# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

## AMERICAN EXPRESS CO

Form 10-Q
November 09, 2006

```
                                    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 September 30, 2006
                    or
                    I_| TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
                    SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
            For the Transition Period from
```

$\qquad$

``` to
``` \(\qquad\)
```

Commission file number 1-7657
AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

```

New York
13-4922250
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

World Financial Center, 200 Vesey Street, New York, NY (Address of principal executive offices) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)10285
```

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (212) 640-2000
None
Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report.
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or $15(d)$ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes |X| No |_|
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule $12 \mathrm{~b}-2$ of the Exchange Act. (Check one) :
Large accelerated filer |X| Accelerated filer |_| Non-accelerated filer |_|
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes |_| No |X|
Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.
Class Outstanding at October 31, 2006
Common Shares (par value $\$ .20$ per share)

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANYFORM 10-QINDEX
Page No. ..... --------
Part I. Financial Information:
Item 1. Financial Statements
Consolidated Statements of Income - Three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 ..... 1 months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 ..... 2 2006 and December 31, 2005 ..... 3
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 ..... 4
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements ..... $5-14$
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ..... $15-40$
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk ..... 40
Item 4. Controls and Procedures ..... $40-42$
Part II. Other Information:
Item 1. Legal Proceedings ..... $42-43$
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds ..... 44
Item 6. Exhibits ..... 45
Signatures ..... 46
Exhibit Index ..... E-1

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION
ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

(Unaudited)

|  | Septem | $r 30$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2006 | 2005 |
| Net revenues: |  |  |
| Discount revenue | \$3, 259 | \$2,894 |
| Cardmember lending finance charge revenue, net of interest | 912 | 648 |
| Net card fees | 462 | 511 |
| Travel commissions and fees | 427 | 421 |
| Other commissions and fees | 620 | 598 |
| Securitization income, net | 384 | 353 |
| Other investment and interest income, net of interest | 264 | 246 |
| Other | 431 | 357 |
| Total | 6,759 | 6,028 |
| Expenses: |  |  |
| Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services | 1,589 | 1,492 |
| Human resources | 1,213 | 1,197 |
| Provisions for losses and benefits: |  |  |
| Charge card | 257 | 299 |
| Cardmember lending | 412 | 364 |
| Investment certificates and other | 129 | 76 |
| Total | 798 | 739 |
| Professional services | 684 | 563 |
| Occupancy and equipment | 375 | 346 |
| Interest | 324 | 238 |
| Communications | 107 | 112 |
| Other | 331 | 261 |
| Total | 5,421 | 4,948 |
| Pretax income from continuing operations | 1,338 | 1,080 |
| Income tax provision | 382 | 215 |
| Income from continuing operations | 956 | 865 |
| Income from discontinued operations, net of tax | 11 | 165 |
| Net income | \$ 967 | \$1,030 |
| Earnings per Common Share ---- Basic: |  |  |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 0.79 | \$ 0.70 |
| Income from discontinued operations | 0.01 | 0.14 |
| Net income | \$ 0.80 | \$ 0.84 |
| Earnings per Common Share ---- Diluted: |  |  |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 0.78 | \$ 0.69 |
| Income from discontinued operations | 0.01 | 0.13 |
| Net income | \$ 0.79 | \$ 0.82 |

Average common shares outstanding for earnings per common share:

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

| Basic | 1,202 1,229 <br> $======$ $=====$ <br> Diluted 1,227 |  |
| :---: | ---: | ---: |
| Cash dividends declared per common share | $======$ | $=====$ |
|  | $\$ 0.15$ | $\$ 0.12$ |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME<br>(Millions, except per share amounts) (Unaudited)

| Discount revenue | \$ 9,520 | \$ 8,393 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cardmember lending finance charge revenue, net of interest | 2,467 | 1,877 |
| Net card fees | 1,515 | 1,515 |
| Travel commissions and fees | 1,328 | 1,345 |
| Other commissions and fees | 1,901 | 1,745 |
| Securitization income, net | 1,142 | 965 |
| Other investment and interest income, net of interest | 813 | 776 |
| Other | 1,242 | 1,072 |
| Total | 19,928 | 17,688 |
| Expenses: |  |  |
| Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services | 4,782 | 4,260 |
| Human resources | 3,729 | 3,652 |
| Provisions for losses and benefits: |  |  |
| Charge card | 658 | 748 |
| Cardmember lending | 1,139 | 934 |
| Investment certificates and other | 399 | 278 |
| Total | 2,196 | 1,960 |
| Professional services | 1,903 | 1,594 |
| Occupancy and equipment | 1,086 | 1,038 |
| Interest | 898 | 671 |
| Communications | 333 | 342 |
| Other | 896 | 882 |
| Total | 15,823 | 14,399 |
| Pretax income from continuing operations | 4,105 | 3,289 |
| Income tax provision | 1,301 | 819 |
| Income from continuing operations | 2,804 | 2,470 |

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

| (Loss) Income from discontinued operations, net of tax |  | (19) |  | 519 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net income |  | 2,785 | \$ 2,989 |  |
| Earnings per Common Share ---- Basic: |  |  |  |  |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ | 2.30 | \$ | 2.00 |
| (Loss) Income from discontinued operations |  | (0.01) |  | 0.42 |
| Net income | \$ | 2.29 | \$ | 2.42 |
| Earnings per Common Share ---- Diluted: |  |  |  |  |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ | 2.26 | \$ | 1.96 |
| (Loss) Income from discontinued operations |  | (0.02) |  | 0.42 |
| Net income | \$ | 2.24 | \$ | 2.38 |
| Average common shares outstanding for earnings per common share: |  |  |  |  |
| Basic |  | 1,217 |  | 1,233 |
| Diluted |  | 1,242 |  | 1,257 |
| Cash dividends declared per common share | \$ | 0.42 | \$ | 0.36 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

2

> AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
> (Millions, except share data) (Unaudited)

| September 30, | December 31, |
| ---: | ---: |
| 2006 | 2005 |

Assets
Cash and cash equivalents \$ 7,978 \$ 7,126
Accounts receivable and accrued interest:
Cardmember receivables, less reserves: 2006, $\$ 947 ; 2005, \$ 942$
Other receivables, less reserves: 2006, \$52; 2005, \$66 2, 281 281

34,075
33,216

Investments 21,575 21,334
Loans:
Cardmember lending, less reserves: 2006, \$1,126; 2005, \$996 37,207 32,108
International banking, less reserves: 2006, \$79; 2005, \$64

7,128 7,049
Other, less reserves: 2006, \$31; 2005, \$37 1,573 1,644
Land, buildings and equipment - at cost, less
accumulated depreciation: 2006, \$3,178;
2005, \$2,868 2,261
2,230
Other assets
6,753
6,972

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

|  |  | --- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total assets | \$120,931 | \$113,960 |
|  | = = = = = = = = | ======= |
| Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity |  |  |
| Customers' deposits | \$ 21,861 | \$ 24,579 |
| Travelers Cheques outstanding | 6,949 | 7,175 |
| Accounts payable | 9,005 | 7,824 |
| Investment certificate reserves | 6,165 | 6,872 |
| Short-term debt | 15,220 | 15,633 |
| Long-term debt | 39,407 | 30,781 |
| Other liabilities | 11,568 | 10,547 |
| Total liabilities | 110,175 | 103,411 |
| Shareholders' equity: |  |  |
| Common shares, $\$ .20$ par value, authorized <br> 3.6 billion shares; issued and <br> outstanding 1,204 million shares in 2006 |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| and 1,241 million shares in 2005 | 241 | 248 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 9,140 | 8,652 |
| Retained earnings | 1,408 | 1,788 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax: |  |  |
| Net unrealized securities gains | 148 | 137 |
| Net unrealized derivatives gains | 63 | 143 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments | (225) | (400) |
| Minimum pension liability | (19) | (19) |
| Total accumulated other comprehensive loss | (33) | (139) |
| Total shareholders' equity | 10,756 | 10,549 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity | \$120,931 | \$113,960 |
|  | ======= | $=$ |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Nine Months Ended
September 30,


2005
(Revised-
2006 See Note 1)

Cash Flows from Operating Activities
Net income $\quad \$ 2,785$ 2,989

Loss (Income) from discontinued operations, net
of tax
$\$ \quad 2,785 \quad \$ \quad 2,989$

19
(519)

Income from continuing operations
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities:

Provisions for losses and benefits
Depreciation and amortization
Deferred taxes, acquisition costs and other
Stock-based compensation
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisitions and dispositions: Accounts receivable and accrued interest
Other operating assets
Accounts payable and other liabilities Decrease in Travelers Cheques outstanding
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities attributable to discontinued operations

Net cash provided by operating activities
Cash Flows from Investing Activities
Sale of investments
Maturity and redemption of investments
Purchase of investments
Net increase in cardmember loans/receivables
Proceeds from cardmember receivable
securitizations
Maturities of cardmember receivable securitizations
Proceeds from cardmember loan securitizations
Maturities of cardmember loan securitizations
Loan operations and principal collections, net
Purchase of land, buildings and equipment
Sale of land, buildings and equipment
Dispositions, net of cash sold
Cash spun-off to Ameriprise
Net cash used in investing activities
attributable to discontinued operations
Net cash used in investing activities

Cash Flows from Financing Activities
Net (decrease) increase in customers' deposits
Sale of investment certificates
Redemption of investment certificates
Net (decrease) increase in debt with maturities of three months or less
Issuance of debt
Principal payments on debt
Issuance of American Express common shares and other
Repurchase of American Express common shares Dividends paid
Net cash provided by financing activities attributable to discontinued operations

Net cash provided by financing activities

| 2,804 | 2,470 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2,186 | 1,986 |
| 484 | 443 |
| (110) | (197) |
| 220 | 192 |
| (168) | 84 |
| (315) | 1,325 |
| 1,893 | 1,213 |
| (237) | (258) |
| (8) | 341 |
| 6,749 | 7,599 |
| 3,344 | 3,304 |
| 9,440 | 2,990 |
| $(12,630)$ | $(6,819)$ |
| $(7,320)$ | $(6,230)$ |
| -- | 1,197 |
| -- | $(1,750)$ |
| 3,491 | 4,887 |
| $(4,435)$ | $(4,463)$ |
| (157) | (218) |
| (495) | (406) |
| 42 | 207 |
| 550 | 190 |
| -- | $(3,678)$ |
| (1) | (113) |
| $(8,171)$ | $(10,902)$ |
| $(2,893)$ | 2,673 |
| 3,859 | 3,951 |
| $(4,604)$ | $(3,187)$ |
| (2,040) | 417 |
| 21,354 | 7,895 |
| $(10,799)$ | $(10,817)$ |
| 757 | 867 |
| $(2,990)$ | $(1,654)$ |
| (480) | (449) |
| 1 | 1,377 |
| 2,165 | 1,073 |

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

Effect of exchange rate changes on cash
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash
equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of
period includes cash of discontinued
operations of $\$ 2,099$ in 2005
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements which are incorporated by reference in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of American Express Company (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 2005. Certain reclassifications of prior period amounts have been made to conform to the current presentation, including reclassifications contained in the current report on Form 8-K dated April 5, 2006. In addition, beginning prospectively as of July 1, 2006, certain card acquisition-related costs were reclassified from other expenses to a reduction in net card fees.

The interim financial information in this report has not been audited. In the opinion of management, all adjustments necessary for a fair statement of the consolidated financial position and the consolidated results of operations for the interim periods have been made. All adjustments made were of a normal, recurring nature. Results of operations reported for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the entire year.

The Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, has been revised from the presentation used in the Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2005, to separately disclose the operating, investing and financing portions of the cash flows attributable to discontinued operations.

During the three months ended September 30, 2006, the Company completed the sale of its card and merchant-related activities in Malaysia to Maybank, and its card and merchant-related activities in Indonesia to Bank Danamon for combined proceeds of $\$ 94$ million. The transactions generated a gain of $\$ 33$ million ( $\$ 24$ million after-tax), and are reported as a reduction to other expenses in the Company's continuing operations. The gain is reported within the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment. The Company will continue to maintain its presence in the card and merchant-related businesses within Malaysia and Indonesia through its Global Network Services arrangements with the acquirers.

On June 30, 2006, the Company completed the sale of its card and merchant-related activities and international banking activities in

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

Brazil to Banco Bradesco S.A. (Bradesco), for approximately $\$ 470$ million. The transaction generated a net after-tax gain of $\$ 109$ million. $\$ 144$ million (\$131 million after-tax) of the gain relates to the card and merchant-related activities sold, and is reported as a reduction to other expenses in the Company's continuing operations (\$119 million in the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment and $\$ 25$ million in the Global Network \& Merchant Services segment). The Company will continue to maintain its presence in the card and merchant businesses within Brazil through its Global Network Services arrangement with the acquirer. A $\$ 22$ million after-tax loss related to the sale of the Company's international banking activities to Bradesco is reported in discontinued operations for banking activities the Company exited in Brazil.

On September 30, 2005, the Company completed the spin-off of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. (Ameriprise), formerly known as American Express Financial Corporation, the Company's financial planning and financial services business. In addition, during the third quarter of 2005, the Company completed certain dispositions including the sale of American Express Tax and Business Services, Inc. (TBS), its tax, accounting and consulting business. The operating results and cash flows related to Ameriprise and certain dispositions (including TBS) have been reflected as discontinued operations in the Consolidated Financial Statements, and the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements have been adjusted to exclude discontinued operations unless otherwise noted. Note 2 provides additional information regarding discontinued operations.

Cardmember lending finance charge revenue is presented net of interest expense of $\$ 327$ million and $\$ 224$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and $\$ 863$ million and $\$ 605$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Other investment and interest income is presented net of interest expense of $\$ 110$ million and $\$ 83$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and $\$ 296$ million and $\$ 231$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY <br> NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS <br> (Unaudited)

The Company establishes reserves related to its Membership Rewards program to cover the cost of future reward redemptions. The Company continually evaluates its reserve methodology based on developments in redemption patterns, cost per point redeemed and other factors, in the U.S. and internationally. Rewards costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, reflected a $\$ 62$ million ( $\$ 40$ million after-tax) charge recorded in the three months ended June 30,2006 , related to certain adjustments made to the Membership Rewards reserve model outside the U.S., and a $\$ 112$ million ( $\$ 73$ million after-tax) charge recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2006, related to certain adjustments made to the Membership Rewards reserve model in the U.S. These adjustments to the Membership Rewards reserve models related to a higher ultimate redemption rate assumption to reflect program redemption trends over the past five years as management believes this is a better indicator of future redemption behavior than inception to date statistics used previously.

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

Recently Issued Accounting Standards
In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 158, "Employers' Accounting for Defined Benefit Pension and Other Postretirement Plans an amendment of the FASB Statements No. 87, 88, 106, and $132(R)$ " (SFAS No. 158), which requires the funded status of pension and other postretirement plans to be recorded on the balance sheet as of December 31, 2006, with a corresponding offset, net of tax effects, recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) within shareholders' equity. Under SFAS No. 158, all previously unrecognized gains and losses, prior service costs and credits, and remaining transition amounts under SFAS Nos. 87 and 106 will be recognized in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax effects, which is a component of shareholders' equity and therefore does not result in an immediate charge to earnings. Those previously unrecognized amounts will be amortized as a component of net periodic pension expense in future periods. Effective for years ending after December 15, 2008, the measurement date for the benefit obligation and plan assets is required to be the Company's fiscal year end. The Company currently uses a September 30 measurement date.

The Company estimates that the adoption of SFAS No. 158's balance sheet requirements at December 31, 2006 , will result in a reduction to accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) within shareholders' equity of approximately $\$ 400$ million to $\$ 500$ million, net of tax. The Company is evaluating the impact of adopting a December 31 measurement date.

SFAS No. 156, "Accounting for Servicing of Financial Assets - an amendment of FASB Statement No. 140" (SFAS No. 156), requires all separately recognized servicing assets and servicing liabilities to be initially measured at fair value, if practicable. Subsequent accounting may be elected under either the amortization method, which systematically amortizes the servicing asset or liability to income, or the fair value measurement method, which remeasures the servicing asset or liability at fair value with the changes recorded in income. Election of the fair value method is made on a class-by-class basis for each separately recognized servicing asset and liability. SFAS No. 156 applies to all financial instruments acquired or issued after December 31, 2006. The Company does not expect any impact to its Consolidated Financial Statements.

The FASB has also recently issued the following accounting standards, which are effective after December 31, 2006. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of these recently issued accounting standards on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements:

- FASB Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes" (FIN 48), is an interpretation that clarifies the accounting for tax positions accounted for under FASB Statement No. 109, "Accounting for Income Taxes." FIN 48 prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of benefits associated with tax positions taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. For those benefits to be recognized, a tax position must be more-likely-than-not to be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. The amount recognized is measured as the largest amount of benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement. FIN 48 is applicable to all tax positions as of January 1 , 2007. The initial effect of adoption will be recorded in income taxes payable (in other liabilities) with an offsetting


# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

adjustment to retained earnings.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY<br>NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS<br>(Unaudited)

- SFAS No. 155, "Accounting for Certain Hybrid Financial Instruments - an amendment of FASB Statements No. 133 and 140" (SFAS No. 155), ends the temporary exemption of beneficial interests in securitized assets from the bifurcation requirements of SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." SFAS No. 155 permits fair value remeasurement of any hybrid financial instrument that contains an embedded derivative that otherwise would require bifurcation. This will primarily affect the Company's accounting for its interest only strips, where the changes in fair value are currently recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity. Remeasurements of these hybrid financial instruments and bifurcated derivatives will be recorded in income after the adoption of this new standard. SFAS No. 155 applies to all financial instruments acquired or issued after December 31, 2006.
- SFAS No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" (SFAS No. 157), establishes a framework for measuring fair value and applies broadly to financial and non-financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value under existing authoritative accounting pronouncements. SFAS No. 157 establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to valuation techniques used for financial instruments without active markets, and for non-financial assets and liabilities. SFAS No. 157 also expands disclosure requirements regarding methods used to measure fair value and the effects on earnings. SFAS No. 157 is effective as of the first quarter of 2008; earlier adoption is encouraged although the Company currently does not intend to adopt early.

2. Discontinued Operations

On June 30, 2006, the Company completed the sale of its card and merchant-related activities and international banking activities in Brazil for approximately $\$ 470$ million. The international banking portion of the transaction generated an after-tax loss of $\$ 22$ million reported in discontinued operations for banking activities the Company exited in Brazil. These banking activities previously were reflected in the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment. Prior to the second quarter of 2006 , financial results for these operations were not reclassified as discontinued operations because such results are not material.

On September 30, 2005, the Company completed the distribution of Ameriprise common stock to the Company's shareholders in a tax-free transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In addition, during the third quarter of 2005, the Company completed certain dispositions including the sale of TBS.

The operating results and cash flows of discontinued operations are presented separately in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements,

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

and the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements have been adjusted to exclude discontinued operations unless otherwise noted. Summary operating results of the discontinued operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 were:

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, |  |  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Millions) | 2006 |  | 005 | 2006 |  | 05 |
| Net revenues | \$ -- |  | 993 | \$ 9 |  | 813 |
| Pretax (loss) income from discontinued operations | \$ (2) | \$ | 213 | \$ (62) | \$ | 698 |
| Income tax (benefit) provision | (13) (a) |  | 48 | (43) |  | 179 |
| Income (Loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax | \$ 11 | \$ | 165 | \$ (19) | \$ | 519 |

(a) Primarily represents a tax benefit related to Ameriprise upon finalization of the Company's 2005 U.S. federal tax return.

## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS <br> (Unaudited)

3. Guarantees

The Company provides cardmember protection plans that cover losses associated with purchased products, as well as certain other guarantees that are within the scope of FASB Interpretation No. 45, "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others" (FIN 45).

The following table provides information related to guarantees that are within the scope of FIN 45 as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005:

September 30, 2006
December 31, 200

| Maximum Amount of |  | Maximum Amount of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Undiscounted Future <br> Payments (a) <br> (Billions) | Amount of Related Liability <br> (Millions) | Undiscounted Future Payments (a) (Billions) |

Card and travel
operations (b)
$\$ 99 \quad \$ 105$
$\$ 95$
International banking and other (c)

2
92
2

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

Total
\$101 \$197 \$97
(a) Calculated based on the hypothetical scenario that all claims occur within the next 12 months.
(b) Includes Credit Card Registry, Merchandise and Accounting Protection Programs, Merchant Protection and Baggage Protection. The Company generally has no collateral or other recourse provisions related to these guarantees.
(c) Includes contingent consideration obligations as well as guarantees the Company provides through its international banking business, such as financial letters of credit, performance guarantees, and financial guarantees. The international banking guarantees range in term from three months to one year. The Company receives a fee related to these guarantees, many of which help facilitate cross-border transactions. The maximum potential exposure related to the Company's international banking guarantees at both September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005 was approximately $\$ 1$ billion. The Company held collateral of approximately $\$ 1$ billion related to such guarantees at both September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005.

8

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)
4. Comprehensive Income

The components of comprehensive income, net of related tax, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 were as follows:

|  | Three Months Ended <br> September 30, | Nine Months Ended <br> September |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Millions) |  |  |

5. Retirement Plans

The components of the net periodic pension cost included in continuing operations for all defined benefit plans accounted for under SFAS No. 87, "Employers' Accounting for Pensions," were as follows:

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q



The net periodic postretirement benefit expense recognized for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, was $\$ 10$ million and $\$ 9$ million, respectively, and $\$ 30$ million and $\$ 26$ million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

## 6. Stock-Based Compensation

Effective July 1, 2005, the Company adopted SFAS No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment (SFAS No. 123 (R))," using the modified prospective application. The adoption did not have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements since the Company has been expensing share-based awards granted after January 1, 2003, under the provisions of SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." Included in net income is expense of $\$ 14$ million and $\$ 13$ million after-tax for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and $\$ 41$ million and $\$ 52$ million after-tax for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, related to stock options granted January 1, 2003, or later.

The following table illustrates the effect on net income and earnings per common share (EPS) assuming the Company had followed the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. $123(\mathrm{R})$ for all outstanding and unvested stock options and other stock-based compensation for the nine months ended September 30, 2005:

Add: Stock-based employee compensation included in reported net income, net of

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

| related tax effects (a) | 167 |
| :--- | ---: |
| Deduct: Total stock-based employee |  |
| compensation expense determined under fair |  |
| value based method, net of related tax effects (a) | $(177)$ |
| Pro forma net income | (a) <br>  <br> Basic EPS: <br> As reported <br> Pro forma <br> Diluted EPS: <br> As reported <br> Pro forma |

(a) Includes amounts related to discontinued operations as well as $\$ 18$ million in expense for Portfolio Grants included in other compensation expense prior to adoption of SFAS $123(R)$.
7. Earnings per Common Share

Basic EPS is computed using the average actual shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is basic EPS adjusted for the dilutive effect of stock options, restricted stock awards, and other financial instruments that may be converted into common shares. The computations of basic and diluted EPS for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, are as follows:
(Millions, except per share amounts)

| Three Months Ended |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| September 30, | Nine Months Ende |
| September 30, |  |

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q



## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS <br> (Unaudited)

8. Reportable Operating Segment Information

The Company is a leading global payments, network and travel company that is principally engaged in businesses comprising three reportable operating segments: U.S. Card Services, International Card \& Global Commercial Services, and Global Network \& Merchant Services. The Company considers a combination of factors when evaluating the composition of its reportable operating segments and the aggregation of operating segments with similar attributes, including economic characteristics (primarily net income metrics), products and services offered, classes of customers, product distribution channels, geographic considerations (primarily U.S. versus international), and regulatory environment considerations.

The following table presents certain reportable operating segment information for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005:

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, |  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Millions) | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 |  | 2005 |
| Net revenues: |  |  |  |  |  |
| U.S. Card Services | \$3,534 | \$3,044 | \$10,199 | \$ | 8,797 |
| International Card \& Global Commercial Services | 2,287 | 2,212 | 7,031 |  | 6,606 |
| Global Network \& Merchant Services | 798 | 693 | 2,292 |  | 2,022 |

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q



## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

9. Restructuring Charges

During the three months ended September 30, 2006, the Company recorded restructuring charges relating to the Company's business travel operations. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company recorded restructuring charges relating to the Company's business travel operations, Travelers Cheque, and international card businesses. The charges related to severance obligations are included in human resources. The other exit costs are included in occupancy and equipment, professional services, and other expenses in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Income. Cash payments related to remaining restructuring liabilities are expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2008, except for certain lease obligations which will continue until their expiration in 2010.

The following table summarizes by category the Company's restructuring charge activity for each of the Company's reportable operating segments.

|  | International | Global |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Card\& Global | Network \& |  |  |
| U.S. Card | Commercial | Merchant | Corporate |  |
| Services | Services | Services | \& Other | Total |

Severance

| Liability at December 31, 2005 | \$ 4 | \$ 48 | \$ 2 | \$ 44 | \$ 98 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash paid | (2) | (24) | -- | (16) | (42) |
| Charges, net of reversals (a) | 2 | 31 | 2 | 9 | 44 |
| Other - non-cash related | -- | (2) | -- | -- | (2) |
| Liability at June 30, 2006 | 4 | 53 | 4 | 37 | 98 |
| Cash paid | (1) | (10) | -- | (7) | (18) |
| Charges, net of reversals (a) | (1) | 8 | 3 | (1) | 9 |
| Other | -- | (1) | (1) | (2) | (4) |

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

Liability at September 30, 2006

Other

Liability at December 31, 2005
Cash paid
Charges
Other - non-cash related

Liability at June 30, 2006
Cash paid
Charges

Liability at September 30, 2006

Total liability at September 30, 2006

| 2 | 50 | 6 | 27 | 85 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |


| -- | 4 | -- | 5 | 9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (2) | (1) | -- | (5) | ( 8 ) |
| 6 | 3 | -- | -- | 9 |
| (4) | (2) | -- | -- | ( 6 ) |
| -- | 4 | -- | -- | 4 |
| -- | (2) | -- | -- | (2) |
| -- | 1 | -- | -- | 1 |
| -- | 3 | -- | -- | 3 |
| \$ 2 | \$ 53 | \$ 6 | \$ 27 | \$ 88 |

(a) Reversals of $\$ 1$ million and $\$ 2$ million in U.S. Card Services, $\$ 1$ million and $\$ 1$ million in International Card \& Global Commercial Services, and $\$ 1$ million and $\$ 4$ million in Corporate \& Other, were recorded for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
(Unaudited)

The following table summarizes the total charges cumulatively incurred to date through September 30, 2006. The Company makes decisions on restructuring initiatives as the economic environment dictates. As of September 30, 2006, the total expected expenses to be incurred for previously approved restructuring activities is not expected to be materially different than the cumulative expenses incurred to date. The amounts in the table below relate to restructuring programs that were not completed prior to 2006, and that were initiated at various dates between the fourth quarter of 2004 and the third quarter of 2006 .


# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

10. Income Taxes

The Company is under continuous examination by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and tax authorities in other countries and states in which the Company has significant business operations. The tax years under examination vary by jurisdiction. The Company routinely assesses the likelihood of additional assessments in each of the taxing jurisdictions resulting from these examinations. Tax reserves have been established that the Company believes to be adequate in relation to the potential for additional assessments. Once established, reserves are adjusted when more information becomes available, a change in circumstance occurs or an event occurs necessitating a change to the reserves.

The effective tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, was 29 percent and 32 percent, respectively, up from 24 percent for the full year 2005. The 2005 full year effective tax rate reflected the impact of tax benefits related to the finalization of certain state tax returns and resolution of $I R S$ audits of previous years' tax returns.

The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2006, reflected the favorable impacts of a net interest receivable from the IRS, finalization of the 2005 U.S. federal tax return, and an adjustment of 2006 projected state taxes.

The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, reflected higher tax expense related to uncertainty regarding the Company's ability to obtain tax benefits for certain expenses attributable to foreign subsidiaries, a relatively high effective tax rate due to the impact of foreign exchange translation on the gain on the sale of the Company's investment in Egyptian American Bank, and a relatively low effective tax rate benefit on the credit losses in Taiwan. These items were offset by the favorable items noted above for the three months ended September 30, 2006, and a relatively low effective rate on the sale of the Company's card and merchant-related activities in Brazil resulting principally from the difference between the applicable Brazil tax rate and the higher U.S. statutory rate.

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

American Express Company (the Company) is a leading global payments, network and travel company. The Company offers a broad range of products including charge and credit cards; stored value products such as Travelers Cheques and gift cards; travel agency services and travel, entertainment and purchasing expense management services; network services and merchant acquisition and merchant processing for our network partners and proprietary payments businesses; and international banking products. The Company's various products are sold globally to diverse customer groups, including consumers, small businesses, mid-market companies, large corporations, and banking institutions. These products are sold through various channels including direct mail, on-line applications, targeted sales forces, and direct response advertising.

The Company generates revenue from a variety of sources including global payments, such as charge and credit cards, travel services and stored value products, including Travelers Cheques. Charge and credit cards generate revenue for the Company primarily in four different ways:

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

- Discount revenue, the Company's largest single revenue source, which represents fees charged to merchants when cardmembers use their cards to purchase goods and services on our network,
- Finance charge revenue, which is earned on outstanding balances related to the cardmember lending portfolio,
- Card fees, which are earned for annual membership, and other commissions and fees such as foreign exchange conversion fees and card-related fees and assessments, and
- Securitization income, net, which reflects the net earnings related to cardmember loans financed through securitization activities.

In addition to funding and operating costs associated with these activities, other major expense categories are expenses related to marketing and reward programs that add new cardmembers and promote cardmember loyalty and spending, and provisions for anticipated cardmember credit and fraud losses.

The Company believes that its "spend-centric" business model (that focuses on generating revenues primarily by driving spending on its cards and secondarily by finance charges and fees) has significant competitive advantages. For merchants, the higher spending represents greater value in the form of loyal customers and higher sales. This gives the Company the ability to earn a premium discount rate and invest in greater value-added services for merchants and cardmembers. As a result of the higher revenues generated from higher spending, the Company has the flexibility to offer more attractive rewards and other incentives to cardmembers, which in turn create an incentive to spend more on their cards.

The Company creates shareholder value by focusing on the following elements:

- Driving growth, principally organically, through related business opportunities or joint ventures and selected acquisitions;
- Delivering returns well in excess of the Company's cost of capital; and
- Distributing excess capital to shareholders through dividends and stock repurchases.

Overall, it is management's priority to increase shareholder value over the moderate to long-term by achieving the following long-term financial targets, on average and over time, including:

- Earnings per share growth of 12 to 15 percent;
- Revenue growth of at least 8 percent; and
- A target return on equity (ROE) range.

After the completion of the spin-off of Ameriprise, the Company raised its ROE target to 28 to 30 percent. Based on the Company's recent financial performance and expectations regarding the company's future performance, the Company's targeted return on shareholders' equity has been raised to 33 to 36 percent, on

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

average and over time. The new ROE target reflects the success of the Company's spend-centric business model and its effectiveness in capturing high spending consumer, small business, and corporate card members.

Assuming the Company achieves its financial objectives noted above, it will seek to return to shareholders an average of 65 percent of capital generated, subject to business mix, acquisitions, and rating agency requirements.

During the three months ended September 30, 2006, the Company completed the sale of its card and merchant-related activities in Malaysia to Maybank, and its card and merchant-related activities in Indonesia to Bank Danamon for combined proceeds of $\$ 94$ million. The transactions generated a gain of $\$ 33$ million ( $\$ 24$ million after-tax), and are reported as a reduction to other expenses in the Company's continuing operations. The gain is reported within the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment. The Company will continue to maintain its presence in the card and merchant-related businesses within Malaysia and Indonesia through its Global Network Services arrangements with the acquirers.

On June 30, 2006, the Company completed the sale of its card and merchant-related activities and international banking activities in Brazil to Banco Bradesco S.A. (Bradesco), for approximately $\$ 470$ million. The transaction generated a net after-tax gain of $\$ 109 \mathrm{million}. \mathrm{\$ 144} \mathrm{million} \mathrm{( } \mathrm{\$ 131}$ million after-tax) of the gain relates to the card and merchant-related activities sold, and is reported as a reduction to other expenses in the Company's continuing operations (\$119 million in the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment and $\$ 25$ million in the Global Network \& Merchant Services segment). The Company will continue to maintain its presence in the card and merchant businesses within Brazil through its Global Network Services arrangement with the acquirer. A $\$ 22$ million after-tax loss related to the sale of the Company's international banking activities to Bradesco is reported in discontinued operations for banking activities the Company exited in Brazil. These banking activities previously were reflected in the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment. Prior to the second quarter of 2006 , financial results for these operations were not reclassified as discontinued operations because such results are not material. Financial information and business metrics for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, include the operating impact of the activities sold, while period end disclosures reflect the sale.

On September 30, 2005, the Company completed the spin-off of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. (Ameriprise), formerly known as American Express Financial Corporation, the Company's financial planning and financial services business. In addition, during the third quarter of 2005, the Company completed certain dispositions including the sale of American Express Tax and Business Services, Inc. (TBS), its tax, accounting and consulting business. The operating results and cash flows related to Ameriprise and certain dispositions (including TBS) have been reflected as discontinued operations in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Certain statistical information shown in the table below is presented on a "managed basis," as if, in the U.S. Card Services segment, there had been no cardmember lending securitization transactions, and certain tax-exempt investment income had been earned on a taxable basis. These managed basis adjustments, and management's rationale for such presentation, are discussed further in U.S. Card Services below under "Differences between GAAP and Managed Basis Presentation."

Certain of the statements in this Form $10-Q$ report are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. See the "Forward-Looking Statements" section below.

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

16

American Express Company<br>Selected Statistical Information

(Billions, except percentages and where indicated)

(a) Card billed business includes activities (including cash advances) related to proprietary cards, cards issued under network partnership agreements, and certain insurance fees charged on proprietary cards. Cards-in-force include proprietary cards and cards issued under network partnership agreements. Average basic cardmember spending and average fee per card are computed from proprietary card activities only.
(b) Computed as follows: Discount Revenue from all card spending (proprietary and Global Network Services) at merchants divided by all billed business (proprietary and Global Network Services) generating discount revenue at such merchants. Only merchants acquired by the Company are included in

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

the computation.
(c) Average fees per card are computed based on net card fees excluding the amortization of deferred acquisition costs.
(d) Investment yield represents earnings on certain tax-exempt securities. The tax equivalent yield - managed represents earnings on such tax-exempt securities as if it had been earned on a taxable basis and assumes an income tax rate of 35 percent. See the U.S. Card Services segment for additional information on managed basis presentation.

```
    American Express Company
Selected Statistical Information (continued)
(Billions, except percentages and where indicated)
```

Worldwide cardmember receivables:
Total receivables
90 days past due as a of total
Loss reserves (millions):
\% of receivables
\% of 90 days past due
Net loss ratio as a of charge volume
Worldwide cardmember lending - owned basis(a):
Total loans
30 days past due loans as a of total
Loss reserves (millions):
Beginning balance
Provision
Net write-offs
Other

Ending balance
\% of loans
\% of past due
Average loans
Net write-off rate
Net finance charge revenue (b)/average loans
Worldwide cardmember lending - managed basis(c):
Total loans
30 days past due loans as a of total
Loss reserves (millions):
Beginning balance
Provision
Net write-offs
Other

Ending balance
\% of loans


| Nine M Sept | Ended 30, |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2006 | 2005 |


| \$ | 35.0 | \$ | 31.9 | \$ | 35.0 | \$ | 31.9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1.8 \%$ |  | 1.7\% |  | 1.8\% |  | $1.7 \%$ |
| \$ | 947 | \$ | 909 | \$ | 947 | \$ | 909 |
|  | $2.7 \%$ |  | 2.9\% |  | $2.7 \%$ |  | $2.9 \%$ |
|  | 149\% |  | 173\% |  | 149\% |  | 173\% |
|  | $0.26 \%$ |  | $0.27 \%$ |  | $0.23 \%$ |  | 0.25 \% |
| \$ | $\begin{gathered} 38.3 \\ 2.8 \% \end{gathered}$ | \$ | $\begin{gathered} 29.9 \\ 2.5 \% \end{gathered}$ | \$ | $\begin{array}{r} 38.3 \\ 2.8 \% \end{array}$ | \$ | $\begin{array}{r} 29.9 \\ 2.5 \% \end{array}$ |
|  | 1,086 | \$ | 888 | \$ | 996 | \$ | 972 |
|  | 381 |  | 325 |  | 1,056 |  | 853 |
|  | (353) |  | (280) |  | (954) |  | (832) |
|  | 12 |  | 19 |  | 28 |  | (41) |
| \$1,126 |  | \$ | 952 | \$ | 1,126 | \$ | 952 |
| 2.9\% |  |  | $3.2 \%$ |  | $2.9 \%$ |  | $3.2 \%$ |
| 106\% |  |  | 128\% |  | 106\% |  | 128\% |
| \$ | 37.5 | \$ | 28.3 | \$ | 35.2 | \$ | 27.4 |
|  | $3.8 \%$ |  | 4.0\% |  | 3.6\% |  | $4.0 \%$ |
|  | 9.6\% |  | 9.2\% |  | 9.4\% |  | 9.1 |


| $\begin{gathered} \$ 58.5 \\ 2.7 \% \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ 50.6 \\ 2.4 \% \end{gathered}$ | \$ | $\begin{aligned} & 58.5 \\ & 2.7 \% \end{aligned}$ | \$ | $\begin{array}{r} 50.6 \\ 2.4 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \$1,546 | \$1,367 | \$ | 1,469 | \$ | 1,475 |
| 512 | 510 |  | 1,383 |  | 1,425 |
| (498) | (494) |  | $(1,376)$ |  | $(1,458)$ |
| 11 | 18 |  | 95 |  | (41) |
| \$1,571 | \$1,401 | \$ | 1,571 | \$ | 1,401 |
| $2.7 \%$ | $2.8 \%$ |  | $2.7 \%$ |  | $2.8 \%$ |

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

| \% of past due | $101 \%$ | $114 \%$ | $101 \%$ | $114 \%$ |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average loans | $\$ 57.6$ | $\$ 49.6$ | $\$$ | 55.6 | $\$$ |
| Net write-off rate | 37.9 |  |  |  |  |
| Net finance charge revenue (b) /average loans | $3.5 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ | $4.1 \%$ |  |
| Net | $9.6 \%$ | $9.4 \%$ | $9.4 \%$ | $9.2 \%$ |  |

(a) "Owned" or GAAP basis measurement reflects only cardmember loans included in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets.
(b) Computed on an annualized basis.
(c) Includes on-balance sheet cardmember loans and off-balance sheet securitized cardmember loans. The difference between the "owned basis" (GAAP) information and "managed basis" information is attributable to the effects of securitization activities. See the U.S. Card Services segment for additional information on managed basis presentation.

The following discussions regarding Consolidated Results of Operations and Consolidated Liquidity and Capital Resources are presented on a basis consistent with GAAP.

Consolidated Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005

The Company's 2006 consolidated income from continuing operations rose 11 percent to $\$ 956$ million and diluted earnings per share (EPS) from continuing operations rose 13 percent to $\$ 0.78$.

The Company's consolidated net income decreased 6 percent to $\$ 967$ million and diluted EPS decreased 4 percent to $\$ 0.79$. Net income included $\$ 11$ million of income from discontinued operations as compared to $\$ 165$ million a year ago. On a trailing 12 -month basis, return on average shareholders' equity was 34 percent, up from 24 percent a year ago.

As discussed below, results from continuing operations for the three months ended September 30, 2006, included a gain related to the sales of the Company's card and merchant-related activities in Malaysia and Indonesia. Results from continuing operations for the three months ended September 30 , 2005, included a tax benefit from the resolution of a prior year tax item, and a provision to reflect the estimated costs related to Hurricane Katrina.

## Net Revenues

Consolidated net revenues were $\$ 6.8$ billion, up 12 percent from $\$ 6.0$ billion. Net revenues increased due primarily to higher discount revenues, increased cardmember lending finance charge revenue, net of interest, greater other revenues, and increased securitization income, net, partially offset by lower net card fees. A reclassification of certain card acquisition-related costs, as described within the net card fees discussion below, suppressed consolidated net revenue growth by approximately 1 percent.

Discount revenue rose 13 percent to $\$ 3.3$ billion as a result of a 15 percent increase in worldwide billed business, partially offset by a lower average discount rate. The decrease in the discount rate compared to last year continues to reflect selective repricing initiatives and ongoing changes in mix of spending between various merchant segments. Selective repricing initiatives, continued changes in the mix of business and volume-related

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

pricing discounts will likely continue to result in some erosion of the average discount rate over time. The 15 percent increase in worldwide billed business reflected increases in average spending per proprietary basic card, growth in cards-in-force, and reflects a 62 percent increase in billed business related to Global Network Services from a year ago. A comparatively weaker U.S. dollar resulted in a 1 percent benefit in the reported worldwide growth rate.
U.S. billed business and billed business outside the U.S. were up 14 percent and 20 percent, respectively, due to increases in average spending per proprietary basic card, and growth in cards-in-force. The growth in the billed business both within the U.S. and outside the U.S. reflected increases within the Company's consumer card business, small business spending, and Corporate Services volumes. Assuming no changes in foreign currency exchange rates from the same period in the prior year, worldwide billed business increased 14 percent driven by increases in spending per proprietary basic card, and growth in cards-in-force. Total billed business outside the U.S. increased 17 percent reflecting double-digit proprietary growth in all regions except for Latin America. Excluding the impact of the sale in Brazil, Latin America also exhibited double-digit proprietary growth. Within the proprietary business outside the U.S., billed business growth was driven by an increase in average spending per proprietary basic card. The increase in proprietary business outside the U.S. reflected growth in consumer and small business spending, and an increase in Corporate Services volumes.

|  | Percentage Increase |
| :---: | :---: |
| Assuming No Changes |  |
| Percentage | in Foreign |
| Increase | Exchange Rates (a) |
| ------------------------------------ |  |

Worldwide

| Billed business | 15\% | 14\% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Average spending per proprietary basic card | 6 | 5 |
| Cards-in-force | 11 |  |
| U.S. |  |  |
| Billed business | 14 |  |
| Average spending per proprietary basic card | 4 |  |
| Cards-in-force | 11 |  |
| Proprietary consumer card billed business (b) | 11 |  |
| Proprietary small business billed business (b) | 15 |  |
| Proprietary Corporate Services billed business(c) | 14 |  |
| Outside the U.S. |  |  |
| Billed business | 20 | 17 |
| Average spending per proprietary basic card | 11 | 8 |
| Cards-in-force | 10 |  |
| Proprietary consumer and small business billed business(c) | 12 | 9 |
| Proprietary Corporate Services billed business (c) | 18 | 14 |

[^0]
# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

(b) Included in the U.S. Card Services segment.
(c) Included in the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment.

The increase in overall cards-in-force within both proprietary and Global Network Services reflected continued robust card acquisitions as well as continued solid average customer retention levels. In the U.S. and non-U.S. businesses, 1.4 million and 700,000 cards were added during the three months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

Cardmember lending finance charge revenue, net of interest rose 41 percent to $\$ 912$ million, resulting from a 42 percent increase in lending finance charge revenue which was partially offset by a 46 percent increase in lending finance charge interest. The net increase is attributable to a 33 percent growth in average worldwide cardmember lending balances, and a higher net portfolio yield.

Net card fees decreased 10 percent to $\$ 462$ million primarily as the benefit of card growth was offset by the reclassification of certain card acquisition-related costs, beginning prospectively July 1, 2006, from other expenses to a reduction in net card fees, and a lower average card fee. This reclassification had no effect on net income, and is not included in the average fee per card calculation.

Securitization income, net increased 9 percent to $\$ 384$ million as a higher trust portfolio yield, and a decrease in trust portfolio write-offs were partially offset by greater interest expense, due to a higher coupon rate paid to certificate holders, and a lower average securitization balance.

Other revenues increased 21 percent to $\$ 431$ million primarily due to fees associated with transition services agreements with Ameriprise as well as higher network partner-related fees.

Expenses
Consolidated expenses were $\$ 5.4$ billion, up 10 percent from $\$ 4.9$ billion for the same period in 2005. The increase in the three months ended September 30 , 2006, was primarily driven by higher professional services expenses, increased marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services costs, greater interest costs, increased other expenses, and higher provisions for losses and benefits. Consolidated expenses for the three
months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, also included $\$ 12$ million and $\$ 86$ million, respectively, of reengineering costs related to restructuring efforts in the Company's business travel area in both periods and within the finance, international operations and technology activities during the three months ended September 30, 2005. Reengineering costs for the three months ended September 30, 2006, included $\$ 9$ million of severance, all of which was restructuring-related and is included within human resources. Reengineering costs for the three months ended September 30, 2005 , included $\$ 77$ million of severance, of which $\$ 53$ million was restructuring-related, and is included within human resources.

Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services expenses increased 7 percent to $\$ 1.6$ billion compared to a year ago, reflecting greater rewards costs, partially offset by moderately lower marketing and promotion expenses. The higher rewards costs continued to reflect volume growth, a higher estimated redemption rate, and strong cardmember loyalty program

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

participation. Marketing expenses continued to reflect relatively high levels of spending related to various business-building initiatives, but lower costs related to the Company's ongoing global "MyLife, MyCard(SM)" advertising campaign.

Total provisions for losses and benefits increased 8 percent over last year to $\$ 798$ million as the lending and investment certificate and other provisions growth of 13 percent and 70 percent, respectively, was partially offset by a 14 percent decline in the charge card provision. The increase in the lending provision was driven by increased loan volumes globally, partially offset by the favorable impact of lower bankruptcy-related charge offs, strong credit quality in the U.S., and the absence of charges for Hurricane Katrina-related reserves recorded last year. The investment certificate and other provision rose due to higher interest rates on larger investment certificate balances. The charge provision decline of 14 percent reflects the lower loss rate, the absence of charges for Hurricane Katrina-related reserves recorded last year, and improved results from collection activities.

Professional services expenses increased 21 percent to $\$ 684$ million reflecting higher technology service fees, greater business and service-related volumes, and increased credit and collection costs.

Interest expense rose 36 percent to $\$ 324$ million due to a higher cost of funds and increased debt funding levels in support of growth in receivables.

Other expenses increased 27 percent to $\$ 331$ million partially due to increased volume and technology related costs, which were offset in part by the reclassification of certain card acquisition-related costs as discussed previously, and the gain on the sales of operations in Malaysia and Indonesia. Reengineering costs for the three months ended September 30, 2006, included $\$ 3$ million of non-severance exit costs of which $\$ 1$ million was restructuring-related, and is included within other expenses. Reengineering costs for the three months ended September 30, 2005, were $\$ 9$ million resulting from $\$ 13$ million of restructuring-related non-severance costs offset by $\$ 4$ million of reversals related to other non-restructuring costs, and is included within other expenses.

The effective tax rate was 29 percent and 20 percent for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The lower effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2005, reflected a $\$ 105$ million benefit resulting from the resolution of a prior year tax item related to the sale of AMEX Life in 1995. The effective tax rate for the three months ended September 30, 2006, reflected the favorable impacts of a net interest receivable from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), finalization of the 2005 U.S. federal tax return, and an adjustment of the 2006 projected state taxes.

Income from discontinued operations, net of tax for the three months ended September 30,2006 and 2005 was $\$ 11$ million and $\$ 165$ million, respectively. The three months ended September 30, 2006 , primarily represents a tax benefit related to Ameriprise upon finalization of the Company's 2005 U.S. federal tax return, and the three months ended September 30, 2005, primarily reflected income related to Ameriprise prior to its spin-off.

Going forward, the Company recognizes the need to respond to increased competitive pressures within the marketplace and challenges within the economic environment. In particular, as compared to 2005, the

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

Company has economically hedged a smaller percentage of its expected interest rate exposure in 2006, and is substantially less economically hedged for 2007 and beyond. This decrease along with higher interest rates and higher volume-related borrowings resulted in higher funding costs in 2006 as compared with 2005. The Company expects higher funding costs to continue in 2007, due to an expected increase in higher-cost floating rate borrowings relative to fixed rate funding that matures in 2006. In addition, the Company expects that results in 2007 will not reflect the same benefit to its write-off rate that resulted from the change in U.S. bankruptcy laws in 2005, and that has favorably impacted results in 2006. The Company is focused on meeting these and other challenges in 2007 and beyond by investing in growth opportunities, by focusing on reengineering activities to control operating expense growth, and by efficiently allocating capital.

Consolidated Results of Operations for the Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005

The Company's 2006 consolidated income from continuing operations rose 14 percent to $\$ 2.8$ billion and diluted earnings per share (EPS) from continuing operations rose 15 percent to $\$ 2.26$.

The Company's consolidated net income decreased 7 percent to $\$ 2.8$ billion and diluted EPS decreased 6 percent to $\$ 2.24$. Net income included a loss of $\$ 19$ million from discontinued operations compared to $\$ 519$ million of income from discontinued operations a year ago. On a trailing 12-month basis, return on average shareholders' equity was 34 percent, up from 24 percent a year ago.

As discussed below, results from continuing operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, included a favorable impact from lower early credit write-offs, primarily related to bankruptcy legislation enacted in 2005, and lower than expected costs associated with Hurricane Katrina, gains related to the sales of the Company's card and merchant-related activities in Brazil, investment in Egyptian American Bank (EAB), and card and merchant-related activities in Malaysia and Indonesia. Results for this period also included charges related to certain adjustments made to the Membership Rewards reserve models in the U.S. and outside the U.S., a reduction in cardmember lending finance charge revenues, net of interest, and securitization income related to higher than anticipated cardmember completion of consumer debt repayment programs and certain associated payment waivers, and a higher provision for losses in Taiwan due primarily to the impact of industry-wide credit issues.

Results from continuing operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, included a benefit from the recovery of September 11th related insurance claims, income tax benefits from the resolution of prior years' tax items, and a provision to reflect the estimated costs related to Hurricane Katrina.

Net Revenues

Consolidated net revenues were $\$ 19.9$ billion, up 13 percent from $\$ 17.7$ billion in the same period a year ago. Net revenues increased primarily due to higher discount revenues, increased cardmember lending finance charge revenue, net of interest, and greater securitization income, net. Consolidated net revenues in 2006 included a $\$ 72$ million net reduction in finance charge revenues and securitization income related to higher than anticipated cardmember completion of consumer debt repayment programs and certain associated payment waivers.

Discount revenue rose 13 percent to $\$ 9.5$ billion as a result of a 16 percent increase in worldwide billed business, offset in part by a lower average discount rate. The decrease in the discount rate compared to last year reflects selective repricing initiatives and ongoing changes in mix of spending between various merchant segments. The 16 percent increase in

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

worldwide billed business reflected increases in average spending per proprietary basic card, growth in cards-in-force, and reflects a 40 percent increase in billed business related to Global Network Services from a year ago. Changes in the relative values of non-U.S. currencies to the U.S. dollar had minimal impact on the reported worldwide growth rate.
U.S. billed business and billed business outside the U.S. were up 15 percent and 18 percent, respectively, due to increases in average spending per proprietary basic card, and growth in cards-in-force. The growth in the billed business both within the U.S. and outside the U.S. reflected increases within the Company's consumer
card business, small business spending, and Corporate Services volumes. Assuming no changes in foreign currency exchange rates from the same period in the prior year, worldwide billed business increased 16 percent driven by increases in spending per proprietary basic card, and growth in cards-in-force. Total billed business outside the U.S. increased 18 percent reflecting double-digit proprietary growth in all regions except for Latin America. Excluding the impact of the sale in Brazil, Latin America also exhibited double-digit proprietary growth. Within the proprietary business outside the U.S., billed business growth was driven by an increase in average spending per proprietary basic card, and an increase in cards-in-force. The increase in proprietary business outside the U.S. reflected growth in consumer and small business spending, and an increase in Corporate Services volumes.

|  | Percentage <br> Increase | ```Percentage Increase Assuming No Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates(a)``` |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Worldwide |  |  |
| Billed business | 16\% | 16\% |
| Average spending per proprietary basic card | 7 | 7 |
| Cards-in-force | 11 |  |
| U.S. |  |  |
| Billed business | 15 |  |
| Average spending per proprietary basic card | 6 |  |
| Cards-in-force | 11 |  |
| Proprietary consumer card billed business (b) | 13 |  |
| Proprietary small business billed business (b) | 17 |  |
| Proprietary Corporate Services billed business(c) | 16 |  |
| Outside the U.S. |  |  |
| Billed business | 18 | 18 |
| Average spending per proprietary basic card | 10 | 9 |
| Cards-in-force | 10 |  |
| Proprietary consumer and small business billed business(c) | 13 | 13 |
| Proprietary Corporate Services billed business(c) | 18 | 18 |

[^1]
# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

(c) Included in the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment.

The increase in overall cards-in-force within both proprietary and Global Network Services reflected continued robust card acquisitions as well as continued solid average customer retention levels. In the U.S. and non-U.S. businesses, 3.8 million and 1.7 million cards were added during the nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

Cardmember lending finance charge revenue, net of interest, rose 31 percent to $\$ 2.5$ billion, resulting from a 34 percent increase in lending finance charge revenue which was partially offset by a 43 percent increase in lending finance charge interest. The net increase is attributable to a 28 percent growth in average worldwide cardmember lending balances, and a higher net portfolio yield.

Securitization income, net increased 18 percent to $\$ 1.1$ billion as a higher trust portfolio yield, and a decrease in trust portfolio write-offs were partially offset by greater interest expense due to a higher coupon rate paid to certificate holders, a lower average securitization balance, and the impact of higher than anticipated cardmember completion of consumer debt repayment programs and certain associated payment waivers.

Other revenues increased 16 percent to $\$ 1.2$ billion primarily due to fees associated with transition services agreements with Ameriprise as well as higher network partner-related fees.

## Expenses

Consolidated expenses were $\$ 15.8$ billion, up 10 percent from $\$ 14.4$ billion for the same period in 2005. The increase in 2006 was primarily driven by increased marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services costs, greater professional services expenses, higher provisions for losses and benefits, and increased interest costs. Consolidated expenses for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, also included $\$ 90$ million and $\$ 221$ million, respectively, of reengineering costs. The charges reflect expenses in connection with several initiatives relating principally to the restructuring of the Company's business travel and international operations, and the relocation of certain functions in the Company's finance and technologies operations. Reengineering costs for the nine month period ended September 30 , 2006, included $\$ 53$ million of severance, all of which was
restructuring-related, and is included within human resources, and $\$ 37$ million of non-severance exit costs, of which $\$ 10$ million was restructuring-related, and is included within other expenses. Reengineering costs for the nine month period ended September 30, 2005 , included $\$ 179$ million of severance, of which $\$ 142$ million was restructuring-related, and is included within human resources, and $\$ 42$ million of non-severance exit costs, of which $\$ 23$ million was restructuring-related, and is included within other expenses.

Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services expenses increased 12 percent to $\$ 4.8$ billion, reflecting greater rewards costs, and modestly higher marketing and promotion expenses. The higher rewards costs continued to reflect volume growth, a higher estimated ultimate redemption rate, and strong cardmember loyalty program participation. Rewards costs for the nine months ended September 30,2006 included a $\$ 62$ million charge related to certain adjustments made to the Membership Rewards reserve model outside the U.S., and a $\$ 112$ million charge related to certain adjustments made to the Membership Rewards reserve model in the U.S. These adjustments to the Membership Rewards

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

reserve models related to a higher ultimate redemption rate assumption to reflect program redemption trends over the past five years as management believes this is a better indicator of future redemption behavior than inception to date statistics used previously. Marketing expenses continued to reflect relatively high levels of spending related to various business-building initiatives, and the Company's ongoing global "MyLife, MyCard(SM)" advertising campaign, although they were lower than last year, when the campaign was in its early stages.

Total provisions for losses and benefits increased 12 percent over last year to $\$ 2.2$ billion as the lending and investment certificate and other provisions growth of 22 percent and 44 percent, respectively, was partially offset by a 12 percent decline in the charge card provision. The increase in the lending provision was driven by a higher level of charge offs outside the U.S., primarily in Taiwan, and increased loan volumes globally, partially offset by the favorable impact of lower bankruptcy-related charge offs, strong credit quality in the U.S., and lower than expected costs related to Hurricane Katrina that were provided for last year. The investment certificate and other provision rose due to higher interest rates on larger investment certificate balances. Compared to last year, the charge provision declined 12 percent reflecting the lower loss rate, lower than expected costs for Hurricane Katrina losses that were provided for last year, and improved results from collection activities.

Professional services expenses increased 19 percent to $\$ 1.9$ billion reflecting higher technology service fees, greater business and service-related volumes, and increased credit and collection costs.

Interest expense rose 34 percent to $\$ 898$ million due to a higher cost of funds and increased debt funding levels in support of growth in receivables.

The effective tax rate was 32 percent and 25 percent for the nine months ended September 30,2006 and 2005 , respectively. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, reflected benefits of $\$ 192$ million resulting from the resolution of previous years' tax items. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, reflected higher tax expense related to uncertainty regarding the Company's ability to obtain tax benefits for certain expenses attributable to foreign subsidiaries, and a relatively high effective tax rate due to the impact of foreign exchange translation on the gain on the sale of the Company's investment in EAB, and a relatively low effective tax rate benefit on the credit losses in Taiwan. These items were offset by the favorable impacts of a net interest receivable from the IRS, finalization of the 2005 U.S. federal tax return, an adjustment of 2006 estimated state taxes, and a relatively low effective rate on the sale
of the Company's card and merchant-related operations in Brazil resulting principally from the difference between the applicable Brazil tax rate and the higher U.S. statutory rate.
(Loss) income from discontinued operations, net of tax for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, was (\$19) million and $\$ 519$ million, respectively. Included in the nine months ended September 30,2006 , is a $\$ 22$ million after-tax loss related to the sale of the Company's international banking business in Brazil. The nine months ended September 30, 2005, primarily reflected income related to Ameriprise prior to its spin-off.

Consolidated Liquidity and Capital Resources

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

## Capital Strategy

The Company believes allocating capital to its businesses with a return on risk-adjusted equity in excess of their cost of capital will continue to generate shareholder value. The Company seeks to retain earnings sufficient to satisfy its growth objectives and, to the extent capital exceeds investment requirements, return excess capital to shareholders. Assuming the Company achieves its financial objectives of 12 to 15 percent EPS growth, 33 to 36 percent return on shareholders' equity and at least 8 percent revenue growth, on average and over time, it will seek to return to shareholders an average of 65 percent of capital generated, subject to business mix, acquisitions and rating agency requirements. As described above, the company has raised its ROE targets from a range of 28 to 30 percent to a range of 33 to 36 percent. Important factors relating to ROE include the Company's revenue growth and margins, the level of capital required in its business, the mix of financings, and changes in the level of shareholders' equity over time.

The Company paid dividends of $\$ 480$ million during the nine months ended September 30, 2006. In addition, in keeping with the Company's objectives regarding the return of excess capital to shareholders, the Board of Directors of the Company approved a 25 percent increase in the quarterly dividend on the Company's common stock from $\$ 0.12$ to $\$ 0.15$ per share for the dividend paid to shareholders on August 10, 2006, and future dividends. Including share repurchases and dividends, during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company returned approximately 81 percent and 97 percent, respectively, of total capital generated to shareholders. On a cumulative basis, since the inception of the share repurchase program in 1994, approximately 68 percent of capital generated has been returned to shareholders.

Share Repurchases

The Company has a share repurchase program to return equity capital in excess of its business needs to shareholders. These share repurchases both offset the issuance of new shares as part of employee compensation plans and reduce shares outstanding. The Company repurchases its common shares primarily by open market purchases. Common shares also may be purchased from the Company-sponsored Incentive Savings Program (ISP) to facilitate the ISP's required disposal of shares when employee-directed activity results in an excess common share position. Such purchases are made at market price without commissions or other fees. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company purchased 56 million common shares at an average price of $\$ 52.94$. The Company repurchased a higher level of shares during the nine months ended September 30,2006 after activity was reduced last year due to the impact of the September 30, 2005 spin-off of Ameriprise. In May 2006 , the Company's Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of an additional 200 million shares of the Company's common stock. There are approximately 183 million shares remaining at September 30,2006 under authorizations to repurchase shares approved by the Company's Board of Directors. For additional information regarding the Company's share repurchases during the three months ended September 30, 2006, see Item $2(c)$ in Part II below.

Cash Flows
Cash Flows from Operating Activities

The net cash provided by operating activities exceeded net income for both the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, primarily due to provisions for losses and benefits, which are expenses in the consolidated statements of Income but do not require cash at the time of provision. Similarly,

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

depreciation and amortization represent non-cash expenses. In addition, net cash was provided by fluctuations in other
operating assets and liabilities. These accounts vary significantly in the normal course of business due to the amount and timing of various payments.

Management believes cash flows from operations, available cash balances and short-term borrowings will be sufficient to fund the Company's operating liquidity needs.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

The Company's investing activities primarily include the funding of cardmember loans and receivables and the Company's Available-for-Sale investment portfolio.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, net cash was used in investing activities primarily due to net increases in cardmember receivables and loans. Investing activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, also reflected cash retained by Ameriprise after the spin-off.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities
The Company's financing activities primarily include the issuance of debt, taking customer deposits, and selling investment certificates. The Company also regularly repurchases its common shares.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, net cash was provided by financing activities primarily due to a net increase in debt partially offset by a net decrease in customers' deposits and an increase in share repurchase activity. For the nine months ended September 30, 2005, net cash was provided by financing activities primarily due to a net increase in customers' deposits, cash provided by discontinued operations, and a net increase in investment certificates partially offset by a net decrease in total debt and share repurchase activity.

Financing Activities

The Company's funding needs are met primarily through the issuances of commercial paper, bank notes, customer deposits, medium-term notes, senior unsecured debentures, asset securitizations, long-term committed bank borrowing facilities, and credit lines. In total, for the Company, short-term debt at September 30, 2006, decreased $\$ 413$ million from December 31, 2005, due to a decrease in commercial paper and borrowed funds, offset by an increase in bank notes. Long-term debt at September 30, 2006, increased approximately $\$ 8.6$ billion from December 31, 2005, primarily as a result of the increase in medium-term notes.

The Company, through its Parent Company, has the ability to issue debt or equity securities under a shelf registration filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). On October 16, 2006, the Company filed a new shelf registration statement with the SEC to issue an unspecified amount of debt and equity securities from time to time. In August 2006 , the Parent Company issued $\$ 750$ million of fixed-rate subordinated debentures due in 2036 under its shelf registration. The subordinated debentures are automatically extendible to 2066 unless certain events occur prior to that date. The subordinated debentures are redeemable at the Company's option on or after September 1, 2016. If the

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

Company fails to achieve specified performance measures (which the Company believes is unlikely), the Company will be required to sell shares of its common stock and apply the net proceeds to pay interest.

American Express Credit Corporation (Credco), a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Express Travel Related Services, Inc. (TRS), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Parent Company, also has the ability to issue an unspecified amount of debt securities under shelf registrations filed with the SEC. At September 30, 2006, Credco had $\$ 12.2$ billion of debt securities outstanding.

American Express Canada Credit Corporation (AECCC), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Credco, has the ability to issue debt securities under a Canadian shelf registration statement. As of September 30, 2006, AECCC had approximately $\$ 0.9$ billion of medium-term notes available for issuance under this shelf and had a total of $\$ 2.1$ billion of total debt securities outstanding. All notes issued under this shelf are guaranteed by Credco.

TRS; American Express Centurion Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TRS; Credco; American Express Overseas Credit Corporation Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Credco; and American Express Bank Ltd. have established a program for the issuance, outside the U.S., of debt instruments to be listed on the Luxemburg Stock Exchange. The maximum aggregate principal amount of debt instruments outstanding at any one time under the program may not exceed $\$ 10.0$ billion at September 30, 2006. At September 30, 2006, $\$ 4.1$ billion was outstanding under this program.

At September 30, 2006, the Company maintained total committed bank lines of credit of $\$ 11.5$ billion which mature incrementally through 2011. Approximately $\$ 8.5$ billion remained available under these facilities. At such date, Credco could borrow a maximum amount of $\$ 10.7$ billion (including $\$ 3.0$ billion outstanding) under these facilities, with a commensurate maximum $\$ 1.2$ billion reduction in the amount available to the Parent Company.

The Parent Company is authorized to issue commercial paper. This program is supported by the $\$ 1.2$ billion of committed bank facility available to the Company, which expires in 2010. There was no Parent Company commercial paper outstanding during the nine months ended September 30, 2006, and no borrowings have been made under its bank credit facility.

In conjunction with its liquidity investment portfolio, the Company entered into securities lending agreements in June 2006 with other financial institutions. Under these agreements, certain investment securities are loaned on an overnight basis to financial institutions, and are secured by collateral equal to at least 102 percent of the fair market value of the investment securities lent. Collateral received by the Company can be in the form of cash or marketable U.S. Treasury or government agency securities. The Company may only retain or sell these securities in the event of a borrower default. The Company's loaned investment securities continue to be classified as investments on the Consolidated Balance Sheet that are considered restricted and pledged assets. The marketable securities received as collateral are not recorded in the Consolidated Balance Sheet, as the Company is not permitted to sell or repledge these securities absent a borrower default. Fees received from the securities lending transactions are recorded as investment income. As of September 30, 2006, approximately $\$ 1.1$ billion of investment securities were loaned under these agreements.

On October 31, 2006, the Company issued a notice of potential remarketing and

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

a notice of redemption to the holders of the $\$ 2$ billion principal amount of its 1.85 percent convertible debentures due 2033. Under the terms of the debentures, if the average of the closing sales price of the Company's common stock over the 10 trading day period ending on November 30, 2006 is less than the conversion price of $\$ 60.32$ per share, a remarketing reset event will occur and the yield or cash interest rate on the debentures will be reset on December 1, 2006. In the notice to holders the Company has elected that any debentures remarketed will bear cash interest payable quarterly and the next remarketing reset date will be June 5, 2008. The notice also states that if the average closing sales price of the company's common stock over the 10 trading day period ending November 30,2006 is $\$ 60.32$ or more, a remarketing reset event will not occur and the Company will redeem the debentures on December 1, 2006 at 100 percent of their accreted principal amount. The notice of redemption gives the holders the right to elect to convert the debentures. Holders that convert their debentures will receive cash equal to the accreted principal amount of the debentures and, if the stock price applicable to determining the conversion rate is more than $\$ 60.32$, amounts in excess of the accreted principal amount of the debentures will be paid in shares of the Company's common stock. If a remarketing event does occur, the notice of redemption will not be effective and the Company will not give effect to any conversion of any debentures. The Company believes that a remarketing event will not have a material impact on the Company's cost of funding. If a redemption event occurs and all the debentures are converted, for every dollar that the applicable conversion price exceeds $\$ 60.32$, the Company will be required to issue approximately 2 million shares of its common stock to the debenture holders, with an aggregate maximum cap of approximately 52 million shares.

Airline Industry Matters

Historically, the Company has not experienced significant revenue declines resulting from a particular airline's scaling-back or closure of operations due to bankruptcy or other financial challenges because the
volumes generated from the airline are typically shifted to other participants in the industry that accept the Company's card products. Nonetheless, the Company is exposed to business and credit risk in the airline industry primarily through business arrangements where the Company has remitted payment to the airline for a cardmember purchase of tickets that have not yet been used or "flown." This creates a potential exposure for the Company in the event that the cardmember is not able to use the ticket and the Company, based on the facts and circumstances, credits the cardmember for the unused ticket. Historically, this type of exposure has not generated any significant losses for the Company because of the need for an airline that is operating under bankruptcy protection to continue accepting credit and charge cards and honoring requests for credits and refunds in the ordinary course of business, and in furtherance of its reorganization and its formal assumption, with bankruptcy court approval, of its card acceptance agreement, including approval of the Company's right to hold cash to cover these potential exposures to provide credits to cardmembers. Typically, as an airline's financial situation deteriorates, the Company attempts to delay to the extent possible payment to the airline thereby increasing cash held to protect itself in the event of an ultimate liquidation of the airline. The Company's goal in these distressed situations is to hold sufficient cash over time to ensure that upon liquidation the cash held is equivalent to the credit exposure related to any unused tickets.

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

As part of Delta Airlines' (Delta) decision to file for protection under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Company lent funds to Delta as part of Delta's post-petition, debtor-in-possession (DIP) financing under the Bankruptcy Code. At September 30,2006 , the remaining principal balance was $\$ 237$ million. This post-petition facility continues to be structured as an advance against the Company's obligations to purchase Delta SkyMiles rewards points under the Company's co-brand and Membership Rewards agreements and began amortizing ratably on a monthly basis beginning in July 2006 and will continue through September 2007.

Given the depth of the Company's business relationships with Delta through the SkyMiles Credit Card and Delta's participation as a key partner in the Company's Membership Rewards program, in the event Delta's reorganization under the bankruptcy laws is not successful or otherwise negatively impacts the Company's relationship with Delta, the Company's future financial results could be adversely impacted. As previously disclosed, American Express' Delta SkyMiles Credit Card co-brand portfolio accounts for less than 10 percent of the Company's worldwide billed business and less than 15 percent of worldwide managed lending receivables.

## BUSINESS SEGMENT RESULTS

As discussed more fully below, results are presented on a GAAP basis unless otherwise stated.

U.S. Card Services<br>Selected Income Statement Data<br>GAAP Basis Presentation

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, |  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (Millions) | 2006 | 2005 | 2006 | 2005 |
| Net revenues: |  |  |  |  |
| Discount revenue, net card fees and other | \$2,482 | \$2,233 | \$ 7,310 | \$6,525 |
| Cardmember lending: |  |  |  |  |
| Finance charge revenue | 928 | 614 | 2,416 | 1,723 |
| Interest expense | 260 | 156 | 669 | 416 |
| Net finance charge revenue | 668 | 458 | 1,747 | 1,307 |
| Securitization income: |  |  |  |  |
| Excess spread, net (excluding servicing fees) (a) | 279 | 227 | 809 | 624 |
| Servicing fees | 100 | 108 | 306 | 307 |
| Gains on sales from securitizations(b) | 5 | 18 | 27 | 34 |
| Securitization income, net | 384 | 353 | 1,142 | 965 |
| Total net revenues | 3,534 | 3,044 | 10,199 | 8,797 |
| Expenses: |  |  |  |  |
| Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember | 127 | 3 | , 267 | 814 |
| Provision for losses | 446 | 458 | 1,104 | 1,167 |

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

Human resources and other operating expenses
Total expenses
Pretax segment income
Income tax provision
Segment income

U.S. Card Services<br>Selected Statistical Information

(Billions, except percentages and where indicated)

| Card billed business | \$ | 83.4 |  | \$4.2 |  | 42.6 |  | 212.0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total cards-in-force (millions) |  | 39.9 |  | 36.9 |  | 39.9 |  | 36.9 |
| Basic cards-in-force (millions) |  | 29.5 |  | 27.2 |  | 29.5 |  | 27.2 |
| Average basic cardmember spending (dollars) |  | 2,852 |  | 2,765 |  | , 471 |  | , 042 |
| U.S. Consumer Travel |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Travel sales | \$ | 0.6 |  | \$ 0.5 | \$ | 1.8 |  | 1.4 |
| Travel commissions and fees/sales |  | 8.5\% |  | 8.6\% |  | 8.4\% |  | 8.7\% |
| Worldwide Travelers Cheque and prepaid products: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sales | \$ | 5.6 |  | 5.8 | \$ | 14.9 |  | 14.9 |
| Average outstanding | \$ | 7.2 |  | \$ 7.3 | \$ | 7.0 |  | 7.2 |
| Average investments | \$ | 7.9 |  | 7.9 | \$ | 7.7 | \$ | 7.8 |
| Investment yield(a) |  | 4.9\% |  | 5.1\% |  | 5.0\% |  | 5.2\% |
| Tax equivalent yield - managed(a) |  | 7.5\% |  | 7.8\% |  | 7.6\% |  | 7.9\% |
| Total segment assets | \$ | 75.1 |  | \$1.6 | \$ | 75.1 |  | 61.6 |
| Segment capital | \$ | 4.9 |  | \$ 4.9 | \$ | 4.9 | \$ | 4.9 |
| Return on segment capital (b) |  | 44.0\% |  | 39.7\% |  | 44.0\% |  | 39.7\% |
| Cardmember receivables: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total receivables |  | 18.2 |  | 16.8 | \$ | 18.2 |  | 16.8 |
| 90 days past due as a \% of total |  | 2.3\% |  | 2.0\% |  | 2.3\% |  | 2.0\% |
| Net loss ratio as a \% of charge volume |  | $0.33 \%$ |  | 0.30\% |  | $0.27 \%$ |  | 0.28\% |

Cardmember lending - owned basis (c):<br>Total loans<br>30 days past due loans as a of total<br>Average loans<br>Net write-off rate<br>Net finance charge revenue(d)/average loans<br>Cardmember lending - managed basis (e):<br>Total loans<br>30 days past due loans as a \% of total<br>Average loans<br>Net write-off rate<br>Net finance charge revenue(d)/average loans

| $\$ 29.3$ | $\$ 22.4$ | $\$ 29.3$ | $\$ 22.4$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $2.7 \%$ | $2.4 \%$ | $2.7 \%$ | $2.4 \%$ |  |
| $\$ 28.6$ | $\$ 20.9$ | $\$ 26.4$ | $\$ 20.2$ |  |
| $3.1 \%$ | $3.6 \%$ |  | $2.9 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ |
| $9.2 \%$ | $8.7 \%$ | $8.8 \%$ | $8.6 \%$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| $\$ 49.5$ | $\$ 43.0$ | $\$ 49.5$ | $\$ 43.0$ |  |
| $2.6 \%$ | $2.4 \%$ |  | $2.6 \%$ | $2.4 \%$ |
| $\$ 48.7$ | $\$ 42.3$ | $\$ 46.9$ | $\$ 40.7$ |  |
| $3.0 \%$ | $3.8 \%$ |  | $2.8 \%$ | $3.9 \%$ |
| $9.3 \%$ | $9.2 \%$ | $9.1 \%$ | $9.0 \%$ |  |

(a) Investment yield represents earnings on certain tax-exempt securities. The tax equivalent yield - managed represents earnings on such tax-exempt securities as if it had been earned on a taxable basis and assumes an income tax rate of 35 percent.
(b) Computed on a trailing 12-month basis using segment income and equity capital allocated to segments based upon specific business operational needs, risk measures and regulatory capital requirements.
(c) "Owned" or GAAP basis measurement reflects only cardmember loans included in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets.
(d) Computed on an annualized basis.
(e) Includes on-balance sheet cardmember loans and off-balance sheet securitized cardmember loans. See "Differences between GAAP and Managed Basis Presentation" below.

Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 - GAAP Basis

The following discussion of U.S. Card Services' segment results of operations is presented on a GAAP basis.
U.S. Card Services reported segment income of $\$ 580$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2006, a 31 percent increase from $\$ 443$ million for the same period a year ago. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, U.S. Card Services reported segment income of $\$ 1.7$ billion, a 24 percent increase from $\$ 1.4$ billion for the same period a year ago.
U.S. Card Services' net revenues increased 16 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, compared to a year ago due to higher discount revenue, net card fees and other and increased net finance charge revenue. Discount revenue, net card fees and other of $\$ 2.5$ billion and $\$ 7.3$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30,2006 , respectively, rose 11 percent and 12 percent from a year ago largely due to higher billed business volumes, which for the three months ended September 30, 2006, were partially offset by a decrease in net card fees due to the reclassification of certain card acquisition-related costs as discussed previously. The 12 percent and 14 percent increase in billed business for the three and nine months ended September 30 , 2006, respectively, reflected a 3 percent and 5 percent increase in spending per proprietary basic card for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, and an 8 percent growth in cards-in-force for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006. Within the U.S. consumer business, billed business grew 11 percent and 13 percent during the three and nine months ended September 30,2006 , respectively, and small business volumes rose 15 percent and 17 percent during the three and nine months ended September 30 ,

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

2006, respectively. Net finance charge revenue rose 46 percent and 34 percent as compared to a year ago to $\$ 668$ million and $\$ 1.7$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, primarily due to 37 percent and 31 percent growth in the average cardmember lending balances as compared to a year ago, and a higher net portfolio yield. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, net finance charge revenue was reduced by higher than anticipated cardmember completion of consumer debt repayment programs and associated payment waivers.
U.S. Card Services' expenses increased 13 percent for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2006, compared to a year ago primarily due to greater human resources and other operating expenses, and higher marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services costs.

Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services expenses of $\$ 1.1$ billion and $\$ 3.3$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, increased 12 percent and 16 percent as compared to the same periods a year ago, due to higher volume-related rewards costs and increased marketing and promotion costs due to the continuation of business-building activities. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the increased marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services expenses reflected the charge related to a higher ultimate redemption rate within the Membership Rewards reserve in the U.S. discussed previously. Human resources and other operating expenses of $\$ 1.1$ billion and $\$ 3.3$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, increased 20 percent and 18 percent from a year ago. The increase was due to higher interest expense, greater professional services expenses related to credit and collection activities and higher technology service fees, increased human resources costs, and generally higher volume-related costs.

The effective tax rate was 29 percent and 30 percent for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and 31 percent for both the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005.

## Differences between GAAP and Managed Basis Presentation

For U.S. Card Services, the managed basis presentation reflects an increase to interest income recorded to enable management to evaluate tax exempt investments on a basis consistent with taxable investment securities. On a GAAP basis, interest income associated with tax exempt investments is recorded based on amounts earned. Accordingly, information presented on a managed basis assumes that tax exempt securities earned income at rates as if the securities produced taxable income with a corresponding increase in the provision for income taxes.

The managed basis presentation also assumes that there have been no off-balance sheet securitization transactions, i.e., all securitized cardmember loans and related income effects are reflected as if they were in the Company's balance sheets and income statements, respectively. For the managed basis presentation, revenue and expenses related to securitized cardmember loans are reflected in net card fees and other, net finance charge revenue, and credit provision. On a managed basis, there is no securitization income, net, as the managed basis presentation assumes no securitization transactions have occurred.

The Company presents U.S. Card Services information on a managed basis because that is the way the Company's management views and manages the business.

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

Management believes that a full picture of trends in the Company's cardmember lending business can only be derived by evaluating the performance of both securitized and non-securitized cardmember loans. Management also believes that use of a managed basis presentation presents a more accurate picture of the key dynamics of the cardmember lending business. Irrespective of the on and off-balance sheet funding mix, it is important for management and investors to see metrics for the entire cardmember lending portfolio because they are more representative of the economics of the aggregate cardmember relationships and ongoing business performance and trends over time. It is also important for investors to see the overall growth of cardmember loans and related revenue in order to evaluate market share. These metrics are significant in evaluating the Company's performance and can only be properly assessed when all non-securitized and securitized cardmember loans are viewed together on a managed basis. The Company does not currently securitize international loans.

On a GAAP basis, revenue and expenses from securitized cardmember loans are reflected in the Company's income statements in securitization income, net, fees and commissions, and credit provision for cardmember lending. At the time of a securitization transaction, the securitized cardmember loans are removed from the Company's balance sheet, and the resulting gain on sale is reflected in securitization income, net, as well as an impact to credit provision (credit reserves are no longer recorded for the cardmember loans once sold). Over the life of a securitization transaction, the Company recognizes servicing fees and other net revenues (referred to as "excess spread") related to the interests sold to investors (i.e., the investors' interests). These amounts are reflected in securitization income, net and fees and commissions. The Company also recognizes net finance charge revenue over the life of the securitization transaction related to the interest it retains (i.e., the seller's interest). At the maturity of a securitization transaction, cardmember loans on the balance sheet increase, and the impact of the incremental required loss reserves is recorded in credit provision.

As presented, in aggregate over the life of a securitization transaction, the pre-tax income impact to the Company is the same whether or not the Company had securitized cardmember loans or funded these loans through other financing activities (assuming the same financing costs). The income statement classifications, however, of specific items will differ.

U.S. Card Services<br>Selected Financial Information Managed Basis Presentation

(Millions)

Discount revenue, net card fees and other Reported for the period (GAAP) \$2,482
Securitization adjustments(a)
Tax adjustments (b)

Managed discount revenue, net card fees


# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

| and other | \$2,588 |  | \$2,342 |  | \$ 7,617 |  | \$6,852 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net finance charge revenue |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reported for the period (GAAP) | \$ | 668 | \$ | 458 | \$ | 1,747 |  | , 307 |
| Securitization adjustments(a) |  | 475 |  | 512 |  | 1,430 |  | , 435 |
| Managed net finance charge revenue |  | 143 | \$ | 970 |  | 3,177 |  | , 742 |
| Securitization income, net |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reported for the period (GAAP) | \$ | 384 | \$ | 353 |  | 1,142 | \$ | 965 |
| Securitization adjustment (a) |  | (384) |  | (353) |  | $(1,142)$ |  | (965 |
| Managed securitization income, net | \$ | -- | \$ | -- | \$ | -- | \$ |  |
| Provision for losses |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reported for the period (GAAP) | \$ | 446 | \$ | 458 | \$ | 1,104 |  | , 167 |
| Securitization adjustments(a) |  | 144 |  | 215 |  | 397 |  | 637 |
| Managed provision for losses | \$ | 590 | \$ | 673 | \$ | 1,501 |  | , 804 |

(a) The managed basis presentation assumes that there have been no off-balance sheet securitization transactions, i.e., all securitized cardmember loans and related income effects are reflected as if they were in the Company's balance sheets and income statements, respectively. For the managed basis presentation, revenue and expenses related to securitized cardmember loans are reflected in net card fees and other, net finance charge revenue, and credit provision. On a managed basis, there is no securitization income, net, as the managed basis presentation assumes no securitization transactions have occurred.
(b) The managed basis presentation reflects an increase to interest income recorded to enable management to evaluate tax exempt investments on a basis consistent with taxable investment securities. On a GAAP basis, interest income associated with tax exempt investments is recorded based on amounts earned. Accordingly, information presented on a managed basis assumes that tax exempt securities earned income at rates as if the securities produced taxable income with a corresponding increase in the provision for income taxes.

Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 - Managed Basis

The following discussion of U.S. Card Services is on a managed basis.

Discount revenue, net card fees and other increased 11 percent as compared to a year ago to $\$ 2.6$ billion and $\$ 7.6$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30,2006 , respectively, largely due to increases in billed business volumes. Net finance charge revenue rose 18 percent and 16 percent as compared to a year ago to $\$ 1.1$ billion and $\$ 3.2$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, primarily due to 15 percent growth in the average cardmember lending balances as compared to a year ago, and a higher net portfolio yield. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, net finance charge revenue was reduced by higher than anticipated cardmember completion of consumer debt repayment programs and associated payment waivers. Total provision for losses decreased 12 percent and 17 percent to $\$ 590$ million and $\$ 1.5$ billion for the three and nine months

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

ended September 30, 2006, respectively, reflecting a lower level of bankruptcy-related charge offs, improved collections, and continued strong credit quality, as well as lower than expected costs for Hurricane Katrina losses for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 , that were provided for in the three months ended September 30, 2005, partially offset by the impact of strong volume and loan growth.

On a managed basis, as compared to 2005, the Company has economically hedged a smaller percentage of its expected interest rate exposure in 2006 , and is substantially less economically hedged for 2007 and beyond. This decrease along with higher interest rates and higher volume-related borrowings resulted in higher funding costs in 2006 as compared with 2005 . The Company expects higher funding costs to continue in 2007 due to an expected increase in higher-cost floating rate borrowings relative to fixed rate funding that matures in 2006 .

International Card \& Global Commercial Services
Selected Income Statement Data


# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

International card \& Global Commercial Services Selected Statistical Information

(Billions, except percentages and where indicated)

## Card billed business

Total cards-in-force (millions) (a)
Basic cards-in-force (millions)
Average basic cardmember spending (dollars)
Global Corporate \& International Consumer Travel
Travel sales
Travel commissions and fees/sales
International banking:
Total loans
Private banking holdings
Total segment assets
Segment capital
Return on segment capital(b)
Cardmember receivables:
Total receivables
90 days past due as a of total
Net loss ratio as a of charge volume
Cardmember lending:
Total loans
30 days past due loans as a of total
Average loans
Net write-off rate
Net finance charge revenue(c)/average loans


(a) Cards-in-force at September 30, 2006, reflect the transfer of 1.3 million proprietary cards in Brazil, and approximately 200,000 proprietary cards-in-force in Malaysia and Indonesia to the Global Network \& Merchant Services segment on June 30,2006 , and during the three months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.
(b) Computed on a trailing 12-month basis using segment income and equity capital allocated to segments based upon specific business operational needs, risk measures and regulatory capital requirements.
(c) Computed on an annualized basis.

Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005

International Card \& Global Commercial Services reported segment income of $\$ 216$ million and $\$ 249$ million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, a 13 percent decrease from the same period a year ago. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, International Card \& Global Commercial Services reported segment income of $\$ 654$ million and $\$ 666$ million, respectively, a 2 percent decrease from the same period a year ago. Results for the segment for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, reflect strength in card-related businesses despite the sales of the card and merchant-related activities in Brazil, Malaysia and Indonesia which negatively impacted growth in the revenues and income for the segment. In addition, growth in revenues and income for the segment was negatively

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

impacted by interest rate margin pressure in the international bank's investment certificate and other businesses, as well as the difficult corporate travel environment.

International Card \& Global Commercial Services' discount revenue, net card fees and other revenues of $\$ 2.1$ billion and $\$ 6.4$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 , respectively, rose 2 percent
and 5 percent compared to a year ago, driven primarily by the higher level of card spending, which was partially offset by a decrease in net card fees due to the reclassification of certain card acquisition-related costs as discussed previously. Growth was also suppressed by lower travel commissions and fees and the impact of the sales of card and merchant-related activities in Brazil, Malaysia and Indonesia. During the three months ended September 30, 2006, international banking revenues were relatively flat and incentives for corporate clients associated with growth in corporate volumes increased. The 14 percent and 15 percent increase in billed business for the three and nine months ended September 30,2006 , respectively, reflected an 11 percent and 10 percent increase in spending per proprietary basic card, respectively, and a 7 percent growth in cards-in-force for both periods before the transfer of cards in Brazil, Malaysia and Indonesia (cards-in-force at September 30, 2006 in the table above reflect the transfer of 1.3 million proprietary cards in Brazil, and approximately 200,000 proprietary cards in Malaysia and Indonesia to the Global Network Services segment on June 30, 2006, and during the three months ended September 30, 2006, respectively). Excluding the impact of the Brazil, Malaysia and Indonesia sales, billed business grew approximately 17 percent and 16 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, and all of the Company's major geographic regions experienced double digit growth in both periods.

For the three months ended September 30, 2006, assuming no changes in foreign currency exchange rates from the same period in the prior year, billed business and spending per proprietary basic card-in-force increased 12 percent and 9 percent, respectively. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, assuming no changes in foreign currency exchange rates from the same period in the prior year, billed business and spending per proprietary basic card-in-force increased 15 percent and 10 percent, respectively. International consumer and small business spending rose 9 percent and 13 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30 , 2006, respectively, and global corporate spending rose 14 percent and 16 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively.

Net finance charge revenue rose 18 percent and 19 percent to $\$ 201$ million and $\$ 595$ million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, primarily due to 22 percent and 21 percent growth in the average cardmember lending balances, which was offset by a lower net portfolio yield in both periods.

International Card \& Global Commercial Services' expenses increased 6 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 , due to increased provisions for losses and benefits, and higher marketing, promotion rewards and cardmember services expenses, and for the three months ended September 30 , 2006, greater human resources and other operating expenses. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the increase in expenses was partially offset by lower human resources and other operating expenses primarily due to the gains on sales of the Company's card and merchant-related operations in Brazil, investment in EAB, and its card and merchant-related activities in

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

Malaysia and Indonesia.
Marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services expenses of $\$ 330$ million and $\$ 1.1$ billion for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, increased 6 percent and 14 percent compared to a year ago, due to greater volume-related rewards costs during both periods, which was partially offset by a moderate reduction in marketing and promotion costs for the three months ended September 30, 2006. The increased marketing, promotion, rewards and cardmember services expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, also reflected the higher Membership Rewards ultimate redemption rate estimate previously discussed. Total provisions for losses and benefits increased 22 percent and 41 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, principally due to higher interest rates on investment certificate balances and strong volume and loan growth for both periods. Higher total provisions for losses and benefits for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, also reflected a higher level of charge offs, primarily related to industry-wide credit issues in Taiwan. Human resources and other operating expenses increased 2 percent for the three months ended September 30, 2006, as higher interest, human resources, and professional services expenses were offset by the reclassification of certain card acquisition-related costs previously discussed, the $\$ 33$ million gain related to the sale of the Company's card and merchant-related activities in Malaysia and Indonesia, and in the three months ended September 30, 2005, $\$ 30$ million of reengineering costs. Human resources and other operating expense decreased 2 percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, reflecting the items in the three month discussion above, the $\$ 119$
million gain on the sale of the Company's card and merchant-related activities in Brazil, the $\$ 88$ million gain on the sale of the Company's investment in EAB, and in the nine months ended September 30, 2005, $\$ 114$ million of reengineering costs.

The effective tax rate was 23 percent and 21 percent for the three months ended September 30,2006 and 2005, respectively, and 26 percent and 17 percent for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, reflected a $\$ 33$ million tax benefit at American Express Bank Ltd. resulting from the IRS audit of previous years' tax returns. The effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, reflected a higher tax expense related to uncertainty regarding the Company's ability to obtain tax benefits for certain expenses attributable to foreign subsidiaries, a relatively high effective tax rate due to the impact of foreign exchange translation on the gain on the sale of the Company's investment in EAB, and a relatively low effective tax rate benefit on credit losses in Taiwan. These items were offset by a relatively low effective tax rate on the sale of the Company's card and merchant-related operations in Brazil, resulting principally from the difference between the applicable Brazil tax rate, and the higher U.S. statutory rate.

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 



## Selected Statistical Information

(Billions, except percentages and where indicated)

|  | Three Months Ended September 30, |  |  | Nine Months Ended September 30, |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2006 | 2005 |  | 2006 |  | 2005 |  |
| Global Card billed business (a) | \$140.3 | \$121.7 |  | \$408.0 |  | \$351.8 |  |
| Global Network \& Merchant Services: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total segment assets | \$ 5.1 | \$ | 4.5 | \$ | 5.1 | \$ | 4.5 |
| Segment capital | \$ 1.3 | \$ | 1.2 | \$ | 1.3 | \$ | 1.2 |
| Return on segment capital (b) | 57.9\% |  | 49.4\% |  | 57.9\% |  | 49.4\% |
| Global Network Services(c) : |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Card billed business | \$ 9.7 | \$ | 6.0 | \$ | 23.9 | \$ | 17.1 |
| Total cards-in-force (millions) (d) | 14.5 |  | 9.9 |  | 14.5 |  | 9.9 |

(a) Global Card billed business includes activities (including cash advances) related to proprietary cards, cards issued under network partnership agreements, and certain insurance fees charged on proprietary cards.
(b) Computed on a trailing 12-month basis using segment income and equity capital allocated to segments based upon specific business operational needs, risk measures and regulatory capital requirements.
(c) Billed business and cards-in-force reflect the transfer, effective January 1, 2006, to International Card \& Global Commercial Services' segment of corporate card accounts in certain emerging markets that had been managed within Global Network Services.
(d) Cards-in-force at September 30, 2006, reflect the transfer of 1.3 million proprietary cards in Brazil, and approximately 200,000 proprietary cards-in-force in Malaysia and Indonesia from the International Card \& Global Commercial Services segment on June 30, 2006, and during the three months

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

ended September 30, 2006, respectively.
Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005

Global Network \& Merchant Services reported segment income of $\$ 212$ million for the three month period ended September 30, 2006, a 50 percent increase from $\$ 141$ million for the same period a year ago. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2006, Global Network \& Merchant Services reported segment income of $\$ 578$ million, a 42 percent increase from the same period a year ago.

Global Network \& Merchant Services' net revenues increased 15 percent and 13 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, to $\$ 798$ million and $\$ 2.3$ billion, primarily due to growth in network-related discount revenues generated from the 15 percent and 16 percent increase in global card billed business during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, as well as higher network partner-related fees.

Global Network \& Merchant Services' expenses remained relatively flat for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2006, as compared to the year ago periods due to increased human resources and other operating expenses, offset by lower marketing and promotion expenses.

Marketing and promotion expenses decreased 29 percent and 15 percent for the three and nine months ended September 30,2006 , respectively, due to a reduction in spending on brand-related advertising costs versus last year when the "MyLife, MyCard (SM)" campaign was in a particularly active phase. Human resources and other operating expenses of $\$ 347$ million and $\$ 965$ million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, respectively, increased 18 percent and 10 percent reflecting higher business volumes, and greater salary, benefit and management incentive costs, which were partially offset by a larger interest expense credit that recognizes the merchant services' accounts payable-related funding benefit for both periods. The increase in human resources and other expenses during the nine month period ended September 30 , 2006, also reflected an adjustment in amortization of an intangible asset relating to an overseas joint venture, partially offset by the Brazil gain.

The effective tax rate was 32 percent and 34 percent for the three months ended September 30,2006 and 2005 , and 35 percent for both nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 .

Corporate \& Other
Results of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 and 2005

Corporate \& Other had net expense of $\$ 52$ million and $\$ 170 \mathrm{million}$ for the three months and nine months ended September 30,2006 , respectively, compared to net income of $\$ 32$ million and net expense of $\$ 5$ million for the same periods a year ago. The three months ended September 30, 2005, included the $\$ 105$ million tax benefit previously discussed, $\$ 51$ million ( $\$ 33$ million after-tax) of reengineering costs, and $\$ 3$ million after-tax of Amerprise spin-off related expenses. The nine months ended September 30, 2005, included the items discussed above for the three months ended September 30, 2005, and a $\$ 112$ million ( $\$ 73$ million after-tax) September 11 th related insurance recovery, $\$ 95$ million ( $\$ 62$ million after-tax) of reengineering costs, and a $\$ 54$ million tax benefit resulting from an Internal Revenue Service audit of

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

previous years' tax returns. In addition, the comparison versus a year ago reflects efforts to eliminate overhead that was supportive of Amerprise.

As of September 30, 2006, the Company maintained a $\$ 200$ million equity investment in the Industrial \& Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), which was accounted for at cost. On October 27, 2006, ICBC completed an Initial Public Offering (IPO). The Company will continue to be required to account for its investment at cost for approximately two years due to contractual sales restrictions, at which time the Company will make a determination whether to classify the investment as either Available-for-Sale or Trading securities.

## OTHER REPORTING MATTERS

Accounting Developments

See "Recently Issued Accounting Standards" section of Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risk to earnings or value resulting from movements in market prices. The Company's non-trading related market risk consists primarily of interest rate risk in the card and certificate businesses and foreign exchange risk. There were no material changes in these market risks since December 31, 2005.

## ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

The Company's management, with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as
amended (the "Exchange Act")) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on such evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of the end of such period, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective. There have not been any changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Rules $13 a-15(f)$ and $15 d-15(f)$ under the Exchange Act) during the fiscal quarter to which this report relates that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## Forward-Looking Statements

This report includes forward-looking statements, which are subject to risks and uncertainties. The words "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "optimistic," "intend," "plan," "aim," "will," "may," "should," "could," "would," "likely," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date on which they are made. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, the following: the Company's ability to generate sufficient revenue growth and achieve sufficient margins, fluctuations in the capital required to support its businesses, the mix of the Company's financings, and fluctuations

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

in the level of the Company's shareholders' equity; the Company's ability to grow its business and meet or exceed its return on shareholders' equity target by reinvesting approximately 35 percent of annually-generated capital, and returning approximately 65 percent of such capital to shareholders, over time, which will depend on the Company's ability to manage its capital needs and the effect of business mix, acquisitions and rating agency requirements; consumer and business spending on the Company's credit and charge card products and Travelers Cheques and other prepaid products and growth in card lending balances, which depend in part on the ability to issue new and enhanced card and prepaid products, services and rewards programs, and increase revenues from such products, attract new cardmembers, reduce cardmember attrition, capture a greater share of existing cardmembers' spending, sustain premium discount rates on its card products in light of regulatory and market pressures, increase merchant coverage, retain cardmembers after low introductory lending rates have expired, and expand the Global Network Services business; the Company's ability to introduce new products, reward program enhancements and service enhancements on a timely basis during 2006; the success of the Global Network Services business in partnering with banks in the United States, which will depend in part on the extent to which such business further enhances the Company's brand, allows the Company to leverage its significant processing scale, expands merchant coverage of the network, provides Global Network Services' bank partners in the United States the benefits of greater cardmember loyalty and higher spend per customer, and merchant benefits such as greater transaction volume and additional higher spending customers; fluctuations in interest rates, which impact the Company's borrowing costs and return on lending products; the continuation of favorable trends, including increased travel and entertainment spending, and the overall level of consumer confidence; the costs and integration of acquisitions; the success, timeliness and financial impact (including costs, cost savings and other benefits including increased revenues), and beneficial effect on the Company's operating expense to revenue ratio, both in the short-term and over time, of reengineering initiatives being implemented or considered by the Company, including cost management, structural and strategic measures such as vendor, process, facilities and operations consolidation, outsourcing (including, among others, technologies operations), relocating certain functions to lower-cost overseas locations, moving internal and external functions to the Internet to save costs, and planned staff reductions relating to certain of such reengineering actions; the company's ability to reinvest the benefits arising from such reengineering actions in its businesses; the ability to control and manage operating, infrastructure, advertising and promotion expenses as business expands or changes, including the ability to accurately estimate the provision for the cost of the Membership Rewards program; the Company's ability to manage credit risk related to consumer debt, business loans, merchant bankruptcies and other credit trends and the rate of bankruptcies, which can affect spending on card products, debt payments by individual and corporate customers and businesses that accept the company's card products and returns on the Company's investment portfolios; bankruptcies, restructurings or similar events affecting the airline or any other industry representing a significant portion of the Company's billed business, including any potential negative effect on particular card products and services and billed business generally that could result from the actual or perceived weakness of
key business partners in such industries; the triggering of obligations to make payments to certain co-brand partners, merchants, vendors and customers under contractual arrangements with such parties under certain circumstances; a downturn in the Company's businesses and/or negative changes in the

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

Company's and its subsidiaries' credit ratings, which could result in contingent payments under contracts, decreased liquidity and higher borrowing costs; risks associated with the Company's agreements with Delta Air Lines to prepay $\$ 300$ million for the future purchases of Delta SkyMiles rewards points; fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates; accuracy of estimates for the fair value of the assets in the Company's investment portfolio and, in particular, those investments that are not readily marketable, including the valuation of the interest-only strip relating to the Company's lending securitizations; the potential negative effect on the Company's businesses and infrastructure, including information technology, of terrorist attacks, disasters or other catastrophic events in the future; political or economic instability in certain regions or countries, which could affect lending and other commercial activities, among other businesses, or restrictions on convertibility of certain currencies; changes in laws or government regulations; outcomes and costs associated with litigation and compliance and regulatory matters; and competitive pressures in all of the Company's major businesses. A further description of these and other risks and uncertainties can be found in the Company's Annual Report on Form $10-\mathrm{K}$ for the year ended December 31, 2005, and its other reports filed with the SEC.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

## AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY

## ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company and its subsidiaries are involved in a number of legal and arbitration proceedings, including class actions, concerning matters arising in connection with the conduct of their respective business activities. The Company believes it has meritorious defenses to each of these actions and intends to defend them vigorously. The Company believes that it is not a party to, nor are any of its properties the subject of, any pending legal or arbitration proceedings that would have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial condition, results of operations or liquidity. However, it is possible that the outcome of any such proceedings could have a material impact on results of operations in any particular reporting period as the proceedings are resolved. Certain legal proceedings involving the Company are described below. For a discussion of certain other legal proceedings involving the Company and its subsidiaries, please refer to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, and its Forms $10-Q$ for the three months ended March 31 and June 30, 2006.

## Corporate Matters

Beginning in mid-July 2002, 12 putative class action lawsuits were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. In October 2002, these cases were consolidated under the caption In re American Express Company Securities Litigation. These lawsuits allege violations of the federal securities laws and the common law in connection with alleged misstatements and omissions regarding certain investments in high-yield bonds and write-downs in the 2000-2001 timeframe. The purported class covers the period from July 18, 1999 to July 17, 2001. The actions seek unspecified compensatory damages as well as disgorgement, punitive damages, attorneys' fees and costs, and interest. In March 2004, the District Court granted the Company's motion to dismiss the lawsuit. Plaintiffs appealed the dismissal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. In August 2006, the Court of Appeals, without expressing any views whatsoever on the merits of the cases, vacated the District Court's judgment and remanded all claims to the District Court for further proceedings. More particularly, the Court of Appeals reversed the District Court's ruling that two of the plaintiffs' claims in an amended complaint did not "relate back" to the original complaint and were thus time-barred under the statute of limitations period. As a result, the court of

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

Appeals decided that it was prudent to remand all claims back to the District Court so that plaintiffs could file a new amended complaint. The Company continues to believe that it has meritorious defenses to the action and intends to file a new motion to dismiss the lawsuit once the amended complaint is filed.

## U.S. Card Services and Global Network \& Merchant Services Matters

In December 2003, American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc. was named as a defendant in a shareholder derivative action purportedly filed on behalf of InfoSpace Inc. The action,
captioned Dreiling v. American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc., was filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Washington. The complaint alleges that the Company violated the "short swing" liability provisions of Section $16(a)$ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, in connection with its sale of InfoSpace common stock. The plaintiff seeks disgorgement of profits from the sale of the InfoSpace shares, as well as fees and expenses. In June 2004, the Court granted American Express' motion to dismiss the complaint without American Express' ever having answered the complaint. In August 2006, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit reinstated the action because of certain unresolved factual disputes. The Company continues to believe that it has meritorious defenses to this action and intends to defend it vigorously.

In July 2004, a purported class action captioned Ross, et al. v. American Express Company, American Express Travel Related Services and American Express Centurion Bank was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. The complaint alleges that AMEX conspired with Visa, MasterCard and Diners Club in the setting of foreign conversion rates and in the inclusion of arbitration clauses in certain of their cardmember agreements. The suit seeks injunctive relief and unspecified damages. The class is defined as "all Visa, MasterCard and Diners Club general purpose cardholders who used cards issued by any of the MDL Defendant Banks...." American Express cardholders are not part of the class. In September 2005, the Court denied the Company's motion to dismiss the action and preliminarily certified an injunction class of Visa and MasterCard cardholders to determine the validity of Visa's and MasterCard's cardmember arbitration clauses. American Express filed a motion for reconsideration with the Court, which motion was denied in September 2006. American Express has filed an appeal from the District Court's order denying its motion to compel arbitration and has asked the appellate court to entertain an interlocutory appeal from the District Court's certification of an injunction class.

In January 2006, in a matter captioned Hoffman, et al. v. American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc., No. 2001-02281, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Alameda, the Court certified a class action against TRS. Two classes were certified: (1) all persons who held American Express charge cards with billing addresses in California who purchased American Express' fee-based travel-related insurance plans from September 6, 1995, through a date to be determined and (2) all persons who held American Express charge cards with billing addresses in states other than California and who purchased American Express' fee-based travel-related insurance plans from September 6, 1995, through a date to be determined. Plaintiffs allege that American Express violated California and New York law by allegedly billing customers for flight and baggage insurance that they did not receive. American Express denies the allegations and filed an

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

interlocutory appeal (known as a petition for a writ of mandate) of the class certification order. In June 2006, the appellate court denied jurisdiction over that interlocutory appeal. American Express also appealed the denial of its motion to compel individual arbitration of all non-California class members. The appellate court has jurisdiction over that appeal and the appeal is pending. In the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York a matter making related allegations as those raised in Hoffman is pending. That matter, captioned Environment Law Enforcement Systems v. American Express et. al., had effectively been stayed pending the proceedings in the Hoffman action. In October 2006, the Court in the Environment Law action entered an order scheduling a pre-motion conference on American Express' anticipated motion to compel arbitration for January 31, 2007.

## International Matters

As disclosed in the Company's 2005 10-K Report, in recent years, U.S. and foreign regulatory authorities, together with international organizations, have raised increasing concerns over the ability of criminal organizations and corrupt persons to use global financial intermediaries to facilitate money laundering. In the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury has issued regulations pursuant to the USA PATRIOT Act that specifically impact certain money laundering prevention activities of entities involved, as American Express Bank Ltd. (AEBL) is, in correspondent and private banking activities. Compliance efforts to combat money laundering remain a high priority for $A E B L$ and it has increased these efforts to address evolving regulatory and supervisory standards and requirements in jurisdictions in which AEBL does business. In early 2004, American Express Bank International (AEBI), a subsidiary of AEBL headquartered in Miami, received subpoenas from the Department of Justice (DOJ) relating to certain customer accounts and anti-money laundering (AML) compliance programs. In September 2006, the DOJ informed AEBI of concerns relating to AML compliance programs that could result in an action. AEBI has been cooperating with the DOJ.

## ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

(c) ISSUER PURCHASES OF SECURITIES

The table below sets forth the information with respect to purchases of the Company's common stock made by or on behalf of the Company during the quarter ended September 30, 2006.

| Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid Per Share | Total Number <br> of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (3) | Maximum <br> Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| July 1-31, 2006 |  |  |  |  |
| Repurchase program (1) | 2,750,000 | \$51.88 | 2,750,000 | 196,447,423 |
| Employee transactions (2) | 41,180 | \$52.20 | N/A | N/A |

## Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q

August 1-31, 2006
Repurchase program (1)
Employee transactions (2)
September 1-30, 2006
Repurchase program (1)
Employee transactions (2)

## Total

Repurchase program (1)
Employee transactions (2)

| $11,550,400$ | $\$ 52.38$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| 9,166 | $\$ 52.48$ |
| -------- |  |
| $1,478,900$ | $\$ 52.47$ |
| 5,967 | $\$ 53.79$ |
| --------- |  |
| $15,779,300$ | $\$ 52.30$ |
| 56,313 | $\$ 52.41$ |


| $11,550,400$ | $184,897,023$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| N/A | N/A |
| -------- |  |
| $1,478,900$ | $183,418,123$ |
| N/A | N/A |

$\$ 52.30$
\$52. 41
(1) The Board of Directors of the Company authorized the repurchase of an additional 200 million shares of common stock in May 2006 . At September 30, 2006, there are approximately 183.4 million shares remaining under such authorization. Such authorization does not have an expiration date, and at present, there is no intention to modify or otherwise rescind such authorization. Since September 1994, the Company has acquired 586.6 million shares of common stock under various Board authorizations to repurchase up to an aggregate of 770.0 million shares, including purchases made under agreements with third parties.
(2) Includes: (1) shares delivered by or deducted from holders of employee stock options who exercised options (granted under the Company's incentive compensation plans) in satisfaction of the exercise price and/or tax withholding obligation of such holders and (2) restricted shares withheld (under the terms of grants under the Company's incentive compensation plans) to offset tax withholding obligations that occur upon vesting and release of restricted shares. The Company's incentive compensation plans provide that the value of the shares delivered or attested to, or withheld, shall be the average of the high and low price of the Company's common stock on the date the relevant transaction occurs.
(3) Share purchases under publicly announced programs are made pursuant to open market purchases or privately negotiated transactions (including with employee benefit plans) as market conditions warrant and at prices the Company deems appropriate.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS
The list of exhibits required to be filed as exhibits to this report are listed on page E-1 hereof, under "Exhibit Index," which is incorporated herein by reference.

SIGNATURES

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

# Edgar Filing: AMERICAN EXPRESS CO - Form 10-Q 

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY<br>(Registrant)

Date: November 9, 2006

Date: November 9, 2006

By /s/ Gary L. Crittenden

Gary L. Crittenden
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

By /s/ Joan C. Amble
Joan C. Amble
Executive Vice President and Comptroller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

46

EXHIBIT INDEX

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Quarterly Report:

| Exhibit | Description |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4.1 | Form of Global Debenture for $\$ 500,000,000$ principal amount of the Company's 6.80\% Subordinated Debentures due September 1, 2036 and automatically extendible to September 1, 2066 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (Commission File No. 1-7657), filed August 2, 2006). |
| 4.2 | Form of Global Debenture for $\$ 250,000,000$ principal amount of the Company's 6.80\% Subordinated Debentures due September 1, 2036 and automatically extendible to September 1, 2066 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (Commission File No. 1-7657), filed August 2, 2006). |
| 12 | Computation in Support of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges. |
| 31.1 | Certification of Kenneth I. Chenault pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. |
| 31.2 | Certification of Gary L. Crittenden pursuant to Rule 13a-14 (a) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. |
| 32.1 | Certification of Kenneth I. Chenault and Gary L. Crittenden pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |

$$
\mathrm{E}-1
$$


[^0]:    (a) Assumes no changes in foreign currency exchange rates from the same period in the prior year.

[^1]:    (a) Assumes no changes in foreign currency exchange rates from the same period in the prior year.
    (b) Included in the U.S. Card Services segment.

