U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC Form 10-K August 30, 2012 Table of Contents

## **UNITED STATES**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **FORM 10-K**

x Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2012

or

"Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

for the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_

**Commission File Number 0-13928** 

# U.S. GLOBAL INVESTORS, INC.

Incorporated in the State of Texas

IRS Employer Identification No. 74-1598370

Principal Executive Offices:

7900 Callaghan Road

San Antonio, Texas 78229

Telephone Number: 210-308-1234

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

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

## Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

## Class A common stock

(\$0.025 par value per share)

Registered: NASDAQ Capital Market

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes " No x

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act.

Yes " No x

Indicate by check mark whether the Company (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate website, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulations S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes x No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer " Accelerated filer x Non-accelerated filer " Small reporting company" Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act).

Yes " No x

The aggregate market value of the 9,784,696 shares of nonvoting class A common stock held by nonaffiliates of the registrant was \$59,001,717, based on the last sale price quoted on NASDAQ as of December 30, 2011, the last business day of the registrant s most recently completed second fiscal quarter. Registrant s only voting stock is its class C common stock, par value of \$0.025 per share, for which there is no active market. The aggregate value of the 8,483 shares of the class C common stock held by nonaffiliates of the registrant on December 31, 2011 (based on the last sale price of the class C common stock in a private transaction) was \$2,120.75. For purposes of this disclosure only, the registrant has assumed that its directors, executive officers, and beneficial owners of 5 percent or more of the registrant s common stock are affiliates of the registrant.

On August 17, 2012, there were 13,862,505 shares of Registrant s class A nonvoting common stock issued and 13,404,866 shares of Registrant s class A nonvoting common stock issued and outstanding, no shares of Registrant s class B nonvoting common stock outstanding, and 2,073,043 shares of Registrant s class C voting common stock issued and outstanding.

Documents incorporated by reference: None

# Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

## **Table of Contents**

Part I of Annual Report on Form 10-K	1
Item 1. Business	1
Item 1A. Risk Factors	7
Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments	10
Item 2. Properties	11
Item 3. Legal Proceedings	11
Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures	11
Part II of Annual Report on Form 10-K	12
Item 5. Market for Registrant s Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities	12
Item 6. Selected Financial Data	15
Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	16
Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	29
Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	30
Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	54
Item 9A. Controls and Procedures	54
Item 9B. Other Information	55
Part III of Annual Report on Form 10-K	56
Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	56
Item 11. Executive Compensation	60
Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	67
Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	69
Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services	70
Part IV of Annual Report on Form 10-K	71
Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules	71
<u>Signatures</u>	74
Exhibit 10.16 Modification dated February 28, 2012 to Line of Credit Note dated February 26, 2009	
Exhibit 21 Subsidiaries of the Company, Jurisdiction of Incorporation, and Percentage of Ownership	
Exhibit 23.1 BDO USA, LLP consent	
Exhibit 31.1 Rule 13a 14(a) Certifications (under Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002)	
Exhibit 32.1 Section 1350 Certifications (under Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002)	

Table of Contents 4

i

# Part I of Annual Report on Form 10-K

## Item 1. Business

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. In addition, U.S. Global Investors, Inc. and its subsidiaries (collectively, U.S. Global or the Company ) may make other written and oral communications from time to time that contain such statements. Forward-looking statements include statements as to industry trends, future expectations of the Company, and other matters that do not relate strictly to historical facts and are based on certain assumptions by management. These statements are often identified by the use of words such as may, will, expect, believe, estimate, or continue, and similar expressions or variations. These statements are based on the beliefs and assumptions of Company management based on information currently available to management. Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from future results expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements include, among others, the risks described in Part I, Item 1A, Risk Factors, and elsewhere in this report and other documents filed or furnished by U.S. Global from time to time with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ( SEC ). U.S. Global cautions readers to carefully consider such factors. Furthermore, such forward-looking statements speak only as of the date on which such statements are made. Except to the extent required by applicable law, U.S. Global undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of such statements.

U.S. Global, a Texas corporation organized in 1968, is a registered investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended (Advisers Act). The Company and its subsidiaries are principally engaged in the business of providing investment advisory and other services to U.S. Global Investors Funds (USGIF or the Funds), a Delaware statutory trust, as well as offshore clients. USGIF is an investment company offering shares of thirteen mutual funds on a no-load basis.

As part of the mutual fund management business, the Company provides: (1) investment advisory services; (2) transfer agency and record keeping services; (3) distribution services; and (4) administrative services to mutual funds advised by the Company. The fees from investment advisory and transfer agent services, as well as investment income, are the primary sources of the Company s revenue.

## **Lines of Business**

## **Investment Management Services**

Investment Advisory Services. The Company furnishes an investment program for each of the clients it manages and determines, subject to overall supervision by the applicable board of trustees of the clients, the clients investments pursuant to an advisory agreement (the Advisory Agreement). Consistent with the investment restrictions, objectives and policies of the particular client, the portfolio team for each client determines what investments should be purchased, sold, and held, and makes changes in the portfolio deemed necessary or appropriate. In the Advisory Agreement, the Company is charged with seeking the best overall terms in executing portfolio transactions and selecting brokers or dealers.

1

As required by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended ( Investment Company Act ), the Advisory Agreement with USGIF is subject to annual renewal and is terminable upon 60-day notice. This agreement has been renewed through September 2013.

In addition to providing advisory services to USGIF, the Company provides advisory services to three offshore clients.

Net assets under management on June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2011, are detailed in the following table.

Assets Unde	er Management (AUM)				
		AUM at A			AUM at
		Ju	ne 30, 2012	Ju	ne 30, 2011
Fund	Ticker	(in	thousands)	(in	thousands)
U.S. Global Investors Funds Natural Resources					
Global Resources	PSPFX/PIPFX	\$	530,604	\$	903,926
World Precious Minerals	UNWPX/UNWIX		323,802		602,347
Gold and Precious Metals	USERX		155,570		238,164
<b>Total Natural Resources</b>			1,009,976		1,744,437
International Equity					
Eastern European	EUROX		177,019		346,590
China Region	USCOX		28,272		42,501
Global MegaTrends	MEGAX/MEGIX		13,116		19,094
Global Emerging Markets	GEMFX		7,962		11,979
Total International Equity  Fixed Income			226,369		420,164
U.S. Government Securities Savings	UGSXX		156,307		188,886
U.S. Treasury Securities Cash	USTXX		85,427		96,000
Near-Term Tax Free	NEARX		38,253		31,823
Tax Free	USUTX		22,783		20,084
Total Fixed Income			302,770		336,793
Domestic Equity					
Holmes Growth	ACBGX		35,805		42,758
All American Equity	GBTFX		17,010		18,370
<b>Total Domestic Equity</b>			52,815		61,128
Total SEC-Registered Funds			1,591,930		2,562,522
Other Advisory Clients			32,551		40,526
Total AUM		\$	1,624,481	\$	2,603,048

**Transfer Agent and Other Services.** The Company s wholly-owned subsidiary, United Shareholder Services, Inc. (USSI), is a transfer agent registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act), providing transfer agency, printing, and mailing services to investment company clients. The transfer agency utilizes a third-party external system providing the Company s fund shareholder communication network with computer equipment and software designed to meet the operating requirements of a mutual fund transfer agency.

The transfer agency s duties encompass, but are not limited to, the following: (1) acting as servicing agent in connection with dividend and distribution functions; (2) performing shareholder account and administrative agent functions in connection with the issuance, transfer and redemption, or repurchase of shares; (3) maintaining such records as are necessary to document transactions in the Funds—shares; (4) acting as servicing agent in connection with mailing of shareholder communications, including reports to shareholders, dividend and distribution notices, and proxy materials for shareholder meetings; and (5) investigating and answering all shareholder account inquiries.

The transfer agency agreements provide that USSI will receive, as compensation for services rendered as transfer agent, certain annual and activity-based fees and will be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses. In connection with obtaining/providing administrative services to the beneficial owners of fund shares through institutions that provide such services and maintain an omnibus account with USSI, each fund pays a monthly fee based on the value of the shares of the fund held in accounts at the institution.

The transfer agency agreement with USGIF is subject to renewal on an annual basis and is terminable upon 60-day notice. This agreement has been renewed through September 2013.

**Distribution Services.** The Company has registered its wholly-owned subsidiary, U.S. Global Brokerage, Inc. ( USGB ), with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ( FINRA ), the SEC and appropriate state regulatory authorities as a limited-purpose broker-dealer for the purpose of distributing Fund shares. The distribution agreement with USGIF is subject to annual renewal and is terminable upon 60-day notice. This agreement has been renewed through September 2013.

Administrative Services. The Company also manages, supervises and conducts certain other affairs of USGIF, subject to the control of the Funds board of trustees pursuant to an administrative agreement (the Administrative Services Agreement). It provides office space, facilities and certain business equipment as well as the services of executive and clerical personnel for administering the affairs of the Funds. U.S. Global and its affiliates compensate all personnel, officers, directors and interested trustees of the Funds if such persons are also employees of the Company or its affiliates. The Administrative Services Agreement with USGIF is subject to renewal on an annual basis and is terminable upon 60-day notice. This agreement has been renewed through September 2013.

## **Corporate Investments**

**Investment Activities.** In addition to providing management and advisory services, the Company is actively engaged in trading for its own account. See segment information in the notes to the financial statements at Note 14 Financial Information by Business Segment.

## **Employees**

As of June 30, 2012, U.S. Global and its subsidiaries employed 70 full-time employees and 4 part-time employees; as of June 30, 2011, it employed 82 full-time employees and 6 part-time employees. The Company considers its relationship with its employees to be good.

## Competition

The mutual fund industry is highly competitive. According to the Investment Company Institute, at the end of 2011 there were approximately 8,600 domestically registered open-end investment companies of varying sizes and investment policies, whose shares are being offered to the public worldwide. Generally, there are two types of mutual funds: load and no-load. In addition, there are both load and no-load funds that have adopted Rule 12b-1 plans authorizing the payment of distribution costs of the funds out of fund assets. USGIF is a trust with no-load funds that have adopted 12b-1 plans. Load funds are typically sold through or sponsored by brokerage firms, and a sales commission is charged on the amount of the investment. No-load funds, such as the USGIF funds, however, may be purchased directly from the particular mutual fund organization or through a distributor, and no sales commissions are charged.

In addition to competition from other mutual fund managers and investment advisers, the Company and the mutual fund industry are in competition with various investment alternatives offered by insurance companies, banks, securities broker-dealers, and other financial institutions. Many of these institutions are able to engage in more liberal advertising than mutual funds and may offer accounts at competitive interest rates, which may be insured by federally chartered corporations such as the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

A number of mutual fund groups are significantly larger than the funds managed by U.S. Global, offer a greater variety of investment objectives and have more experience and greater resources to promote the sale of investments therein. However, the Company believes it has the resources, products, and personnel to compete with these other mutual funds. In particular, the Company is known for its expertise in the gold mining and exploration, natural resources and emerging markets. Competition for sales of fund shares is influenced by various factors, including investment objectives and performance, advertising and sales promotional efforts, distribution channels, and the types and quality of services offered to fund shareholders.

Success in the investment advisory and mutual fund distribution businesses is substantially dependent on each fund s investment performance, the quality of services provided to shareholders, and the Company s efforts to market the funds effectively. Sales of fund shares generate management, distribution and administrative services fees (which are based on assets of the funds), and transfer agent fees (which are based on the number of fund accounts and the activity in those accounts). Costs of distribution and compliance continue to put pressure on profit margins for the mutual fund industry.

Despite the Company s expertise in gold mining and exploration, natural resources, and emerging markets, the Company faces the same obstacle many advisers face, namely uncovering undervalued investment opportunities as the markets face further uncertainty and increased volatility. In addition, the growing number of alternative investments, especially in specialized areas, has created pressure on the profit margins and increased competition for available investment opportunities.

## **Supervision and Regulation**

The Company, USSI, USGB, and the clients the Company manages and administers operate under certain laws, including federal and state securities laws, governing their organization, registration, operation, and legal, financial, and tax status. Among the potential penalties for violation of the laws and regulations applicable to the Company and its subsidiaries are fines, imprisonment, injunctions, revocation of registration, and certain additional administrative sanctions. Any determination that the Company or its management has violated applicable laws and regulations could have a material adverse effect on the business of the Company. Moreover, there is no assurance that changes to existing laws, regulations, or rulings promulgated by governmental entities having jurisdiction over the Company and the Funds will not have a material adverse effect on the Company s business. The Company has no control over regulatory rulemaking or the consequences it may have on the mutual fund and investment advisory industry.

4

Recent and accelerating regulatory pronouncements and oversight have significantly increased the burden of compliance infrastructure with respect to the mutual fund industry and the capital markets. This momentum of new regulations has contributed significantly to the costs of managing and administering mutual funds.

U.S. Global is registered as an investment adviser with the SEC. As a registered investment adviser, it is subject to the requirements of the Advisers Act, and the SEC is regulations thereunder, as well as to examination by the SEC is staff. The Advisers Act imposes substantive regulation on virtually all aspects of the Company is business and relationships with the Company is clients. Applicable rules relate to, among other things, fiduciary duties to clients, transactions with clients, effective compliance programs, conflicts of interest, advertising, recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements. The Funds for which the Company acts as the investment adviser are registered with the SEC under the Investment Company Act. The Investment Company Act imposes additional obligations, including detailed operational requirements for both funds and their advisers. Moreover, an investment adviser is contract with a registered fund may be terminated by the fund on not more than 60 days notice and is subject to annual renewal by the fund is board after an initial two-year term. Both the Advisers Act and the Investment Company Act regulate the assignment of advisory contracts by the investment adviser. The SEC is authorized to institute proceedings and impose sanctions for violations of the Investment Advisers Act and the Investment Company Act, ranging from fines and censures to termination of an investment adviser is registration. The failure of the Company, or the funds which the Company advises, to comply with the requirements of the SEC could have a material adverse effect on the Company. The Company is also subject to federal and state laws affecting corporate governance, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (S-Ox Act), as well as rules adopted by the SEC.

USGB is subject to regulation by the SEC under the Exchange Act and regulation by FINRA, a self-regulatory organization composed of other registered broker-dealers. U.S. Global, USSI, and USGB are required to keep and maintain certain reports and records, which must be made available to the SEC and FINRA upon request.

## **Relationships with Clients**

The businesses of the Company are to a very significant degree dependent on their associations and contractual relationships with USGIF. In the event the advisory, administrative or transfer agent services agreements with USGIF are canceled or not renewed pursuant to the terms thereof, the Company would be substantially adversely affected. U.S. Global, USSI, and USGB consider their relationships with the Funds to be good, and they have no reason to believe that their management and service contracts will not be renewed in the future; however, there is no assurance that USGIF will choose to continue its relationship with the Company, USSI, or USGB.

In addition, the Company is also dependent on its relationships with its offshore clients. Even though the Company views its relationship with its offshore clients as stable, the Company could be adversely affected if these relationships ended.

## **Available Information**

**Available Information.** The Company s Internet website address is www.usfunds.com. Information contained on the Company s website is not part of this annual report on Form 10-K. The Company s annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed with (or furnished to) the SEC are available through a link on the Company s Internet website, free of charge, soon after such material is filed or furnished. (The link to the Company s SEC filings can be found at www.usfunds.com by clicking About Us, followed by Investor Relations, followed by SEC Filings.) The Company routinely posts important information on its website.

5

The Company also posts its Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Business Conduct, Code of Ethics for Principal Executive and Senior Financial Officers and the charters of the audit and compensation committees of its Board of Directors on the Company s website in the Policies and Procedures section. The Company s SEC filings and governance documents are available in print to any stockholder that makes a written request to: Investor Relations, U.S. Global Investors, Inc., 7900 Callaghan Road, San Antonio, Texas 78229.

The Company files reports electronically with the SEC via the SEC s Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis and Retrieval system ( EDGAR ), which may be accessed through the Internet. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC, at www.sec.gov.

The public may read and copy any materials filed by the Company with the SEC at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains a website at www.sec.gov that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC.

6

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

The Company faces a variety of significant and diverse risks, many of which are inherent in the business. Described below are certain risks that could materially affect the Company. Other risks and uncertainties that the Company does not presently consider to be material, or of which the Company is not presently aware, may become important factors that affect it in the future. The occurrence of any of the risks discussed below could materially and adversely affect the business, prospects, financial condition, results of operations, or cash flow.

#### The investment management business is intensely competitive.

Competition in the investment management business is based on a variety of factors, including:

Investment performance;

Investor perception of an investment team s drive, focus, and alignment of interest with them; Quality of service provided to, and duration of relationships with, clients and shareholders;

Business reputation; and

Level of fees charged for services.

The Company competes with a large number of investment management firms, commercial banks, broker-dealers, insurance companies, and other financial institutions. Competitive risk is heightened by the fact that some competitors may invest according to different investment styles or in alternative asset classes which the markets may perceive as more attractive than the Company s investment approach. If the Company is unable to compete effectively, revenues and earnings may be reduced and the business could be materially affected.

## Poor investment performance could lead to a decline in revenues.

Success in the investment management industry is largely dependent on investment performance relative to market conditions and the performance of competing products. Good relative performance generally attracts additional assets under management, resulting in additional revenues. Conversely, poor performance generally results in decreased sales and increased redemptions with a corresponding decrease in revenues. Therefore, poor investment performance relative to the portfolio benchmarks and to competitors could impair the Company's revenues and growth. Effective October 2009, a performance fee was implemented for the nine equity Funds whereby the base advisory fee is adjusted upwards or downwards by 0.25 percent if there is a performance difference of 5 percent or more between a Fund's performance and that of its designated benchmark index over the prior rolling 12 months.

7

The Company's clients can terminate their agreements with the Company on short notice, which may lead to unexpected declines in revenue and profitability.

The Company s investment advisory agreements are generally terminable on short notice and subject to annual renewal. If the Company s investment advisory agreements are terminated, which may occur in a short time frame, the Company may experience a decline in revenues and profitability.

Difficult market conditions can adversely affect the Company by reducing the market value of the assets we manage or causing shareholders to make significant redemptions.

Changes in economic or market conditions may adversely affect the profitability, performance of and demand for the Company s investment products and services. Under the Company s advisory fee arrangements, the fees received are primarily based on the market value of assets under management. Accordingly, a decline in the price of securities held in the funds would be expected to cause revenues and net income to decline, which would result in lower advisory fees, or cause increased shareholder redemptions in favor of investments they perceive as offering greater opportunity or lower risk, which redemptions would also result in lower advisory fees. The ability of the Company to compete and grow is dependent on the relative attractiveness of the types of investment products the Company offers and its investment performance and strategies under prevailing market conditions.

## Market-specific risks may negatively impact the Company s earnings.

The Company manages certain funds in the emerging market and natural resource sectors, which are highly cyclical. The investments in the Funds are subject to significant loss due to political, economic and diplomatic developments, currency fluctuations, social instability, and changes in governmental policies. Foreign trading markets, particularly in some emerging market countries, are often smaller, less liquid, less regulated and significantly more volatile than the U.S. and other established markets.

In addition, yields on government securities, and the investment products investing in them, have decreased to record lows. Thus, the Company has voluntarily waived fees and/or reimbursed the USGIF money market funds to maintain each fund s yield at a certain level as determined by the Company. These waivers could increase in the future. Such increases in fee waivers could be significant and would negatively affect the Company s net income.

The market price and trading volume of the Company s class A common stock may be volatile, which could result in rapid and substantial losses for the Company s stockholders.

The market price of the Company s class A common stock may be volatile and the trading volume may fluctuate, causing significant price variations to occur. If the market price of the Company s class A common stock declines significantly, stockholders may be unable to sell their shares at or above their purchase price. The Company cannot assure that the market price of its class A common stock will not fluctuate or decline significantly in the future. Some of the factors that could negatively affect the price of the Company s class A common stock, or result in fluctuations in price or trading volume, include:

Decreases in assets under management;

Variations in quarterly and annual operating results;

Publication of research reports about the Company or the investment management industry;

Departures of key personnel;

Adverse market reactions to any indebtedness the Company may incur, acquisitions or disposals the Company may make, or securities the Company may issue in the future;

Changes in market valuations of similar companies;

Changes or proposed changes in laws or regulations, or differing interpretations thereof, affecting the business, or enforcement of these laws and regulations, or announcements relating to these matters;

Adverse publicity about the asset management industry, generally, or individual scandals, specifically; and

General market and economic conditions.

The market price of the Company's class A common stock could decline due to the large number of shares of the Company's class C common stock eligible for future sale upon conversion to class A shares.

The market price of the Company s class A common stock could decline as a result of sales of a large number of shares of class A common stock eligible for future sale upon the conversion of class C shares, or the perception that such sales could occur. These sales, or the possibility that these sales may occur, also might make it more difficult for the Company to raise additional capital by selling equity securities in the future, at a time and price the Company deems appropriate.

Failure to comply with government regulations could result in fines, which could cause the Company s earnings and stock price to decline.

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to a variety of federal securities laws and agencies, including, but not limited to, the Advisers Act, the Investment Company Act, the S-Ox Act, the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999, the Bank Secrecy Act of 1970, as amended, the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001, the SEC, FINRA, and NASDAQ. Moreover, financial reporting requirements and the processes, controls, and procedures that have been put in place to address them, are comprehensive and complex. While management has focused attention and resources on compliance policies and procedures, non-compliance with applicable laws or regulations could result in fines, sanctions or censures which could affect the Company s reputation, and thus its revenues and earnings.

Our business is subject to substantial risk from litigation, regulatory investigations and potential securities laws liability.

Many aspects of U.S. Global s business involve substantial risks of litigation, regulatory investigations and/or arbitration. The Company is exposed to liability under federal and state securities laws, other federal and state laws and court decisions, as well as rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC, FINRA and other regulatory bodies. U.S. Global, its subsidiaries, and/or officers could be named as parties in legal actions, regulatory investigations and proceedings. An adverse resolution of any lawsuit, legal or regulatory proceeding or claim against the Company could result in substantial costs or reputational harm to the Company, and have a material adverse effect on the Company s business, financial condition or results of operations, which, in turn, may negatively affect the market price of the Company s common stock and U.S. Global s ability to pay dividends. In addition to these financial costs and risks, the defense of litigation or arbitration may divert resources and management s attention from operations.

## Higher insurance premiums and related insurance coverage risks could increase costs and reduce profitability.

While U.S. Global carries insurance in amounts and under terms that it believes are appropriate, the Company cannot assure that its insurance will cover most liabilities and losses to which it may be exposed, or that our insurance policies will continue to be available at acceptable terms and fees. U.S. Global is subject to regulatory and governmental inquiries and civil litigation. An adverse outcome of any such proceeding could involve substantial financial penalties. From time to time, various claims against us arise in the ordinary course of business, including employment-related claims. There has been increased incidence of litigation and regulatory investigations in the financial services industry in recent years, including customer claims and class action suits alleging substantial monetary damages. Certain insurance coverage may not be available or may be prohibitively expensive in future periods. As U.S. Global s insurance policies come up for renewal, the Company may need to assume higher deductibles or co-insurance liabilities, or pay higher premiums, which would increase the Company s expenses and reduce net income.

Increased regulatory and legislative actions and reforms could increase costs and negatively impact the Company s profitability and future financial results.

During the past nine years, federal securities laws have been substantially augmented and made significantly more complex by the S-Ox Act and the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001. With new laws and changes in interpretations and enforcement of existing requirements, the associated time the Company must dedicate to, and related costs the Company must incur in, meeting the regulatory complexities of the business have increased. In order to comply with these new requirements, the Company has had to expend additional time and resources, including substantial efforts to conduct evaluations required to ensure compliance with the S-Ox Act.

The Company is subject to financial services laws, regulations, corporate governance requirements, administrative actions and policies. During 2009 and 2010, as many emergency government programs slowed or wound down, global regulatory and legislative focus generally moved to a second phase of broader reform and a restructuring of financial institution regulation. On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ( Dodd-Frank Act ), which fundamentally changed the U.S. financial regulatory landscape. The full scope of the regulatory changes imposed by the Dodd-Frank Act will only be determined once extensive rules and regulations have been proposed and become effective, which may result in significant changes in the manner in which the Company s operations are regulated.

Further, adverse results of regulatory investigations of mutual fund, investment advisory, and financial services firms could tarnish the reputation of the financial services industry generally, and mutual funds and investment advisers more specifically, causing investors to avoid further fund investments or redeem their balances. Redemptions would decrease the Company s assets under management, which would reduce its advisory revenues and net income.

The Company intends to pay regular dividends to its stockholders, but the ability to do so is subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

The Company intends to pay cash dividends on a monthly basis, but the Board of Directors, at its discretion, may decrease the level or frequency of dividends or discontinue payment of dividends entirely based on earnings, operations, capital requirements, general financial condition of the Company, and general business conditions.

One person beneficially owns substantially all of our voting stock and controls the outcome of all matters requiring a vote of stockholders, which may influence the value of our publicly traded non-voting stock.

Frank Holmes, CEO, is the beneficial owner of over 99 percent of our class C voting convertible common stock and controls the outcome of all issues requiring a vote of stockholders. All of our publicly traded stock is nonvoting stock. Consequently, except to the extent provided by law, stockholders other than Frank Holmes have no vote with respect to the election of directors or any other matter requiring a vote of stockholders. This lack of voting rights may adversely affect the market value of the publicly traded class A nonvoting common stock.

The loss of key personnel could negatively affect the Company s financial performance.

The success of the Company depends on key personnel, including the portfolio managers, analysts, and executive officers. Competition for qualified, motivated, and skilled personnel in the asset management industry remains significant. As the business grows, the Company will likely need to increase the number of employees. Moreover, in order to retain certain key personnel, the Company may be required to increase compensation to such individuals, resulting in additional expense. The loss of key personnel or the Company s failure to attract replacement personnel could negatively affect its financial performance.

The Company could be subject to losses if it fails to properly safeguard sensitive and confidential information.

As part of the Company s normal operations, it maintains and transmits confidential information about the Company and the Funds clients as well as proprietary information relating to its business operations. These systems could be victimized by unauthorized users or corrupted by computer viruses or other malicious software code, or authorized persons could inadvertently or intentionally release confidential or proprietary information. Such a breach could subject the Company to liability for a failure to safeguard client data, result in the termination of relationships with our existing customers, require significant capital and operating expenditures to investigate and remediate the breach and subject the Company to regulatory action.

## **Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments**

None

10

# **Item 2. Properties**

The Company presently owns and occupies an office building as its headquarters in San Antonio, Texas. The office building is approximately 46,000 square feet on approximately 2.5 acres of land.

# **Item 3. Legal Proceedings**

There are no material legal proceedings in which the Company is involved.

# **Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures**

Not applicable.

11

# Part II of Annual Report on Form 10-K

# Item 5. Market for Registrant s Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

## **Market Information**

The Company has three classes of common equity: class A, class B, and class C common stock, par value \$0.025 per share.

The Company s class A common stock is traded over-the-counter and is quoted daily under NASDAQ s Capital Markets. Trades are reported under the symbol GROW.

There is no established public trading market for the Company s class B and class C common stock.

The Company s class A and class B common stock have no voting privileges.

The following table sets forth the range of high and low sales prices of GROW from NASDAQ for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2011. The quotations represent prices between dealers and do not include any retail markup, markdown, or commission.

	Sales Price					
	20	012	2011			
	<b>High (\$)</b>	Low (\$)	High (\$)	Low (\$)		
First quarter (9/30)	8.70	6.00	6.93	5.26		
Second quarter (12/31)	7.80	5.76	9.38	6.28		
Third quarter (3/31)	7.83	6.03	8.44	7.00		
Fourth quarter (6/30)	7.52	3.98	10.47	6.72		

## **Holders**

On August 17, 2012, there were approximately 195 holders of record of class A common stock, no holders of record of class B common stock, and 43 holders of record of class C common stock.

## **Dividends**

The Company declared cash dividends of \$0.02 per share per month in fiscal 2012 and 2011 on all classes of common stock. A monthly dividend of \$0.02 is authorized through December 2012 and will be considered for continuation at that time by the Board. Payment of cash dividends is within the discretion of the Company s Board of Directors and is dependent on earnings, operations, capital requirements, general financial condition of the Company, and general business conditions.

## Securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans

Information relating to equity compensation plans under which our stock is authorized for issuance is set forth in Item 12 of Part III of this Form 10-K under the heading Equity Compensation Plan Information.

## Purchases of equity securities by the issuer

The Company may repurchase stock from employees. There were no repurchases of classes A, B, or C common stock during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012.

13

## **Company Performance Presentation**

The following graph compares the cumulative total return for the Company s class A common stock (GROW) to the cumulative total return for the S&P 500 Index, the Russell 2000 Index, and the NYSE Arca Gold BUGS Index for the Company s last five fiscal years. The graph assumes an investment of \$10,000 in the class A common stock and in each index as of June 30, 2007, and that all dividends are reinvested. Over the five-year period, an investment in the NYSE Arca Gold BUGS Index experienced the most appreciation and the S&P 500 Index and the Russell 2000 Index remained flat. A hypothetical investment in GROW declined in value, as the stock was coming off of its record highs during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. The historical information included in this graph is not necessarily indicative of future performance and the Company does not make or endorse any predictions as to future stock performance.

	Fiscal Year-End Date					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
U.S. Global Investors, Inc., class A						
(GROW)	\$ 10,000	\$ 7,479	\$ 4,287	\$ 2,634	\$ 3,536	\$ 2,214
S&P 500 Index	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,689	\$ 6,413	\$ 7,338	\$ 9,589	\$ 10,110
Russell 2000 Index	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,382	\$ 6,284	\$ 7,635	\$ 10,489	\$ 10,270
NYSE Arca Gold BUGS Index	\$ 10,000	\$ 13,724	\$ 10,433	\$ 14,680	\$ 16,220	\$ 13,477

14

## **Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

The following selected financial data is qualified by reference to, and should be read in conjunction with, the Company s Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes and Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contained in this Form 10-K. The selected financial data as of June 30, 2008, through June 30, 2012, and the years then ended, is derived from the Company s audited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Colontad	Year Ended June 30,						
Selected	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008		
Financial Data							
Revenues	\$ 23,850,609	\$ 41,933,626	\$ 35,030,153	\$ 23,140,269	\$ 56,039,247		
Expenses	21,351,222	29,903,607	26,521,396	26,750,817	39,457,020		
Income (loss) before income taxes	2,499,387	12,030,019	8,508,757	(3,610,548)	16,582,227		
Income tax expense (benefit)	968,953	4,197,372	3,159,472	(1,372,969)	5,745,417		
Net income (loss)	\$ 1,530,434	\$ 7,832,647	\$ 5,349,285	\$ (2,237,579)	\$ 10,836,810		
Basic income (loss) per share	0.10	0.51	0.35	(0.15)	0.71		
Working capital	25,710,714	32,366,289	28,323,885	27,363,133	35,309,228		
Total assets	41,755,794	45,966,603	40,983,698	37,153,846	45,494,619		
Dividends per common share	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.21		
Shareholders equity	38,709,646	41,057,447	36,191,872	34,627,994	39,233,744		
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,817,046	7,718,529	7,632,350	3,040,931	14,309,886		
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,894,472)	(845,601)	(739,266)	(4,386,782)	(1,180,602)		
Net cash used in financing activities	(3,517,749)	(3,502,511)	(3,359,199)	(3,485,630)	(2,848,629)		
Average assets under management (in billions)	2.06	2.82	2.56	2.53	5.44		

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

This discussion reviews and analyzes the consolidated results of operations for the past three fiscal years and other factors that may affect future financial performance. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements, Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements and Selected Financial Data.

## **Recent Trends in Financial Markets**

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, the global financial markets continued to move slowly toward recovery, but encountered volatility at both the beginning and end of the period. General macro-economic concerns, such as political uncertainty, the continuing European financial crisis, the China slowdown and resulting fears of a hard landing, and the U.S. debt downgrade in August 2011 have caused investors to remain risk averse. As a consequence of these events, mutual funds in general have continued to see asset flows directed towards investments such as fixed income and cash.

The volatility in the Company s revenue is correlated to the price swings in natural resources and emerging markets, which represent roughly 80 percent of assets under management. During the past fiscal year, U.S. stocks, the U.S. dollar and gold generally have been positive, while emerging markets stocks and commodity-related stocks generally have been lagging in performance. For the past 10 years, the one-year normal volatility of one standard deviation has been 18.9 percent for the S&P 500, approximately 31.1 percent for the MSCI emerging markets and nearly 37.2 percent for gold equities. To manage expenses, the Company maintains a flexible structure for one of its largest costs, compensation expense, by setting relatively lower base salaries with bonuses that are related to average assets under management and fund performance. Thus, our expense model expands and contracts with asset swings and performance.

## **Business Segments**

The Company, with principal operations located in San Antonio, Texas, manages two business segments: (1) the Company offers a broad range of investment management products and services to meet the needs of individual and institutional investors; and (2) the Company invests for its own account in an effort to add growth and value to its cash position. Although the Company generates the majority of its revenues from its investment advisory segment, the Company holds a significant amount of its total assets in investments. The following is a brief discussion of the Company s two business segments.

## **Investment Management Products and Services**

The Company generates substantially all of its operating revenues from managing and servicing U.S. Global Investors Funds ( USGIF or the Funds ) and other advisory clients. These revenues are largely dependent on the total value and composition of assets under its management. Fluctuations in the markets and investor sentiment directly impact the Funds asset levels, thereby affecting income and results of operations.

Detailed information regarding the SEC-registered funds managed by the Company can be found on the Company s website, www.usfunds.com, including performance information for each fund for various time periods, assets under management as of the most recent month end, and inception date of each fund.

SEC-registered mutual fund shareholders are not required to give advance notice prior to redemption of shares in the funds; however, the equity funds charge a redemption fee if the fund shares have been held for less than the applicable periods of time set forth in the funds prospectuses. The fixed income and money market funds charge no redemption fee. Detailed information about redemption fees can be found in the funds prospectus, which is available on the Company s website, www.usfunds.com.

16

The Company provides advisory services for three offshore clients and receives monthly advisory fees based on the net asset values of the clients and quarterly performance fees, if any, based on the overall increase in net asset values. In fiscal 2012, the Company recorded advisory and performance fees from these clients totaling \$352,103 and \$6,172, respectively, and \$431,493 and \$955,865, respectively, in fiscal 2011. The performance fees for these clients are calculated and recorded quarterly in accordance with the terms of the advisory agreements. These fees may fluctuate significantly from year to year based on factors that may be out of the Company s control. Frank Holmes, CEO, serves as a director of the offshore clients.

On June 30, 2012, total assets under management as of period end, including both SEC-registered funds and offshore clients, were \$1.624 billion versus \$2.603 billion on June 30, 2011, a decrease of 37.6 percent. During fiscal 2012, average assets under management were \$2.055 billion versus \$2.819 billion in fiscal 2011. The decrease was primarily due to market depreciation and redemptions in the natural resources and emerging markets funds under management.

**17** 

The following tables summarize the changes in assets under management for the SEC-registered funds for fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010:

		C.				
	Changes in Assets Under Management					ent
	Year Ended June 30,					
				2012		
			Mon	ey Market		
				and		
(Dollars in Thousands)		Equity	Fixe	ed Income		Total
Beginning Balance	\$	2,225,729	\$	336,793	\$	2,562,522
Market appreciation/(depreciation)		(480,540)		2,774		(477,766)
Dividends and distributions		(117,744)		(1,506)		(119,250)
Net shareholder purchases/(redemptions)		(338,285)		(35,291)		(373,576)
Ending Balance	\$	1,289,160	\$	302,770	\$	1,591,930
Average investment management fee		0.99%		0.00%		0.83%
Average net assets	\$	1,699,921	\$	320,242	\$	2,020,163
		Changes		ts Under Ma	_	ent
			Year El	nded June 30 2011	υ,	
			Mon	ey Market		
				and		
(Dollars in Thousands)		Equity	Fixe	ed Income		Total
Beginning Balance	\$	1,985,203	\$	382,062	\$	2,367,265
Market appreciation/(depreciation)		528,737		1,493		530,230
Dividends and distributions		(144,176)		(1,488)		(145,664)
Net shareholder purchases/(redemptions)		(144,035)		(45,274)		(189,309)
Ending Balance	\$	2,225,729	\$	336,793	\$	2,562,522
Average investment management fee		1.00%		0.00%		0.87%
Average net assets	\$	2,418,615	\$	358,121	\$	2,776,736
		Changes		ts Under Ma nded June 30	_	ent
				2010	υ,	
			Mon	ey Market		
· · · ·				and		
(Dollars in Thousands)		Equity		ed Income		Total
Beginning Balance	\$	1,757,012	\$	439,942	\$	2,196,954
Market appreciation/(depreciation)		515,383		2,543		517,926
Dividends and distributions		(24,873)		(1,379)		(26,252)
Net shareholder purchases/(redemptions)		(262,319)		(59,044)		(321,363)
Ending Balance	\$	1,985,203	\$	382,062	\$	2,367,265
Average investment management fee		0.99%		0.01%		0.83%
Average net assets	\$	2,117,843	\$	408,254	\$	2,526,097
		, ,		<i>y</i> =	•	, .,

18

As shown above, both average and period-end assets under management decreased in total in fiscal 2012 compared to fiscal 2011, but both increased in total in fiscal 2011 compared to fiscal 2010. The decrease in assets under management in fiscal 2012 was driven by market depreciation and redemptions in the equity funds, primarily in the natural resources and emerging markets funds. The increase in assets under management in fiscal 2011 was driven by market appreciation in the equity funds, primarily in the natural resources category. Money market and fixed income funds experienced a net decrease in both comparative periods as shareholders sought alternatives to low yields.

Stock market performance was marked by volatility at both the beginning and end of the fiscal year as global financial markets continue to move slowly toward recovery. Equities linked to gold and broader natural resources, where most of the assets managed by the Company are invested, were also volatile. The global financial crisis and subsequent volatility in markets, combined with fund performance, were significant factors in the shareholder activity shown in all periods.

The average annualized investment management fee rate (total mutual fund advisory fees, excluding performance fees, as a percentage of average assets under management) was 83 basis points in fiscal 2012, compared to 87 basis points in fiscal 2011, and 83 basis points in fiscal 2010. The average investment management fee for equity funds has remained relatively stable for fiscal 2012, 2011, and 2010 at 99, 100, and 99 basis points, respectively. The average investment management fee for the fixed income funds was nil or close to nil for fiscal 2012, 2011, and 2010. This is due to voluntary fee waivers on these funds as discussed in Note 4 to the financial statements, including a voluntary agreement to support the yields for the money market funds.

#### **Investment Activities**

Management believes it can more effectively manage the Company s cash position by maintaining certain types of investments utilized in cash management and continues to believe that such activities are in the best interest of the Company.

The following summarizes the market value, cost, and unrealized gain or loss on investments as of June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2011.

Securities	Market Value	Cost	Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Unrealized holding gains of available-for- sale securities, net of tax
Trading <sup>1</sup>	\$ 5,216,139	\$ 5,960,634	\$ (744,495)	N/A
Available-for-sale <sup>2</sup>	8,824,311	8,117,844	706,467	\$ 466,268
Total at June 30, 2012	\$ 14,040,450	\$ 14,078,478	\$ (38,028)	
Trading <sup>1</sup>	\$ 5,703,916	\$ 5,963,272	\$ (259,356)	N/A
Available-for-sale <sup>2</sup>	4,660,928	3,081,439	1,579,489	\$ 1,042,462
Total at June 30, 2011	\$ 10,364,844	\$ 9,044,711	\$ 1,320,133	

24

As of June 30, 2012, and 2011, the Company held approximately \$1.6 million and \$2.3 million, respectively, in investments other than the clients the Company advises. Investments in securities classified as trading are reflected as current assets on the consolidated balance sheet at their fair market value. Unrealized holding gains and losses on trading securities are included in earnings in the

Unrealized and realized gains and losses on trading securities are included in earnings in the statement of operations.

Unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings and recorded in other comprehensive income as a separate component of shareholders equity until realized.

consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. Investments in securities classified as available for sale, which may not be readily marketable, are reflected as non-current assets on the consolidated balance sheet at their fair value. Unrealized holding gains and losses on available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings and reported in other comprehensive income as a separate component of shareholders equity until realized.

Investment income (loss) from the Company s investments includes:

realized gains and losses on sales of securities; unrealized gains and losses on trading securities; realized foreign currency gains and losses; other-than-temporary impairments on available-for-sale securities; and dividend and interest income.

Investment income can be volatile and may vary depending on market fluctuations, the Company s ability to participate in investment opportunities, and timing of transactions. A significant portion of the unrealized gains and losses is concentrated in a small number of issuers. For fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, the Company had net recognized gains (losses) on sales or other-than-temporary impairment of securities of \$157,668, \$135,759, and (\$60,182), respectively. Due to market volatility, the Company expects that gains or losses will continue to fluctuate in the future.

20

## **Consolidated Results of Operations**

The following is a discussion of the consolidated results of operations of the Company and a detailed discussion of the Company s revenues and expenses.

	2012	2011	% Change	2011	2010	% Change
Net income (in thousands)	\$ 1,530	\$ 7,833	-80.5%	\$ 7,833	\$ 5,349	46.4%
Net income per share						
Basic	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.51	-80.4%	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.35	45.7%
Diluted	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.51	-80.4%	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.35	45.7%
Weighted average shares						
outstanding (in thousands)						
Basic	15,441	15,384		15,384	15,339	
Diluted	15,442	15,384		15,384	15.342	

## Year Ended June 30, 2012, Compared with Year Ended June 30, 2011

The Company posted net income of \$1,530,434 (\$0.10 per share) for the year ended June 30, 2012, compared with net income of \$7,832,647 (\$0.51 per share) for the year ended June 30, 2011. This decrease in profitability is primarily attributable to the following factors:

#### Revenues

Total consolidated revenues for the year ended June 30, 2012, decreased \$18,083,017, or 43.1 percent, compared with the year ended June 30, 2011. This decrease was primarily attributable to the following:

Mutual fund advisory fee revenue decreased by \$11,996,085, or 45.1 percent, as a result of lower assets under management. Of that amount, \$7,384,666 was attributable to a decrease in mutual fund management fees due to market depreciation and shareholder redemptions in the natural resources and emerging markets funds. In addition, \$4,611,419 was attributable to a swing in performance fee adjustments driven by net payments to the funds in the current period versus net receipts from the funds in the prior period. Performance fees are paid or received when there is a performance difference of 5 percent or more between a fund s performance and that of its designated benchmark index over the prior rolling 12 months.

Distribution fee revenue decreased by \$1,918,511, or 32.0 percent, as a result of lower average net assets under management upon which these fees are based.

Transfer agent fee revenue decreased by \$1,344,053, or 26.8 percent, as a result of a decline in the number of shareholder accounts and the number of transactions.

Investment income decreased by \$1,185,529, or 117.5 percent, as a result of unrealized losses on trading securities.

Offshore fund advisory fee revenue decreased by \$1,029,083, or 74.2 percent. Of that amount, \$949,693 was attributable to a decline in performance fees, while \$79,390 was attributable to a decline in offshore fund management fees.

21

## **Expenses**

Total consolidated expenses for the year ended June 30, 2012, decreased by \$8,552,385, or 28.6 percent, compared with the prior year and was primarily attributable to the following:

Employee compensation and benefits decreased by \$2,476,461, or 19.9 percent, primarily as a result of lower performance-based bonuses and fewer employees.

General and administrative expenses decreased by \$2,361,115, or 28.8 percent, primarily due to prior period software implementation and consulting expenses.

Platform fees decreased by \$2,308,399, or 36.6 percent, primarily due to lower assets held through broker-dealer platforms.

Advertising decreased \$1,281,471, or 52.0 percent, as a result of decreased marketing and sales activity.

## Year Ended June 30, 2011, Compared with Year Ended June 30, 2010

The Company posted net income of \$7,832,647 (\$0.51 per share) for the year ended June 30, 2011, compared with net income of \$5,349,285 (\$0.35 per share) for the year ended June 30, 2010. The increase in profitability in fiscal year 2011 primarily resulted from an increase in mutual fund advisory fee income of \$5.4 million resulting from higher assets under management, as well as an increase in offshore fund advisory fees as a result of higher performance fees. Expenses increased by 12.8 percent in fiscal 2011, including a \$1,684,989 million increase in general and administrative expenses related to sales-related conferences and consulting fees and software implementation and a \$720,876 increase in platform fees due to higher assets under management.

22

## **Revenues**

			<b>%</b>			%
(Dollars in Thousands)	2012	2011	Change	2011	2010	Change
Investment advisory fees:						
Natural resource funds	\$ 11,085	\$ 20,341	(45.5%)	\$ 20,341	\$ 15,264	33.3%
International equity funds	3,104	5,735	(45.9%)	5,735	5,567	3.0%
Domestic equity funds	386	495	(22.0%)	495	299	65.6%
Fixed income funds	-	-	0.0%	-	33	(100.0%)
Total mutual fund advisory fees	14,575	26,571	(45.1%)	26,571	21,163	25.6%
Other advisory fees	358	1,387	(74.2%)	1,387	401	245.9%
Total investment advisory fees	14,933	27,958	(46.6%)	27,958	21,564	29.7%
Transfer agent fees	3,667	5,011	(26.8%)	5,011	5,350	(6.3%)
Distribution fees	4,070	5,988	(32.0%)	5,988	5,293	13.1%
Administrative services fees	1,321	1,922	(31.3%)	1,922	1,797	7.0%
Investment income (loss)	(177)	1,009	(117.5%)	1,009	979	3.1%
Other revenues	37	46	(19.6%)	46	47	(2.1%)
			•			
Total	\$ 23,851	\$41,934	(43.1%)	\$41,934	\$ 35,030	19.7%

**Investment Advisory Fees.** Investment advisory fees, the largest component of the Company s revenues, are derived from two sources: SEC-registered mutual fund advisory fees, which in fiscal 2012 accounted for 98 percent of the Company s total advisory fees, and offshore investment advisory fees, which accounted for 2 percent of total advisory fees.

SEC-registered mutual fund investment advisory fees are calculated as a percentage of average net assets, ranging from 0.375 percent to 1.375 percent, and are paid monthly. These advisory fees decreased by approximately \$12.0 million, or 45.1 percent, in fiscal 2012 compared to fiscal 2011 primarily as a result of decreased assets under management due to market depreciation and shareholder redemptions in the natural resources and emerging markets funds.

Mutual fund investment advisory fees are also affected by changes in assets under management, which include:

market appreciation or depreciation; the addition of new client accounts; client contributions of additional assets to existing accounts; withdrawals of assets from and termination of client accounts; exchanges of assets between accounts or products with different fee structures; and the amount of fees voluntarily reimbursed.

The nine equity USGIF funds include a base advisory fee that is adjusted upward or downward by 0.25 percent if there is a performance difference of 5 percent or more between a fund s performance and that of its designated benchmark index over the prior rolling 12 months. For the year ended June 30, 2012, the Company adjusted its base advisory fees downward by \$2,230,811. For the year ended June 30, 2011, the Company adjusted its base advisory fees upward by \$2,380,608. For the year ended June 30, 2010 (the first fiscal year in which these performance fees were recorded), the Company adjusted its base advisory fees upward by \$168,534.

**Transfer Agent Fees.** United Shareholder Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, provides transfer agency and mailing services for Company clients. The Company receives an annual fee per account as well as transaction and activity-based fees as compensation for services rendered as transfer agent and is reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses associated with processing shareholder information. In addition, the Company collects custodial fees on IRAs and other types of retirement plans invested in USGIF. Transfer agent fees are therefore significantly affected by the number of client accounts. The Company also receives shareholder servicing fees based on the value of the Funds held through broker-dealer platforms.

Transfer agent fees decreased by \$1,344,053 and \$339,029 in fiscal 2012 and 2011, respectively, primarily as a result of a decline in the number of shareholder accounts and number of transactions.

**Distribution Fees.** The Funds pay USGB a distribution fee, at an annual rate of 0.25 percent of the average daily net assets of the Investor Class of each of the nine equity USGIF funds. Distribution fees decreased by \$1,918,511 in fiscal 2012 due to lower average net assets under management, upon which these fees are based. In fiscal year 2011, distribution fees increased by \$695,538 due to higher average net assets under management.

**Administrative Services Fees.** The funds pay the Company compensation at an annual rate of 0.08 percent of the average daily net assets of each Fund for administrative services provided by the Company to the funds. Administrative services fees decreased by \$600,474 in fiscal 2012 due to lower average net assets under management, upon which these fees are based. In fiscal year 2011, administrative services fees increased by \$124,567.

**Investment Income.** Investment income (loss) from the Company s investments includes:

realized gains and losses on sales of securities; unrealized gains and losses on trading securities; realized foreign currency gains and losses; other-than-temporary impairments on available-for-sale securities; and dividend and interest income.

This source of revenue is dependent on market fluctuations and does not remain at a consistent level. Timing of transactions and the Company s ability to participate in investment opportunities largely affect this source of revenue.

Investment income decreased by \$1,185,529 in fiscal 2012 due to unrealized losses in trading securities. Investment income was essentially flat in fiscal 2011, increasing by \$29,453.

Included in investment income were other-than-temporary impairments of \$19,073 in fiscal 2012, \$3,699 in fiscal 2011, and \$1,606 in fiscal 2010.

## Expenses

			%			%
(Dollars in Thousands)	2012	2011	Change	2011	2010	Change
Employee compensation and benefits	\$ 9,991	\$ 12,468	(19.9%)	\$ 12,468	\$ 11,913	4.7%
General and administrative	5,841	8,201	(28.8%)	8,201	6,516	25.9%
Platform fees	3,995	6,304	(36.6%)	6,304	5,583	12.9%
Advertising	1,182	2,464	(52.0%)	2,464	1,625	51.6%
Depreciation	282	292	(3.4%)	292	321	(9.0%)
Subadvisory fees	60	175	(65.7%)	175	563	(68.9%)
Total	\$ 21,351	\$ 29,904	(28.6%)	\$ 29,904	\$ 26,521	12.8%

**Employee Compensation and Benefits.** Employee compensation and benefits decreased by \$2,476,461, or 19.9 percent, in fiscal 2012, as a result of lower performance-based bonuses and fewer employees. Employee compensation and benefits increased by \$554,928, or 4.7 percent, in fiscal 2011 compared to the prior year. The 2011 increase was primarily due to higher performance-based bonuses.

Table of Contents 30

24

**Subadvisory Fees.** Through September 2010, subadvisory fees were calculated as a percentage of average net assets of the two funds that are subadvised by a third-party manager. From October 2010 to present, subadvisory fees were adjusted to a flat fee per month. The decrease in subadvisory fees of \$114,994, or 65.7 percent, in fiscal 2012, and \$388,041, or 68.9 percent, in fiscal 2011 is due to the restructured responsibilities of the third-party subadvisor, as well as a decline in assets under management.

**General and Administrative.** The decrease in general and administrative expenses of \$2,361,115, or 28.8 percent, in fiscal 2012 was primarily a result of prior period software implementation and consulting expenses. The increase in general and administrative expense of \$1,684,989, or 25.9 percent, in fiscal 2011 was primarily attributable to sales-related conferences and consulting fees and implementation of new software.

**Platform Fees.** Broker-dealers typically charge an asset-based fee for assets held in their platforms. Platform fees decreased by \$2,308,399, or 36.6 percent, in fiscal 2012, increased by \$720,876, or 12.9 percent, in fiscal 2011 due to changes in assets held through the broker-dealer platforms. The incremental assets received through the broker-dealer platforms are not as profitable as those received from direct shareholder accounts due to margin compression resulting from paying platform fees on those assets.

**Advertising.** Advertising decreased by \$1,281,471 or 52.0 percent, in fiscal 2012, and increased by \$839,170, or 51.6 percent, in fiscal 2011 as a result of planned changes in marketing and sales activities.

#### **Income Taxes**

The Company and its subsidiaries file a consolidated federal income tax return. Provisions for income taxes include deferred taxes for temporary differences in the basis of assets and liabilities for financial and tax purposes, resulting from the use of the liability method of accounting for income taxes.

A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax amount will not be realized. Management included no valuation allowance at June 30, 2012.

## **Off Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company does not have any off balance sheet arrangements.

## **Contractual Obligations**

A summary of contractual obligations of the Company as of June 30, 2012, is as follows:

	Payments due by period						
		Less than	1-3	4-5	More than		
Contractual Obligations	Total	1 year	years	years	5 years		
Operating lease obligations	\$ 225,616	\$ 185,164	\$ 40,452	\$	\$		
Contractual obligations	747,860	537,190	210,670				
Total	\$ 973,476	\$ 722,354	\$ 251,122	\$	\$		

Operating leases consist of office and mailroom equipment leased from several vendors. Contractual obligations include educational and charitable organization pledges, commitments to fund a venture capital investment and agreements for services used in daily operations.

The Board has authorized a monthly dividend of \$0.02 per share through December 2012, at which time the Board will consider continuation of the dividend. Payment of cash dividends is within the discretion of the Company s Board of Directors and is dependent on earnings, operations, capital requirements, general financial condition of the Company, and general business conditions. The total amount of cash dividends to be paid to class A and class C shareholders from July 2012 to December 2012 will be approximately \$1,856,000.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

At fiscal year end, the Company had net working capital (current assets minus current liabilities) of approximately \$25.7 million and a current ratio (current assets divided by current liabilities) of 9.4 to 1. With approximately \$20.6 million in cash and cash equivalents and \$14 million in marketable securities, the Company has adequate liquidity to meet its current obligations. Total shareholders equity was approximately \$38.7 million, with cash, cash equivalents, and marketable securities comprising 83 percent of total assets.

The Company has no long-term debt; thus, the Company s only material commitment going forward is for operating expenses. The Company also has access to a \$1 million credit facility, which can be utilized for working capital purposes. The Company s available working capital and projected cash flow are expected to be sufficient to cover current expenses.

The investment advisory and related contracts between the Company and USGIF have been renewed through September 2013. With respect to offshore advisory clients, the contracts between the Company and the clients expire periodically and management anticipates that its offshore clients will renew the contracts.

Management believes current cash reserves, available financing, and projected cash flow from operations will be sufficient to meet foreseeable cash needs or capital necessary for the above-mentioned activities and allow the Company to take advantage of investment opportunities whenever available.

## **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based on the Company's financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. (GAAP). The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and expenses. Management reviews these estimates on an ongoing basis. Estimates are based on experience and on various other assumptions that the Company believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. While recent accounting policies are described in more detail in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, the Company believes the accounting policies that require management to make assumptions and estimates involving significant judgment are those relating to valuation of investments, income taxes, and valuation of stock-based compensation.

**Investments.** The Company accounts for its investments in securities in accordance with ASC 320 *Investments* Debt and Equity Securities. The Company classifies its investments in equity and debt securities based on intent. Management determines the appropriate classification of securities at the time of purchase and reevaluates such designation as of each reporting period date.

Securities that are purchased and held principally for the purpose of selling in the near term are classified as trading securities and reported at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on these securities are included in earnings.

Investments in debt securities or mortgage-backed securities that are purchased with the intent and ability to hold until maturity are classified as held-to-maturity and measured at amortized cost. The Company currently has no investments in debt securities or mortgage-backed securities.

Investments classified as neither trading securities nor held-to-maturity securities are classified as available-for-sale securities and reported at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on these available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings, reported net of tax as a separate component of shareholders—equity, and recorded in earnings when realized.

The Company evaluates its investments for other-than-temporary declines in value on a periodic basis. This may exist when the fair value of an investment security has been below the current value for an extended period of time. When a security in the Company s investment portfolio has an unrealized loss in fair value that is deemed to be other than temporary, the Company reduces the book value of such security to its current fair value, recognizing the credit related decline as a realized loss in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income and a revised GAAP cost basis for the security is established. For available-for-sale securities with declines in value deemed other than temporary, the unrealized loss recorded net of tax in accumulated other comprehensive income is realized as a charge to net income.

The Company records security transactions on trade date. Realized gains or losses from security transactions are calculated on the first-in/first-out cost basis, unless otherwise identifiable, and are recorded in earnings on the date of sale.

Securities traded on a securities exchange are valued at the last sale price. Securities for which over-the-counter market quotations are available, but for which there was no trade on or near the balance sheet date, are valued at the mean price between the last price bid and last price asked. Securities for which quotations are not readily available are valued at management s estimate of fair value.

**Income Taxes.** The Company s annual effective income tax rate is based on the mix of income and losses in its U.S. and non-U.S. entities which are part of the Company s Consolidated Financial Statements, statutory tax rates, and tax-planning opportunities available to the Company in the various jurisdictions in which it operates. Significant judgment is required in evaluating the Company s tax positions.

Tax law requires certain items to be included in the tax return at different times from when these items are reflected in the Company s Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income. As a result, the effective tax rate reflected in the Consolidated Financial Statements is different from the tax rate reported on the Company s consolidated tax return. Some of these differences are permanent, such as expenses that are not deductible in the tax return, and some differences reverse over time, such as depreciation expense. These timing differences create deferred tax assets and liabilities. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on temporary differences between the financial reporting and the tax basis of assets and liabilities and are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment dates. In addition, excess tax benefits associated with stock option exercises also create a difference between the tax rate used in the consolidated tax return and the effective tax rate in the Company s Consolidated Statement of Operations and Comprehensive Income.

The Company assesses uncertain tax positions in accordance with ASC 740 *Income Taxes* (formerly FIN 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*). Judgment is used to identify, recognize, and measure the amounts to be recorded in the financial statements related to tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. A liability is recognized to represent the potential future obligation to the taxing authority for the benefit taken in the tax return. These liabilities are adjusted, including any impact of the related interest and penalties, in light of changing facts and circumstances such as the progress of a tax audit. A number of years may elapse before a particular matter for which a reserve has been established is audited and finally resolved. The number of years with open tax audits varies depending on the tax jurisdiction.

Judgment is used in classifying unrecognized tax benefits as either current or noncurrent liabilities in the Company s Consolidated Balance Sheets. Settlement of any particular issue would usually require the use of cash. A liability associated with unrecognized tax benefits will generally be classified as a noncurrent liability because there will usually be a period of several years between the filing of the tax

27

## Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

## **Table of Contents**

return and the final resolution of an uncertain tax position with the taxing authority. Favorable resolutions of tax matters for which reserves have been established are recognized as a reduction to income tax expense when the amounts involved become known.

Assessing the future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company s Consolidated Financial Statements or tax returns requires judgment. Variations in the actual outcome of these future tax consequences could materially impact the Company s financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

**Stock-Based Compensation.** Stock-based compensation expense is measured at the grant date based on the fair value of the award, and the cost is recognized as expense ratably over the award s vesting period. The Company measured the fair value of stock options granted in fiscal 2012 on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model. An option for 5,000 shares was granted in fiscal 2012, no options were granted in fiscal 2011 and an option for 2,000 shares was granted in fiscal year 2010.

The Company believes that the estimates related to stock-based compensation expense are critical accounting estimates because the assumptions used could significantly impact the timing and amount of stock-based compensation expense recorded in the Company s Consolidated Financial Statements.

28

## Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

## **Market Risk Disclosures**

The Company s balance sheet includes assets whose fair value is subject to market risk. Due to the Company s investments in equity securities, equity price fluctuations represent a market risk factor affecting the Company s consolidated financial position. The carrying values of investments subject to equity price risks are based on quoted market prices or, if not actively traded, management s estimate of fair value as of the balance sheet date. Market prices fluctuate, and the amount realized in the subsequent sale of an investment may differ significantly from the reported market value. The Company s investment activities are reviewed and monitored by Company compliance personnel, and various reports are provided to certain investment advisory clients. Written procedures are in place to manage compliance with the code of ethics and other policies affecting the Company s investment practices.

The table below summarizes the Company s equity price risks as of June 30, 2012, and shows the effects of a hypothetical 25 percent increase and a 25 percent decrease in market prices.

	Fair Value at June 30, 2012	Hypothetical Percentage Change	Estimated Fair Value After Hypothetical Price Change	Increase (Decrease) in Shareholders Equity, Net of Tax
Trading securities <sup>1</sup>	\$5,216,139	25% increase	\$6,520,174	\$860,663
		25% decrease	\$3,912,104	(\$860,663)
Available-for-sale <sup>2</sup>	\$8,824,311	25% increase	\$11,030,389	\$1,456,011
		25% decrease	\$6,618,233	(\$1,456,011)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unrealized and realized gains and losses on trading securities are included in earnings in the statement of operations.

The selected hypothetical changes do not reflect what could be considered best- or worst-case scenarios. Results could be significantly different due to both the nature of equity markets and the concentration of the Company s investment portfolio.

29

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Unrealized and realized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings and recorded in other comprehensive income as a component of shareholders equity until realized.

## Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control Over

## **Financial Reporting**

Board of Directors and Stockholders

U.S. Global Investors, Inc.

San Antonio, Texas

We have audited U.S. Global Investors, Inc. s (the Company ) internal control over financial reporting as of June 30, 2012, based on criteria established in *Internal Control* Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). The Company s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Item 9A, Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

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

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

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

In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of June 30, 2012, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balances sheets of U.S. Global Investors, Inc. as of June 30, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss), stockholders—equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 2012 and our report dated August 29, 2012, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP BDO USA, LLP Dallas, Texas August 29, 2012

30

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Consolidated

#### **Financial Statements**

Board of Directors and Stockholders

U.S. Global Investors, Inc.

San Antonio, Texas

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of U.S. Global Investors, Inc. (the Company ) as of June 30, 2012 and 2011 and the related consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income (loss), shareholders equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 2012. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of U.S. Global Investors, Inc. at June 30, 2012 and 2011, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 2012, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), U.S. Global Investors, Inc. s internal control over financial reporting as of June 30, 2012, based on criteria established in *Internal Control Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) and our report dated August 29, 2012, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ BDO USA, LLP BDO USA, LLP Dallas, Texas August 29, 2012

31

## U.S. GLOBAL INVESTORS, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

Assets		June 30, 2012		June 30, 2011
Current Assets	Ф	20 (12 721	Ф	27.207.007
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	20,612,721	\$	27,207,896
Trading securities, at fair value		5,216,139		5,703,916
Receivables		1 700 507		2.250.251
Mutual funds		1,709,507		3,259,251
Offshore clients		33,354		33,828
Income tax		407,377 900		244,149
Employees Other				2,200
		8,247		7,391
Prepaid expenses		606,048		816,814
Deferred tax asset		162,569		-
Total Current Assets		28,756,862		37,275,445
Net Property and Equipment		3,359,376		3,547,303
Other Assets				
Deferred tax asset, long-term		815,245		482,927
Investment securities available-for-sale, at fair value		8,824,311		4,660,928
investment securities available-101-sale, at fair value		0,024,311		4,000,720
Total Other Assets		9,639,556		5,143,855
Total Assets	\$	41,755,794	\$	45,966,603
Liabilities and Shareholders Equity				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$	67,560	\$	55,181
Accrued compensation and related costs		1,040,262		1,734,267
Deferred tax liability		-		77,432
Dividends payable		927,820		924,672
Other accrued expenses		1,010,506		2,117,604
Total Current Liabilities		3,046,148		4,909,156
Commitments and Contingencies				
Shareholders Equity				
Common stock (class A) - \$0.025 par value; nonvoting; authorized, 28,000,000				
shares; issued, 13,862,505 and 13,862,445 shares at June 30, 2012, and June 30,				
2011, respectively		346,563		346,561
Common stock (class B) - \$0.025 par value; nonvoting; authorized, 4,500,000		,		
shares; no shares issued		_		_
Convertible common stock (class C) - \$0.025 par value; voting; authorized,		51,826		51,828
3,500,000 shares; issued, 2,073,043 and 2,073,103 shares at June 30, 2012, and		- ,		,,,,,

Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

June 30, 2011, respectively		
Additional paid-in-capital	15,547,907	15,267,231
Treasury stock, class A shares at cost; 472,685 and 526,583 shares at June 30, 2012,		
and June 30, 2011, respectively	(1,106,733)	(1,232,929)
Accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax	466,268	1,042,462
Retained earnings	23,403,815	25,582,294
Total Shareholders Equity	38,709,646	41,057,447
Total Liabilities and Shareholders Equity	\$ 41,755,794 \$	45,966,603

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## U.S. GLOBAL INVESTORS, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Year Ended June 30,					
	2012		2011		2010	
Revenues						
Mutual fund advisory fees	\$ 14,575,00	)9	\$ 26,571,094	\$ 21	,163,003	
Transfer agent fees	3,666,86	50	5,010,913		,349,942	
Distribution fees	4,069,65	56	5,988,167	5	5,292,629	
Administrative services fees	1,321,15		1,921,630	1	,797,063	
Other advisory fees	358,27		1,387,358		400,663	
Investment income (loss)	(176,96	51)	1,008,568		979,115	
Other	36,61	14	45,896		47,738	
	23,850,60	)9	41,933,626	35	5,030,153	
	-,,-		, , -		,,	
Expenses						
Employee compensation and benefits	9,991,50	)5	12,467,966		,913,038	
General and administrative	5,840,56	56	8,201,681	6	5,516,692	
Platform fees	3,995,10	)4	6,303,503	5	5,582,627	
Advertising	1,182,28	37	2,463,758	1	,624,588	
Subadvisory fees	60,00	00	174,994		563,035	
Depreciation	281,76	50	291,705		321,416	
	21,351,22	22	29,903,607	26	5,521,396	
Income Before Income Taxes	2,499,38	37	12,030,019	8	3,508,757	
Provision for Federal Income Taxes	, ,		, ,		, ,	
Tax expense	968,95	53	4,197,372	3	3,159,472	
•	,		, ,		, ,	
Net Income	1,530,43	34	7,832,647	5	5,349,285	
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:	1,550,45	7-	7,032,047	J	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
Unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale securities arising during period	(463,86	57)	552,605		203,018	
Less: reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	(112,32		(65,495)		203,010	
2000. Toolagonication adjustment for gams included in net medine	(112,52		(03,173)			
Comprehensive Income	\$ 954,24	10	\$ 8,319,757	¢ 5	5,552,303	
Comprehensive income	\$ 934,22	+0 .	\$ 0,319,737	φ J	,,552,505	
Basic Net Income per Share	\$ 0.1	10	\$ 0.51	\$	0.35	
Dasie we meonic per snare	ψ 0.1		Ψ 0.51	φ	0.55	
Diluted Not Income now Chouse	¢ 0.1	10	¢ 0.51	¢	0.25	
Diluted Net Income per Share	\$ 0.1	10	\$ 0.51	\$	0.35	
D	15 441 4	· 1	15 204 425	1.5	220.020	
Basic weighted average number of common shares outstanding	15,441,46		15,384,435		15,339,038	
Diluted weighted average number of common shares outstanding	15,441,58	52	15,384,435		15,341,820	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## U.S. GLOBAL INVESTORS, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY

					Accumulated		
	Common	Common	Additional		Other Comprehensive		
	Stock (class A)	Stock (class C)	Paid-in Capital	Treasury Stock	Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings	Total
Balance at June 30, 2009 (13,819,673 shares of class A;							
<b>2,091,875 shares of class C)</b> Purchases of stock under ESPP	\$ 345,492	\$ 52,297	\$ 14,628,431	\$ (1,449,124)	\$ 352,334	\$ 20,698,564	\$ 34,627,994
of 21,556 shares of Common Stock (class A)			154,926	50,470			205,396
Conversion of 18,772 shares of	-	-	134,920	30,470	-	-	203,390
class C common stock for class A common stock	469	(469)	_	_	_	_	_
Exercise of 24,000 options for		(125)	116 140				116 740
Common Stock (class A)  Dividends declared	600	-	116,149	-	-	(4,602,858)	116,749 (4,602,858)
Stock bonuses			183,640	55,257	-	(4,002,030)	238,897
Stock-based compensation			103,040	33,231		_	230,097
expense	-	-	53,391	-	-	-	53,391
Unrealized gain on securities available-for-sale (net of tax)	-	-	-	-	203,018	-	203,018
Net income	-	-	-	-	-	5,349,285	5,349,285
Balance at June 30, 2010 (13,862,445 shares of class A;							
<b>2,073,103 shares of class C)</b> Purchases of stock under ESPP	346,561	51,828	15,136,537	(1,343,397)	555,352	21,444,991	36,191,872
of 25,781 shares of Common			120 211	(0.2(2			100 674
Stock (class A)	-	-	129,311	60,363	<del>-</del>	(2.605.244)	189,674
Dividends declared Stock bonuses	-	-	110 270	50 105	-	(3,695,344)	(3,695,344)
Stock-based compensation	-	<del>-</del>	119,379	50,105	<del>-</del>	-	169,484
expense	-	-	(117,996)	-	-	-	(117,996)
Unrealized gain on securities available-for-sale (net of tax)	-	_	-	-	487,110	-	487,110
Net income	-	-	-	-	· -	7,832,647	7,832,647
Balance at June 30, 2011 (13,862,445 shares of class A;							
2,073,103 shares of class C) Purchases of stock under ESPP of 28,998 shares of Common	346,561	51,828	15,267,231	(1,232,929)	1,042,462	25,582,294	41,057,447
Stock (class A) Conversion of 60 shares of	2	(2)	120,121	67,895 -	-	-	188,016
class C common stock for class							

Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

A common stock							
Dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	(3,708,913)	(3,708,913)
Stock bonuses	-	-	134,920	58,301	-	-	193,221
Stock-based compensation expense	_	_	25,635	-	-	_	25,635
Unrealized loss on securities available-for-sale (net of tax)	-	-	-	-	(576,194)	-	(576,194)
Net income	-	-	-	-	-	1,530,434	1,530,434
Balance at June 30, 2012 (13,862,505 shares of class A; 2,073,043 shares of class C)	\$ 346,563	\$ 51,826	\$ 15,547,907	\$ (1,106,733)	\$ 466,268	\$ 23,403,815	\$ 38,709,646

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## U.S. GLOBAL INVESTORS, INC.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

		0,	
	2012	2011	2010
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	ф. 1.520.424	ф. <b>д</b> . 022 с 4 <b>д</b>	Φ. 5.240.205
Net income	\$ 1,530,434	\$ 7,832,647	\$ 5,349,285
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:	201 560	201 505	221 416
Depreciation	281,760	,	321,416
Net recognized loss (gain) on disposal of fixed assets	(75,459		98,908
Net recognized loss (gain) on securities	(157,668		60,182
Provision for deferred taxes	(283,333	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	362,889
Stock bonuses	193,221	169,484	238,897
Stock-based compensation expense	33,476	37,825	53,391
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	1,387,434		594,927
Prepaid expenses	210,766	(, -,	(172,180)
Trading securities	485,139		(619,825)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,788,724	36,740	1,344,460
Total adjustments	286,612	(114,118)	2,283,065
·		•	
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,817,046	7,718,529	7,632,350
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:			
Purchase of property and equipment	(18,374	(86,512)	(554,933)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	-	1,017
Purchase of available-for-sale securities	(5,064,832	(1,056,384)	(230,493)
Proceeds on sale of available-for-sale securities	170,192	201,772	22
Return of capital on investment	18,542	95,523	45,121
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,894,472	(845,601)	(739,266)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:			
Exercise of stock options	-	-	116,749
Issuance of common stock	188,016	189,674	205,396
Dividends paid	(3,705,765	(3,692,185)	(3,681,344)
Net cash used in financing activities	(3,517,749	(3,502,511)	(3,359,199)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(6,595,175	3,370,417	3,533,885
Beginning cash and cash equivalents	27,207,896	23,837,479	20,303,594
Ending cash and cash equivalents	\$ 20,612,721	\$ 27,207,896	\$ 23,837,479
Supplemental Disclosures of Cash Flow Information			
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 1,365,000	\$ 4,360,000	\$ 1,365,000

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

#### Note 1. Organization

U.S. Global Investors, Inc. (the Company or U.S. Global ) serves as investment adviser to U.S. Global Investors Funds ( USGIF or the Funds ) Delaware statutory trust that is a no-load, open-end investment company offering shares in numerous mutual funds to the investing public. The Company also provides administrative services, distribution, and transfer agency functions to USGIF. For these services, the Company receives fees from USGIF. The Company also provides advisory services to three offshore clients.

U.S. Global formed the following companies to provide supplementary services to USGIF: United Shareholder Services, Inc. ( USSI ) and U.S. Global Brokerage, Inc. ( USGB ).

The Company formed two subsidiaries utilized primarily for corporate investment purposes: U.S. Global Investors (Guernsey) Limited ( USGG ), incorporated in Guernsey, and U.S. Global Investors (Bermuda) Limited ( USBERM ), incorporated in Bermuda.

#### Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies

**Principles of Consolidation.** The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries: USSI, USGG, USBERM, and USGB.

All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain amounts have been reclassified for comparative purposes.

Cash and Cash Equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

**Security Investments.** The Company accounts for its investments in securities in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 320 *Investments Debt and Equity Securities*. The Company classifies its investments in equity and debt securities based on intent. Management determines the appropriate classification of securities at the time of purchase and reevaluates such designation as of each reporting period date.

Securities that are purchased and held principally for the purpose of selling in the near term are classified as trading securities and reported at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on these securities are included in earnings.

Investments in debt securities that are purchased with the intent and ability to hold until maturity are classified as held-to-maturity and measured at amortized cost. The Company currently has no investments in debt securities.

Investments classified as neither trading securities nor held-to-maturity securities are classified as available-for-sale securities and reported at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on these available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings, reported net of tax as a separate component of shareholders—equity, and recorded in earnings on the date of sale.

The Company evaluates its investments for other-than-temporary decline in value on a periodic basis. This may exist when the fair value of an investment security has been below the current value for an extended period of time. When a security in the Company s investment portfolio has an unrealized loss in fair value that is deemed to be other than temporary, the Company reduces the book value of such security to its current fair value, recognizing the credit related decline as a realized loss in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income and a revised GAAP cost basis for the security is established. For available-for-sale securities with declines in value deemed other than temporary, the unrealized loss recorded net of tax in accumulated other comprehensive income is realized as a charge to net income.

## Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

#### **Table of Contents**

The Company records security transactions on trade date. Realized gains (losses) from security transactions are calculated on the first-in/first-out cost basis, unless otherwise identifiable, and are recorded in earnings on the date of sale.

**Advisory Receivables.** Advisory receivables consist primarily of monthly advisory, transfer agent and other fees owed to the Company by USGIF as well as receivables related to offshore investment advisory fees.

**Property and Equipment.** Fixed assets are recorded at cost. Depreciation for fixed assets is recorded using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of each asset as follows: furniture and equipment are depreciated over 3 to 10 years, and the building and related improvements are depreciated over 14 to 40 years.

**Treasury Stock.** Treasury stock purchases are accounted for under the cost method. The subsequent issuances of these shares are accounted for based on their weighted-average cost basis.

**Stock-Based Compensation.** The Company accounts for stock-based compensation in accordance with ASC 718 *Compensation Stock Compensation*. Under this application, the Company is required to record compensation expense for all awards granted after the date of adoption and for the unvested portion of previously granted awards that remain outstanding at the date of adoption.

**Income Taxes.** The Company and its subsidiaries file a consolidated federal income tax return. Provisions for income taxes include deferred taxes for temporary differences in the bases of assets and liabilities for financial and tax purposes resulting from the use of the liability method of accounting for income taxes. The liability method requires that deferred tax assets be reduced by a valuation allowance in cases where it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740 *Income Taxes*. The Company s policy is to recognize interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions in income tax expense. As of June 30, 2012, the Company did not have any accrued interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions. The tax years from 2008 through 2011 remain open to examination by the tax jurisdictions to which the Company is subject.

Revenue Recognition. The Company earns substantially all of its revenues from advisory, administrative, distribution and transfer agency services. Mutual fund advisory, administrative, and distribution fees are calculated as a percentage of assets under management and are recorded as revenue as services are performed. Offshore advisory client contracts provide for monthly management fees, in addition to a quarterly performance fees. Effective October 1, 2009, the advisory contract for the USGIF equity funds provides for a performance fee on the base advisory fee that are calculated and recorded monthly. Transfer agency fees are calculated using a charge based upon the number of shareholder accounts serviced as well as transaction and activity-based fees. Revenue shown on the Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income are net of any fee waivers.

Dividends and Interest. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date, and interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Both dividends and interest income are included in investment income.

**Advertising Costs.** The Company expenses advertising costs as they are incurred. Certain sales materials, which are considered tangible assets, are capitalized and then expensed during the period in which they are distributed. Net advertising expenditures were \$1,182,287, \$2,463,758, and \$1,624,588 during fiscal 2012, 2011, and 2010 respectively.

37

**Foreign Currency Transactions.** Transactions between the Company and foreign entities are converted to U.S. dollars using the exchange rate on the date of the transactions. Security investments valued in foreign currencies are translated to U.S. dollars using the applicable exchange rate as of the reporting date. Realized foreign currency gains and losses are immaterial and are therefore included as a component of investment income.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments.** The financial instruments of the Company are reported on the consolidated balance sheet at market or fair values, or at carrying amounts that approximate fair values because of the short maturity of the instruments.

**Use of Estimates.** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Company to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

**Earnings Per Share.** The Company computes and presents earnings per share in accordance with ASC 260, *Earnings Per Share*). Basic earnings per share (EPS) excludes dilution and is computed by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted EPS reflects the potential dilution of EPS that could occur if options to issue common stock were exercised. The Company has two classes of common stock with outstanding shares. Both classes share equally in dividend and liquidation preferences.

#### **Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

The Company is subject to extensive and often complex, overlapping and frequently changing governmental regulation and accounting oversight. Moreover, financial reporting requirements, such as those listed below, and the processes, controls and procedures that have been put in place to address them, are comprehensive and complex. While management has focused considerable attention and resources on meeting these reporting requirements, interpretations by regulatory or accounting agencies that differ from those of the Company could negatively impact financial results.

In January 2010, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2010-06, *Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements*. This ASU added new requirements for disclosures into and out of Levels 1 and 2 fair-value measurements and information on purchases, sales, issuances and settlements on a gross basis in the reconciliation of Level 3 fair-value measurements. It also clarified existing fair value disclosures about the level of disaggregation, inputs, and valuation techniques. Except for the detailed Level 3 reconciliation disclosures, the guidance in the ASU was effective for annual and interim reporting periods in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2009. The new disclosures for Level 3 activity are effective for annual and interim reporting periods in fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. The adoption of ASU 2010-06 in fiscal 2012 by the Company did not have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements except for enhanced disclosure in the notes to its consolidated financial statements.

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs. The ASU expands existing disclosure requirements and amends some fair value measurement principles. The ASU was effective for interim periods beginning on or after December 15, 2011, with early adoption prohibited and prospective application required. The adoption of ASU No. 2011-01 by the Company did not have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements except for enhanced disclosure in the notes to its consolidated financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. This standard eliminates the current option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the statement of changes in equity. Under this guidance, an entity can elect to present items of net income and other comprehensive income in one continuous statement or in two separate, but consecutive, statements. This guidance is effective for publicly traded companies for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011 and interim and annual periods thereafter. Early adoption is permitted, but full retrospective application is required. As the Company reports comprehensive income within its consolidated statement of operations, the adoption of this guidance will not result in a change in the presentation of comprehensive income in the Company s consolidated financial statements.

## Note 3. Investments

As of June 30, 2012, the Company held investments with a fair value of \$14,040,450 and a cost basis of \$14,078,478. The market value of these investments is approximately 33.6 percent of the Company s total assets.

Investments in securities classified as trading are reflected as current assets on the consolidated balance sheet at their fair market value. Unrealized holding gains and losses on trading securities are included in earnings in the consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income. Substantially all of the cash and cash equivalents included in the balance sheet on June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2011, are invested in USGIF money market funds.

Investments in securities classified as available-for-sale, which may not be readily marketable, are reflected as non-current assets on the consolidated balance sheet at their fair value. Unrealized holding gains and losses on available-for-sale securities are excluded from earnings and reported in other comprehensive income as a separate component of shareholders—equity until realized.

The Company records security transactions on trade date. Realized gains (losses) from security transactions are calculated on the first-in/first-out cost basis, unless otherwise identifiable, and are recorded in earnings on the date of sale.

39

## **Investment Activity**

The following table summarizes investment activity over the last three fiscal years:

	Y	Year Ended June 30	,
	2012	2011	2010
Realized losses on sale of trading securities	\$ (2,638)	\$ -	\$ (58,598)
Trading securities, at cost	5,960,634	5,963,272	5,963,272
Trading securities, at fair value <sup>1</sup>	5,216,139	5,703,916	5,072,724
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on trading securities			
(included in earnings)	(485,139)	631,192	874,533
Available-for-sale securities, at cost	8,117,844	3,081,439	2,186,591
Available-for-sale securities, at fair value <sup>1</sup>	8,824,311	4,660,928	3,028,034
Gross realized gains on sale of available-for-sale securities	179,379	139,458	22
Gross unrealized gains recorded in shareholders equity	951,631	1,596,949	860,621
Gross unrealized losses recorded in shareholders equity	(245,164)	(17,460)	(19,178)
Losses on available-for-sale securities deemed to have			
other-than-temporary declines in value	(19,073)	(3,699)	(1,606)

These categories of securities are comprised primarily of equity investments, including those investments discussed in Note 15 regarding related party transactions.

The following summarizes investment income (loss) reflected in earnings for the periods discussed:

	Year Ended June 30,						
<b>Investment Income (Loss)</b>	2012	2011	2010				
Realized losses on sales of trading securities	\$ (2,638)	\$ -	\$ (58,598)				
Realized gains on sales of available-for-sale securities	179,379	139,458	22				
Unrealized gains (losses) on trading securities	(485,139)	631,192	874,533				
Realized foreign currency gains (losses)	(1,583)	3,013	(561)				
Other-than-temporary declines in available-for-sale securities	(19,073)	(3,699)	(1,606)				
Dividend and interest income	152,093	238,604	165,325				
<b>Total Investment Income (Loss)</b>	\$ (176,961)	\$ 1,008,568	\$ 979,115				

#### **Unrealized Losses**

The following tables summarize equity investments that are in an unrealized loss position at each balance sheet date, categorized by how long they have been in a continuous loss position. These investments do not include trading securities or those available-for-sale securities with declines in value deemed other than temporary as their unrealized losses are recognized in earnings.

	June 30, 2012 (in thousands) 12 Months or Less Than 12 Months Greater Total											
	L	Less Than 12 Months Gross			(	Greater Gross				Gross		
			Unı	realized		U	nrealized			Uni	realized	
	Fair	Value	L	osses	Fair Val	ue	Losses	Fair	Value	L	osses	
Available-for-sale securities												
Common stock	\$	135	\$	(52)	\$ -		\$ -	\$	135	\$	(52)	
Offshore Fund	4	4,811		(189)	-		-	4	4,811		(189)	
Mutual funds		16		(4)	-		-		16		(4)	
Total available-for-sale securities	\$ 4	1,962	\$	(245)	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 4	4,962	\$	(245)	

	June 30, 2011 (in thousands) 12 Months or										
	Le	ess Tha	n 12 M	<b>lonths</b>	Greater			Total			
			G	ross		Gr	oss			G	ross
	F	air	Unr	ealized	Fair	Unrea	alized	I	Fair -	Unr	ealized
	V	alue	L	osses	Value	Los	ses	V	alue	Le	osses
Available-for-sale securities											
Common stock	\$	31	\$	(4)	\$ -	\$	-	\$	31	\$	(4)
Venture capital investments		112		(13)	-		-		112		(13)
Mutual funds		-		-	-		-		-		-
Total available-for-sale securities	\$	143	\$	(17)	\$ -	\$	-	\$	143	\$	(17)

Many of the investments included above are early-stage or start-up businesses whose fair values fluctuate.

## Fair Value Hierarchy

ASC 820, Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures, defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. ASC 820 establishes a hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value and requires companies to disclose the fair value of their financial instruments according to a fair value hierarchy (i.e., Levels 1, 2, and 3 inputs, as defined below). The fair value hierarchy gives the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs. Additionally, companies are required to provide enhanced disclosures regarding instruments in the Level 3 category (which have inputs to the valuation techniques that are unobservable and require significant management judgment), including a reconciliation of the beginning and ending values separately for each major category of assets or liabilities.

Financial instruments measured and reported at fair value are classified and disclosed in one of the following categories:

Level 1 Valuations based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities at the reporting date. Since valuations are based on quoted prices that are readily and regularly available in an active market, value of these products does not entail a significant degree of judgment.

41

Level 2 Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, directly or indirectly.

Level 3 Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The Company s assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the financial instrument.

The following tables present fair value measurements, as of each balance sheet date, for the three major categories of U.S. Global s investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

	Fair Value Measurement using (in thousands) June 30, 2012							
	Quoted Prices (Level 1)	Prices (Level Inputs		Unobs Inp	ficant ervable outs /el 3)	Т	otal	
Trading securities	ŕ			,	ĺ			
Common stock	\$ 185	\$	26	\$	-	\$	211	
Mutual funds	3,980		-		-		3,980	
Offshore fund	-		1,025		-		1,025	
Total trading securities	4,165		1,051		-		5,216	
Available-for-sale securities								
Common stock	1,228		-		-		1,228	
Venture capital investments	-		-		168		168	
Mutual funds	2,617		-		-		2,617	
Offshore fund	-		4,811		-		4,811	
Total available-for-sale securities	3,845		4,811	•	168		8,824	
Total Investments	\$ 8,010	\$	5,862	\$	168	\$ 1	4,040	

	Fair Value Measurement using (in thousands) June 30, 2011								
	<b>Quoted Prices</b>	Ü	ant Other	Signif Unobse					
	(Level		puts	Inp	_				
	1)	(Le	vel 2)	(Lev	']	Γotal			
Trading securities									
Common stock	\$ 267	\$	57	\$	-	\$	324		
Mutual funds	4,043		-		-		4,043		
Offshore fund	-		1,337		-		1,337		
Total trading securities	4,310		1,394		-		5,704		
Available-for-sale securities									
Common stock	1,690		-		-		1,690		
Venture capital investments	-		-		243		243		
Mutual funds	2,728		-		-		2,728		
Total available-for-sale securities	4,418		-		243		4,661		

## Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

Total Investments \$ 8,728 \$ 1,394 \$ 243 \$ 10,365

42

Approximately 57 percent of the Company s financial assets measured at fair value are derived from Level 1 inputs including SEC-registered mutual funds and equity securities traded on an active market, 42 percent of the Company s financial assets measured at fair value are derived from Level 2 inputs, including investments in two offshore funds, and the remaining one percent are Level 3 inputs.

In Level 2, the Company has an investment in an offshore fund with a fair value of \$1,024,879 that invests in companies in the energy and natural resource sectors. The Company may redeem this investment on the first business day of each month after providing a redemption notice at least forty-five days prior to the proposed redemption date.

The Company has a Level 2 investment in an offshore fund with a fair value of \$4,810,725 that invests in dividend-paying equity and debt securities of companies located around the world. The Company may redeem this investment on the first business day of each month after providing a redemption notice at least forty-five days prior to the proposed redemption date.

In Level 3, the Company held investments in three securities with a value of zero and one venture capital investment that was measured at fair value using significant unobservable inputs on June 30, 2012.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2012, the Company redeemed its Level 3 investment in a venture capital investment that primarily invests in companies in the energy and precious metals sectors for a realized gain of \$179,379.

The Company also has a venture capital investment with a fair value of approximately \$168,464 that primarily invests in companies in the medical and medical technology sectors. The Company may redeem this investment with general partner approval. As of June 30, 2012, the Company has an unfunded commitment of \$62,500 related to this investment.

The following table presents additional information about investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis and for which the Company has utilized unobservable inputs to determine fair value:

Changes in Level 3 Assets Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis				
	Venture Capita	al Investments		
	Year Ende	d June 30,		
(Dollars in Thousands)	2012	2011		
Beginning Balance	\$ 243	\$ 267		
Return of capital	(19)	(95)		
Total gains or losses (realized/unrealized)				
Included in earnings (investment income)	160	-		
Included in other comprehensive income	(108)	71		
Purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements	(108)	-		
Transfers in and/or out of Level 3	-	-		
Ending Balance	\$ 168	\$ 243		

#### Note 4. Investment Management, Transfer Agent, and Other Fees

The Company serves as investment adviser to USGIF and receives a fee based on a specified percentage of net assets under management. Two of the thirteen Funds within USGIF, Eastern European Fund and Global Emerging Markets Fund, are subadvised by a third-party subadviser, Charlemagne Capital (IOM) Limited ( Charlemagne ), although the Company has primary day-to-day management of both Funds. On March 1, 2010, three funds within USGIF (Global MegaTrends Fund, Global Resources Fund and World Precious Minerals Fund) began offering institutional class shares.

USSI also serves as transfer agent to USGIF and receives fees based on the number of shareholder accounts as well as transaction- and activity-based fees. Additionally, the Company receives certain miscellaneous fees directly from USGIF shareholders. Fees for providing investment management, administrative, distribution, and transfer agent services to USGIF continue to be the Company s primary revenue source.

The advisory agreement for the nine equity Funds provides for a base advisory fee that, beginning in October 2009, is adjusted upwards or downwards by 0.25 percent if there is a performance difference of 5 percent or more between a Fund s performance and that of its designated benchmark index over the prior rolling 12 months. For the year ended June 30, 2012, the Company realized a decrease in its base advisory fee of \$2,230,811, and for the year ended June 30, 2011, the Company realized an increase in its base advisory fees of \$2,380,608. For the year ended June 30, 2010 (the first fiscal year in which these performance fees were recorded), the Company realized an increase in its base advisory fees of \$168,534.

Effective September 30, 2009, the Company agreed to voluntarily cap the expenses of all thirteen funds. These caps will continue on a modified and voluntary basis at the Company s discretion. The aggregate fees waived and expenses borne by the Company were \$3,132,831, \$3,131,906, and \$3,507,140 in 2012, 2011, and 2010 respectively.

The above waived fees include amounts waived under an agreement whereby the Company has voluntarily agreed to waive fees and/or reimburse U.S. Treasury Securities Cash Fund and U.S. Government Securities Savings Fund to the extent necessary to maintain the respective Fund s yield at a certain level as determined by the Company (Minimum Yield). For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed as a result of this agreement were \$802,363 and \$655,230 for the U.S. Treasury Securities Cash Fund and the U.S. Government Securities Savings Fund, respectively.

The Company may recapture any fees waived and/or expenses reimbursed within three years after the end of the Funds fiscal year of such waiver and/or reimbursement to the extent that such recapture would not cause the Funds yield to fall below the Minimum Yield. Thus, \$1,047,980 of these waivers is recoverable by the Company through December 31, 2012, \$1,562,956 through December 31, 2013, \$1,604,076 through December 31, 2014, and \$658,224 through December 31, 2015. Management believes these waivers could increase in the future. Such increases in fee waivers could be significant and will negatively impact the Company s revenues and net income. Management cannot predict the impact of the waivers due to the number of variables and the range of potential outcomes.

The Company continues to provide advisory services to three offshore clients and receives a monthly advisory fee based on the net asset values of the clients and performance fees, if any, based on the overall increase in net asset values. The contracts between the Company and the offshore clients expire periodically, and management anticipates that its offshore clients will renew the contracts.

The Company receives additional revenue from several sources including custodial fee revenues, mailroom operations, as well as investment income.

#### Note 5. Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are composed of the following:

	June 30,		
	2012	2011	
Building and land	\$ 4,568,481	\$ 4,568,481	
Furniture, equipment, and other	1,708,261	1,773,947	
	6,276,742	6,342,428	
Accumulated depreciation	(2,917,366)	(2,795,125)	
Net property and equipment	\$ 3,359,376	\$ 3,547,303	

Depreciation expense totaled \$281,760, \$291,705, and \$321,416 in 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively.

44

#### **Note 6. Other Accrued Expenses**

Other accrued expenses consist of the following:

	June 30,		
	2012	2011	
Legal, professional and consulting fees	\$ 303,156	\$ 303,067	
Platform fees	295,383	545,679	
Vendors payable	179,434	1,181,990	
Performance fees	123,968	-	
Taxes payable	103,468	78,850	
Subadvisory fees	5,000	5,000	
Other	97	3,018	
Other accrued expenses	\$ 1,010,506	\$ 2,117,604	

#### Note 7. Borrowings

As of June 30, 2012, the Company has no long-term liabilities.

The Company has access to a \$1 million credit facility with a one-year maturity for working capital purposes. The credit agreement was renewed effective February 28, 2012, and requires the Company to maintain certain quarterly financial covenants to access the line of credit. The amended credit agreement will expire on May 31, 2013, and the Company intends to renew annually. The Company has been in compliance with all financial covenants during the fiscal year. As of June 30, 2012, the credit facility remains unutilized by the Company.

#### **Note 8. Lease Commitments**

The Company has operating leases for computers and equipment that expire between fiscal years 2013 and 2014. Lease expenses totaled \$572,148, \$610,256, and \$454,806 in fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively. Minimum non-cancelable lease payments required under operating leases for the years subsequent to June 30, 2012, are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
2013	\$ 185,164
2014	40,452
2015	-
2016	-
2017	-
Total	\$ 225,616

#### Note 9. Benefit Plans

The Company offers a savings and investment plan qualified under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code covering substantially all employees. In connection with this 401(k) plan, participants can voluntarily contribute a portion of their compensation, up to certain limitations, to this plan, and the Company will match 100 percent of participants contributions up to the first 3 percent of compensation and 50 percent of the next 2 percent of compensation. The Company has recorded expenses related to the 401(k) plan for contributions of \$205,480, \$228,612, and \$246,556 for fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively.

The 401(k) plan allows for a discretionary profit sharing contribution by the Company, as authorized by the Board of Directors. The Company made profit sharing contributions of \$400,000, \$300,000, and \$300,000 in fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively.

The Company offers employees, including its executive officers, an opportunity to participate in savings programs using mutual funds managed by the Company, which a majority of employees have accepted. Employees may contribute to an IRA, and the Company matches these contributions on a limited basis. Similarly, certain employees may contribute to the Tax Free Fund, and the Company will match these contributions on a limited basis. A similar savings plan utilizing Uniform Gifts to Minors Act ( UGMA ) accounts is offered to employees to save for their minor relatives. The Company match, reflected in base salary expense, aggregated in all programs to \$77,049, \$74,644, and \$73,312 in fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively.

The Company has an Employee Stock Purchase Plan, subject to a current registration statement, whereby eligible employees can purchase treasury shares, at market price, and the Company will match their contributions up to 3 percent of gross salary. During fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, employees purchased 28,998, 25,781, and 21,556 shares of treasury stock from the Company, respectively.

Additionally, the Company self-funds its employee health care plan. The Company has obtained reinsurance with both a specific and an aggregate stop-loss in the event of catastrophic claims. The Company has accrued an amount representing the Company s estimate of claims incurred but not paid at June 30, 2012.

#### Note 10. Shareholders Equity

The monthly dividend of \$0.02 is authorized through December 2012 and will be considered for continuation at that time by the Board. Payment of cash dividends is within the discretion of the Company s Board of Directors and is dependent on earnings, operations, capital requirements, general financial condition of the Company and general business conditions. On a per share basis, the holders of the class C common stock and the nonvoting class A common stock participate equally in dividends as declared by the Company s Board of Directors.

During the fiscal years ended June 30, 2012, 2011, and 2010, the Company did not purchase any of its class A common stock.

During the years ended June 30, 2012, 2011, and 2010, the Company granted 15,600, 35,300, and 7,200 shares of class A common stock to certain employees at a weighted average fair value on grant date of \$4.73, \$8.12, and \$12.62. Grants vest immediately after issuance.

The Company granted 3,600, 3,300, and 2,400 shares of class A common stock at a weighted average fair value of \$6.65, \$8.10, and \$11.00 to its non-employee Directors in fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively. Grants vest immediately after issuance.

Shareholders of class C shares are allowed to convert to class A. During fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, 60, 0, and 18,772 shares, respectively, were converted from class C to class A.

In November 1989, the Board of Directors adopted the 1989 Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan (1989 Plan), amended in December 1991, which provides for the granting of options to purchase 1,600,000 shares of the Company s class A common stock to directors, officers and employees of the Company and its subsidiaries. Options issued under the 1989 Plan vest six months from the grant date or 20 percent on the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth anniversaries of the grant date. Options issued under the 1989 Plan expire ten years after issuance. As of June 30, 2012, there were no options outstanding under the 1989 Plan.

46

In April 1997, the Board of Directors adopted the 1997 Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan (1997 Plan), which provides for the granting of stock appreciation rights (SARs) and/or options to purchase 400,000 shares of the Company sclass A common stock to directors, officers, and employees of the Company and its subsidiaries. Options issued under the 1997 Plan expire ten years after issuance. One option for 5,000 shares was granted in fiscal year 2012 with a fair value, net of tax, of \$8,052. The option will vest over five years with 20 percent vesting on each anniversary date. No options were granted in fiscal year 2011. One option for 2,000 shares was granted in fiscal year 2010 with a fair value, net of tax, of \$11,537. The option vested over two years, with 50 percent vesting on the first and second anniversary dates.

The estimated fair value of options granted is amortized to expense over the options vesting period. The fair value of these options is estimated at the date of the grant using a Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following assumptions for options granted in fiscal 2012 and 2010, respectively: expected volatility factor based on historical volatility of 49.9 percent and 81.4 percent, risk-free interest rate of 2.4 percent and 3.7 percent and an expected life of 5.67 and 10 years for all options granted.

Stock option transactions under the various employee stock option plans for the past three fiscal years are summarized below:

	•	Wojak	Aver	Weighted age Remaini ntractual Lif in	eggre	gate Intrinsic lue (net of
	Shares		rcise Price	Yrs	va	tax)
Outstanding June 30, 2009	77,300	\$	13.66	115		tua)
Granted	2,000	\$	12.31			
Exercised	24,000	\$	0.75			
Forfeited	-		n/a			
0.44 11 1 20 2010	55 200	Φ.	10.21			
Outstanding June 30, 2010	55,300	\$	19.21			
Granted	-		n/a			
Exercised	<del>-</del>		n/a			
Forfeited	30,000	\$	19.06			
Outstanding June 30, 2011	25,300	\$	19.40			
Granted	5,000	\$	6.54			
Exercised	-		n/a			
Forfeited	1,300	\$	22.63			
	· ·					
Outstanding June 30, 2012	29,000	\$	17.03	6.04	\$	200,336

As of June 30, 2012, 2011, and 2010, exercisable employee stock options totaled 22,000, 20,180, and 47,120 shares and had weighted average exercise prices of \$19.21, \$19.78, and \$19.50 per share, respectively.

Class A common stock options outstanding and exercisable under the employee stock option plans at June 30, 2012, were as follows:

		Options O	utstanding	Weighted	<b>Options</b>		cisable eighted
	Date of Option	Number	Remaining	Average Exercise	Number	A	verage ion Price
	Grant	Outstanding	Life in Years	Price (\$)	Exercisable	Opti	(\$)
1997 Plan Class A	06/20/07	2,000	4.97	\$ 24.74	2,000	\$	24.74
	10/03/07	20,000	5.25	\$ 19.36	18,000	\$	19.36
	10/07/09	2,000	7.27	\$ 12.31	2,000	\$	12.31
	08/23/11	5,000	9.15	\$ 6.54	-	\$	6.54
		29,000	6.04	\$ 17.03	22,000	\$	19.21

#### **Note 11. Income Taxes**

The Company and its subsidiaries file a consolidated federal income tax return. Provisions for income taxes include deferred taxes for temporary differences in the bases of assets and liabilities for financial and tax purposes, resulting from the use of the liability method of accounting for income taxes. The current deferred tax liability primarily consists of temporary differences in the deductibility of prepaid expenses and accrued liabilities. The long-term deferred tax asset is composed primarily of unrealized losses and other than temporary impairments on available-for-sale securities.

A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax amount will not be realized. No valuation allowance was included at June 30, 2012, 2011, or 2010.

The reconciliation of income tax computed at the U.S. federal statutory rates to income tax expense is:

	Year ended June 30,					
	2012	% of Pretax	2011	% of Pretax	2010	% of Pretax
Tax expense						
at statutory rate	\$ 849,792	34.0%	\$ 4,090,206	34.0%	\$ 2,892,977	34.0%
Other	119,161	4.8%	107,166	0.9%	266,495	3.1%
Total tax expense	\$ 968,953	38.8%	\$4,197,372	34.9%	\$ 3,159,472	37.1%

Components of total tax expense (benefit) are as follows:

	Ye	Year ended June 30,			
	2012	2011	2010		
Current tax expense	\$ 1,252,286	\$ 3,876,255	\$ 2,796,583		
Deferred tax expense (benefit)	(283,333)	321,117	362,889		
Total tax expense	\$ 968,953	\$4,197,372	\$ 3,159,472		

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. The Company s deferred assets and liabilities using the effective statutory tax rate (34.0 percent for 2012 and 2011) are as follows:

	Year ended	June 30,
	2012	2011
Book/tax differences in the balance sheet		
Available-for-sale securities	\$ 640,280	\$ 336,968
Trading securities	253,128	88,181
Stock-based compensation expense	114,129	110,588
Accrued expenses	110,564	90,834
Accumulated depreciation	60,837	35,372
Prepaid expenses	(201,124)	(256,448)
Net deferred tax asset	\$ 977,814	\$ 405,495

#### Note 12. Earnings Per Share

The following table sets forth the computation for basic and diluted earnings per share (EPS):

	Year Ended June 30,			
	2012	2011	2010	
Basic and diluted net income	\$ 1,530,434	\$ 7,832,647	\$ 5,349,285	
Weighted average number of outstanding shares				
Basic	15,441,464	15,384,435	15,339,038	
Effect of dilutive securities				
Employee stock options	118	-	2,782	
Diluted	15,441,582	15,384,435	15,341,820	
Earnings per share				
Basic	<u>\$0.10</u>	<u>\$0.51</u>	<u>\$0.35</u>	
Diluted	<u>\$0.10</u>	<u>\$0.51</u>	<u>\$0.35</u>	

The diluted EPS calculation excludes the effect of stock options when their exercise prices exceed the average market price for the period. For the year ended June 30, 2012, employee stock options for 24,000 shares were excluded from diluted EPS. For the year ended June 30, 2011, employee stock options for 25,300 shares were excluded from diluted EPS. For the year ended June 30, 2010, employee stock options for 45,300 shares were excluded from diluted EPS. The Company did not repurchase any shares of its class A common stock from employees during fiscal 2012, 2011, or 2010. Repurchased shares are classified as treasury shares and are deducted from outstanding shares in the earnings per share calculation.

## Note 13. Comprehensive Income

The Company has disclosed the components of comprehensive income in the consolidated statements of operations and comprehensive income.

	Before-Tax Amount	Tax Effect	Net-of-Tax Amount
June 30, 2010			
Unrealized gains (losses) on available-for- sale securities	\$ 307,603	\$ (104,585)	\$ 203,018
Less: reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income	\$ 307,603	\$ (104,585)	\$ 203,018
June 30, 2011 Unrealized gains (losses) on available-for- sale securities	\$ 837,281	\$ (284,676)	\$ 552,605
Less: reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	(99,235)	33,740	(65,495)
Other comprehensive income	\$ 738,046	\$ (250,936)	\$ 487,110
June 30, 2012			
Unrealized gains (losses) on available-for- sale securities	\$ (702,829)	\$ 238,962	\$ (463,867)
Less: reclassification adjustment for gains included in net income	(170,192)	57,865	(112,327)
Other comprehensive income	\$ (873,021)	\$ 296,827	\$ (576,194)

50

#### Note 14. Financial Information by Business Segment

The Company operates principally in two business segments: providing investment management services to the funds it manages, and investing for its own account in an effort to add growth and value to its cash position. The following schedule details total revenues and income by business segment:

	nvestment gement Services		Corporate vestments	Consolidated
Year ended June 30, 2010				
Net revenues	\$ 34,216,362	\$	813,791	\$ 35,030,153
Net income before income taxes	7,711,472		797,285	8,508,757
Depreciation	321,416			321,416
Capital expenditures	554,933			554,933
Year ended June 30, 2011				
Net revenues	\$ 41,051,275	\$	882,351	\$ 41,933,626
Net income before income taxes	11,157,470		872,549	12,030,019
Depreciation	291,705			291,705
Capital expenditures	86,512			86,512
Year ended June 30, 2012				
Net revenues	\$ 24,066,909	\$	(216,300)	\$ 23,850,609
Net income before income taxes	2,727,344		(227,957)	2,499,387
Depreciation	281,760			281,760
Capital expenditures	18,374			18,374
Gross identifiable assets at June 30, 2012	26,717,806	]	14,060,174	40,777,980
Deferred tax asset				977,814
Consolidated total assets at June 30, 2012				\$ 41,755,794

#### **Note 15. Related Party Transactions**

On June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2011, respectively, the Company had \$32.9 million and \$35.2 million at fair value invested in USGIF and offshore clients the Company advises, and these amounts were included in the balance sheet in cash and cash equivalents and trading securities. The Company recorded \$117,234, \$238,604, and \$102,132 in dividend income and \$50,480, \$725,512, and (\$124,569) in net unrealized gains (losses) on its investments in the Funds and offshore clients for fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively. Receivables from mutual funds shown on the Consolidated Balance Sheets represent amounts due the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries for investment advisory fees, administrative fees, distribution fees, transfer agent fees and out-of-pocket expenses, net of amounts payable to the mutual funds. Frank Holmes, a director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, is a trustee of USGIF.

## Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

The Company provides advisory services for the Meridian Global Gold and Resources Fund Ltd., an offshore fund. The Company receives a monthly advisory fee and a quarterly performance fee, if any, based on the overall increase in value of the net assets in the fund for the quarter. The Company recorded fees totaling \$211,960, \$1,129,271, and \$262,789 for the years ended June 30, 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively. Frank Holmes, a director and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, is a director of Meridian Global Gold and Resources Fund Ltd. and Meridian Fund Managers Ltd., the manager of the Meridian Global Gold and Resources Fund Ltd.

51

The Company provides advisory services for the Meridian Global Energy and Resources Fund Ltd., an offshore fund. The Company receives a monthly advisory fee and a quarterly performance fee, if any, based on the overall increase in value of the net assets in the fund for the quarter. The Company recorded fees totaling \$122,182, \$258,087, and \$137,874 for the years ended June 30, 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively. Mr. Holmes is a director of Meridian Global Energy and Resources Fund Ltd. and Meridian Fund Managers Ltd., and the manager of the Meridian Global Energy and Resources Fund Ltd. In addition, the Company has an investment in the Meridian Global Energy and Resources Fund Ltd. classified as trading with a value of \$1,024,879 on June 30, 2012.

The Company provides advisory services for the Meridian Global Dividend Income Fund Ltd., an offshore fund. The Company receives a monthly advisory fee and a quarterly performance fee, if any, based on the overall increase in value of the net assets in the fund for the quarter. The Company recorded fees totaling \$24,133 for the year ended June 30, 2012, the first year in which services were provided. Mr. Holmes is a director of Meridian Global Dividend and Income Fund Ltd. and Meridian Fund Managers Ltd., and the manager of the Meridian Global Dividend Income Fund Ltd. In addition, the Company has an investment in the Meridian Global Dividend and Income Fund Ltd. classified as available-for-sale with a value of \$4,810,725 at June 30, 2012.

The Company owns a position in Charlemagne Capital Limited on June 30, 2012, valued at approximately \$531,224 and recorded as an available-for-sale security. Charlemagne Capital (IOM) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Charlemagne Capital Limited, specializes in emerging markets and is the non-discretionary subadviser to the Eastern European Fund and Global Emerging Markets Fund, two funds in USGIF.

#### **Note 16. Contingencies and Commitments**

The Company continuously reviews all investor, employee, and vendor complaints and pending or threatened litigation. The likelihood that a loss contingency exists is evaluated through consultation with legal counsel, and a loss contingency is recorded if probable and reasonably estimable.

During the normal course of business, the Company may be subject to claims, legal proceedings, and other contingencies. These matters are subject to various uncertainties, and it is possible that some of these matters may be resolved unfavorably. The Company establishes accruals for matters for which the outcome is probable and can be reasonably estimated. Management believes that any liability in excess of these accruals upon the ultimate resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

The Board has authorized a monthly dividend of \$0.02 per share through December 2012, at which time it will be considered for continuation by the Board. Payment of cash dividends is within the discretion of the Company s Board of Directors and is dependent on earnings, operations, capital requirements, general financial condition of the Company and general business conditions. The total amount of cash dividends to be paid to class A and class C shareholders from July 2012 to December 2012 will be approximately \$1,856,000.

52

## Note 17. Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)

Note that some rows may not add to the correct annual total due to rounding.

Fiscal 2012	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	
(in thousands except per share figures)								
Revenues	\$	7,792	\$	5,880	\$	5,538	\$	4,641
Expenses		6,630		5,217		4,743		4,761
Income (loss) before taxes		1,162		663		795		(120)
Net income (loss)		750		409		487		(116)
Comprehensive income (loss)		309		436		639		(430)
Earnings (loss) per share:								
Basic	\$	0.05	\$	0.03	\$	0.03	\$	(0.01)
Diluted	\$	0.05	\$	0.03	\$	0.03	\$	(0.01)

	1st			2nd		3rd		4th	
Fiscal 2011	Quarter		Q	Quarter		Quarter		Quarter	
(in thousands except per share figures)									
Revenues	\$	8,921	\$	11,911	\$	11,410	\$	9,692	
Expenses		6,962		8,271		7,361		7,311	
Income before taxes		1,959		3,640		4,049		2,381	
Net income		1,266		2,330		2,694		1,543	
Comprehensive income		1,725		2,395		2,839		1,361	
Earnings per share:									
Basic	\$	0.08	\$	0.15	\$	0.17	\$	0.11	
Diluted	\$	0.08	\$	0.15	\$	0.17	\$	0.11	

53

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

There were no changes in or disagreements with accountants on accounting and financial disclosure during the two most recent fiscal years.

## Item 9A. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures. An evaluation was conducted under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of June 30, 2012. Based on that evaluation, the CEO and CFO concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of June 30, 2012, to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is: (1) recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms; and (2) accumulated and communicated to management, including the principal executive and principal financial officers, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

**Management** s **Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting.** The Company s management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined by Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act. The Company s internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

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

The Company s management assessed the effectiveness of its internal control over financial reporting as of June 30, 2012. In making this assessment, the Company s management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control-Integrated Framework. Based on the Company s assessment, management believes that, as of June 30, 2012, the Company s management has maintained effective internal control over financial reporting.

The effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting as of June 30, 2012, has been audited by BDO USA, LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm who also audited the Company s consolidated financial statements. Its report appears in Item 8.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting. There have not been any changes in the Company s internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(f)) during the fourth quarter ended June 30, 2012, that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company s internal control over financial reporting.

Inherent Limitation of the Effectiveness of Internal Control. A control system, no matter how well conceived, implemented and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the internal control system are met. Because of such inherent limitations, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues, if any, within a company or any division of a company have been detected.

## Item 9B. Other Information

In light of Frank Holmes ownership of 99.59 percent of the class C voting shares, the Company is eligible to rely on the exemption from certain of the NASDAQ corporate governance listing requirements relating to the independence of the Board of Directors and certain committees that is afforded to controlled companies. Under NASDAQ rules, a controlled company is a company of which more than 50 percent of the voting power for the election of directors is held by an individual, a group or another company.

# Part III of Annual Report on Form 10-K Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance

The directors and executive officers of the Company are as follows:

Name	Age	Position
Frank E. Holmes	57	Director of the Company and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since October 1989, and Chief Investment Officer since June 1999. Since October 1989, Mr. Holmes has served and continues to serve in various positions with the Company, its subsidiaries, and the investment companies it sponsors. Mr. Holmes has served as Trustee of U.S. Global Investors Funds since August 1989 and Trustee of U.S. Global Accolade Funds from April 1993 to October 2008. Mr. Holmes has also served as Director of Meridian Fund Managers Ltd. since November 2003, Director of Meridian Global Gold & Resources Fund Ltd. since December 2003, Director of Meridian Global Energy & Resources Fund Ltd. since April 2006, Director of Meridian Global Dividend Income Fund since April 2011 and Chairman of Endeavour Financial Corp. from October 2005 to November 2008. Mr. Holmes served as Director of 71316 Ontario, Inc. from April 1987 to October 2006, and Director, President, and Secretary of F.E. Holmes Organization, Inc. from July 1978 to July 2009.
Jerold H. Rubinstein	74	Chairman of the Board of Directors since February 2006 and Director of the Company since October 1989. Board member and Chairman of the Audit Committee of CKE Restaurants since June 2006; Board member and Chairman of the Audit Committee of Stratus Media Group, Inc. since April 2011. Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Music Imaging & Media, Inc. from July 2002 to January 2010. Board member, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board for ProElite, Inc. since June 2012.
Roy D. Terracina	65	Director of the Company since December 1994 and Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors since May 1997. Owner of Sunshine Ventures, Inc., a company formed to hold investments, since January 1994. Chairman of the Board of Our Lady of the Lake University since May 2010.
Thomas F. Lydon, Jr.	52	Director of the Company since June 1997. Chairman of the Board and President of Global Trends Investments since April 1996. Member of the Board of Trustees of Rydex/SGI since June 2005 (Rydex/SGI purchased by Guggenheim Investments as of February 2012).
Susan B. McGee	53	President of the Company since February 1998, General Counsel since March 1997. Since September 1992, Ms. McGee has served and continues to serve in various positions with the Company, its subsidiaries, and the investment companies it sponsors.
Catherine A. Rademacher	52	Chief Financial Officer of the Company since August 2004. Controller of the Company from April 2004 until August 2004. Since April 2004, Ms. Rademacher has served and continues to serve in various positions with the Company, its subsidiaries, and the investment companies it sponsors.

None of the directors or executive officers of the Company has a family relationship with any of the other directors or executive officers.

The members of the Board of Directors are elected for one-year terms or until their successors are elected and qualified. The Board of Directors appoints the executive officers of the Company.

Table of Contents 69

**56** 

**Director Independence.** The Company s Board of Directors is currently composed of four members. The Board of Directors has determined that three of the four members meet the definition of an independent director set forth in NASDAQ Rule 5605(a)(2), the exception being Frank Holmes who is the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of the Company. In assessing the independence of directors, the Board of Directors considered the business relationships between the Company and its directors or their affiliated businesses, including businesses owned and operated by family members, other than ordinary investment relationships. Furthermore, the Board has determined that none of the members of the two standing committees of the Board of Directors in existence during the 2012 fiscal year has any material relationship with the Company (either directly or as a partner, stockholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the Company) and that each such member is independent within the meaning of the independence standards applicable to each such committee.

The Board of Directors held five meetings over the past fiscal year. All incumbent directors attended 75 percent or more of the Board meetings and meetings of the committees on which they served during the last fiscal year. Directors are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting of Shareholders. All directors attended the 2011 Annual Meeting. The standing committees of the Board of Directors currently consist of the Audit Committee and the Compensation Committee. The membership and responsibilities of those committees are described below

<u>Independent Directors</u> <u>Audit Committee</u> <u>Compensation Committee</u>

Roy D. Terracina Chairman Member
Thomas F. Lydon, Jr. Member Chairman
Jerold H. Rubinstein Member Member

Audit Committee. The Company has a separately designated Audit Committee, established in accordance with Section 3(a)(58)(A) of the Exchange Act. The Audit Committee assists the Board of Directors in monitoring the integrity of the financial statements of the Company; the independent auditor s qualifications and independence; the performance of the Company s internal audit function and independent auditors; complaints relating to the Company s accounting, internal accounting controls and audit matters; and the Company s accounting and financial reporting processes and audits of the Company s financial statements. The Board of Directors has determined that Director Roy Terracina qualifies as an audit committee financial expert as defined in Item 401(e) of Regulation S-K under the Exchange Act. Mr. Terracina s pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills include: a bachelor s degree and a master s degree in finance, financial experience as a treasurer of a publicly traded company, managerial experience attained as the owner of a company responsible as a major supplier of baked and packaged goods primarily through the Department of Defense, the knowledge and experience he has attained from service on other boards and the knowledge and experience he has attained from his service on U.S. Global s Board. The Audit Committee met six times during the past fiscal year. All incumbent committee members attended 75 percent or more of the committee meeting on which they served during the last fiscal year.

Report of the Audit Committee. Management is responsible for U.S. Global s internal controls and financial reporting process. BDO USA, LLP, U.S. Global s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, is responsible for performing an independent audit of U.S. Global s consolidated financial statements in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ( PCAOB ), and an audit of the effectiveness of U.S. Global s internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB and to issue its reports thereon. The Audit Committee monitors and oversees these processes. The Audit Committee approves the selection and appointment of U.S. Global s independent registered public accounting firm and recommends the ratification of such selection and appointment to U.S. Global s Board of Directors.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed U.S. Global s audited financial statements with management and BDO USA, LLP. The committee has discussed with BDO USA, LLP the matters required to be discussed by the Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards, Vol. 1, AU section 380), as adopted by the PCAOB in Rule 3200T, which relates to the conduct of our audit, including our auditors judgment about the quality of the accounting principles applied in our fiscal 2012 audited consolidated financial statements. The Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from BDO USA, LLP required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding the independent accountant s communications with the committee concerning independence and has discussed with BDO USA, LLP that firm s independence.

Based on the foregoing review and discussions and such other matters the Audit Committee considered relevant and appropriate, the committee recommended to the Board that the audited financial statements of U.S. Global be included in its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2012.

Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee assists the Board of Directors in carrying out its responsibilities with respect to employee qualified benefit plans and employee programs, executive compensation programs, stock option plans and director compensation programs. The Compensation Committee has broad responsibility for assuring that the Company s executive officers, including the Company s Chief Executive Officer, are effectively compensated in terms of salaries, supplemental compensation and benefits that are internally equitable and externally competitive. Additional responsibilities include the review and approval of corporate goals and objectives relevant to the Chief Executive Officer. The Compensation Committee reviews all components of compensation, including salaries, cash incentive plans, long-term incentive plans and various employee benefit matters. The Compensation Committee met two times during the past fiscal year. All incumbent committee members attended 75 percent or more of the committee meetings on which they served during the last fiscal year.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation. During fiscal year 2012, the Compensation Committee consisted of Roy D. Terracina, Thomas F. Lydon, Jr., and Jerold H. Rubinstein. All members of the Compensation Committee were independent directors, and no member was an employee or former employee. During fiscal year 2012, none of the Company s executive officers served on the compensation committee (or its equivalent) or board of directors of another entity whose executive officer served on the Company s Compensation Committee.

**Nomination of Directors.** Although the Company does not have a standing nominating committee, the Company s Corporate Governance Guidelines effectively provide guidance on selection and nomination process whenever a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors. Due to the longevity of service of the current Board of Directors, those Directors have not participated in consideration of director nominees.

The Company believes generally that its Board as a whole should encompass a range of talent and expertise enabling it to provide sound guidance with respect to the Company s operations and interests. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Board of Directors, the Board is responsible for identifying one or more candidates to fill that vacancy, investigating each candidate and evaluating their suitability for service on the Board. The following attributes or qualifications will be considered by the Board in evaluating a person s candidacy:

Management and leadership experience;

Skilled and diverse background; and

Integrity and professionalism.

The Board is authorized to use any methods it deems appropriate for identifying candidates for Board membership. In addition, candidates recommended by the Company s stockholders, pursuant to a Director Recommendation Form, are considered in the same manner as other candidates.

The Company's policy is to have at least a majority of directors qualify as independent under the NASDAQ Listing Rules and the Company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, which are available at the Company's website at www.usfunds.com.

#### **Code of Ethics for Principal Executive and Senior Financial Officers**

The Company has adopted a Code of Ethics for Principal Executive and Senior Financial Officers that applies to the Company s principal executive officer and principal financial officer. This code charges these individuals with responsibilities regarding honest and ethical conduct, the preparation and quality of the disclosures in documents and reports the Company files with the SEC, and compliance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

#### Compliance with Section 16(a) of the 1934 Act

Section 16(a) of the 1934 Act requires directors and officers of the Company, and persons who own more than 10 percent of the Company s class A common stock, to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership and reports of changes in ownership of the stock. Directors, officers and more than 10 percent shareholders are required by SEC regulations to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

58

Based solely on the Company s review of the copies of such reports received by the Company and on written representations by the Company s officers and directors regarding their compliance with the applicable reporting requirements under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act, the Company believes that, with respect to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, its officers and directors, and all of the persons known to it to own more than 10 percent of its common stock, filed all required reports on a timely basis.

59

# **Item 11. Executive Compensation**

#### **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

#### Overview

The following section provides a discussion and analysis of the basis for the compensation awarded to the CEO, the CFO, and our other most highly compensated executive officer of the Company ( Named Executive Officers or NEOs ), as well as our directors in fiscal 2012. We provide investment advisory and other services to our clients. Our long-term success depends on our ability to provide superior investment returns and outstanding client service. As such, one of our greatest assets is the collective skill, experience and efforts of our employees. To achieve success, we must be able to attract, retain and motivate professionals within all levels of our Company who are committed to our core values.

We place great significance on our values of performance, teamwork, initiative, responsiveness, focused work ethic, and intellectual curiosity. We believe that adherence to these core values will contribute to the long-term success of the Company and our shareholders.

We compete for talent with a large number of investment management and financial services companies, many of which have significantly larger market capitalization than we do. Our relatively small size within the industry, geographic location, and lean executive management team provide unique challenges.

#### **Setting Executive Compensation**

The Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing and approving corporate goals and objectives relevant to the CEO, Frank Holmes; evaluating the CEO s performance in light of those goals and objectives; and determining and approving the CEO s compensation level based on this evaluation. In addition, the committee is responsible for reviewing and approving compensation recommended by Mr. Holmes for our other executive officers. The Board appointed Messrs. Lydon, Terracina, and Rubinstein as members of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Lydon serves as the chairman of the Compensation Committee. There are no Compensation Committee interlocks to report. The Compensation Committee has a charter that is available for review on our website at www.usfunds.com by clicking About Us, followed by Investor Relations, then Policies and Procedures.

The individuals listed below are the CEO and CFO, plus our other most highly compensated NEO in fiscal 2012.

Name
Frank E. Holmes
Catherine A. Rademacher
Susan B. McGee

**Title**Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer
Chief Financial Officer
President and General Counsel

In establishing total annual compensation for Mr. Holmes, the Compensation Committee considers a number of factors. For assistance in determining the appropriate factors to consider, the Compensation Committee consulted in 2005 with Moss Adams LLP, an executive compensation consulting firm. Importantly, the Compensation Committee considers the various functions Mr. Holmes assumes, including the dual role of CEO and Chief Investment Officer ( CIO ). In addition, the Compensation Committee considers various measures of company performance, including profitability and total shareholder return. The Compensation Committee also reviews Mr. Holmes performance in managing our corporate investments, in overseeing the management of our client portfolios and the results of our operational earnings.

In addition to his base salary, Mr. Holmes receives a bonus based on operational earnings, which are substantially derived from assets under management, based on a percentage of operational earnings, and capped at a predetermined dollar amount, as computed for financial reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP (before consideration of this fee).

Mr. Holmes also receives a bonus when our investment team meets their goal of being in the top half of their peer group. The bonus is based on fund performance bonuses paid to the investment team and is in recognition of Mr. Holmes creation and oversight of the investment processes and strategy.

60

In addition, Mr. Holmes receives a percentage of offshore fund management and performance fees in recognition of attracting and managing offshore client accounts, and a percentage of realized gains on investments, offset by realized losses and other-than-temporary write-downs, in recognition of his expertise in managing the investments of the company.

The committee has delegated to Mr. Holmes the responsibility for reviewing the performance of, and recommending the compensation levels for, our other NEOs. The committee does not use rigid formulas with respect to the compensation of NEOs. Mr. Holmes makes a recommendation based on the achievement of qualitative goals that apply to all employees, quantitative goals that apply to an executive officer s specific job responsibilities and other accomplishments, such as expansion in functional responsibility. In forming his recommendations, Mr. Holmes also considers the responsibilities and workload of the executive officer; the explicit and tacit knowledge required to perform these responsibilities, including any professional designations; the profitability of the company; and the cost of living in San Antonio, Texas.

#### **Objectives**

Our executive compen	sation programs are designed to:
	attract and retain key executives,
	align executive performance with our long-term interests and those of our shareholders and
	link executive pay with performance.

#### **Elements of Executive Compensation**

The committee reviews and approves all components of executive officer compensation. The principal elements of executive compensation, other than Mr. Holmes, are:

base salary,

performance-based cash and stock bonuses,

long-term incentive awards, and

other compensation and benefits.

#### **Base Salary**

Base salaries for NEOs are reviewed annually by the Compensation Committee. Generally, the salaries of NEOs are occasionally adjusted to recognize expansion of an individual s role, outstanding and sustained performance, or to bring the officer s pay into alignment with the market. We did not use any benchmarking studies in fiscal 2012 to obtain market information. In addition, the Compensation Committee did not consider the equity ownership of the Company by Mr. Holmes when setting his compensation. Nor did the committee aim for a specific relationship between Mr. Holmes and the other executive officers. Base salaries paid to NEOs during the fiscal year are shown in the Summary Compensation Table.

#### **Performance-Based Cash Bonuses**

# Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

Executive officers, except Mr. Holmes, participate in a team performance pay program based on each employee s annual salary to recognize monthly completion of departmental goals. Additionally, key executive officers are compensated based on individual performance pay arrangements. Discretionary cash bonuses are awarded from time to time for such things as completion of critical projects or outstanding performance.

Mr. Holmes considers a matrix of factors in reviewing the performance of, and compensation for, the CFO, Catherine Rademacher. Mr. Holmes considers such things as responsibilities, productivity, results of the Company s actual versus targeted goals, hours of work, profitability of the Company, timely and accurate financial regulatory filings, unqualified S-Ox and audit results and the cost of living in San Antonio. Ms. Rademacher receives a monthly bonus when certain fund performance criteria are met and a monthly bonus when certain other financial metrics are met. Occasionally, Ms. Rademacher receives discretionary bonuses for the completion of special projects.

61

In reviewing the performance of and compensation for the President and General Counsel Susan McGee, Mr. Holmes considers a matrix of factors including responsibilities, productivity, hours of work, profitability of the Company, timely and accurate regulatory filings, completion of regulatory examinations, and the cost of living in San Antonio. In addition to her base salary, Ms. McGee is paid a monthly bonus based on new assets flowing through institutional accounts in recognition of her leadership and strategic guidance of the institutional sales department. Ms. McGee receives a monthly bonus when certain financial metrics are met. Occasionally Ms. McGee receives discretionary bonuses for special projects such as completion of regulatory exams or managing significant new business relationships.

#### **Long-Term Incentive Awards**

Long-term incentive awards include stock options and restricted shares. We have utilized option grants to induce qualified individuals to join us, thereby providing the individual with an opportunity to benefit if we have significant growth. Similarly, options have been utilized to reward existing employees, including NEOs, for long and faithful service and to encourage them to stay with us. The Compensation Committee administers the stock option plans. Although the Company has no written policy for allocating between cash and equity, or current and long-term compensation for the CEO and other NEOs, the weighting has generally been in the range of less than 5 percent long-term compensation in the form of options or stock awards, with the remaining compensation in cash.

#### **Stock Option Plans**

In November 1989, the Board of Directors adopted the 1989 Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan (1989 Plan) which provides for the granting of options to purchase shares of our class A common stock to directors, officers, and employees. On December 6, 1991, shareholders approved and amended the 1989 Plan to provide provisions to cause the plan and future grants under the plan to qualify under 1934 Act Rule 16b-3. The 1989 Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee consisting of three outside members of the Board of Directors. The maximum number of shares of class A common stock initially approved for issuance under the 1989 Plan is 1,600,000 shares. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, no stock options were granted. As of June 30, 2012, under this amended plan, 1,733,400 options had been granted, 883,000 options had been exercised, 850,400 options had expired, no options remained outstanding and 717,000 options are available for grant.

In April 1997, the Board of Directors adopted the 1997 Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan (1997 Plan), which shareholders approved on April 25, 1997. It provides for the granting of stock appreciation rights (SARs) and/or options to purchase shares of our class A common stock to directors, officers and employees. The 1997 Plan expressly requires that all grants under the plan qualify under 1934 Act Rule 16b-3. The 1997 Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee consisting of three outside members of the Board of Directors. The maximum number of shares of class A common stock initially approved for issuance under the 1997 Plan is 400,000 shares. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, an option for 5,000 shares was granted. As of June 30, 2012, 581,300 options had been granted, 257,000 shares had been exercised, 295,300 options had expired, 29,000 options remained outstanding and 114,000 options are available for grant.

## 2010 Stock Incentive Plan

In October 2010, at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders, the class C shareholders voted to adopt the 2010 Stock Incentive Plan. The 2010 Stock Incentive Plan is intended to promote the interests of the Company by providing eligible persons in the Company s service with the opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest, or otherwise increase their proprietary interest, in the Company to align such persons interests with those of the Company s shareholders and as an incentive for them to remain in such service. During fiscal 2012, stock bonuses totaling \$23,913 were awarded to NEOs, some of which were distributed in fiscal 2013.

#### **Assessment of Risk**

By design, the Company s compensation program for all employees, including executive officers, does not incentivize excessive risk-taking. The Company s base salary component of compensation does not encourage risk-taking because it is a fixed amount. Generally, incentive awards have the following risk-limiting characteristics:

Awards are made based on a review of a variety of indicators of performance, thus diversifying the risk associated with any single indicator of performance;

# Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

For executive officers other than Mr. Holmes (who is a significant U.S. Global shareholder), the majority of the award value is delivered in the form of stock that vests over a multiple years, which aligns the interests of executive officers to long-term shareholder interests; and

All participants, including executive officers, in the Employee Stock Purchase Plan are subject to stock ownership and holding guidelines.

62

#### **Other Compensation and Benefits**

#### Health, Welfare and Retirement Benefits

Health, welfare, and retirement benefits are designed to provide a safety net of protection for employees in the event of illness, disability, or death, and to provide employees an opportunity to accumulate retirement savings.

We offer a range of health and welfare benefits to substantially all employees, including the NEOs. These benefits include medical, dental, vision, prescription drug, short-term disability, long-term disability, group life and accidental death insurance, tuition reimbursement, and a free health club membership.

#### 401(k) Plan

We offer a 401(k) plan covering substantially all employees, including NEOs. Participants may contribute, on a pretax basis, their base salary and cash incentive compensation, up to a limit imposed by the Internal Revenue Code, which is \$17,000 in calendar year 2012. An additional catch-up pretax contribution of up to \$5,500 is allowed for employees over 50. We automatically match 100 percent of the first 3 percent of participating employees contributions and 50 percent of the next 2 percent of participating employees contributions. We contribute to participants accounts at the same time that the employee s pay deferral is made. Employees are immediately vested in both their 401(k) salary deferral contribution and the matched contributions. Participants in our 401(k) plan may allocate some or all of their contributions to a separate designated Roth account, commonly known as a Roth 401(k).

#### **Profit Sharing**

The 401(k) plan allows for us to make a discretionary profit sharing contribution, as authorized by the Board of Directors. Factors that are considered by the Board include earnings, cash flows, capital requirements and the general financial condition of the Company. No specific performance thresholds or goals are required by the Board to authorize a profit sharing contribution. Profit sharing contributions of \$400,000, \$300,000, and \$300,000 were made in fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, respectively.

#### **Savings Plans**

We also have a program pursuant to which we offer employees an opportunity to participate in savings programs using managed investment companies. Employee contributions to an Individual Retirement Account are matched to a maximum of \$100 per month for certain management-level employees, including NEOs, and a maximum of \$30 for all other employees. Similarly, certain management-level employees, including NEOs, may contribute to the Tax Free Fund and we will match these contributions up to a maximum of \$90 per month. A similar savings plan utilizing UGMA accounts is offered to all employees to save for minor relatives and is matched at a maximum of \$15 per month per child.

#### **Employee Stock Purchase Plan**

We also have a program whereby eligible employees can purchase treasury shares, at market price, and we will automatically match their contribution up to 3 percent of gross salary. During fiscal years 2012, 2011, and 2010, employees purchased 28,998, 25,781, and 21,556 shares of treasury stock from us, respectively. The purchase price used is the closing stock price on the last business day of each month. We do not restrict the ability of our employees or directors to hedge their position in our shares. In addition, neither the Board nor NEOs are required to own or purchase a certain number of shares.

The Summary Compensation Table includes the matched contributions to the plans described above for each NEO.

#### **Perquisites and Other Benefits**

We provide certain perquisites that the committee believes are reasonable and consistent with our overall compensation program to a limited number of officers. The perquisites consist of such things as memberships for business entertainment purposes and policies for long-term disability and life insurance. The Summary Compensation Table shows the value of perquisites provided to NEOs in fiscal year 2012 in the All Other Compensation column.

## **Employment Agreements, Termination and Change-in Control Arrangements**

# Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

We do not have any employment agreements, termination agreements, or change-in control agreements with any of our executive officers.

63

#### Compliance with Section 162(m)

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code generally disallows a tax deduction to public corporations for compensation greater than \$1 million paid during any fiscal year to our CEO and our four other most highly compensated executive officers. However, the statute exempts qualifying performance-based compensation from the deduction limit if certain requirements are met. The Compensation Committee plans to review this matter as appropriate and take action as may be necessary to preserve the deductibility of compensation payments to the extent reasonably practical and consistent with our objectives.

64

# **Compensation of Named Executive Officers**

The following table sets forth for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, the compensation reportable for the NEOs, as determined by SEC rules. Columns were omitted if they were not applicable.

Summary Compensation Table							
					Non-Equity Incentive		
Name and Principal				Stock	Plan	All Other	
		Salary	Bonus	Awards	Compensation	Compensation	Total
Position	Year	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	( <b>\$</b> ) <sup>1</sup>	(\$)	(\$)
Frank E. Holmes	2010	421,799	9,600		683,803	136,715	1,251,917
Chief Executive Officer	2011	421,799	6,300		880,591	150,012	1,458,702
Chief Investment Officer	2012	421,799	6,200		257,175	162,336 <sup>2</sup>	847,510
Catherine A. Rademacher	2010	96,000	89,740	6,550		28,922	221,212
Chief Financial Officer	2011	98,006	98,416	28,780		31,211	256,413
	2012	100,021	62,226	12,374		$37,496^{3}$	212,117
Susan B. McGee President	2010 2011	256,895 256,895	74,500 74,898	6,550 16,600	77,901 120,263	136,814 131,311	552,660 599,967
General Counsel	2012	258,041	35,891	11,539	44,758	147,083 <sup>4</sup>	497,312

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Amounts consist of cash incentive compensation awards earned for services. The amounts were paid pursuant to the senior executive bonus programs.

The following table supplements the disclosure in the Summary Compensation Table with respect to stock awards made to the named executive officer in the last fiscal year. Columns were omitted if they were not applicable.

Grants of Plan-Based Awards						
		All Other Stock Awards:	Grant Dat Value		Grant	Date Fair
		Number	of Stock	and	Va	alue of
		of Shares of	Optio	on	5	Stock
		Stock or	Awar	ds	and	Option
Name	Grant Date	Units	(per sha	are)	A	wards
Frank E. Holmes						
Catherine A. Rademacher	1/4/2012	1,000	\$	6.38	\$	6,380

Represents amounts paid by us on behalf of Mr. Holmes as follows: (i) \$55,981 in insurance, (ii) \$36,000 in trustee fees, (iii) \$31,317 in matched contributions, (iv) \$17,243 in profit sharing contributions, (v) \$12,239 in memberships, and (vi) \$9,556 in miscellaneous items.

Represents amounts paid by us on behalf of Ms. Rademacher as follows: (i) \$13,680 in profit sharing contributions, (ii) \$10,158 in matched contributions, (iii) \$6,472 in memberships, and (iv) \$7,186 in miscellaneous items.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Represents amounts paid us on behalf of Ms. McGee as follows: (i) \$72,527 in insurance, (ii) \$20,634 in matched contributions, (iii) \$16,461 in memberships, (iv) \$17,243 in profit sharing contributions, and (iv) \$20,218 in miscellaneous items.

Edgar Filing: U S GLOBAL INVESTORS INC - Form 10-K

	7/16/2012 1	1,000	\$ 4.11	\$ 4,110
	7/31/2012 1	400	\$ 4.71	\$ 1,884
Susan B. McGee	1/4/2012	500	\$ 6.38	\$ 3,190
	7/16/2012 1	1,000	\$ 4.11	\$ 4,110
	7/31/2012 1	900	\$ 4.71	\$ 4,239

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These shares were granted in fiscal 2013 for services rendered in fiscal 2012.

65

During fiscal year 2012, there were no exercises of stock options, vesting of restricted stock or options outstanding for any of the named executive officers.

The Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End, Pension Benefits and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Tables were omitted because they were not applicable.

#### **Compensation of Directors**

The compensation of directors is subject to a minimum of \$6,000 in any quarter paid in arrears. We may grant non-employee directors options under our 1989 and 1997 Stock Option Plans. Directors are reimbursed for reasonable travel expenses incurred in attending the meetings held by the Board of Directors. Mr. Rubinstein serves as the chairman of the Board. Commencing in January 2007, the Company began granting shares of class A common stock to its non-employee directors on a periodic basis. Effective March 2008, the frequency of shares granted changed from 100 shares per quarter to 100 shares per month through February 2010, at which time stock grants were suspended. Beginning in October 2010, the Company resumed granting each director 100 shares of stock per month. Director compensation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, is detailed in the table below. Columns that were not applicable were omitted.

Name	Director Compensation Fees Earned or Paid in Cash	Stock Awards <sup>2</sup>	Total
	<b>.</b>		
Jerold H. Rubinstein	\$ 87,660	\$ 7,980	\$ 95,640
Roy D. Terracina	\$ 27,660	\$ 7,980	\$ 35,640
Thomas F. Lydon, Jr.	\$ 24,000	\$ 7,980	\$ 31,980

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The difference in fees earned was primarily due to Mr. Rubinstein receiving an additional \$5,000 per month for added responsibilities as chairman.

## **Compensation Committee Report on Executive Compensation**

The Compensation Committee is composed entirely of independent directors in accordance with the listing standards of the NASDAQ Stock Market. The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis required by Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K with management. Based upon this review and discussion, the committee has recommended to the Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section be included in this annual report.

Respectfully,

Members of the Compensation Committee

Thomas F. Lydon, Jr., Chairman

Jerold H. Rubinstein

Roy D. Terracina

66

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Amounts shown represent expense recognized in the consolidated financial statements for stock awards granted to non-employee directors in fiscal 2012.

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

# **Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners**

Class C Common Stock (Voting Stock)

On August 17, 2012, there were 2,073,043 shares of the Company s class C common stock outstanding. The following table sets forth, as of such date, information regarding the beneficial ownership of the Company s class C common stock by each person known by the Company to own 5 percent or more of the outstanding shares of class C common stock.

	Class C Common Shares	Percent of
	Beneficially	Class
Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Owned	(%)
Frank Holmes	2,064,560	99.59%
7900 Callaghan Road		

San Antonio, TX 78229

#### Class A Common Stock (Nonvoting Stock)

On August 17, 2012, there were 13,404,866 shares of the Company s class A common stock issued and outstanding. The following table sets forth, as of such date, information regarding the beneficial ownership of the Company s class A common stock by each person known by the Company to own 5 percent or more of the outstanding shares of class A common stock.

	Class A Common	
	Shares	Percent of
	Beneficially	Class
Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Owned	(%)
Royce & Associates, LLC New York, NY	1,933,041 1	14.45%
Financial & Investment Management Group, Ltd. Traverse City, MI	1,372,629 <sup>2</sup>	10.26%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Information is from Schedule 13F for the period ending June 30, 2012, filed with the SEC on August 7, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Information is from Schedule 13F for the period ending June 30, 2012, filed with the SEC on August 10, 2012.

# **Security Ownership of Management**

The following table sets forth, as of August 17, 2012, information regarding the beneficial ownership of the Company s class A and class C common stock by each director and named executive officer and by all directors and executive officers as a group. Except as otherwise indicated in the notes below, each person owns directly the number of shares indicated in the table and has sole voting power and investment power with respect to all such shares.

	Class C Common Stock		Class A Common Stock	
	Number of		Number of	
Beneficial Owner	Shares	%	Shares	%
Frank E. Holmes, CEO, Director	2,064,560	99.59%	300,924	2.24%
Catherine A. Rademacher, CFO			22,913	0.17%
Susan B. McGee, President, General Counsel			81,684	0.61%
Jerold H. Rubinstein, Director			5,700	0.04%
Roy D. Terracina, Director			39,700	0.30%
Thomas F. Lydon, Jr., Director			5,700	0.04%
All directors and executive officers as a group (six persons)	2,064,560	99.59%	456,621	3.41%

68

#### **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	exerc outstand warr	eed-average cise price of ling options, rants and cights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	N/A		N/A	N/A
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders				
1989 Stock Option Plan <sup>1</sup>				717,000
1997 Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan <sup>2</sup>	29,000	\$	17.03	114,000
Employee Stock Purchase Plan <sup>3</sup>	N/A		N/A	69,289
Total	29,000			900,289

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

U.S. Global is invested in several of the mutual funds it manages. See Note 15 to the Consolidated Financial Statements, which incorporates the information of the relationships and related transaction for this Item 13. Refer to Item 10 for information regarding director independence.

Stock options under this plan may be granted to directors, officers, and employees of the Company from authorized but unissued shares or treasury shares.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Stock options under this plan may be granted to directors, executives, and key salaried employees of the Company from authorized but unissued shares or treasury shares. The term of the option periods must be less than ten years.

The Company has adopted a stock purchase plan to provide eligible employees of the Company an opportunity to purchase common stock of the Company. There are authorized shares of treasury stock reserved for issuance under the plan for which a registration statement was filed. The Company contributes on behalf of each participant an amount equal to lesser of (i) the aggregate amount of the participant s payroll deductions the purchase period, or (ii) 3% of the participant s base compensation during the purchase period.

# Item 14. Principal Accounting Fees and Services

The following table represents fees for professional audit services for the audit of the Company s annual financial statements for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2012, and 2011, respectively, rendered by BDO USA, LLP.

	Fiscal year e 2012	nded June 30, 2011
Audit fees <sup>1</sup>	\$ 325,000	\$ 355,416
Audit-related fees <sup>2</sup>	10,000	10,224
Tax fees <sup>3</sup>	53,285	27,735
Total fees	\$ 388,285	\$ 393,375

Audit fees consist of fees for professional services rendered by the principal accountant for the audit of the Company s annual financial statements and review of the financial statements included in the Company s Form 10-Q and for services that are normally provided by the accountant in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements.

Audit-related fees consist primarily of fees for assurance and related services by the accountant that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit