which will apply to our pre-tax income for 2008. As discussed in the “Overview” above, the effective tax rate may be subject to revision.

Net income after tax. Net income after tax for the three months ended March 31, 2008 was \$81.2 million, equivalent to \$0.87 basic earnings per ordinary share adjusted for the \$6.9 million preference share dividends and \$0.85 fully diluted earnings per ordinary share adjusted for the preference share dividends on the basis of the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the three months ended March 31, 2008. The net income for the three months ended March 31, 2007 was \$121.9 million equivalent to basic earnings per ordinary share of \$1.31 and fully diluted earnings per share of \$1.27.

Reserves for Losses and Loss Expenses

As of March 31, 2008, we had total net loss and loss adjustment expense reserves of \$2,674.3 million (December 31, 2007 — \$2,641.3 million). This amount represented our best estimate of the ultimate liability for payment of losses and loss adjustment expenses. Of the total gross reserves for unpaid losses of \$2,950.3 million at the balance sheet date of March 31, 2008, a total of \$1,594.1 million or 54.0% represented IBNR claims (December 31, 2007 — \$2,946.0 million and 54.7%, respectively). The following tables analyze gross and net loss and loss adjustment expense reserves by segment.

at March 31, 2008 Business Segment		Gross		Reinsurance	
Recoverable	Net	(\$ in millions)	Property reinsurance	Casualty reinsurance	Total losses and loss expense reserves
(14.1)	1,302.5		\$494.8	1,316.6	
			\$(70.1)	1,316.6	
			\$424.7	1,316.6	
			883.9	1,316.6	
			129.9	63.2	
			\$(276.0)	63.2	
			\$2,950.3	63.2	
			\$(276.0)	63.2	
			\$2,674.3	63.2	

As

Table of Contents

As
at December 31, 2007 Business Segment Gross Reinsurance
Recoverable Net (\$ in millions) Property reinsurance \$537.5 \$(78.2) \$459.3 Casualty reinsurance 1,276.3
(13.7) 1,262.6 International insurance 999.2 (139.2) 860.0 U.S. insurance 133.0 (73.6) 59.4 Total losses
and loss expense reserves \$2,946.0 \$(304.7) \$2,641.3

The reduction in reinsurance recoverables is due to the continuing settlement of losses associated with Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma.

For the three months ended March 31, 2008, there was a reduction of our estimate of the ultimate net claims to be paid in respect of prior accident years of \$39.6 million. An analysis of this reduction by line of business is as follows for each of the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007:

For
the three months ended Business Segment March 31, 2008 March 31, 2007 (\$ in millions) Property reinsurance
\$13.6 \$(7.8) Casualty reinsurance 14.3 22.0 International insurance 6.9 12.7 U.S. insurance 4.7 (0.6) Total
Losses and loss expense reserves reductions \$39.5 \$26.3

The key elements which gave rise to the net favorable development during the three months ended March 31, 2008 were as follows:

Property Reinsurance: The \$13.6 million reserve release in this segment was predominantly due to releases on the catastrophe and risk excess books. The release on the catastrophe book was in relation to decreases in loss estimates for the 2007 U.K. Floods, for which our estimate of ultimate claims has fallen by over \$6 million. This is a result of the latest information provided by clients. On risk excess, good loss development experience combined with increased certainty regarding an expected subrogation recovery drove the release. Ultimate claim estimates for the 2004 and 2005 major hurricanes are largely unchanged in the quarter.

Casualty Reinsurance. The \$14.3 million reserve release in our casualty reinsurance segment is mainly attributable to reserve releases on our U.S. casualty and international casualty reinsurance business which contribute \$9.0 million and \$5.2 million respectively. These releases are from a combination of several factors. The most significant releases on the U.S. casualty account were a consequence of the commutation of certain contracts and reductions in prior year premium and exposure estimates for certain other contracts. In international casualty, although claims may take several years to emerge, the experience to date compared with starting loss ratios and expected patterns has generally been better than expected at the aggregate level.

International Insurance. The \$6.9 million reduction in the net reserves in this segment was due to an improvement over several lines of business. The largest movement occurred in our U.K. liability insurance account from which we released \$6.2 million as a result of favorable loss experience. U.K. commercial property and specialty reinsurance also improved by over \$2.5 million each. This is offset by a deterioration of \$5.3 million on the marine hull account mainly as a result of an increase in our case reserves for a shipping accident in 2007 and \$3.1 million on the aviation account due to greater incurred claims development than was expected based on our starting loss ratios and development patterns.

U.S. Insurance. Owing to better than expected experience on prior years, we had a release of \$4.7 million mainly from our property line of business.

Table of Contents

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

For a more detailed description see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis — Critical Accounting Policies” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis — Reserves for Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses,” included in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Valuation of Investments

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

Valuation of Other Investments. The value of our investments in funds of hedge funds are based upon monthly net asset values reported by the underlying funds to our fund of hedge fund managers. The financial statements of our funds of hedge funds are subject to annual audits evaluating the net asset positions of the underlying investments. We periodically review the performance of our funds of hedge funds and evaluate the reasonableness of the valuations.

Capital Management

We completed our share repurchase program announced on November 8, 2006 for \$300 million of ordinary equity.

On February 6, 2008, our Board authorized a new share repurchase program for up to \$300 million of ordinary shares. The authorization covers the period to March 1, 2010.

The following table shows our capital structure at March 31, 2008 compared to December 31, 2007.

	As at	
March 31, 2008	As at	
December 31, 2007	(\$ in millions)	
Share capital, additional paid in capital and retained income and accumulated other comprehensive income attributable to ordinary shareholders	\$2,503.5	\$2,398.4
Preference shares (liquidation preference less issue expenses)	419.2	419.2
Long-term debt	249.5	249.5
Total capital	\$3,172.2	\$3,067.1

Management monitors the ratio of debt to total capital, with total capital being defined as shareholders’ equity plus outstanding debt. At March 31, 2008, this ratio was 7.9% (December 31, 2007 — 8.1%).

Our preference shares are classified in our balance sheet as equity but may receive a different treatment in some cases under the capital adequacy assessments made by certain rating agencies. Such securities are often referred to as ‘hybrids’ as they have certain attributes of both debt and equity. We also monitor the ratio of the total of debt and

hybrids to total capital which was 21.1% as of March 31, 2008 (December 31, 2007 — 21.8%).

Accelerated Share Repurchase. On November 9, 2007, we entered into another contract with Goldman Sachs for the purchase of ordinary shares to the fixed value of \$50 million. Under this

43

Table of Contents

arrangement we acquired and cancelled the minimum number of shares of 1,631,138 shares on November 28, 2007. On March 20, 2008, the ASR was completed pursuant to which we canceled an additional 139,555 ordinary shares.

Access to capital. Our business operations are in part dependent on our financial strength and the market's perception thereof, as measured by shareholders' equity, which was \$2,922.7 million at March 31, 2008 (December 31, 2007 — \$2,817.6 million). We believe our financial strength provides us with the flexibility and capacity to obtain funds through debt or equity financing. Our continuing ability to access the capital markets is dependent on, among other things, our operating results, market conditions and our perceived financial strength. We continuously monitor our capital and financial position, as well as investment and security market conditions, both in general and with respect to Aspen Holdings' securities. Our ordinary shares and all our preference shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Liquidity

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

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

As at March 31, 2008, Aspen Holdings held \$9.1 million (December 31, 2007 — \$17.9 million) in cash and cash equivalents which management considers sufficient to provide Aspen Holdings liquidity at such time. Holding company liquidity depends on dividends, capital distributions and interest payments from our Insurance Subsidiaries.

In the three months ended March 31, 2008, Aspen Bermuda and Aspen U.K. Holdings paid Aspen Holdings a dividend of \$25.0 million and \$15.0 million, respectively. In 2007, Aspen Bermuda and Aspen U.K. Holdings paid Aspen Holdings a dividend of \$125 million and \$17.0 million, respectively. No other dividends were paid to Aspen Holdings in 2007. Aspen Holdings also received interest of \$9.1 million (2007 — \$6.5 million) from Aspen U.K. Holdings in respect of an intercompany loan.

The ability of our Insurance Subsidiaries to pay us dividends or other distributions is subject to the laws and regulations applicable to each jurisdiction, as well as the Insurance Subsidiaries' need to maintain capital requirements adequate to maintain their insurance and reinsurance operations and their financial strength ratings issued by independent rating agencies. For a discussion of the various restrictions on our ability and our Insurance Subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends, see Part I, Item 1 "Business — Regulatory Matters" in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

In addition to its dividend capacity as at March 31, 2008, Aspen Bermuda could also make capital repayments to Aspen Holdings of approximately \$174 million without prior approval from the Bermuda Monetary Authority. Aspen U.K. has \$150 million available for capital repayments to Aspen U.K. Holdings which could in turn be used to fund repayments of loans made by Aspen Holdings to Aspen U.K. Holdings.

Insurance subsidiaries. As of March 31, 2008, the Insurance Subsidiaries held approximately \$986.3 million (December 31, 2007 — \$633.5 million) in cash and short-term investments that are readily realizable securities. Management monitors the value, currency and duration of cash and investments held by its Insurance Subsidiaries to ensure that they are able to meet their insurance and other liabilities as they become due and was satisfied that there

was a comfortable margin of liquidity as at March 31, 2008 and for the foreseeable future.

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

44

Table of Contents

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

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

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

The liquidity of our Insurance Subsidiaries is also affected by the terms of our contractual obligations to policyholders and by undertakings to certain regulatory authorities to facilitate the issue of letters of credit or maintain certain balances in trust funds for the benefit of policyholders. The following table shows the forms of collateral or other security provided to policyholders as at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007:

						As at
March 31,						
2008	As at December					
31, 2007	(\$ in millions except percentages)	Assets held in multi-beneficiary trusts	\$1,469.6	\$1,422.5	Assets held in single beneficiary trusts	47.5 52.5
		Letters of credit issued under our revolving credit facilities (1)	107.8	133.3	Secured letters of credit (2)	403.0 344.9
		Total	\$2,027.9	\$1,953.2	Total as % of cash and invested assets	33.7% 33.2%

(1) These letters of credit are not secured by cash or securities, though they are secured by a pledge of the shares of certain of the Company's subsidiaries under a pledge agreement. (2) As of March 31, 2008, the Company had funds on deposit of \$444.9 million and £49.5 million (December 31, 2007 — \$367.2 million and £49.3 million) as collateral for the secured letters of credit.

Further information on these arrangements can be found in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

Consolidated cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2008. Total net cash flow from operations from December 31, 2007 through March 31, 2008 was \$163.5 million, an increase of \$29.9 million over the comparative period. The increase was due mainly to a reduction in net claims settlements. For the three months ended March 31, 2008, our cash flow from operations provided us with sufficient liquidity to meet our operating requirements. On February 29, 2008, we paid a dividend of \$0.15 per ordinary share to shareholders of record on February 18, 2008. On April 1, 2008 dividends totaling \$3.2 million on our Perpetual Preferred Income Equity Replacement Securities ("Perpetual PIERS") were paid to our dividend disbursing agent, for payment to our Perpetual PIERS holders on March 15. On April 1, 2008 dividends totaling \$3.7 million on our Perpetual Non-Cumulative Preference Shares ("Perpetual Preference Shares") were paid to our dividend disbursing agent, for payment to our Perpetual Preference Share holders on March 15, 2008.

Credit Facility. On August 2, 2005, we entered into a five-year \$400 million revolving credit facility pursuant to a credit agreement dated as of August 2, 2005 (the "credit facilities") by and among the Company, certain of our direct and indirect subsidiaries (collectively, the "Borrowers") the lenders party thereto, Barclays Bank plc, as administrative

agent and letter of credit issuer, Bank of America, N.A. and Calyon, New York Branch, as co-syndication agents, Credit Suisse, Cayman Islands Branch and Deutsche Bank AG, New York Branch, as co-documentation agents and The Bank of New York, as collateral agent. On September 1, 2006 the aggregate limit available under the credit facility was increased to \$450 million.

The credit facility can be used by any of the Borrowers to provide funding for the Insurance Subsidiaries of the Company, to finance the working capital needs of the Company and our

45

Table of Contents

subsidiaries and for general corporate purposes of the Company and our subsidiaries. The revolving credit facility provides for a \$250 million subfacility for collateralized letters of credit. The credit facility will expire on August 2, 2010. As of March 31, 2008, no borrowings were outstanding under the credit facilities, although we had \$285.7 million and \$133.3 million of outstanding collateralized and uncollateralized letters of credit, respectively. The fees and interest rates on the loans and the fees on the letters of credit payable by the Borrowers increase based on the consolidated leverage ratio of the Company.

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

Contractual Obligations and Commitments

The following table summarizes our contractual obligations (other than our obligations to employees, our Perpetual PIERS and our Perpetual Preference Shares) under long-term debt, operating leases and reserves relating to insurance and reinsurance contracts as of March 31, 2008:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Later	
Years Total (\$ in millions)							
Operating Lease Obligations	\$6.2	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.4	40.5	\$77.3
Long-Term Debt Obligations (1)	724.4	428.6	265.3	134.9	477.1	\$2,950.3	
Reserves for Losses and loss adjustment expenses (2)							\$920.0

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

Further information on operating leases is given in our 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

For a discussion of derivative instruments we have entered into, please see Note 7 to our unaudited financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2008 included elsewhere in this report.

Table of Contents

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Ajax Re is a variable interest entity under the provisions of FASB interpretation No.46 (R). We have a variable interest in the entity, however we are not the primary beneficiary of the entity and therefore we are not required to consolidate its results into our consolidated financial statements. For further details on the Ajax Re transactions please see Note 7 to the audited financial statements for the three months ended March 31, 2008 included elsewhere in this report.

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

Effects of Inflation

The effects of inflation could cause the severity of claims from catastrophes or other events to rise in the future. Our calculation of reserves for losses and loss adjustment expenses includes assumptions about future payments for settlement of claims and claims-handling expenses, such as medical treatments and litigation costs. We write casualty/liability business in the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia, where claims inflation has grown particularly strong in recent years. To the extent inflation causes these costs to increase above reserves established for these claims, we will be required to increase our loss reserves with a corresponding reduction in current period earnings.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Form 10-Q contains, and the Company may from time to time make other verbal or written, forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that involve risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding our capital needs, business strategy, expectations and intentions. Statements that use the terms "believe", "do not believe", "anticipate", "expect", "plan", "estimate", "project", "seek", "will", "may", "continue" expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and because our business is subject to numerous risks, uncertainties and other factors, our actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in the forward-looking statements. The risks, uncertainties and other factors set forth in the Company's 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and other cautionary statements made in this report, as well as the following factors, should be read and understood as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this report.

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

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

of the deteriorating credit environment created by the sub-prime crisis and the global credit crunch;
value of our investment portfolio or a rating downgrade of the securities in our portfolio;
industry losses resulting from Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma and any other events, and the actual number of our insureds incurring losses from these storms;

- the impact
- a decline in the
- changes in the total

47

Table of Contents

events such as Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, the Company's reliance on loss reports received from cedants and loss adjustors, our reliance on industry loss estimates and those generated by modeling techniques, the impact of these storms on our reinsurers, changes in assumptions on flood damage exclusions as a result of prevailing lawsuits and case law, any changes in our reinsurers' credit quality, and the amount and timing of reinsurance recoverables and reimbursements actually received by us from our reinsurers and the overall level of competition;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • with respect to
future operating results, capital position and rating agency and other considerations have on the execution of any capital management initiatives;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact that our
capital management initiatives on our financial condition;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact of any
terrorism and related legislation and acts of war;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact of acts of
greater frequency or severity of claims and loss activity, including as a result of natural or man-made catastrophic events, than our underwriting, reserving, reinsurance purchasing or investment practices have anticipated;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the possibility of
interpretive issues with respect to coverage as a result of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma and any other events;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evolving
of inflation in repair costs due to limited availability of labor and materials after catastrophes;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the level
our loss limitation methods;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the effectiveness of
availability, cost or quality of reinsurance or retrocessional coverage;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in the
and changes in assumptions to, catastrophe pricing, accumulation and estimated loss models;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the reliability of,
personnel;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of key
a decline in our operating subsidiaries' ratings with Standard & Poor's, A.M. Best or Moody's Investors Service;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in
general economic conditions, including inflation, foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates and other factors that could affect our investment portfolio;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increased
competition on the basis of pricing, capacity, coverage terms or other factors and the related demand and supply dynamics as contracts come up for renewal;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decreased demand
for our insurance or reinsurance products and cyclical downturn of the industry;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes in
governmental regulations or tax laws in jurisdictions where we conduct business;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspen Holdings or
Aspen Bermuda becoming subject to income taxes in the United States or the United Kingdom; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the effect on
insurance markets, business practices and relationships of ongoing litigation, investigations and regulatory activity by the New York State Attorney General's office and other authorities concerning contingent commission arrangements with brokers and bid solicitation activities.	

The foregoing review of important factors should not be construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the other cautionary statements that are included in this report. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or

review any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise or disclose any difference between our actual results and those reflected in such statements.

If one or more of these or other risks or uncertainties materialize, or if our underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, actual results may vary materially from what we projected. Any

48

Table of Contents

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

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

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

As at March 31, 2008, our fixed income portfolio had an approximate duration of 3.35 years. The table below depicts interest rate change scenarios and the effect on our interest-rate sensitive invested assets:

Effect of changes in interest rates on portfolio given a parallel shift in the yield curve	Movement in rates in basis points	–100	–50	0	50	100	(\$ in millions, except percentages)	Market value \$ in millions	\$4,941.9
		\$4,862.4	\$4,781.5	\$4,699.4	\$4,616.6	Gain/(loss) \$ in millions	160.4	\$80.9	0.0
		(82.1)	(164.9)	Percentage of portfolio	3.35%	1.69%	0.00%	(1.72)%	(3.45)%

Equity risk. We have invested in three funds of hedge funds with an estimated fair value of \$544.5 million at March 31, 2008. These investments comprise 9.0% of our total of cash and cash equivalents and invested assets as at that date. The reduction in value of 3.0% from \$561.4 million at December 31, 2007 was due primarily to losses from our investment in funds of hedge funds. These funds of hedge funds are structured to have low volatility and limited correlation with traditional fixed income markets. The nature of the underlying hedge funds consists of diverse strategies and securities.

To the extent the underlying hedge funds have equity positions and are market neutral, we are exposed to losses from changes in prices of those positions; to the extent the underlying hedge funds have net long or net short equity positions, we are exposed to losses that are more correlated to changes in equity markets in general.

Foreign currency risk. Our reporting currency is the U.S. Dollar. The functional currencies of our segments are U.S. Dollars and British Pounds. As of March 31, 2008, approximately 83% of our cash, cash equivalents and investments were held in U.S. Dollars, approximately 13% were in British Pounds and approximately 4% were in other currencies. For the three months ended March 31, 2008, 16.5% of our gross premiums were written in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar and the British Pound and we expect that a similar proportion will be written in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar and the British Pound in the remainder of 2008. Other foreign currency amounts are re-measured to the appropriate functional currency and the resulting foreign exchange gains or losses are reflected in the statement of operations. Functional currency amounts of assets and liabilities are then translated into U.S. Dollars. The unrealized gain or loss from this translation, net of tax, is recorded as part of shareholders' equity. The change in unrealized foreign currency translation gain or loss during the year, net of tax, is a component of comprehensive income. Both the re-measurement and translation are calculated using current exchange rates for the balance sheets and average

exchange rates for the statement of operations. We may experience exchange losses to the extent our foreign currency exposure is not hedged, which in turn would adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. Management estimates that a 10% change in the exchange rate between British Pounds and U.S. Dollars as at March 31, 2008, would have impacted reported net comprehensive income by approximately \$42.9 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008.

Table of Contents

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

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

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The Company's management has performed an evaluation, with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and the Company's Chief Financial Officer, of changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2008. Based upon that evaluation, the Company's management is not aware of any change in its internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2008 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II
OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

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

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no significant changes in the Company's risk factors as discussed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007. However, also please refer to the "Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward Looking Statements" provided elsewhere in this report.

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

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

Issued	Number of	Date
Shares Issued	January 15, 2008	650
	February 15, 2008	787
	March 17, 2008	663

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

On November 9, 2007, we entered into a contract with Goldman Sachs for the purchase of ordinary shares to the fixed value of \$50 million. Under this arrangement we acquired and cancelled the minimum number of shares of 1,631,138 shares on November 28, 2007. On March 20, 2008, we acquired and cancelled an additional 139,555 ordinary shares, which completed the transaction with Goldman Sachs.

On January 25, 2008, we cancelled 115,784 ordinary shares in completion of the accelerated share repurchase entered into with Goldman Sachs on September 28, 2007.

On February 6, 2008, our Board authorized a new share repurchase program for up to \$300 million of our ordinary shares. The authorization covers the period to March 1, 2010.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

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

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

52

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

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

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

53

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited

(Registrant) Date: May 8, 2008 By: /s/ Christopher O’Kane

Chief Executive Officer Date: May 8, 2008 By: /s/ Richard Houghton

Chief Financial Officer

54

Christopher O’Kane

Richard