Morningstar, Inc. Form 10-Q July 31, 2012

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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington D.C. 20549

#### FORM 10-Q

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

FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED June 30, 2012

OR

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

For the transition period from to Commission File Number: 000-51280

#### MORNINGSTAR, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Illinois 36-3297908
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization) Identification Number)

22 West Washington Street

Chicago, Illinois 60602 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(312) 696-6000

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No o Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§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 o

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

Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

As of July 27, 2012, there were 48,394,821 shares of the Company's common stock, no par value, outstanding.

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PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. Financial Statements

Morningstar, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of I			a	
	Three months e		Six months end	
(in thousands except per share amounts)	2012	2011	2012	2011
Revenue	\$165,968	\$161,011	\$326,727	\$312,778
Operating expense (1):				
Cost of goods sold	49,452	45,186	99,768	85,855
Development	12,442	13,681	25,807	25,669
Sales and marketing	27,373	26,767	55,699	53,249
General and administrative	24,946	26,207	53,124	56,824
Depreciation and amortization	10,619	10,563	20,794	20,765
Total operating expense	124,832	122,404	255,192	242,362
Operating income	41,136	38,607	71,535	70,416
Non-operating income (expense):				
Interest income, net	1,260	(179)	2,129	345
Other income (expense), net	(265)	188	(475)	
Non-operating income, net	995	9	1,654	783
			-,	
Income before income taxes and equity in net income of unconsolidated entities	42,131	38,616	73,189	71,199
Income tax expense	14,744	12,724	26,255	23,242
Equity in net income of unconsolidated entities	497	595	1,063	969
Consolidated net income	27,884	26,487	47,997	48,926
Net (income) loss attributable to the noncontrolling interest	4	(2)	28	96
Net income attributable to Morningstar, Inc.	\$27,888	\$26,485	\$48,025	\$49,022
Net income per share attributable to Morningstar, Inc.: Basic Diluted	\$0.57 \$0.56	\$0.53 \$0.52	\$0.97 \$0.95	\$0.98 \$0.96
Dividends per common share: Dividends declared per common share Dividends paid per common share	\$0.10 \$0.10	\$0.05 \$0.05	\$0.20 \$0.20	\$0.10 \$0.10

Weighted average shares outstanding:

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Basic Diluted	49,195 49,856	50,165 51,142	49,566 50,296	49,983 51,041
	Three months e	ended June 30	Six months end	led June 30
	2012	2011	2012	2011
(1) Includes stock-based compensation expense of:				
Cost of goods sold	\$1,067	\$1,072	\$2,156	\$1,951
Development	465	572	964	1,043
Sales and marketing	461	481	940	903
General and administrative	1,741	1,718	3,540	3,595
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$3,734	\$3,843	\$7,600	\$7,492

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Morningstar, Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

(in thousands)	Three months 2012	ns ended June 30 2011	Six months end 2012	led June 30 2011
Consolidated net income	\$27,884	\$26,487	\$47,997	\$48,926
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: Foreign currency translation adjustment Unrealized gains (losses) on securities:	(8,743	) 3,262	(1,778 )	12,564
Unrealized holding gains (losses) arising during period	(541	) (39	) 368	399
Reclassification of (gains) losses included in net income	(22	) (211	) 33	(252 )
Other comprehensive income	(9,306	) 3,012	(1,377)	12,711
Comprehensive income Comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest	18,578 (46	29,499 ) (13	46,620 ) 61	61,637 99
Comprehensive income attributable to Morningstar, Inc.	\$18,532	\$29,486	\$46,681	\$61,736

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Morningstar, Inc. and Subsidiaries		
Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets	A CI 20	A CD 1 21
(in the wood do awards show amounts)	As of June 30	As of December 31
(in thousands except share amounts) Assets	2012	2011
Current assets:	¢147.400	¢ 200 427
Cash and cash equivalents	\$147,499 242,270	\$200,437
Investments	242,379	269,755
Accounts receivable, less allowance of \$1,017 and \$835, respectively	117,016	113,312
Deferred tax asset, net	4,898	5,104
Income tax receivable, net	7,911	7,445
Other	22,288	15,980
Total current assets	541,991	612,033
Property, equipment, and capitalized software, net	77,376	68,196
Investments in unconsolidated entities	34,271	27,642
Goodwill	316,963	318,492
Intangible assets, net	127,377	139,809
Other assets	7,801	5,912
Total assets	\$1,105,779	\$1,172,084
Liabilities and equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$45,858	\$41,403
Accrued compensation	48,383	73,124
Deferred revenue	167,531	155,494
Other	367	612
Total current liabilities	262,139	270,633
Accrued compensation	6,483	5,724
Deferred tax liability, net	16,183	15,940
Deferred rent	15,199	14,604
Other long-term liabilities	8,550	8,167
Total liabilities	308,554	315,068
Equity:		
Morningstar, Inc. shareholders' equity:		
Common stock, no par value, 200,000,000 shares authorized, of which		
48,741,627 and 50,083,940 shares were outstanding as of June 30, 2012 and	5	5
December 31, 2011, respectively		
Treasury stock at cost, 2,857,205 shares as of June 30, 2012 and 980,177	(155 120	) (46.701
shares as of December 31, 2011	(155,139	) (46,701
Additional paid-in capital	503,480	491,432
Retained earnings	447,026	409,022
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):	,	,
Currency translation adjustment	191	1,936
Unrealized gain (loss) on available-for-sale investments	77	(324)
Total accumulated other comprehensive income	268	1,612
Total Morningstar, Inc. shareholders' equity	795,640	855,370
Noncontrolling interest	1,585	1,646
	<b>)</b> = = =	, = = =

 Total equity
 797,225
 857,016

 Total liabilities and equity
 \$1,105,779
 \$1,172,084

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Morningstar, Inc. and Subsidiaries Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Equity For the six months ended June 30, 2012

Morningstar, Inc. Shareholders' Equity

	,		1 2		Accumu	lated		
(in thousands, except share amounts)	Common Sto Shares Outstanding	ock Par Treasury Val <b>St</b> ock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	041	Non hensive Controll Interests		
Balance as of December 31, 2011	50,083,940	\$5 \$(46,701 )	\$491,432	\$409,022	\$1,612	\$1,646	\$857,016	)
Net income (loss) Other comprehensive income (loss):			_	48,025	_	(28)	47,997	
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale investments, net of income tax of \$189			_	_	368	_	368	
Reclassification of adjustments for losses included in net income, net of income tax of \$16			_	_	33	_	33	
Foreign currency translation adjustment, net			_	_	(1,745)	(33)	(1,778	)
Other comprehensive income (loss), net			_	_	(1,344)	(33)	(1,377	)
Issuance of common stock related to stock-option exercises and vesting of restricted stock units, net	519,907	— 1,026	(245)	_	_	_	781	
Stock-based compensation — restricted stock units			6,548	_	_	_	6,548	
Stock-based compensation — restricted stock			888		_	_	888	
Stock-based compensation — stock-options			164	_	_	_	164	
Excess tax benefit derived from stock-option exercises and vesting of restricted stock units			4,548	_	_	_	4,548	
Common shares repurchased	(1,862,220)	— (109,464)					(109,464	)
Dividends declared — common share outstanding			_	(9,861)	_	_		)
Dividends declared — restricted stocunits	k		145	(160 )	_	_	(15	)
Balance as of June 30, 2012	48,741,627	\$5 \$(155,139)	\$503,480	\$447,026	\$268	\$1,585	\$797,225	

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Morningstar, Inc. and	Subsidiaries			
Unaudited Condensed	Consolidated S	Statements of	Cash Flo	ws

(in thousands)	Six months e 2012	ended June 30 2011	
Operating activities Consolidated net income	\$47,997	\$48,926	
Adjustments to reconcile consolidated net income to net cash flows from operating			
activities: Depreciation and amortization	20,794	20,765	
Deferred income taxes	20,794	454	
Stock-based compensation expense	7,600	7,492	
Provision for bad debt	7,000 717	530	
Equity in net income of unconsolidated entities	(1,063	) (969	)
Excess tax benefits from stock-option exercises and vesting of restricted stock units	(4,548	) (6,171	)
Other, net	745	(547	)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions:	,	(5.7)	,
Accounts receivable	(4,394	) 617	
Other assets	(3,640	608	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	652	(5,260	)
Accrued compensation	(26,920	) (14,528	)
Income taxes—current	4,525	2,742	,
Deferred revenue	12,333	8,197	
Deferred rent	468	(657	)
Other liabilities	(776	) (1,043	)
Cash provided by operating activities	54,789	61,156	
Investing activities			
Purchases of investments	(133,888	) (198,647	)
Proceeds from maturities and sales of investments	161,523	150,360	
Capital expenditures	(17,922	) (8,418	)
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired		569	
Purchases of cost method investments	(6,750	) —	
Other, net	_	785	,
Cash provided by (used for) investing activities	2,963	(55,351	)
Financing activities	<b>7</b> 01	4.650	
Proceeds from stock-option exercises, net	781	4,652	
Excess tax benefits from stock-option exercises and vesting of restricted stock units	4,548	6,171	`
Common shares repurchased	(105,439	) (109	)
Dividends paid	(10,004	) (5,011	)
Other, net Cash provided by (used for) financing activities	(20 (110,134	) (214	)
Cash provided by (used for) financing activities	(110,134	) 5,489	
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(556	) 3,553	
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(52,938	) 14,847	
Cash and cash equivalents—beginning of period	200,437	180,176	
Cash and cash equivalents—end of period	\$147,499	\$195,023	

Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

Cash paid for income taxes \$21,405 \$21,104

Supplemental information of non-cash investing and financing activities:

Unrealized gain on available-for-sale investments \$606 \$220

See notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

# MORNINGSTAR, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NOTES TO UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 1. Basis of Presentation of Interim Financial Information

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements of Morningstar, Inc. and subsidiaries (Morningstar, we, our, the Company) have been prepared to conform to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates. In the opinion of management, the statements reflect all adjustments, which are of a normal recurring nature, necessary to present fairly our financial position, results of operations, equity, and cash flows. These financial statements and notes should be read in conjunction with our Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2012.

The acronyms that appear in the Notes to our Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements refer to the following:

ASC: Accounting Standards Codification ASU: Accounting Standards Update

FASB: Financial Accounting Standards Board SEC: Securities and Exchange Commission

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

We discuss our significant accounting policies in Note 2 of our Consolidated Financial Statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, filed with the SEC on February 24, 2012.

In addition, effective January 1, 2012, we adopted FASB 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. ASU No. 2011-04 clarifies existing fair value measurement and disclosure requirements, amends certain fair value measurement principles, and requires additional disclosures about fair value measurements. The adoption of ASU No. 2011-04 did not have a material impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

3. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

#### Goodwill

The following table shows the changes in our goodwill balances from December 31, 2011 to June 30, 2012:

	(\$000)	
Balance as of December 31, 2011	\$318,492	
Net change, primarily currency translation	(1,529	)
Balance as of June 30, 2012	\$316,963	

We did not record any significant impairment losses in the first half of 2012 or 2011. We perform our annual impairment reviews in the fourth quarter.

# Intangible Assets

The following table summarizes our intangible assets:

	As of June	As of June 30, 2012			As of December 31, 2011			
(\$000)	Gross	Accumulate Amortizatio	Ner	Weighted Average Useful Life (years)	Gross	Accumulate Amortization	Net	Weighted Average Useful Life (years)
Intellectual property	\$32,073	\$ (21,671	) \$10,402	9	\$32,293	\$ (20,455	) \$11,838	9
Customer-related assets	134,059	(58,926	) 75,133	12	134,396	(52,611	) 81,785	12
Supplier relationships	240	(90	) 150	20	240	(84	) 156	20
Technology-based assets	80,723	(39,345	) 41,378	9	80,694	(35,130	) 45,564	9
Non-competition agreement	1,750	(1,436	) 314	4	1,751	(1,285	) 466	4
Total intangible assets	\$248,845	\$ (121,468	) \$127,377	10	\$249,374	\$ (109,565	) \$139,809	10

The following table summarizes our amortization expense related to intangible assets:

Three months ended June 30 Six months ended June 30

	Three months	ended June 30	Six months en	ded June 30
(\$000)	2012	2011	2012	2011
Amortization expense	\$5,976	\$6,632	\$12,031	\$13,145

We amortize intangible assets using the straight-line method over their expected economic useful lives.

We expect intangible amortization expense for 2012 and subsequent years as follows:

	(\$000)
2012	\$23,766
2013	21,086
2014	19,859
2015	18,998
2016	14,393
2017	9,839

Our estimates of future amortization expense for intangible assets may be affected by additional acquisitions, changes in the estimated average useful life, and currency translations.

# 4. Income Per Share

The following table shows how we reconcile our net income and the number of shares used in computing basic and diluted income per share:

(in thousands, except per share amounts)	Three months e 2012	nded June 30 2011	Six months end 2012	ed June 30 2011
Basic net income per share attributable to Morningstar, Inc.:				
Net income attributable to Morningstar, Inc.:	\$27,888	\$26,485	\$48,025	\$49,022

Less: Distributed earnings available to participating securities	(12	)	(8	)	(27	)	(17	)
Less: Undistributed earnings available to participating securities	(53	)	(72	)	(88)	)	(131	)
Numerator for basic net income per share — undistributed and distributed earnings available to common shareholders	\$27,823		\$26,405		\$47,910		\$48,874	
Weighted average common shares outstanding	49,195		50,165		49,566		49,983	
Basic net income per share attributable to Morningstar, Inc.	\$0.57		\$0.53		\$0.97		\$0.98	
Diluted net income per share attributable to Morningstar, Inc.:								
Numerator for basic net income per share — undistributed and distributed earnings available to common shareholders	\$27,823		\$26,405		\$47,910		\$48,874	
Add: Undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities	53		72		88		131	
Less: Undistributed earnings reallocated to participating securities	(53	)	(70	)	(87	)	(129	)
Numerator for diluted net income per share — undistributed and distributed earnings available to common shareholders	\$27,823		\$26,407		\$47,911		\$48,876	
Weighted average common shares outstanding	49,195		50,165		49,566		49,983	
Net effect of dilutive stock options and restricted stock units	661		977		730		1,058	
Weighted average common shares outstanding for computing diluted income per share	49,856		51,142		50,296		51,041	
Diluted net income per share attributable to Morningstar, Inc.	\$0.56		\$0.52		\$0.95		\$0.96	
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5. Segment and Geographical Area Information

Morningstar has two operating segments:

Investment Information. The Investment Information segment includes all of our data, software, and research products and services. These products are typically sold through subscriptions or license agreements.

The largest products in this segment based on revenue are Morningstar Data (formerly Licensed Data), Morningstar Advisor Workstation (including Morningstar Office), Morningstar Direct, Morningstar.com, Morningstar Integrated Web Tools, and Morningstar Principia. Morningstar Data is a set of investment data spanning all of our investment databases, including real-time pricing and commodity data, and is available through electronic data feeds. Advisor Workstation is a web-based investment planning system for advisors. Advisor Workstation is available in two editions: Morningstar Office for independent financial advisors and an enterprise edition for financial advisors affiliated with larger firms. Morningstar Direct is a web-based institutional research platform. Morningstar.com includes both Premium Memberships and Internet advertising sales. Morningstar Integrated Web Tools is a set of services that helps institutional clients build customized websites or enhance their existing sites with Morningstar's online tools and components. Principia is our CD-ROM-based investment research and planning software for advisors.

The Investment Information segment also includes Morningstar Equity Research, which we distribute through several channels. We sell Morningstar Equity Research to companies that purchase our research for their own use or provide our research to their affiliated advisors or individual investor clients.

The Investment Information segment also includes Morningstar Credit Research and Morningstar Structured Credit Ratings. Morningstar Structured Credit Ratings is provided by Morningstar Credit Ratings, LLC, a Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization specializing in structured finance. It offers securities ratings, research, surveillance services, and data to help institutional investors identify risk in commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) and residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS).

We also offer a variety of financial communications and newsletters, other institutional and advisor software, and investment indexes.

Investment Management. The Investment Management segment includes all of our asset management operations, which earn the majority of their revenue from asset-based fees.

The key products and services in this segment based on revenue are Investment Advisory Services (formerly Investment Consulting), which focuses on investment monitoring and asset allocation for funds of funds, including mutual funds and variable annuities; Retirement Solutions, including the Morningstar Retirement Manager and Advice by Ibbotson platforms; and Morningstar Managed Portfolios, a fee-based discretionary asset management service that includes a series of mutual fund, exchange-traded fund, and stock portfolios tailored to meet a range of investment time horizons and risk levels that financial advisors can use for their clients' taxable and tax-deferred accounts. In addition, we offer Managed Portfolios through our subsidiary Ibbotson Australia which provides asset management services primarily to institutional clients and individual investors.

Our segment accounting policies are the same as those described in Note 2, except for the capitalization and amortization of internal product development costs, amortization of intangible assets, and costs related to corporate functions. We exclude these items from our operating segment results to provide our chief operating decision maker

with a better indication of each segment's ability to generate cash flow. This information is one of the criteria used by our chief operating decision maker in determining how to allocate resources to each segment. We include capitalization and amortization of internal product development costs, amortization of intangible assets, and costs related to corporate functions in the Corporate Items category. Our segment disclosures are consistent with the business segment information provided to our chief operating decision maker on a recurring basis; for that reason, we don't present balance sheet information by segment. We disclose goodwill by segment in accordance with the requirements of FASB ASC 350-20-50, Intangibles - Goodwill - Disclosure.

The following tables present information about our operating segments and by geographical area:

		ended June 30, 20	012	
(\$000)	Investment Information	Investment Management	Corporate Items	Total
External revenue	\$134,749	\$31,219	\$ <i>-</i>	\$165,968
Operating expense, excluding stock-based compensation expense, depreciation, and amortization	86,915	17,179	6,385	110,479
Stock-based compensation expense	2,531	529	674	3,734
Depreciation and amortization	2,300	38	8,281	10,619
Operating income (loss)	\$43,003	\$13,473	\$ (15,340 )	\$41,136
U.S. capital expenditures Non-U.S. capital expenditures				\$6,818 \$2,110
	Three months	ended June 30, 20	)11	
(\$000)	Investment Information	Investment Management	Corporate Items	Total
External revenue	\$128,116	\$32,895	\$ <i>—</i>	\$161,011
Operating expense, excluding stock-based	06.404	10.000	<b>-</b>	40=000
compensation expense, depreciation, and amortization	86,484	13,833	7,681	107,998
Stock-based compensation expense	2,488	531	824	3,843
Depreciation and amortization	2,047	40	8,476	10,563
Operating income (loss)	\$37,097	\$18,491	\$(16,981)	\$38,607
U.S. capital expenditures Non-U.S. capital expenditures				\$1,593 \$1,788
	Six months end	led June 30, 2012		
(\$000)	Investment	Investment	Corporate Items	Total
External revenue	Information \$261,674	Management \$65,053	\$ <u></u>	\$326,727
Operating expense, excluding stock-based	\$201,074	\$05,055	<b>y</b> —	\$320,727
compensation expense, depreciation, and amortization	180,353	33,132	13,313	226,798
Stock-based compensation expense	5,090	1,080	1,430	7,600
Depreciation and amortization	4,544	77	16,173	20,794
Operating income (loss)	\$71,687	\$30,764	\$ (30,916 )	\$71,535
U.S. capital expenditures Non-U.S. capital expenditures				\$14,215 \$3,707

	Six months end	ded June 30, 201	1	
(\$000)	Investment Information	Investment Management	Corporate Items	Total
External revenue	\$248,515	\$64,263	\$ <i>—</i>	\$312,778
Operating expense, excluding stock-based				
compensation expense, depreciation, and	170,247	27,671	16,187	214,105
amortization				
Stock-based compensation expense	4,958	973	1,561	7,492
Depreciation and amortization	3,906	82	16,777	20,765
Operating income (loss)	\$69,404	\$35,537	\$ (34,525)	\$70,416
U.S. capital expenditures Non-U.S. capital expenditures				\$3,523 \$4,895
	As of June 30,	2012		
(\$000)	Investment	Investment	Corporate	Total
	Information	Management	Items	
Goodwill	\$275,568	\$41,395	<b>\$</b> —	\$316,963
	As of Decembe	er 31, 2011		
(\$000)	Investment	Investment	Corporate Items	Total
(\$000) Goodwill		•	Corporate Items	Total \$318,492
Goodwill	Investment Information	Investment Management	•	
	Investment Information \$277,059	Investment Management	\$ —	\$318,492
Goodwill	Investment Information \$277,059	Investment Management \$41,433	\$ —	\$318,492
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area	Investment Information \$277,059 Three mo	Investment Management \$41,433  nths ended June 3 2011	\$ — 30 Six months en	\$318,492 anded June 30
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area (\$000)	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714	Investment Management \$41,433  nths ended June 2 2011 \$113,424 13,947	\$ —  30 Six months en 2012 \$232,421 28,450	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000) United States United Kingdom Europe, excluding the United Kingdom	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281	Investment Management \$41,433 nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561	\$ —  30 Six months et 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336	\$318,492 Inded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000)  United States  United Kingdom  Europe, excluding the United Kingdom  Australia	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281 9,791	Investment Management \$41,433 nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561 10,693	\$ —  30 Six months er 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336 19,139	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141 19,986
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000) United States United Kingdom Europe, excluding the United Kingdom Australia Canada	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281 9,791 7,397	Investment Management \$41,433  nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561 10,693 6,784	\$ —  30 Six months er 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336 19,139 14,747	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141 19,986 13,401
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000) United States United Kingdom Europe, excluding the United Kingdom Australia Canada Asia, excluding Japan	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281 9,791 7,397 2,366	Investment Management \$41,433  nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561 10,693 6,784 2,338	\$ —  30 Six months et 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336 19,139 14,747 4,735	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141 19,986 13,401 4,402
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000) United States United Kingdom Europe, excluding the United Kingdom Australia Canada Asia, excluding Japan Japan	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281 9,791 7,397 2,366 986	Investment Management \$41,433 nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561 10,693 6,784 2,338 959	\$ —  30 Six months et 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336 19,139 14,747 4,735 1,965	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141 19,986 13,401 4,402 1,890
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000) United States United Kingdom Europe, excluding the United Kingdom Australia Canada Asia, excluding Japan Japan Other	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281 9,791 7,397 2,366 986 481	Investment Management \$41,433  nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561 10,693 6,784 2,338 959 305	\$ —  30 Six months er 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336 19,139 14,747 4,735 1,965 934	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141 19,986 13,401 4,402 1,890 559
Goodwill  External revenue by geographical area  (\$000) United States United Kingdom Europe, excluding the United Kingdom Australia Canada Asia, excluding Japan Japan	Investment Information \$277,059  Three mo 2012 \$117,952 14,714 12,281 9,791 7,397 2,366 986	Investment Management \$41,433 nths ended June 3 2011 \$113,424 13,947 12,561 10,693 6,784 2,338 959	\$ —  30 Six months et 2012 \$232,421 28,450 24,336 19,139 14,747 4,735 1,965	\$318,492 anded June 30 2011 \$221,605 26,794 24,141 19,986 13,401 4,402 1,890

Long-lived assets by geographical area

	As of June 30	As of December 31
(\$000)	2012	2011
United States	\$53,941	\$44,572
United Kingdom	7,422	7,512
Europe, excluding the United Kingdom	2,543	2,629
Australia	1,550	1,415
Canada	1,914	2,076
Asia, excluding Japan	9,757	9,656
Japan	216	282
Other	33	54
Total Non-U.S.	23,435	23,624
Total	\$77,376	\$68,196

# 6. Investments and Fair Value Measurements

We account for our investments in accordance with FASB ASC 320, Investments—Debt and Equity Securities. We classify our investments in three categories: available-for-sale, held-to-maturity, and trading. We monitor the concentration, diversification, maturity, and liquidity of our investment portfolio, which is primarily invested in fixed-income securities, and classify our investment portfolio as shown below:

	As of June 30	As of December 31
(\$000)	2012	2011
Available-for-sale	\$217,478	\$247,917
Held-to-maturity	19,717	16,347
Trading securities	5,184	5,491
Total	\$242,379	\$269,755

The following table shows the cost, unrealized gains (losses), and fair values related to investments classified as available-for-sale and held-to-maturity:

	As of June	30, 2012				As of Dece	mber 31, 20	11		
(\$000)	Cost	Unrealized Gain	Unrealize Loss	ed	Fair Value	Cost	Unrealized Gain	Unrealized Loss	1	Fair Value
Available-for-sale:										
Government obligations	\$82,317	\$53	\$(571	)	\$81,799	\$139,099	\$72	\$(402	)	\$138,769
Corporate bonds	78,476	38	(351	)	78,163	61,589	14	(280	)	61,323
Commercial paper	17,138	1	(3	)	17,136	29,964	2	(7	)	29,959
Equity securities and exchange-traded funds	29,080	827	(421	)	29,486	8,461	368	(558	)	8,271
Mutual funds	10,355	623	(84	)	10,894	9,298	363	(66	)	9,595
Total	\$217,366	\$1,542	\$(1,430	)	\$217,478	\$248,411	\$819	\$(1,313	)	\$247,917

Held-to-maturity:

Certificates of deposit \$19,717 \$— \$— \$19,717 \$16,347 \$— \$— \$16,347

As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, investments with unrealized losses for greater than a 12-month period were not material to the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets and were not deemed to have other than temporary declines in value.

The table below shows the cost and fair value of investments classified as available-for-sale and held-to-maturity based on their contractual maturities as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011. The expected maturities of certain fixed-income securities may differ from their contractual maturities because some of these holdings have call features that allow the issuers the right to prepay obligations without penalties.

	As of June 30, 2012		As of December 31, 201	
(\$000)	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Available-for-sale:				
Due in one year or less	\$141,562	\$140,928	\$155,651	\$155,247
Due in one to two years	36,369	36,170	75,001	74,804
Equity securities, exchange-traded funds, and mutual funds	39,435	40,380	17,759	17,866
Total	\$217,366	\$217,478	\$248,411	\$247,917
Held-to-maturity:				
Due in one year or less	\$19,712	\$19,712	\$16,342	\$16,342
Due in one to three years	5	5	5	5
Total	\$19,717	\$19,717	\$16,347	\$16,347

As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, held-to-maturity investments included a \$1,500,000 and a \$1,600,000 certificate of deposit, respectively, held primarily as collateral against a bank guarantee for our office lease in Australia.

The following table shows the realized gains and losses arising from sales of our investments classified as available-for-sale recorded in our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income:

	Six month	s ended June 30
(\$000)	2012	2011
Realized gains	\$470	\$397
Realized losses	(519	) —
Realized gains (losses), net	\$(49	) \$397

We determine realized gains and losses using the specific identification method.

The following table shows the net unrealized gains (losses) on trading securities as recorded in our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income:

	Six months	Six months ended June 30		
(\$000)	2012	2011		
Unrealized gains (losses), net	\$156	\$(9	)	

The fair value of our assets subject to fair value measurements and that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis using the fair value hierarchy and the necessary disclosures under FASB ASC 820, Fair Value Measurement, are as follows:

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	Fair Value as of	Fair Value Measurements as of June 30, 2012 Using Fair Value Hierarchy		
(\$000)	June 30, 2012	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Available-for-sale investments:				
Government obligations	\$81,799	<b>\$</b> —	\$81,799	<b>\$</b> —
Corporate bonds	78,163	_	78,163	
Commercial paper	17,136	_	17,136	_
Equity securities and exchange-traded funds	29,486	29,486	_	
Mutual funds	10,894	10,894	_	
Trading securities	5,184	5,184	_	_
Cash equivalents	9,485	9,485	_	
Total	\$232,147	\$55,049	\$177,098	\$
	Fair Value as of	Fair Value Measur Using Fair Value l	rements as of Decem Hierarchy	ber 31, 2011
(\$000)				ber 31, 2011 Level 3
(\$000) Available-for-sale investments:	as of December 31,	Using Fair Value l	Hierarchy	
	as of December 31,	Using Fair Value l	Hierarchy	
Available-for-sale investments:	as of December 31, 2011	Using Fair Value l Level 1	Hierarchy Level 2	Level 3
Available-for-sale investments: Government obligations	as of December 31, 2011 \$138,769	Using Fair Value l Level 1	Hierarchy Level 2 \$138,769	Level 3
Available-for-sale investments: Government obligations Corporate bonds	as of December 31, 2011 \$138,769 61,323	Using Fair Value l Level 1	Hierarchy Level 2 \$138,769 61,323	Level 3
Available-for-sale investments: Government obligations Corporate bonds Commercial paper Equity securities and	as of December 31, 2011 \$138,769 61,323 29,959	Using Fair Value I Level 1 \$— —	Hierarchy Level 2 \$138,769 61,323	Level 3
Available-for-sale investments: Government obligations Corporate bonds Commercial paper Equity securities and exchange-traded funds	as of December 31, 2011 \$138,769 61,323 29,959 8,271	Using Fair Value I Level 1 \$— — — 8,271	Hierarchy Level 2 \$138,769 61,323	Level 3
Available-for-sale investments: Government obligations Corporate bonds Commercial paper Equity securities and exchange-traded funds Mutual funds	as of December 31, 2011 \$138,769 61,323 29,959 8,271 9,595	Using Fair Value I Level 1  \$— — 8,271 9,595	Hierarchy Level 2 \$138,769 61,323	Level 3

Level 1: Valuations based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that we have the ability to access.

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

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

Based on our analysis of the nature and risks of our investments in equity securities and mutual funds, we have determined that presenting each of these investment categories in the aggregate is appropriate.

We measure the fair value of money market funds, mutual funds, equity securities, and exchange-traded funds based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. All other financial instruments were valued either based on recent trades of securities in inactive markets or based on quoted market prices of similar instruments and other significant inputs derived from observable market data. We did not hold any securities categorized as Level 3 as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

#### 7. Investments in Unconsolidated Entities

Our investments in unconsolidated entities consist primarily of the following:

As of June 30 As of December 31

(\$000)	2012	2011
Investment in MJKK	\$19,618	\$19,662
Other equity method investments	2,645	2,807
Investments accounted for using the cost method	12,008	5,173
Total investments in unconsolidated entities	\$34,271	\$27,642

Morningstar Japan K.K. Morningstar Japan K.K. (MJKK) develops and markets products and services customized for the Japanese market. MJKK's shares are traded on the Osaka Stock Exchange, "Hercules Market," using the ticker 4765. We account for our investment in MJKK using the equity method. The following table summarizes our ownership percentage in MJKK and the market value of this investment based on MJKK's publicly quoted share price:

	As of June 30		As of December 31	
	2012		2011	
Morningstar's approximate ownership of MJKK	34	%	33	%
Approximate market value of Morningstar's ownership in MJKK:				
Japanese yen (¥000)	¥3,293,035		¥2,797,704	
Equivalent U.S. dollars (\$000)	\$41,426		\$36,146	

Other Equity Method Investments. As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, other equity method investments consist of our investment in Morningstar Sweden AB (Morningstar Sweden) and YCharts, Inc. (YCharts). Morningstar Sweden develops and markets products and services customized for its respective market. Our ownership interest in Morningstar Sweden was approximately 24% as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011. YCharts is a technology company that provides stock research and analysis. Our ownership interest in YCharts was approximately 20% as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

We did not record any impairment losses on our equity method investments in the first six months of 2012 or 2011.

Cost Method Investments. As of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, our cost method investments consist of minority investments in Pitchbook Data, Inc. (Pitchbook) and Bundle Corporation (Bundle). As of March 31, 2012, our cost method investments also include HelloWallet LLC (HelloWallet). Pitchbook offers detailed data and information about private equity transactions, investors, companies, limited partners, and service providers. Bundle is a social media company dedicated to helping people make smarter spending and saving choices. HelloWallet is a provider of personalized financial guidance to employees of Fortune 1000 companies. We paid approximately \$6,750,000 for the minority equity stake in HelloWallet in the first quarter of 2012. We did not record any impairment losses on our cost method investments in the first six months of 2012 or 2011.

#### 8. Liability for Vacant Office Space

We include our liability for vacant office space in "Accounts payable and accrued liabilities" and "Other long-term liabilities," as appropriate, on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The following table shows the change in our liability for vacant office space from December 31, 2011 to June 30, 2012:

Liability for vacant office space	(\$000)	
Balance as of December 31, 2011	\$919	
Reduction of liability for lease and other related payments	(654	)
Balance as of June 30, 2012	\$265	

#### 9. Stock-Based Compensation

**Stock-Based Compensation Plans** 

Our shareholders approved the Morningstar 2011 Stock Incentive Plan (the 2011 Plan) on May 17, 2011. As of that date, we stopped granting awards under the Morningstar 2004 Stock Incentive Plan (the 2004 Plan). The 2004 Plan amended and restated the Morningstar 1993 Stock Option Plan, the Morningstar 2000 Stock Option Plan, and the Morningstar 2001 Stock Option Plan.

The 2011 Plan provides for a variety of stock-based awards, including, among other things, stock options, restricted stock units, and restricted stock. We granted stock options, restricted stock units and restricted stock under the 2004 Plan.

All of our employees and our non-employee directors are eligible for awards under the 2011 Plan.

Grants awarded under the 2011 Plan or the 2004 Plan that are forfeited, canceled, settled, or otherwise terminated without a distribution of shares, or shares withheld by us in connection with the exercise of options, will be available for awards under the 2011 Plan. Any shares subject to awards under the 2011 Plan, but not under the 2004 Plan, that are withheld by us in connection with the payment of any required income tax withholding will be available for awards under the 2011 Plan.

The following table summarizes the number of shares available for future grants under our 2011 Plan:

	As of June 30
(000)	2012
Shares available for future grants	4,740

# Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation Awards

The following table summarizes our stock-based compensation expense and the related income tax benefit we recorded in the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2011:

	Three month	s ended June 30	Six months ended June 30		
(\$000)	2012	2011	2012	2011	
Restricted stock units	\$3,270	\$3,332	\$6,548	\$6,117	
Restricted stock	444	444	888	1,308	
Stock options	20	67	164	67	
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$3,734	\$3,843	\$7,600	\$7,492	
Income tax benefit related to the stock-based compensation expense	\$882	\$944	\$1,804	\$1,669	

The following table summarizes the amount of unrecognized stock-based compensation expense as of June 30, 2012 and the expected number of months over which the expense will be recognized:

	Unrecognized stock-based compensation expense (\$000)	Expected amortization period (months)
Restricted stock units	\$33,988	36
Restricted stock	5,031	34
Stock options	1,355	33
Total unrecognized stock-based compensation expense	\$40,374	36

In accordance with FASB ASC 718, Compensation—Stock Compensation, we estimate forfeitures of employee stock-based awards and recognize compensation cost only for those awards expected to vest. Because our largest annual equity grants typically have vesting dates in the second quarter, we adjust the stock-based compensation expense at that time to reflect those awards that ultimately vested and update our estimate of the forfeiture rate that will be applied to awards not yet vested.

#### Restricted Stock Units

Restricted stock units represent the right to receive a share of Morningstar common stock when that unit vests. Restricted stock units to employees vest ratably over a four-year period. Restricted stock units granted to non-employee directors vest ratably over a three-year period. For restricted stock units granted through December 31, 2008, employees could elect to defer receipt of the Morningstar common stock issued upon vesting of the restricted stock unit.

We measure the fair value of our restricted stock units on the date of grant based on the closing market price of the underlying common stock on the day prior to grant. We amortize that value to stock-based compensation expense, net of estimated forfeitures, ratably over the vesting period.

The following table summarizes restricted stock unit activity during the first six months of 2012:

Average Grant Date Value per RSU
50.66
5.40
0.69
0.74
_
_
8.43
2.59

### Restricted Stock

In conjunction with the Realpoint acquisition in May 2010, we issued 199,174 shares of restricted stock to the selling employee-shareholders under the 2004 Stock Incentive Plan. The restricted stock vests ratably over a five-year period from the acquisition date and may be subject to forfeiture if the holder terminates his or her employment during the vesting period.

Because of the terms of the restricted stock agreements prepared in conjunction with the Realpoint acquisition, we account for the grant of restricted stock as stock-based compensation expense and not as part of the acquisition consideration.

We measured the fair value of the restricted stock on the date of grant based on the closing market price of our common stock on the day prior to the grant. We amortize the fair value of \$9,363,000 to stock-based compensation expense over the vesting period. The stock-based compensation expense recorded in the first six months of 2011 included approximately \$396,000 of expense recognized upon the accelerated vesting of a restricted stock grant. We have assumed that all of the remaining restricted stock will ultimately vest, and therefore we have not incorporated a forfeiture rate for purposes of determining the stock-based compensation expense.

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### **Stock Options**

Stock options granted to employees vest ratably over a four-year period. Grants to our non-employee directors vest ratably over a three-year period. All grants expire 10 years after the date of grant. Almost all of the options granted under the 2004 Stock Incentive Plan have a premium feature in which the exercise price increases over the term of the option at a rate equal to the 10-year Treasury bond yield as of the date of grant. Options granted under the 2011 Plan have an exercise price equal to the fair market value on the grant date.

In May 2011, we granted 86,106 stock options under the 2004 Stock Incentive Plan. In November 2011, we granted 6,095 stock options under the 2011 Plan. We estimated the fair value of the options on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model. The weighted average fair value of options granted during 2011 was \$23.81 per share, based on the following assumptions:

Assumptions for Black-Scholes Option Pricing Model		
Expected life (years):	7.4	
Volatility factor:	35.1	%
Dividend yield:	0.35	%
Interest rate:	2.87	%

The following tables summarize stock option activity in the first six months of 2012 for our various stock option grants. The first table includes activity for options granted at an exercise price below the fair value per share of our common stock on the grant date; the second table includes activity for all other option grants.

Options Granted At an Exercise Price Below the Fair Value Per Share on the Grant D	uate Underlyi Shares	ng	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Options outstanding—December 31, 2011	398,859		\$19.72
Granted	_		
Canceled	(600		14.70
Exercised	(76,009		20.07
Options outstanding—June 30, 2012	322,250		20.13
Options exercisable—June 30, 2012	322,250		\$20.13
All Other Ontion Grants Excluding Activity Shown Above	Underlying Shares	A E	Veighted Average Exercise Price
	818,552		22.76
Granted	<del></del>	_	_
	(22,204		9.90
Exercised	(267,835	) 1	6.56
Options outstanding—June 30, 2012	528,513	2	5.50
Options exercisable—June 30, 2012	472,890	\$	21.74

The following table summarizes the total intrinsic value (difference between the market value of our stock on the date of exercise and the exercise price of the option) of options exercised:

Six months ended June 30

(\$000)	2012	2011
Intrinsic value of options exercised	\$14,531	\$20,137

The table below shows additional information for options outstanding and exercisable as of June 30, 2012:

	Options Out	standing			Options Exe	rcisable		
Range of Exercise Prices	Number of Options	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	_	dAggregate Intrinsic Value (\$000)	Exercisable Shares	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	_	eAggregate eIntrinsic eValue (\$000)
\$8.57 - \$14.70	161,914	0.83	\$8.58	\$7,975	161,914	0.83	\$8.58	\$7,975
\$20.09 - \$45.80	612,543	2.67	23.16	21,241	612,543	2.67	23.16	21,241
\$57.28 - \$59.35	76,306	8.76	57.45	39	20,683	7.87	57.28	12
\$8.57 - \$59.35	850,763			\$29,255	795,140			\$29,228
Vested or Expected to Ve \$8.57 - \$59.35	est 856,763	2.87	\$23.46	\$29,256				

The aggregate intrinsic value in the table above represents the total pretax intrinsic value all option holders would have received if they had exercised all outstanding options on June 30, 2012. The intrinsic value is based on our closing stock price of \$57.84 on that date.

Excess Tax Benefits Related to Stock-Based Compensation

FASB ASC 718, Compensation—Stock Compensation, requires that we classify the cash flows that result from excess tax benefits as financing cash flows. Excess tax benefits correspond to the portion of the tax deduction taken on our income tax return that exceeds the amount of tax benefit related to the compensation cost recognized in our Statement of Income. The following table summarizes our excess tax benefits for the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2011:

	Three months ended June 30		Six months ended June		
(\$000)	2012	2011	2012	2011	
Excess tax benefits related to stock-based	\$1.235	\$2,049	\$4.548	\$6,171	
compensation	Ψ 1,200	Ψ=,0.>	Ψ .,ε . ο	Ψ 0,1,1	

10. Income Taxes

Effective Tax Rate

The following table shows our effective income tax rate for the three and six months ended June 30, 2012 and June 30, 2011:

	Three months ended June 30			Six months ended	June 30
(\$000)	2012	2011		2012	2011
Income before income taxes and equity in net income of unconsolidated entities	\$42,131	\$38,616		\$73,189	\$71,199
Equity in net income of unconsolidated entities	497	595		1,063	969
Net (income) loss attributable to the noncontrolling interest	4	(2	)	28	96

Total	\$42,632	\$39,209	\$74,280	\$72,264	
Income tax expense	\$14,744	\$12,724	\$26,255	\$23,242	
Effective tax rate	34.6	% 32.5	% 35.3	% 32.2	%

Our effective tax rate in the second quarter of 2012 was 34.6%, an increase of 2.1 percentage points compared with the prior-year period. Our effective tax rate in the first half of 2012 was 35.3%, an increase of 3.1 percentage points compared with the first half of 2011. The effective tax rate increase in both periods primarily reflects higher amounts of tax incentives and certain deferred income tax benefits recorded in the 2011 periods.

#### Unrecognized Tax Benefits

The table below provides information concerning our gross unrecognized tax benefits as of June 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011. The table also provides the effect these gross unrecognized tax benefits would have on our income tax expense, if they were recognized.

	As of June 30	As of December 31
(\$000)	2012	2011
Gross unrecognized tax benefits	\$12,393	\$12,189
Gross unrecognized tax benefits that would affect income tax expense	\$12,110	\$11,907
Decrease in income tax expense upon recognition of gross unrecognized tax benefits	\$9,992	\$9,827

There were no significant changes to unrecognized tax benefits in the first half of 2012.

Our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets include the following liabilities for unrecognized tax benefits. These amounts include interest and penalties, less any associated tax benefits.

	As of June 30	As of December 31		
Liabilities for Unrecognized Tax Benefits (\$000)	2012	2011		
Current liability	\$5,305	\$5,329		
Non-current liability	6,627	6,200		
Total liability for unrecognized tax benefits	\$11,932	\$11,529		

We conduct business globally and as a result, we file income tax returns in U.S. federal, state, local, and foreign jurisdictions. In the normal course of business we are subject to examination by tax authorities throughout the world. The open tax years for our U.S. federal tax returns and most state tax returns include the years 2007 to the present. In non-U.S. jurisdictions, the statute of limitations generally extends to years prior to 2005.

We are currently under audit by the U.S. federal and various state and local tax authorities in the United States, as well as tax authorities in certain non-U.S. jurisdictions. It is possible, though not likely, that the examination phase of some of these audits will conclude in 2012. It is not possible to estimate the effect of current audits on previously recorded unrecognized tax benefits.

Our effective tax rate reflects the fact that we are not recording an income tax benefit related to losses recorded by certain of our non-U.S. operations. The net operating losses (NOLs) may become deductible in certain non-U.S. tax jurisdictions to the extent these non-U.S. operations become profitable. In the year certain non-U.S. entities record a loss, we do not record a corresponding tax benefit, thus increasing our effective tax rate. For each of our operations, we evaluate whether it is more likely than not that the tax benefits related to NOLs will be realized. As part of this evaluation, we consider evidence such as tax planning strategies, historical operating results, forecasted taxable income, and recent financial performance. Upon determining that it is more likely than not that the NOLs will be realized, we reduce the tax valuation allowances related to these NOLs, which results in a reduction to our income tax expense and our effective tax rate in the period.

### 11. Contingencies

### Life's Good S.T.A.B.L. Hedge Fund

In September 2011, three individual investors in Life's Good S.T.A.B.L. Mortgage hedge fund (LG), Marta Klass, Gregory Martin, and Richard Roellig, filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania against LG, its principal Robert Stinson, and several other parties, including Morningstar, Inc. (the Klass Matter). The plaintiffs claim that Morningstar committed fraud and aided and abetted the other defendants' breach of fiduciary duty through the 5-star rating LG obtained from Morningstar. The plaintiffs seek unspecified damages. Hedge fund managers self-report their performance data to Morningstar.

More than a year before the Klass Matter, in June 2010, the SEC filed suit against LG and other entities claiming they were part of a Ponzi scheme operated by Stinson. As a result, LG and the other entities were placed in court-appointed receivership. Morningstar was not part of the SEC suit or receivership. Since that time, the Receiver, as part of his duties, has been investigating whether to assert claims against third parties. Morningstar is aware of 14 lawsuits filed by the Receiver seeking to recover money for the fund.

In November 2011, Morningstar filed a motion to dismiss the Klass Matter. On behalf of the entities in receivership, the Receiver filed a motion to stay the proceedings because the Receivership Order does not permit suits against the entities in receivership without court permission. The court granted the Receiver's motion and stayed the Klass Matter. In April 2012, the Receiver filed a complaint against Morningstar, in which the Receiver claims that Morningstar is liable for contribution and aiding and abetting Stinson's breach of fiduciary duty and fraud through the 5-star rating LG obtained from Morningstar. The Receiver seeks unspecified damages. The same day the Receiver filed his complaint, Morningstar sought leave from the court to file a counter suit against Stinson and two of his entities-Keystone State Capital Corporation and LG-for, among other things, fraud, misrepresentation, and breach of user agreements. In June 2012, the court denied Morningstar's motion for leave to file suit. The court took no position on the merits of Morningstar's claims, and did not preclude Morningstar from renewing its motion to file a complaint at a later time, but deferred to the Receiver's request not to subject the receivership estate to additional litigation at this early point in the receivership. In mid-June 2012, Morningstar filed a motion to dismiss the Receiver's complaint.

Morningstar believes the allegations against it by the Klass plaintiffs and the Receiver have no legal or factual basis and plans to vigorously contest the claims. Morningstar also intends to refile its affirmative claims against Stinson, Keystone, and LG at a later time consistent with the court's order. We cannot predict the outcome of the proceedings.

### Egan-Jones Rating Co.

In June 2010, Egan-Jones Rating Co. filed a complaint in the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania against Realpoint, LLC (now known as Morningstar Credit Ratings, LLC) and Morningstar, Inc. in connection with a December 2007 agreement between Egan-Jones and Morningstar Credit Ratings for certain data-sharing and other services. In addition to damages, Egan-Jones filed a petition seeking an injunction to temporarily prevent Morningstar from offering corporate credit ratings through December 31, 2010. In September 2010, the court denied Egan-Jones's request for a preliminary injunction against Morningstar's corporate credit ratings business. Morningstar Credit Ratings and Morningstar continue to vigorously contest liability on all of Egan-Jones' claims for damages. We cannot predict the outcome of the proceeding.

# **Business Logic Holding Corporation**

In November 2009, Business Logic Holding Corporation filed a complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois against Ibbotson Associates, Inc. and Morningstar, Inc. relating to Ibbotson's prior commercial relationship with Business Logic. Business Logic is alleging that Ibbotson Associates and Morningstar violated Business Logic's rights by using its trade secrets to develop a proprietary web-service software and user interface that connects plan participant data with the Ibbotson Wealth Forecasting Engine. Business Logic seeks, among other things, injunctive relief and unspecified damages. Ibbotson and Morningstar answered the complaint, and Ibbotson asserted a counterclaim against Business Logic alleging trade secret misappropriation and breach of contract, seeking damages and injunctive relief. While Morningstar and Ibbotson Associates are vigorously contesting the claims against them, we cannot predict the outcome of the proceeding.

Morningstar Associates, LLC Subpoena from the New York Attorney General's Office

In December 2004, Morningstar Associates, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Morningstar, Inc., received a subpoena from the New York Attorney General's office seeking information and documents related to an investigation the New York Attorney General's office is conducting. The subpoena asked for documents relating to the investment consulting services the company offers to retirement plan providers, including fund lineup recommendations for retirement plan sponsors. Morningstar Associates has provided the requested information and documents.

In 2005, Morningstar Associates received subpoenas seeking information and documents related to investigations being conducted by the SEC and United States Department of Labor. The subpoenas were similar in scope to the New York Attorney General subpoena. In January 2007 and September 2009, respectively, the SEC and Department of Labor each notified Morningstar Associates that it had ended its investigation, with no enforcement action, fines, or penalties.

In January 2007, Morningstar Associates received a Notice of Proposed Litigation from the New York Attorney General's office. The Notice centers on disclosure relating to an optional service offered to retirement plan sponsors (employers) that select 401(k) plan services from ING, one of Morningstar Associates' clients. The Notice gave Morningstar Associates the opportunity to explain why the New York Attorney General's office should not institute proceedings. Morningstar Associates promptly submitted its explanation and has cooperated fully with the New York Attorney General's office.

We cannot predict the scope, timing, or outcome of this matter, which may include the institution of administrative, civil, injunctive, or criminal proceedings, the imposition of fines and penalties, and other remedies and sanctions, any of which could lead to an adverse impact on our stock price, the inability to attract or retain key employees, and the loss of customers. We also cannot predict what impact, if any, this matter may have on our business, operating results, or financial condition.

We have not provided an estimate of loss or range of loss in connection with the matters described above because no such estimate can reasonably be made.

#### Other Matters

In addition to these proceedings, we are involved in legal proceedings and litigation that have arisen in the normal course of our business. Although the outcome of a particular proceeding can never be predicted, we do not believe that the result of any of these other matters will have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, or financial position.

### 12. Share Repurchase Program

In September 2010, the board of directors approved a share repurchase program that authorizes the repurchase of up to \$100 million in shares of our outstanding common stock. In December 2011, the board approved an increase to the 2010 share repurchase program. The board approval authorized the company to repurchase up to an additional \$200 million in shares of our outstanding common stock with a revised expiration date of December 31, 2013. We may repurchase shares from time to time at prevailing market prices on the open market or in private transactions at our discretion. As of June 30, 2012, we had repurchased a total of 2,660,557 shares for \$153,920,000 under this authorization.

### 13. Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08, Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment. The objective of ASU No. 2011-08 is to simplify how entities test goodwill for impairment. ASU No. 2011-08 provides an option for companies to use a qualitative approach to test goodwill for impairment if certain conditions are met. For Morningstar, the amendments are effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed in 2012. Early adoption will be permitted. We perform our annual impairment testing in the fourth quarter and do not expect the provisions of ASU No. 2011-08 to have a material effect on our Consolidated Financial Statements.

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

The discussion included in this section, as well as other sections of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, contains forward-looking statements as that term is used in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on our current expectations about future events or future financial performance. Forward-looking statements by their nature address matters that are, to different degrees, uncertain, and often contain words such as "may," "could," "expect," "intend," "plan," "seek," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential," or "continue." T involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause the events we discuss not to occur or to differ significantly from what we expect. For us, these risks and uncertainties include, among others:

- •general industry conditions and competition, including current global financial uncertainty;
- •the impact of market volatility on revenue from asset-based fees;
- •damage to our reputation resulting from claims made about possible conflicts of interest;
- •liability for any losses that result from an actual or claimed breach of our fiduciary duties;
- •financial services industry consolidation;
- •liability related to the storage of personal information about our users;
- •a prolonged outage of our database and network facilities;
- •challenges faced by our non-U.S. operations; and
- •the availability of free or low-cost investment information.

A more complete description of these risks and uncertainties can be found in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. If any of these risks and uncertainties materialize, our actual future results may vary significantly from what we expect. We do not undertake to update our forward-looking statements as a result of new information or future events.

All dollar and percentage comparisons, which are often accompanied by words such as "increase," "decrease," "grew," "declined," "was up," "was down," "was flat," or "was similar" refer to a comparison with the same period in the prior year unless otherwise stated.

**Understanding our Company** 

#### **Our Business**

Our mission is to create great products that help investors reach their financial goals. We offer an extensive line of data, software, and research products for individual investors, financial advisors, and institutional clients. We also offer investment management services for advisors, institutions, and retirement plan participants. Many of our products are sold through subscriptions or license agreements. As a result, we typically generate recurring revenue.

Our company has two operating segments: The Investment Information segment includes all of our data, software, and research products and services. These products and services are typically sold through subscriptions or license agreements. The Investment Management segment includes all of our asset management operations, which are registered investment advisors and earn more than half of their revenue from asset-based fees.

Over our 28-year history, we have focused primarily on organic growth by introducing new products and services and expanding our existing products. From 2006 through 2010, we also completed 24 acquisitions to support our five key growth strategies, which are:

Enhance our position in each of our key market segments by focusing on our three major Internet-based platforms;

Create a premier global investment database;

Continue building thought leadership in independent investment research;

Become a global leader in fund-of-funds investment management; and

Expand our international brand presence, products, and services.

While we may make additional acquisitions to support these growth strategies, our primary focus is on integrating previous acquisitions and driving excellence throughout our organization.

## **Industry Overview**

We monitor trends in the economic and financial information industry on an ongoing basis and use these insights to help inform our company strategy, product development plans, and marketing initiatives.

With economic growth and job creation slowing significantly as well as the continuing uncertainty over Europe's debt crisis, global markets pulled back in the second quarter of 2012, giving up many of the gains achieved in the first quarter. Morningstar's U.S. Market Index, a broad market benchmark, declined 3.1% in the quarter, as U.S. equity markets saw their third straight midyear slowdown. The Global Ex-U.S. Index fell to an even greater extent, posting a 7.4% drop over the same period.

U.S. mutual fund assets stood at \$12.2 trillion as of June 30, 2012, based on data from the Investment Company Institute (ICI), essentially unchanged from this time last year. Based on Morningstar's estimated asset flow data, fund inflows remained heavily weighted towards fixed-income, with solid flows into high-yield and emerging-markets bond funds suggesting investors are becoming increasingly comfortable taking on risk in search of yield. U.S. stock funds stayed in familiar territory, posting their 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive month of outflows in June.

Assets in exchange-traded funds (ETFs) rose to \$1.2 trillion as of June 30, 2012, compared with \$1.1 trillion as of June 30, 2011, based on data from the ICI.

Overall, we believe that business conditions in the financial services sector have deteriorated in recent months, as businesses and consumers alike remain cautious about spending. The variable annuity market continues to be under pressure, as long-term interest rates in the United States have dropped to historic lows. In addition, market volatility increased in the quarter with concerns persisting about the strength of the global economic recovery. Our results have been impacted and our future results will be impacted by these factors.

Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2012 vs. Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2011

#### Consolidated Results

	Three months ended June 30				Six months ended June 30							
Key Metrics (\$000)	2012		2011		Change		2012		2011		Change	e
Revenue	\$165,968		\$161,011		3.1	%	\$326,727		\$312,778	9	4.5	%
Operating income	\$41,136		\$38,607		6.6	%	\$71,535		\$70,416		1.6	%
Operating margin	24.8	%	24.0	%	0.8	pp	21.9	%	22.5	%	(0.6	) pp
Cash provided by (used for) investing activities	\$24,943		\$(45,307	)	NMF		\$2,963		\$(55,351	)	NMF	
Cash provided by (used for) financing activities	\$(89,291	)	\$(846	)	NMF		\$(110,134	)	\$5,489		NMF	
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Cash provided by operating activities	\$49,165		\$46,810		5.0	%	\$54,789		\$61,156		(10.4	)%
Capital expenditures	(8,928	)	(3,381	)	164.1	%	(17,922	)	(8,418	)	112.9	%
Free cash flow	\$40,237		\$43,429		(7.3	)%	\$36,867		\$52,738		(30.1	)%

pp — percentage points NMF — Not meaningful

We define free cash flow as cash provided by or used for operating activities less capital expenditures. We present free cash flow solely as supplemental disclosure to help investors better understand how much cash is available after we spend money to operate our business. Our management team uses free cash flow to evaluate our business. Free cash flow is not equivalent to any measure required to be reported under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Also, the free cash flow definition we use may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies.

#### Consolidated Revenue

In the second quarter of 2012, our consolidated revenue increased 3.1% to \$166.0 million, compared with \$161.0 million in the second quarter of 2011. Currency movements had a negative effect in the quarter, lowering revenue by approximately \$2.6 million.

Excluding the effect of foreign currency translations, our consolidated revenue rose by about \$7.5 million, or 4.7%, in the second quarter of 2012. Leading the growth were Morningstar Direct and Morningstar Data (formerly Licensed Data). Morningstar Advisor Workstation and Integrated Web Tools also contributed to the organic revenue increase, although to a lesser extent. These positive factors helped offset the loss of revenue associated with a contract loss in our Investment Management division. As previously announced, a large Investment Advisory Services client moved to in-house management of several fund-of-funds portfolios in April 2012. We received about \$0.6 million of revenue from this contract in the second quarter of 2012, compared with \$3.2 million in the second quarter of 2011.

Revenue for Morningstar.com was down because of a difficult advertising sales market and declining paid Premium subscriptions, primarily in the United States.

Revenue for the first half of the year increased 4.5% to \$326.7 million. Currency movements had a negative effect, lowering revenue by approximately \$2.8 million. Excluding the effect of foreign currency translations, our consolidated revenue rose about \$16.8 million, or 5.4%, in the first six months of 2012.

To make it easier for investors to compare our results in different periods, we provide information on both organic revenue, which reflects our underlying business excluding acquisitions and the impact of foreign currency translations, and revenue from acquisitions. We did not complete any acquisitions during the 12 months ended June 30, 2012.

The table below reconciles consolidated revenue with organic revenue (revenue excluding acquisitions and the impact of foreign currency translations):

	Three mont	hs ended Jun	e 30	Six months of	Six months ended June 30				
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change	2012	2011	Change			
Consolidated revenue	\$165,968	\$161,011	3.1	% \$326,727	\$312,778	4.5	%		
Less: acquisitions			n/a		_	n/a			
Unfavorable impact of foreign currency translations	2,564	_	NMF	2,827	_	NMF			
Organic revenue	\$168,532	\$161,011	4.7	% \$329,554	\$312,778	5.4	%		

n/a — not applicable

Organic revenue (revenue excluding acquisitions and the impact of foreign currency translations) is considered a non-GAAP financial measure. The definition of organic revenue we use may not be the same as similarly titled

measures used by other companies. Organic revenue should not be considered an alternative to any measure of performance as promulgated under GAAP.

International revenue made up 28.9% of our consolidated revenue in both the second quarter and first half of 2012. Revenue from international operations rose \$0.4 million, or 0.9%, to \$48.0 million for the second quarter. Revenue from international operations rose 3.4%, or \$3.1 million, to \$94.3 million in the first half of 2012. The majority of our international revenue is from Europe, Australia, and Canada.

Foreign currency translations had a negative effect in both periods, primarily from the euro. Excluding acquisitions and the effect of foreign currency translations, non-U.S. revenue rose 6.3% in the second quarter and 6.5% in the first half of 2012, reflecting stronger product sales in Europe and to a lesser extent in Canada.

International organic revenue (international revenue excluding acquisitions and the impact of foreign currency translations) is considered a non-GAAP financial measure. The definition of international organic revenue we use may not be the same as similarly titled measures used by other companies. International organic revenue should not be considered an alternative to any measure of performance as promulgated under GAAP.

The tables below present a reconciliation from international revenue to international organic revenue (international revenue excluding acquisitions and the impact of foreign currency translations):

	Three mont	hs ended Jun	e 30		Six months ended June 30			
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change		2012	2011	Change	e
International revenue	\$48,016	\$47,587	0.9	%	\$94,306	\$91,173	3.4	%
Less: acquisitions			n/a		_		n/a	
Unfavorable impact of foreign currency translations	2,564		NMF		2,827	_	NMF	
International organic revenue	\$50,580	\$47,587	6.3	%	\$97,133	\$91,173	6.5	%

## Consolidated Operating Expense

	Three months ended June 30						Six months ended June 30						
(\$000)	2012		2011		Chang	ge	2012		2011		Chan	ge	
Operating expense	\$124,832		\$122,404		2.0	%	\$255,192		\$242,362		5.3	%	
% of revenue	75.2	%	76.0	%	(0.8)	) pp	78.1	%	77.5	%	0.6	pp	

In the second quarter of 2012, our consolidated operating expense increased \$2.4 million, or 2.0%. For the first six months of 2012, operating expense increased \$12.8 million, or 5.3%.

Higher salary expense of \$3.7 million and \$10.5 million was the primary driver of the increase in total operating expense in the quarter and first half of 2012. The majority of the expense increase in both periods reflects higher salaries from regular pay raises and market adjustments made for some positions in July 2011. The rest of the increase represents additional headcount. We had approximately 3,490 employees worldwide as of June 30, 2012, compared with 3,465 as of December 31, 2011 and 3,300 as of June 30, 2011. About one-third of the year-over-year increase in headcount reflects hiring for our development centers in China and India with most of the remainder in the United States. Headcount declined slightly during the second quarter of 2012 due to a slowdown in our filling of open positions.

Higher employee benefit costs, production expense, and professional fees also contributed to the increase in operating expense in the quarter and first half of the year.

Partially offsetting these increases was a reduction of bonus expense of approximately \$3.6 million in the quarter and \$2.4 million in the first half of 2012. We review and update our estimates and the bonus pool size quarterly, primarily based on our expectations for full-year operating income relative to budget.

We capitalized \$2.4 million and \$4.1 million of operating expense in the second quarter and first half of 2012, respectively, primarily for software development for Morningstar Direct, Morningstar Commodity Data, and

Structured Credit Ratings. In comparison, we capitalized \$0.4 million and \$1.0 million of operating expense in the second quarter and first half of 2011, respectively.

General and administrative expense (G&A) in the second quarter of 2011 included \$1.4 million of business tax expense related to prior years. This operating expense was partially offset by a \$0.8 million reduction in sales tax accruals. These amounts did not recur in the second quarter of 2012.

G&A in the first half of 2012 included about \$1.6 million for a litigation settlement and an impairment charge for one of our smaller products. G&A for the first half of 2011 included \$3.2 million of expense for a previously announced separation agreement with our former chief operating officer. This expense did not recur in the first half of 2012.

Intangible amortization expense decreased \$0.7 million in the quarter and \$1.1 million in the first half of the year, primarily because certain intangible assets from some of our earlier acquisitions are now fully amortized.

#### Cost of Goods Sold

	Three mon	Three months ended June 30						Six months ended June 30					
(\$000)	2012		2011		Change	;	2012		2011		Change	2	
Cost of goods sold	\$49,452		\$45,186		9.4	%	\$99,768		\$85,855		16.2	%	
% of revenue	29.8	%	28.1	%	1.7	pp	30.5	%	27.4	%	3.1	pp	
Gross profit	\$116,516		\$115,825		0.6	%	\$226,959		\$226,923		_	%	
Gross margin	70.2	%	71.9	%	(1.7	) pp	69.5	%	72.6	%	(3.1	) pp	

Cost of goods sold is our largest category of operating expense, representing more than one-third of our total operating expense. Our business relies heavily on human capital, and cost of goods sold includes the compensation expense for employees who produce our products and services. Compensation expense for approximately half of our employees is included in this category.

Cost of goods sold rose \$4.3 million in the second quarter of 2012 and \$13.9 million in the first half of 2012. Higher salaries and other compensation-related expense contributed approximately \$2.7 million and \$7.9 million of the increase in the second quarter and first half of the year, respectively. Higher production expense in both periods of \$1.5 million and \$2.0 million, respectively, also contributed to the increase. Partially offsetting the expense increase in the second quarter of 2012 was a reduction in bonus expense of \$0.5 million. However, bonus expense was up \$2.0 million in the first half of 2012. Please refer to the section, Bonus Expense, for additional information on the increase in the first half of the year.

Our gross margin declined in the second quarter and first half of the year as expenses in this category increased at a faster rate compared with revenue growth.

### Development Expense

	Three mor	nths ended Jun		Six month						
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change		2012		2011		Chang	ge
Development expense	\$12,442	\$13,681	(9.1	)%	\$25,807		\$25,669		0.5	%
% of revenue	7.5	% 8.5	% (1.0	) pp	7.9	%	8.2	%	(0.3)	) pp

Development expense decreased \$1.2 million in the second quarter of 2012 and increased \$0.1 million in the first six months of 2012. We capitalized \$2.4 million of software development expense in the second quarter of 2012 and \$4.1 million in the year-to-date period, reducing the expense that we would otherwise report in this category. In comparison, we capitalized \$0.4 million and \$1.0 million in the second quarter and first six months of 2011, respectively. Higher salaries and compensation-related expense for our development teams partially offset the favorable effect of the capitalized operating expense.

As a percentage of revenue, development expense was lower in both the second quarter and first half of 2012, primarily reflecting the effect of capitalizing software development partially offset by higher compensation as a

# percentage of revenue.

# Sales and Marketing Expense

(\$000)	Three months ended Jun 2012 2011			e 30	Six months ended June Change 2012 2011					30 Change		
Sales and marketing expense	\$27,373		\$26,767		2.3	%	\$55,699		\$53,249		4.6	%
% of revenue	16.5	%	16.6	%	(0.1	) pp	17.0	%	17.0	%	_	pp
17												

Sales and marketing expense increased \$0.6 million in the second quarter and \$2.5 million in the first half of 2012. Higher salary-related expense represented almost all of the overall expense increase in the quarter and year-to-date periods. Lower bonus expense and lower advertising and marketing expense partially offset the increase in the second quarter of 2012. Lower advertising and marketing expense and lower commission expense partially offset the increase in the first half of the year.

As a percentage of revenue, sales and marketing expense was down slightly in the quarter and flat for the first half of the year, primarily reflecting lower bonus and commission expense as a percentage of revenue partially offset by higher salary expense as a percentage of revenue.

#### General and Administrative Expense

	Three mon	ree months ended June 30						Six months ended June 30				
(\$000)	2012		2011		Change	;	2012		2011		Change	)
General and administrative	\$24,946		\$26,207		(4.8	)%	\$53,124		\$56.824		(6.5	)%
expense	Ψ2-1,5-10		Ψ20,207		(4.0	) 10	Ψ55,124		Ψ30,021		(0.5	) //
% of revenue	15.0	%	16.3	%	(1.3	) pp	16.3	%	18.2	%	(1.9	) pp

G&A declined \$1.3 million in the second quarter of 2012 and \$3.7 million in the first half of 2012.

The decrease in the second quarter primarily reflects lower bonus expense of \$1.7 million. Lower rent expense also contributed to the decline, although to a lesser extent. Higher professional fees partially offset the decline. In addition, G&A in the second quarter of 2011 included \$1.4 million of business tax expense related to prior years. This operating expense was partially offset by a \$0.8 million reduction in sales tax accruals. These amounts did not recur in 2012.

The decrease in the first half of the year primarily reflects lower bonus expense of \$4.5 million. Current year bonus expense is down \$1.7 million. In addition, in the first quarter of 2011, we paid a greater portion of the 2010 bonus to employees in this category compared with our initial estimate, contributing \$2.6 million to the bonus expense recorded in the first quarter of 2011. Please refer to the section, Bonus Expense, for additional information.

G&A in the first half of 2012 included about \$1.6 million of expense for a litigation settlement and an impairment charge for one of our smaller products. G&A for the first half of 2011 included \$3.2 million of expense for a previously announced separation agreement with our former chief operating officer. This expense did not recur in 2012.

As a percentage of revenue, G&A expense declined 1.3 percentage points in the second quarter of 2012, primarily because of lower bonus expense. As a percentage of revenue, G&A expense declined 1.9 percentage points in the first half of 2012, primarily because of lower bonus expense and the \$3.2 million of separation agreement expense from 2011 that didn't recur in 2012.

## Depreciation and Amortization Expense

	Three mo	nths ended Jun	e 30		Six months ended June 30					
(\$000)	2012	2011	Chang	ge	2012	2011	Chang	ge		
Depreciation expense	\$4,643	\$3,931	18.1	%	\$8,763	\$7,620	15.0	%		
Amortization expense	5,976	6,632	(9.9	)%	12,031	13,145	(8.5	)%		
Total depreciation and amortization expense	\$10,619	\$10,563	0.5	%	\$20,794	\$20,765	0.1	%		
% of revenue	6.4	% 6.6	% (0.2	) pp	6.4	% 6.6	% (0.2	) pp		

Depreciation expense rose \$0.7 million in the second quarter of 2012. Amortization expense decreased \$0.7 million in the second quarter of 2012, primarily because certain intangible assets from some of our earlier acquisitions are now fully amortized.

We expect that amortization of intangible assets will be an ongoing cost for the remaining lives of the assets. We estimate that aggregate amortization expense for intangible assets will be approximately \$23.8 million in 2012 and \$21.1 million in 2013. Our estimates of future amortization expense for intangible assets may be affected by additional acquisitions, changes in the estimated average useful lives, and currency translations.

As a percentage of revenue, depreciation and amortization expense was down slightly in the second quarter and first half of 2012.

#### Stock-Based Compensation Expense

	Three mor	nree months ended June 30							Six months ended June 30					
(\$000)	2012		2011		Chang	e	2012		2011		Change	e		
Restricted stock units	\$3,270		\$3,332		(1.9	)%	\$6,548		\$6,117		7.0	%		
Restricted stock	444		444			%	888		1,308		(32.1	)%		
Stock options	20		67		(70.1	)%	164		67		144.8	%		
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$3,734		\$3,843		(2.8	)%	\$7,600		\$7,492		1.4	%		
% of revenue	2.2	%	2.4	%	(0.2	) pp	2.3	%	2.4	%	(0.1	) pp		

Our stock-based compensation expense relates to grants of restricted stock units (RSUs), restricted stock, and stock options. We include this cost in each of our operating expense categories. Stock-based compensation expense decreased \$0.1 million in the second quarter, increased \$0.1 million in the first half of 2012, and was down slightly as a percentage of revenue compared with the same periods in 2011.

Restricted Stock Units: We began granting RSUs in May 2006 and have made additional grants each year, primarily in the second quarter. We recognize the expense related to RSUs over the vesting period, which is four years for employees and three years for non-employee directors. We estimate forfeitures for these awards and typically adjust the estimated forfeitures to actual forfeiture experience in the third quarter. The expense recorded in the first six months of 2011 was favorably affected by \$0.5 million for restricted stock units that were forfeited in the first quarter of 2011.

Restricted Stock: Beginning in 2010, we began recording expense related to restricted stock issued with the acquisition of Morningstar Credit Ratings LLC. In May 2010, we issued 199,174 shares. The restricted stock vests ratably over a five-year period from the acquisition date and may be subject to forfeiture or acceleration upon a termination of the holder's employment during the vesting period depending on the circumstances. The expense in the first half of 2011 included \$0.4 million for accelerated vesting of a portion of these restricted stock grants.

Stock Options: In 2011, we granted 92,201 stock options to our executive officers and non-employee directors. These stock options vest ratably over a four-year period for executive officers and a three-year period for non-employee directors and expire 10 years after the date of grant. Using a Black-Scholes option pricing model, we estimated the fair value of these grants to be approximately \$2.2 million. We will amortize this value to stock-based compensation expense ratably over the options' vesting period.

We describe our stock-based compensation in more detail in Note 9 of the Notes to our Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Based on grants of RSUs, stock options, and restricted stock made through June 30, 2012, we anticipate that stock-based compensation expense will be approximately \$15.6 million in 2012. This amount is subject to change based on additional equity grants or changes in our estimated forfeiture rate related to these grants.

#### Bonus Expense

The amount of bonus expense is not a fixed cost. We review and update our estimates and the bonus pool size quarterly, primarily based on our expectations for full-year operating income relative to budget. We record bonus expense throughout the year and pay annual bonuses to employees in the first quarter of the following year.

	Three mor	nths ended Jun	e 30		Six month	30		
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change	e	2012	2011	Chang	e
Bonus expense	\$7,398	\$10,982	(32.6	)%	\$18,718	\$21,115	(11.4	)%
% of revenue	4.5	% 6.8	% (2.3	) pp	5.7	% 6.8	% (1.1	) pp

Bonus expense, which we include in each of our operating expense categories, decreased \$3.6 million in the second quarter of 2012 and \$2.4 million in the first half of 2012. Bonus expense as a percentage of revenue decreased about 2.3 percentage points in the second quarter of 2012 and 1.1 percentage points in the first half of 2012.

Bonus expense for the first half of the year consisted of both the current year bonus expense and the true-up related to the prior year bonus accrual. We adjust the prior-year bonus estimate to the actual bonus payout during the first quarter, which is when the payout occurs. The total bonus expense recorded in the first six months of 2012 and 2011 was favorably impacted by \$0.1 million and \$0.4 million, respectively, for this true-up. Although in total, the bonuses paid out in 2012 and 2011 were only slightly lower compared with the amounts expensed in 2011 and 2010, respectively, there were some differences by cost category. The table below presents the effect of these two factors by cost category and in total:

	Six months e	ended June 30	
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change
Cost of goods sold:			
Current year expense	\$8,868	\$8,574	\$294
Prior year true-up	116	(1,577	1,693
Total cost of sales	8,984	6,997	1,987
Development:			
Current year expense	3,552	3,492	60
Prior year true-up	(950	) (959	9
Total development	2,602	2,533	69
Sales and marketing:			
Current year expense	1,770	3,178	(1,408)
Prior year true-up	973	(521	1,494
Total sales and marketing	2,743	2,657	86
General and administrative:			
Current year expense	4,664	6,319	(1,655)
Prior year true-up	(275	2,609	(2,884)
Total general and administrative	4,389	8,928	(4,539 )
Total current year expense	18,854	21,563	(2,709)
Total prior year true-up	(136	) (448	312
Total bonus expense	\$18,718	\$21,115	\$(2,397)

#### **Consolidated Operating Income**

	Three mor	nths	ended Jun	e 30			Six month	hs er	80	0		
(\$000)	2012		2011		Chang	ge	2012		2011		Chang	;e
Operating income	\$41,136		\$38,607		6.6	%	\$71,535		\$70,416		1.6	%
% of revenue	24.8	%	24.0	%	0.8	pp	21.9	%	22.5	%	(0.6	) pp

Consolidated operating income increased \$2.5 million in the second quarter of 2012 as the \$5.0 million increase in revenue outpaced the increase in our costs. Our operating margin was 24.8%, an increase of 0.8 percentage points compared with the second quarter of 2011.

Consolidated operating income increased \$1.1 million in the first half of 2012 as the \$13.9 million increase in revenue outpaced the \$12.8 million increase in our costs. Our operating margin was 21.9%, a slight decrease of 0.6 percentage points compared with the first half of 2011.

Lower bonus expense as a percentage of revenue contributed approximately 2.3 percentage points to the margin improvement in the second quarter. Higher compensation expense, primarily salary expense, as a percentage of revenue partially offset the margin improvement, lowering the margin by approximately 2.0 percentage points in the second quarter.

Higher salary expense as a percentage of revenue contributed to the margin decline in the first half of 2012, lowering the margin by approximately 1.7 percentage points. Lower bonus expense as a percentage of revenue of 1.1

percentage points partially offset the decline.

The \$3.2 million of expense recorded in the first quarter of 2011 related to a separation agreement lowered our margin for the first half of 2011 by approximately 1.0 percentage points, favorably affecting the current-year comparison.

#### Consolidated Free Cash Flow

As described in more detail above, we define free cash flow as cash provided by or used for operating activities less capital expenditures.

	Three month	hs ended June	e 30	Six months ended June 30			
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change	2012	2011	Change	
Cash provided by operating activities	\$49,165	\$46,810	5.0 %	\$54,789	\$61,156	(10.4)%	
Capital expenditures	(8,928)	(3,381)	164.1 %	(17,922)	(8,418)	112.9 %	
Free cash flow	\$40,237	\$43,429	(7.3)%	\$36,867	\$52,738	(30.1)%	

We generated positive free cash flow in both the second quarter and year-to-date periods of 2012 and 2011. Historically, free cash flow has been stronger in the second quarter compared with the first quarter because of the timing of our annual bonus payments. We typically pay bonuses in the first quarter, and these payments reduce our cash flow from operations. Free cash flow decreased \$3.2 million in the second quarter of 2012 and decreased \$15.9 million in the first six months of 2012.

Cash provided by operating activities: Cash provided by operating activities increased \$2.4 million in the second quarter of 2012 reflecting higher net income, adjusted for non-cash items and the positive cash effect of changes in operating assets and liabilities, partially offset by a \$2.3 million increase in income tax payments.

To provide investors with additional insight into our financial results, we provide a comparison between the change in consolidated net income and the change in operating cash flow:

	Three months ended June 30				Six months ended June 30		
(\$000)	2012	2011	Change	2012	2011	Change	