Edgar Filing: Bankrate, Inc. - Form S-1

Bankrate, Inc. Form S-1 November 23, 2011 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 23, 2011

Registration No. 333-

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM S-1 REGISTRATION STATEMENT

**UNDER** 

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# BANKRATE, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of

7389 (Primary Standard Industrial 65-0423422 (I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

Classification Code Number) 11760 U.S. Highway One, Suite 200 **Identification Number)** 

North Palm Beach, Florida 33408

(561) 630-2400

# Edgar Filing: Bankrate, Inc. - Form S-1

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant s principal executive offices)

#### Edward J. DiMaria, Senior Vice President-Chief Financial Officer

11760 U.S. Highway One, Suite 200

North Palm Beach, Florida 33408

(561) 630-2400

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement is declared effective.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer " Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer x (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company "

#### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of				Amount of
	Amount to be	<b>Proposed Maximum</b>	Proposed Maximum	
Securities to be Registered	Registered	Offering Price Per Share(2)	<b>Aggregate Offering Price(2)</b>	Registration Fee
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	12,075,000(1)	\$19.25	\$232,443,750	\$26,638.06

- (1) Includes shares of common stock that the underwriters have an option to purchase. See Underwriting.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. In accordance with Rule 457(c) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the price shown is the average of the high and low selling prices of the common stock on November 21, 2011, as reported on the New York Stock Exchange.

The registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, dated November 23, 2011

# 10,500,000 Shares

# BANKRATE, INC.

# **Common Stock**

This is a public offering of shares of common stock of Bankrate, Inc. The selling stockholders identified in this prospectus, which include the beneficial owner of a majority of Bankrate, Inc. s shares of common stock and certain directors and officers of Bankrate, Inc., are offering 10,500,000 shares. Bankrate, Inc. will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares in this offering. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RATE. The last reported closing sale price of our common stock on November 22, 2011 was \$19.87 per share.

See <u>Risk Factors</u> on page 13 to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of the common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling stockholders	\$	\$

The underwriters may also purchase up to an additional 1,575,000 shares from the selling stockholders, at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount within 30 days from the date of this prospectus.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares against payment in New York, New York on

, 2011.

Goldman, Sachs & Co. Citigroup

BofA Merrill Lynch J.P. Morgan

Allen & Company LLC

Stephens Inc.

**RBC Capital Markets** 

Prospectus dated

, 2011

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We and the selling stockholders have not authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this prospectus or in any free writing prospectuses we have prepared. Neither we nor the selling stockholders take responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the shares offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus is current only as of its date.

### **Industry and Market Data**

This prospectus includes industry and trade association data, forecasts and information that we have prepared based, in part, upon data, forecasts and information obtained from independent trade associations, industry publications and surveys and other information available to us. Some data is also based on our good faith estimates, which are derived from management sknowledge of the industry and independent sources, and which we believe to be reliable. Industry publications and surveys and forecasts generally state that the information contained therein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. Statements as to our market position are based on market data currently available to us. While we are not aware of any misstatements regarding our industry data and market data presented or relied on herein, our estimates involve risks and uncertainties and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the heading Risk Factors in this prospectus.

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#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights certain information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. Please read the entire prospectus, including the consolidated financial statements and the related notes and the section entitled Risk Factors, before you decide to invest. In addition, this prospectus includes forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties. See Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements. Except as otherwise indicated herein or as the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to the Company is to Bankrate, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and references to Bankrate, we, us and our are to the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries.

#### Overview

We are a leading publisher, aggregator and distributor of personal finance content on the Internet. We provide consumers with proprietary, fully researched, comprehensive, independent and objective personal finance editorial content across multiple vertical categories including mortgages, deposits, insurance, credit cards, and other categories, such as retirement, automobile loans, and taxes. We also aggregate rate information from over 4,800 institutions on more than 300 financial products. With coverage of nearly 600 local markets in all 50 U.S. states, we generate over 172,000 distinct rate tables capturing on average over three million pieces of information daily. Our comprehensive offering of personal finance content and product research has positioned us as a recognized personal finance authority with over 10,000 attributable media mentions or interviews in 2010, including numerous television features on major networks. Our online network, which consists of *Bankrate.com*, our flagship website, and our other owned and operated personal finance websites, had over 150 million visits in 2010. In addition, we distribute our content on a daily basis to over 175 major online partners and print publications, including some of the most recognized brands in the world.

Our business benefits from the secular shift toward consumer use of the Internet to research and shop for personal finance products. The Internet s unique aggregation capabilities allow consumers to access and research vast amounts of information to efficiently compare prices and enable an informed purchase decision. We believe this is driving consumers to increasingly research and apply online for personal finance products and shift away from more traditional buying patterns. We stand to benefit from this major secular shift as a result of our leading position in the personal finance services markets driven by our strong brands, proprietary and aggregated content, breadth and depth of personal finance products, broad distribution, leading position in algorithmic search results and monetization capabilities.

Founded 35 years ago as a print-based financial and market data research business, Bankrate began moving online in 1996. Since 2004, under the leadership of our current management team, we have strategically broadened and diversified our product, content and consumer offerings through internal development activities and acquisitions. We now offer:

branded content that educates consumers and financial professionals on a variety of personal finance topics;

a market leading platform for consumers searching for competitive rates on mortgages, deposits, and money market accounts;

competitive quotes to consumers for auto, business, home, life, health and long-term care insurance from our leading network of insurance agents and carriers; and

comparative credit card offers to customers for consumer and business credit cards in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom through our leading network of credit card websites.

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Our unique content and rate information is distributed through three main sources: our owned and operated websites, online co-brands, and print partners. We own a network of content-rich, proprietary websites focused on specific vertical categories, including mortgages, deposits, insurance, credit cards and other personal finance categories. We also develop and provide web services to over 75 co-branded websites with online partners, including some of the most trusted and frequently visited personal finance sites on the Internet such as Yahoo!, AOL, CNBC and Bloomberg. In addition, we license editorial content to over 100 newspapers on a daily basis including The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times and The Boston Globe.

Our primary sources of revenue are display advertising, performance-based advertising and lead generation. In 2010, we generated pro forma revenue of \$300.9 million, pro forma Adjusted EBITDA of \$93.0 million, net loss of \$21.4 million, and cash flow from operating activities of \$31.2 million. During the nine months ended September 30, 2011, we generated revenue of \$310.4 million, Adjusted EBITDA of \$96.9 million, net loss of \$27.5 million, and cash flow from operating activities of \$7.7 million. See Summary Historical and Pro Forma Financial Data for a reconciliation of pro forma Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA to net income.

#### **Recent History**

After 10 years as a public company, we were acquired on August 25, 2009 by Ben Holding S.à r.l., an entity wholly owned by investment funds advised by Apax Partners, L.P. and Apax Partners LLP (the Bankrate Acquisition). Since then, we have executed several acquisitions, including two significant and strategically important acquisitions in NetQuote Holdings, Inc. and CreditCards.com, Inc. (the 2010 Acquisitions), enabling us to strengthen our offering to both advertisers seeking high quality leads and consumers who are looking for a comprehensive suite of financial products. These acquisitions have strengthened our position through increased selection of products and increased scale of our audience resulting in greater appeal to personal financial services partners and greater spending per partner. In June 2011, the company consummated its initial public offering (the Initial Public Offering) of shares at a price of \$15.00 per share, in which the Company sold 12,500,000 shares of common stock and certain stockholders of the Company sold 10,494,455 shares of common stock.

#### **Industry**

The Internet has evolved into one of the most effective and comprehensive sources for personal finance content. Traditionally, consumers used sources of information such as word-of-mouth, referrals, newspapers, mortgage guides, insurance brokers and agents to research and address their financial needs. However, these approaches are often time consuming, error prone, and not transparent. Widespread access to the Internet and availability of content and the benefits associated with shopping and researching online has allowed consumers to increasingly rely on the Internet for their financial shopping needs. Using the Internet, consumers can search for and compare financial products and services across multiple sites and choose the right alternative for them. According to an industry study, over 60% of financial services consumers conducted research online and 37% of consumers who conducted research online also applied for a financial product online.

Companies have expanded their online marketing efforts to reach this large and growing online audience cost-effectively. As website traffic grows, online advertising continues to grow as a share of overall advertising. This secular shift is expected to continue in the United States as ZenithOptimedia estimates that online advertising will grow at a compound annual rate of 15% from 2010 through 2013. ZenithOptimedia also estimates that as of 2010 only 15% of total advertising spent in the United States has moved online. We believe our business will continue to benefit as the percentage of advertising dollars spent online increases to reflect the greater amount of media consumed online.

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As the economy and job markets recover, the personal financial services market is well-positioned to continue to rebound. Since demand for financial services is generally correlated to the growth of the economy, financial institutions online and traditional marketing spend is expected to increase as a result. For example, in 2010, major credit card companies increased advertising and lead generation spending after significantly cutting their budgets in 2008 and 2009.

We believe our end markets are well positioned to experience healthy growth in the coming years given the increasing use of the Internet, the shift in advertising spend from offline to online, the anticipated economic rebound and improving macroeconomic trends.

# **Our Solution**

We provide consumers and institutions with a comprehensive personal finance marketplace through our leading content-rich flagship website, *Bankrate.com*, and our other branded personal finance destination websites. We allow consumers to shop for a wide variety of financial products and services online, including mortgages, deposit accounts, insurance products and credit cards. We offer fully researched, independent and objective financial content to our consumers through an easy-to-use web interface. We offer our advertisers access to a high quality ready-to-transact visitor base. We understand the importance of critical financial decisions and have designed our solutions to provide relevant information, content and advice to consumers to help them make the right decisions more efficiently and conveniently.

Our brand and the scale and quality of our content have helped us attract increasing numbers of ready-to-transact consumers over the years. As more consumers visited and researched personal finance products on our websites, more financial institutions listed their products and services with us. The combination of more consumers seeking personal finance products online and more companies providing more products and services increases the quality, depth and breadth of our offerings and attracts even more consumers, advertisers and institutions as a result. Additionally, the prominence of our brands, the quality of our content, the engineering architecture of our site, and many other factors that drive relevance have generally resulted in prominent placement in financial services search results for the leading search engines. This increased distribution via algorithmic search provides additional traffic to our website, again further attracting more partners and resulting in increased selection of personal finance products and more content. This virtuous cycle has enabled us to reinforce our leadership position and achieve a loyal advertiser and consumer base.

## **Our Strengths**

Market Leader for Personal Finance Content. We are a market leading publisher, aggregator, and distributor of personal finance content on the Internet. We believe our leading position will continue to enable us to take advantage of the secular shift to the Internet as a source of personal finance solutions.

Leading Consumer Brands. We have built strong, recognizable and highly trusted brands over our 35 year history. We believe this is an important competitive differentiator. Furthermore, the strength of our brand has permitted us to be a partner of choice for other leading personal finance content providers.

High Quality, Proprietary Content. We provide consumers with proprietary, fully researched, comprehensive, independent and objective personal finance content, data and tools. Our editorial staff of 29 editors and reporters, 90 freelancers and 13 expert columnists delivers best in class content and provides news and advice through over 180 new articles per week on top of over 48,000 stories in our database. We also aggregate rate information from over 4,800 institutions and have broadened the focus to more than 300 financial products in nearly 600 local markets. In addition, we generate 172,000 distinct rate tables capturing on average over three million pieces of information on a weekly basis. The competency of creating unique content would be challenging for others to replicate.

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Significant Selection, Breadth and Depth of Offering. Bankrate provides both a broad range of personal finance services products across numerous vertical categories including mortgages, deposits, insurance, credit cards, and other personal finance categories, including retirement, automobile loans, and taxes, as well as great depth of selection in each category. Our selection both across and within these categories is a key differentiator in the value proposition to personal financial service shoppers.

Superior Distribution Platforms. Our unique content and rate information is distributed through three main sources: owned and operated websites, online co-brands, and print partners. This distribution network enables us to drive large amounts of high quality traffic to our network while increasing our brand awareness in an extremely cost-effective way.

Diverse Monetization Opportunities and Strong Cash Flow. Our primary sources of revenue are display advertising, performance-based advertising and lead generation. The multiple ways to monetize a given page view or unique visitor to our site, combined with a highly scalable infrastructure and low capital expenditure or working capital needs, results in strong cash flow conversion.

Strong, Experienced Management Team. Our management team has an in-depth understanding of the online media and personal finance industries as well as extensive experience growing companies profitability, both organically and through acquisitions.

#### **Our Growth Strategy**

Maintain Leadership as a Trusted and Authoritative Source for Personal Finance Content. We are focused on maintaining our position as a leading destination platform for personal finance information. As consumers increase their usage of the Internet as a tool for personal finance needs, we intend to maintain and improve our position in online comparative research for mortgages, deposit products, insurance and credit cards and potentially in additional vertical personal finance markets.

*Increase Traffic to Our Network.* We believe our unique and differentiated content offering, the strength of our brands and our marketing efforts will allow us to drive substantial traffic to our online network. We intend to continue to focus on efforts that explicitly drive traffic to our websites including search engine optimization, public relations, print partnerships, increasing the size of our co-brand partner network, and limited, high return on investment, paid search efforts.

Continue to Increase Monetization of Our Traffic. By advertising on our online network, banks, brokers, insurance companies, credit card issuers and other advertisers are accessing targeted, quality consumers poised to engage in a high-value transaction. We intend to continuously enhance our product offering and targeting capabilities to advertisers to ensure we are increasing our monetization of content and traffic.

Develop New Products that Increase the Quality of Our Offering to Consumers, Advertisers and Partners. By enhancing and expanding our product set, we seek to maintain our industry leadership. The key goals of all of our product development efforts are to satisfy consumers, drive traffic, increase monetization and increase affiliate and partner opportunities.

*Pursue Additional Strategic Acquisitions*. Acquiring companies opportunistically is a strategic core competency for us. We believe our industry relationships allow us to identify specialized companies that are attractive acquisition candidates. We intend to continue to pursue strategic growth opportunities that complement our online network to cost-effectively gain market share, expand into vertical categories and strengthen our content portfolio.

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#### Restructuring

The Company consummated its Initial Public Offering of shares of common stock on June 22, 2011. In addition, on June 30, 2011, in accordance with the terms of the indenture (the Indenture) governing our  $\frac{1}{2}$ % senior secured notes due 2015 (the Notes), the Company used \$123.0 million of the proceeds from the Initial Public Offering to redeem \$105.0 million aggregate principal amount of the then-outstanding Notes (the Notes Redemption) and to pay interest accrued on the Notes.

The Company is a Delaware corporation and prior to the consummation of the Initial Public Offering, BEN Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (Holdings), owned 100% of the Company sequity interests. On June 21, 2011, prior to the consummation of the Initial Public Offering, each share of common and preferred stock of Holdings outstanding at such time was exchanged for new shares of a single class of common stock of Holdings (the Recapitalization). In addition, following the Recapitalization and prior to the consummation of the Initial Public Offering, Holdings merged with and into the Company, with the Company surviving (the Merger). In the Merger, each share of the new Holdings common stock converted into shares of common stock of the Company, and all outstanding shares of Company common and preferred stock outstanding immediately prior to the Merger were cancelled. The consummation of the Initial Public Offering was premised on the prior consummation of the Recapitalization and the Merger. The surviving corporation in the Merger retained the name Bankrate, Inc.

In connection with the Merger and the Initial Public Offering, the Company entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated Stockholders Agreement that provides the Company s existing direct and indirect stockholders with certain rights, including rights of Ben Holding S.à r.l., our majority stockholder which is, in turn, controlled by the Apax VII Funds (as defined below), to nominate board members and to cause the subsequent registration of additional shares of common stock. Pursuant to this agreement, Ben Holding S.à r.l. has the right to nominate a majority of the members of our board of directors, although at this time there are only four such designees on the eight-member board. All parties to this agreement, who in the aggregate will own approximately 65% of our outstanding common stock after giving effect to this offering, are obligated to vote for the election of such nominees. See Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions below.

The Merger was accounted for as a common control merger and in a manner similar to a pooling of interests. Accordingly, Holdings and Bankrate were consolidated retroactively to the earliest period presented, using the historical cost basis of each entity. The common stock, per common share, and increase in authorized share amounts in the financial information presented throughout this prospectus have been presented to retroactively reflect these transactions to the earliest period presented.

# **Principal Stockholders**

Apax Partners is one of the world s leading private equity investment groups. It operates across the United States, Europe and Asia and has more than 35 years of investing experience. Funds under the advice and management of Apax Partners globally total over \$35.0 billion. These funds provide long-term equity financing to build and strengthen world-class companies. Funds advised by Apax Partners invest in companies across its global sectors of Tech & Telecom, Retail & Consumer, Media, Healthcare and Financial & Business Services. See Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions and Principal and Selling Stockholders and the documents referred to herein for more information with respect to our relationship with funds advised by Apax Partners.

#### **Interests of Related Persons**

Ben Holding S.à r.l., Apax Partners, L.P. and certain of our directors and executive officers received cash, common stock, or other consideration as a result of the Initial Public Offering and will receive cash consideration as a result of this offering, in each case as described below.

Prior to the Initial Public Offering, each of the Company s executive officers participated in our Exit Event Incentive Bonus Plan, pursuant to which participants received bonuses if, among other things, the Apax VII

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Funds received a specified rate of return in an initial public offering. However, no bonuses were paid under this plan and this plan is no longer in effect. For more detail on the terms of the Exit Incentive Bonus Plan, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis Exit Event Incentive Bonus Plan below.

Prior to the Initial Public Offering, each of the Company s executive officers held unvested shares of Class B Common Stock of Holdings which vested in connection with the Initial Public Offering. Messrs. Boyd, Evans, DiMaria, Hoogterp, Ricciardelli and Ross realized value equal to \$544,253, \$16,801,957, \$6,720,783, \$3,367,139, \$3,367,139 and \$6,734,278, respectively.

Pursuant to a pre-existing Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement with Apax Partners L.P. and related advisory arrangements, Apax Partners L.P. and certain of the Company's directors and executive officers received payments in connection with the Initial Public Offering. For more detail, see Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement. Under these advisory arrangements, Apax Partners L.P. and Messrs. Morse, Boyd, Evans, DiMaria, Hoogterp, Ricciardelli and Ross received payments equal to \$34,700,220, \$2,361,468, \$6,531, \$300,979, \$11,079, \$8,361, \$2,341 and \$6,688, respectively.

Ben Holding S.à r.l. and certain of our directors and executive officers held shares of one or more of the Holdings preferred stock, Class A Common Stock, or Class B Common Stock prior to the consummation of the Initial Public Offering. These shares were exchanged for and converted into common shares of the Company in the Recapitalization and Merger. For more detail, see Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions The Recapitalization and Merger . As a result of the Recapitalization and Merger, Ben Holding S.à r.l. and Messrs. Morse, Boyd, Evans, DiMaria, Hoogterp, Ricciardelli and Ross received 77,111,599, 5,247,708, 50,797, 1,788,972, 472,673, 243,055, 229,678 and 463,815 shares of common stock of the Company, respectively.

Prior to the consummation of the Initial Public Offering, the Company granted approximately 120,135 shares of restricted stock to its employees under its new long-term incentive plan, which will vest over a one-year period (subject to continued employment through the vesting date). Of these shares, Messrs. DiMaria, Hoogterp, Ricciardelli and Ross received awards of 2,706 each. In addition, the Company granted to certain of its employees options exercisable for 5,000,000 shares of our common stock, which will vest over a four-year period (subject to continued employment). Messrs. Pinola, Evans, DiMaria, Hoogterp, Ricciardelli and Ross received options exercisable for 10,000, 995,000, 550,000, 300,000 and 400,000 shares, respectively.

Ben Holding S.à r.l. and certain of our directors and executive officers sold shares of the Company s common stock in the Initial Public Offering. After expenses, Ben Holding S.à r.l. and Messrs. Morse, Boyd, Evans, DiMaria, Hoogterp, Ricciardelli and Ross received proceeds of \$130,213,965, \$8,861,512, \$69,499, \$2,519,346, \$665,647, \$684,569, \$646,894 and \$1,306,351, respectively, from the sale of their shares of common stock in the Initial Public Offering. In addition, Ben Holding S.à r.l. and certain of our directors and executive officers intend to sell shares of the Company s common stock in this offering. For more detail, see Principal and Selling Stockholders. Ben Holding S.à r.l. and Mr. Evans are offering 10,235,835 and 242,833 shares in this offering, respectively. After expenses, assuming a public offering price of \$ and assuming no exercise of the underwriters option to acquire additional shares, Ben Holding S.à r.l. and Mr. Evans will receive proceeds of \$ and \$ , respectively.

#### **Risk Factors**

Participating in this offering involves substantial risk. Our ability to execute our strategy also is subject to certain risks. The risks described under the heading Risk Factors immediately following this summary may cause us not to realize the full benefits of our strengths or may cause us to be unable to successfully execute all or part of our strategy. Some of the more significant challenges and risks include the following:

our dependence on online advertising revenue;

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intense competitive pressures in the Company s industry;

dependence on Internet search engines and the prominence of the Company s websites in search results;

exposure to interest rate volatility;

rapidly-changing technologies and industry standards and technical challenges;

reliance on the Company s brands; and

the Company s significant leverage and restrictions on operations under the terms of the Company s indebtedness.

Before you participate in this offering, you should carefully consider all the information in this prospectus, including matters set forth under the heading Risk Factors.

#### **Additional Information**

Bankrate was founded in 1976 and Bankrate, Inc. was incorporated in the State of Delaware in 2011. Our principal executive offices are located at 11760 U.S. Highway One, Suite 200, North Palm Beach, Florida 33408, and our main telephone number is (561) 630-2400.

We also maintain an Internet site at www.bankrate.com. Our website and the information contained therein or connected thereto shall not be deemed to be incorporated into this prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and you should not rely on any such information in deciding whether to purchase our securities.

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#### THE OFFERING

Common stock offered by the selling stockholders 10,500,000 shares

Overallotment option 1,575,000 shares

Common stock to be outstanding after this offering 99,993,300 shares

Use of proceeds We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares in

this offering. See Use of Proceeds and Principal and Selling

Stockholders.

Dividend policy We have not declared or paid any dividends on our common stock.

We currently intend to retain all of our future earnings, if any, for use in our business and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends for the common stock in the foreseeable future. See Dividend

Policy.

Risk factors You should read the Risk Factors section and other information

included in this prospectus for a discussion of factors to consider

carefully before deciding to invest in our common stock.

New York Stock Exchange symbol

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding immediately after this offering is based on the number of shares outstanding as of November 21, 2011, and excludes 4,900,000 shares of common stock available for future issuance upon exercise of options issued in connection with the Initial Public Offering under our equity compensation plans.

#### **Assumptions Used in This Prospectus**

Except as otherwise indicated, all information contained in this prospectus assumes a public offering price of \$19.87, the closing price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange on November 22, 2011, and that the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase up to an additional 1,575,000 shares of our common stock.

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#### SUMMARY HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL DATA

The following table presents our summary historical and pro forma financial data and certain other statistical data. The summary historical consolidated financial data as of and for each of the periods ended December 31, 2009 and 2010 and statement of operations and cash flow data for the year ended December 31, 2008 and the period ended August 24, 2009 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. As a result of the Bankrate Acquisition, our financial results were separately presented in our financial statements for the Predecessor entity for periods prior to the acquisition date of August 25, 2009. As a result, periods prior to August 25, 2009 are not necessarily comparable to periods after that date. As a result of the Merger and Recapitalization, Holdings and the Company were consolidated retroactively in the Successor entity, beginning July 17, 2009, the date of inception of Holdings. The summary historical balance sheet data as of December 31, 2008 and August 24, 2009 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements not included in this prospectus.

The summary historical consolidated financial data as of and for each of the periods ended September 30, 2010 and 2011 have been derived from our unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. The operating results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2011 include all adjustments, consisting of only normal and recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary for a fair statement of the results of such interim periods. The interim results are not necessarily an indication of the results for the full year.

The unaudited pro forma consolidated statement of operations data for the period ended December 31, 2010, which gives effect to the 2010 Acquisitions, the issuance of the Notes on July 13, 2010, the Initial Public Offering and the Notes Redemption as if they had occurred on January 1, 2010 have been derived from our historical audited consolidated financial statements and the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of NetQuote Holdings, Inc. and CreditCards.com, Inc. for the period from January 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010 included elsewhere in this prospectus and the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of NetQuote Holdings, Inc. and CreditCards.com not included in this prospectus. This pro forma information does not purport to represent what our results of operations or financial position would have been if the 2010 Acquisitions, the issuance of the Notes, the Initial Public Offering and the Notes Redemption had occurred as of the dates indicated or what those results will be for future periods.

The historical consolidated financial data and other statistical data presented below should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, included elsewhere in this prospectus, and the sections entitled Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations. Financial information included below may not be indicative of our future performance.

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		Pred	eces	sor	Successor Period from						Successor				
(\$ in thousands, except per share data)	Dec		Jan	eriod from nuary 1, 2009 1gh August 24, 2009	1	July 17, 2009 chrough cember 31, 2009	De	ear ended cember 31, 2010(2)	De	2010(3)	Sep	2010(4)	Sep	Nine months ended September 30, 2011(5)	
Statement of Operations Data and	Other	Data:							(I	unaudited)	(u	naudited)	(u	naudited)	
Revenue	\$	166,855	\$	87,646	\$	43,837	\$	220,598	\$	300,887	\$	143,333	\$	310,431	
Cost of revenue, excluding stock															
based compensation		64,132		35,333		18,669		85,326		114,663		56,507		110,992	
Stock based compensation cost of		1,963		2.059										237	
revenue		1,903		2,958										231	
Gross margin		100,760		49,355		25,168		135,272		186,224		86,826		199,202	
Gross margin		100,700		49,333		25,106		133,272		100,224		00,020		199,202	
Operating expenses:															
Sales		6,891		4,566		2,555		8,624		10,892		6,255		9,217	
Marketing		12,437		5,958		3,629		23,672		39,371		13,783		59,358	
Product development		6,067		4,336		2,546		8,722		11,699		6,280		10,042	
General and administrative		19,242		10,919		5,905		22,991		31,288		15,671		23,893	
Stock based compensation		11,454		19,556				,				,		2,690	
Acquisition, offering and related		·		·										·	
expenses and related party fees				34,562		4,936		17,390		148		16,139		40,857	
Restructuring charges								3,288		3,568		3,358		238	
Impairment charges		2,433													
Legal settlements								1,646		1,495		141			
Depreciation and amortization		9,134		8,294		9,789		35,226		45,207		25,574		32,566	
		67,658		88,191		29,360		121,559		143,668		87,201		178,861	
Income (loss) from operations		33,102		(38,836)		(4,192)		13,713		42,556		(375)		20,341	
Other expense				, , ,				(306)		(306)					
Interest income (expense), net		1,562		30		(12,093)		(38,455)		(27,954)		(28,242)		(25,439)	
Loss on redemption of Notes														(16,629)	
Income (loss) before income taxes		34,664		(38,806)		(16,285)		(25,048)		14,296		(28,617)		(21,727)	
Income tax (benefit) expense		15,043		(4,222)		(6,509)		(3,651)		9,106		(11,974)		5,740	
(********************************		20,010		(1,===)		(0,00)		(=,===)		2,200		(,,,,)		2,7.10	
Net income (loss)	\$	19,621	\$	(34,584)	\$	(9,776)	\$	(21,397)	\$	5,190	\$	(16,643)	\$	(27,467)	
()	-	,	_	(= 1,= = 1)	_	(2,1.1.4)	-	(==,==,)	-	-,-,-	-	(,)	_	(=1,141)	
Basic and diluted income (loss) per															
share:															
Basic	\$	1.04	\$	(1.83)	\$	(0.22)	\$	(0.30)	\$	0.05	\$	(0.25)	\$	(0.30)	
Diluted		1.01		(1.83)		(0.22)		(0.30)		0.05		(0.25)		(0.30)	
Weighted average common shares															
outstanding:															
Basic	1	18,848,125		18,862,259	4	3,692,073	•	71,494,223		96,128,697	6	66,239,400		92,233,345	
Diluted	1	19,498,209		18,862,259	4	3,692,073	-	71,494,223		96,128,697	e	66,239,400	9	92,233,345	
Other Financial Data:															
EBITDA(6)	\$	42,236	\$	(30,542)	\$	5,597	\$	48,633	\$		\$	25,199	\$	36,278	
Adjusted EBITDA(6)		58,086		26,534		10,533		71,263		92,974		44,837		96,929	
Balance Sheet Data:															
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	46,055	\$	59,310	\$	77,690	\$	115,630			\$	95,727	\$	64,489	
Working capital		48,874		60,754		27,736		65,141				69,269		121,868	
Intangible assets, net		83,347		76,533		224,372		365,745				376,573		352,299	
Goodwill		101,856		101,886		349,749		559,168				526,921		573,745	
Total assets		270,750		289,640		706,368		1,125,627				1,097,506		1,106,997	
Total stockholders equity		248,430		237,927		323,240		626,056				625,355		771,892	

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- (1) Includes the acquired assets and liabilities of Blackshore Properties, Inc. (owner of Bankaholic.com), LinkSpectrum Co. (owner of CreditCardGuide.com), InsureMe, Inc. (owner of InsureMe.com) and Lower Fees, Inc. (owner of FeeDisclosure.com) from the respective dates of acquisition.
- (2) Includes the acquired stock of NetQuote Holdings, Inc. (owner of NetQuote.com) and CreditCards.com, Inc. (owner of CreditCards.com), and acquired assets and liabilities of InfoTrak National Data Services, Jim Wang Enterprises, LLC (owner of Bargaineering.com) and InsuranceQuotes.com

  Development, LLC (owner of InsuranceQuotes.com) from the respective dates of the acquisition. The December 31, 2010 balance sheet data has been derived from the Company s unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus and have been presented as consolidated to reflect the Merger for comparative purposes.
- (3) No pro forma balance sheet is required.

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- (4) Includes the acquired assets and liabilities of Jim Wang Enterprises, LLC (owner of Bargaineering) from the date of the acquisition.
- (5) Includes the acquired assets and liabilities of certain entities that are individually and in the aggregate immaterial to the Company s net assets and operations from the respective dates of the acquisition.
- EBITDA represents net income (loss) before income tax (benefit) expense, interest expense (income), net and depreciation and amortization. Adjusted EBITDA represents EBITDA before stock based compensation, impairment charges, acquisition related expenses and related party fees, restructuring charges, legal settlements (net), loss on sale of Savingforcollege.com and loss on redemption of Notes. EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA are supplemental measures of our performance and are not measurements of our financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered as alternatives to net income or other performance measures derived in accordance with GAAP, or as alternatives to cash flow from operating activities as measures of our liquidity. In addition, our measurements of EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA may not be comparable to similarly titled measures of other companies. Management believes that the presentation of EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA included in this prospectus provides useful information to investors regarding our results of operations because they assist in analyzing and benchmarking the performance and value of our business. The following table reconciles our net income (loss) to EBITDA and EBITDA to Adjusted EBITDA for the periods presented:

	Prede	ces	sor		Successor					Successor			
			riod from anuary		Period from								
(\$ in thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2008		1, 2009 hrough ugust 24, 2009	1	July 17, 2009 through December 31, 2009		ear ended cember 31, 2010	yea	o forma ar ended ember 31, 2010	Nine months ended September 30, 2010		Nine months ended tember 30, 2011	
								(ur	audited)	(unaudited)	(u	naudited)	
Net income (loss)	\$ 19,621	\$	(34,584)		\$ (9,776)	\$	(21,397)	\$	5,190	\$ (16,643)	\$	(27,467)	
Income tax (benefit) expense	15,043		(4,222)		(6,509)		(3,651)		9,106	(11,974)		5,740	
Interest (income) expense, net	(1,562)		(30)		12,093		38,455		27,954	28,242		25,439	
Depreciation and amortization	9,134		8,294		9,789		35,226		45,207	25,574		32,566	
EBITDA	42,236		(30,542)		5,597		48,633		87,457	25,199		36,278	
Stock based compensation(a)	13,417		22,514		·					·		2,927	
Impairment charges(b)	2,433												
Acquisition, offering and related expenses													
and related party fees(c)			34,562		4,436		17,390		148	16,139		40,857	
Restructuring charges(d)							3,288		3,568	3,358		238	
Legal settlements, net(e)					500		1,646		1,495	141			
Loss on sale of Savingsforcollege.com(f)							306		306				
Loss on redemption of Notes(g)												16,629	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 58,086	\$	26,534		\$ 10,533	\$	71,263	\$	92,974	\$ 44,837	\$	96,929	

- (a) Represents the non-cash expense of stock based compensation of Bankrate that was discontinued in connection with the Bankrate Acquisition and re-established in connection with the Company s Initial Public Offering.
- (b) Reflects intangible asset impairment charges for Bankrate of \$2.4 million in the year ended December 31, 2008.
- Reflects acquisition related expenses incurred by Bankrate in connection with (i) the Bankrate Acquisition in the periods ended July 17, 2009 and December 31, 2009; (ii) the NetQuote and CreditCards acquisitions and the Notes offering in the year ended December 31, 2010; (iii) the Trouvé acquisition and the Initial Public Offering in the nine months ended September 30, 2011. Included within the amount is \$284,000, \$780,000 and \$256,000 of professional fee expenses in the period from July 17, 2009 through December 31, 2009, the year ended December 31, 2010 and the nine months ended September 30, 2011, respectively, related to the stockholder litigation arising out of the Bankrate Acquisition, which was fully settled and closed on February 23, 2011. Further, the adjustment eliminates advisory fees payable to shareholders for advisory services. See the section entitled Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions.
- (d) During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company terminated 81 employees to achieve cost savings and also exited two building facilities as a result of the 2010 Acquisitions resulting in a \$3.3 million restructuring charge. The pro forma amount also eliminates costs incurred by CreditCards prior to acquisition related to a troubled debt restructuring. During the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2011, the Company terminated 56 and one employees, respectively, to achieve cost savings in connection with the 2010 Acquisitions.

- (e) The Company incurred \$500,000, \$141,000 and \$1.6 million in settlement costs in the period from July 17, 2009 through December 31, 2009, nine months ended September 30, 2010 and the year ended December 31, 2010, respectively, related to the stockholder litigation arising out of the Bankrate Acquisition, which was fully settled and closed on February 23, 2011. The \$500,000 amount is included in acquisition related expenses and related party fees in the statement of operations. In addition, NetQuote recognized a gain on legal settlement of \$151,000 related to litigation with one of its customers which is also being adjusted in the proforma information.
- (f) The Company recorded a loss on the sale of Savingforcollege.com in December 2010.
- (g) The Company recognized a loss on the early redemption of the Notes in June 2011 in connection with the Initial Public Offering.

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#### RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves risk. You should carefully consider the following risks as well as the other information included in this prospectus, including Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our financial statements and related notes, before investing in our common stock. Any of the following risks could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects, and cause the value of our common stock to decline, which could cause you to lose all or part of your investment in our Company.

#### **Risks Related to Our Business**

Our success depends on online advertising revenue.

We have historically derived, and we expect to continue to derive, the majority of our revenue through the sale of advertising space, financial product leads and hyperlinks on our online network. Any factors that limit the amount advertisers are willing to and do spend on advertising on our websites could have a material adverse effect on our business. These factors may include our ability to:

maintain a significant number of unique website visitors and corresponding significant reach of Internet visitors; successfully convert visitors to some of our websites into credit card applicants and maintain a significant rate at which credit card applications completed through some of our websites are approved by our credit card issuer customers; successfully convert consumers visits to some of our websites into transaction fees and/or revenue from insurance agents or carriers; compete with alternative advertising sources; maintain a significant number of sellable impressions generated from website visitors available to advertisers; accurately measure the number and demographic characteristics of our visitors; successfully sell and market our online network to our advertisers, including mortgage loan, credit card and insurance product providers; handle temporary high volume traffic spikes to our online network; convince traditional media advertisers to advertise on our online network; increase traffic to our online network; and acquire and generate insurance leads.

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Most of our advertising contracts are short-term and are subject to termination by the advertiser at any time. Advertisers who have longer-term contracts may fail to honor their existing contracts or fail to renew their contracts. If a significant number of advertisers or a few large advertisers decide not to continue advertising on our websites, we could experience an immediate and substantial decline in our revenues over a relatively short period of time.

## We face intense competitive pressures that may harm our operating results.

We face intense competition in all our businesses, and we expect competition to remain intense in the future. We compete with, among others, search engines utilizing keyword cost-per-click advertising or comparison advertising sites/networks; lead aggregators and websites committed to specific personal finance products; numerous websites in each of our vertical categories competing for traffic and for advertisers; financial institutions, including mortgage lenders, deposit institutions, insurance providers and credit card issuers, many of

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whom are also our customers; and traditional offline personal finance marketing channels, including direct mail, retail bank branch networks, television, radio, print and online advertising and call centers. Some of these competitors have significantly greater financial resources than we do and could use those resources to develop more directly competitive product offerings and editorial content and undertake advertising campaigns to promote those new offerings and content, which could result in diminished traffic to our websites and reduce our overall competitive and market position. In addition, new competitors may enter this market as there are few barriers to entry. For example, Google has recently begun presenting comparisons of mortgage, credit card and deposit interest rates through its search engine, which may divert consumers away from our websites, including consumers who would otherwise find, be directed or be linked to our websites through the Google search engine. If Google is successful in its efforts, this could have an adverse effect on our business, operating results and prospects. Our online competitors may adopt certain aspects of our business model or replicate the appearance and features of our website, which could reduce our ability to differentiate our services. Many of our existing competitors, as well as a number of potential new competitors, have longer operating histories, greater name recognition, larger customer bases and significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources than us. Many competitors have complementary products or services that drive traffic to their websites. In the future, competitors could introduce superior products and services or reduce prices below ours. Increased competition could result in lower website traffic, advertising rate reductions, reduced margins or loss of market share, any of which would adversely affect our business and operating results.

We depend upon Internet search engines to attract a significant portion of the visitors to our websites, and any change in the prominence of our websites in either paid or algorithmic search result listings could cause the number of visitors to our websites and our revenue to decline.

We depend in significant part on various Internet search engines, such as Google and Bing, and other search websites to direct a significant number of visitors to our websites to provide our online services to our clients. Search websites typically provide two types of search results, algorithmic and paid listings. Algorithmic, or organic, listings are determined and displayed solely by a set of formulas designed by search companies. Paid listings can be purchased and then are displayed if particular words are included in a user s Internet search. Placement in paid listings is generally not determined solely on the bid price, but also takes into account the search engines assessment of the quality of website featured in the paid listing and other factors. We rely on both algorithmic and paid search results, as well as advertising on other websites, to direct a substantial share of the visitors to our websites.

Our ability to maintain the number of visitors to our websites from Internet search websites and other websites is not entirely within our control. For example, Internet search websites frequently revise their algorithms in an attempt to optimize their search result listings or to maintain their internal standards and strategies. Changes in the algorithms could cause our websites to receive less favorable placements, which could reduce the number of users who visit our websites. We have experienced and continue to experience fluctuations in the search result rankings for a number of our websites.

In addition, the prominence of the placement of our advertisements is in part determined by the amount we are willing to pay for the advertisement. We bid against our competitors for the display of paid search engine advertisements and some of our competitors have greater resources with which to bid and better brand recognition than we have. If competition for the display of paid advertisements in response to search terms related to our online services increases, our online advertising expenses could rise significantly or we may be required to reduce the number of our paid search advertisements. If we were to reduce our advertising with search engines, our consumer traffic may significantly decline or we may be unable to maintain a cost-effective search engine marketing program.

Other factors, such as search engine technical difficulties, search engine technical changes and technical or presentation changes we make to our websites, could also cause our websites to be listed less prominently in algorithmic search results. In addition, search engines retain broad discretion to remove from search results any

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company whose marketing practices are deemed to be inconsistent with the search engine s guidelines. If our marketing practices do not comply with search engine guidelines, we may, without warning, not appear in search result listings at all. Any adverse effect on the placement of our websites in search engine results could reduce the number of users who visit our websites. In turn, any reduction in the number of visitors to our websites would negatively affect our ability to earn revenue. If visits to our websites decrease, our revenue may decline or we may need to resort to more costly sources to replace lost visitors, and such decreased revenue and/or increased expense could adversely affect our business and profitability.

#### Our visitor traffic can be impacted by interest rate volatility.

We provide interest rate information for mortgages and other loans, credit cards and a variety of deposit accounts. Visitor traffic to our websites tends to increase with interest rate movements. Factors that have caused significant visitor fluctuations in the past have been Federal Reserve Board actions and general market conditions affecting home mortgage and deposit interest rates. Additionally, the level of traffic to our websites can be dependent on interest rate levels as well as mortgage financing and refinancing activity. Accordingly, a slowdown in mortgage production volumes could have an adverse effect on our business. Conversely, a sudden, steep drop in interest rates could dramatically increase our page views such that we would be unable to sell sufficient advertisements to take full advantage of the spike in traffic.

We believe that as we continue to develop our websites with broader personal finance topics, the percentage of overall traffic seeking mortgage and deposit information will remain stabilized at current levels. To accelerate the growth of traffic to our websites, we are working with our syndication partners to provide timely content, and we are aggressively promoting all of our products. There is the risk that our traffic will remain not stable or that our promotional activities will not be successful. Any reduction in traffic to our websites may have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

If we fail to keep pace with rapidly-changing technologies and industry standards, we could lose consumers, customers or advertising inventory and our results of operations may suffer.

The business lines in which we currently operate and compete are characterized by rapidly-changing Internet media and marketing standards, changing technologies, frequent new product and service introductions, and changing consumer and customer demands. The introduction of new technologies and services embodying new technologies and the emergence of new industry standards and practices could render our existing technologies and services obsolete and unmarketable or require unanticipated investments in technology. Our future success will depend in part on our ability to adapt to these rapidly-changing digital media formats and other technologies. We will need to enhance our existing technologies and services and develop and introduce new technologies and services to address our customers—changing demands and consumer expectations. If we fail to adapt successfully to such developments or timely introduce new technologies and services, we could lose consumers and customers, our expenses could increase and we could lose advertising inventory.

#### Our websites, applications, widgets and other products may encounter technical problems and service interruptions.

In the past, our websites have experienced significant increases in traffic and our applications and widgets have experienced significant increases in use in response to interest rate movements and other business or financial news events. The number of our visitors has continued to increase over time, and we are seeking to further increase our visitor traffic. As a result, our Internet servers must accommodate spikes in demand for our web pages in addition to potential significant growth in traffic.

Our websites, applications, widgets and other products have in the past, and may in the future, experience slower response times or interruptions as a result of increased traffic or other reasons. These delays and interruptions may increase in the future if our Internet servers and infrastructure are not able to accommodate

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potential significant traffic growth and spikes in demand. Delays and interruptions resulting from the failure to maintain Internet service connections to our websites could frustrate visitors and reduce our future website traffic, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

All of our communications and network equipment is located at our corporate headquarters in North Palm Beach, Florida and at secure third-party co-locations facilities in Atlanta, Georgia, Austin, Texas and Denver, Colorado. Multiple system failures involving these locations could lead to interruptions or delays in service for our websites, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. Additionally, we are dependent on the third-party providers and their ability to provide safe, effective and cost-efficient servers. Our operations are dependent upon our ability to protect our systems against damage from fires, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, power losses, telecommunications failures, physical or electronic break-ins, computer viruses, acts of terrorism, hacker attacks and other events beyond our control. Although we maintain insurance to cover a variety of risks, the scope and amount of our insurance coverage may not be sufficient to cover our losses resulting from system failures or other disruptions to our online operations.

Our business depends on a strong brand and content, thus we will not be able to attract visitors and advertisers if we do not maintain and develop our brands and content.

It is critical for us to maintain and develop our brands and content so as to effectively expand our visitor base and our revenues. Our success in promoting and enhancing our brands, as well as our ability to remain relevant and competitive, depends on our success in offering high quality content, features, product offers, services and functionality. In addition, we may take actions that have the unintended consequence of harming our brand. If our actions cause consumers to question the value of our marketplace, our business and reputation may suffer. If we fail to promote our brands successfully or if visitors to our websites or advertisers do not perceive our content and services to be of high quality, we may not be able to continue growing our business and attracting visitors and advertisers, which will in turn impact our operating results.

Our results of operations may fluctuate significantly.

Our results of operations are difficult to predict and may fluctuate significantly in the future as a result of several factors, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include:

changes in fees paid by advertisers;

traffic levels on our websites, which can fluctuate significantly;

changes in the demand for Internet products and services;

changes in fee or revenue-sharing arrangements with our distribution partners;

our ability to enter into or renew key distribution agreements;

the introduction of new Internet advertising services by us or our competitors;

changes in our capital or operating expenses;

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changes in interest rates;

general economic conditions; and

changes in banking or other laws that could limit or eliminate content on our websites.

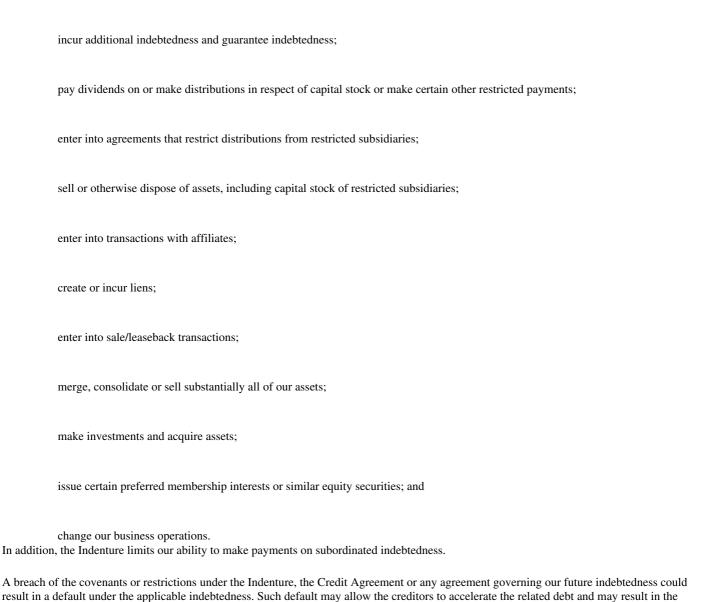
Our future revenue and results of operations are difficult to forecast due to these factors. As a result, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our results of operations may not be meaningful, and you should not rely on past periods as indicators of future performance.

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indebtedness.

Restrictive covenants in the Indenture, our credit agreement or other future indebtedness may limit our current and future operations, particularly our ability to respond to changes in our business or to pursue our business strategies.

The Indenture and our senior secured revolving credit agreement (the Credit Agreement ) contain, and any future indebtedness may contain, a number of restrictive covenants that impose significant operating and financial restrictions, including restrictions on our ability to take actions that we believe may be in our interest. The Indenture and the Credit Agreement limit, among other things, our ability to:



The restrictions contained in the Indenture and the Credit Agreement could adversely affect our ability to:

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acceleration of any other debt to which a cross-acceleration or cross-default provision applies. In the event our lenders and noteholders accelerate the repayment of our borrowings, we cannot assure that we and our subsidiaries would have sufficient assets to repay such

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finance our operations;
make needed or desired capital expenditures;
make strategic acquisitions or investments or enter into strategic alliances;
withstand a future downturn in our business or the economy in general;
engage in business activities, including future opportunities, that may be in our interest; and

plan for or react to market conditions or otherwise execute our business strategies.

These restrictions could materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and our ability to satisfy our obligations under the Notes and the Credit Agreement.

#### Risks associated with our strategic acquisitions could adversely affect our business.

We have acquired a number of companies and assets of companies in the past and may make additional acquisitions, asset purchases and strategic investments in the future. For example, in late 2005, we acquired FastFind and MMIS/Interest.com; in 2006, we acquired a group of assets from East West Mortgage, Inc. (owner

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of Mortgage-calc.com, Mortgagecalc.com and Mortgagemath.com); in 2007, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Nationwide Card Services, Inc. (owner of NationwideCardServices.com) and Savingforcollege.com, LLC (owner of Savingforcollege.com); in 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of InsureMe, Inc. (owner of InsureMe.com), Fee Disclosure, LinkSpectrum Co. (owner of CreditCardGuide.com) and Blackshore Properties, Inc. (owner of Bankaholic.com). In 2010, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Jim Wang Enterprises, LLC (owner of Bargaineering.com), InfoTrak National Data Services, InsuranceQuotes.com Development, LLC (owner of InsuranceQuotes.com), and we acquired the stock of NetQuote Holdings, Inc. (owner of NetQuote.com) and CreditCards.com, Inc. (owner of CreditCards.com). On January 1, 2011, we completed the acquisition of Trouvé Media, Inc. to complement our online publishing business. On October 10, 2011, we agreed to acquire (but have not yet acquired) substantially all of the insurance lead generation and marketing assets of InsWeb Corporation (owner of InsWeb.com) for \$65 million in cash, subject to a working capital adjustment (the InsWeb Acquisition). We will continue to consider acquisitions, asset purchases and joint ventures as a means of enhancing stockholder value. Our success in integrating our acquired businesses will depend upon our ability to retain key personnel, avoid diversion of management s attention from operational matters, integrate the technical operations and personnel of the acquired companies, and achieve the expected financial results, synergies and other benefits from our acquisitions.

In addition, future acquisitions, including the InsWeb Acquisition, could result in the incurrence of additional debt, costs and contingent liabilities. Integration of acquired operations may take longer, or be more costly or disruptive to our business, than originally anticipated.

It is also possible that expected synergies from future acquisitions may not materialize in full or at all. We may also incur costs and divert management attention through potential acquisitions that are never consummated. Future impairment losses on goodwill and intangible assets with an indefinite life, or restructuring charges, could also occur as a result of acquisitions.

Despite our due diligence investigation of each business that we acquire, there may be liabilities of the acquired companies that we fail to or are unable to discover during the due diligence investigation and for which we, as a successor owner, may be responsible. In connection with acquisitions, we generally seek to minimize the impact of these types of potential liabilities through indemnities and warranties from the seller, which may in some instances be supported by deferring payment of a portion of the purchase price. However, these indemnities and warranties, if obtained, may not fully cover the liabilities due to limitations in scope, amount or duration, financial limitations of the indemnitor or warrantor or other reasons.

Our ability to consummate any future acquisitions on terms that are favorable to us may be limited by the number of attractive acquisition targets, internal demands, our resources and our ability to obtain financing.

We depend on attracting and retaining executive officers and personnel to continue the implementation of our long-term business strategy and could be harmed by the loss of their services.

We believe that our continued growth and future success will depend in large part on the skills of our senior management team and other skilled employees. The loss of service of one or more of our executive officers or of other personnel could reduce our ability to successfully implement our long-term business strategy, our business could suffer and the value of our common stock could be materially adversely affected. Leadership changes will occur from time to time and we cannot predict whether significant resignations will occur or whether we will be able to recruit additional qualified personnel. We believe our senior management team possesses valuable knowledge about our business and that their knowledge and relationships would be very difficult to replicate. Although our senior management team has entered into employment agreements with us, they may not complete the term of their employment agreements or renew them upon expiration. Our success and the quality of our content also depend on the expertise of our editors and reporters and on their relationships with the media, financial experts and other sources of information. The loss of qualified personnel, or the inability to recruit and retain qualified personnel in the future, could have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition or operating results.

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#### If our employees were to unionize, our operating costs would likely increase.

Our employees are not currently represented by a collective bargaining agreement. However, we have no assurance that our employees will not unionize in the future, which could increase our operating costs, force us to alter our operating methods, and have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

#### Adverse resolution of litigation may harm our business, operating results or financial condition.

We are party to lawsuits in the normal course of business. We may also become party to lawsuits relating to transactions in which we are involved. Litigation can be expensive, lengthy and disruptive to normal business operations. Moreover, the results of complex legal proceedings are difficult to predict. An unfavorable resolution of a particular lawsuit could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results or financial condition.

In addition to litigation in the ordinary course of business, we are currently involved in litigation in which it has been alleged that we have participated in anti-competitive conduct. See the section entitled Business Legal Proceedings Banxcorp Litigation. Antitrust litigation is by its nature not in the ordinary course. Defending antitrust allegations, even if ultimately successful, can be costly and have a negative effect on our business. The costs of discovery could be extremely high and conducting a defense could be disruptive to our business. In addition, the relief sought by the plaintiffs in this case, if granted, could prevent Bankrate from continuing to pursue at least some aspects of its current business model, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

#### We rely on the protection of our intellectual property.

Our intellectual property includes our unique research and editorial content of our websites, our URLs, our registered and unregistered trademarks and print publications. We rely on a combination of copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secret laws, and our policy and restrictions on disclosure to protect our intellectual property. We also enter into confidentiality agreements with our employees and consultants and seek to control access to and distribution of our proprietary information. Despite these precautions, it may be possible for other parties to copy or otherwise obtain and use the content of our websites or print publications without authorization. A failure to protect our intellectual property in a meaningful manner could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We may be subject to claims that we violated intellectual property rights of others, which even if unfounded or decided in our favor may be extremely costly to defend, could require us to pay significant damages and could limit our ability to operate.

Companies in the Internet and technology industries, and other patent holders seeking to profit from royalties in connection with grants of licenses, own large numbers of patents, copyrights, trademarks and trade secrets and frequently enter into litigation based on allegations of infringement or other violations of intellectual property rights. We may in the future receive notices that claim we have misappropriated or misused other parties intellectual property rights. There may be intellectual property rights held by others, including issued or pending patents and trademarks, that cover significant aspects of our technologies, content, branding or business methods.

Because we license some of our data and content from other parties, we may be exposed to infringement actions if such parties do not possess the necessary proprietary rights. Generally, we obtain representations as to the origin and ownership of licensed content and obtain indemnification to cover any breach of any of these representations. However, these representations may not be accurate and the indemnification may not be sufficient to provide adequate compensation for any breach of these representations.

Any future infringement or other claims or prosecutions related to our intellectual property could have a material adverse effect on our business. Defending against any of these claims, with or without merit, could be time-consuming, result in costly litigation and diversion of technical and management personnel or require us to

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introduce new content or trademarks, develop new technology or enter into royalty or licensing agreements. These royalty or licensing agreements, if required, may not be available on acceptable terms, if at all.

We may face liability for, and may be subject to claims related to, information on our websites, which even if unfounded or decided in our favor may be extremely costly to defend, could require us to pay significant damages and could limit our ability to operate.

Much of the information published on our websites and in our print publications relates to the competitiveness of financial institutions rates, products and services. We also publish editorial content designed to educate consumers about banking and personal finance products. If the information we provide on our websites is not accurate or is construed as misleading or outdated, consumers and others could lose confidence in our services and attempt to hold us liable for damages and government regulators could impose fines or penalties on us. We may be subjected to claims for defamation, negligence, fraud, deceptive practices, copyright or trademark infringement, conflicts of interest or other theories relating to the information we publish on our websites. In addition, if there are errors or omissions in information published on our websites, consumers, individually or through consumer class actions, could seek damages from us for losses incurred if they relied on incorrect information provided on our websites. These types of claims have been brought, sometimes successfully, against providers of online services as well as print publications. The scope and amount of our insurance may not adequately protect us against these types of claims.

We may face liability for, and may be subject to claims related to, inaccurate advertising content provided to us, which even if unfounded or decided in our favor may be extremely costly to defend, could require us to pay significant damages and could limit our ability to operate.

Much of the information on our websites that is provided by advertisers and collected from third parties relates to the rates, costs and features for various loan, depository, personal credit and investment products offered by financial institutions, mortgage companies, investment companies, insurance companies and others participating in the personal finance marketplace. We are exposed to the risk that some advertisers may provide us, or directly post on our websites, (i) inaccurate information about their product rates, costs and features, or (ii) rates, costs and features that are not available to all consumers. This could cause consumers to lose confidence in the information provided on our websites, causing certain advertisers to become dissatisfied with our websites, and result in lawsuits being filed against us. The scope and amount of our insurance may not adequately protect us against these types of lawsuits.

## Our success depends on establishing and maintaining distribution arrangements.

Our business strategy includes the distribution of our content through the establishment of co-branded web pages with high traffic business and personal finance sections of online services and websites. Providing access to these co-branded web pages is a significant part of the value we offer to our advertisers. We compete with other Internet content providers to maintain our current relationships with other website operators and establish new relationships. In addition, as we expand our personal finance content, some of these website operators may perceive us as a competitor. As a result, they may be unwilling to promote distribution of our banking and credit content. If our distribution arrangements do not attract a sufficient number of visitors to support our current advertising model, or if we do not establish and maintain distribution arrangements on favorable economic terms, our business could be adversely affected.

We do not have exclusive relationships or long-term contracts with insurance companies, which may limit our ability to retain these insurance companies as participants in our marketplace and maintain the attractiveness of our services to consumers.

We do not have an exclusive relationship with any of the insurance companies whose insurance products are offered on our online marketplace, and thus, consumers may obtain quotes and coverage from these insurance companies without using our website. Our participating insurance companies also offer their products directly to

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consumers through insurance agents, mass marketing campaigns or through other traditional methods of insurance distribution. In most cases, our participating insurance companies also offer their products and services over the Internet, either directly to consumers or through one or more of our online competitors, or both. An inability to retain these insurance companies as participants in our marketplace could materially affect our revenues.

We may be required to record a significant charge to earnings if our goodwill or amortizable intangible assets become impaired.

We are required under GAAP to review our amortizable intangible assets for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. Goodwill is required to be tested for impairment at least annually. Factors that may be considered a change in circumstances indicating that the carrying value of our amortizable intangible assets may not be recoverable include, among others, unanticipated competition, loss of key personnel, or a significant adverse change in the business environment. We may be required to record a significant charge to earnings in our consolidated financial statements during the period in which any impairment of our goodwill or amortizable intangible assets is determined. This could adversely impact our results of operations.

Our tax returns and positions are subject to review and audit by federal, state and local taxing authorities and adverse outcomes resulting from examination of our income or other tax returns could adversely affect our operating results and financial condition.

The federal income tax returns of Bankrate, Inc. and Holdings for 2009 are currently under audit by the Internal Revenue Service. While we do not expect any material adverse tax treatment to derive from this audit, the potential financial statement impact cannot be estimated at this time. An unfavorable outcome from any tax audit could result in higher tax costs, penalties and interest, thereby negatively and adversely impacting financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

We have expanded operations in China and may possibly expand to other international markets, in addition to our United Kingdom and Canadian operations, in which we may have limited experience.

We have developed a Bankrate website written in Chinese for the Chinese market and websites for consumers located in the United Kingdom and Canada. In the event that we expand into other international markets, we will have only limited experience in marketing and operating our products and services in those markets. Expansion into international markets requires significant management attention and financial resources, may require the attraction, retention and management of local offices or personnel, and requires us to tailor our services and information to the local market as well as to adapt to local cultures, languages, regulations and standards. Certain international markets may be slower than domestic markets in adopting the Internet as an advertising and commerce medium and so our operations in international markets may not develop at a rate that supports our level of investment. In addition, international consumers may not adopt the Internet for personal finance content at all or as quickly as U.S. consumers.

Our international operations are subject to increased risks which could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

We face certain risks inherent in doing business internationally, including:

trade barriers and changes in trade regulations;

difficulties in developing, staffing and simultaneously managing foreign operations as a result of distance, language, and cultural differences;

restrictions on the use of or access to the Internet;

longer payment cycles;

currency exchange rate fluctuations;

political or social unrest or economic instability;

seasonal volatility in business activity;

risks related to government regulation or required compliance with local laws in certain jurisdictions, including labor laws; and potentially adverse tax consequences.

One or more of these factors could harm our future international operations and consequently, could harm our brand, business, operating results,

and financial condition.

 $Fraudulent\ Internet\ transactions,\ consumer\ identity\ the ft,\ security\ breaches\ and\ privacy\ concerns\ could\ hurt\ our\ revenues\ and\ reputation.$ 

If consumers experience identity theft, data security breaches or fraud after clicking through one of our websites to apply for credit cards on the websites of credit card issuers or insurance on the websites of insurance agents or carriers, we may be exposed to liability, adverse publicity and damage to our reputation. To the extent that credit card fraud or identity theft causes a general decline in consumer confidence in financial transactions over the Internet, our revenues could decline and our reputation could be damaged. If consumers are reluctant to use our websites because of concerns over data privacy or credit card fraud, our ability to generate revenues would be impaired. Our revenues would also decline if changes in industry standards, regulations or laws deterred people from using the Internet to conduct transactions that involve the transmission of confidential information, such as applying for credit cards. In addition, if technology upgrades or other expenditures are required to prevent security breaches of our network, boost general consumer confidence in financial transactions over the Internet, or prevent credit card fraud and identity theft, we may be required to expend significant capital and other resources. Further, advances in computer capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography, or other events or developments could result in a compromise or breach of the algorithms we use to protect consumers and customer companies confidential information, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

#### Future government regulation of the Internet is uncertain and subject to change.

As Internet commerce continues to evolve, increasing regulation by federal or state agencies or foreign governments may occur. Such regulation is likely in the areas of privacy, pricing, content and quality of products and services. Additionally, taxation of Internet use or electronic commerce transactions may be imposed. Any regulation imposing fees for Internet use or electronic commerce transactions could result in a decline in the use of the Internet and the viability of Internet commerce, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

If we fail to detect click-through fraud or unscrupulous advertisers, we could lose the confidence of our other advertisers and all or part of their business, thereby causing our business to suffer.

We are exposed to the risk of fraudulent clicks on our advertisements and this may result in us receiving advertising fees that are not the result of clicks generated by consumers. Click-through fraud occurs when a person clicks on an advertisement displayed on our websites in order to generate revenue to us and to increase the cost for the advertiser. If we were unable to detect this fraudulent activity and find new evidence of past fraudulent clicks, we may have to issue refunds retroactively of amounts previously paid to us. In addition, if fraudulent clicks are not detected, the affected advertisers may experience a reduced return on their investment in our advertising programs because the fraudulent clicks would not lead to potential revenue for the advertisers.

We are also exposed to the risk that advertisers who advertise on our website will advertise interest rates or other terms on a variety of financial products that they do not intend to honor. Such bait and switch activity encourages consumers to contact fraudulent advertisers over legitimate advertisers because the fraudulent advertisers claim to offer better interest rates or other terms.

Both bait and switch and click-through fraud would negatively affect our profitability, and could hurt our reputation and our brand. This could lead the advertisers to become dissatisfied with our advertising programs, which could lead to loss of advertisers and revenue.

Consumers are increasingly using non-PC devices to access the Internet, and our online network may not be accepted by such users.

The number of individuals who access the Internet through devices other than a personal computer, such as personal digital assistants and mobile telephones, has increased dramatically. Our online network was designed for rich, graphic environments such as those available on desktop and laptop computers. The lower resolution, functionality and memory associated with alternative devices currently available may make access of our online network through such devices difficult. If consumers find our online network difficult to access through alternative devices or our competitors develop product offerings that are better adapted to or more easily accessible through alternative devices, we may fail to capture a sufficient share of an increasingly important portion of the market for online services and may fail to attract both advertisers and Internet traffic.

We may be limited or restricted in the way we establish and maintain our online relationships by laws generally applicable to our business, or we may be required to obtain certain licenses.

State, federal and foreign lending laws and regulations generally require accurate disclosure of the critical components of credit costs so that consumers can readily compare credit terms from various lenders. In addition, these laws and regulations impose certain restrictions on the advertisement of these credit terms. The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency regulates certain credit card marketing and account management practices and prohibits deceptive acts, claims or practices in the marketing of credit cards. Because we are an aggregator of rate and other information regarding many financial products, including credit cards, we may be subject to some of these laws and regulations and we may be held liable under these laws and regulations for information contained on our website. We believe that we have structured our websites to comply with these laws and regulations as are currently in effect. Because of uncertainties as to the applicability of some of these laws and regulations to the Internet and, more specifically, to our type of business, and considering that our business has evolved and expanded in a relatively short period of time, we may not always have been, and may not always be, in compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Although we believe we have structured our websites to comply with these laws and regulations, we may be found to be in violation of such laws and regulations. If we are found to be in violation of any applicable laws or regulations, we could be subject to administrative enforcement actions and fines, class action lawsuits, cease and desist orders, and civil and criminal liability. If these laws and regulations are changed, or if new laws or regulations are enacted, these events could prohibit or substantially alter the content we provide on our websites. Moreover, such events could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We are also required to obtain licenses from various states to conduct parts of our business. In the case of our Bankrate Select offering, many states require licenses to solicit, broker or make loans secured by residential mortgages and other consumer loans to residents of those states. Licenses or rights currently held by us may be revoked prior to their expiration, or we may be unable to renew such licenses. In addition, we may not be granted new licenses or rights for which we may be required to apply for from time to time in the future. Furthermore, because the licensing laws of each state change frequently and their applicability is difficult to determine, we may unknowingly operate Bankrate Select without a required license.

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The telecommunications infrastructure in China, which is not as well developed as in the United States, and the high cost of Internet access, may limit the growth of our operations in China.

The telecommunications infrastructure in China is not as well developed as in the United States. Our growth in China will depend on the Chinese government and state-owned enterprises establishing and maintaining a reliable Internet and telecommunications infrastructure to reach a broader base of Internet users in China. The Internet infrastructure, standards, protocols and complementary products, services and facilities necessary to support the demands associated with continued growth may not be developed on a timely basis or at all by the Chinese government and state-owned enterprises. Access to the Internet or to specific websites may be restricted by the Chinese government. In addition, access to the Internet in China remains relatively expensive, and may make it less likely for users to access and transact business over the Internet.

Deterioration in general economic conditions and difficult market conditions may adversely affect the financial services industry and harm our revenue opportunities, business and financial condition.

General downward economic trends, reduced availability of commercial credit and increasing unemployment negatively impact the credit performance of commercial and consumer credit. Concerns over the stability of the financial markets and the economy have resulted, and may result in the future, in decreased lending by financial institutions to their customers and to each other. While there have been signs of recovery, these macroeconomic developments have affected and may continue to negatively affect our business and financial condition. Economic pressure on consumers and businesses and declining confidence in the financial markets would likely cause a decrease in the demand for advertising financial products and services. Additionally, advertising expenditures tend to be cyclical, reflecting overall economic conditions and budgeting and buying patterns. Since we derive most of our revenues from selling advertising, deterioration in economic conditions could cause decreases in or delays in advertising spending and would be likely to reduce our revenue and negatively impact our short term ability to grow our revenues.

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our financial flexibility and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations under the Notes and Credit Agreement.

We have, and will continue to have, a significant amount of indebtedness. As of September 30, 2011, our total indebtedness was \$195.0 million, comprised of the Notes in an aggregate principal amount of \$195.0 million. On a pro forma basis, giving effect to the 2010 Acquisitions, the issuance of the Notes, the Recapitalization and Merger, the Initial Public Offering and the Notes Redemption as if each had occurred on January 1, 2010, our pro forma interest expense for the year ended December 31, 2010 and the nine months ended September 30, 2011 was \$28.0 million and \$18.5 million, respectively. In addition, while undrawn as of September 30, 2011, we expect to incur approximately \$35.0 million in additional indebtedness under the Credit Agreement to finance the \$65.0 million purchase price for the InsWeb Acquisition. Our substantial level of indebtedness increases the risk that we may be unable to generate cash sufficient to invest in our business at an appropriate level, thereby making it more difficult to pay amounts due in respect of our indebtedness. Our substantial indebtedness could have other important consequences to you and significant effects on our business. For example, it could:

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to other contractual and commercial commitments;

limit our ability to obtain additional financing amounts to fund working capital, capital expenditures, debt service requirements, execution of our business strategy, or acquisitions and other purposes;

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to pay principal and interest on our debt, which would reduce the funds available to us for other purposes;

make us more vulnerable to adverse changes in general economic, industry and competitive conditions, changes in government regulation and changes in our business by limiting our flexibility in planning for, and making it more difficult for us to react quickly to, changing conditions;

place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt;

expose us to risks inherent in interest rate fluctuations because some of our borrowings are at variable rates of interest, which could result in higher interest expenses in the event of increases in interest rates; and

make it more difficult to satisfy our financial obligations, including payments on the Notes and amounts outstanding from time to time under the Credit Agreement.

In addition, the Indenture and the Credit Agreement each contain, and the agreements evidencing or governing other future indebtedness may contain, restrictive covenants that limit our ability to engage in activities that may be in our long-term best interests. Our failure to comply with those covenants could result in an event of default which, if not cured or waived, could result in the acceleration of all of our indebtedness.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness, including the Notes, and may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness, which may not be successful or if successful, could adversely impact our business.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance our debt obligations, including the Notes, depends on our financial condition and operating performance, which are subject to prevailing economic and competitive conditions and to certain financial, business, legislative, regulatory and other factors beyond our control. On a pro forma basis taking into account the Initial Public Offering and the use of proceeds thereof, but not giving effect to the Company s exchange of its outstanding unregistered Notes for an equal principal amount of registered Notes (the Exchange Offer ), our current debt service obligations are currently \$23.4 million per year. In addition, we entered into the Credit Agreement described below, which when drawn in the future would increase the amount of our current debt service obligations. We may be unable to maintain a level of cash flows from operating activities sufficient to permit us to fund our day-to-day operations or to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness, including the Notes.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations, we could face substantial liquidity problems and could be forced to reduce or delay investments and capital expenditures or to sell assets or operations, seek additional capital or restructure or refinance our indebtedness, including the Notes. We may not be able to effect any such alternative measures, if necessary, on commercially reasonable terms or at all and, even if successful, such alternative actions may not allow us to meet our scheduled debt service obligations. The Indenture and the Credit Agreement each restrict, and any of our other future debt agreements may restrict, our ability to dispose of assets and use the proceeds from any such dispositions and may also restrict our ability to raise debt or equity capital to be used to repay other indebtedness when it becomes due. We may not be able to consummate those dispositions or to obtain proceeds in an amount sufficient to meet any debt service obligations then due.

In addition, we conduct our operations through our subsidiaries, certain of which may not be guarantors of the Notes or guarantors of our other indebtedness. Accordingly, repayment of our indebtedness, including the Notes, is dependent on the generation of cash flow by our subsidiaries and their ability to make such cash available to us, by dividend, debt repayment or otherwise. Unless they are Guarantors of the Notes, our obligations from time to time under the Credit Agreement or any future indebtedness, our subsidiaries do not have any obligation to pay amounts due on the Notes or under the Credit Agreement or to make funds available for such purposes. Our subsidiaries may not be able to, or may not be permitted to, make distributions to enable us to make payments in respect of our indebtedness, including the Notes. Each subsidiary is a distinct legal entity and, under certain circumstances, legal and contractual restrictions may limit our ability to obtain cash from our subsidiaries. Although the Indenture and the Credit Agreement do, and other future debt agreements may, limit the ability of certain of our subsidiaries to incur consensual restrictions on their ability to pay dividends or make other intercompany payments to us, these limitations are, or in the case of future debt agreements may be, subject to certain qualifications and exceptions. In the event that we do not receive distributions from our subsidiaries, we may be unable to make required principal and interest payments on our indebtedness, including the Notes.

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Our inability to generate sufficient cash flows to satisfy our debt obligations, or to refinance our indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms or at all, would materially and adversely affect our financial position and results of operations.

If we cannot make scheduled payments on our debt, we will be in default and, as a result, holders of Notes or our other indebtedness could declare all outstanding principal and interest to be due and payable and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation.

Despite restrictions in the Indenture and the Credit Agreement, we may still be able to incur additional indebtedness. This could increase the risks associated with our leverage, including the ability to service our indebtedness.

We may be able to incur additional indebtedness pursuant to the Indenture and the Credit Agreement in the future, including additional secured indebtedness. As of September 30, 2011, we were able to incur up to an additional \$375 million of indebtedness, of which up to \$257 million could be secured indebtedness, pursuant to the Indenture. Although covenants under the Indenture and the Credit Agreement limit our ability and the ability of our present and future subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to a number of qualifications and exceptions and, under certain circumstances, debt incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be substantial. The Indenture and the Credit Agreement also allow us to incur certain additional secured debt and allow our foreign restricted subsidiaries and our future unrestricted subsidiaries to incur additional debt, which would be structurally senior to the Notes and amounts outstanding from time to time under the Credit Agreement. In addition, the Indenture and the Credit Agreement do not prohibit us from incurring obligations that do not constitute indebtedness as defined therein. To the extent that we incur additional indebtedness or such other obligations, the risk associated with substantial additional indebtedness described above, including our possible inability to service our debt, will increase.

#### Risks Related to this Offering and Ownership of Shares of Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly.

The market price of our common stock could fluctuate significantly due to a number of factors, including, but not limited to:

our quarterly or annual earnings, or those of other companies in our industry;

actual or anticipated fluctuations in our operating results;

changes in accounting standards, policies, guidance, interpretations or principles;

the public reaction to our press releases, our other public announcements and our filings with the SEC;

announcements by us or our competitors of significant acquisitions, dispositions, innovations, or new programs and services;

changes in financial estimates and recommendations by securities analysts following our stock, or the failure of securities analysts to cover our common stock after this offering;

changes in earnings estimates by securities analysts or our ability to meet those estimates;

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general economic conditions and overall market fluctuations;

the trading volume of our common stock;

changes in business, legal or regulatory conditions, or other developments affecting participants in, and publicity regarding our business or any of our significant customers or competitors;

results of operations that vary from the expectations of securities analysts and investors or those of our competitors;

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the failure of securities analysts to publish research about us after this offering or to make changes in their financial estimates;

future sales of our common stock by us, directors, executives and significant stockholders; and

changes in economic and political conditions in our markets.

In particular, the realization of any of the risks described in these Risk Factors could have a material and adverse impact on the market price of our common stock in the future and cause the value of your investment to decline. In addition, the stock market in general has experienced extreme volatility that has often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the trading price of our common stock over the short, medium or long term, regardless of our actual performance. If the market price of our common stock reaches an elevated level following this offering, it may materially and rapidly decline. In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company s securities, stockholders have often instituted securities class action litigation. If we were to be involved in a class action lawsuit, it could divert the attention of senior management, and, if adversely determined, have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

If securities or industry analysts adversely change their recommendations regarding our stock or if our operating results do not meet their expectations, our stock price could decline materially.

The trading market for our common stock could be influenced by the research and reports that industry or securities analysts may publish about us or our business. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of the Company or fail to publish reports on us regularly, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which in turn could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline. Moreover, if one or more of the analysts who cover the Company downgrade our stock or if our operating results do not meet their expectations, either absolutely or relative to our competitors, our stock price could decline significantly.

The Apax VII Funds controls a significant interest in us and its interests may conflict with or differ from your interests as a stockholder.

We are a majority-owned subsidiary of Ben Holding S.à r.l., which is beneficially owned by Apax US VII, L.P. ( Apax US VII Fund ), and Apax Europe VII-A, L.P., Apax Europe VII-B, L.P. and Apax Europe VII-1, L.P. (the Apax Europe VII Funds and, together, with Apax US VII Fund, the Apax VII Funds ). Apax Partners, L.P. is the advisor to Apax US VII Fund. Apax Partners LLP is the advisor to Apax Partners Europe Managers Limited, the discretionary investment manager to the Apax Europe VII Funds. We refer to Apax Partners, L.P., Apax Partners LLP, and Apax Partners Europe Managers Limited, as Apax Partners.

Ben Holding S.à r.l., which is beneficially owned by the Apax VII Funds, which are advised by Apax Partners, currently owns approximately 67.9% of our common stock and is one of the selling stockholders in this offering. Immediately following consummation of this offering, Ben Holding S.à r.l. will own 57.6% of our common stock. Pursuant to lock-up arrangements entered into in connection with this offering, Ben Holding S.à r.l. will not be able to sell any of these shares for at least 90 days following the date of this prospectus, subject to certain exceptions. As a result of its ownership, Apax VII Funds have the power, and pursuant to the stockholders agreement, their majority-owned subsidiary Ben Holding S.à r.l. has the contractual right, to elect a majority of our directors. Accordingly, Apax VII Funds has the ability to prevent any transaction that requires the approval of our board of directors or our stockholders, including the approval of significant corporate transactions such as business combinations.

In addition, following a reduction of the equity owned by Apax VII Funds to below 50% of our outstanding common stock, Apax VII Funds, through Ben Holding S.à r.l., will retain the right to designate a certain number of Apax Partners designees for our board of directors until Apax VII Funds ownership percentage falls below 5%. Thus, even after selling a portion of its interests in us, Apax VII Funds will continue to be able to significantly influence or effectively control our decisions. See Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions Stockholders Agreement.

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The interests of Apax VII Funds could conflict with or differ from your interests as a holder of Notes. For example, the concentration of ownership held by Apax VII Funds could delay, defer or prevent a change of control of the Company or impede a merger, takeover or other business combination that you as a stockholder may otherwise support. Additionally, Apax Partners is in the business of advising on investments in companies Apax VII Funds hold, and they or other funds advised by Apax Partners may from time to time in the future acquire, interests in businesses that directly or indirectly compete with certain portions of our business or are suppliers or customers of ours. They may also pursue acquisitions that may be complementary to our business, and, as a result, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us. Further, Apax Partners and Apax VII Funds, realized substantial benefits from the sale of their shares in the Initial Public Offering. A sale of a substantial number of shares of stock in the future by funds advised by Apax Partners could cause our stock price to decline.

We are a controlled company within the meaning of New York Stock Exchange rules and, as a result, qualify for, and intend to rely on, exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements applicable to non-controlled companies.

Upon the closing of this offering, Apax VII Funds will continue to control a majority of our voting common stock. As a result, we will continue to be a controlled company within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance standards. Under the New York Stock Exchange rules, a company of which more than 50% of the outstanding voting power is held by an individual, group or another company is a controlled company and may elect not to comply with certain stock exchange corporate governance requirements, including:

the requirement that a majority of the board of directors consists of independent directors;

the requirement that nominating and corporate governance matters be decided solely by independent directors; and

the requirement that employee and officer compensation matters be decided solely by independent directors.

Following this offering, we intend to continue to utilize these exemptions. As a result, we will not have a majority of independent directors nor will our nominating and corporate governance and compensation functions be decided solely by independent directors and we will not be required to have an annual performance evaluation of the nominating and corporate governance and compensation committees. See Management. Accordingly, you will not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the New York Stock Exchange corporate governance requirements.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation contains provisions renouncing our interest and expectancy in certain corporate opportunities.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that, for so long as Apax VII Funds have the right to designate one of our director nominees, none of Apax VII Funds, the directors nominated by Apax VII Funds, Apax VII Funds affiliates and subsidiaries, nor any of their managers, officers, directors, agents, stockholders, members or partners will have any duty to tell us about or offer to us any business opportunity, even if it is the same business or similar business activities or lines of business in which we operate. The amended and restated certificate of incorporation also provides that none of Apax VII Funds nor their respective affiliates will be liable to us or our stockholders for breach of any duty by reason of any such activities. For instance, a director of the Company who also serves as a director, officer or employee of Apax VII Funds or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates may pursue certain acquisitions or other opportunities that may be complementary to our business and, as a result, such acquisitions or other opportunities may not be available to us. These potential conflicts of interest could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects if attractive corporate opportunities are pursued by Apax VII Funds or its subsidiaries or affiliates instead of by us. See Description of Capital Stock Corporate Opportunity.

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Future sales or the possibility of future sales of a substantial amount of our common stock may depress the price of shares of our common stock.

Future sales or the availability for sale of substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market could adversely affect the prevailing market price of our common stock and could impair our ability to raise capital through future sales of equity securities.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes us to issue 300,000,000 shares of common stock, of which 99,993,300 shares will be outstanding upon consummation of this offering. This number includes 22,994,455 shares registered and sold in the Initial Public Offering and up to 12,075,000 shares that the selling stockholders are selling in this offering (assuming the underwriters exercise their option to acquire additional shares in full), which will be freely transferable without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act. The remaining 64,998,845 shares of our common stock outstanding, including the shares of common stock owned by Apax VII Funds, and certain members of our management, will be restricted from immediate resale under the federal securities laws and in some cases by the lock-up agreements between the selling stockholders, certain other stockholders, and the underwriters which generally provide for a lock-up period of 90 days following the date of this prospectus (unless the representatives of the underwriters waive such lock-up period), but may be sold in the near future. See Underwriting. Following the expiration of the applicable lock-up period, all these shares of our common stock will be eligible for resale under Rule 144 of the Securities Act, subject to volume limitations and applicable holding period requirements. In addition, Apax VII Funds and Mr. Morse, the Chairman of our board of directors, will have the ability to cause us to register the resale of their shares, and our management members and certain of our existing stockholders as of prior to this offering who hold shares will have the ability to include their shares in the registration. See Shares Eligible for Future Sale for a discussion of the shares of our common stock that may be sold into the public market in the future.

We may issue shares of our common stock or other securities from time to time as consideration for future acquisitions and investments and pursuant to compensation and incentive plans. If any such acquisition or investment is significant, the number of shares of our common stock, or the number or aggregate principal amount, as the case may be, of other securities that we may issue may in turn be substantial. We may also grant registration rights covering those shares of our common stock or other securities in connection with any such acquisitions and investments.

We cannot predict the size of future issuances of our common stock or the effect, if any, that future issuances and sales of our common stock will have on the market price of our common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock (including shares of our common stock issued in connection with an acquisition or compensation or incentive plan), or the perception that such sales could occur, may adversely affect prevailing market prices for our common stock.

Delaware law and our organizational documents may impede or discourage a takeover, which could deprive our investors of the opportunity to receive a premium for their shares.

We are a Delaware corporation, and the anti-takeover provisions of the Delaware law impose various procedures and other requirements, which could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us or effect certain corporate actions, even if a change of control would be beneficial to our existing stockholders. In addition, provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws may make it more difficult for, or prevent a third party from, acquiring control of us without the approval of our board of directors. These provisions include, among other things:

the ability of our board of directors to designate one or more series of preferred stock and issue shares of preferred stock without stockholder approval;

a classified board of directors;

limitations on the ability of the Company to engage in business combinations with certain stockholders of the Company;

the sole power of a majority of the board of directors to fix the number of directors;

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limitations on the removal of directors;

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the sole power of our board of directors (or Apax Partners, in the case of a nominee of Apax Partners) to fill any vacancy on our board, whether such vacancy occurs as a result of an increase in the number of directors or otherwise;

the sole power, once Apax VII Funds cease to beneficially own a majority of the outstanding voting power of our stock, of the chairman of our board of directors, our board of directors, or a designated committee of our board of directors to call a special meeting of stockholders;

limitations on the ability of stockholders to act by written consent in lieu of a meeting; and

advance notice requirements for nominating directors or introducing other business to be conducted at stockholder meetings. The foregoing factors, as well as the significant common stock ownership by our equity sponsor, could impede a merger, takeover or other business combination or discourage a potential investor from making a tender offer for our common stock, which, under certain circumstances, could reduce the market value of our common stock. See Description of Capital Stock.

We may issue shares of preferred stock in the future, which could make it difficult for another company to acquire us or could otherwise adversely affect holders of our common stock, which could depress the price of our common stock.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes us to issue up to 50,000,000 shares of one or more series of preferred stock. Our board of directors will have the authority to determine the preferences, limitations and relative rights of shares of preferred stock and to fix the number of shares constituting any series and the designation of such series, without any further vote or action by our stockholders. Our preferred stock could be issued with voting, liquidation, dividend and other rights superior to the rights of our common stock. The potential issuance of preferred stock may delay or prevent a change in control of us, discouraging bids for our common stock at a premium over the market price, and materially and adversely affect the market price and the voting and other rights of the holders of our common stock.

Your percentage ownership in us may be diluted by future issuances of capital stock or securities or instruments that are convertible into our capital stock, which could reduce your influence over matters on which stockholders vote.

Our board of directors has the authority, without action or vote of our stockholders, to issue all or any part of our authorized but unissued shares of common stock, including shares that may be issued to satisfy our obligations under our incentive plans, shares of our authorized but unissued preferred stock and securities and instruments that are convertible into our common stock. Issuances of common stock or voting preferred stock would reduce your influence over matters on which our stockholders vote and, in the case of issuances of preferred stock, likely would result in your interest in us being subject to the prior rights of holders of that preferred stock.

We currently have no plans to pay dividends on our common stock, so you may not receive funds without selling your common stock.

We currently do not pay dividends on our common stock and we do not anticipate paying any dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. Any declaration and payment of future dividends to holders of our common stock may be limited by restrictive covenants of our debt agreements, and will be at the sole discretion of our board of directors and will depend on many factors, including our financial condition, results of operations, earnings, capital requirements, business expansion opportunities, level of indebtedness, statutory and contractual restrictions applying to the payment of dividends and other considerations that our board of directors deems relevant.

Further, we may not have sufficient surplus to be able to legally pay any dividends in the future. The absence of sufficient surplus may result from extraordinary cash expenses, actual expenses exceeding contemplated costs, funding of capital expenditures, or increases in reserves.

#### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements which involve risks and uncertainties. You can identify forward-looking statements because they contain words such as believes, expects, may, should, seeks, approximately, intends, plans, estimates, or anticipat expressions that relate to our strategy, plans or intentions. All statements we make relating to our estimated and projected earnings, margins, costs, expenditures, cash flows, growth rates and financial results or to our expectations regarding future industry trends are forward-looking statements. In addition, we, through our senior management, from time to time make forward-looking public statements concerning our expected future operations and performance and other developments. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may change at any time, and, therefore, our actual results may differ materially from those that we expected. We derive many of our forward-looking statements from our operating budgets and forecasts, which are based upon many detailed assumptions. While we believe that our assumptions are reasonable, we caution that it is very difficult to predict the impact of known factors, and it is impossible for us to anticipate all factors that could affect our actual results. All forward-looking statements are based upon information available to us on the date of this prospectus.

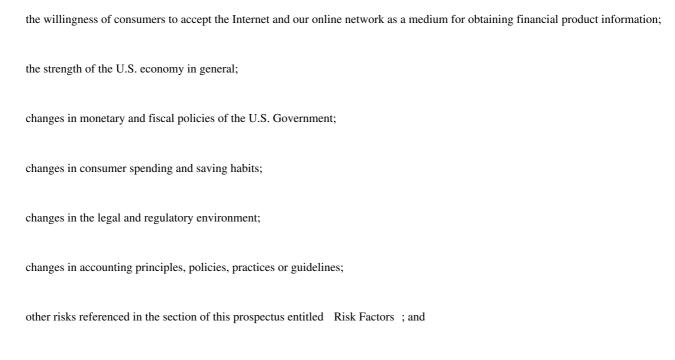
Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations, which we refer to as cautionary statements, are disclosed under Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus, including, without limitation, in conjunction with the forward-looking statements included in this prospectus. All forward-looking information in this prospectus and subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us, or persons acting on our behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements. Some of the factors that we believe could affect our results include:

the willingness of our advertisers to advertise on our websites;
increased competition and its effect on our website traffic, advertising rates, margins, and market share;
our dependence on internet search engines to attract a significant portion of the visitors to our websites;
interest rate volatility;
technological changes;
our ability to manage traffic on our websites and service interruptions;
our ability to maintain and develop our brands and content;
the fluctuations of our results of operations from period to period;
our indebtedness and the effect such indebtedness may have on our business;
our need and our ability to incur additional debt or equity financing;
our ability to integrate the business and operations of companies that we have acquired, and those we may acquire in the future;

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the effect of unexpected liabilities we assume from our acquisitions;
our ability to attract and retain executive officers and personnel;
the impact of resolution of lawsuits to which we are a party;
our ability to protect our intellectual property;
the effects of facing liability for content on our websites;
our ability to establish and maintain distribution arrangements;
our ability to maintain good working relationships with our customers and third-party providers and to continue to attract new customers;
the effect of our expansion of operations in China and possibly expansion to other international markets, in which we may have limited experience;

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our ability to manage the risks involved in the foregoing.

We caution you that the foregoing list of important factors may not contain all of the material factors that are important to you. In addition, in light of these risks and uncertainties, the matters referred to in the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus may not in fact occur. Accordingly, investors should not place undue reliance on those statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as otherwise required by law.

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### USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares by the selling stockholders in this offering. See Principal and Selling Stockholders.

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#### DIVIDEND POLICY

We have not declared or paid any dividends on our common stock. We currently intend to retain all of our future earnings, if any, for use in our business and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends for the common stock in the foreseeable future. Our ability to pay dividends on our common stock is currently limited by the covenants of our Notes and Credit Agreement and may be further restricted by the terms of any future debt or preferred securities. Payments of future dividends, if any, will be at the discretion of our board of directors after taking into account various factors, including our business, operating results and financial condition, current and anticipated cash needs, plans for expansion and any legal or contractual limitations on our ability to pay dividends. See Description of Indebtedness for a description of the restrictions on our ability to pay dividends.

#### PRICE RANGE OF OUR COMMON STOCK

Our common stock began trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol RATE on June 16, 2011. Prior to that, there was no public market for our common stock. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated below, the high and low closing prices per share of our common stock as reported on the NYSE since June 16, 2011:

2011	High	Low
Second Quarter (beginning June 16, 2011)	\$ 16.58	\$ 15.25
Third Quarter	\$ 18.60	\$ 13.97
Fourth Quarter (through November 22, 2011)	\$ 21.08	\$ 14.32

On November 22, 2011, the closing price as reported on the New York Stock Exchange of our common stock was \$19.87 per share. As of November 21, 2011, we had approximately 347 holders of record of our common stock.

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#### **CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our consolidated cash and cash equivalents and consolidated capitalization as of September 30, 2011 on an actual basis. This table should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements, unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the related notes, included elsewhere in this prospectus and Use of Proceeds, Summary Historical and Pro Forma Financial Data, Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data, Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

(\$ in thousands)	As of September 30, 20 Actual (unaudited)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	64,489
Debt:		
Notes(1)		193,537
Total debt		193,537
Stockholders equity		771,892
Total capitalization	\$	965,429

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes unamortized original discount of \$1,463. There was \$0 debt outstanding under the Credit Agreement as of September 30, 2011.

#### UNAUDITED PRO FORMA

#### CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial statements have been derived from our historical financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus, as adjusted to give effect to the 2010 Acquisitions, the issuance of the Notes on July 13, 2010, the Initial Public Offering and the Notes Redemption.

The unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2010 and the nine months ended September 30, 2011 give effect to the 2010 Acquisitions, the issuance of the Notes, the Initial Public Offering and the Notes Redemption as if each had occurred on January 1, 2010.

The unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial statements are based on certain assumptions which we believe to be reasonable, and will have a continuing impact on us. The pro forma adjustments are described in the sections entitled Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations

The unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial information is presented for informational purposes only. The unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated financial information does not purport to represent what our results of operations or financial condition would have been had the pro forma adjustments actually occurred on the dates indicated, and they do not purport to project our results of operations or financial condition for any future period or as of any future date.

The unaudited pro forma condensed consolidated statement of operations should be read in conjunction with the sections entitled Use of Proceeds, Capitalization, Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, our historical consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto, the historical consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto of NetQuote Holdings and the historical consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto of CreditCards, included elsewhere in this prospectus.

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## **Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations**

## For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2010

	I	Bankrate	NetQuote Holdings	Cr	editCards					ro forma justments		
(\$ in thousands, except per share data)		ear ended cember 31, 2010	Period from January 1, 2010 to July 13, 2010	J	Period from (anuary 1, 2010 to august 6, 2010	ad re t Ac iss	ro forma justments elated to he 2010 quisitions and the suance of Notes(a)	Subtotal	ri (t	elated to the Initial Public Offering and ne Notes emption(h)	Pı	ro forma
Revenue	\$	220,598	\$ 58,541	\$	25,607	\$	( , , ( ,	\$ 300,887	\$		\$	300,887
Cost of revenue		85,326	31,799		1,397		(3,859)(b)	114,663				114,663
Gross margin		135,272	26,742		24,210			186,224				186,224
Operating expenses:												
Sales		8,624	1,859		409			10,892				10,892
Marketing		23,672	7,848		7,851			39,371				39,371
Product development		8,722	2,220		757			11,699				11,699
General and administrative		22,991	4,677		3,620			31,288				31,288
Stock based compensation			544		384		(928)(c)					
Acquisition related expenses and												
related party fees		17,390	7,731		4,605		(22,345)(d)	7,381		(7,233)(i)		148
Restructuring charges		3,288			280			3,568				3,568
Legal settlements, net		1,646	(151)					1,495				1,495
Depreciation and amortization		35,226	4,148		2,254		3,579(e)	45,207				45,207
		121,559	28,876		20,160		(19,694)	150,901		(7,233)		143,668
Income (loss) from operations		13,713	(2,134)		4,050		19,694	35,323		7,233		42,556
Other expense		(306)						(306)				(306)
Interest income (expense), net		(38,455)	(1,949)		(3,169)		2,519(f)	(41,054)		13,100(j)		(27,954)
Income (loss) before income										-		
taxes		(25,048)	(4,083)		881		22,213	(6,037)		20,333		14,296
Income tax expense (benefit)		(3,651)	(232)		223		5,039(g)	1,379		7,727(k)		9,106
Net income (loss)	\$	(21,397)	\$ (3,851)	\$	658	\$	17,174	\$ (7,416)	\$	12,606	\$	5,190
Net income (loss) per share:												
Basic	\$	(0.30)									\$	0.05
Diluted		(0.30)										0.05
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding:(1)												
Basic		1,494,223										5,128,697
Diluted	7	1,494,223									90	5,128,697

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## **Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations**

### For Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011

(\$ in thousands, except per share data)		Nine months ended otember 30, 2011	Pro forma adjustments related to the 2010 Acquisitions and the issuance of Notes(a)	Subtotal	ad rel Ini (	ro forma justments ated to the tial Public Offering and he Notes lemption(h)	Pr	o forma
Revenue	\$	310,431	\$	\$ 310,431	\$	• ` ` ′	\$	310,431
Cost of revenue, excluding stock based	·	, -		, .	•			, -
compensation		110,992		110,992				110,992
Stock based compensation cost of revenue		237		237				237
Stock based compensation cost of revenue		237		237				237
Gross margin		199,202		199,202				199,202
Operating expenses:								
Sales		9,217		9,217				9,217
Marketing		59,358		59,358				59,358
Product development		10,042		10,042				10,042
General and administrative		23,893		23,893				23,893
Stock based compensation		2,690		2,690				2,690
Acquisition, offering and related expenses and		,		,				,
related party fees		40,857		40,857		(36,607)(i)		4,250
Restructuring charges		238		238		(= =,== : )(=)		238
Legal settlements		200		200				
Depreciation and amortization		32,566		32,566				32,566
- ·F		,		,				,
		178,861		178,861		(36,607)		142,254
		170,001		170,001		(30,007)		142,234
T. C.		20.241		20.241		26.607		56.040
Income from operations		20,341	(2,000)(0	20,341		36,607		56,948
Interest income (expense), net		(25,439)	(3,000)(f)	(28,439)		9,967(j)		(18,472)
Loss on redemption of Notes		(16,629)		(16,629)		16,629(m)		
Income (loss) before income taxes		(21,727)	(3,000)	(24,727)		63,203		38,476
Income tax expense (benefit)		5,740	(1,140)(g)	4,600		11,345(k)		15,945
Net income (loss)	\$	(27,467)	\$ (1,860)	\$ (29,327)	\$	51,858	\$	22,531
Net income (loss) per share:								
Basic	\$	(0.30)					\$	0.24
Diluted	Ψ.	(0.30)						0.24
Weighted average number of common shares		(0.20)						J.2 1
outstanding:								
Basic	C	2,233,345					97	2,233,345
Diluted		2,233,345						2,233,345
- 11000d		_,,					12	-,200,010

Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Statement of Operations

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- (a) The following pro forma adjustments reflect the impact of the 2010 Acquisitions as well as the Notes offering.
- (b) Reflects the elimination of historical revenues and cost of sales for transactions between Bankrate, NetQuote Holdings and CreditCards.
- (c) Reflects the elimination of non-cash stock based compensation expense for programs which were eliminated upon completion of the 2010 Acquisitions as a result of the termination of the stock compensation programs at the dates of acquisition.

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(d) Reflects the elimination of (i) transaction related expenses related to the 2010 Acquisitions and the debt offering as well as (ii) historical management fees paid by CreditCards to its former owner prior to the acquisition by Bankrate.

(\$ in thousands)	
Eliminate Bankrate transaction related costs	\$ (10,009)
Eliminate NetQuote transaction related costs	(7,731)
Eliminate CreditCards transaction related costs	(4,200)
Eliminate CreditCards management fees	(405)
Pro forma adjustment	\$ (22,345)

(e) Estimates the impact on depreciation and amortization expense for NetQuote Holdings and CreditCards as if purchase accounting was applied as of January 1, 2010. Reference is made to Note 11 of the audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus for the preliminary allocations of purchase consideration for each acquisition.

(\$ in thousands)	
Eliminate existing depreciation and amortization expense:	
NetQuote Holdings, Inc.	\$ (4,148)
CreditCards.com, Inc.	(2,254)
Pro forma depreciation and amortization expense(1):	
NetQuote Holdings, Inc.	5,748
CreditCards.com, Inc.	4,233
Pro forma adjustment	\$ 3,579

- (1) Furniture, fixtures and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets which range from three to five years. Intangible assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The weighted average amortization periods for trade names and domain names, customer relationships, and developed technologies are 17.5 years, 8.25 years, and 3.0 years, respectively.
- (f) To eliminate the historical interest expense, net, and to record estimated interest expense, estimated amortization of bond original issue discount and estimated amortization of deferred financing fees related to the Notes offered on July 13, 2010 as if they had been offered on January 1, 2010.

			Nin	e months
(\$ in thousands)		ear ended aber 31, 2010		ended aber 30, 2011
Eliminate historical interest expense and amortization of deferred	Decen	1501 51, 2010	Septen	1001 50, 2011
financing fees:				
Bankrate(1)	\$	(34,827)	\$	(25,266)
NetQuote Holdings		(1,949)		
CreditCards		(3,169)		
Interest expense(2)		35,250		26,438
Amortization of Notes original issue discount(2)		420		353
Amortization of deferred financing fees(2)		1,756		1,475
•				
Pro forma adjustment	\$	(2,519)	\$	3,000

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- (1) Excludes interest expense related to the payable to dissenting stockholders of \$3.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and interest expense related to the Credit Agreement of \$0.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011.
- (2) The effective interest rate used to calculate the interest expense on the Notes and related amortization was 13.06%.

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- (g) Reflects the tax effect of the pro forma adjustments at the estimated statutory rates. Estimated statutory rates used for Bankrate, NetQuote and CreditCards were 38.0%, 39.5% and 37.2%, respectively. For the adjustments to eliminate transaction expenses in (d), we have estimated the non-deductible portion of those expenses including the impact of any uncertain tax position reserve resulting in effective tax rates of 16.2% and 22.9% for Bankrate and NetQuote, respectively.
- (h) The following pro forma adjustments reflect the impact of the Notes Redemption, termination of the Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement and the Initial Public Offering. The unaudited pro forma financial adjustments give effect to the \$33.1 million of fees related to the Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement which were recognized in Acquisition related expenses and related party fees in the historical operating results. The unaudited pro forma financial data does not give effect to \$3.8 million of fees related to the Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement which were recognized as contra-equity and \$0.9 million which was recognized as deferred financing fees. In addition, the unaudited pro forma financial data does not give effect to non recurring expenses related to the Exchange Offer of \$1.7 million.
- (i) Reflects the elimination of historical advisory fees paid by Bankrate under or in connection with the Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement in connection with the Initial Public Offering as well as expenses incurred in connection with the Initial Public Offering.

(\$ in thousands)	Year ended December 31, 201		ine months ended ember 30, 2011
Eliminate Material Event Investment Advisory fee	\$	\$	(33,149)
Eliminate management fees	(7,233	3)	(946)
Eliminate Initial Public Offering expenses			(2,512)
Pro forma adjustment	\$ (7,233	\$)	(36,607)

(j) Estimates the impact on interest expense and amortization of deferred financing fees as if the redemption of Notes occurred on January 1, 2010.

			e months ended
	,		
Ф	(12,338)	Ф	(9,253)
	(147)		(123)
	(615)		(516)
			(75)
\$	(13,100)	\$	(9,967)
	Decen \$	(147) (615)	Year ended December 31, 2010 Septem \$ (12,338) \$ (147) (615)

- (1) In connection with the payment of the Material Event Investment Advisory Agreement fee, \$0.9 million was allocated to deferred loan costs related to the Credit Agreement as noted in note (h) above. Of this amount, \$75,000 was amortized during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and is being eliminated similar to note (i) above.
- (k) Reflects the tax effect of the pro forma adjustments at the estimated Bankrate statutory rate of 38.0%. For the adjustment to eliminate transaction expenses in (i), we have estimated the non-deductible portion of those expenses including the impact of any uncertain tax position reserve resulting in an effective tax rate of 17.9%.
- (1) Pro forma weighted average number of common shares outstanding was calculated to include only those common shares from the Initial Public Offering whose proceeds were used for the Notes Redemption, which includes a pro rata portion of underwriting expenses and commissions and offering expenses related to such shares and does not include common shares whose proceeds were used for general corporate purposes.

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 $\label{eq:continuous} (m) \qquad \text{Reflects the elimination of the loss on redemption of Notes}.$ 

(\$ in thousands)	
Redemption premium	\$ 12,339
Write-off of deferred financing charges	3,462
Write-off of unamortized discount	828
Pro forma adjustment	\$ 16,629

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#### SELECTED HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

#### Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of Bankrate, Inc.

The following table presents our selected historical consolidated financial data. The selected historical financial data as of and for each of the periods ended December 31, 2009 and 2010 and statement of operations and cash flow data for the year ended December 31, 2008 and the period ended August 24, 2009 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. As a result of the Bankrate Acquisition, our financial results were separately presented in our financial statements for the Predecessor entity for periods prior to the acquisition date of August 25, 2009. As a result, periods prior to August 25, 2009 are not necessarily comparable to periods after that date. As a result of the Merger and Recapitalization, Holdings and the Company were consolidated retroactively in the Successor entity, beginning July 17, 2009, the date of inception of Holdings. The selected historical financial data as of December 31, 2008 and August 24, 2009 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements not included in this prospectus.

The selected historical financial data as of and for each of the periods ended December 31, 2006 and 2007 and balance sheet data for December 31, 2008 and August 24, 2009 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements, not included in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of and for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2011 have been derived from our unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. The operating results for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2011 include all adjustments, consisting of only normal and recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary for a fair statement of the results of such interim periods. The interim results are not necessarily an indication of the results for the full year.

The information set forth below should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto, included elsewhere in this prospectus, and the sections entitled Unaudited Pro Forma Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

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	Predecessor						Successor Period from				Successor					
(in thousands, except shares and per share data)	Dec	ear ended ember 31, 2006(1)	Year ended Year ended through December 31, December 31, August 24, 2007(2) 2008(3) 2009		through august 24,	July 17, 2009 through Year ended December 31, 2009 2010(4)			ember 31,	Nine months ended September 30, 2010(5) (unaudited)		Nine months ended September 30, 2011(6) (unaudited)				
Statement of Income Data:													(u	nauuncu)	(uı	iauuricu)
Revenue	\$	79,650	\$	95,592	\$	166,855	\$	87,646	\$	43,837	\$	220,598	\$	143,333	\$	310,431
Cost of revenue, excluding stock based																
compensation		23,722		23,704		64,132		35,333		18,669		85,326		56,507		110,992
Stock based compensation cost of																
revenue		1,225		2,143		1,963		2,958								237
Gross margin		54,703		69,745		100,760		49,355		25,168		135,272		86,826		199,202
Operating expenses:																
Sales		4,393		5,050		6,891		4,566		2,555		8,624		6,255		9,217
Marketing		4,836		7,845		12,437		5,958		3,629		23,672		13,783		59,358
Product development General and		3,147		3,853		6,067		4,336		2,546		8,722		6,280		10,042
administrative		15,472		13,554		19,242		10,919		5,905		22,991		15,671		23,893
Stock based		7,499		9,066		11 454		10.556								2,690
compensation Acquisition, offering and		7,499		9,000		11,454		19,556								2,090
related expenses and related party fees								34,562		4,936		17,390		16,139		40,857
Restructuring charges								34,302		4,930		3,288		3,358		238
Impairment charges						2,433						-,		-,		
Legal settlements Depreciation and		3,000										1,646		141		
amortization		2,402		2,731		9,134		8,294		9,789		35,226		25,574		32,566
		40,749		42,099		67,658		88,191		29,360		121,559		87,201		178,861
Income (loss) from																
operations		13,954		27,646		33,102		(38,836)		(4,192)		13,713		(375)		20,341
Other expense, net												(306)				
Interest income																
(expense), net		2,961		6,688		1,562		30	(12,093)		(38,455)		(28,242)		) (25,439)	
Loss on redemption of Notes															(16,629)	
Income (loss) before																
income (loss) before		16,915		34,334		34,664		(38,806)		(16,285)		(25,048)		(28,617)		(21,727)
Income tax (benefit)		10,510		2 .,52 .		2 .,00 .		(20,000)		(10,200)		(20,010)		(20,017)		(21,727)
expense		6,911		14,280		15,043		(4,222)		(6,509)		(3,651)		(11,974)		5,740
Net income (loss)	\$	10,004	\$	20,054	\$	19,621	\$	(34,584)	\$	(9,776)	\$	(21,397)	\$	(16,643)	\$	(27,467)
Other Financial Data:																
Basic and diluted income																
(loss) per share:	+				+		_	// n=	_	/a = -	4	/2-25		/	4	(0.30)
Basic	\$	0.58	\$	1.09	\$	1.04	\$	(1.83)	\$	(0.22)	\$	(0.30)	\$	(0.25)	\$	(0.30)
Diluted Weighted average		0.56		1.04		1.01		(1.83)		(0.22)		(0.30)		(0.25)		(0.30)
common shares outstanding:																

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Basic	17,332,632	18,423,414	18,848,125	18,862,259	43,692,073	71,494,223	66,239,400	92,233,345		
Diluted	17,845,754	19,356,039	19,498,209	18,862,259	43,692,073	71,494,223	66,239,400	92,233,345		
Cash Flow Data:	27,070,00	-,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,,	,	12,072,012	, ,	00,207,100	, _,, , , ,		
Net cash provded by (used in) operating activities	\$ 14,217	\$ 28,299	\$ 42,650	\$ 25,288	\$ 14,233	\$ 31,961	\$ 2,287	\$ (7,748)		
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(103,145)	67,785	(119,779)	, , , ,	(506,128)	, ,	(369,199)	(32,006)		
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	98,573	15,849	(1,874)	, , ,	569,585	379,023	385,164	(11,221)		
Balance Sheet Data:	, ,,,,,,,	20,019	(-,-,)	2,007	2 07 ,2 02	212,022	202,201	(==,===)		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,125	\$ 125,058	\$ 46,055	\$ 59,310	\$ 77,690	\$ 115,630	\$ 95,727	\$ 64,489		
Short-term investments	96,800									
Working capital	122,157	139,437	48,874	60,754	27,736	65,141	69,269	121,868		
Intangible assets, net	14,441	27,485	83,347	76,533	224,372	365,745	376,573	352,299		
Goodwill	30,039	43,720	101,856	101,886	349,749	559,168	526,921	573,745		
Total assets	176,684	228,354	270,750	289,640	706,368	1,125,627	1,097,506	1,106,997		
Total stockholders equity	170,155	217,266	248,430	237,927	323,240	626,056	625,355	771,892		

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes the acquired group of assets of East West Mortgage, Inc. (owner of Mortgage-calc.com, Mortgagecalc.com and Mortgagemath.com) from the respective date of acquisition.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes the acquired assets and liabilities of Nationwide Card Services, Inc. (owner of NCS) and Savingforcollege.com, LLC (owner of SFC) from the respective dates of acquisition.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes the acquired assets and liabilities of Blackshore Properties, Inc. (owner of Bankaholic), LinkSpectrum Co. (owner of CCG), InsureMe, Inc. (owner of InsureMe) and Lower Fees (owner of FeeDisclosure.com) from the respective dates of acquisition.

- (4) Includes the acquired stock of NetQuote Holdings, Inc. (owner of NetQuote) and CreditCards.com, Inc. (owner of CreditCards.com), and acquired assets and liabilities of InfoTrak National Data Services (owner of InfoTrak), Jim Wang Enterprises, LLC (owner of Bargaineering) and InsuranceQuotes.com Development, LLC (owner of InsuranceQuotes) from the respective dates of the acquisition.
- (5) Includes the acquired stock of NetQuote Holdings, Inc. (owner of NetQuote) and CreditCards.com, Inc. (owner of CreditCards.com), and acquired assets and liabilities of Jim Wang Enterprises, LLC (owner of Bargaineering) and InsuranceQuotes.com Development, LLC (owner of InsuranceQuotes) from the respective dates of the acquisition.
- (6) Includes the acquired assets and liabilities of certain entities that are individually and in the aggregate immaterial to the Company s net assets and operations from the respective dates of the acquisition.

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#### Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of NetQuote Holdings, Inc.

The following table presents NetQuote Holdings—selected historical consolidated financial data. The selected historical financial data as of and for the year ended December 31, 2009 have been derived from NetQuote Holdings—audited consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of and for each of the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2008 have been derived from NetQuote Holdings—audited consolidated financial statements, not included in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of June 30, 2010 and for the six months ended June 30, 2009 and 2010 have been derived from NetQuote Holdings—unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of June 30, 2009 have been derived from NetQuote Holdings—unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, not included in this prospectus. The operating results for the six months ended June 30, 2009 and 2010 include all adjustments, consisting of only normal and recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary for a fair statement of the results of such interim periods. The interim results are not necessarily an indication of the results for the full year.

(\$ in thousands)	Year ended December 31, 2007		Year ended December 31, 2008		Year ended December 31, 2009		Six months ended June 30, 2009 (unaudited)		Six months ended June 30, 2010 (unaudited)	
Statement of Operations Data:										
Revenue	\$	78,188	\$	92,950	\$	98,480	\$	48,856	\$	55,012
Cost of revenue		52,562		62,194		63,348		30,782		35,724
Gross margin		25,626		30,756		35,132		18,074		19,288
Salaries and benefits		10,225		13,352		12,633		6,501		6,735
Other selling, general & administrative		7,158		8,011		9,365		4,291		4,593
Depreciation and amortization		7,918		8,442		7,894		4,150		3,879
•										
		25,301		29,805		29,892		14,942		15,207
		,		,		,		,		ŕ
Operating income		325		951		5,240		3,132		4,081
Interest income		184		73		-,		-,		1,002
Interest expense		(5,073)		(4,287)		(3,961)		(1.984)		(1,867)
Loss on early extinguishment of debt		, , ,		(176)		, , ,				
Gain on legal settlement						152				151
Income (loss) before income taxes		(4,564)		(3,439)		1,431		1,148		2,365
Income tax (expense) benefit		1,262		1,277		1,282		283		616
( <b>f</b> 1 1 1 )		, -		,		, -				
Net income (loss)	\$	(5,826)	\$	(4,716)	\$	149	\$	865	\$	1,749
Tet meome (1988)	Ψ	(3,020)	Ψ	(1,710)	Ψ	11)	Ψ	005	Ψ	1,717
Cash Flow Data:										
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	4,422	\$	9,490	\$	13,287	\$	5,095	\$	5,447
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,940)		(2,258)		(5,333)		(2,471)		(2,008)
Net cash used in financing activities		(2,318)		(2,210)		(2,843)		(1,345)		(1,867)
Balance Sheet Data:										
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	6,035	\$	11,057	\$	16,168	\$	12,336	\$	17,740
Working capital		3,593		7,901		11,615		10,853		107
Intangible assets, net		24,889		17,645		11,793		14,540		9,290
Goodwill		49,764		49,764		49,764		49,764		49,764
Total assets		91,962		89,705		93,969		91,792		97,287
Redeemable preferred stock		56,688		56,688		56,688		56,688		56,688
Total stockholders deficit		(15,769)		(18,435)		(16,871)		(16,819)		(14,470)

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#### Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data of CreditCards.com, Inc.

The following table presents CreditCards—selected historical consolidated financial data. The selected historical financial data as of and for each of the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2009 have been derived from CreditCards—audited consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007 have been derived from CreditCards—audited consolidated financial statements, not included in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of June 30, 2010 and for the six months ended June 30, 2009 and 2010 have been derived from CreditCards—unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus. The selected historical financial data as of June 30, 2009 have been derived from CreditCards—unaudited interim consolidated financial statements, not included in this prospectus. The operating results for the six months ended June 30, 2009 and 2010 include all adjustments, consisting of only normal and recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary for a fair statement of the results of such interim periods. The interim results are not necessarily an indication of the results for the full year.

(\$ in thousands)  Statement of Operations Data:		Year ended December 31, 2007		ear ended cember 31, 2008		ear ended cember 31, 2009		x months ended June 30, 2009 naudited)	J	Six months ended June 30, 2010 (unaudited)		
Revenues		63,273	\$	72,413	\$	42,851	\$	24,603	\$	20,738		
Operating Costs and expenses:	\$	03,273	Ψ	72,113	Ψ	12,031	Ψ	21,003	Ψ	20,730		
Cost of revenues		27.669		33,616		18,975		11,197		6,855		
Sales and marketing expense		3,762		5,673		4,220		2,167		1.847		
General and administrative expense		8,086		8,948		6,017		3,416		4,796		
Impairment of intangibles		0,000		0,5 .0		39,202		5,.10		.,,,,		
Amortization of intangibles		2,778		3,337		3,630		1,795		1.683		
rimortization of intangloles		2,770		3,337		3,030		1,775		1,005		
Total operating costs and expenses		42,295		51,574		72,044		18,575		15,181		
Income (loss) from operations		20.978		20,839		(29,193)		6.028		5,557		
Other (income) expense		(63)		214		(18)		(38)		(20)		
Interest expense (net of interest income)		14,923		19.611		22,040		11,034		2,632		
•		,		-,-		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		·		·		
Income before income taxes		6,118		1,014		(51,215)		(4,968)		2,945		
Income tax expense (benefit)		2,597		606		1,297		94		17		
Net income (loss)	\$	3,521	\$	408	\$	(52,512)	\$	(5,062)	\$	2,928		
Cash Flow Data:												
Net cash provided by (used in) operating												
activities	\$	9,900	\$	12,252	\$	(1,270)	\$	19	\$	3,758		
Net cash used in investing activities		(1,005)		(18,316)		(2,752)		(670)		(75)		
Net cash provided by (used in) financing								,				
activities		(7,661)		15,469		(2,856)		(1,364)		(1,143)		
Delener Chart Deter												
Balance Sheet Data:	Ф	7 (7)	Ф	11.576	Ф	4.200	Ф	0.004	¢.	6.720		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	7,676	\$	11,576	\$	4,308	\$	8,824	\$	6,738		
Working capital		13,351		(5,837)		5,785		9,201		9,471		
Intangible assets, net		83,237		88,094		60,666		91,508		58,546		
Goodwill		41,691		50,993		35,803		47,759		35,006		
Total assets		149,426		167,468		108,704		162,644		111,092		
Total stockholders equity		(13,246)		(16,502)		(39,619)		(1,681)		(37,664)		

#### MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

#### AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

You should read the following discussion of our results of operations and financial condition with the Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data and the financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus. The following discussion contains forward-looking statements that reflect our plans, estimates and beliefs, and that involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, those described in the Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements and Risk Factors sections of this prospectus. Actual results may differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. See Cautionary Statement Concerning Forward-Looking Statements.

#### Introduction

#### Our Company

We are a leading publisher, aggregator and distributor of personal finance content on the Internet. We provide consumers with proprietary, fully researched, comprehensive, independent and objective personal finance editorial content across multiple vertical categories including mortgages, deposits, insurance, credit cards, and other personal finance categories.

Our sources of revenue include display advertising, performance-based advertising, lead generation, distribution arrangements and traditional media avenues, such as syndication of editorial content and subscriptions.

We generate revenue through the sale of leads in the mortgage, credit card and insurance vertical categories. Through Bankrate Select we sell leads to mortgage lenders. Through Nationwide Card Services, *CreditCardGuide.com*, and *CreditCards.com*, we sell leads to credit card issuers. Through InsureMe.com and NetQuote, we sell leads to insurance agents and insurance carriers. We generate revenue on a per-lead basis based on the actual number of qualified insurance leads generated, and on a per-action basis for credit card applications (i.e., upon approval or completion of an application). Leads are generated not only organically within the Bankrate network of websites, but also through our various affiliate networks, via co-brands, and through display advertisements. We sell to advertisers targeting a specific audience in a city or state and also to national advertisers targeting the entire country.

Advertisers that are listed in our mortgage and deposit rate tables have the opportunity to hyperlink their listings. Additionally, advertisers can buy hyperlinked placement within our qualified insurance listings. By clicking on the hyperlink, users are taken to the advertiser s website. We typically sell our hyperlinks on a per-click pricing model. Under this arrangement, advertisers pay Bankrate a specific, pre-determined cost each time a consumer clicks on that advertiser s hyperlink or phone icon (usually found under the advertiser s name in the rate or insurance table listings). All clicks are screened for fraudulent characteristics by an independent third party vendor and then charged to the advertiser s account.

We provide a variety of digital display formats. Our most common digital display advertisement sizes are leader boards and banners, which are prominently displayed at the top or bottom of a page, as well as skyscrapers, islands, and posters. We charge for these advertisements based on the number of times the advertisement is displayed or based on a fixed amount for a campaign. Advertising rates may vary depending upon the product areas targeted, geo-targeting, the quantity of advertisements purchased by an advertiser, and the length of time an advertiser runs an advertisement on our online network. We sell to advertisers targeting a specific audience in a city or state and also to national advertisers targeting the entire country.

Lead generation, display advertisements and hyperlink listings, which we refer to as online revenue, represented approximately 98% and 97% of our revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and the

year ended December 31, 2010, respectively. We also derive revenue through the sale of print advertisements and the distribution (or syndication) of our editorial content, which we refer to as print publishing and licensing revenue.

#### Significant Developments

Credit Agreement

On June 10, 2011, we entered into the Credit Agreement, pursuant to which revolving credit facilities (the Revolving Credit Facilities) in an aggregate amount of \$100.0 million, consisting of two tranches, tranche A (the Tranche A Revolving Credit Facility) for \$30.0 million which matures on July 15, 2015 and tranche B (the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility) for \$70.0 million which matures on April 15, 2015 were made available to the Company. The Company is obligations under the Revolving Credit Facilities are guaranteed by each direct and indirect, existing and future, domestic restricted subsidiary that guarantees the Company is obligations under the Notes. The obligations under such credit facilities are equally and ratably secured by liens on the same collateral that secures the Notes (it being understood that upon any enforcement of remedies resulting in the realization of proceeds from such collateral, up to \$30.0 million of revolving loans under the Tranche A Revolving Credit Facility would be paid in full first before applying any such amount to pay the Notes and the revolving loans under the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility on a pari passu basis). The agreements governing such credit facilities contain terms generally commensurate with issuers of the same debt rating, and our ability to draw down any such credit facilities is subject to certain limitations, including that at the time of and immediately after giving effect to such drawing and the application proceeds thereof the Consolidated Secured Debt Ratio (as defined in the Revolving Credit Agreement) on a pro forma basis shall not exceed 3.50:1.00.

At the Company s election, the interest rate per annum applicable to the loans under the Revolving Credit Facilities is based on a fluctuating rate of interest determined by reference to either (i) a base rate determined by reference to the higher of (a) the prime rate quoted in the print edition of *The Wall Street Journal*, Money Rates Section as the prime rate and (b) the federal funds effective rate plus 0.50%, plus an applicable margin equal to 2.00%, or (ii) a Eurodollar rate determined by reference to LIBOR, adjusted for statutory reserve requirements, plus an applicable margin equal to 3.00%; provided, however, that at any time less than \$20,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of loans are drawn under the Tranche A Revolving Credit Facility, the applicable margin with respect to loans under the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility at the base rate will be 2.25% and the applicable margin with respect to loans under the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility at the Eurodollar rate will be 3.25%.

Interest accrues daily and is payable in arrears for both base rate and Eurodollar loans. For base rate loans, interest is payable on the last business day of March, June, September and December. For Eurodollar loans interest is calculated based on elected interest periods of one, two, three or six months (or, if each affected lender so agrees, nine or twelve months) and payable, as applicable, at the end of each one-month, two-month or, if the applicable interest period is three months or longer, three-month interval. There were no amounts outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facilities as of September 30, 2011, nor did the Company incur any interest during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011.

The Revolving Credit Facilities agreement contains customary financial and other covenants as described below under Description of Indebtedness. The Company was in compliance with all required covenants as of September 30, 2011.

Initial Public Offering

Pursuant to the Initial Public Offering, on June 22, 2011, the Company and certain of its existing stockholders sold 22,994,455 shares of common stock at a public offering price of \$15.00 per share, including 2,994,455 shares sold by certain of its existing stockholders upon the exercise of the underwriters—option to purchase additional shares. The Company—s shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol—RATE.—The offer and sale of all of the shares in the IPO were registered under the Securities Act pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-173550), which was declared effective by the

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SEC on June 16, 2011. Our portion of the net proceeds from the IPO was approximately \$170.3 million after deducting underwriting discounts of \$11.3 million and offering costs of \$5.9 million. In addition, during the nine months ended September 30, 2011, we incurred costs associated with the IPO and S-4 registration statement in relation to our Exchange Offer, which included \$34.7 million to Apax Partners, L.P. for termination of monitoring fees, merger and acquisition advisory services, IPO services for secondary shares, exchange offer advisory services, and other services provided to Bankrate s management. The payment to APAX has been recorded in the following manner: \$30.0 million as a part of acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees, \$3.8 million netted against IPO proceeds and \$917,000 to deferred financing costs.

We used approximately \$123.0 million of the net proceeds from the offering to repay the principal and accrued interest on our Notes. We intend to use the balance of the net proceeds from the offering for working capital and other general corporate purposes, including financing our growth.

As part of the 22,994,455 shares of common stock sold in the IPO, 10,494,455 shares of common stock were sold by certain existing stockholders at a public offering price of \$15.00 per share, including 2,994,455 shares sold by the selling stockholders upon the exercise of the underwriters—option to purchase additional shares. The Company did not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of such shares by the selling stockholders.

#### 2011 Recapitalization and Merger

On June 21, 2011, Holdings merged with and into the Company with the Company surviving the merger. Pursuant to the Recapitalization in connection with the 2011 Merger, Holdings underwent an internal recapitalization in which all preferred and common shares of Holdings were exchanged for shares of a single series of common stock of Holdings. As a result of the Recapitalization and 2011 Merger, all preferred and common shares (other than restricted shares) of the Company were cancelled and all shares of common stock of Holdings were converted into common shares of the Company. Immediately following the Recapitalization and 2011 Merger, the Company had 87,500,000 shares of common stock issued and outstanding, including 120,135 shares of restricted stock. The surviving corporation in the 2011 Merger retained the name Bankrate, Inc. The 2011 Merger was accounted for as a common control merger and in a manner similar to a pooling of interests. Accordingly, Holdings and Bankrate were consolidated retroactively to the earliest Successor period presented, using the historical cost basis of each entity. The common stock, per common share, and increase in authorized share amounts have been presented to retroactively reflect these transactions to the earliest Successor period presented.

In connection with the 2011 Merger and the IPO, the Company entered into a Fourth Amended and Restated Stockholders Agreement that provides the Company s existing direct and indirect stockholders with certain rights, including rights of Ben Holdings S.à r.l., a stockholder of the Company, which is, in turn, controlled by the Apax VII Funds.

### Senior Secured Notes

Pursuant to the Notes Redemption on June 30, 2011, in accordance with the terms of the Indenture, the Company used approximately \$123.0 million of the proceeds from the Initial Public Offering to redeem \$105.0 million aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes and to pay interest accrued in the amount of \$5.7 million on the portion of the outstanding Notes up to but not including the date of redemption and the required optional redemption premium under the Indenture. As a result of the Notes Redemption, the Company incurred charges of approximately \$16.6 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2011, including charges of approximately \$828,000 and \$3.5 million for the write-off of unamortized original issue discount and deferred financing cost, respectively, and \$12.3 million for the redemption fee. These charges are recorded within loss on redemption of Notes on the consolidated statements of operations. The Company had a balance of approximately \$193.5 million and \$297.4 million in Notes, net of amortization as of September 30, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively, on the consolidated balance sheet.

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On August 1, 2011, the Company completed the Exchange Offer pursuant to which all of the Notes, which were issued without registration under the Securities Act of 1933, were exchanged for a new issue of substantially identical Notes registered under the Securities Act.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011, the Company amortized \$74,000 and \$289,000 of original issue discount which is included within interest expense on the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of operations. At September 30, 2011, the Company had approximately \$1.5 million in original issue discounts remaining to be amortized.

#### Stock Based Compensation

In June 2011, the Company established a stock based compensation program to grant share based awards for up to 12,120,000 shares of our common stock. Our stock option program is a long-term retention program that is intended to attract, retain and provide incentives for directors, officers and employees in the form of non-qualified stock options and restricted stock (the 2011 Plan ). Under the 2011 Plan, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors or its delegate has the sole authority to determine who receives such grants, the type, size and timing of such grants, and to specify the terms of any non-competition agreements relating to the grants. The purpose of the 2011 Plan is to advance our interests by providing eligible participants in the Plan with the opportunity to receive equity-based or cash incentive awards, thereby aligning their economic interests with those of our stockholders.

We account for stock based compensation in accordance with ASC 718 Compensation Stock Compensation (ASC 718). Under the fair value recognition provisions of ASC 718, stock based compensation cost is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award and is recognized as an expense on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period, which is generally the vesting period. See Note 2 in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for further information regarding our stock based compensation assumptions and expense.

#### Restricted Stock

Bankrate grants restricted stock, which is valued based on the market price of the common stock on the date of grant. Compensation expense arising from restricted stock grants with cliff vesting is recognized using the straight line method over the vesting period. In June 2011, we awarded 120,135 shares of restricted common stock to employees. The restricted stock awards cliff vest after the first anniversary of the grant date subject to continued employment through the applicable vesting date. As of September 30, 2011, there were 114,735 restricted stock grants outstanding due to forfeitures of 5,400 restricted stock grants.

### Stock Options

We currently use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of our stock options. The determination of the fair value of the awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model is affected by the price of our common stock, as well as assumptions regarding a number of complex and subjective variables. These variables include the expected term of the options, expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors, risk-free interest rates, expected dividends and the estimated forfeiture rate.

We estimated the expected term using the simplified method for all options as the Company does not have sufficient historical exercise data. The volatility assumption is based on implied stock price volatility of a peer group of publicly traded companies. The decision to use a weighted average volatility factor was based upon the relatively short period of availability of data on actively traded options on our common stock, and our assessment that implied volatility is more representative of future stock price trends than historical volatility. We based the risk-free interest rate used in the option pricing model on U.S. Treasury constant maturity issues having remaining terms similar to the expected terms of the options. We do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in

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the foreseeable future and therefore use an expected dividend yield of zero. We are required to estimate forfeitures at the time of grant and revise those estimates in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. All share-based payment awards are amortized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods, which is generally the vesting period.

If factors change and we employ different assumptions for estimating stock based compensation expense in future periods or if we decide to use a different valuation model, the future periods may differ significantly from what we have recorded in the current period and could materially affect our operating income, net income and net income per share.

2010 Acquisitions. Early in the third quarter of 2010 we acquired NetQuote Holdings, Inc. and CreditCards.com, Inc.

Redesigned website. We launched a new re-designed website in the second quarter of 2009 that accommodates additional advertisement configurations, including video. The new re-designed website provides dynamic page reformatting to help optimize the monetization of the site.

#### Certain Trends Influencing Our Business

The key drivers of our business include the number of ready-to-transact consumers visiting our online network, including the number of page views they generate, and the demand of our online network advertisers, both of which are correlated to general macroeconomic conditions in the United States.

From 2008 through mid-2010, our business was negatively affected by market turmoil and tightening of credit which led to an increased level of consumer and commercial credit delinquencies, low interest rates, lack of consumer confidence, increased market volatility and widespread reduction of business activity generally. As housing activity, interest rates or general consumer financial activity increases, we anticipate that our business levels will continue to increase.

Since demand for financial services is generally correlated to the growth of the economy, financial institutions online and traditional marketing spend is expected to increase as a result. In the recent recession, uncertainty for our financial services advertisers caused their advertising budgets to decline. Beginning in mid-2010, we began to experience initial signs of increased activity by consumers in the form of increased visits to our websites and page views, as well as more demand for our advertising products by our advertising customers. For example, in 2010, major credit card companies increased advertising and lead generation spending after significantly cutting their budgets in 2008 and 2009. We believe our end markets are well positioned to experience healthy growth in the coming years given the anticipated economic rebound and improving macroeconomic trends.

#### **Key Initiatives**

We are focused on several key initiatives to drive our business:

increasing the visitor traffic to our online network of websites;

optimizing the revenue of our cost-per-thousand-impressions and cost-per-click models on our online network including the integration of the new acquisitions;

revenue optimization associated with the new look, design and functionality of our mortgage and deposit cost-per-click rate tables;

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enhancing search engine marketing ( SEM ) and keyword buying to drive targeted impressions into our online network;

expanding our co-brand and affiliate footprint;

broadening the breadth and depth of the personal finance content and products that we offer on our online network;

containing our costs and expenses; and

continuing to integrate our recent acquisitions to maximize synergies and efficiencies.

#### **Basis of Presentation**

As a result of the Bankrate Acquisition, we present separately the financial results for the Predecessor entity for periods prior to the acquisition date of August 25, 2009. As a result of the Merger and Recapitalization, Holdings and the Company were consolidated retroactively in the Successor entity, beginning July 17, 2009, the date of inception of Holdings. References to Bankrate, the Company, we, us and our in this Management's Discussion and Analysis refer to our operations and to our consolidated subsidiaries for both the Predecessor and Successor periods. The impact of the Bankrate Acquisition and related purchase accounting had no effect on the Company's revenue or operating expenses other than depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization is not comparable between Predecessor and Successor periods due to our tangible and intangible assets being recorded at fair value in purchase accounting, resulting in different bases in and the depreciation and amortization of these assets between the Predecessor and Successor periods.

#### Revenue

The amount of advertising we sell is a function of (1) the number of visitors to our online network and our affiliates websites, (2) the number of ad pages we serve to those visitors, (3) the click through rate of visitors on hyperlinks, (4) the number of advertisements per page, (5) the rate at which consumers apply for financial product offerings, and (6) advertiser demand.

Display Advertising Revenue

We sell display advertisements on our online network consisting primarily of leaderboards, banners, badges, islands, posters, and skyscraper advertisements. We typically charge for these advertisements based on the number of times the advertisement is displayed.

Hyperlink Revenue

We also sell hyperlinks (e.g., in our interest rate or insurance table listings) on our online network on a cost-per-click basis. Advertisers pay us each time a visitor to our online network clicks on a hyperlink in a rate or insurance table listing, net of invalid clicks. We also sell text links on our rate pages to advertisers on a cost-per-click basis. Advertisers enter an auction bidding process on a third-party website for placement of their text link based on the amount they are willing to pay for each click through to their website.

Lead Generation Revenue

We also generate revenue by delivering measurable online marketing results to our clients in the credit card, personal insurance and mortgage vertical categories. These results are typically in the form of qualified leads or clicks, the outcomes of customers submitting an application for a credit card or mortgage, or customers being contacted regarding a quote for a personal insurance product. These qualified leads are generated from our marketing activities on our websites or on third party websites with whom we have relationships.

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Print Publishing and Licensing Revenue

Print publishing and licensing revenue represent advertising revenue from the sale of advertising in our *Mortgage Guide* (formerly called the *Consumer Mortgage Guide*) and *CD & Deposit Guide*, rate tables, newsletter subscriptions, and licensing of research information.

We also earn fees from distributing editorial rate tables that are published in newspapers and magazines across the United States, from paid subscriptions to three newsletters, and from providing rate surveys to institutions and government agencies. In addition, we license research data under agreements that permit the use of rate information we develop to advertise the licensee s products in print, radio, television, and website promotions.

# Cost of Revenue (excludes depreciation and amortization)

Cost of revenue represents expenses directly associated with the creation of revenue. These costs include contractual revenue sharing obligations resulting from our distribution arrangements (distribution payments), salaries, editorial costs, market analysis and research costs, stock-based compensation expense, and allocated overhead. Distribution payments are made to website operators for visitors directed to our online network as well as to affiliates for leads directed to our online network and lead generation websites. These costs increase proportionately with gains related to revenue from our online network and lead generation websites. Editorial costs relate to writers and editors who create original content for our online publications and associates who build web pages. These costs have increased as we have added online publications and co-branded versions of *Bankrate.com* under distribution arrangements. These websites must be maintained on a daily basis. Research costs include expenses related to gathering data on banking and credit products and consist primarily of compensation and benefits along with allocated overhead.

We are also involved in revenue sharing arrangements with our online partners where the consumer uses co-branded websites to which we provide web services. Revenue is effectively allocated to each partner based on the revenue earned from each website. The allocated revenue is shared according to distribution agreements.

# **Operating Expenses**

Sales

Sales costs represent direct selling expenses, principally for online advertising, and include compensation and benefits, sales commissions, allocated overhead, and stock based compensation expense.

Marketing

Marketing expenses represent expenses associated with expanding brand awareness of our products and services to consumers and include SEM expense, print and Internet advertising, marketing and promotion costs, and stock based compensation expense.

Product Development

Product development costs represent compensation and benefits related to site development, network systems and telecommunications infrastructure support, programming, new product design and development, other technology costs, and stock based compensation expense.

General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses represent compensation and benefits for executive, finance and administrative personnel, professional fees, stock based compensation expense, allocated overhead and other general corporate expenses.

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Acquisition Offering and Related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition offering and related expenses represent direct expenses incurred as a result of the Bankrate Acquisition, the 2010 Acquisitions and the acquisitions of Bargaineering.com and InsuranceQuotes.com. Related party fees are described in the section entitled Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions.

Restructuring Costs

Restructuring costs represent costs incurred as a result of terminating or relocating employees or closing office locations.

Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense includes the cost of capital asset acquisitions spread over their expected useful lives. These expenses are spread over 1 to 25 years and are calculated mostly on a straight-line basis. Depreciation and amortization also includes the amortization of intangible assets, consisting primarily of trademarks and URLs, software licenses, customer relationships, agent/vendor relationships, developed technologies and non-compete agreements, all of which were either acquired separately or as part of business combinations recorded under the acquisition method of accounting. The amortization periods for intangible assets are as follows:

Trademarks and URLs Customer relationships Affiliate network relationships Developed technologies Interest Income (Expense), Net Estimated Useful Life 2-25 years 8-15 years

1-9 years

3-6 years

Interest income (expense), net, primarily consists of expenses associated with our long-term debt, amortization of the debt issuance costs and interest income earned on cash and cash equivalents.

Loss on Redemption of Senior Secured Notes

Loss on redemption of Notes represent additional cost incurred as a result of the redemption of a portion of the Notes.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Income tax expense consists of federal and state income taxes in the United States and taxes in certain foreign jurisdictions.

# **Critical Accounting Policies**

# Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent gains and losses at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. We base our judgments, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ materially from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. We evaluate our judgments, estimates and assumptions on a

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regular basis and make changes accordingly. We believe that the judgments, estimates and assumptions involved in the accounting for revenue recognition, income taxes, the allowance for doubtful accounts receivable, stock-based compensation, useful lives of intangible assets and intangible asset impairment, goodwill impairment, acquisition accounting, and contingencies have the greatest potential impact on our financial statements, so we consider these to be our critical accounting policies. Below we discuss the critical accounting estimates associated with these policies. For further information on our critical accounting policies, see the discussion in the section titled Results of Operations below, and Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included in this prospectus.

# Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

We account for income taxes in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 740, *Income Taxes*. Under this method, deferred income taxes are determined based on the estimated future tax effects of differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities given the provisions of enacted tax laws. Deferred income tax provisions and benefits are based on changes to the assets or liabilities from year to year. In providing for deferred taxes, we consider tax regulations of the jurisdictions in which we operate, estimates of future taxable income, and available tax planning strategies. If tax regulations, operating results, or the ability to implement tax-planning strategies varies, adjustments to the carrying value of the deferred tax assets and liabilities may be required. Valuation allowances are based on the more likely than not criteria of ASC 740.

The accounting for uncertain tax positions guidance under ASC 740 requires that we recognize the financial statement benefit of a tax position only after determining that the relevant tax authority would more likely than not sustain the position following an audit. For tax positions meeting the more-likely-than-not threshold, the amount recognized in the financial statements is the largest benefit that has a greater than 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement with the relevant tax authority. We recognize interest and penalties on uncertain tax positions as a component of income tax expense. If our assessment of whether a tax position meets or no longer meets the more-likely-than-not threshold were to change, adjustments to income tax benefits may be required.

# Allowance for Doubtful Accounts Receivable

We maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability or unwillingness of our customers to make required payments. We look at historical write-offs and sales growth when determining the adequacy of the allowance. This estimate is inherently subjective because our estimates may be revised as more information becomes available. Should the financial condition of our customers deteriorate, resulting in an impairment of their ability to make payments, or if the level of accounts receivable increases, the need for possible additional allowances may be necessary. Any additions to the allowance for doubtful accounts are recorded as bad debt expense and included in general and administrative expenses. During the three months ended September 30, 2011, the nine months ended September 30, 2011, the year ended December 31, 2010, the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009, the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 and year ended December 31, 2008 we charged approximately \$561,000, \$1.7 million, \$776,000, \$126,000, \$540,000, and \$1.2 million, respectively, to bad debt expense, and wrote off (net of recoveries) approximately \$562,000, \$1.8 million, \$449,000, \$12,000, \$0, \$683,000, and \$2.0 million, respectively, of accounts deemed uncollectible.

# Goodwill Impairment

In accordance with ASC 350, *Intangibles Goodwill and Others*, we review our goodwill for impairment annually, or more frequently, if facts and circumstances warrant a review, at the reporting unit level. Our annual impairment test is performed as of October 1 of each year. We have determined that we have one segment with one reporting unit. The provisions of ASC 350 require that a two-step test be performed to assess goodwill for

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impairment. First, the fair value of the reporting unit is compared to its carrying value. If the fair value exceeds the carrying value, goodwill is not impaired and no further testing is performed. The second step is performed if the carrying value exceeds the fair value. The implied fair value of the reporting unit is goodwill must be determined and compared to the carrying value of the goodwill. If the carrying value of a reporting unit is goodwill exceeds its implied value, an impairment loss equal to the difference will be recorded. In determining the fair value of our reporting unit, we relied on a weighting of the Income Approach and the Market Approach. Under the Income Approach, the fair value of a business unit is based on the cash flows it can be expected to generate over its remaining life. The estimated cash flows are converted to their present value equivalent using an appropriate rate of return. The Market Approach utilizes a market comparable method whereby similar publicly traded companies are valued using Market Values of Invested Capital (MVIC) multiples (i.e., MVIC to revenue, MVIC to earnings before interest and taxes, MVIC to cash flow, etc.) and then these MVIC multiples are applied to a company is operating results to arrive at an estimate of value. We did not recognize any goodwill impairment charges for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, the year ended December 31, 2010, the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009, the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009, and for the year ended December 31, 2008. Goodwill activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 is shown below:

(\$ in thousands)	
Balance, December 31, 2010	\$ 559,168
Adjustment during the measurement period relating to acquisition of NetQuote Holdings, Inc.	205
Adjustment during the measurement period relating to acquisition of CreditCards.com, Inc.	5,400
Other acquisitions	8,972
Balance, September 30, 2011	\$ 573,745

There have been no triggering events during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 that would require an impairment test during the periods.

# Impairment of Long-Lived Assets including intangible assets with finite lives

ASC 360, *Property, Plant and Equipment*, requires that long-lived assets including intangible assets with finite lives be amortized over their estimated useful life and reviewed for impairment. We continually monitor events and changes in circumstances that could indicate carrying amounts of our long-lived assets including intangible assets with finite lives may not be recoverable. When such events or changes in circumstances occur, we assess the recoverability of such assets by determining whether the carrying value will be recovered through the undiscounted expected future cash flows. If the future undiscounted cash flows are less than the carrying amount of such assets, we recognize an impairment loss based on the excess of the carrying amount over the fair value of the assets.

There was \$0 of impairment charges of long-lived assets including intangible assets with finite lives for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, the year ended December 31, 2010, the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 and the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009. In the three months ended December 31, 2008, we recorded impairment charges of approximately \$519,000 related to certain developed technology and Internet domain names that we ceased using. In the three months ended December 31, 2008, we also recorded an impairment charge of approximately \$1.9 million related to customer relationships in our print publishing and licensing business due to the continuing trend of declining revenue and operating margins with no indications of improvement in the near future.

# Acquisition Accounting

We completed the acquisition of numerous businesses and websites between 2008 and 2010. The acquisition method of accounting requires companies to assign values to assets and liabilities acquired based upon their fair

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values. In most instances, there is not a readily defined or listed market price for individual assets and liabilities acquired in connection with a business, including intangible assets. The determination of fair value for assets and liabilities in many instances requires a high degree of estimation. The valuation of intangibles assets, in particular, is very subjective. We generally use internal cash flow models. The use of different valuation techniques and assumptions can change the amounts and useful lives assigned to the assets and liabilities acquired, including goodwill and other intangible assets and related amortization expense. We adopted the provisions of ASC 805, *Business Combinations*, effective January 1, 2009. We will have applied ASC 805 prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date was on or after January 1, 2009.

# **Contingencies**

As discussed in Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements, included elsewhere in this prospectus, various legal proceedings are pending against us.

We record provisions in the consolidated financial statements for pending litigation when we determine that an unfavorable outcome is probable and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Except as discussed in Note 8, at the present time, while it is reasonably possible that an unfavorable outcome in a case may occur, (i) management has concluded that it is not probable that a loss has been incurred; (ii) management is unable to estimate the possible loss or range of loss that could result from an unfavorable outcome; and (iii) accordingly, management has not provided any amounts in the consolidated financial statements for unfavorable outcomes, if any. Legal defense costs are expensed as incurred.

# Revenue Recognition

Online advertising is the sale of advertising, sponsorships, hyperlinks, and lead generation within our online network through <code>Bankrate.com</code>, <code>Interest.com</code>, <code>Bankaholic.com</code>, <code>Mortgage-calc.com</code>, <code>CreditCardGuide.com</code>, <code>Nationwidecardservices.com</code>, <code>CreditCardsearchengine.com</code>, <code>InsuranceQuotes.com</code>, <code>InsureMe.com</code>, <code>Bankrate.com.cn</code> (China), <code>CreditCards.com</code>, <code>CreditCards.com</code>, <code>CreditCards.com</code>, and <code>CD.com</code>. The print publishing and licensing business is primarily engaged in the sale of advertising in the <code>Mortgage Guide</code> and <code>CD & Deposit Guide</code> rate tables, newsletter subscriptions, and licensing of research information.

Our largest customer accounted for less than 10% of total revenue, and our ten largest customers accounted for approximately 40% of total revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2010. Our largest customer accounted for 12% of total revenue and our ten largest customers accounted for approximately 56% of total revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2011. No material revenues were generated outside of the United States.

Display Advertising Revenue

Display advertising sales are invoiced monthly at amounts based on specific contract terms predominantly based on the number of impressions actually delivered to the advertiser.

Hyperlink Revenue

We recognize hyperlink revenue monthly for each link based on the number of clicks at the cost per click contracted for during the auction bidding process.

Lead Generation Revenue

For the insurance vertical category, we recognize revenue on a per-lead basis. For the credit card industry, we recognize revenue on a per-action basis. We have also entered into revenue sharing arrangements with our vertical content partners based on the revenue earned from their leads.

Revenue is recorded at gross amounts and partnership payments are recorded in cost of revenue, pursuant to the provisions of ASC Topic 605-45, *Reporting Revenue Gross as a Principal versus Net as an Agent.* 

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Print Publishing and Licensing Revenue

We charge for placement in the *Mortgage Guide* and *CD & Deposit Guide* in a print publication. Advertising revenue is recognized when the *Mortgage Guide* and *CD & Deposit Guide* run in the publication. Revenue from our newsletters is recognized ratably over the period of the subscription, which is generally up to one year. Revenue from the sale of research information is recognized ratably over the contract period.

Revenue for distributing editorial rate tables is recognized ratably over the contract/subscription periods.

# Stock Based Compensation

The Predecessor used and we currently use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to determine the fair value of our stock options. The determination of the fair value of the awards on the date of grant using an option-pricing model was affected by the price of our common stock, as well as assumptions regarding a number of complex and subjective variables. These variables included expected stock price volatility over the term of the awards, actual and projected employee stock option exercise behaviors, risk-free interest rates, expected dividends and the estimated forfeiture rate.

We estimated the expected term of outstanding stock options by taking the average of the vesting term and the contractual term of the option, as illustrated in ASC 718, *Compensation Stock Compensation*. We used the simplified method to estimate the expected term for employee stock option grants as adequate historical experience was not available to provide a reasonable estimate. The Predecessor estimated the volatility of our common stock by using a weighted average of historical stock price volatility and implied volatility in market traded options in accordance with ASC 718. The decision to use a weighted average volatility factor was based upon the relatively short period of availability of data on actively traded options on our common stock, and our assessment that implied volatility was more representative of future stock price trends than historical volatility. We based the risk-free interest rate used in the option pricing model on U.S. Treasury constant maturity issues having remaining terms similar to the expected terms of the options. We did not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future and therefore use an expected dividend yield of zero in the option pricing model. We were required to estimate forfeitures at the time of grant and revise those estimates in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. We used historical data to estimate pre-vesting option forfeitures and record stock based compensation expense only for those awards that were expected to vest. All stock based payment awards were amortized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service periods, which was generally the vesting period.

If factors had changed and we had employed different assumptions for estimating stock based compensation expense in future periods or if we had decided to use a different valuation model, the future periods may have differed significantly from what we recorded in the current period and could have materially affected our operating income and net income.

In June 2011, the Company established the 2011 Plan, a stock based compensation program to grant stock based awards for up to 12,120,000 shares of our common stock. Our stock based program is a long-term retention program that is intended to attract, retain and provide incentives for directors, officers and employees in the form of non-qualified stock options and restricted stock. Under the 2011 Plan, the Board of Directors or its delegate has the sole authority to determine who receives such grants, the type, size and timing of such grants, and to specify the terms of any non-competition agreements relating to the grants. The purpose of the 2011 Plan is to advance our interests by providing eligible participants in the Plan with the opportunity to receive equity-based or cash incentive awards, thereby aligning their economic interests with those of our stockholders.

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Stock based compensation expense recognized in our consolidated statements of income as set forth below for each of the periods stated:

		Fiscal 200	8	Fisca	1 2009	Fiscal 2010					
		Predecesso	r	Predecessor	Successor	Successor			Su	iccess	or
	Period from January 1, 2008 to August 24J	Period from August 25, 2008 through December 31	Year ended December	Period from January 1, 2009 through August 24,	Period from July 17, 2009 through December 31,	_	August 25, 2010 through	Year ended Vecember 30	Nine months ended Septembe&	mo en	ine nths ded nber 30,
(\$ in thousands)	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010		011
Cost of revenue:	\$ 1,432	\$ 531	\$ 1,963	\$ 2,858	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	237
Operating expenses:											
Sales	1,381	825	2,206	5,540							484
Marketing	513	247	760	890							259
Product development	714	354	1,068	948							523
General and administrative	5,172	2,248	7,420	12,178							1,424
Total stock based compensation											
expense	\$ 9,212	\$ 4,205	\$ 13,417	\$ 22,414	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	2,927

There was \$0 of stock based compensation expense recognized in our consolidated statements of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2010, the year ended December 31, 2010, and the period from July 17, 2009 through December 31, 2009 (Successor).

Included in stock based compensation expenses for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 is \$16.3 million due to the recognition of unamortized compensation costs as the acquisition of the Company triggered the change in control provisions of the stock based compensation instruments and resulted in the immediate acceleration of the vesting. Effective with the Bankrate Acquisition, all outstanding in-the-money stock options were settled with cash, and all outstanding out-of-money stock options were cancelled.

# **Results of Operations**

The following is our analysis of the results of operations for the periods covered by our financial statements. This analysis should be read in conjunction with our financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements. A detailed discussion of our accounting policies and procedures is set forth in the applicable sections of this analysis. Other accounting policies are contained in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements.

The Successor had no operations from July 17, 2009 to August 24, 2009. For comparability purposes, the Successor period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 is compared to the Predecessor period from August 25, 2008 to December 31, 2008 and the Successor period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010.

The following table displays our results for the respective periods expressed as a percentage of total revenue.

	Fiscal 2008			Fiscal 2009			Fiscal 2010		a				
	P	Predecesso	r l	Predecessor	Successor		Successor			Succ	essor		
	Period from January 1, 2008 to August 24, 2008	Decem-	Year ended Decem- ber 31, 2008	Period from January 1, 2009 through August 24, 2009	Period from July 17, 2009 through Decem- ber 31, 2009	Period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010	through Decem-	Year ended Decem- ber 31, 2010	Three months ended September 30, 2010	Three months ended September 30, 2011	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30, 2010	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30, 2011	
Statement of													
Operation Data	1000	1000	4000	1000	1000	1000	4000	1000	1000	4000	4000	1000	
Revenue	100%	100%	100%		100%		100%	100%	100%	100%		100%	
Cost of revenue	41	37	40	44	43	40	37	39	39	34	39	36	
Gross margin	59	63	60	56	57	60	63	61	61	66	61	64	
Operating expenses													
Sales	5	6	5	12	6	5	3	4	3	3	4	3	
Marketing	7	9	8	8	8	9	13	11	11	21	10	19	
Product development	4	4	4	6	6	4	3	4	4	3	4	3	
General and													
administrative	16	17	17	26	13	11	9	10	9	9	11	8	
Acquisition related													
expenses	0	0	0	39	11	14	2	8	19	1	11	13	
Restructuring charges	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	2	0	
Impairment charges	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Legal settlements	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	
Depreciation and													
amortization	5	6	5	9	22	19	13	16	16	10	18	10	
	37	46	40	100	66	64	46	55	66	47	61	58	
Income (loss) from													
operations	22	17	20	(44)	(9)	(4)	17	6	(5)	19	0	7	
Interest (expenses)													
income, net	1	0	1	0	(28)	(22)	(14)	(18)	(15)	(6)	(20)	(8)	
Loss on early													
extinguishment of debt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(5)	
Income before income													
taxes	23	17	21	(44)	(37)	(26)	3	(12)	(20)	13	(20)	(7)	
Income tax expense											(0)		
(benefit)	10	8	9	(5)	(15)	(5)	1	(2)	(9)	7	(8)	2	

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Net income (loss) 13% 9% 12% (39)% (22)% (21)% 2% (10)% (11%) 6% (12%) (9%)

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59%

63%

60%

The following table displays our total revenue for the periods indicated.

	Fiscal 2008			Fiscal	2009		Fiscal 2010						
	]	Predecessor Period	•	Predecessor	Successor Period		Successor Period			Suco	cessor		
<i>(</i> ¢.	January 1, 2008 to	from August 25, 2008 through Decem-	Year ended Decem-	Period from January 1, 2009 through	from July 17, 2009 through Decem-	Period from January 1, 2010 to	from August 25, 2010 through Decem-	Year ended Decem-	Three months ended September 30,	Three months ended September 30,	Nine months ended Septem-	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30,	
(\$ in thousands)	August 24, 2008	ber 31, 2008	ber 31, 2008	August 24, 2009	ber 31, 2009	August 24, 2010	ber 31, 2010	ber 31, 2010	2010	2011	ber 30, 2010	2011	
Online (1)	\$ 101,992	\$ 56,061	\$ 158,053	\$ 82,618	\$ 41,369	\$ 107,949	\$ 105,630	\$ 213,579	\$ 69,027	\$ 110,937	\$ 138,470	\$ 304,313	
Print publishing	6,132	2,670	8,802	5,028	2,468	4,225	2,794	7,019	1,589	1,967	4,863	6,118	
Total revenue	\$ 108,124	\$ 58,731	\$ 166,855	\$ 87,646	\$ 43,837	\$ 112,174	\$ 108,424	\$ 220,598	\$ 70,616	\$ 112,904	\$ 143,333	\$ 310,431	

The following table displays our cost of revenue (excludes depreciation and amortization) and gross margin for the periods indicated.

		Fiscal 2008		Fiscal			Fiscal 2010					
in	Period from January 1, 2008 to August 24,	Predecessor Period from August 25, 2008 through December 31,	Year ended Decem- ber 31,	Predecessor  Period from July 17, 2009 through August 24,	Successor Period from July 17, 2009 through December 31,	Period from January 1, 2010 to August 24,	Period from August 25, 2010 through Decem- ber 31,	Year ended Decem- ber 31,	Three months ended Septem- ber 30,	Three months ended September 30,	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30,	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30,
ousands)	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2010	2011
evenue	\$ 108,124	\$ 58,731	\$ 166,855	\$ 87,646	\$ 43,837	\$ 112,174	\$ 108,424	\$ 220,598	\$ 70,616	\$ 112,904	\$ 143,333	\$ 310,431
ost of venue	44,443	21,652	66,095	38,291	18,669	44,708	40,618	85,326	27,813	38,044	56,507	111,229
ross argin	\$ 63,681	\$ 37,079	\$ 100,760	\$ 49,355	\$ 25,168	\$ 67,466	\$ 67,806	\$ 135,272	\$ 42,803	\$ 74,860	\$ 86,826	\$ 199,202
ross argin as a rcentage	500	(20)	cog.	F.C0	570	(05)	(25)	(10)	(10)		(10)	<b>.</b>

The following table displays our income tax expense (benefit) and our effective tax rate for the periods indicated.

57%

56%

Fiscal 2008	Fiscal 2009	Fiscal 2010	
Predecessor	Predecessor Successor	Successor	Successor

60%

63%

61%

61%

61%

66%

649

<sup>(1)</sup> Consists of display advertising, hyperlink, and lead generation.

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(\$ in thousands)	Period from January 1, 2008 to August 24, 2008	2008	Year ended Decem- ber 31, 2008	Period from January 1, 2009 through August 24, 2009	Period from July 17, 2009 through Decem- ber 31, 2009	Period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010	Period from August 25, 2010 through Decem- ber 31, 2010	Year ended Decem- ber 31, 2010	Three months ended September 30, 2010	Three months ended September 30, 2011	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30, 2010	Nine months ended Septem- ber 30, 2011
Income tax	ζ											
expense												
(benefit)	\$ 10,340	\$ 4,703	\$ 15,043	\$ (4,222)	\$ (6,509)	\$ (5,173)	\$ 1,522	\$ (3,651)	\$ (6,478)	\$ 7,807	\$ (11,974)	\$ 5,740
Effective												
tax rate	42%	46%	43%	11%	40%	18%	39%	15%	46%	52%	42%	26%

# Period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 Compared to Period

from January 1, 2008 to August 24, 2008

#### Revenue

Total revenue was \$87.6 million and \$108.1 million for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 and January 1, 2008 to August 24, 2008, respectively, representing a decrease of 19% for 2009, due to the impact of the global economic downturn in the banking and financial sectors.

Display advertising revenue in particular was down by \$9.9 million for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 compared to the same period ended in 2008, which was driven by a decrease in page views (\$2.9 million impact) and a decrease in cost per thousand impressions yield per page (\$7.0 million impact). The display advertising revenue decline was the result of the global economic downturn, which continued to directly impact display advertising volumes from several of our largest financial advertisers as well as consumer demand, resulting in lower page views.

Hyperlink revenue was down by \$8.8 million for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 compared to the same period in 2008 due to a decrease in clicks (\$11.8 million impact), partially offset by an increase in the average cost per click (\$3.0 million impact), also as a result of the global economic downturn.

Per approved lead and per application lead generation revenue combined had a net decrease of \$500,000 which is the result of a decrease in volume (\$9.4 million impact) related to a decline in demand from consumers and advertisers for our credit card products per approved leads, partially offset by the higher volume (\$8.9 million impact) for per application leads generation revenue, primarily associated with our insurance products.

# Cost of Revenue and Gross Margin

Cost of revenue for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 of \$38.3 million was \$6.2 million lower than the same period in 2008 due to a \$7.4 million decrease in distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates primarily as a result of lower hyperlink and lead generation revenue. Our gross margin for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 was 56%, compared to 59% during the same period in 2008, a decrease of 3%. The decrease in our gross margin was primarily attributed to shift in product mix to our lower margin per application lead generation revenue business and lower revenue from our high margin products such as display and hyperlinks as noted above.

# Operating Expenses

Sales

Sales costs for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 of \$10.1 million were \$4.4 million higher than the same period in 2008. The increase was due primarily to \$4.2 million in additional stock compensation expense recognized in the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 related to the recognition of unamortized compensation costs because the Bankrate Acquisition triggered the change in control provisions of the stock based compensation instruments and resulted in the immediate acceleration of vesting. In addition, human resource costs increased by approximately \$345,000 in period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 as compared to the same period in 2008 due to increased headcount and higher commissions.

# Marketing

Marketing expenses for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 of \$6.8 million were \$1.1 million lower than the same period in 2008, primarily due to \$1.3 million in lower keyword campaign costs and \$208,000 in lower advertising costs, which were partially offset by approximately \$377,000 in stock compensation expense as a result of the Bankrate Acquisition.

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# **Product Development**

Product development costs for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 of \$5.3 million were \$699,000 higher than the comparable period in 2008 due primarily to \$234,000 of higher stock compensation expense as a result of the Bankrate Acquisition, an increase of approximately \$167,000 in compensation and benefits expenses, and approximately \$200,000 increase in development of web analytics tools.

#### General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 of \$23.1 million were \$6.0 million higher than the same period in 2008. The increase was due primarily to \$7.0 million in additional stock compensation expense recognized related to the recognition of unamortized compensation costs because the Bankrate Acquisition triggered the change in control provisions of the stock based compensation instruments and resulted in the immediate acceleration of vesting. This was partially offset by a \$540,000 decrease in bad debt expense, and by a \$731,000 decrease in compensation and benefits due to lower management incentive bonuses.

Acquisition related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition related expenses and related party fees of \$34.6 million represent direct expenses incurred as a result of the Bankrate Acquisition during for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009. The largest components of these costs were \$15.3 million in investment fees to Apax Partners L.P., \$8.9 million to investment bankers, and \$9.2 million in legal fees. There were \$0 of acquisition related expenses and related party fees during the same period in 2008.

# Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 of \$8.3 million was \$3.0 million higher than in the same period in 2008 due to the acquisitions of certain assets of Blackshore Properties, Inc., on September 23, 2008 and certain assets of LinkSpectrum Co. on September 5, 2008, which resulted in higher intangible asset balances and related amortization expense during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009.

Interest Income (Expense), Net

Interest income for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 was \$30,000, which decreased by \$1.4 million as compared to the \$1.4 million in interest income from January 1, 2008 to August 24, 2008. The decrease in interest income is due to lower average cash balance and lower interest rates during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 as compared to the same period in 2008.

Income Taxes Expense (Benefit)

Non-deductible transaction costs and the establishment of an uncertain tax position liability resulted in a decrease in income tax benefit and a decrease in the effective rate from approximately 42% during the period from January 1, 2008 to August 24, 2008 to approximately 11% in the same period in 2009.

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# Period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 Compared to Period

# from August 25, 2008 to December 31, 2008

#### Revenue

Total revenue was \$43.8 million and \$58.7 million for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 and August 25, 2008 to December 31, 2008, respectively, representing a decrease of 25%, due to the reasons set forth below.

Display advertising revenue was down by \$2.7 million for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 compared to the comparable period ended in 2008, which was driven by a decrease in page views (\$4.2 million impact), offset by an increase in the cost per thousand impressions yield per page (\$1.5 million impact). The display advertising revenue decline was the result of the global economic downturn in the banking and financial sectors, which continued to directly impact display advertising volumes from several of our largest financial advertisers.

Hyperlink revenue was down by \$7.4 million for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 compared to the comparable period in 2008. This decrease was due to a decrease in clicks (\$7.5 million impact), partially offset by an increase in the average cost per click (\$100,000 impact), and also as a result of global economic downturn in the banking and financial sectors, particularly the mortgage industry.

Per approved lead and per application lead generation revenue combined was down \$4.4 million for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 compared to the comparable period in 2008. This decrease was the result of a decrease in volume (\$4.6 million impact) related to a decline in demand from consumers and advertisers for our credit card products as well as an associated decrease in yields (\$2.6 million impact), offset partially by an increase in volumes for per application leads (\$2.9 million impact) primarily associated with our insurance products.

# Cost of Revenue and Gross Margin

Cost of revenue for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 of \$18.7 million was \$3.0 million, or 14%, lower than the comparable period in 2008, due to a \$2.2 million decrease in distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates primarily as a result of lower hyperlink and lead generation revenue. Our gross margin for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 was 57%, compared to 63% during the comparable period in 2008. The decrease in our gross margin was primarily attributed to shift in product mix to our lower margin insurance lead generation business.

#### **Operating Expenses**

Sales

Sales costs for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 of \$2.6 million were \$856,000 lower than the comparable period in 2008. The decrease was due to \$0 of stock compensation expense during the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009, as compared to \$825,000 of stock compensation expense for the comparable period in 2008. In addition, human resource costs increased by approximately \$108,000 in period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 as compared to the comparable period in 2008 due to increased headcount and higher commissions.

# Marketing

Marketing expenses for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 were \$3.6 million, were \$1.6 million lower than the comparable period in 2008, primarily due to \$1.3 million in lower keyword campaign costs and \$127,000 in lower advertisings costs. In addition, there was \$0 of stock compensation expense during the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 as compared to \$247,000 in the comparable period in 2008.

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# **Product Development**

Product development costs for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 of \$2.5 million were flat compared to the comparable period in 2008. There was \$0 of stock compensation expense during the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 as compared to \$354,000 in the comparable period in 2008. This was offset by an increase of \$400,000 in compensation and benefits expenses.

#### General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 of \$5.9 million were \$3.7 million lower than the comparable period in 2008. There was \$0 of stock compensation expense during the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 as compared to \$2.2 million in the comparable period in 2008. In addition, there was a \$607,000 decrease in bad debt expense, a \$576,000 decrease in management bonus expense, and a \$265,000 decrease in professional fees for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 as compared to the comparable period in 2008.

Acquisition Related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition related Expenses and related party fees for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 represent direct expenses incurred as a result of the Bankrate Acquisition. The largest components of these costs were \$4.5 million in legal fees and \$400,000 in printing costs. There were \$0 of acquisition related expenses for the comparable period in 2008.

# Impairment Charges

Impairment charges for the period from August 25, 2008 to December 31, 2008 of \$2.4 million consisted primarily of \$519,000 related to certain developed technology and Internet domain names that we ceased using and an impairment charge of approximately \$1.9 million related to customer relationships in our print publishing and licensing business due to the continuing trend of declining revenue and operating margins with no indications of improvement in the near future. There was \$0 of impairment charges for the comparable period in 2009.

# Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 of \$9.8 million was \$6.0 million higher than in the comparable period in 2008 due to the Bankrate Acquisition on August 25, 2009, which resulted in significantly higher intangible asset balances and related amortization expense.

Interest Income (Expense), Net

Interest expense for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 was \$12.1 million, which consisted of \$10.8 million for the Stockholder Notes and \$1.3 million in interest expenses for dissenting stockholders compared to interest income of \$130,000 for the comparable period in 2008.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Non-deductible transaction costs and the establishment of an uncertain tax position liability for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 resulted in a decrease in income tax benefit and a decrease in the effective rate from approximately 46% in the period from August 25, 2008 to December 31, 2008 to approximately 40% in the comparable period in 2009.

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# Period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 Compared to Period

from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009

#### Revenue

Total revenue was \$112.2 million and \$87.6 million for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 and January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009, respectively, representing an increase of 28% (an increase of 11% excluding the impact of the 2010 Acquisitions), due to the reasons set forth below.

Display advertising revenue increased by \$2.2 million for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009, which was driven by a decrease in page views (\$3.7 million impact), more than offset by an increase in the cost per impressions yield per page (\$5.9 million impact).

Hyperlink revenue increased by \$4.7 million for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 compared to the same period 2009 due to an increase in the number of mortgage and deposit clicks (\$5.6 million impact), partially offset by a decrease in the average cost per click rate (\$900,000 impact) due to a shift in product mix, as hyperlink pricing remained relatively stable throughout the period.

Per approved lead and per application lead generation revenue combined increased by \$18.4 million for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009 due to the 2010 Acquisitions (\$14.5 million impact), an increase in per approved lead volume and yield (\$1.1 million and \$1.4 million impact, respectively), as well as an increase in volume for per application lead generation revenue (\$1.4 million impact).

# Cost of Revenue and Gross Margin

Cost of revenue for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 of \$44.7 million was \$6.4 million, or 17%, higher than the same period in 2009. The 2010 Acquisitions resulted in higher distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates of \$7.1 million and compensation expense of \$370,000. The Company also incurred a \$2.7 million increase in distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates primarily as a result of higher online revenue. This was partially offset by \$3.0 million of stock based compensation expense for the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 as compared to \$0 of stock based compensation expense in the same period in 2010 and \$626,000 decrease in print revenue partner expense during the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010. Our gross margin for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 was 60%, compared to 56% for the same period in 2009, increasing primarily due to the higher per approved lead revenue, which has a higher gross profit margin as a result of higher organic traffic.

#### **Operating Expenses**

Sales

Sales expenses for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 of \$5.2 million were \$4.9 million lower than the same period in 2009, primarily due to \$5.5 million of stock based compensation that was recognized during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 as compared to \$0 of stock based compensation expense in the same period in 2010. This was partially offset by \$204,000 in operating expenses associated with the 2010 Acquisitions and \$397,000 in higher sales commission expense.

#### Marketing

Marketing expenses for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 of \$10.0 million, were \$3.1 million higher than the same period in 2009, primarily due to \$1.7 million increase in SEM expense, \$149,000 increase in advertising expense and \$128,000 in compensation and other costs as a result of the 2010

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Acquisitions. The Company also incurred additional \$1.8 million in SEM expense. This was partially offset by \$890,000 of stock based compensation expense during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009, as compared to \$0 of stock based compensation expense in the same period in 2010.

# Product Development

Product development costs for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 of \$5.0 million were \$311,000 lower than the comparable period in 2009, primarily due to \$948,000 of stock based compensation that was recognized during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 as compared to \$0 of stock based compensation expense during the same period in 2010. This was partially offset by \$251,000 increase in compensation expense and \$202,000 in operating expenses associated with the 2010 Acquisitions.

# General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 of \$13.1 million, were \$10.0 million lower than the same period in 2009, primarily due to \$12.2 million of stock based compensation that was recognized during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 as compared to \$0 of stock based compensation expense in the same period in 2010. This was partially offset by \$2.0 million increase in management bonus expense during the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 as compared to the same period in 2009.

#### Acquisition Related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition related expenses and related party fees for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 was \$15.7 million as compared to \$34.6 million for the same period in 2009. Acquisition related expenses and related party fees for period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 were for the offering of the Notes, the 2010 Acquisitions, and advisory fees to shareholders while the acquisition related expenses and related party fees for the same period in 2009 were for the Bankrate Acquisition and advisory fees to shareholders.

# Restructuring Costs

Restructuring costs of \$2.0 million represent costs incurred as a result of terminating and relocating employees during the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010. We terminated 66 employees and exited one building facility to achieve cost synergies. We had \$0 of restructuring costs during the same period in 2009.

# Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 of \$21.3 million was \$13.0 million higher than the same period in 2009 due to the full period impact of the Bankrate Acquisition and the impact of the 2010 Acquisitions, which resulted in significantly higher intangible asset balances and related amortization expense.

#### Interest Income (Expense), Net

Interest expense for the period from January 1, 2010 to August 24, 2010 was \$24.0 million, which primarily consisted of \$4.5 million for the Notes, \$17.0 million for the Stockholder Note from the Company to Holdings and \$2.4 million for dissenting stockholders. This is \$24.0 million higher than the \$30,000 in interest income for the same period in 2009.

# Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

The change in our effective tax rate from approximately 11% during the period from January 1, 2009 to August 24, 2009 to approximately 18% in the same period in 2010 was primarily due to the elimination of stock based compensation impact for incentive stock options and the effect of non-deductible costs.

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# Period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 Compared to Period

# from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009

#### Revenue

Total revenue was \$108.4 million and \$43.8 million for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 and July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009, respectively, representing an increase of 147% (an increase of 25% excluding the impact of acquisitions), due to the reasons set forth below.

Display advertising revenue increased by \$1.0 million for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 compared to the comparable period in 2009, which was driven by the increase in page views (\$900,000 impact), and an increase in cost per impressions yield per page (\$200,000 impact).

Hyperlink revenue increased by \$1.1 million for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 compared to the comparable period 2009 due to an increase in the number of mortgage and deposit clicks (\$2.0 million impact) and a decrease in the average cost per click rate (\$900,000 impact), mostly due to shift in product mix, as hyperlink pricing remained relatively stable throughout the period.

Per approved lead and per application lead generation revenue combined increased by \$62.2 million for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 compared to the comparable period in 2009 due to the 2010 Acquisitions (\$53.5 million impact), and an increase in per approved lead volume and yields (\$1.9 million impact and \$7.2 million impact, respectively), partially offset by a decrease in non-acquired lead volume for per application lead generation revenue (\$500,000 impact). This decrease was the result of optimizing lead routing to our acquired platform and not the result of a decrease in our organic business.

# Cost of Revenue and Gross Margin

Cost of revenue for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 of \$40.6 million was \$21.9 million higher than the comparable period in 2009. \$20.5 million of this increase was due to distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates associated with the 2010 Acquisitions, and the remaining \$1.3 million increase in distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates was due to higher online revenue. Our gross margin for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 was 63%, compared to 57% for the comparable period in 2009, increasing primarily due to the higher gross margins on our per approved lead revenue as a result of higher organic traffic.

# **Operating Expenses**

Sales

Sales expenses for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 of \$3.4 million were \$867,000 higher than the comparable period in 2009. The 2010 Acquisitions resulted in additional compensation expense of \$908,000, which was partially offset by \$82,000 of lower sales commission expense.

# Marketing

Marketing expenses for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 of \$13.7 million, were \$10.0 million higher than the comparable period in 2009. The 2010 Acquisitions resulted in higher SEM, marketing, and compensation expense of \$8.4 million, \$513,000, and \$314,000 respectively. The Company also incurred an additional \$625,000 in SEM expense for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 as compared to the comparable period in 2009.

# Product Development

Product development costs for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 of \$3.7 million were \$1.2 million higher than the comparable period in 2009. The 2010 Acquisitions resulted in higher IT operating expenses and compensation expense of \$833,000 and \$611,000 respectively.

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#### General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 of \$9.9 million were \$4.0 million higher than the comparable period in 2009. The 2010 Acquisitions resulted in higher compensation expense, bonus expense, bad debt expense, rent of expense, and merchant discount fees of \$808,000, \$1.0 million, \$327,000, \$343,000, and \$481,000, respectively. The Company also incurred an additional \$1.1 million in bonus expense for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 as compared to the comparable period in 2009.

Acquisition Related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition related expenses and related party fees for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 were \$1.6 million as compared to \$4.9 million for the comparable period in 2009. Acquisition related expenses and related party fees for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 were for the Notes, the 2010 Acquisitions, and advisory fees to shareholders, while the acquisition related expenses and related party fees for the comparable period in 2009 were for the Bankrate Acquisition and advisory fees to shareholders.

# Restructuring Costs

During the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010, restructuring costs of \$1.2 million represented costs incurred to terminate 15 employees, relocate 13 employees and exit one building facility to achieve cost synergies. We had \$0 of restructuring costs during the comparable period in 2009.

#### Legal Settlements

Legal settlement costs represent the costs associated with the final settlement of an appraisal lawsuit filed in connection with the Bankrate Acquisition, which sought a judicial appraisal of the value of the common stock of Bankrate immediately prior to the Bankrate Acquisition. The settlement amount of \$1.6 million for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 represents the incremental amount above and beyond the \$28.50 offer price and the associated accrued interest.

# Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 of \$13.9 million was \$4.1 million higher than the comparable period in 2009 due to the full period impact of the 2010 Acquisitions, which resulted in significantly higher intangible asset balances and related amortization expense.

Interest Income (Expense), Net

Interest expense, net for the period from August 25, 2010 to December 31, 2010 was \$14.5 million, which primarily consisted of \$13.3 million for interest on the Notes and \$1.2 million for interest payable to dissenting stockholders.

Interest expense, net for the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 was \$12.1 million, which primarily consisted of \$10.8 million for interest on the Stockholder Notes and \$1.3 million for interest payable to dissenting stockholders.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Our effective tax rate changed from approximately 40% during the period from July 17, 2009 to December 31, 2009 to approximately 39% in the comparable period in 2010. The decrease was primarily due to state income tax allocations.

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# Three Months Ended September 30, 2011 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 2010

#### Revenue

Total revenue was \$112.9 million and \$70.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2011 and September 30, 2010, respectively, representing an increase of 60% (an increase of 51.5% excluding the impact of the acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010), primarily due to a significant increase in lead generation revenue and to a lesser extent hyperlink revenue as set forth below.

Display advertising revenue increased by \$210,000 for the three months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010, which was driven by the increase in page views (\$2.4 million impact), and a decrease in cost per impressions yield per page (\$2.2 million impact). In addition, the Company increased monetization of display inventory with internal lead generation widgets included in lead generation revenue.

Hyperlink revenue increased by \$7.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010, due to an increase in the number of clicks (\$12.1 million impact) and a decrease in the overall rate (\$4.3 million impact), as a result of the launch of our new insurance hyperlink product, which initially was offered at lower rates versus our other products. Our rates for mortgage and deposit products increased and our rates for insurance clicks have increased since we launched our new products.

Per approved lead and per application lead generation revenue combined increased by \$33.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 due to the acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 (\$21.0 million impact), and an increase in per approved and per application lead volume (\$5.3 million impact), as well as an increase in yield (\$7.6 million impact). Many of our bank and insurance carrier customers are increasing their internet marketing spending to drive new customer growth.

# Cost of Revenue (excludes depreciation and amortization) and Gross Margin

Cost of revenue for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$38.0 million was \$10.2 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in higher distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates of \$652,000. We also incurred an additional \$9.1 million in distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates as a result of higher online revenue and stock based compensation expense of \$203,000. Our gross margin for the three months ended September 30, 2011 was 66%, compared to 61% for the same period in 2010, increasing primarily due to the increase in per approved lead generation revenue, which has a higher gross profit margin than per application level generation revenue.

# **Operating Expenses**

Sales

Sales expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$3.7 million were \$1.4 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in additional compensation expense of \$545,000 and additional sales commission expenses of \$248,000 as compared to the same period in 2010. The Company also incurred an additional \$415,000 for stock based compensation as compared to the same period in 2010.

# Marketing

Marketing expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$24.0 million were \$16.1 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in higher SEM and marketing expenses of \$8.1 million and \$5.7 million, respectively. The Company also incurred an additional \$2.4 million in SEM expense to drive higher online revenue and stock based compensation expense of \$222,000, during the three months ended September 30, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010.

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# Product Development

Product development costs for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$3.6 million were \$847,000 higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in increased compensation expense of \$515,000 and other product development costs of \$332,000.

#### General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$10.1 million were \$3.6 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in increased compensation expense of \$331,000, bonus expense of \$1.2 million and rent expense of \$100,000. The Company also incurred higher bonus expense of \$529,000 and stock based compensation expense of \$1.2 million during the three months ended September 30, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010.

Acquisition, Offering and Related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees for the three months ended September 30, 2011 was \$1.2 million as compared to \$13.1 million for the same period in 2010. Acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees for the three months ended September 30, 2011 were primarily related to costs associated with the IPO and S-4 registration statement for the Notes. The acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees for the same period in 2010 was \$13.1 million primarily due to the acquisitions of NetQuote and CreditCards and the Notes offering transactions which closed during July and August, 2010.

# Restructuring Costs

We incurred no restructuring costs during the three months ended September 30, 2011 and \$2.7 million during the three months ended September 30, 2010, respectively, pursuant to our restructuring plan adopted in connection with the acquisition of NetQuote and CreditCards.

# Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$10.9 million was \$289,000 lower than the same period in 2010 primarily due to \$1.4 million decrease in amortization expense associated with our affiliate network, which became fully amortized in 2010 partially offset by \$1.1 million increase due to the full period impact of acquisitions completed after June 30, 2010.

# Interest Expense, net

Interest expense, net for the three months ended September 30, 2011 primarily consists of expenses associated with the Notes, partially offset by de minimis interest earned on cash and cash equivalents. Interest expense, net for the three months ended September 30, 2011 was \$6.5 million.

Interest expense, net for the three months ended September 30, 2010 was \$10.4 million, which primarily consisted of \$7.6 million for the Notes, \$1.1 million for the loan from the Apax VII Funds to Holdings and \$833,000 of amortization of deferred financing costs and original issue discount and \$1.0 million for payments to dissenting stockholders in connection with the Bankrate Acquisition partially offset by de minimis interest earned on cash and cash equivalents.

# Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Our income tax expense for the three months ended September 30, 2011 of \$7.8 million was \$14.3 million higher than our income tax benefit of \$6.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010. Our effective tax rate changed from approximately 46% during the three months ended September 30, 2010 to approximately 52% in the same period in 2011 due to uncertain tax positions recorded with respect to non-deductible costs incurred, changes in estimated state rates, and provision to tax return true-ups.

# Nine months ended September 30, 2011 Compared to Nine months ended September 30, 2010

#### Revenue

Total revenue was \$310.4 million and \$143.3 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010, respectively, representing an increase of 117% (an increase of 44% excluding the impact of the acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010), primarily due to a significant increase in lead generation revenue and to a lesser extent hyperlink revenue as set forth below.

Display advertising revenue was unchanged for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010, which was driven by the increase in page views (\$6.9 million impact), and a decrease in cost per impressions yield per page (\$6.9 million impact). In addition, the Company increased monetization of display inventory with internal lead generation widgets included in lead generation revenue.

Hyperlink revenue increased by \$8.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010, due to an increase in the number of clicks (\$19.3 million impact) and a decrease in the overall rate (\$10.4 million impact), as a result of the launch of our new insurance hyperlink product, which initially was at lower rates versus our other products. Our rates for mortgage and deposit products increased and our rates for insurance clicks have increased since we launched our new products.

Per approved lead and per application lead generation revenue combined increased by \$157.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 compared to the same period in 2010 due to the acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 (\$117.5 million impact), and an increase in per approved and per application lead volume (\$16.0 million impact), as well as an increase in yield (\$23.4 million impact). Many of our bank and insurance carrier customers are increasing their internet marketing spending to drive new customer growth.

# Cost of Revenue (excludes depreciation and amortization) and Gross Margin

Cost of revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$111.2 million was \$54.7 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in higher distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates of \$28.8 million. We also incurred an additional \$23.7 million in distribution payments to our online partners and affiliates as a result of higher online revenue and stock based compensation expense of \$237,000. Our gross margin for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 was 64%, compared to 61% for the same period in 2010, increasing primarily due to the increase in per approved lead generation revenue, which has a higher gross profit margin, than per application lead generation revenue.

# **Operating Expenses**

Sales

Sales expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$9.7 million were \$3.4 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in additional compensation expense of \$2.2 million and additional sales commission expenses of \$666,000. The Company also incurred higher stock based compensation expenses of \$484,000 as compared to the same period in 2010.

# Marketing

Marketing expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$59.6 million were \$45.8 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in higher SEM and marketing expenses of \$25.9 million and \$13.1 million, respectively. The Company also incurred an additional \$5.8 million in SEM expense to drive higher online revenue and stock based compensation expense of \$259,000 during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010.

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# **Product Development**

Product development costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$10.6 million were \$4.3 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in increased compensation expense of \$2.3 million and other product development costs of \$2.0 million.

#### General and Administrative

General and administrative expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$25.3 million were \$9.6 million higher than the same period in 2010. The increase primarily was due to acquisitions completed after March 31, 2010 that resulted in increased compensation expense of \$2.2 million, bonus expense of \$2.9 million, bad debt expense of \$1.1 million, bank fees of \$586,000 and rent expense of \$704,000. The Company also incurred higher stock based compensation expense of \$1.4 million and a reduction in bonus expense of \$445,000 during the nine months ended September 30, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010.

Acquisition, Offering and Related Expenses and Related Party Fees

Acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 was \$40.9 million as compared to \$16.1 million for the same period in 2010. Acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 were primarily related to the costs associated with the IPO, the S-4 registration statement in relation to our exchange offer, legal fees associated with settlement of the shareholder appraisal rights lawsuits in connection with the Bankrate Acquisition, and fees associated with the IRS audit of fiscal 2009, which are directly attributable to the Bankrate Acquisition. The \$40.9 million acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees include approximately \$34.7 million to Apax Partners, L.P. for termination of monitoring fees, merger and acquisition advisory services, IPO services for secondary shares, exchange offer advisory services, and other services provided to Bankrate s management. The payment to Apax Partners L.P. has been recorded in the following manner; \$30.0 million as a part of acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees, \$3.8 million netted against IPO proceeds and \$917,000 allocated to deferred financing costs. In addition, the Company incurred \$3.1 million in change of control fees paid to certain senior management and current Board members. The Company also incurred \$1.5 million of fees for advisory fees to shareholders, legal fees associated with the settlement of the shareholder appraisal rights lawsuits, and accounting and legal fees associated with the IRS audit of fiscal 2009. The acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees for the same period in 2010 were related to the acquisitions of NetQuote and Creditcards, investment fees to Apax Partners L.P. and legal fees.

# Restructuring Costs

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011 and 2010 the Company incurred \$238,000 and \$3.4 million, respectively, pursuant to our restructuring plan adopted in connection with the acquisition of NetQuote and CreditCards. Restructuring costs represent severance-related costs incurred as a result of terminating one and fifty-six employees from Bankrate during the nine month period ended September 30, 2011 and September 30, 2010, respectively, to achieve cost synergies.

# Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$32.6 million was \$7.0 million higher than the same period in 2010 primarily due to the full period impact of the acquisitions completed after June 30, 2010, which resulted in significantly higher intangible asset balances and related amortization expense.

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Interest Expense, net

Interest expense, net for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 was \$25.4 million, which primarily consists of expenses associated with the Notes.

Interest expense, net for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$28.2 million, which primarily consisted of \$17.3 million for the loan from Holdings to the Apax VII Funds, \$7.6 million associated with the Notes and \$2.8 million for dissenting stockholders from the Bankrate Acquisition partially offset by de minimis interest earned on cash and cash equivalents.

Loss on Redemption of Senior Secured Notes

The Company incurred a loss on redemption of Notes of approximately \$16.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2011. The loss was as a result of the Company s redemption of \$105.0 million aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes and consisted of approximately \$828,000 and \$3.5 million for the write-off of unamortized original issue discount and deferred financing cost, respectively, and \$12.3 million for the redemption fee. There was no loss on redemption of Notes for the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Income Tax Expense (Benefit)

Our income tax expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 of \$5.7 million was \$17.7 million higher than our income tax benefit of \$12.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010. Our effective tax rate changed from approximately 42% during the nine months ended September 30, 2010 to approximately 26% in the same period in 2011 due to uncertain tax positions recorded with respect to non-deductible costs incurred.

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# **Quarterly Results Of Operations**

The following table presents certain unaudited quarterly statement of income data for each of the last eleven quarters through the nine months ended September 30, 2011. The information has been derived from our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. In the opinion of our management, the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a basis consistent with the financial statements which appear elsewhere in this prospectus and include all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair statement of the financial position and results of operations for such unaudited periods. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected in the future.

	Unaudited Fiscal Year 2009						<b>Unaudited Fiscal Year 2010</b>				<b>Unaudited Fiscal Year 2011</b>			
		Predecess	or	Suco	cessor		Succ	essor			Successor			
		months		Period fron										
	eno	ded	Period from July 1 to	July r 17 to	nonths ende	d	Three mo	nths ended	December	Thr	ee months e	ended		
(\$ in thousands)	March 31	June 30	August 24	September 3	December 3	1March 31	June 30(1)S			March 31(1)	June 30 S	September 30		
Statement of			_	_										
Operation Data														
Revenue:	\$ 38,337	\$ 31,027	\$ 18,282	\$ 12,500	\$ 31,337	\$ 34,460	\$ 38,257	\$ 70,616	\$ 77,265	\$ 99,078	\$ 98,449	\$ 112,904		
Cost of revenue	14,995	12,907	10,389	5,301	13,368	14,185	14,509	27,813	28,819	37,949	35,236	38,044		
Gross margin	23,342	18,120	7,893	7,199	17,969	20,275	23,748	42,803	48,446	61,129	63,213	74,860		
Operating														
expenses:														
Sales	2,434	2,187	5,485	744	1,811	1,994	1,960	2,301	2,369	2,951	3,090	3,660		
Marketing	2,477	2,170	2,201	1,112	2,517	2,654	3,232	7,897	9,889	16,073	19,578	23,966		
Product														
development	1,817	1,837	1,630	660	1,886	1,821	1,698	2,761	2,442	3,387	3,570	3,608		
General and	5 512	5.050	10.225	1 741	4.164	1.560	1.561	6544	7.220	7.040	7.260	10.106		
administrative	5,513	5,259	12,325	1,741	4,164	4,563	4,564	6,544 141	7,320 1,505	7,842	7,369	10,106		
Legal settlements Acquisition related	ı							141	1,303					
costs and related	ı													
party fees			34,562	3,126	1,810	959	2,081	13,099	1,251	1,473	38,222	1,163		
Restructuring			31,302	3,120	1,010	,,,,	2,001	13,077	1,231	1,175	30,222	1,105		
charges						660		2,698	(70)		238			
Depreciation and									` ′					
amortization	2,983	3,344	1,967	1,452	8,337	7,019	7,365	11,190	9,652	10,846	10,820	10,899		
	15,224	14,797	58,170	8,835	20,525	19,670	20,900	46,631	34,358	42,572	82,887	53,402		
Income from														
operations	8,118	3,323	(50,277)	(1,636)	(2,556)	605	2,848	(3,828)	14,088	18,557	(19,674)	21,458		
Interest income	0,220	-,	(= 0,= 1.1)	(-,)	(=,000)		_,	(=,===)	- 1,000		(27,011)	22,100		
(expense), net	10	16	4	(3,221)	(8,872)	(8,891)	(8,959)	(10,392)	(10,519)	(9,396)	(9,524)	(6,519)		
Loss on early														
extinguishment of debt											(16,629)			
Income (loss) before income taxes	8,128	3,339	(50,273)	(4,857)	(11,428)	(8,286)	(6,111)	(14,220)	3,569	9,161	(45,827)	14,939		
Income tax	.,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	(= -, -, -)	( ,== . )	, ,,	(-, 24)	(-, -)	, , ,	,, ,,	.,	( - , )	,		
expense (benefit)	3,413	1,409	(9,044)	(1,614)	(4,895)	(3,126)	(2,370)	(6,478)	8,323	4,099	(6,166)	7,807		
Net (loss) income	\$ 4,715	\$ 1,930	\$ (41,229)	\$ (3,243)	\$ (6,533)	\$ (5,160)	\$ (3,741)	\$ (7,742)	\$ (4,754)	\$ 5,062	\$ (39,661)	\$ 7,132		

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# **Liquidity And Capital Resources**

	December 31,	December 31,	Change from December 31, 2009 to December 31,	September 30,	Change from December 31, 2010 to September 30,		
(\$ in thousands)	2009	2010	2010	2011	2011		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 77,690	\$ 115,630	\$ 37,940	\$ 64,489	\$ (51,141)		
Working Capital	\$ 27,736	\$ 65,141	\$ 37,405	\$ 121,868	\$ 56,727		
Stockholders equity	\$ 323,240	\$ 626,056	\$ 302,816	\$ 771,892	\$ 145,836		

Our principal ongoing source of operating liquidity is the cash generated by our business operations. We consider all highly liquid debt investments purchased with an original maturity of less than three months to be cash equivalents.

On June 17, 2011, we completed our initial public offering of common stock. We received net proceeds of approximately \$170.3 million after deducting the underwriting discounts and our offering expenses. We used approximately \$123.0 million of the proceeds from the IPO to redeem \$105.0 million aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes and to pay interest accrued in the amount of \$5.7 million on the portion of the outstanding Notes up to but not including the date of redemption. We intend to use the remaining proceeds for general corporate purposes.

Our primary uses of cash have been to fund our working capital and capital expenditure needs, fund acquisitions, and service our debt obligations. We believe that we can generate sufficient cash flows from operations to fund our operating and capital expenditure requirements, as well as to service our debt obligations, for fiscal year 2011. In the event we experience a significant adverse change in our business operations, we would likely need to secure additional sources of financing.

As of September 30, 2011, we had working capital of \$121.9 million and our primary commitments were normal working capital requirements and \$4.9 million in accrued interest for the Notes.

As of December 31, 2010, we had working capital of \$65.1 million and our primary commitments were normal working capital requirements, \$61.3 million in payables to dissenting stockholders and its related accrued interest payable included in other current liabilities and \$16.4 million in accrued interest for the Notes.

As of December 31, 2009, we had working capital of \$27.7 million and our primary commitments were normal working capital requirements, \$62.4 million in liability and accrued interest payable to dissenting stockholders and \$10.8 million in accrued interest for the \$222.0 million Stockholder Notes.

We assess acquisition opportunities as they arise. Financing may be required if we decide to make additional acquisitions or if we are required to make any earn-out payments to which the former owners of our acquired businesses may be entitled. There can be no assurance, however, that any such opportunities may arise, or that any such acquisitions may be consummated. Additional financing may not be available on satisfactory terms or at all when required.

# **Debt Financing**

# Credit Agreement

On June 10, 2011, we entered into Revolving Credit Facilities in an aggregate amount of \$100.0 million, consisting of two tranches, the Tranche A Revolving Credit Facility for \$30.0 million which matures on July 15, 2015 and the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility for \$70.0 million which matures on April 15, 2015 were made available to the Company. The Company s obligations under the Revolving Credit Facilities are guaranteed by each direct and indirect, existing and future, domestic restricted subsidiary that guarantees the Company s

obligations under the Notes. The obligations under such credit facilities are equally and ratably secured by liens on the same collateral that secures the Notes (it being understood that upon any enforcement of remedies resulting in the realization of proceeds from such collateral, up to \$30.0 million of revolving loans under the Tranche A Revolving Credit Facility would be paid in full first before applying any such amount to pay the Notes and the revolving loans under the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility on a pari passu basis). The agreements governing such credit facilities contain terms generally commensurate with issuers of the same debt rating, and our ability to draw down any such credit facilities is subject to certain limitations, including that at the time of and immediately after giving effect to such drawing and the application proceeds thereof the Consolidated Secured Debt Ratio (as defined in the Credit Agreement) on a pro forma basis shall not exceed 3.50:1.00.

At the Company s election, the interest rate per annum applicable to the loans under the Revolving Credit Facilities is based on a fluctuating rate of interest determined by reference to either (i) a base rate determined by reference to the higher of (a) the prime rate quoted in the print edition of The Wall Street Journal, Money Rates Section as the prime rate and (b) the federal funds effective rate plus 0.50%, plus an applicable margin equal to 2.00%, or (ii) a Eurodollar rate determined by reference to LIBOR, adjusted for statutory reserve requirements, plus an applicable margin equal to 3.00%; provided, however, that at any time less than \$20,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of loans are drawn under the Tranche A Revolving Credit Facility, the applicable margin with respect to loans under the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility at the base rate will be 2.25% and the applicable margin with respect to loans under the Tranche B Revolving Credit Facility at the Eurodollar rate will be 3.25%.

Interest accrues daily and is payable in arrears for both base rate and Eurodollar loans. For base rate loans, interest is payable on the last business day of March, June, September and December. For Eurodollar loans interest is calculated based on elected interest periods of one, two, three or nine months (or, if each affected lender so agrees, nine or twelve months) and payable, as applicable, at the end of each one-month, two-month or, if the applicable interest period is three months or longer, three-month interval. There were no amounts outstanding under the Revolving Credit Facilities as of September 30, 2011, nor did the Company incur any interest during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2011.

The Revolving Credit Facilities agreement contains customary financial and other covenants as described below under Description of Indebtedness. The Company was in compliance with all required covenants as of September 30, 2011.

Senior Secured Notes

As of September 30, 2011, we had approximately \$193.5 million in Notes outstanding for which interest is accrued daily on the outstanding principal amount at 11 <sup>3</sup>/4 % and is payable semi-annually, in arrears, on July 15 and January 15, beginning on January 15, 2011, in cash. The Notes are due July 15, 2015. Accrued interest on the Notes as of September 30, 2011 is approximately \$4.9 million. Refer to note 7 in the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for a further description of the Notes.

# **Operating Activities**

During the nine months ended September 30, 2011, we used \$7.7 million of cash in operating activities, including \$35.1 million in interest payments on the Notes, \$101.6 million in acquisition, offering and related expenses and related party fees related to the 2010 Acquisitions, IPO, merger and recapitalization of the Company. Our net loss of \$27.5 million was adjusted for depreciation and amortization of \$32.6 million, bad debt expense of \$1.7 million, amortization of deferred financing costs and original issue discount of \$1.8 million, stock based compensation expense of \$2.9 million, loss on redemption of senior secured notes of \$16.6 million and a net negative change in the components of operating assets and liabilities of \$36.1 million. This negative change in operating assets and liabilities resulted in part from a \$5.1 million increase in prepaid expenses and other assets, a \$4.0 million increase in accrued expenses, a \$28.7 million increase in accounts receivable, a \$3.8 million decrease in deferred revenue, a \$3.6 million decrease in accounts payable, and \$1.1 million increase in other liabilities primarily due to interest accrued less interest paid on the Notes.

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During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, we generated \$2.3 million of net cash from operating activities. Our net loss of \$16.6 million was adjusted for depreciation and amortization of \$25.6 million; bad debt expense of \$487,000, amortization of deferred financing costs of \$884,000 and original issue discount, loss on disposal of assets of \$157,000 and a net positive change in the components of operating assets and liabilities of \$8.2 million. Of this positive change in operating assets and liabilities, \$447,000 resulted from a decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets; \$1.9 million from an decrease in accrued expenses; \$9.9 million from an increase in accounts receivable; \$878,000 from a decrease in deferred revenue; and \$4.1 million from an increase in accounts payable and other liabilities.

During the year ended December 31, 2010, we generated \$32.0 million of cash from operating activities, net of payments of \$25.5 million in interest related to the Stockholder Notes, \$17.4 million in acquisition related expenses and related party fees related to the 2010 Acquisitions, and \$2.9 million in restructuring costs also related to the 2010 Acquisitions. Our net loss of \$21.4 million was adjusted for depreciation and amortization of \$35.2 million primarily for intangible assets from the Bankrate Acquisition and the 2010 Acquisitions, bad debt expense of \$776,000, a net decrease in deferred income taxes of \$7.6 million and a net positive change in the components of operating assets and liabilities of \$22.4 million. This positive change in operating assets and liabilities resulted in part from a \$23.8 million decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets, mostly related to income tax receivables; a \$3.1 million decrease in accrued expenses; an \$11.1 million increase in accounts receivable; a \$4.1 million increase in deferred revenue; and a \$8.7 million increase in accounts payable and other liabilities.