

ERIE INDEMNITY CO
Form 10-K
February 26, 2013
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

OR

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

Commission File Number 0-24000

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Pennsylvania

(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation or organization)

25-0466020

(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

100 Erie Insurance Place, Erie,

Pennsylvania

(Address of principal executive offices)

(814) 870-2000

16530

(Zip code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Class A common stock, stated value \$0.0292 per share, listed on the NASDAQ

Stock Market, LLC

(Title of each class)

(Name of each exchange on which
registered)

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

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

Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

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 No

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

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

Yes No

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

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

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Large Accelerated Filer | Accelerated Filer | Non-Accelerated Filer | Smaller Reporting Company |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

Aggregate market value of voting and non-voting common stock held by non-affiliates as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter: \$1.8 billion of Class A non-voting common stock as of June 30, 2012. There is no active market for the Class B voting common stock. The Class B common stock is closely held by few shareholders.

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

46,758,436 shares of Class A common stock and 2,542 shares of Class B common stock outstanding on February 15, 2013.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of Part III of this Form 10-K (Items 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14) are incorporated by reference to the information statement on Form 14(C) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012.

Table of Contents

INDEX

| PART | ITEM NUMBER AND CAPTION | PAGE |
|------|---|------------|
| I | <u>Item 1. Business</u> | <u>3</u> |
| | <u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u> | <u>9</u> |
| | <u>Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments</u> | <u>18</u> |
| | <u>Item 2. Properties</u> | <u>18</u> |
| | <u>Item 3. Legal Proceedings</u> | <u>18</u> |
| | <u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u> | <u>19</u> |
| II | <u>Item 5. Market for Registrant’s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u> | <u>20</u> |
| | <u>Item 6. Selected Consolidated Financial Data</u> | <u>22</u> |
| | <u>Item 7. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | <u>23</u> |
| | <u>Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u> | <u>65</u> |
| | <u>Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u> | <u>69</u> |
| | <u>Item 9. Changes In and Disagreements With Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u> | <u>126</u> |
| | <u>Item 9A. Controls and Procedures</u> | <u>126</u> |
| | <u>Item 9B. Other Information</u> | <u>126</u> |
| III | <u>Item 10. Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u> | <u>128</u> |
| | <u>Item 11. Executive Compensation</u> | <u>129</u> |
| | <u>Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u> | <u>129</u> |
| | <u>Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u> | <u>129</u> |
| | <u>Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u> | <u>129</u> |
| IV | <u>Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u> | <u>130</u> |
| | <u>Signatures</u> | <u>131</u> |

Table of Contents

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

General

Erie Indemnity Company (“Indemnity”) is a publicly held Pennsylvania business corporation that has been the managing attorney-in-fact for the subscribers (policyholders) at the Erie Insurance Exchange (“Exchange”) since 1925. The Exchange is a subscriber owned, Pennsylvania-domiciled reciprocal insurer that writes property and casualty insurance.

Indemnity’s primary function is to perform certain services for the Exchange relating to the sales, underwriting and issuance of policies on behalf of the Exchange. This is done in accordance with a subscriber’s agreement (a limited power of attorney) executed by each subscriber (policyholder), which appoints Indemnity as their common attorney-in-fact to transact business on their behalf and to manage the affairs of the Exchange. Pursuant to the subscriber’s agreement and for its services as attorney-in-fact, Indemnity earns a management fee calculated as a percentage of the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group (defined below), which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement.

Indemnity has the power to direct the activities of the Exchange that most significantly impact the Exchange’s economic performance by acting as the common attorney-in-fact and decision maker for the subscribers (policyholders) at the Exchange.

Through December 31, 2010, Indemnity also operated as a property and casualty insurer through its wholly owned subsidiaries, Erie Insurance Company (“EIC”), Erie Insurance Company of New York (“ENY”) and Erie Insurance Property and Casualty Company (“EPC”). EIC, ENY and EPC, together with the Exchange and its wholly owned subsidiary, Flagship City Insurance Company (“Flagship”), are collectively referred to as the “Property and Casualty Group”. The Property and Casualty Group operates in 11 Midwestern, Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states and the District of Columbia and writes primarily private passenger automobile, homeowners, commercial multi-peril, commercial automobile and workers compensation lines of insurance. On December 31, 2010, Indemnity sold all of the outstanding capital stock of its wholly owned property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange.

Erie Family Life Insurance Company (“EFL”) is an affiliated life insurance company that underwrites and sells individual and group life insurance policies and fixed annuities. On March 31, 2011, Indemnity sold its 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange.

All property and casualty and life insurance operations are owned by the Exchange, and Indemnity functions solely as the management company.

The consolidated financial statements of Erie Indemnity Company reflect the results of Indemnity and its variable interest entity, the Exchange, which we refer to collectively as “Erie Insurance Group” (“we,” “us,” “our”).

“Indemnity shareholder interest” refers to the interest in Erie Indemnity Company owned by the Class A and Class B shareholders. “Noncontrolling interest” refers to the interest in the Erie Insurance Exchange held for the subscribers (policyholders).

Business Segments

We operate our business as four reportable segments – management operations, property and casualty insurance operations, life insurance operations and investment operations. Financial information about these segments is set forth in and referenced to Item 8. “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data - Note 5, Segment Information, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements” contained within this report. Further discussion of financial results by

operating segment is provided in and referenced to Item 7. “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” contained within this report.

Management operations – We generate internal management fee revenue, which accrues to the Indemnity shareholder interest, as Indemnity provides services to the Exchange relating to the sales, underwriting and issuance of policies. The Exchange is the sole customer of our management operations. Indemnity charges the Exchange a management fee, determined by our Board of Directors, not to exceed 25% of all premiums written or assumed by the Exchange for its services as attorney-in-fact. Management fee revenue is eliminated upon consolidation.

3

Table of Contents

Property and casualty insurance operations – The Property and Casualty Group generates revenue by insuring preferred and standard risks, with personal lines comprising 72% of the 2012 direct written premiums and commercial lines comprising the remaining 28%. The principal personal lines products based upon 2012 direct written premiums were private passenger automobile (45%) and homeowners (26%). The principal commercial lines products based upon 2012 direct written premiums were commercial multi-peril (12%), commercial automobile (7%) and workers compensation (7%).

The members of the Property and Casualty Group pool their underwriting results under an intercompany pooling agreement. Under the pooling agreement, the Exchange retains a 94.5% interest in the net underwriting results of the Property and Casualty Group, while EIC retains a 5.0% interest and ENY retains a 0.5% interest. Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

Historically, due to policy renewal and sales patterns, the Property and Casualty Group's direct written premiums are greater in the second and third quarters than in the first and fourth quarters of the calendar year. Property and casualty insurance premiums earned accounted for approximately 80% of our total consolidated revenue in 2012, 86% in 2011 and 81% in 2010.

The Property and Casualty Group is represented by nearly 2,200 independent agencies comprising almost 10,200 licensed property and casualty representatives, which is our sole distribution channel. In addition to their principal role as salespersons, the independent agents play a significant role as underwriting and service providers and are fundamental to the Property and Casualty Group's success.

The Property and Casualty Group writes business in Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin and the District of Columbia. The states of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia made up 62% of the Property and Casualty Group's direct written premium in 2012.

While sales, underwriting and policy issuance services are centralized at our home office, the Property and Casualty Group maintains 24 field offices throughout its operating region to provide claims services to policyholders and marketing support for the independent agencies that represent us.

The Property and Casualty Group ranked as the 12th largest automobile insurer in the United States based upon 2011 direct premiums written and as the 20th largest property and casualty insurer in the United States based upon 2011 total lines net premiums written according to AM Best Company.

Life insurance operations – Our life insurance operations generate revenue from the sale of individual and group life insurance policies and fixed annuities. These products are offered through our property and casualty insurance agency force to provide an opportunity to cross-sell both personal and commercial accounts. EFL writes business in 10 states including Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin and the District of Columbia. The state of Pennsylvania made up 48% of EFL's 2012 premium and annuity considerations, with Maryland, Virginia and Ohio making up approximately 10% each.

Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100.0% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to

the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

Investment operations – Our investment operations generate revenue from our fixed maturity, equity security and alternative investment portfolios. The portfolios are managed with the objective of maximizing after-tax returns on a risk-adjusted basis. Revenues and losses included in investment operations consist of net investment income, net realized gains and losses, net impairment losses recognized in earnings for our fixed maturity and preferred equity portfolios, and equity in earnings and losses from our alternative investments, which include private equity, mezzanine debt, and real estate limited partnerships. The volatility inherent in the financial markets has the potential to impact our investment portfolio from time-to-time. Net revenues from our investment operations accounted for approximately 18% of our total consolidated revenue in 2012, 12% in 2011, and 17% in 2010.

4

Table of Contents

Competition

Property and casualty insurers generally compete on the basis of customer service, price, consumer recognition, coverages offered, claims handling, financial stability and geographic coverage. Vigorous competition, particularly in the personal lines automobile and homeowners lines of business, is provided by large, well-capitalized national companies, some of which have broad distribution networks of employed or captive agents, by smaller regional insurers, and by large companies who market and sell personal lines products directly to consumers. In addition, because the insurance products of the Property and Casualty Group are marketed exclusively through independent insurance agents, the Property and Casualty Group faces competition within its appointed agencies based upon ease of doing business, product, price and service relationships.

Market competition bears directly on the price charged for insurance products and services subject to regulatory limitations. Growth is driven by a company's ability to provide insurance services and competitive prices while maintaining target profit margins. Industry capital levels can also significantly affect prices charged for coverage. Growth is a product of a company's ability to retain existing customers and to attract new customers, as well as movement in the average premium per policy.

The Erie Insurance Group has a strategic focus that we believe will result in long-term underwriting performance. First, we employ an underwriting philosophy and product mix targeted to produce a Property and Casualty Group underwriting profit on a long-term basis through careful risk selection and rational pricing. The careful selection of risk allows for lower claims frequency and loss severity, thereby enabling insurance to be offered at favorable prices. The Property and Casualty Group has continued to refine its risk measurement and price sophistication models used in the underwriting and pricing processes. Second, the Property and Casualty Group focuses on consistently providing superior service to policyholders and agents. Third, the Property and Casualty Group's business model is designed to provide the advantages of localized marketing and claims servicing with the economies of scale and low cost of operations from centralized accounting, administrative, underwriting, investment, information management and other support services.

Finally, we carefully select the independent agencies that represent the Property and Casualty Group. The Property and Casualty Group seeks to be the lead insurer with its agents in order to enhance the agency relationship and the likelihood of receiving the most desirable underwriting opportunities from its agents. We have ongoing, direct communications with our agency force. Agents have access to a number of venues we sponsor designed to promote the sharing of ideas, concerns and suggestions with the senior management of the Property and Casualty Group, with the goal of improving communications and service. We continually evaluate new ways to support our agents' efforts, from marketing programs to identifying potential customer leads, to grow the business of the Property and Casualty Group and sustain our long-term agency relationships. High agency penetration and long-term relationships allow for greater efficiency in providing agency support and training.

EFL, our life insurer, is subject to many of the same structural advantages and environmental challenges as the Property and Casualty Group. Term life business accounts for the majority of policies issued by EFL, and this product line is extremely competitive and increasingly transparent due in part to the proliferation of on-line quoting services. Besides price, ease of application and processing improvements represent areas where companies are finding ways to differentiate themselves among independent producers. EFL continues to progress in these areas using state-of-the-art technology and third-party vendors. Historically, sound underwriting and disciplined approaches to pricing and investing have contributed to favorable operating results. While EFL will be challenged to maintain these trends in the face of intensified competition going forward, we continually shape our strategy and core processes to respond more effectively to the needs of our policyholders and independent agents.

Employees

We employed approximately 4,400 full-time people at December 31, 2012.

Table of Contents

Reserves for Property and Casualty Losses and Loss Expenses

Loss reserves are established to account for the estimated ultimate costs of losses and loss expenses for claims that have been reported but not yet settled and claims that have been incurred but not reported. While we exercise professional diligence to establish reserves at the end of each period that are fully reflective of the ultimate value of all claims incurred, these reserves are, by their nature, only estimates and cannot be established with absolute certainty. The factors which may potentially cause the greatest variation between current reserve estimates and the actual future paid amounts include unforeseen changes in statutory or case law altering the amounts to be paid on existing claim obligations, new medical procedures and/or drugs with costs significantly different from those seen in the past, inflation and claims patterns on current business that differ significantly from historical claims patterns. A discussion of our property and casualty loss reserve methodology can be found in and is referenced to Item 7. "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Critical Accounting Estimates" contained within this report.

Losses and loss expense reserves are presented on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position on a gross basis. The table that follows provides a reconciliation of our loss and loss expense reserve beginning and ending balances established for the Property and Casualty Group for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Property and Casualty Group | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at January 1, – Gross | \$3,499 | \$3,584 | \$3,598 |
| Less: reinsurance recoverable | 151 | 188 | 200 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at January 1, – Net | 3,348 | 3,396 | 3,398 |
| Incurred losses and loss expenses related to: | | | |
| Current accident year | 3,494 | 3,616 | 3,053 |
| Prior accident years | (115 |) (272 |) (244 |
| Total incurred losses and loss expenses | 3,379 | 3,344 | 2,809 |
| Paid losses and loss expenses related to: | | | |
| Current accident year | 2,166 | 2,360 | 1,855 |
| Prior accident years | 1,117 | 1,032 | 956 |
| Total paid losses and loss expenses | 3,283 | 3,392 | 2,811 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at December 31, – Net | 3,444 | 3,348 | 3,396 |
| Add: reinsurance recoverable | 154 | 151 | 188 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at December 31, – Gross | \$3,598 | \$3,499 | \$3,584 |

The Property and Casualty Group estimates loss reserves at full expected cost except for workers compensation loss reserves, which are discounted on a nontabular basis as prescribed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. An interest rate of 2.5% is used to discount these reserves based upon the Property and Casualty Group's historical workers compensation payout patterns. Loss and loss expense reserves were reduced by \$85 million, \$84 million and \$127 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively, as a result of this discounting.

The Property and Casualty Group's reserves for losses and loss expenses are reported net of receivables for salvage and subrogation which totaled \$150 million, \$145 million and \$141 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Additional discussions of our property and casualty loss reserve activity can be found in and is referenced to Item 7. “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Results of Operations, Property and Casualty Insurance Operations” and “Financial Condition” sections contained within this report.

6

Table of Contents

The following table illustrates the change over time of our loss and loss expense reserve estimates established for the Property and Casualty Group at the end of the last ten calendar years:

| (in millions) | Property and Casualty Group Reserves for Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses At December 31, | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| Gross liability for unpaid losses and loss expenses (LAE) | \$3,401 | \$3,629 | \$3,779 | \$3,830 | \$3,684 | \$3,586 | \$3,598 | \$3,584 | \$3,499 | \$3,598 |
| Gross liability re-estimated as of: | | | | | | | | | | |
| One year later | 3,360 | 3,592 | 3,651 | 3,559 | 3,487 | 3,502 | 3,336 | 3,282 | 3,385 | |
| Two years later | 3,423 | 3,583 | 3,508 | 3,467 | 3,409 | 3,320 | 3,068 | 3,216 | | |
| Three years later | 3,482 | 3,558 | 3,464 | 3,412 | 3,307 | 3,101 | 3,043 | | | |
| Four years later | 3,497 | 3,516 | 3,437 | 3,358 | 3,111 | 3,084 | | | | |
| Five years later | 3,466 | 3,494 | 3,404 | 3,174 | 3,102 | | | | | |
| Six years later | 3,440 | 3,485 | 3,224 | 3,170 | | | | | | |
| Seven years later | 3,430 | 3,313 | 3,225 | | | | | | | |
| Eight years later | 3,275 | 3,316 | | | | | | | | |
| Nine years later | 3,276 | | | | | | | | | |
| Cumulative (deficiency) redundancy | \$125 | \$313 | \$554 | \$660 | \$582 | \$502 | \$555 | \$368 | \$114 | N/A |
| Gross liability for unpaid losses and LAE | \$3,401 | \$3,629 | \$3,779 | \$3,830 | \$3,684 | \$3,586 | \$3,598 | \$3,584 | \$3,499 | \$3,598 |
| Reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses ⁽¹⁾ | 124 | 133 | 155 | 183 | 190 | 187 | 200 | 188 | 151 | 154 |
| Net liability for unpaid losses and LAE | \$3,277 | \$3,496 | \$3,624 | \$3,647 | \$3,494 | \$3,399 | \$3,398 | \$3,396 | \$3,348 | \$3,444 |
| Cumulative amount of gross liability paid through: | | | | | | | | | | |
| One year later | \$1,055 | \$1,066 | \$1,067 | \$1,019 | \$1,042 | \$1,033 | \$955 | \$1,042 | \$1,121 | |
| Two years later | 1,638 | 1,699 | 1,630 | 1,621 | 1,573 | 1,538 | 1,474 | 1,591 | | |
| Three years later | 2,034 | 2,056 | 2,016 | 1,962 | 1,889 | 1,862 | 1,817 | | | |
| Four years later | 2,245 | 2,294 | 2,235 | 2,147 | 2,079 | 2,070 | | | | |
| Five years later | 2,394 | 2,431 | 2,342 | 2,270 | 2,216 | | | | | |
| Six years later | 2,484 | 2,509 | 2,427 | 2,368 | | | | | | |
| Seven years later | 2,541 | 2,573 | 2,500 | | | | | | | |
| Eight years later | 2,588 | 2,635 | | | | | | | | |
| Nine years later | 2,639 | | | | | | | | | |

(1) Reinsurance recoverable on unpaid losses represents the related ceded amounts.

Government Regulation

Property and casualty insurers are subject to supervision and regulation in the states in which they transact business. The extent of such regulation varies, but generally derives from state statutes that delegate regulatory, supervisory and administrative authority to state insurance departments. Accordingly, the authority of the state insurance departments

includes the establishment of standards of solvency that must be met and maintained by insurers, the licensing to do business of insurers and agents, the nature of the limitations on investments, the approval of premium rates for property and casualty insurance, the provisions that insurers must make for current losses and future liabilities, the deposit of securities for the benefit of policyholders, the approval of policy forms, notice requirements for the cancellation of policies and the approval of certain changes in control. In addition, many states have enacted variations of competitive rate-making laws that allow insurers to set certain premium rates for certain classes of insurance without having to obtain the prior approval by the state insurance department. State insurance departments also conduct periodic examinations of the affairs of insurance companies and require the filing of quarterly and annual reports relating to the financial condition of insurance companies.

The Property and Casualty Group is also required to participate in various involuntary insurance programs for automobile insurance, as well as other property and casualty lines, in states in which these companies operate. These involuntary programs provide various insurance coverages to individuals or other entities that are otherwise unable to purchase such coverages in the voluntary market. These programs include joint underwriting associations, assigned risk plans, fair access to insurance requirements ("FAIR") plans, reinsurance facilities and windstorm plans.

7

Table of Contents

Legislation establishing these programs generally provides for participation in proportion to voluntary writings of related lines of business in that state. The loss ratio on insurance written under involuntary programs has traditionally been greater than the loss ratio on insurance in the voluntary market. Although currently the federal government does not directly regulate the insurance industry, federal programs, such as federal terrorism backstop legislation and the Federal Insurance Office established under the Dodd-Frank Act can also impact the insurance industry.

Our life insurer, EFL, is subject to similar state regulations as the Property and Casualty Group, although specific laws and statutes applicable to life insurance and annuity carriers govern its activities. Valuation laws require statutory reserves to be held at conservative levels, which can have a substantial impact on the amount of free surplus that is available for financing new business and other growth opportunities.

Most states have enacted legislation that regulates insurance holding company systems such as the Erie Insurance Group. Each insurance company in the holding company system is required to register with the insurance supervisory authority of its state of domicile and furnish information regarding the operations of companies within the holding company system that may materially affect the operations, management or financial condition of the insurers within the system. Pursuant to these laws, the respective insurance departments may examine Indemnity, as the management company, the Property and Casualty Group and EFL at any time, and may require disclosure and/or prior approval of certain transactions with the insurers and Indemnity, as an insurance holding company.

All transactions within a holding company system affecting the member insurers of the holding company system must be fair and reasonable. Approval by the applicable insurance commissioner is required prior to the consummation of transactions affecting the control of an insurer. In some states, the acquisition of 10% or more of the outstanding common stock of an insurer or its holding company is presumed to be a change in control. The sale of Indemnity's wholly owned property and casualty insurance subsidiaries, EIC, ENY and EPC, and the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL have both been approved by the appropriate regulatory agencies. Approval by the applicable insurance commissioner is also required in order to declare extraordinary dividends. See Item 8, "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data – Note 22, Statutory Information, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements" contained within this report.

Website Access

Our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to those reports are available free of charge on our website at www.erieinsurance.com as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is filed electronically with the Securities Exchange Commission. Additionally, copies of our annual report on Form 10-K are available free of charge, upon written request, by contacting Investor Relations, Erie Indemnity Company, 100 Erie Insurance Place, Erie, PA 16530, or calling 1-800-458-0811.

Our Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers are also available on our website and in printed form upon request, and our information statement on Form 14(C) is available free of charge on our website at www.erieinsurance.com.

Table of Contents

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Our business involves various risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to those discussed in this section. The events described in the risk factors below, or any additional risk outside of those discussed below, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, operating results, cash flows or liquidity if they were to actually occur. This information should be considered carefully together with the other information contained in this report, including Item 7. “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and Item 8. “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data”, which includes the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements, contained within this report.

Risk Factors Related to the Indemnity Shareholder Interest

If the management fee rate paid by the Exchange is reduced or if there is a significant decrease in the amount of premiums written or assumed by the Exchange, revenues and profitability could be materially adversely affected.

Indemnity is dependent upon management fees paid by the Exchange, which represent its principal source of revenue. Pursuant to the subscriber’s agreements with the policyholders at the Exchange, Indemnity may retain up to 25% of all premiums written or assumed by the Exchange. Therefore, management fee revenue from the Exchange is calculated by multiplying the management fee rate by the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group, which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement. Accordingly, any reduction in direct premiums written by the Property and Casualty Group would have a negative effect on Indemnity’s revenues and net income. See “Risk Factors Relating to the Non-Controlling Interest Owned by the Exchange”, which includes the Property and Casualty Group and EFL, within this section for a discussion of risks impacting direct written premium.

The management fee rate is determined by our Board of Directors and may not exceed 25% of the premiums written or assumed by the Exchange. The Board of Directors sets the management fee rate each December for the following year. At their discretion, the rate can be changed at any time. The factors considered by the Board of Directors in setting the management fee rate include Indemnity’s financial position in relation to the Exchange and the long-term needs of the Exchange for capital and surplus to support its continued growth and competitiveness. If the Exchange’s surplus were significantly reduced, the management fee rate could be reduced and Indemnity’s revenues and profitability could be materially adversely affected.

If the costs of providing services to the Exchange are not controlled, Indemnity’s profitability could be materially adversely affected.

Pursuant to the subscriber’s agreements with the policyholders at the Exchange, Indemnity is appointed to perform certain services. These services relate to the sales, underwriting and issuance of policies on behalf of the Exchange. Indemnity incurs significant costs related to commissions, employees, and technology in order to provide these services.

Commissions to independent agents are the largest component of Indemnity’s cost of operations. Commissions include scheduled commissions to agents based upon premiums written as well as additional commissions and bonuses to agents, which are earned by achieving certain targeted measures. Changes to commission rates or bonus programs may result in increased future costs and lower profitability.

Employees are an essential part of the operating costs related to providing services for the Exchange. As a result, Indemnity’s profitability is affected by employee costs, including salaries and medical, pension and other benefit costs. Recent regulatory developments, provider relationships and economic factors that are beyond our

control indicate that employee healthcare costs will continue to increase. Although Indemnity actively manages these cost increases, there can be no assurance that future cost increases will not occur and reduce its profitability.

Technological development is necessary to facilitate ease of doing business for the agents and policyholders of the Property and Casualty group and employees of Indemnity. If we are unable to keep pace with advancements in technology, our ability to compete with other insurance companies may be negatively affected and result in lower revenues and reduced profitability for Indemnity. In order to achieve a greater ease of doing business, additional costs may be incurred as we invest in new technology and systems, which may negatively impact the profitability of Indemnity.

Table of Contents

Our ability to attract, develop and retain talented executives, key managers and employees is critical to our success.

Our future performance is substantially dependent upon our ability to attract, motivate and retain executives and other key management. The loss of the services and leadership of certain key officers and the failure to attract, motivate and develop talented new executives and managers could prevent us from successfully communicating, implementing and executing business strategies, and therefore have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Our success also depends on our ability to attract, develop and retain a talented employee base. The inability to staff all functions of our business with employees possessing the appropriate technical expertise could have an adverse effect on our business performance. Staffing appropriately skilled employees for the handling of claims and servicing of customers, rendering of disciplined underwriting, and effective sales and marketing are critical to the core functions of our business. In addition, skilled employees in the actuarial, finance, and information technology areas are also essential to support our core functions.

If we are unable to keep pace with technological advancements in the insurance industry or are unable to ensure system availability or to secure system information, the ability of the Erie Insurance Group to compete effectively could be impaired.

Indemnity is responsible for providing the technological resources necessary to support the operations of the Erie Insurance Group. Our business is highly dependent upon the effective operations of our technology and information systems. We rely upon these systems to assist in key functions of core business operations including processing claims, applications, and premium payments, providing customer support, performing actuarial and financial analysis and maintaining key data.

We have an established business continuity plan to ensure the continuation of core business operations in the event that normal business operations could not be performed due to a catastrophic event. While we continue to test and assess our business continuity plan to ensure it meets the needs of our core business operations and addresses multiple business interruption events, there is no assurance that core business operations could be performed upon the occurrence of such an event. Our information technology systems interface with and rely upon third-party systems. The failure of our information systems for any reason could result in a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, or results of operations.

Advancements in technology continue to make it easier to store, share and transport information. While we have tools in place to monitor the flow of information and address identity, threat, vulnerability and trust management, a security breach of our computer systems could interrupt or damage our operations or harm our reputation if confidential company or customer information were to be misappropriated from our systems. Cases where sensitive data is exposed or lost may lead to a loss in competitive advantage or lawsuits.

The performance of Indemnity's investment portfolio is subject to a variety of investment risks, which may in turn have a material adverse effect on its results of operations or financial condition.

Indemnity's investment portfolio is comprised principally of fixed-income maturities and limited partnerships. At December 31, 2012, Indemnity's investment portfolio consisted of approximately 66% fixed income securities, 26% limited partnerships, and 8% equity securities.

All of Indemnity's marketable securities are subject to market volatility. To the extent that future market volatility negatively impacts Indemnity's investments, its financial condition will be negatively impacted. We review the investment portfolio on a continuous basis to evaluate positions that might have incurred other-than-temporary

declines in value. The primary factors considered in our review of investment valuation include the extent and duration to which fair value is less than cost, historical operating performance and financial condition of the issuer, short- and long-term prospects of the issuer and its industry, specific events that occurred affecting the issuer, including rating downgrades and, depending on the type of security, our intent to sell or our ability and intent to retain the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for a recovery in value. As the process for determining impairments is highly subjective, changes in our assessments may have a material effect on Indemnity's operating results and financial condition. See also Item 7A. "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk".

If the fixed-income, equity, or limited partnership portfolios were to suffer a substantial decrease in value, Indemnity's financial position could be materially adversely affected through increased unrealized losses or impairments.

Currently, 41% of the fixed-income portfolio is invested in municipal securities. The performance of the fixed-income portfolio is subject to a number of risks including:

10

Table of Contents

Interest rate risk – the risk of adverse changes in the value of fixed-income securities as a result of increases in market interest rates.

- Investment credit risk – the risk that the value of certain investments may decrease due to the deterioration in financial condition of, or the liquidity available to, one or more issuers of those securities or, in the case of asset-backed securities, due to the deterioration of the loans or other assets that underlie the securities, which, in each case, also includes the risk of permanent loss.

Concentration risk – the risk that the portfolio may be too heavily concentrated in the securities of one or more issuers, sectors, or industries, which could result in a significant decrease in the value of the portfolio in the event of a deterioration of the financial condition, performance, or outlook of those issuers, sectors, or industries.

Liquidity risk – the risk that Indemnity will not be able to convert investment securities into cash on favorable terms and on a timely basis, or that Indemnity will not be able to sell them at all, when desired. Disruptions in the financial markets, or a lack of buyers for the specific securities that Indemnity is trying to sell, could prevent it from liquidating securities or cause a reduction in prices to levels that are not acceptable to Indemnity.

In addition to the fixed-income securities, a significant portion of Indemnity's portfolio is invested in limited partnerships. At December 31, 2012, Indemnity had investments in limited partnerships of \$180 million, or 16% of total assets. In addition, Indemnity is obligated to invest up to an additional \$38 million in limited partnerships, including private equity, mezzanine debt, and real estate partnership investments. Limited partnerships are significantly less liquid and generally involve higher degrees of price risk, the risk of potential loss in estimated fair value resulting from an adverse change in prices, than publicly traded securities. Limited partnerships, like publicly traded securities, have exposure to market volatility; but unlike fixed-income securities, cash flows and return expectations are less predictable. The primary basis for the valuation of limited partnership interests are financial statements prepared by the general partner. Because of the timing of the preparation and delivery of these financial statements, the use of the most recently available financial statements provided by the general partners result in a quarter delay in the inclusion of the limited partnership results in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Due to this delay, Indemnity's financial statements at December 31, 2012, do not reflect market conditions experienced in the fourth quarter of 2012.

Indemnity's equity securities have exposure to price risk. Indemnity does not hedge its exposure to equity price risk inherent in its equity investments. Equity markets, sectors, industries, and individual securities may also be subject to some of the same risks that affect Indemnity's fixed-income portfolio, as discussed above.

Indemnity is subject to credit risk from the Exchange because the management fees from the Exchange are not paid immediately when premiums are written.

Indemnity recognizes management fees due from the Exchange as income when the premiums are written because at that time Indemnity has performed substantially all of the services it is required to perform, including sales, underwriting and policy issuance activities. However, such fees are not paid to Indemnity by the Exchange until the Exchange collects the premiums from policyholders. As a result, Indemnity holds receivables for management fees since such fees are based upon premiums that have been written and assumed. Indemnity also holds receivables from the Exchange for costs it pays on the Exchange's behalf. The receivable from the Exchange totaled \$277 million or 24% of our total assets at December 31, 2012.

Deteriorating capital and credit market conditions or a failure to accurately estimate capital needs may significantly affect Indemnity's ability to meet liquidity needs and access capital.

Sufficient liquidity and capital levels are required to pay operating expenses, income taxes, and to provide the necessary resources to fund future growth opportunities, pay dividends on common stock, and repurchase common stock. Management estimates the appropriate level of capital necessary based upon current and projected results, which include a factor for potential exposures based upon these Risk Factors. Failure to accurately estimate Indemnity's capital needs may have a material adverse effect on its financial condition until additional sources of capital can be located. Further, a deteriorating financial condition may create a negative perception of Indemnity by third parties, including rating agencies, investors, agents, and customers which could impact Indemnity's ability to access additional capital in the debt or equity markets.

The primary sources of liquidity for Indemnity are management fees and cash flows generated from its investment portfolio. In the event Indemnity's current sources do not satisfy its liquidity needs, Indemnity has the ability to access its \$100 million bank revolving line of credit, from which there were no borrowings as of December 31, 2012, or sell assets in its investment

Table of Contents

portfolio. Volatility in the financial markets could impair Indemnity's ability to sell certain of its fixed income securities or, to a greater extent, its significantly less liquid limited partnership investments, or cause such investments to sell at deep discounts.

In the event these traditional sources of liquidity are not available, Indemnity may have to seek additional financing. Indemnity's access to funds will depend upon a number of factors including current market conditions, the availability of credit, market liquidity, and credit ratings. In deteriorating market conditions, there can be no assurance that Indemnity will obtain additional financing, or, if available, that the cost of financing will not substantially increase and affect our overall profitability.

Indemnity is subject to applicable insurance laws and regulations, as well as claims and legal proceedings, which, if determined unfavorably, could have a material adverse effect on Indemnity's business, results of operations or financial condition.

Indemnity faces a significant risk of litigation and regulatory investigations and actions in the ordinary course of operating its businesses including the risk of class action lawsuits. Indemnity's pending legal and regulatory actions include proceedings specific to Indemnity and others generally applicable to business practices in the industries in which it operates. In Indemnity's management operations, we are, have been, or may become subject to class actions and individual suits alleging, among other things, issues relating to sales or underwriting practices, payment of contingent or other sales commissions, product design, product disclosure, policy issuance and administration, additional premium charges for premiums paid on a periodic basis, charging excessive or impermissible fees on products, recommending unsuitable products to customers, and breaching alleged fiduciary or other duties to customers. Indemnity is also subject to litigation arising out of its general business activities such as its contractual and employment relationships. Plaintiffs in class action and other lawsuits against Indemnity may seek very large or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, which may remain unknown for substantial periods of time. Indemnity is also subject to various regulatory inquiries, such as information requests, subpoenas and books and record examinations from state and federal regulators and authorities. Changes in the way regulators administer those laws or regulations could adversely impact Indemnity's business, results of operations or financial condition. See "Risk Factors Related to the Non-Controlling Interest Owned by the Exchange, which includes the Property and Casualty Group and EFL," that follows for additional discussion of litigation risks.

Risk Factors Relating to the Non-Controlling Interest Owned by the Exchange, which Includes the Property and Casualty Group and EFL

Deteriorating general economic conditions may have an adverse effect on the non-controlling interest's operating results and financial condition.

Unfavorable changes in economic conditions, including declining consumer confidence, inflation, high unemployment and the threat of recession, among others, may lead the Property and Casualty Group's customers to modify coverage, not renew policies, or even cancel policies, which could adversely affect the premium revenue of the Property and Casualty Group, and consequently Indemnity's management fee. These conditions could also impair the ability of customers to pay premiums when due, and as a result, the Property and Casualty Group's bad debt write-offs could increase.

In addition, downward economic trends also may have an adverse effect on both Indemnity's and the Property and Casualty Group's investment results by negatively impacting the business conditions and impairing credit for the issuers of securities held in their respective investment portfolios. This could reduce fair values of investments and generate significant unrealized losses or impairment charges which may adversely affect their respective financial results.

The Property and Casualty Group depends on independent insurance agents, which exposes the Property and Casualty Group to risks not applicable to companies with exclusive agents or other forms of distribution.

The Property and Casualty Group markets and sells its insurance products through independent, non-exclusive agencies. These agencies are not obligated to sell only the Property and Casualty Group's insurance products, and generally they also sell competitors' insurance products. As a result, the Property and Casualty Group's business depends in large part on the marketing and sales efforts of these agencies. To the extent these agencies' marketing efforts cannot be maintained at their current levels of volume or they bind the Property and Casualty Group to unacceptable insurance risks, fail to comply with established underwriting guidelines or otherwise improperly market the Property and Casualty Group's products, the results of operations and business of the Property and Casualty Group could be adversely affected. Also, to the extent these agencies place business with competing insurers due to compensation arrangements, product differences, price differences, ease of doing business, perceived delivery of customer service, or other reasons, the results of operations of the Property and Casualty Group could be adversely affected. If the Property and Casualty Group is unsuccessful in maintaining and/or increasing the number of

Table of Contents

agencies in its independent agent distribution system, the results of operations of the Property and Casualty Group could be adversely affected. To the extent that consumer preferences cause the insurance industry to migrate to a delivery system other than independent agencies, the business of the Property and Casualty Group could be adversely affected. Also, to the extent the agencies choose to place significant portions or all of their business with competing insurance companies, the results of operations and business of the Property and Casualty Group could be adversely affected.

Our ability to maintain our reputation is a key factor to the Property and Casualty Group's success.

The Property and Casualty Group maintains a brand recognized for customer service. The perceived performance, actions and behaviors of employees, independent insurance agency representatives and third party service partners may result in reputational harm to the Property and Casualty Group's brand and the potential for a reduction in business. Specific incidents which may cause harm include but are not limited to disputes, long customer wait times, errors in processing a claim, failure to protect sensitive customer data and inappropriate social media communications. The degree of control we have over these events varies based upon the event type and who is responsible for causing the incident. Furthermore, if an extreme catastrophic event were to occur in a heavily concentrated area of policyholders, an extraordinarily high number of claims could have the potential to strain claims processing and affect our ability to satisfy our customers. The degree of control we have over these events varies significantly based upon the type of event. While we maintain and execute processes to minimize these events, we cannot completely eliminate this risk.

The Property and Casualty Group faces significant competition from other regional and national insurance companies. Failure to keep pace with competitors may result in lower market share and revenues, which may have a material adverse effect on the Property and Casualty Group's financial condition.

The Property and Casualty Group competes with regional and national property and casualty insurers including direct writers of insurance coverage. Many of these competitors are larger and many have greater financial, technical and operating resources. In addition, there is competition within each independent insurance agency that represents other carriers as well as the Property and Casualty Group.

If we are unable to perform at industry best practice levels in terms of quality, cost containment, and speed-to-market due to inferior operating resources and/or problems with external relationships, the Property and Casualty Group's business performance may suffer. As the business environment changes, if we are unable to adapt timely to emerging industry changes, or if our people do not conform to the changes, the Property and Casualty Group's business could be materially impacted.

The property and casualty insurance industry is highly competitive on the basis of product, price and service. If competitors offer property and casualty products with more coverage and/or better service or offer lower rates, and we are unable to implement product or service improvements quickly enough to keep pace, the Property and Casualty Group's ability to grow and renew its business may be adversely impacted.

Insurance customers are increasingly expecting to perform service interactions digitally, including but not limited to shopping, paying bills and reporting and monitoring claims. Examples of digital channels used in these interactions include traditional websites, social media sites and mobile device applications. We expect competitors to continue to grow these channels, particularly those with some form of direct to consumer sales distribution. Failure to position our digital servicing and distribution technology effectively in light of these trends could inhibit the Property and Casualty Group's ability to grow and maintain its customer base.

Changes in applicable insurance laws, regulations or changes in the way regulators administer those laws or regulations could adversely change the Property and Casualty Group's operating environment and increase its exposure to loss or put it at a competitive disadvantage.

Property and casualty insurers are subject to extensive supervision in the states in which they do business. This regulatory oversight includes, by way of example, matters relating to licensing examination, rate setting, market conduct, policy forms, limitations on the nature and amount of certain investments, claims practices, mandated participation in involuntary markets and guaranty funds, reserve adequacy, insurer solvency, restrictions on underwriting standards, and transactions between affiliates. Such regulation and supervision are primarily for the benefit and protection of policyholders and not for the benefit of shareholders. For instance, members of the Property and Casualty Group are subject to involuntary participation in specified markets in various states in which they operate, and the rate levels the Property and Casualty Group is permitted to charge do not always correspond with the underlying costs associated with the coverage issued. Additionally, certain transactions and agreements between Indemnity and the Exchange must be approved by the appropriate state insurance department(s). Although currently the federal government does not directly regulate the insurance industry, federal programs, such as federal terrorism

Table of Contents

backstop legislation and the Federal Insurance Office established under the Dodd-Frank Act can also impact the insurance industry. In addition to specific insurance regulation, the Property and Casualty Group must also comply with other regulatory, legal and ethical requirements relating to the general operation of a business.

Premium rates and reserves must be established for members of the Property and Casualty Group from forecasts of the ultimate costs expected to arise from risks underwritten during the policy period. The Property and Casualty Group's underwriting profitability could be adversely affected to the extent such premium rates or reserves are too low or by the effects of inflation.

One of the distinguishing features of the property and casualty insurance industry in general is that its products are priced before its costs are known, as premium rates are generally determined before losses are reported. Consequently, in establishing premium rates, we attempt to anticipate the potential impact of inflation, including medical cost inflation, construction and auto repair cost inflation and tort issues. Medical costs are a broad element of inflation that impact personal and commercial auto, general liability, workers compensation and commercial multi-peril lines of insurance written by the Property and Casualty Group. Accordingly, premium rates must be established from forecasts of the ultimate costs expected to arise from risks underwritten during the policy period. These premium rates may prove to be inadequate if future inflation is significantly higher than the inflation anticipated in pricing.

Further, property and casualty insurers establish reserves for losses and loss expenses that will not be paid and settled for many years. Numerous factors affect both the current estimates and final settlement value of these losses and loss expenses. It is possible that the ultimate liability for these losses and loss expenses will exceed these reserves because of unanticipated changes in the future development of known losses, the unanticipated emergence of losses that have occurred but are currently unreported, and larger than expected settlements on pending and unreported claims. The process of estimating reserves is inherently judgmental and can be influenced by factors that are subject to variation. If pricing or reserves of the Property and Casualty Group are not sufficient, the Property and Casualty Group's underwriting profitability may be adversely impacted.

The property and casualty insurance industry has historically been cyclical with periods of intense price competition. The Property and Casualty Group seeks an appropriate balance between profitability and premium growth. Periods of intense price competition in the cycle could adversely affect the Property and Casualty Group's financial condition, profitability, or cash flows.

Emerging claims and coverage issues in the insurance industry are unpredictable and could cause an adverse effect on the Property and Casualty Group's results of operations or financial condition.

As industry practices and legal, judicial, social and other environmental conditions change, unexpected and unintended issues related to claims and coverage may emerge. These issues may adversely affect the Property and Casualty Group's business by either extending coverage beyond its underwriting intent or by increasing the number or size of claims. In some instances, these emerging issues may not become apparent for some time after the Property and Casualty Group has issued the affected insurance policies. As a result, the full extent of liability under the Property and Casualty Group's insurance policies may not be known for many years after the policies are issued.

Changes in reserve estimates may adversely affect EFL's operating results.

Reserves for life-contingent contract benefits are computed on the basis of long-term actuarial assumptions of future investment yields, mortality, morbidity, persistency and expenses. We periodically review the adequacy of these reserves on an aggregate basis and, if future experience differs significantly from assumptions, adjustments to reserves and amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs may be required, which could have a material adverse effect on

EFL's operating results.

The financial performance of members of the Property and Casualty Group could be adversely affected by severe weather conditions or other catastrophic losses, including terrorism.

The Property and Casualty Group conducts business in 11 states and the District of Columbia, primarily in the Mid-Atlantic, Midwestern and Southeastern portions of the United States. A substantial portion of this business is private passenger and commercial automobile, homeowners and workers compensation insurance in Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, North Carolina, and particularly, Pennsylvania. As a result, a single catastrophic occurrence, destructive weather pattern, change in climate condition, general economic trend, terrorist attack, regulatory development or other condition disproportionately affecting one or more of the states in which the Property and Casualty Group conducts substantial business could adversely affect the results of operations of members of the Property and Casualty Group. Common natural catastrophic events include hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, hail storms and severe winter weather. The frequency and severity of these catastrophes is inherently

14

Table of Contents

unpredictable. The extent of losses from a catastrophe is a function of both the total amount of insured exposures in the area affected by the event and the severity of the event.

The Property and Casualty Group maintains several property catastrophe reinsurance treaties that were renewed effective January 1, 2013, with the first property catastrophe reinsurance treaty providing coverage of up to 90% of a loss of \$550 million in excess of the Property and Casualty Group's loss retention of \$350 million per occurrence, the second treaty providing coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$225 million in excess of \$900 million, and a third treaty providing coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$25 million in excess of \$1.125 billion. Catastrophe reinsurance may prove inadequate if a major catastrophic loss exceeds the reinsurance limit which could adversely affect the Property and Casualty Group's underwriting profitability and financial position.

Terrorist attacks could also cause losses from insurance claims related to the property and casualty insurance operations, as well as a decrease in our equity, net income or revenue. The federal Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization and Extension Act ("TRIA") of 2007 requires that some coverage for terrorist losses be offered by primary commercial property insurers and provides federal assistance for recovery of claims through 2014. While the Property and Casualty Group is exposed to terrorism losses in commercial lines and workers compensation, these lines are afforded a limited backstop above insurer deductibles for acts of terrorism under this federal program. There is no federal assistance for personal lines terrorism losses. The Property and Casualty Group could incur large net losses if terrorist attacks were to occur. Terrorism losses caused by the intentional release of certain materials are not covered by TRIA or the property casualty catastrophe reinsurance program.

The inability to acquire reinsurance coverage at reasonable rates or collect amounts due from reinsurers could have an adverse effect on the Property and Casualty Group.

The availability and cost of reinsurance are subject to prevailing market conditions, both in terms of price and available capacity. The availability of reinsurance capacity can be impacted by general economic conditions and conditions in the reinsurance market, such as the occurrence of significant reinsured events. The availability and cost of reinsurance could affect the Property and Casualty Group's business volume and profitability.

Although the reinsurer is liable to the Property and Casualty Group to the extent of the ceded reinsurance, the Property and Casualty Group remains liable as the direct insurer on all risks reinsured. Reinsurance contracts do not relieve the Property and Casualty Group from its primary obligations to policyholders. As a result, ceded reinsurance arrangements do not eliminate the Property and Casualty Group's obligation to pay claims. Accordingly, the Property and Casualty Group is subject to credit risk with respect to its ability to recover amounts due from reinsurers. The Property and Casualty Group's inability to collect a material recovery from a reinsurer could have an adverse effect on its underwriting profitability and financial condition.

The performance of the Exchange's investment portfolio is subject to a variety of investment risks, which may in turn have a material adverse effect on its results of operations or financial condition.

The Exchange's investment portfolio is comprised principally of fixed-income maturities, common stocks, and limited partnerships. At December 31, 2012, the Exchange's investment portfolio consisted of approximately 64% fixed income securities, 22% common stocks, 9% limited partnerships, and 5% preferred equity securities.

All of the Exchange's marketable securities are subject to market volatility. To the extent that future market volatility negatively impacts the Exchange's investments, its financial condition will be negatively impacted. We review the investment portfolio on a continuous basis to evaluate positions that might have incurred other-than-temporary declines in value. The primary factors considered in our review of investment valuation include the extent and duration to which fair value is less than cost, historical operating performance and financial condition of the issuer,

short- and long-term prospects of the issuer and its industry, specific events that occurred affecting the issuer including rating downgrades and, depending on the type of security, our intent to sell or our ability and intent to retain the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for a recovery in value. As the process for determining impairments is highly subjective, changes in our assessments may have a material effect on the Exchange's operating results and financial condition. See also Item 7A. "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk".

If the fixed-income, equity, or limited partnership portfolios were to suffer a substantial decrease in value, the Exchange's financial position could be materially adversely affected through increased unrealized losses or impairments. A significant decrease in the Exchange's portfolio could also put it, or its subsidiaries, at risk of failing to satisfy regulatory minimum capital requirements.

Table of Contents

Currently, 32% of the Exchange's fixed-income portfolio is invested in financial sector securities and 17% is invested in municipal securities and results may vary depending on the market environment. The performance of the fixed-income portfolio is subject to a number of risks including:

• Interest rate risk – the risk of adverse changes in the value of fixed-income securities as a result of increases in market interest rates.

• Investment credit risk – the risk that the value of certain investments may decrease due to the deterioration in financial condition of, or the liquidity available to, one or more issuers of those securities or, in the case of asset-backed securities, due to the deterioration of the loans or other assets that underlie the securities, which, in each case, also includes the risk of permanent loss.

• Concentration risk – the risk that the portfolio may be too heavily concentrated in the securities of one or more issuers, sectors, or industries, which could result in a significant decrease in the value of the portfolio in the event of a deterioration of the financial condition, performance, or outlook of those issuers, sectors, or industries.

• Liquidity risk – the risk that the Exchange will not be able to convert investment securities into cash on favorable terms and on a timely basis, or that the Exchange will not be able to sell them at all, when desired. Disruptions in the financial markets, or a lack of buyers for the specific securities that the Exchange is trying to sell, could prevent it from liquidating securities or cause a reduction in prices to levels that are not acceptable to the Exchange.

The Exchange's common and preferred equity securities have exposure to price risk, the risk of potential loss in estimated fair value resulting from an adverse change in prices. The Exchange does not hedge its exposure to equity price risk inherent in its equity investments. The Exchange's common and preferred equity securities may also be subject to some of the same risks that affect the Exchange's fixed-income portfolio, as discussed above.

In addition, a portion of the Exchange's portfolio is invested in limited partnerships. At December 31, 2012, the Exchange had investments in limited partnerships of \$1.0 billion, or 7% of total assets. In addition, the Exchange is obligated to invest up to an additional \$389 million in limited partnerships, including private equity, mezzanine debt, and real estate partnership investments. Limited partnerships are significantly less liquid and generally involve higher degrees of price risk than publicly traded securities. Limited partnerships, like publicly traded securities, have exposure to market volatility; but unlike fixed income securities, cash flows and return expectations are less predictable. The primary basis for the valuation of limited partnership interests are financial statements prepared by the general partner. Because of the timing of the preparation and delivery of these financial statements, the use of the most recently available financial statements provided by the general partners result in a quarter delay in the inclusion of the limited partnership results in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Due to this delay, the Exchange's financial statements at December 31, 2012, do not reflect market conditions experienced in the fourth quarter of 2012.

Deteriorating capital and credit market conditions or a failure to accurately estimate capital needs may significantly affect the Exchange's ability to meet liquidity needs and access capital.

Sufficient liquidity and capital levels are required to pay claims, claims-related expenses and income taxes as well as to build the Exchange's investment portfolio, provide for additional protection against possible large, unexpected losses and maintain adequate surplus amounts. Management estimates the appropriate level of capital necessary based upon current and projected results, which include a factor for potential exposures based upon these Risk Factors. Failure to accurately estimate the Exchange's capital needs may have a material adverse effect on the Exchange's financial condition until additional sources of capital can be located. Further, a deteriorating financial condition may create a negative perception of the Exchange by third parties, including rating agencies, investors, agents, and customers which could impact the Exchange's ability to access additional capital in the debt or equity markets.

The primary sources of liquidity for the Exchange are insurance premiums and cash flow generated from its investment portfolio. In the event the Exchange's current sources do not satisfy its liquidity needs, the Exchange has the ability to access its \$300 million bank revolving line of credit, from which there were no borrowings as of December 31, 2012, or sell assets in its investment portfolio. Volatility in the financial markets could impair the Exchange's ability to sell certain of its fixed income securities or, to a greater extent, its significantly less liquid limited partnership investments, or cause such investments to sell at deep discounts.

In the event these traditional sources of liquidity are not available, the Exchange may have to seek additional financing. The Exchange's access to funds will depend upon a number of factors including current market conditions, the availability of credit,

Table of Contents

market liquidity, and credit ratings. In deteriorating market conditions, there can be no assurance that the Exchange will obtain additional financing, or, if available, that the cost of financing will not substantially increase and affect our overall profitability.

If there were a failure to maintain a commercially acceptable financial strength rating, the Property and Casualty Group's competitive position in the insurance industry would be adversely affected.

Financial strength ratings are an important factor in establishing the competitive position of insurance companies and may be expected to have an effect on an insurance company's sales. Higher ratings generally indicate greater financial stability and a stronger ability to meet ongoing obligations to policyholders. Ratings are assigned by rating agencies to insurers based upon factors that the rating agencies believe are relevant to policyholders. The Property and Casualty Group's pooled AM Best rating is currently A+ ("superior"). A significant downgrade in this or other ratings would reduce the competitive position of the Property and Casualty Group making it more difficult to attract profitable business in the highly competitive property and casualty insurance market.

The Property and Casualty Group is subject to claims and legal proceedings, which, if determined unfavorably to the Property and Casualty Group, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

The Property and Casualty Group faces a significant risk of litigation and regulatory investigations and actions in the ordinary course of operating its businesses including the risk of class action lawsuits. The Property and Casualty Group's pending legal and regulatory actions include proceedings specific to the Property and Casualty Group and others generally applicable to business practices in the industries in which it operates. In the Property and Casualty Group's insurance operations, we are, have been, or may become subject to class actions and individual suits alleging, among other things, issues relating to claims payments and procedures, denial or delay of benefits, charging excessive or impermissible fees on products, and breaching fiduciary or other duties to customers. The Property and Casualty Group is also subject to litigation arising out of its general business activities such as its contractual relationships. Plaintiffs in class action and other lawsuits against the Property and Casualty Group may seek very large or indeterminate amounts, including punitive and treble damages, which may remain unknown for substantial periods of time. The Property and Casualty Group is also subject to various regulatory inquiries, such as information requests, subpoenas and books and record examinations from state and federal regulators and authorities. See "Risk Factors Related to the Indemnity Shareholder Interest," within this section for additional discussion of litigation risks.

The Exchange is dependent upon Indemnity to perform certain services, including sales, underwriting, and the issuance of policies. Failure to perform these services effectively may have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Exchange.

Pursuant to the attorney-in-fact agreements with the policyholders at the Exchange, Indemnity is responsible for performing key functions for the Exchange including management and operational services, including the related technology systems. The Exchange has no employees, as Indemnity employs all personnel related to performing operating functions for the Exchange. In addition, the Board of Directors for Indemnity has the responsibility for such Exchange-related activities as setting the management fee paid by the Exchange to Indemnity. As a result, the business and financial condition of the Exchange would be materially adversely affected if Indemnity was not able to provide the necessary operating and management services required by the Exchange.

Table of Contents

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The companies comprising the Erie Insurance Group share a corporate home office complex in Erie, Pennsylvania, which comprises approximately 520,000 square feet and is owned by the Exchange.

The Erie Insurance Group also operates 24 field offices in 11 states. Of these offices, 16 provide both agency support and claims services and are referred to as branch offices, while seven provide only claims services and are referred to as claims offices and one provides only agency support and is referred to as a sales office. Eight field offices are owned by the Erie Insurance Group (Indemnity owns three comprising approximately 40,000 square feet, the Exchange owns four comprising approximately 56,000 square feet, and EFL owns one comprising approximately 33,500 square feet), while the remaining 16 field offices are leased from unaffiliated parties, comprising approximately 123,500 square feet.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

State Court Lawsuit Against Erie Indemnity Company

Erie Indemnity Company (“Indemnity”) was named as a defendant in a complaint filed on August 1, 2012, by alleged subscribers of the Erie Insurance Exchange (the “Exchange”) in the Court of Common Pleas Civil Division of Fayette County, Pennsylvania captioned Erie Insurance Exchange, an unincorporated association, by Joseph S. Sullivan and Anita Sullivan, Patricia R. Beltz, and Jenna L. DeBord, trustees ad litem v. Erie Indemnity Co. (the “Sullivan” lawsuit).

As subsequently amended, the complaint alleges that, beginning on September 1, 1997, Indemnity retained “Service Charges” (installment fees) and “Added Service Charges” (late fees and policy reinstatement charges) on policies written by the Exchange and its insurance subsidiaries, which allegedly should have been paid to the Exchange, in the amount of approximately \$308 million. In addition to their claim for monetary relief on behalf of the Exchange, the plaintiffs seek an accounting of all so-called intercompany transactions between Indemnity and the Exchange from 1996 to date. Plaintiffs allege that Indemnity breached its contractual, fiduciary, and equitable duties by retaining Service Charges and Added Service Charges that should have been retained by the Exchange. Plaintiffs bring these same claims under three separate derivative-type theories. First, plaintiffs purport to bring suit as members of the Exchange on behalf of the Exchange. Second, plaintiffs purport to bring suit as trustees ad litem on behalf of the Exchange. Third, plaintiffs purport to bring suit on behalf of the Exchange pursuant to Rule 1506 of the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure, which allows shareholders to bring suit derivatively on behalf of a corporation or similar entity.

Indemnity removed the case from state court to the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, on the basis that it was a class action subject to removal under the Federal Class Action Fairness Act. In October 2012, the federal court remanded the case to state court. Indemnity has appealed the remand order, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit will hear the appeal in March 2013. Indemnity has requested that the state court stay all proceedings in the Sullivan action pending the outcome of the appeal.

Indemnity filed a motion in the state court in November 2012 seeking dismissal of the lawsuit. A hearing on that motion was held by the state court in February 2013, but a decision has not yet been rendered.

Discovery is in its early stages. Indemnity has meritorious legal and factual defenses and intends to vigorously defend against all allegations and requests for relief in the lawsuit.

Federal Court Lawsuit Against Directors

On February 6, 2013, a lawsuit was filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, captioned Erie Insurance Exchange, an unincorporated association, by members Patricia R. Beltz, Joseph S. Sullivan and Anita Sullivan, and Patricia R. Beltz, on behalf of herself and others similarly situated v. Richard L. Stover; J. Ralph Borneman, Jr; Terrence W. Cavanaugh; Jonathan Hirt Hagen; Susan Hirt Hagen; Thomas B. Hagen; C. Scott Hartz; Claude C. Lilly, III; Lucian L. Morrison; Thomas W. Palmer; Martin P. Sheffield; Elizabeth H. Vorsheck; and Robert C. Wilburn (the "Beltz" lawsuit), by alleged policyholders of the Exchange who are also the plaintiffs in the Sullivan lawsuit. The individuals named as defendants in the Beltz lawsuit are the current Directors of Indemnity. Indemnity is not a party in the Beltz lawsuit.

Table of Contents

The Beltz lawsuit asserts many of the same allegations and claims for monetary relief as in the Sullivan lawsuit. Plaintiffs purport to sue on behalf of all policyholders of the Exchange, or, alternatively, on behalf of the Exchange itself.

The Complaint has not yet been served upon the defendants; however, the defendants have advised Indemnity that they intend to vigorously defend against the claims in the Beltz lawsuit. The Company expects that the defendant Directors will seek indemnification and advancement of expenses from the Company in connection with the Beltz lawsuit.

Reference is also made to Item 8. "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data - Note 20, Commitments and Contingencies, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements" contained within this report.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

19

Table of Contents

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Common Stock Market Prices and Dividends

Indemnity's Class A, non-voting common stock trades on The NASDAQ Stock MarketSM LLC under the symbol "ERIE." No established trading market exists for the Class B voting common stock. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company serves as Indemnity's transfer agent and registrar. As of February 15, 2013, there were approximately 811 beneficial shareholders of record for the Class A non-voting common stock and 10 beneficial shareholders of record for the Class B voting common stock.

Historically, Indemnity has declared and paid cash dividends on a quarterly basis at the discretion of its Board of Directors. The payment and amount of future dividends on the common stock will be determined by the Board of Directors and will depend upon, among other things, Indemnity's operating results, financial condition, cash requirements and general business conditions at the time such payment is considered. Indemnity's common stock high and low sales prices and cash dividends declared for each full quarter of the last two years were as follows:

| Quarter ended | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------|------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------|------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | | | | 2011 | | | |
| | Stock sales price | | Cash dividend declared | | Stock sales price | | Cash dividend declared | |
| | High | Low | Class A | Class B | High | Low | Class A | Class B |
| March 31 | \$78.92 | \$74.23 | \$0.5525 | \$82.875 | \$71.11 | \$64.95 | \$0.5150 | \$77.250 |
| June 30 | 77.66 | 68.28 | 0.5525 | 82.875 | 72.44 | 67.14 | 0.5150 | 77.250 |
| September 30 | 72.35 | 62.64 | 0.5525 | 82.875 | 74.73 | 63.02 | 0.5150 | 77.250 |
| December 31 | 71.28 | 62.22 | 2.5925 | (1) 388.875 | (1) 80.30 | 69.36 | 0.5525 | 82.875 |
| Total | | | \$4.2500 | \$637.500 | | | \$2.0975 | \$314.625 |

(1) In addition to the regular quarterly dividend declared in November 2012, Indemnity's Board of Directors also declared a special one-time cash dividend of \$2.00 on each Class A share and \$300.00 on each Class B share.

Stock Performance

The following graph depicts the cumulative total shareholder return, assuming reinvestment of dividends, for the periods indicated for Indemnity's Class A common stock compared to the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index, the Standard & Poor's Property-Casualty Insurance Index, and the Standard & Poor's Supercomposite Insurance Industry Group Index. The Standard & Poor's Supercomposite Insurance Industry Group Index is made up of 54 constituent members represented by property casualty insurers, insurance brokers and life insurers, and is a capitalization weighted index. We believe that the span of the selected index broadly reflects the consolidated operations of Erie Indemnity Company, and is therefore suitable for use as a comparison for the time period measured.

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---|-------|----------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Erie Indemnity Company Class A common stock | \$100 | (1) \$77 | \$83 | \$143 | \$175 | \$166 |
| Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index | 100 | (1) 63 | 80 | 92 | 94 | 109 |
| Standard & Poor's Property-Casualty Insurance Index | 100 | (1) 71 | 79 | 86 | 86 | 104 |
| Standard & Poor's Supercomposite Insurance Industry Group Index | 100 | (1) 47 | 52 | 60 | 56 | 67 |

(1) Assumes \$100 invested at the close of trading, on the last trading day preceding the first day of the fifth preceding fiscal year, in Indemnity's Class A common stock, the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index, the Standard & Poor's

Property-Casualty Insurance Index, and the Standard & Poor's Supercomposite Insurance Industry Group Index.

Table of Contents

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

A stock repurchase program was authorized by our Board of Directors on January 1, 2004, allowing the repurchase of up to \$250 million of Indemnity's outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock through December 31, 2006. Our Board of Directors approved continuations of this stock repurchase program for an additional \$250 million in February 2006, \$100 million in September 2007, and \$100 million in April 2008. Subsequent continuations were approved for amounts that included and were not in addition to any unspent amounts under the current program of \$100 million in May 2009, \$100 million in April 2010, \$150 million in December 2010, and most recently for \$150 million in October 2011, which was authorized with no time limitation. As of February 15, 2013, we had approximately \$59 million of repurchase authority remaining under this program.

Indemnity may purchase shares, from time-to-time, in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions, depending upon prevailing market conditions and alternative uses of capital, and at times and in a manner that is deemed appropriate. During 2012, shares repurchased totaled 1.0 million at a total cost of \$69 million, based upon trade date. See Item 8. "Financial Statements and Supplementary Data – Note 18, Indemnity Capital Stock, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements" contained within this report for discussion of additional shares repurchased outside of this program.

The following table summarizes Indemnity's Class A common stock repurchased each month, based upon trade date, during the quarter ended December 31, 2012:

| (dollars in millions, except per share data) | Period | Total Number of Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid Per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program | Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Program |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| | October 1 – 31, 2012 | 80,922 | \$63.68 | 80,922 | \$79 |
| | November 1 – 30, 2012 | 68,643 | 66.34 | 68,643 | 74 |
| | December 1 – 31, 2012 | 85,272 | 68.24 | 85,272 | 68 |
| | Total | 234,837 | | 234,837 | |

Table of Contents

ITEM 6. SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

| (dollars in millions, except share data) | ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| | Years Ended December 31, | | | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 |
| Operating Data: | | | | | |
| Premiums earned | \$4,493 | \$4,214 | \$3,987 | \$3,869 | \$3,834 |
| Net investment income | 438 | 433 | 433 | 433 | 438 |
| Realized gains (losses) on investments | 418 | (6) | 307 | 286 | (1,597) |
| Equity in earnings (losses) of limited partnerships | 131 | 149 | 128 | (369) | (58) |
| Other income | 32 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 34 |
| Total revenues | 5,512 | 4,824 | 4,890 | 4,255 | 2,651 |
| Net income (loss) | 619 | 268 | 660 | 446 | (616) |
| Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 459 | 99 | 498 | 338 | (685) |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | 160 | 169 | 162 | 108 | 69 |
| Per Share Data Attributable to Indemnity: | | | | | |
| Net income per Class A share – diluted | \$2.99 | \$3.08 | \$2.85 | \$1.89 | \$1.19 |
| Book value per share – Class A common and equivalent B shares | 12.11 | 14.48 | 16.24 | 15.74 | 13.79 |
| Dividends declared per Class A share | 4.25 | 2.0975 | 1.955 | 1.83 | 1.77 |
| Dividends declared per Class B share | 637.50 | 314.625 | 293.25 | 274.50 | 265.50 |
| Financial Position Data: | | | | | |
| Total assets | \$15,441 | \$14,348 | \$14,344 | \$13,287 | \$12,505 |
| Total equity | 6,791 | 6,293 | 6,334 | 5,725 | (1) 4,759 |
| Less: Noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 6,149 | 5,512 | 5,422 | 4,823 | (1) 3,967 |
| Total equity attributable to Indemnity | 642 | 781 | 912 | 902 | (1) 792 (2) |

On April 1, 2009, we adopted the accounting guidance related to non-credit other-than-temporary impairments for our debt security portfolio. The net impact of the cumulative effect adjustment on April 1, 2009 increased retained (1) earnings and reduced other comprehensive income by \$6 million, net of tax, related to the Indemnity shareholder interest and by \$95 million, net of tax, related to the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, resulting in no effect on shareholders' equity.

On January 1, 2008, we adopted the fair value option for our common stock portfolio. The net impact of the (2) cumulative effect adjustment increased retained earnings and reduced other comprehensive income by \$11 million, net of tax, related to the Indemnity shareholder interest resulting in no effect on shareholders' equity.

Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010. Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest.

Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011. Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest.

Table of Contents

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion of financial condition and results of operations highlights significant factors influencing the Erie Insurance Group ("we," "us," "our"). This discussion should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and related notes and all other items contained within this Annual Report on Form 10-K as they contain important information helpful in evaluating our financial condition and results of operations.

INDEX

| | Page Number |
|---|-------------|
| <u>Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information</u> | <u>23</u> |
| <u>Recent Accounting Pronouncements</u> | <u>24</u> |
| <u>Operating Overview</u> | <u>25</u> |
| <u>Critical Accounting Estimates</u> | <u>30</u> |
| <u>Results of Operations</u> | <u>39</u> |
| <u>Management Operations</u> | <u>39</u> |
| <u>Property and Casualty Insurance Operations</u> | <u>41</u> |
| <u>Life Insurance Operations</u> | <u>47</u> |
| <u>Investment Operations</u> | <u>48</u> |
| <u>Financial Condition</u> | <u>51</u> |
| <u>Investments</u> | <u>51</u> |
| <u>Liabilities</u> | <u>54</u> |
| <u>Shareholders' Equity</u> | <u>55</u> |
| <u>Impact of Inflation</u> | <u>55</u> |
| <u>Liquidity and Capital Resources</u> | <u>56</u> |
| <u>Transactions/Agreements Between Indemnity and Noncontrolling Interest (Exchange)</u> | <u>63</u> |

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995:

Statements contained herein that are not historical fact are forward-looking statements and, as such, are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events and results to differ, perhaps materially, from those discussed herein. Forward-looking statements relate to future trends, events or results and include, without limitation, statements and assumptions on which such statements are based that are related to our plans, strategies, objectives, expectations, intentions and adequacy of resources. Examples of forward-looking statements are discussions relating to premium and investment income, expenses, operating results, agency relationships, and compliance with contractual and regulatory requirements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is expressed or forecasted in such forward-looking statements. Among the risks and uncertainties, in addition to those set forth in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, that could cause actual results and future events to differ from those set forth or contemplated in the forward-looking statements include the following:

Risk factors related to the Erie Indemnity Company ("Indemnity") shareholder interest:

- dependence upon Indemnity's relationship with the Exchange and the management fee under the agreement with the subscribers at the Exchange;
- costs of providing services to the Exchange under the subscriber's agreement;
- ability to attract and retain talented management and employees;

ability to maintain uninterrupted business operations, including information technology systems;
factors affecting the quality and liquidity of Indemnity's investment portfolio;
credit risk from the Exchange;
Indemnity's ability to meet liquidity needs and access capital; and
outcome of pending and potential litigation against Indemnity.

Table of Contents

Risk factors related to the non-controlling interest owned by the Erie Insurance Exchange (“Exchange”), which includes the Property and Casualty Group and Erie Family Life Insurance Company:

- general business and economic conditions;
- dependence upon the independent agency system;
 - ability to maintain our reputation for customer service;
- factors affecting insurance industry competition;
- changes in government regulation of the insurance industry;
- premium rates and reserves must be established from forecasts of ultimate costs;
- emerging claims, coverage issues in the industry, and changes in reserve estimates related to the property and casualty business;
- changes in reserve estimates related to the life business;
- severe weather conditions or other catastrophic losses, including terrorism;
- the Exchange’s ability to acquire reinsurance coverage and collectability from reinsurers;
- factors affecting the quality and liquidity of the Exchange’s investment portfolio;
- the Exchange’s ability to meet liquidity needs and access capital;
- the Exchange’s ability to maintain an acceptable financial strength rating;
- outcome of pending and potential litigation against the Exchange; and
- dependence upon the service provided by Indemnity.

A forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made and reflects our analysis only as of that date. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, changes in assumptions, or otherwise.

RECENT ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

See Item 8. “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data - Note 2, Significant Accounting Policies, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements” contained within this report for a discussion of adopted and/or pending accounting pronouncements, none of which are expected to have a material impact on our future financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Table of Contents

OPERATING OVERVIEW

Overview

The Erie Insurance Group represents the consolidated results of Indemnity and the results of its variable interest entity, the Exchange. The Erie Insurance Group operates predominantly as a property and casualty insurer through its regional insurance carriers that write a broad range of personal and commercial coverages. Our property and casualty insurance companies include the Exchange and its wholly owned subsidiaries, Erie Insurance Company (“EIC”), Erie Insurance Company of New York (“ENY”), Erie Insurance Property and Casualty Company (“EPC”) and Flagship City Insurance Company (“Flagship”⁽¹⁾). These entities operate collectively as the “Property and Casualty Group.” The Erie Insurance Group also operates as a life insurer through the Exchange’s wholly owned subsidiary, Erie Family Life Insurance Company (“EFL”), which underwrites and sells individual and group life insurance policies and fixed annuities⁽²⁾.

The Exchange is a reciprocal insurance exchange organized under Article X of Pennsylvania's Insurance Company Law of 1921 under which individuals, partnerships and corporations are authorized to exchange reciprocal or inter-insurance contracts with each other, or with individuals, partnerships, and corporations of other states and countries, providing indemnity among themselves from any loss which may be insured against under any provision of the insurance laws except life insurance. Each applicant for insurance to the Exchange signs a subscriber’s agreement, which contains an appointment of Indemnity as their attorney-in-fact to transact the business of the Exchange on their behalf. Pursuant to the subscriber’s agreement and for its services as attorney-in-fact, Indemnity earns a management fee calculated as a percentage of the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group, which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement.

The Indemnity shareholder interest includes Indemnity’s equity and income, but not the equity or income of the Exchange. The Exchange’s equity, which is comprised of its retained earnings and accumulated other comprehensive income, is held for the interest of its subscribers (policyholders) and meets the definition of a noncontrolling interest, which is reflected as such in our consolidated financial statements.

“Indemnity shareholder interest” refers to the interest in Erie Indemnity Company owned by the Class A and Class B shareholders. “Noncontrolling interest” refers to the interest in the Erie Insurance Exchange held for the interest of the subscribers (policyholders).

The Indemnity shareholder interest in income generally comprises:

- a management fee of up to 25% of all property and casualty insurance premiums written or assumed by the Exchange, less the costs associated with the sales, underwriting and issuance of these policies;
- a 0% interest in the net underwriting results of the property and casualty insurance operations after December 31, 2010 (the interest was 5.5% prior to December 31, 2010)⁽¹⁾;
- a 0% equity interest in the net earnings of EFL after March 31, 2011 (the interest was 21.6% prior to March 31, 2011)⁽²⁾;
- net investment income and results on investments that belong to Indemnity⁽¹⁾; and
- other income and expenses, including income taxes, that are the responsibility of Indemnity.

The Exchange’s or the noncontrolling interest in income generally comprises:

- a 100% interest in the net underwriting results of the property and casualty insurance operations after December 31, 2010 (the interest was 94.5% prior to December 31, 2010)⁽¹⁾;
- a 100% equity interest in the net earnings of EFL after March 31, 2011 (the interest was 78.4% prior to March 31, 2011)⁽²⁾;

net investment income and results on investments that belong to the Exchange and its subsidiaries, including EFL⁽¹⁾; and
other income and expenses, including income taxes, that are the responsibility of the Exchange and its subsidiaries.

(1) Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

(2) Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

Results of the Erie Insurance Group's Operations by Interest

The following table represents a breakdown of the composition of the income attributable to the Indemnity shareholder interest and the income attributable to the noncontrolling interest (Exchange). For purposes of this discussion, EFL's investments are included in the life insurance operations⁽¹⁾.

| (in millions) | Indemnity shareholder interest | | | Noncontrolling interest (Exchange) | | | Eliminations of related party transactions | | | Erie Insurance | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--|-------|--------------------------|----------------|------------|-------|-------|
| | Percent | Years ended December 31, | | | Percent | Years ended December 31, | | | Years ended December 31, | | | | |
| | | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Management operations: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Management fee revenue, net | 100.0% | \$ 1,157 | \$ 1,067 | \$ 1,009 | | \$ — | \$ — | \$ — | \$ (1,157) | \$ (1,067) | \$ (1,009) | \$ — | \$ — |
| Service agreement revenue | 100.0% | 31 | 33 | 34 | | — | — | — | — | — | — | 31 | 33 |
| Total revenue from management operations | | 1,188 | 1,100 | 1,043 | | — | — | — | (1,157) | (1,067) | (1,009) | 31 | 33 |
| Cost of management operations | 100.0% | 983 | 892 | 841 | | — | — | — | (983) | (892) | (841) | — | — |
| Income from management operations before taxes | | 205 | 208 | 202 | | — | — | — | (174) | (175) | (168) | 31 | 33 |
| Property and casualty insurance operations:⁽²⁾ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net premiums earned | 5.5% ⁽²⁾ | — | — | 216 | 94.5% ⁽²⁾ | 4,422 | 4,149 | 3,709 | — | — | — | 4,422 | 4,149 |
| Losses and loss expenses | 5.5% ⁽²⁾ | — | — | 155 | 94.5% ⁽²⁾ | 3,384 | 3,349 | 2,660 | (5) | (5) | (5) | 3,379 | 3,344 |
| Policy acquisition and underwriting expenses | 5.5% ⁽²⁾ | — | — | 61 | 94.5% ⁽²⁾ | 1,284 | 1,178 | 1,052 | (182) | (183) | (174) | 1,102 | 995 |
| Income (loss) from property and casualty insurance operations before taxes | | — | — | 0 | | (246) | (378) | (3) | 187 | 188 | 179 | (59) | (190) |
| Life insurance operations:⁽¹⁾ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total revenue | 21.6% ⁽³⁾ | — | 10 | 37 | 78.4% ⁽³⁾ | 178 | 167 | 135 | (2) | (2) | (2) | 176 | 175 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 21.6% ⁽³⁾ | — | 7 | 26 | 78.4% ⁽³⁾ | 132 | 120 | 96 | 0 | 0 | (2) | 132 | 127 |
| Income from life insurance operations before taxes | | — | 3 | 11 | | 46 | 47 | 39 | (2) | (2) | 0 | 44 | 48 |
| Investment operations: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net investment income ⁽²⁾ | | 16 | 16 | 37 | | 338 | 335 | 312 | (11) | (11) | (11) | 343 | 340 |
| Net realized gains (losses) on Investments ⁽²⁾ | | 5 | 3 | (1) | | 404 | (20) | 301 | — | — | — | 409 | (17) |
| | | 0 | 0 | (1) | | 0 | (1) | (3) | — | — | — | 0 | (1) |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-----|------|------|-------|---------|
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings ⁽²⁾ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | 15 | 26 | 21 | 116 | 119 | 106 | — | — | — | 131 | 145 |
| Goodwill impairment | — | — | — | — | — | (22) |) | — | — | — | — |
| Income from investment operations before taxes ⁽²⁾ | 36 | 45 | 56 | 858 | 433 | 694 | (11 |)(11 |)(11 |) | 883 467 |
| Income from operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interest | 241 | 256 | 269 | 658 | 102 | 730 | — | — | — | 899 | 358 |
| Provision for income taxes | 81 | 87 | 107 | 199 | 3 | 232 | — | — | — | 280 | 90 |
| Net income | \$160 | \$169 | \$162 | \$459 | \$99 | \$498 | \$— | \$— | \$— | \$619 | \$268 |

(1) Earnings on life insurance related invested assets are integral to the evaluation of the life insurance operations because of the long duration of life products. On that basis, for presentation purposes, the life insurance operations in the table above include life insurance related investment results. However, the life insurance investment results are included in the investment operations segment discussion as part of the Exchange's investment results.

(2) Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

(3) Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

Net income in 2012 was impacted primarily by increased earnings from our investment operations compared to 2011 and 2010 and lower losses from our property and casualty insurance operations compared to 2011. Our investment operations improved primarily as a result of net realized gains on investments, compared to losses in 2011 and a lower level of gains in 2010. The Exchange's property and casualty insurance operations experienced a 6.6% increase in earned premium compared to 2011, driven by increases in policies in force and the average premium per policy, which also positively impacted Indemnity's management fee revenue. The Exchange's 2012 property and casualty insurance operation's results were positively impacted by lower levels of catastrophe losses, offset somewhat by lower levels of favorable development on prior accident year loss reserves compared to 2011. In 2010, our noncontrolling interest incurred a charge of \$22 million for the impairment of goodwill relating to its purchase of EFL stock in 2006, and the Indemnity shareholder interest incurred a charge of \$18 million for a deferred tax expense related to the sale of its 21.6% ownership interest of EFL to the Exchange, which occurred on March 31, 2011.

Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Income

We disclose operating income, a non-GAAP financial measure, to enhance our investors' understanding of our performance related to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Our method of calculating this measure may differ from those used by other companies, and therefore comparability may be limited.

Indemnity defines operating income as income generated from management operations, life insurance operations⁽¹⁾, property and casualty insurance underwriting operations⁽²⁾, net investment income⁽²⁾, and equity in earnings or losses of limited partnerships, net of related federal income taxes. It does not include realized capital gains and losses, impairment losses and related federal income taxes.

Indemnity uses operating income to evaluate the results of its operations. It reveals trends that may be obscured by the net effects of realized capital gains and losses including impairment losses. Realized capital gains and losses, including impairment losses, may vary significantly between periods and are generally driven by business decisions and economic developments such as capital market conditions which are not related to our ongoing operations. We are aware that the price to earnings multiple commonly used by investors as a forward-looking valuation technique uses operating income as the denominator. Operating income should not be considered as a substitute for net income prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") and does not reflect Indemnity's overall profitability.

The following table reconciles operating income and net income for the Indemnity shareholder interest for the years ended December 31⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾:

| (in millions, except per share data) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------|--------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Operating income attributable to Indemnity | \$157 | \$167 | \$163 |
| Net realized gains (losses) and impairments on investments | 5 | 3 | (2) |
| Income tax (expense) benefit | (2) | (1) | 1 |
| Realized gains (losses) and impairments, net of income taxes | 3 | 2 | (1) |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | \$160 | \$169 | \$162 |
| Per Indemnity Class A common share-diluted: | | | |
| Operating income attributable to Indemnity | \$2.92 | \$3.04 | \$2.88 |
| Net realized gains (losses) and impairments on investments | 0.10 | 0.06 | (0.04) |
| Income tax (expense) benefit | (0.03) | (0.02) | 0.01 |
| Realized gains (losses) and impairments, net of income taxes | 0.07 | 0.04 | (0.03) |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | \$2.99 | \$3.08 | \$2.85 |

(1) Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

(2) Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

27

Table of Contents

Summary of Results – Indemnity Shareholder Interest

Net income attributable to Indemnity Class A per share-diluted was \$2.99 per share in 2012, compared to \$3.08 per share in 2011, and \$2.85 per share in 2010. The net income for 2011 and 2010 included \$0.02 and \$0.47 per share-diluted, respectively, related to operations sold to the Exchange.

Operating income attributable to Indemnity Class A per share-diluted (excluding net realized gains or losses, impairments on investments and related taxes) was \$2.92 per share in 2012, compared to \$3.04 in 2011, and \$2.88 in 2010. The 2011 and 2010 operating income amounts included \$0.02 and \$0.42 per share-diluted, respectively, related to operations sold to the Exchange.

Operating Segments

Our reportable segments include management operations, property and casualty insurance operations, life insurance operations and investment operations.

Management operations

Management operations generate internal management fee revenue, which accrues to the Indemnity shareholder interest, as Indemnity provides services relating to the sales, underwriting and issuance of policies on behalf of the Exchange. Management fee revenue is based upon all premiums written or assumed by the Exchange and the management fee rate, which is not to exceed 25%. Our Board of Directors establishes the management fee rate at least annually, generally in December for the following year, and considers factors such as the relative financial strength of Indemnity and the Exchange and projected revenue streams. The management fee rate was set at 25% for 2012, 2011 and 2010. Our Board of Directors set the 2013 management fee rate again at 25%, its maximum level. Management fee revenue is eliminated upon consolidation.

Property and casualty insurance operations

The property and casualty insurance business is driven by premium growth, the combined ratio and investment returns. The property and casualty insurance industry is cyclical, with periods of rising premium rates and shortages of underwriting capacity followed by periods of substantial price competition and excess capacity. The cyclical nature of the insurance industry has a direct impact on the direct written premiums of the Property and Casualty Group.

The property and casualty insurance operation's premium growth strategy focuses on growth by expansion of existing operations including a careful agency selection process and increased market penetration in existing operating territories. Expanding the size of our existing agency force of nearly 2,200 independent agencies, with almost 10,200 licensed property and casualty representatives, will contribute to future growth as new agents build their books of business with the Property and Casualty Group.

The property and casualty insurance operations insure preferred and standard risks while maintaining a disciplined underwriting approach. The Property and Casualty Group's principal personal lines products based upon 2012 direct written premiums were private passenger automobile (45%) and homeowners (26%), and the principal commercial lines products were commercial multi-peril (12%), commercial automobile (7%) and workers compensation (7%). Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia made up 62% of the property and casualty lines insurance business direct written premium in 2012.

Members of the Property and Casualty Group pool their underwriting results under an intercompany pooling agreement. Under the pooling agreement, the Exchange retains a 94.5% interest in the net underwriting results of the Property and Casualty Group, while EIC retains a 5.0% interest and ENY retains a 0.5% interest. Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or

noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

The key measure of underwriting profitability traditionally used in the property and casualty insurance industry is the combined ratio, which is expressed as a percentage. It is the sum of the ratio of losses and loss expenses to premiums earned (loss ratio) plus the ratio of policy acquisition and other underwriting expenses to premiums earned (expense ratio). When the combined ratio is less than 100%, underwriting results are generally considered profitable; when the combined ratio is greater than 100%, underwriting results are generally considered unprofitable.

Factors affecting losses and loss expenses include the frequency and severity of losses, the nature and severity of catastrophic losses, the quality of risks underwritten and underlying claims and settlement expenses.

Investments held by the Property and Casualty Group are reported in the investment operations segment, separate from the underwriting business.

28

Table of Contents

Life insurance operations

EFL generates revenues through the sale of its individual and group life insurance policies and fixed annuities. These products provide our property and casualty agency force an opportunity to cross-sell both personal and commercial accounts. EFL's profitability depends principally on the ability to develop, price and distribute insurance products, attract and retain deposit funds, generate investment returns and manage expenses. Other drivers include mortality and morbidity experience, persistency experience to enable the recovery of acquisition costs, maintenance of interest spreads over the amounts credited to deposit funds and the maintenance of strong ratings from rating agencies.

Earnings on life insurance related invested assets are integral to the evaluation of the life insurance operations because of the long duration of life products. On that basis, for presentation purposes, the life insurance operations segment discussion includes the life insurance related investment results. However, also for presentation purposes, the segment footnote and the investment operations segment discussion also include the life insurance investment results as part of the Exchange's investment results.

Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

Investment operations

We generate revenues from our fixed maturity, equity security and limited partnership investment portfolios to support our underwriting business. The portfolios are managed with the objective of maximizing after-tax returns on a risk-adjusted basis. Management actively evaluates the portfolios for impairments. We record impairment writedowns on investments in instances where the fair value of the investment is substantially below cost, and we conclude that the decline in fair value is other-than-temporary.

Our investment operations produced positive results reflecting favorable conditions in the financial markets during 2012. Net investment income was \$438 million in 2012, compared to \$433 million in 2011. During 2012, we incurred \$0.2 million of impairment charges compared to \$2 million in 2011. Net realized gains were \$418 million in 2012, compared to net losses of \$4 million in 2011, primarily reflecting significant valuation adjustments and realized gains from our common stock portfolio in 2012. Equity in earnings of limited partnerships was \$131 million in 2012, compared to \$149 million in 2011, as market conditions for these investments have generally remained favorable. The results from our limited partnerships are based upon financial statements received from our general partners, which are generally received on a quarter lag. As a result, our 2012 partnerships earnings do not reflect the market conditions experienced in the fourth quarter of 2012.

General Conditions and Trends Affecting Our Business

Economic conditions

Unfavorable changes in economic conditions, including declining consumer confidence, inflation, high unemployment and the threat of recession, among others, may lead the Property and Casualty Group's customers to modify coverage, not renew policies, or even cancel policies, which could adversely affect the premium revenue of the Property and Casualty Group, and consequently Indemnity's management fee. These conditions could also impair the ability of customers to pay premiums when due, and as a result, the Property and Casualty Group's bad debt write-offs could increase. Our key challenge is to generate profitable revenue growth in a highly competitive market that continues to experience the effects of uncertain economic conditions.

Financial market volatility

Our portfolio of fixed income, preferred and common stocks, and limited partnerships are subject to market volatility especially in periods of instability in the worldwide financial markets. Over time, net investment income could also be impacted by volatility and by the general level of interest rates, which impact reinvested cash flow from the portfolio and business operations. Depending upon market conditions, which are unpredictable and remain uncertain, considerable fluctuation could exist in our reported total investment income, which could have an adverse impact on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Table of Contents

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The consolidated financial statements include amounts based upon estimates and assumptions that have a significant effect on reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period and related disclosures. Management considers an accounting estimate to be critical if 1) it requires assumptions to be made that were uncertain at the time the estimate was made, and 2) different estimates that could have been used, or changes in the estimate that are likely to occur from period-to-period, could have a material impact on our Consolidated Statements of Operations or Financial Position.

The following presents a discussion of those accounting policies surrounding estimates that we believe are the most critical to our reported amounts and require the most subjective and complex judgment. If actual events differ significantly from the underlying assumptions, there could be material adjustments to prior estimates that could potentially adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows. The estimates and the estimating methods used are reviewed continually, and any adjustments considered necessary are reflected in current earnings.

Property and Casualty Insurance Loss and Loss Expense Reserves

Property and casualty insurance loss and loss expense reserves are established to provide for the estimated costs of paying claims under insurance policies written by us. These reserves include estimates for both claims that have been reported (case) and those that have been incurred but not reported (IBNR) and include estimates of all future payments associated with processing and settling these claims.

The process of establishing loss reserves is complex and involves a variety of actuarial techniques. The loss reserve estimation process is based largely on the assumption that past development trends are an appropriate indicator of future events. Reserve estimates are based upon our assessment of known facts and circumstances, review of historical settlement patterns, estimates of trends in claims frequency and severity, legal theories of liability and other factors. Variables in the reserve estimation process can be affected by 1) internal factors, including changes in claims handling procedures and changes in the quality of risk selection in the underwriting process, and 2) external events, such as economic inflation and regulatory and legislative changes. Due to the inherent complexity of the assumptions used, final loss settlements may vary significantly from the current estimates, particularly when those settlements may not occur until well into the future.

How reserves are established

Case reserves are established by a claims handler on each individual claim and are adjusted as new information becomes known during the course of handling the claims. IBNR reserves represent the difference between the case reserves for actual reported loss and loss expenses and the estimated ultimate cost of all claims.

Our loss and loss expense reserves include amounts related to short-tail and long-tail lines of business. Tail refers to the time period between the occurrence of a loss and the final settlement of the claim. The longer the time span between the incidence of a loss and the settlement of the claim, the more the ultimate settlement amount can vary. Most of our loss and loss expense reserves relate to long-tail liability lines of business including workers compensation, bodily injury and other liability coverages, such as commercial liability. Short-tail lines of business, which represent a smaller percentage of our loss reserves, include personal auto physical damage and personal property.

Our actuaries review all direct reserve estimates on a quarterly basis for both current and prior accident years using the most current claim data. Reserves for massive injury lifetime medical claims, including auto no-fault and workers compensation claims, are reviewed at a more detailed level semi-annually. These massive injury claim reserves are relatively few in number and are very long-tail liabilities. In intervening quarters, development on massive injury

reserves is monitored to confirm that the estimate of ultimate losses should not change. If an unusual development is observed, a detailed review is conducted to determine whether the reserve estimate should change. Significant changes to the factors discussed above, which are either known or reasonably projected through analysis of internal and external data, are quantified in the reserve estimates each quarter.

The quarterly reserve reviews incorporate a variety of actuarial methods and judgments and involve rigorous analysis. A comprehensive review is performed of the various estimation methods and reserve levels produced by each. The various methods generate different estimates of ultimate losses by product line and product coverage combination. Thus, reserves are comprised of a set of point estimates of the ultimate losses developed from the various methods. These multiple reserve point estimates are reviewed by our reserving actuaries and reserve best estimates are selected. The selected reserve estimates are discussed with management.

Table of Contents

Numerous factors are considered in setting reserve levels, including, but not limited to, the assessed reliability of key loss trends and assumptions that may significantly influence the current actuarial indications, the maturity of the accident year, pertinent claims frequency and severity trends observed over recent years, the level of volatility within a particular line of business and the improvement or deterioration of actuarial rate indications in the current period as compared to prior periods. Certain methods are considered more credible for each product/coverage combination depending on the maturity of the accident quarter, the mix of business and the particular internal and external influences impacting the claims experience or the method.

The following is a discussion of the most common methods used:

Paid development – Paid loss development patterns are generated from historical data organized by accident quarter and calendar quarter and applied to current paid losses by accident quarter to generate estimated ultimate losses. Paid development techniques do not use information about case reserves and therefore are not affected by changes in case reserving practices. These techniques are generally most useful for short-tailed lines since a high percentage of ultimate losses are paid in early periods of development.

Incurred development – Incurred loss development patterns (reflecting cumulative paid losses plus current case reserves) are generated from historical data organized by accident quarter and calendar quarter. The patterns are applied to current incurred losses by accident quarter to generate estimated ultimate losses. Incurred methods and/or combinations of the paid and incurred methods are used in developing estimated ultimate losses for short-tail coverages, such as personal auto physical damage and personal property claims, and more mature accident quarters of long-tail coverages, such as personal auto liability, commercial liability and workers compensation claims.

Weather event paid and reported development – The historical patterns utilized in paid and reported development methods for weather events are derived from historical data for the same type of weather event. Initial weather event ultimate loss estimates are reviewed with claims management.

Bornhuetter-Ferguson – Bornhuetter-Ferguson is a method of combining the expected-loss-ratio ultimate losses and the paid-or-incurred development ultimate losses. It places more weight on the paid-or-incurred development ultimate losses as an accident quarter matures. The Bornhuetter-Ferguson method is generally used on the first four to eight accident quarters on long-tail coverages because a low percentage of losses are paid in the early period of development. An expected loss ratio is developed through a review of historical loss ratios by accident quarter, adjusted for changes to earned premium, mix of business and other factors that are expected to impact the loss ratio for the accident quarter being evaluated. A preliminary estimate of ultimate losses is calculated by multiplying this expected loss ratio by earned premium.

Survival ratio – This method measures the ratio of the average loss and loss expense amount paid annually to the total reserve for the product line or product coverage. The survival ratio represents the number of years of payments that the current level of reserves will cover. The reserve is established so that a particular ratio, representing the time to closing of all claims, is achieved. This method is also used as a reasonability check of reserve adequacy.

Individual claim – This method estimates the ultimate losses – on a claim-by-claim basis. An annual payment assumption is made for each claimant and then projected into the future based upon a particular assumption of the future inflation rate and life expectancy of the claimant. This method is used for unusual, large claims.

Line of business methods

For each product line and product/coverage combination, certain methods are given more influence than other methods. The discussion below gives a general indication of which methods are preferred for each line of business. As circumstances change, the methods that are given greater weight can change.

Massive injury lifetime medical claims (such as certain auto no-fault and workers compensation claims) – These claims develop over a long period of time and are relatively few in number. We utilize the individual claim method to evaluate each claim's ultimate losses.

Personal auto physical damage and homeowners – These lines are fast-developing, and paid and incurred development techniques are used. We rely primarily on incurred development techniques for the most recent accident months.

Table of Contents

Personal auto liability (such as bodily injury and uninsured/underinsured motorist) – For auto liability, and bodily injury in particular, we review the results of a greater number of techniques than for physical damage. We use the Bornhuetter-Ferguson method for the first four to eight accident quarters and paid and incurred development methods for the older accident periods.

Workers compensation and long-tailed liability (such as commercial liability) – We generally rely upon the expected loss ratio, Bornhuetter-Ferguson and incurred development techniques. These techniques are generally weighted together, relying more heavily on the Bornhuetter-Ferguson method at early ages of development and more on the incurred development method as the accident periods mature.

The methods used for estimating loss expenses are as follows:

Defense and cost containment expenses (D&CC) – D&CC is analyzed using paid development techniques and an analysis of the relationship between D&CC payments and loss payments.

Adjusting and other expenses (A&O) – A&O reserves are projected based upon an expected cost per claim year, the anticipated claim closure pattern, and the ratio of paid A&O to paid loss.

Key assumptions for loss reserving

The accuracy of the various methods used to estimate reserves is a function of the degree to which underlying assumptions are satisfied. The most significant key assumptions are:

Development patterns – Historical paid and incurred amounts contain patterns which indicate how unpaid and IBNR amounts will emerge in future periods. Unless reasons or factors are identified that invalidate the extension of historical patterns into the future, these patterns can be used to make projections necessary for estimating loss and loss adjustment expense reserves. This is the most significant assumption and it applies to all methods.

Impact of inflation – Property and casualty insurance reserves are established before the extent to which inflation may impact such reserves is known. Consequently, in establishing reserves, we attempt to anticipate the potential impact of inflation, including medical cost inflation, construction and auto repair cost inflation and tort issues. Medical costs are a broad element of inflation that impacts personal and commercial auto, general liability, workers compensation and commercial multi-peril lines of insurance written by the Property and Casualty Group. Inflation assumptions take the form of explicit numerical values in the survival ratio, individual claim, and massive injury lifetime medical reserving methods. Inflation assumptions are implicitly derived through the selection of applicable loss development patterns for all other reserving methods. Occasionally, unusual aberrations in loss development patterns are caused by external and internal factors such as changes in claim reporting and/or settlement patterns, unusually large losses, process changes, legal or regulatory changes and other influences. In these instances, analyses of alternate development factor selections are performed to evaluate the effect of these factors and actuarial judgment is applied to make appropriate assumptions needed to develop a best estimate of ultimate losses.

Claims with atypical emergence patterns – Characteristics of certain subsets of claims, such as those with high severity, have the potential to distort patterns contained in historical paid loss and reported loss data. When testing indicates this to be the case for a particular subset of claims, our actuaries segregate these claims from the data and analyze them separately.

Future cost increases and claimant mortality – Future cost increase assumptions are derived from a review of historical cost increases and are assumed to persist into the future. Future medical cost increases and claimant mortality assumptions utilized in the reserve estimates for massive injury lifetime medical claims are obtained from industry studies adjusted for our own experience. Reserve levels are sensitive to these assumptions because they represent

projections over 30 to 40 years into the future.

Changes in loss ratio trends – Prior loss ratio assumptions utilized in the Bornhuetter-Ferguson method are derived from projections of historical loss ratios based upon actual experience from more mature accident periods adjusted for assumed changes in average premiums, frequency and severity. These assumptions influence only the most recent accident periods, but the majority of reserves originate with the most recent accident periods. Reserve levels are highly sensitive to these assumptions.

Relationship of loss expense to losses – D&CC-to-loss ratio assumptions utilized in the Bornhuetter-Ferguson method are initially derived from historical relationships. These historical ratios are adjusted according to the impact of changing internal and external factors. The A&O-to-loss ratio assumption is similarly derived from historical relationships and adjusted as required for identified internal or external changes.

32

Table of Contents

Reserve estimate variability

The property and casualty reserves with the greatest potential for variation are the massive injury lifetime medical reserves. The automobile no-fault law in Pennsylvania before 1986 and workers compensation policies provide for unlimited medical benefits. The estimate of ultimate liabilities for these claims is subject to significant judgment due to variations in claimant health, mortality over time and health care cost trends. Workers compensation massive injury claims have been segregated from the total population of claims. Ultimate losses for these claims are estimated on a claim-by-claim basis. An annual payment assumption is made for each of the claimants who have sustained massive injuries. We are currently reserving for 267 claimants requiring lifetime medical care, of which 109 involve massive injuries. The annual payment is projected into the future based upon particular assumptions of the future inflation rate and life expectancy of the claimant. The most significant variable in estimating this liability is medical cost inflation. The life expectancy (mortality rate) assumption underlying the estimate reflects the gender specific disabled pensioner mortality table. Actual experience, however, may emerge in a manner that is different relative to the original assumptions, which could have a significant impact on our reserve estimates.

Loss reserves are set at full expected cost, except for workers compensation loss reserves, which are discounted on a nontabular basis using an interest rate of 2.5% and our historical workers compensation payout patterns. In our workers compensation discounting methodology, we segregate the workers compensation massive injury claims that have longer payout patterns from the non-massive injury workers compensation claims.

Auto no-fault (massive injury lifetime medical claims) – The automobile massive injury reserve carried by the Property and Casualty Group totaled \$351 million at December 31, 2012, compared to \$356 million at December 31, 2011. The decrease in the pre-1986 automobile massive injury reserves in 2012, compared to 2011, was primarily due to the death of one claimant. A 100-basis point increase in the medical cost inflation assumption would result in an increase in the Property and Casualty Group's liability of \$71 million at December 31, 2012.

Workers compensation (massive injury lifetime medical claims) – The workers compensation massive injury reserve carried by the Property and Casualty Group totaled \$99 million at both December 31, 2012 and 2011. The workers compensation massive injury reserves remained flat in 2012, compared to 2011, primarily due to the death of one claimant, offset by the addition of one new claimant. The discount on these reserves was \$36 million at December 31, 2012. A 100-basis point increase in the medical cost inflation assumption would result in an increase in the Property and Casualty Group's liability of \$22 million and an increase in the discount of \$10 million at December 31, 2012.

Workers compensation reserves, excluding massive injury lifetime medical claims, are also subject to discounting. The discount on these reserves was \$49 million at December 31, 2012. A 100-basis point increase in the discount rate would decrease these reserves by \$24 million.

We also perform analyses to evaluate the adequacy of past total reserve levels for the Property and Casualty Group. Using subsequent information, we perform retrospective reserve analyses to test whether previously established estimates for reserves were reasonable. Our 2012 retrospective reserve analysis for the loss reserve balance at December 31, 2011 indicated that direct reserves, including salvage and subrogation recoveries, were over-estimated by approximately \$92 million, or 2.6% of the reserve estimate at December 31, 2011. In 2011, our retrospective reserve analysis indicated that direct reserves, including salvage and subrogation recoveries, were over-estimated by approximately \$276 million, or 7.7% of the reserve estimate at December 31, 2010; and in 2010, our retrospective reserve analysis indicated that direct reserves, including salvage and subrogation recoveries, were over-estimated by approximately \$188 million, or 5.2% of the reserve estimate at December 31, 2009. See an additional discussion of our reserve development in the "Prior year loss reserve development" section.

Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty loss and loss expense reserves accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the

Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

Life Insurance and Annuity Policy Reserves

Reserves for traditional life insurance future policy benefits are computed primarily by the net level premium method. Generally, benefits are payable over an extended period of time and related reserves are calculated as the present value of future expected benefits to be paid reduced by the present value of future expected net premiums. Such reserves are established based upon methods and underlying assumptions in accordance with GAAP and applicable actuarial standards. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of policy reserves are mortality, lapses, expenses and investment yields. Mortality assumptions are based upon tables typically used in the industry, modified to reflect actual experience and to include a provision for the risk of adverse deviation where appropriate. Lapse, expense and investment yield assumptions are based upon actual company experience and may include a provision for the risk of adverse deviation. Assumptions on these policies are locked in at the time of issue and are not subject to change unless a premium deficiency exists. A premium deficiency exists if, based upon

33

Table of Contents

revised assumptions, the existing contract liabilities together with the present value of future gross premiums are not sufficient to cover the present value of future expected benefits and maintenance costs and to recover unamortized acquisition costs. Historically, our reserves plus expected gross premiums have been demonstrated to be sufficient. There were no premium deficiencies in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

Reserves for income-paying annuity future policy benefits are computed as the present value of future expected benefits. Principal assumptions used in the establishment of policy reserves are mortality and investment yields. Interest rates used to discount future expected benefits are set at the policy level and range from 2.25% to 9.0%. The equivalent aggregate interest rate is 5.7%. If the aggregate interest rate was reduced by 100 basis points, the present value of future expected benefits would increase by \$18 million at December 31, 2012.

Reserves for universal life and deferred annuity plans are based upon the contract account balance without reduction for surrender charges.

Investment Valuation

Available-for-sale and trading securities

We make estimates concerning the valuation of all investments. Valuation techniques are used to derive the fair value of the available-for-sale and trading securities we hold. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between willing market participants at the measurement date.

Fair value measurements are based upon observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect our view of market assumptions in the absence of observable market information. We utilize valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

For purposes of determining whether the market is active or inactive, the classification of a financial instrument was based upon the following definitions:

An active market is one in which transactions for the assets being valued occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide reliable pricing information.

An inactive (illiquid) market is one in which there are few and infrequent transactions, where the prices are not current, price quotations vary substantially, and/or there is little information publicly available for the asset being valued.

We continually assess whether or not an active market exists for all of our investments and as of each reporting date re-evaluate the classification in the fair value hierarchy. All assets carried at fair value are classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories:

Level 1 – Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity can assess at the measurement date.

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Level 1 primarily consists of publicly traded common stock, nonredeemable preferred stock and certain government securities and reflects market data obtained from independent sources, such as prices obtained from an exchange or a

nationally recognized pricing service for identical instruments in active markets.

Level 2 includes those financial instruments that are valued using industry-standard models that consider various inputs, such as the interest rate and credit spread for the underlying financial instruments. All significant inputs are observable, or derived from observable information in the marketplace, or are supported by observable levels at which transactions are executed in the marketplace. Financial instruments in this category primarily include municipal securities, asset backed securities, collateralized-mortgage obligations, foreign and domestic corporate bonds and redeemable preferred stock and certain nonredeemable preferred stock.

Level 3 securities are valued based upon unobservable inputs, reflecting our estimates of value based upon assumptions used by market participants. Securities are assigned to Level 3 in cases where non-binding broker quotes are significant to the

34

Table of Contents

valuation and there is a lack of transparency as to whether these quotes are based upon information that is observable in the marketplace. Fair value estimates for securities valued using unobservable inputs require significant judgment due to the illiquid nature of the market for these securities and represent the best estimate of the fair value that would occur in an orderly transaction between willing market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions. Fair value for these securities are generally determined using comparable securities or non-binding broker quotes received from outside broker dealers based upon security type and market conditions. Remaining securities, where a price is not available, are valued using an estimate of fair value based upon indicative market prices that include significant unobservable inputs not based upon, nor corroborated by, market information, including the utilization of discounted cash flow analyses which have been risk-adjusted to take into account illiquidity and other market factors. This category primarily consists of certain private preferred stock and bond securities as well as collateralized debt and loan obligations.

As of each reporting period, financial instruments recorded at fair value are classified based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The presence of at least one unobservable input would result in classification as a Level 3 instrument. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment, and considers factors specific to the asset, such as the relative impact on the fair value as a result of including a particular input and market conditions. We did not make any other significant judgments except as described above.

Estimates of fair values for our investment portfolio are obtained primarily from a nationally recognized pricing service. Our Level 1 category includes those securities valued using an exchange traded price provided by the pricing service. The methodologies used by the pricing service that support a Level 2 classification of a financial instrument include multiple verifiable, observable inputs including benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data. Pricing service valuations for Level 3 securities are based upon proprietary models and are used when observable inputs are not available in illiquid markets. In limited circumstances we adjust the price received from the pricing service when, in our judgment, a better reflection of fair value is available based upon corroborating information and our knowledge and monitoring of market conditions such as a disparity in price of comparable securities and/or non-binding broker quotes. In other circumstances, certain securities are internally priced because prices are not provided by the pricing service.

We perform continuous reviews of the prices obtained from the pricing service. This includes evaluating the methodology and inputs used by the pricing service to ensure we determine the proper classification level of the financial instrument. Price variances, including large periodic changes, are investigated and corroborated by market data. We have reviewed the pricing methodologies of our pricing service as well as other observable inputs, such as benchmark yields, reported trades, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers, reference data and transaction volumes, and believe that their prices adequately consider market activity in determining fair value. Our review process continues to evolve based upon accounting guidance and requirements.

When a price from the pricing service is not available, values are determined by obtaining non-binding broker quotes and/or market comparables. When available, we obtain multiple quotes for the same security. The ultimate value for these securities is determined based upon our best estimate of fair value using corroborating market information. Our evaluation includes the consideration of benchmark yields, reported trades, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data.

Other-than-temporary impairments

Investments are evaluated monthly for other-than-temporary impairment loss. Some factors considered in evaluating whether or not a decline in fair value is other-than-temporary include:

the extent and duration for which fair value is less than cost;

historical operating performance and financial condition of the issuer;
short- and long-term prospects of the issuer and its industry based upon analysts' recommendations;
specific events that occurred affecting the issuer, including rating downgrades;
our intent to sell or more likely than not be required to sell (debt securities); and
our ability and intent to retain the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for a recovery in value (equity securities).

For debt securities in which we do not expect full recovery of amortized cost, the security is deemed to be credit-impaired. Credit-related impairments and impairments on securities we intend to sell or more likely than not will be required to sell are recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. It is our intention to sell all debt securities with credit impairments. For available-for-sale equity securities, a charge is recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for positions that have experienced other-than-temporary impairments due to credit quality or other factors.

35

Table of Contents

Limited partnerships

The primary basis for the valuation of limited partnership interests is financial statements prepared by the general partner. Because of the timing of the preparation and delivery of these financial statements, the use of the most recently available financial statements provided by the general partners generally result in a quarter delay in the inclusion of the limited partnership results in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Due to this delay, these financial statements do not reflect the market conditions experienced in the fourth quarter of 2012.

The majority of our limited partnership holdings are considered investment companies where the general partners record assets at fair value. These limited partnerships are recorded using the equity method of accounting. We also own some real estate limited partnerships that do not meet the criteria of an investment company. These partnerships prepare their audited financial statements on a cost basis. We have elected to report these limited partnerships under the fair value option, which is based on the net asset value (NAV) from our partner's capital statement reflecting the general partner's estimate of fair value for the fund's underlying assets. Fair value provides consistency in the evaluation and financial reporting for these limited partnerships and limited partnerships accounted for under the equity method.

We have three types of limited partnership investments: private equity, mezzanine debt, and real estate. Our private equity and mezzanine debt partnerships are diversified among numerous industries and geographies to minimize potential loss exposure. Nearly all of the underlying investments in our limited partnerships are valued using a source other than quoted prices in active markets. The fair value amounts for our private equity and mezzanine debt partnerships are based upon the financial statements prepared by the general partners, who use various methods to estimate fair value including the market approach, income approach and the cost approach. The market approach uses prices and other pertinent information from market-generated transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities. Such valuation techniques often use market multiples derived from a set of comparables. The income approach uses valuation techniques to convert future cash flows or earnings to a single discounted present value amount. The measurement is based upon the value indicated by current market expectations about those future amounts. The cost approach is derived from the amount that is currently required to replace the service capacity of an asset. If information becomes available that would impair the cost of investments owned by the partnerships, then the general partner would adjust to the net realizable value.

The fair value of investments in real estate limited partnerships is determined by the general partner based upon independent appraisals and/or internal valuations. Real estate projects under development are generally valued at cost and impairment tested by the general partner. We minimize the risk of market decline by avoiding concentration in a particular geographic area and are diversified across residential, commercial, industrial and retail real estate investments.

We perform various procedures in review of the general partners' valuations. While we rely on the general partners' financial statements as the best available information to record our share of the partnership unrealized gains and losses resulting from valuation changes, we adjust our financial statements for impairments of the partnership investments where appropriate. As there is a limited market for these investments, they have the greatest potential for variability. We survey each of the general partners quarterly about expected significant changes (plus or minus 10% compared to previous quarter) to valuations prior to the release of the fund's quarterly and annual financial statements. Based upon that information from the general partner, we consider whether additional disclosure is warranted. For limited partnerships measured at fair value based upon NAV, these values are then analyzed to determine if they represent NAV at the balance sheet date, with an adjustment being made where appropriate.

Deferred Acquisition Costs Related to Life Insurance and Investment-Type Contracts

Acquisition costs that vary with and relate to the production of life insurance and investment-type contracts are deferred. Deferred acquisition costs ("DAC") are incremental direct costs of contract acquisition. As a result of new

accounting guidance effective in 2012, these costs are limited to the successful acquisition of new and renewal contracts. Such costs consist principally of commissions, premium taxes and policy issuance expenses. The change does not affect the Indemnity shareholder interest nor does it affect Indemnity earnings per share. The amount of acquisition costs capitalized during 2012 related to life insurance and investment-type contracts totaled \$17 million. The amount of acquisition costs that would have been capitalized during 2012 using the previous policy totaled \$19 million. Prior to 2012, certain of these acquisition costs were deferred regardless of whether a contract was acquired.

DAC on life insurance and investment-type contracts are amortized in proportion to gross premiums, gross margins or gross profits, depending on the type of contract. DAC related to traditional life insurance products is amortized in proportion to premium revenues over the premium-paying period of related policies using assumptions consistent with those used in computing policy liability reserves. These assumptions are not revised after policy issuance unless the DAC balance is deemed to be unrecoverable from future expected profits. In any period where the actual policy terminations are higher (lower) than anticipated policy terminations, DAC amortization will be accelerated (decelerated) in that period.

Table of Contents

DAC related to universal life products and deferred annuities is amortized over the estimated lives of the contracts in proportion to actual and expected future gross profits, which include investment, mortality and expense margins and surrender charges. Both historical and anticipated investment returns, including realized gains and losses, are considered in determining the amortization of DAC. When the actual gross profits change from previously estimated gross profits, the cumulative DAC amortization is re-estimated and adjusted by a cumulative charge or credit to current operations. When actual gross profits exceed those previously estimated, DAC amortization will increase, resulting in a current period charge to earnings. The opposite result occurs when the actual gross profits are below the previously estimated gross profits. DAC is also adjusted for the impact of unrealized gains or losses on investments as if these gains or losses had been realized, with corresponding credits or charges, net of income taxes, included in EFL's accumulated other comprehensive income, which is presented in the "Noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange," amount in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position.

The actuarial assumptions used to determine investment, mortality and expense margins and surrender charges are reviewed periodically, are based upon best estimates and do not include any provision for the risk of adverse deviation. If actuarial analysis indicates that expectations have changed, the actuarial assumptions are updated and the investment, mortality and expense margins and surrender charges are unlocked. If this unlocking results in a decrease in the present value of future expected gross profits, DAC amortization for the period will increase. If this unlocking results in an increase in the present value of future expected gross profits, DAC amortization for the current period will decrease.

DAC is periodically reviewed for recoverability. For traditional life products, if the benefit reserves plus anticipated future premiums and interest earnings for a line of business are less than the current estimate of future benefits and expenses (including any unamortized DAC), a charge to income is recorded for additional DAC amortization or for increased benefit reserves. For universal life products and deferred annuities, if the current present value of future expected gross profits is less than the unamortized DAC, a charge to income is recorded for additional DAC amortization. There were no impairments to DAC in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

Deferred Taxes

Deferred tax assets represent the tax benefit of future deductible temporary differences and operating loss and tax credit carry-forwards. Deferred tax assets are measured using the enacted tax rates expected to be in effect when such benefits are realized. We perform an analysis of our deferred tax assets to determine recoverability on a quarterly basis for each legal entity, by character of the income (ordinary or capital). Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance, if based upon the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion, or all, of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. In determining the need for a valuation allowance, we consider carry-back capacity, reversal of existing temporary differences, future taxable income and tax planning strategies. The determination of the valuation allowance for our deferred tax assets requires management to make certain judgments and assumptions regarding future operations that are based upon our historical experience and our expectations of future performance. Our judgments and assumptions are subject to change given the inherent uncertainty in predicting future performance, which is impacted by such things as financial market conditions, policyholder behavior, competitor pricing, new product introductions and specific industry and economic conditions.

Indemnity had a net deferred tax asset of \$37 million at December 31, 2012 and \$19 million at December 31, 2011. There was no valuation allowance recorded on Indemnity at December 31, 2012 or 2011.

The Exchange had a net deferred tax liability of \$365 million at December 31, 2012 and \$147 million at December 31, 2011. There was no valuation allowance recorded on the Exchange at December 31, 2012 or 2011.

Retirement Benefit Plan for Employees

Our pension plan for employees is the largest and only funded benefit plan we offer. Our pension obligation is developed from actuarial estimates. Several statistical and other factors, which attempt to anticipate future events, are used in calculating the expense and liability related to the plans. Key factors include assumptions about the discount rates and expected rates of return on plan assets. We review these assumptions annually and modify them considering historical experience, current market conditions, including changes in investment returns and interest rates and expected future trends.

Accumulated and projected benefit obligations are expressed as the present value of future cash payments. We discount those cash payments based upon a yield curve developed from corporate bond yield information with maturities that correspond to the payment of benefits. Lower discount rates increase present values and subsequent year pension expense; higher discount rates decrease present values and subsequent year pension expense. The discount rate assumption used to determine the benefit obligation for 2012 was determined based upon a yield curve developed from corporate bond yield information. The construction of this yield curve is based upon yields of corporate bonds rated Aa quality. Target yields are developed from bonds at various maturity points and a curve is fitted to those targets. Spot rates (zero coupon bond yields) are developed from the yield curve and used to discount benefit payment amounts associated with each future year. The present value of plan

Table of Contents

benefits is calculated by applying the spot/discount rates to projected benefit cash flows. A single discount rate is then developed to produce the same present value. This represents the suggested discount rate. The cash flows from the yield curve were matched against our projected benefit payments in the pension plan, which have a duration of about 19 years. This yield curve supported the selection of a 4.19% discount rate for the projected benefit obligation at December 31, 2012 and for the 2013 pension expense. The same methodology was used to develop the 4.99% and 5.69% discount rates used to determine the projected benefit obligation for 2011 and 2010, respectively, and the pension expense for 2012 and 2011, respectively. A change of 25 basis points in the discount rate assumption, with other assumptions held constant, would have an estimated \$3 million impact on net pension and other retirement benefit costs in 2013.

Unrecognized actuarial gains and losses are being recognized over a 14-year period, which represents the expected remaining service period of the employee group. Unrecognized actuarial gains and losses arise from several factors, including experience and assumption changes in the obligations and from the difference between expected returns and actual returns on plan assets. These unrecognized gains and losses are recorded in the pension plan obligation and accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position. These amounts are systematically recognized to net periodic pension expense in future periods, with gains decreasing and losses increasing future pension expense.

The expected long-term rate of return for the pension plan represents the average rate of return to be earned on plan assets over the period the benefits included in the benefit obligation are to be paid. The expected long-term rate of return is less susceptible to annual revisions, as there are typically no significant changes in the asset mix. To determine the expected long-term rate of return assumption, we utilized models based upon rigorous historical analysis and forward-looking views of the financial markets based upon key factors such as historical returns for the asset class' applicable indices, the correlations of the asset classes under various market conditions and general market trends. The expected future return for each asset class is then weighted based upon the plan's asset allocation to produce a reasonable range of asset return results within which our expected long-term rate of return assumption falls. A reasonably possible change of 25 basis points in the expected long-term rate of return assumption, with other assumptions held constant, would have an estimated \$1 million impact on net pension benefit cost.

We use a four year averaging method to determine the market-related value of plan assets, which is used to determine the expected return component of pension expense. Under this methodology, asset gains or losses that result from returns that differ from our long-term rate of return assumption are recognized in the market-related value of assets on a level basis over a four year period. The market-related asset experience during 2012 that related to the actual investment return being different from that assumed during the prior year was a gain of \$29 million. Recognition of this gain will be deferred and recognized over a four year period, consistent with the market-related asset value methodology. Once factored into the market-related asset value, these experience gains and losses will be amortized over a period of 14 years, which is the remaining service period of the employee group.

Estimates of fair values of the pension plan assets are obtained primarily from our trustee and custodian of our pension plan. Our Level 1 category includes a money market fund that is a mutual fund for which the fair value is determined using an exchange traded price provided by the trustee and custodian. Our Level 2 category includes commingled pools. Estimates of fair values for securities held by our commingled pools are obtained primarily from the trustee and custodian. The methodologies used by the trustee and custodian that support a financial instrument Level 2 classification include multiple verifiable, observable inputs including benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuers spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data. There were no Level 3 investments during 2012 or 2011.

The actuarial assumptions we used in determining our pension obligation may differ materially from actual results due to changing market and economic conditions, higher or lower withdrawal rates, or longer or shorter life spans of

participants. While we believe that the assumptions used are appropriate, differences in actual experience or changes in assumptions may materially affect our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

38

Table of Contents

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The information that follows is presented on a segment basis prior to eliminations.

Management Operations

Management fee revenue is earned by Indemnity from services relating to the sales, underwriting and issuance of policies on behalf of the Exchange as a result of its attorney-in-fact relationship, and is eliminated upon consolidation. A summary of the results of our management operations is as follows:

| (dollars in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest Years ended December 31, | | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|---|
| | 2012 | % Change | 2011 | % Change | 2010 | |
| Management fee revenue, net | \$1,157 | 8.5 % | \$1,067 | 5.7 % | \$1,009 | |
| Service agreement revenue | 31 | (5.9) | 33 | (3.6) | 34 | |
| Total revenue from management operations | 1,188 | 8.1 | 1,100 | 5.4 | 1,043 | |
| Cost of management operations | 983 | 10.2 | 892 | 6.1 | 841 | |
| Income from management operations – Indemnity ⁽¹⁾ | \$205 | (1.3)% | \$208 | 2.7 % | \$202 | |
| Gross margin | 17.3 | % (1.6)pts. | 18.9 | % (0.5)pts. | 19.4 | % |

(1) The Indemnity shareholder interest retains 100% of the income from management operations.

Management fee revenue

Management fee revenue is based upon all premiums written or assumed by the Exchange and the management fee rate, which is determined by our Board of Directors at least annually. Management fee revenue is calculated by multiplying the management fee rate by the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group, which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling agreement. The following table presents the calculation of management fee revenue:

| (dollars in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest Years ended December 31, | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|---|
| | 2012 | % Change | 2011 | % Change | 2010 | |
| Property and Casualty Group direct written premium | \$4,631 | 8.4 % | \$4,271 | 5.9 % | \$4,035 | |
| Management fee rate | 25 | % | 25 | % | 25 | % |
| Management fee revenue, gross | 1,157 | 8.3 | 1,068 | 5.9 | 1,009 | |
| Change in allowance for management fee returned on cancelled policies ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | NM | (1) | NM | 0 | |
| Management fee revenue, net of allowance | \$1,157 | 8.4 % | \$1,067 | 5.7 % | \$1,009 | |

NM = not meaningful

(1) Management fees are returned to the Exchange when policies are cancelled mid-term and unearned premiums are refunded. We record an estimated allowance for management fees returned on mid-term policy cancellations.

Direct written premium of the Property and Casualty Group increased 8.4% in 2012, compared to 2011, due to a 3.9% increase in policies in force and a 4.3% increase in the year-over-year average premium per policy for all lines of business. The year-over-year policy retention ratio was 90.9% at December 31, 2012 and 90.7% at December 31, 2011 and 2010. See the “Property and Casualty Insurance Operations” segment that follows for a complete discussion of property and casualty direct written premium, which has a direct bearing on Indemnity’s management fee.

The management fee rate was set at 25%, the maximum rate, for 2012, 2011 and 2010. The management fee rate for 2013 was set at 25% by our Board of Directors. Changes in the management fee rate can affect the Indemnity shareholder interest's revenue and net income from this segment significantly. See also, the “Transactions/Agreements between Indemnity and Noncontrolling Interest (Exchange), Board Oversight” section within this report.

Table of Contents

Service agreement revenue

Service agreement revenue includes service charges Indemnity collects from policyholders for providing extended payment terms on policies written by the Property and Casualty Group and late payment and policy reinstatement fees. The service charges are fixed dollar amounts per billed installment. Service agreement revenue totaled \$31 million, \$33 million and \$34 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The decrease in service agreement revenue in 2012 and 2011 resulted from a continued shift in policies to the monthly direct debit payment plan, which does not incur service charges, and the no-fee single payment plan, which offers a premium discount. The shift to these plans is driven by the consumers' desire to avoid paying services charges and to take advantage of the discount in pricing offered for paid-in-full policies.

Cost of management operations

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest Years ended December 31, | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | 2012 | % Change | 2011 | % Change | 2010 |
| Commissions | \$635 | 8.5 | % \$586 | 3.9 | % \$564 |
| Non-commission expense | 348 | 13.6 | 306 | 10.6 | 277 |
| Total cost of management operations | \$983 | 10.2 | % \$892 | 6.1 | % \$841 |

Commissions – Commissions increased \$49 million in 2012 compared to 2011, and increased \$22 million in 2011 compared to 2010, primarily as a result of the 8.4% and 5.9%, respectively, increase in direct written premiums of the Property and Casualty Group. In 2012, agent bonuses also increased due to an increase in the profitability component of the bonus as a result of factoring in the most recent year's underwriting data, and other agent incentives increased due to policy growth. Impacting these increases in 2012 was an adjustment that reduced commission expense by \$6 million. This amount represents the reimbursement by the North Carolina Reinsurance Facility (NCRF) for commissions Indemnity paid to agents on the surcharges collected on behalf of the NCRF in prior periods. This amount was incorrectly recorded as a benefit to the Exchange in prior periods. If these amounts had been correctly recorded, Indemnity's commission expense would have been lower by \$0.5 million and \$0.7 million, for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Impacting the increase in 2011 was a decrease in agent bonuses due to a reduction in the profitability component of the bonus as a result of factoring in the most recent year's underwriting data.

Non-commission expense – Non-commission expense increased \$42 million in 2012 compared to 2011. Sales, policy issuance, advertising and underwriting costs increased \$11 million primarily due to increased levels of applications and policies and increased agent related advertising and support. Information technology costs increased \$14 million, which included \$4 million of personnel costs, \$8 million of software costs and \$2 million of professional fees. Personnel and all other operating costs, excluding information technology related costs, increased \$17 million as a result of an \$8 million increase related to higher staffing levels primarily associated with policy acquisition and customer service functions, a \$6 million increase in pension and medical costs, and a \$3 million increase in the estimate for annual incentive plan compensation related to growth and underwriting performance.

In 2011, non-commission expense increased \$29 million compared to 2010. Sales, policy issuance and advertising costs increased \$2 million primarily due to increased levels of policies and agent related support. Information technology costs increased \$21 million, which included \$7 million of personnel costs, \$7 million of software costs and \$7 million of professional fees. Personnel and all other operating costs, excluding information technology related costs, increased \$6 million as a result of a \$1 million increase related to higher staffing levels primarily associated with the customer service function, and due to 2010 including a \$5 million reduction due to a favorable court ruling.

Gross margin

The gross margin in 2012 was 17.3%, compared to 18.9% in 2011 and 19.4% in 2010. The gross margin of 17.3% in 2012 was positively impacted by an adjustment that reduced commission expense by \$6 million related to the reimbursement by the NCRF for commissions Indemnity paid to agents on the surcharges collected on behalf of the NCRF in prior periods, and the gross margin of 19.4% in 2010 was positively impacted by a \$5 million reduction to non-commission expense due to a favorable court ruling. Excluding these adjustments that reduced the total cost of management operations, the gross margin would have been 16.8% in 2012, compared to 18.9% in 2011 and 18.9% in 2010.

40

Table of Contents

Property and Casualty Insurance Operations

The Property and Casualty Group operates in 11 Midwestern, Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states and the District of Columbia and primarily writes private passenger automobile, homeowners, commercial multi-peril, commercial automobile and workers compensation lines of insurance. A summary of the results of our property and casualty insurance operations is as follows:

| (dollars in millions) | Property and Casualty Group Years ended December 31, | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------|----------|--------------|------------|---|
| | 2012 | % Change | 2011 | % Change | 2010 | |
| Premiums: | | | | | | |
| Direct written premium | \$4,631 | 8.4 % | \$4,271 | 5.9 % | \$4,035 | |
| Reinsurance – assumed and ceded | (28) | (74.2) | (16) | (6.0) | (16) | |
| Net written premium | 4,603 | 8.2 | 4,255 | 5.9 | 4,019 | |
| Change in unearned premium | 181 | 71.3 | 106 | 12.2 | 94 | |
| Net premiums earned | 4,422 | 6.6 | 4,149 | 5.7 | 3,925 | |
| Losses and loss expenses: | | | | | | |
| Current accident year, excluding catastrophe losses | 3,010 | 5.7 | 2,848 | 2.8 | 2,771 | |
| Current accident year catastrophe losses | 489 | (36.7) | 773 | NM | 288 | |
| Prior accident years, including prior year catastrophe losses | (115) | 57.7 | (272) | (11.8) | (244) | |
| Losses and loss expenses | 3,384 | 1.0 | 3,349 | 19.0 | 2,815 | |
| Policy acquisition and other underwriting expenses | 1,284 | 9.0 | 1,178 | 5.8 | 1,113 | |
| Total losses and expenses | 4,668 | 3.1 | 4,527 | 15.2 | 3,928 | |
| Underwriting loss – Erie Insurance Group | \$(246) | 34.7 % | \$(378) | NM | \$(3) | |
| Underwriting loss – Indemnity ⁽¹⁾ | \$— | | \$— | | \$0 | |
| Underwriting loss – Exchange ^(d) | \$(246) | | \$(378) | | \$(3) | |
| Loss and loss expense ratios: | | | | | | |
| Current accident year loss ratio, excluding catastrophe losses | 68.1 | % (0.5)pts. | 68.6 | % (2.0)pts. | 70.6 | % |
| Current accident year catastrophe loss ratio | 11.0 | (7.6) | 18.6 | 11.3 | 7.3 | |
| Prior accident year loss ratio, including prior year catastrophe losses | (2.6) | 3.9 | (6.5) | (0.3) | (6.2) | |
| Total loss and loss expense ratio | 76.5 | (4.2) | 80.7 | 9.0 | 71.7 | |
| Policy acquisition and other underwriting expense ratio | 29.1 | 0.7 | 28.4 | 0.0 | 28.4 | |
| Combined ratio | 105.6 | % (3.5)pts. | 109.1 | % 9.0 | pts. 100.1 | % |

NM = not meaningful

(1) Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

We measure profit or loss from our property and casualty insurance segment based upon its underwriting results, which are represented by net premiums earned less losses and loss expenses and policy acquisition and other underwriting expenses on a pre-tax basis. The loss and loss expense ratio and combined ratio are key performance

indicators that we use to assess business trends and to make comparisons to industry results. The investment results related to our property and casualty insurance operations are included in our investment operations segment discussion.

Premiums

Direct written premium – Direct written premium of the Property and Casualty Group increased 8.4% to \$4.6 billion in 2012, from \$4.3 billion in 2011, driven by an increase in policies in force and increases in average premium per policy. Year-over-year policies in force for all lines of business increased by 3.9% in 2012 as the result of continuing strong policyholder retention and an increase in new policies written, compared to an increase of 2.5% in 2011. The year-over-year average premium per policy for all lines of business increased 4.3% at December 31, 2012, compared to 3.3% at December 31, 2011.

Premiums generated from new business increased 22.2% to \$568 million in 2012, compared to 1.9%, or \$465 million, in 2011. Underlying the trend in new business premiums was a 13.4% increase in new business policies written in 2012, compared to the same period in 2011, while the year-over-year average premium per policy on new business increased 7.8% at December 31, 2012, compared to 5.9% at December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

Premiums generated from renewal business increased 6.7% to \$4.1 billion in 2012, compared to 6.4%, or \$3.8 billion, in 2011. Underlying the trend in renewal business premiums were increases in average premium per policy and steady policy retention trends. The renewal business year-over-year average premium per policy increased 3.9% at December 31, 2012, compared to 2.9% at December 31, 2011. The Property and Casualty Group's year-over-year policy retention ratio was 90.9% at December 31, 2012 and 90.7% at December 31, 2011, and 2010.

The Property and Casualty Group implemented rate increases in 2012, 2011 and 2010 in order to meet loss cost expectations. Our rate increases in 2010 were offset somewhat by the Property and Casualty Group's economically sensitive lines, predominantly workers compensation and commercial auto, which, as a result of unfavorable economic conditions at that time, experienced reduced exposures and changes in the mix of business that reduced the average premium per policy for these lines.

The Property and Casualty Group primarily writes only one-year policies. Consequently, rate actions take 12 months to be fully recognized in written premium and 24 months to be fully recognized in earned premiums. Since rate changes are realized at renewal, it takes 12 months to implement a rate change to all policyholders and another 12 months to earn the decreased or increased premiums in full. As a result, certain rate actions approved in 2011 were reflected in 2012, and recent rate actions in 2012 will be reflected in 2013.

Personal lines – Total personal lines premiums written increased 7.5% to \$3.3 billion in 2012, from \$3.1 billion in 2011, driven by an increase of 3.8% in total personal lines policies in force and an increase of 3.6% in the total personal lines year-over-year average premium per policy.

New business premiums written on personal lines increased 20.9% in 2012, compared to a decrease of 0.7% in 2011, driven by increases in new business policies written and average premium per policy. Personal lines new business policies written increased 15.1% in 2012, compared to the same period in 2011, while the year-over-year average premium per policy on personal lines new business increased 5.1% at December 31, 2012, compared to 4.2% at December 31, 2011.

Private passenger auto new business premiums written increased 15.7% in 2012, compared to a decrease of 1.4% in 2011. New business policies written for private passenger auto increased 11.0% in 2012, compared to the same period in 2011, while the new business year-over-year average premium per policy for private passenger auto increased 4.2% at December 31, 2012, compared to an increase of 2.0% at December 31, 2011.

Homeowners new business premiums written increased 30.4% in 2012, compared to a decrease of 0.9% in 2011. New business policies written for homeowners increased 18.8% in 2012, compared to the same period in 2011. The new business year-over-year average premium per policy for homeowners increased 9.8% at December 31, 2012, compared to 6.5% at December 31, 2011.

Renewal premiums written on personal lines increased 6.1% in 2012, compared to 5.5% in 2011, driven by increases in average premium per policy and steady policy retention trends. The year-over-year average premium per policy on personal lines renewal business increased 3.5% at December 31, 2012, compared to 2.2% at December 31, 2011. The personal lines year-over-year policy retention ratio was 91.6% at December 31, 2012, and 91.5% at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Private passenger auto renewal premiums written increased 3.2% in 2012, compared to 2.8% in 2011. The year-over-year average premium per policy on private passenger auto renewal business increased 1.1% at December 31, 2012, compared to 0.7% at December 31, 2011. The private passenger auto year-over-year policy retention ratio was 92.1% at December 31, 2012, 91.6% at December 31, 2011 and 91.8% at December 31, 2010.

Homeowners renewal premiums written increased 11.5% in 2012, compared to 11.1% in 2011. The year-over-year average premium per policy on homeowners renewal business increased 8.7% at December 31, 2012, compared to 7.7% in 2011. The homeowners year-over-year policyholder retention ratio was 90.9% at December 31, 2012, and 91.0% at December 31, 2011 and 90.9% at December 31, 2010.

Commercial lines – Total commercial lines premiums written increased 10.9%, to \$1.3 billion in 2012, from \$1.2 billion in 2011, driven by a 4.7% increase in total commercial lines policies in force and a 5.9% increase in the total commercial lines year-over-year average premium per policy.

New business premiums written on commercial lines increased 24.5% in 2012, compared to 6.7% in 2011, driven by increases in new business policies written and average premium per policy. The combined impact of these increases was seen primarily in the commercial multi-peril and workers compensation lines of business. Commercial lines new business policies written

Table of Contents

increased 6.5% in 2012, compared to the same period in 2011, while the year-over-year average premium per policy on commercial lines new business increased 16.9% at December 31, 2012, compared to 6.7% at December 31, 2011.

Renewal premiums for commercial lines increased 8.6% in 2012, compared to 8.8% in 2011, driven by increases in average premium per policy and steady policy retention trends. The combined impact of these increases was seen primarily in the commercial multi-peril and workers compensation lines of business. The year-over-year average premium per policy on commercial lines renewal business increased 4.1% in 2012, compared to 4.4% in 2011. The year-over-year policy retention ratio for commercial lines was 86.2% at December 31, 2012, 85.5% at December 31, 2011 and 85.3% at December 31, 2010.

Future trends—premium revenue – We plan to continue our efforts to grow Property and Casualty Group premiums and improve our competitive position in the marketplace. Expanding the size of our agency force through a careful agency selection process and increased market penetration in our existing operating territories will contribute to future growth as existing and new agents build their book of business with the Property and Casualty Group. At December 31, 2012, we had nearly 2,200 agencies with almost 10,200 licensed property and casualty representatives.

Changes in premium levels attributable to the growth in policies in force directly affect the profitability of the Property and Casualty Group and have a direct bearing on Indemnity's management fee. Our continued focus on underwriting discipline and the maturing of our pricing sophistication models has contributed to the Property and Casualty Group's growth in new policies in force and steady policy retention ratios. The continued growth of our policy base is dependent upon the Property and Casualty Group's ability to retain existing policyholders and attract new policyholders. A lack of new policy growth or the inability to retain existing customers could have an adverse effect on the Property and Casualty Group's premium level growth, and consequently Indemnity's management fee.

Changes in premium levels attributable to rate changes also directly affect the profitability of the Property and Casualty Group and have a direct bearing on Indemnity's management fee. Pricing actions contemplated or taken by the Property and Casualty Group are subject to various regulatory requirements of the states in which our insurers operate. The pricing actions already implemented, or to be implemented, have an effect on the market competitiveness of our insurance products. Such pricing actions, and those of competitors, could affect the ability of our agents to retain and attract new business. We expect the Property and Casualty Group's pricing actions to result in a net increase in direct written premium in 2013, however, exposure reductions and/or changes in our mix of business as a result of economic conditions could impact the average premium written by the Property and Casualty Group, as customers may reduce coverages.

Losses and loss expenses

Current accident year, excluding catastrophe losses – The current accident year loss and loss expense ratio for all lines of business, excluding catastrophe losses, was 68.1% in 2012, compared to 68.6% in 2011 and 70.6% in 2010. The personal lines loss and loss expense ratio related to the current accident year, excluding catastrophe losses, was 68.5% in 2012, compared to 69.4% in 2011 and 70.4% in 2010. The commercial lines loss and loss expense ratio related to the current accident year, excluding catastrophe losses, was 67.1% in 2012, compared to 66.6% in 2011 and 71.3% in 2010.

Current accident year catastrophe losses – Catastrophic events, destructive weather patterns, or changes in climate conditions are an inherent risk of the property and casualty insurance business and can have a material impact on our property and casualty insurance underwriting results. In addressing this risk, we employ what we believe are reasonable underwriting standards and monitor our exposure by geographic region. The Property and Casualty Group's definition of catastrophes includes those weather-related or other loss events that we consider significant to our geographic footprint which, individually or in the aggregate, may not reach the level of a national catastrophe as defined by the Property Claim Service ("PCS").

The Property and Casualty Group maintains property catastrophe reinsurance coverage from unaffiliated reinsurers to mitigate future potential catastrophe loss exposures and no longer participates in the voluntary assumed reinsurance business, which lowers the variability of the Property and Casualty Group's underwriting results. The property catastrophe reinsurance coverage during 2012 included a first treaty that provided coverage of up to 90% of a loss of \$500 million in excess of the Property and Casualty Group's loss retention of \$350 million per occurrence, a second treaty that provided coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$275 million in excess of \$850 million, and a third treaty that provided coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$25 million in excess of \$1.125 billion. The property catastrophe reinsurance treaties were renewed effective for January 1, 2013, with the first property catastrophe reinsurance treaty providing coverage of up to 90% of a loss of \$550 million in excess of the Property and Casualty Group's loss retention of \$350 million per occurrence, the second treaty providing coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$225 million in excess of \$900 million, and a third treaty providing coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$25 million in excess of \$1.125 billion.

Table of Contents

While the Property and Casualty Group is exposed to terrorism losses in commercial lines, including workers compensation, these lines are afforded a limited backstop above insurer deductibles for foreign acts of terrorism under the federal Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization and Extension Act of 2007 that continues through December 31, 2014. There is no federal assistance for personal lines terrorism losses. Although current models suggest the most likely occurrences would not have a material impact on the Property and Casualty Group, there is a chance that if future terrorism attacks occur, the Property and Casualty Group could incur large losses.

Catastrophe losses for the current accident year, as defined by the Property and Casualty Group, totaled \$489 million in 2012, \$773 million in 2011 and \$288 million in 2010, and contributed 11.0 points, 18.6 points and 7.3 points to the respective loss ratios.

Prior accident years, including prior accident year catastrophe losses – The following table provides a breakout of our property and casualty insurance operation's prior year loss reserve development, including prior accident year catastrophe loss reserves, by type of business:

| (in millions) | Property and Casualty Group | | |
|---|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Direct business including salvage and subrogation | \$(92) | \$(276) | \$(188) |
| Assumed reinsurance business | (14) | (22) | (51) |
| Ceded reinsurance business | (9) | 26 | (5) |
| Total prior year loss development | \$(115) | \$(272) | \$(244) |

Negative amounts represent a redundancy (decrease in reserves), while positive amounts represent a deficiency (increase in reserves).

Direct business, including reserves for catastrophe losses and salvage and subrogation – The following table presents the overall prior year loss development of direct reserves, including reserves for catastrophe losses and the effects of salvage and subrogation recoveries, for our personal and commercial lines' operations by accident year:

| (in millions) | Property and Casualty Group | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| 2011 | \$(46) | \$— | \$— |
| 2010 | (27) | (26) | — |
| 2009 | (7) | (31) | (60) |
| 2008 | (6) | (14) | (47) |
| 2007 | (5) | (7) | (39) |
| 2006 | (4) | (8) | (17) |
| 2005 | (3) | (5) | (17) |
| 2004 | 1 | (11) | 0 |
| 2003 | (4) | (4) | (9) |
| 2002 and prior | 9 | (170) | 1 |
| Total | \$(92) | \$(276) | \$(188) |

Negative amounts represent a redundancy (decrease in reserves), while positive amounts represent a deficiency (increase in reserves).

The 2012 direct business favorable development, including reserves for catastrophe losses and salvage and subrogation recoveries, totaled \$92 million, improved the combined ratio by 2.1 points and represented 2.6% of the net loss reserves at December 31, 2011. The most significant factors contributing to the 2012 favorable development were:

Favorable development of \$54 million related to the homeowners line of business primarily resulting from improved claims frequency trends, which impacted the 2011 accident year, better than expected severity trends, which impacted the 2007 through 2011 accident years, and the closing of one large claim which impacted the 2010 accident year. Favorable development of \$42 million related to the commercial multi-peril line of business primarily resulting from better than expected severity trends, which impacted the 2007 through 2011 accident years, and the closing of two large claims which impacted the 2006 through 2010 accident years.

44

Table of Contents

Favorable development of \$11 million related to the commercial auto line of business primarily resulting from better than expected severity trends, which impacted the 2007 through 2011 accident years.

Adverse development of \$15 million related to the workers compensation line of business primarily resulting from increased severity trends, which impacted accident years 2000 through 2008.

The 2011 direct business favorable development, including reserves for catastrophe losses and salvage and subrogation recoveries, totaled \$276 million, improved the combined ratio by 6.7 points and represented 7.7% of the net loss reserves at December 31, 2010. The most significant factors contributing to the 2011 favorable development were:

Favorable development of \$125 million related to the personal auto line of business, primarily resulting from better than expected severity trends on automobile bodily injury and uninsured/underinsured motorist bodily injury improved annual claims cost expectations, which impacted the more recent accident years, and the closing of four pre-1986 automobile massive injury lifetime medical claims.

Favorable development of \$95 million related to the workers compensation line of business primarily resulting from the closing of seven massive injury lifetime medical claims and better than expected severity trends, which primarily impacted accident years related to 2001 and prior.

Favorable development of \$24 million related to the commercial multi-peril line of business primarily resulting from better than expected severity trends, which impacted the 2009 and 2010 accident years.

- Favorable development of \$12 million related to the homeowners line of business primarily resulting from better than expected severity trends, which impacted the more recent accident years.

The 2010 direct business favorable development, including reserves for catastrophe losses and salvage and subrogation recoveries, totaled \$188 million, improved the combined ratio by 4.8 points and represented 5.2% of the net loss reserves at December 31, 2009. The most significant factors contributing to the 2010 favorable development were:

Favorable development of \$64 million related to the commercial multi-peril line of business and resulted primarily from improvements in severity trends on both property and liability lines, which impacted various recent accident years.

Favorable development of \$60 million related to the personal auto line of business and primarily resulted from better than expected severity trends on automobile bodily injury and uninsured/underinsured motorist bodily injury, which impacted the more recent accident years. An additional \$8 million of favorable development stems from the settlement of three pre-1986 automobile massive injury lifetime medical claims.

Favorable development of \$45 million related to the workers compensation line of business and resulted primarily from improvements in severity trends and the settlement of four workers compensation massive injury lifetime medical claims, which impacted the more recent accident years.

Adverse development of \$39 million was experienced in 2010 as a result of reserve strengthening on commercial liability claims which impacted the 2002 accident year. Of this amount, \$9 million related to the commercial multi-peril line of business and \$30 million related to other commercial lines.

Additional information on direct loss reserve development is provided in Item 1. "Business, Reserves for losses and loss expenses." The variability in reserve development over the ten year period illustrates the uncertainty of the loss reserving process. Conditions and trends that have affected reserve development in the past will not necessarily recur in the future. It is not appropriate to extrapolate future favorable or unfavorable reserve development based upon amounts experienced in prior years.

Assumed reinsurance – The Property and Casualty Group experienced favorable development on prior accident year loss reserves for its assumed reinsurance business totaling \$14 million in 2012, compared to \$22 million in 2011 and \$51 million in 2010. The favorable development in 2012, 2011 and 2010 was due to less than anticipated growth in involuntary reinsurance.

Ceded reinsurance – The Property and Casualty Group's ceded reinsurance reserves increased \$9 million during 2012, compared to a decrease of \$26 million in 2011 and an increase of \$5 million in 2010. Ceded reinsurance reserves primarily relate to the pre-1986 automobile massive injury claims. An increase in ceded recoveries is reflected as favorable loss development as it represents an increase in recoveries resulting from adverse development on our direct loss reserves, while a decrease in ceded recoveries is reflected as adverse loss development as it represents a decrease in recoveries resulting from

45

Table of Contents

favorable development on our direct loss reserves. The increase in ceded recoveries in 2012 was primarily the result of adverse development related to the pre-1986 automobile massive injury claims. In 2011, the decrease in ceded recoveries was primarily the result of the closing of four massive injury lifetime medical claims. In 2010, the increase in ceded recoveries was primarily the result of adverse development related to the business catastrophe liability line, offset by favorable development related to the pre-1986 automobile massive injury claims.

Policy acquisition and other underwriting expenses – Our policy acquisition and other underwriting expense ratio increased 0.7 points to 29.1% in 2012 from 28.4% in 2011, and remained flat at 28.4% in 2011 compared to 2010. The increase in 2012 was primarily due to a decrease in the amount of policy acquisition expenses deferred under the new accounting guidance effective in 2012. Additionally, the year ended December 31, 2012 included an adjustment of \$4 million which contributed 0.1 points to the combined ratio. The adjustment represents the reimbursement by the North Carolina Reinsurance Facility (NCRF) for commissions Indemnity paid to agents on the surcharges collected on behalf of the NCRF in prior periods. This amount was incorrectly recorded as a benefit to the Exchange in prior periods. The management fee rate was 25.0% in 2012, 2011 and 2010.

Table of Contents

Life Insurance Operations

EFL is a Pennsylvania-domiciled life insurance company which underwrites and sells individual and group life insurance policies and fixed annuities and operates in 10 states and the District of Columbia. A summary of the results of our life insurance operations is as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Family Life Insurance Company Years ended December 31, | | | | | |
|---|--|-------------|------|-------------|------|--|
| | 2012 | % Change | 2011 | % Change | 2010 | |
| Individual life premiums, net of reinsurance | \$70 | 10.0 % | \$64 | 5.1 % | \$61 | |
| Group life and other premiums | 3 | 3.7 | 3 | 2.2 | 3 | |
| Other revenue | 1 | 14.3 | 1 | (4.8) | 1 | |
| Total net policy revenue | 74 | 9.9 | 68 | 4.8 | 65 | |
| Net investment income | 95 | 1.7 | 93 | (1.1) | 94 | |
| Net realized gains on investments | 9 | (33.8) | 13 | (7.7) | 14 | |
| Impairment losses recognized in earnings | 0 | 90.5 | (1) | 57.9 | (2) | |
| Equity in earnings (losses) of limited partnerships | 0 | NM | 4 | NM | 1 | |
| Total revenues | 178 | 0.4 | 177 | 3.3 | 172 | |
| Benefits and other changes in policy reserves | 101 | 1.3 | 100 | 10.7 | 90 | |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 10 | (12.3) | 12 | (30.3) | 17 | |
| Other operating expenses | 21 | 32.5 | 15 | 3.4 | 15 | |
| Total benefits and expenses | 132 | 3.9 | 127 | 4.1 | 122 | |
| Income before income taxes | 46 | (8.3) | 50 | 1.2 | 50 | |
| Income before taxes – Indemnity ⁽¹⁾ | \$0 | | \$3 | | \$11 | |
| Income before taxes – Exchange ⁽¹⁾ | \$46 | | \$47 | | \$39 | |

NM = not meaningful

- (1) Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

Policy revenue

Gross policy revenues increased 4.8% to \$116 million in 2012, compared to \$110 million in 2011, and \$106 million in 2010. EFL reinsures a large portion of its traditional products in order to reduce claims volatility. With the introduction of its new life products, effective June 1, 2011, EFL reinsures new individual life business amounts in excess of its \$1 million per life retention limit. Previously, EFL reinsured 75% of its risk on new term business. Ceded reinsurance premiums totaled \$42 million in 2012, \$43 million in 2011, and \$42 million in 2010.

Premiums received on annuity and universal life products totaled \$74 million, \$84 million, and \$113 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Of these amounts, annuity and universal life premiums, which are recorded as deposits and therefore not reflected in revenue on the Consolidated Statements of Operations, totaled \$58 million, \$68 million, and \$97 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Investment revenue

EFL's investment revenue in 2012 was primarily impacted by a decrease in net realized gains on investments, as a result of 2011 having gains related to the sale of preferred stock securities, and a decrease in equity in earnings of limited partnerships resulting from a decline in the performance related to real estate investments, compared to 2011. Offsetting these decreases in 2012 was a slight increase in net investment income and low levels of impairments compared to 2011. EFL's investment revenue in 2011 experienced an increase in equity in earnings of limited partnerships compared to 2010, and continued to experience an elevated level of realized gains on investments and low levels of impairments in 2011, consistent with 2010. See the discussion of investments in the "Investment Operations" segment that follows for further information.

Benefits and expenses

Other operating expenses increased in 2012, compared to 2011, due to a decrease in the amount of EFL's policy acquisition expenses deferred under the new accounting guidance effective in 2012 and lower ceding commissions. In 2011, EFL's benefits and other changes in policy reserves were primarily impacted by increases in interest on annuity deposits, death benefits and future life policy benefits, while the amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs decreased as a result of declines in the earned and credited interest rates, compared to 2010.

Table of Contents

Investment Operations

The investment results related to our life insurance operations are included in the investment operations segment discussion as part of the Exchange's investment results. A summary of the results of our investment operations is as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group Years ended December 31, | | | | |
|---|--|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | 2012 | % Change | 2011 | % Change | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | | | |
| Net investment income ⁽¹⁾ | \$16 | 2.6 % | \$16 | (56.8)% | \$37 |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments ⁽¹⁾ | 5 | 64.1 | 3 | NM | (1) |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | NM | 0 | NM | (1) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | 15 | (44.4) | 26 | 21.3 | 21 |
| Net revenue from investment operations – Indemnity ⁽¹⁾ | \$36 | (19.8)% | \$45 | (19.8)% | \$56 |
| Exchange | | | | | |
| Net investment income ⁽¹⁾ | \$433 | 0.8 % | \$428 | 1.6 % | \$407 |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments ⁽¹⁾ | 413 | NM | (7) | NM | 314 |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | NM | (2) | (52.8) | (5) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | 116 | (5.4) | 123 | 14.9 | 107 |
| Goodwill impairment | 0 | NM | 0 | NM | (22) |
| Net revenue from investment operations – Exchange ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ | \$962 | 77.4 % | \$542 | (35.4)% | \$801 |

NM = not meaningful

(1) As a result of the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries, EIC, ENY and EPC, to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, investment revenue and losses generated from these entities will no longer accrue to the Indemnity shareholder interest after this date. Investment revenue from these entities totaled \$30 million in 2012, \$28 million in 2011, and \$29 million in 2010. These components of investment income now accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, in 2011 and thereafter.

(2) The Exchange's investment results include net investment revenues from EFL's operations of \$104 million in 2012, \$109 million in 2011, and \$107 million in 2010.

Net investment income

Net investment income primarily includes interest and dividends on our fixed maturity and equity security portfolios. Indemnity's net investment income was unchanged in 2012, compared to 2011, and decreased by \$21 million in 2011, compared to 2010, while net investment income for the Exchange increased by \$5 million and \$21 million during the same respective periods. The increase in net investment income for the Exchange in 2012 was primarily due to higher invested balances and higher dividend income from equity securities which more than offset a decrease in income from fixed maturities due to lower reinvestment yields. The fluctuations in 2011 for both Indemnity and the Exchange were primarily caused by the sale of EIC, ENY and EPC from Indemnity to the Exchange on December 31, 2010. These entities generated net investment income of \$25 million in 2010.

Net realized gains (losses) on investments

Net realized gains and losses on investments include the changes in fair value of common stocks designated as trading securities, and gains and losses resulting from the actual sales of all security categories. Indemnity generated net

realized gains of \$5 million in 2012, compared to gains of \$3 million in 2011, and losses of \$1 million in 2010. The Exchange generated net realized gains of \$413 million in 2012, compared to losses of \$7 million in 2011, and gains of \$314 million in 2010. In 2012, Indemnity's net realized gains were primarily due to the favorable performance of its common stock portfolio classified as trading securities, while realized gains for the Exchange were primarily due to valuations adjustments and realized gains on the sale of common stock securities reflecting favorable market performance. In 2011, Indemnity recorded \$6 million of realized gains on the sale of securities which was offset by \$3 million in valuation losses on its common stock portfolio, while the Exchange recorded \$240 million of realized gains on the sale of securities which was offset by \$247 million in valuation losses on its common stock portfolio. In 2010, Indemnity and the Exchange recognized losses on the sale of limited partnerships of \$12 million and \$46 million, respectively. These partnerships were sold to recapture tax paid on previous period capital gains that were due to expire. Losses on the sale of limited partnerships in 2010 were partially offset by gains of \$11 million from the sale of securities for Indemnity, which included net realized gains of \$5 million generated by EIC, ENY and EPC. The Exchange recorded net gains of \$314 million in 2010 despite losses on the sale of limited partnerships due to valuation adjustments on common stocks of \$254 million and realized gains of \$106 million from the sale of securities.

Table of Contents

Net impairment losses recognized in earnings

Net impairment losses recognized in earnings for Indemnity were \$0.1 million in 2012, compared to no impairments in 2011, and \$1 million in 2010. Impairment losses for the Exchange totaled \$0.1 million in 2012, compared to \$2 million in 2011, and \$5 million in 2010. Low levels of impairment losses are due to continued improvements in market conditions for fixed maturity and preferred stock securities since 2010. EIC, ENY and EPC generated net impairment losses of \$1 million in 2010.

Equity in earnings of limited partnerships

Indemnity's equity in earnings of limited partnerships decreased by \$11 million in 2012, compared to 2011, and increased by \$5 million in 2011, compared to 2010, while earnings for the Exchange decreased by \$7 million and increased by \$16 million during the same respective periods. These changes in earnings for both Indemnity and the Exchange were primarily due to the performance of real estate investments.

A breakdown of our net realized gains (losses) on investments is as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------|---------|---|
| | Years ended December 31, | | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Securities sold: | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$0 | \$2 | \$5 | |
| Preferred stock equity securities | 0 | 3 | 1 | |
| Common stock equity securities | 8 | 1 | 5 | |
| Common stock valuation adjustments | (3 |) (3 |) 0 | |
| Limited partnerships | 0 | 0 | (12 |) |
| Total net realized gains (losses) – Indemnity ⁽¹⁾ | \$5 | \$3 | \$(1 |) |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Securities sold: | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$58 | \$48 | \$25 | |
| Preferred stock equity securities | 9 | 27 | 11 | |
| Common stock equity securities | 125 | 165 | 70 | |
| Common stock valuation adjustments | 221 | (247 |) 254 | |
| Limited partnerships | 0 | 0 | (46 |) |
| Total net realized gains (losses) – Exchange ^{(1) (2)} | \$413 | \$(7 |) \$314 | |

See Item 8. “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data – Note 7, Investments, of Notes to Consolidated Financial (1) Statements” contained within this report for additional disclosures regarding net realized gains (losses) on investments.

(2) The Exchange's results include net realized gains from EFL's operations of \$9 million in 2012, \$13 million in 2011, and \$14 million in 2010.

The components of equity in earnings of limited partnerships are as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|--|--------------------------|------|------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Private equity | \$7 | \$10 | \$14 |
| Mezzanine debt | 5 | 7 | 7 |
| Real estate | 3 | 9 | 0 |
| Total equity in earnings of limited partnerships – Indemnity | \$15 | \$26 | \$21 |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Exchange | | | |
| Private equity | \$61 | \$54 | \$77 |
| Mezzanine debt | 32 | 24 | 27 |
| Real estate | 23 | 45 | 3 |
| Total equity in earnings of limited partnerships – Exchange ⁽¹⁾ | \$116 | \$123 | \$107 |

(1) The Exchange's results include equity in earnings of limited partnerships from EFL's operations of \$0.1 million in 2012, \$4 million in 2011, and \$0.5 million in 2010.

Table of Contents

Limited partnership earnings pertain to investments in U.S. and foreign private equity, mezzanine debt, and real estate partnerships. Valuation adjustments are recorded to reflect the changes in fair value of the underlying investments held by the limited partnerships. These adjustments are recorded as a component of equity in earnings of limited partnerships in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Limited partnership earnings tend to be cyclical based upon market conditions, the age of the partnership, and the nature of the investments. Generally, limited partnership earnings are recorded on a quarter lag from financial statements we receive from our general partners. As a consequence, earnings from limited partnerships reported at December 31, 2012 reflect investment valuation changes resulting from the financial markets and the economy through September 30, 2012.

Goodwill impairment

Goodwill is reviewed for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events occur or circumstances change that would indicate that a triggering event has occurred. Goodwill impairment testing follows a two step process. In the first step, the fair value of a reporting unit is compared to its carrying value. If the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the second step of the impairment test is performed for purposes of measuring the impairment.

Prior to December 31, 2010, the Exchange had \$22 million of goodwill attributable to its purchase of EFL stock in 2006. In the fourth quarter of 2010, the Exchange entered into an agreement to purchase Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, and a valuation of EFL was performed by an external independent third party in preparation for the sale, which occurred on March 31, 2011. The valuation resulted in a purchase price determination of 95% of book value. In response to the valuation and sale price, management concluded that the possibility for impairment existed and step two of the goodwill impairment test was completed to determine the impairment amount. Step two of the impairment test compared the value of new business for EFL to the current goodwill balance. The analysis determined that the value of EFL's new business did not support the \$22 million goodwill, and an impairment entry was made to write down the entire balance at December 31, 2010. The charge of \$22 million decreased the net income attributable to the Exchange in 2010.

Table of Contents

FINANCIAL CONDITION

Investments

Our investment strategy takes a long-term perspective emphasizing investment quality, diversification, and superior investment returns. Investments are managed on a total return approach that focuses on current income and capital appreciation. Our investment strategy also provides for liquidity to meet our short- and long-term commitments.

Distribution of investments

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group Carrying value at December 31, | | | | | |
|--|--|------------|---|----------|------------|---|
| | 2012 | % to total | | 2011 | % to total | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$452 | 66 | % | \$548 | 68 | % |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 29 | 4 | | 25 | 3 | |
| Common stock | 26 | 4 | | 27 | 4 | |
| Limited partnerships: | | | | | | |
| Private equity | 73 | 11 | | 82 | 10 | |
| Mezzanine debt | 27 | 4 | | 35 | 4 | |
| Real estate | 80 | 11 | | 91 | 11 | |
| Real estate mortgage loans | 1 | 0 | | 1 | 0 | |
| Total investments – Indemnity | \$688 | 100 | % | \$809 | 100 | % |
| Exchange | | | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$7,707 | 64 | % | \$7,292 | 65 | % |
| Equity securities: | | | | | | |
| Preferred stock | 631 | 5 | | 564 | 5 | |
| Common stock | 2,731 | 22 | | 2,308 | 21 | |
| Limited partnerships: | | | | | | |
| Private equity | 482 | 4 | | 495 | 4 | |
| Mezzanine debt | 196 | 2 | | 201 | 2 | |
| Real estate | 359 | 3 | | 386 | 3 | |
| Life policy loans | 16 | 0 | | 15 | 0 | |
| Real estate mortgage loans | 4 | 0 | | 4 | 0 | |
| Total investments – Exchange | \$12,126 | 100 | % | \$11,265 | 100 | % |
| Total investments – Erie Insurance Group | \$12,814 | | | \$12,074 | | |

We continually review our investment portfolio to evaluate positions that might incur other-than-temporary declines in value. For all investment holdings, general economic conditions and/or conditions specifically affecting the underlying issuer or its industry, including downgrades by the major rating agencies, are considered in evaluating impairment in value. In addition to specific factors, other factors considered in our review of investment valuation are the length of time the fair value is below cost and the amount the fair value is below cost.

We individually analyze all positions with emphasis on those that have, in management's opinion, declined significantly below cost. In compliance with impairment guidance for debt securities, we perform further analysis to determine if a credit-related impairment has occurred. Some of the factors considered in determining whether a debt security is credit impaired include potential for the default of interest and/or principal, level of subordination, collateral of the issue, compliance with financial covenants, credit ratings and industry conditions. We have the intent

to sell all credit-impaired debt securities, therefore the entire amount of the impairment charges are included in earnings and no credit impairments are recorded in other comprehensive income. For available-for-sale equity securities, a charge is recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Operations for positions that have experienced other-than-temporary impairments due to credit quality or other factors. (See the "Investment Operations" section herein for further information.) Management believes its investment valuation philosophy and accounting practices result in appropriate and timely measurement of value and recognition of impairment.

Table of Contents

Fixed maturities

Under our investment strategy, we maintain a fixed maturity portfolio that is of high quality and well diversified within each market sector. This investment strategy also achieves a balanced maturity schedule. Our fixed maturity portfolio is managed with the goal of achieving reasonable returns while limiting exposure to risk. Our municipal bond portfolio accounts for \$185 million, or 41%, of the total fixed maturity portfolio for Indemnity and \$1.3 billion, or 17%, of the fixed maturity portfolio for the Exchange at December 31, 2012. The overall credit rating of the municipal portfolio without consideration of the underlying insurance is AA.

Fixed maturities classified as available-for-sale are carried at fair value with unrealized gains and losses, net of deferred taxes, included in shareholders' equity. Indemnity's net unrealized gains on fixed maturities, net of deferred taxes, amounted to \$10 million at December 31, 2012, compared to \$8 million at December 31, 2011. At December 31, 2012, the Exchange had net unrealized gains on fixed maturities of \$449 million, compared to \$301 million at December 31, 2011.

The following table presents a breakdown of the fair value of our fixed maturity portfolio by sector and rating for Indemnity and the Exchange, respectively:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group ⁽¹⁾ | | | | Non-investment grade | Fair value |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | December 31, 2012 | | | | | |
| Industry Sector | AAA | AA | A | BBB | | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | |
| Basic materials | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$10 | \$ 0 | \$10 |
| Communications | 0 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Consumer | 0 | 0 | 19 | 18 | 0 | 37 |
| Energy | 0 | 0 | 5 | 24 | 0 | 29 |
| Financial | 0 | 34 | 39 | 36 | 10 | 119 |
| Government-municipal | 84 | 74 | 20 | 7 | 0 | 185 |
| Industrial | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Structured securities ⁽²⁾ | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Technology | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 14 |
| Utilities | 0 | 0 | 3 | 22 | 0 | 25 |
| Total – Indemnity | \$87 | \$112 | \$109 | \$134 | \$ 10 | \$452 |
| Exchange | | | | | | |
| Basic materials | \$0 | \$0 | \$45 | \$182 | \$ 5 | \$232 |
| Communications | 0 | 0 | 187 | 340 | 15 | 542 |
| Consumer | 0 | 31 | 270 | 608 | 9 | 918 |
| Diversified | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 22 |
| Energy | 16 | 43 | 146 | 374 | 12 | 591 |
| Financial | 1 | 200 | 1,108 | 985 | 166 | 2,460 |
| Foreign government | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Government-municipal | 412 | 757 | 118 | 34 | 0 | 1,321 |
| Government sponsored entity | 0 | 34 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 36 |
| Industrial | 0 | 11 | 73 | 230 | 15 | 329 |
| Structured securities ⁽²⁾ | 33 | 294 | 55 | 19 | 2 | 403 |
| Technology | 0 | 10 | 54 | 88 | 0 | 152 |
| U.S. Treasury | 0 | 155 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 155 |
| Utilities | 0 | 0 | 74 | 419 | 37 | 530 |
| Total – Exchange | \$462 | \$1,535 | \$2,170 | \$3,279 | \$ 261 | \$7,707 |

- (1) Ratings are supplied by S&P, Moody's, and Fitch. The table is based upon the lowest rating for each security.
- (2) Structured securities include asset-backed securities, collateral, lease and debt obligations, commercial mortgage-backed securities and residential mortgage-backed securities.

52

Table of Contents

Equity securities

Our equity securities consist of common stock and nonredeemable preferred stock. Investment characteristics of common stock and nonredeemable preferred stock differ from one another. Our nonredeemable preferred stock portfolio provides a source of current income that is competitive with investment-grade bonds.

The following table presents an analysis of the fair value of our preferred and common stock securities by sector for Indemnity and the Exchange, respectively:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | Fair value at December 31, 2012 | | December 31, 2011 | |
| Industry sector | Preferred stock | Common stock | Preferred stock | Common stock |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Communications | \$1 | \$0 | \$1 | \$2 |
| Consumer | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Diversified | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Energy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Financial | 15 | 0 | 11 | 4 |
| Funds ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| Industrial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Technology | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Utilities | 10 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Total – Indemnity | \$29 | \$26 | \$25 | \$27 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Basic materials | \$0 | \$94 | \$0 | \$72 |
| Communications | 10 | 190 | 9 | 168 |
| Consumer | 5 | 765 | 5 | 763 |
| Diversified | 2 | 21 | 0 | 18 |
| Energy | 0 | 177 | 0 | 203 |
| Financial | 495 | 423 | 408 | 340 |
| Funds ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | 436 | 0 | 105 |
| Government | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Industrial | 0 | 390 | 0 | 350 |
| Technology | 0 | 197 | 15 | 246 |
| Utilities | 118 | 38 | 127 | 43 |
| Total – Exchange | \$631 | \$2,731 | \$564 | \$2,308 |

(1) Includes certain exchange traded funds with underlying holdings of fixed maturity securities totaling \$26 million for Indemnity and \$314 million for the Exchange at December 31, 2012. These securities meet the criteria of a common stock under U.S. GAAP, and are included on the balance sheet as available-for-sale equity securities. Remaining common stock investments are classified as trading securities.

Equity securities classified as available-for-sale include preferred and certain common stock securities, and are carried at fair value on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position with all changes in unrealized gains and losses reflected in other comprehensive income. At December 31, 2012, the unrealized gain on equity securities classified as available-for-sale, net of deferred taxes, amounted to \$1 million for Indemnity and \$48 million for the Exchange, compared to an unrealized gain, net of deferred taxes, of \$1 million for Indemnity and \$21 million for the Exchange at December 31, 2011.

Common stocks classified as trading securities are measured at fair value with all changes in unrealized gains and losses reflected in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

53

Table of Contents

Limited partnerships

In 2012, investments in limited partnerships decreased modestly for Indemnity and the Exchange from the investment levels at December 31, 2011. Changes in partnership values are a function of contributions and distributions, adjusted for market value changes in the underlying investments. The decrease in limited partnership investments was due to net distributions received from the partnerships which were partially offset by increases in underlying asset values. The results from our limited partnerships are based upon financial statements received from our general partners, which are generally received on a quarter lag. As a result, the market values and earnings recorded at December 31, 2012 reflect the partnership activity experienced through September 30, 2012.

The components of limited partnership investments are as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|--|----------------------|---------|
| | At December 31, | |
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Indemnity | | |
| Private equity | \$73 | \$82 |
| Mezzanine debt | 27 | 35 |
| Real estate | 80 | 91 |
| Total limited partnerships – Indemnity | \$180 | \$208 |
| Exchange | | |
| Private equity | \$482 | \$495 |
| Mezzanine debt | 196 | 201 |
| Real estate | 359 | 386 |
| Total limited partnerships – Exchange | \$1,037 | \$1,082 |

Liabilities

Property and casualty losses and loss expense reserves

Loss reserves are established to account for the estimated ultimate costs of losses and loss expenses for claims that have been reported but not yet settled and claims that have been incurred but not reported. While we exercise professional diligence to establish reserves at the end of each period that are fully reflective of the ultimate value of all claims incurred, these reserves are, by their nature, only estimates and cannot be established with absolute certainty. The factors which may potentially cause the greatest variation between current reserve estimates and the actual future paid amounts include unforeseen changes in statutory or case law altering the amounts to be paid on existing claim obligations, new medical procedures and/or drugs with costs significantly different from those seen in the past, inflation and claims patterns on current business that differ significantly from historical claims patterns.

Losses and loss expense reserves are presented on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position on a gross basis. The following table represents the direct and assumed losses and loss expense reserves by major line of business for our property and casualty insurance operations. The reinsurance recoverable amount represents the related ceded amounts which results in the net liability attributable to the Property and Casualty Group.

| (in millions) | Property and Casualty Group | |
|--|-----------------------------|---------|
| | At December 31, | |
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Gross reserve liability ⁽¹⁾ : | | |
| Personal auto | \$1,169 | \$1,093 |
| Automobile massive injury | 351 | 356 |
| Homeowners | 299 | 313 |
| Workers compensation | 512 | 461 |
| Workers compensation massive injury | 99 | 99 |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Commercial auto | 340 | 303 |
| Commercial multi-peril | 557 | 565 |
| All other direct lines of business | 166 | 190 |
| Assumed reinsurance | 105 | 119 |
| Gross reserves | 3,598 | 3,499 |
| Less: reinsurance recoverable | 154 | 151 |
| Net reserve liability – Exchange | \$3,444 | \$3,348 |

(1) Loss reserves are set at full expected cost, except for workers compensation loss reserves which have been discounted using an interest rate of 2.5%. This discounting reduced unpaid losses and loss expenses by \$85 million and \$84 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

54

Table of Contents

The reserves that have the greatest potential for variation are the massive injury lifetime medical claim reserves. The Property and Casualty Group is currently reserving for 267 claimants requiring lifetime medical care, of which 109 involve massive injuries. The reserve carried by the Property and Casualty Group for the massive injury claimants, which includes automobile massive injury and workers compensation massive injury reserves, totaled \$305 million at December 31, 2012, which is net of \$145 million of anticipated reinsurance recoverables, compared to \$315 million at December 31, 2011, which was net of \$140 million of anticipated reinsurance recoverables. The pre-1986 automobile massive injury gross reserves decreased at December 31, 2012, compared to December 31, 2011, primarily due to the death of one claimant, while the workers compensation massive injury gross reserves remained flat due to the death of one claimant offset by the addition of one new claimant.

The estimation of ultimate liabilities for these claims is subject to significant judgment due to variations in medical cost inflation, claimant health and mortality over time. It is anticipated that these massive injury lifetime medical claims will require payments over the next 30 to 40 years. Actual experience, however, may emerge in a manner that is different relative to the original assumptions, which could have a significant impact on our reserve estimates. A 100-basis point change in the medical cost inflation assumption would result in a change in the combined automobile and workers compensation massive injury reserves of \$57 million. Massive injury claims payments totaled \$13 million, \$15 million, and \$21 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Life insurance reserves

EFL's primary commitment is its obligation to pay future policy benefits under the terms of its life insurance and annuity contracts. To meet these future obligations, EFL establishes life insurance reserves based upon the type of policy, the age, gender and risk class of the insured and the number of years the policy has been in force. EFL also establishes annuity and universal life reserves based upon the amount of policyholder deposits (less applicable insurance and expense charges) plus interest earned on those deposits. Life insurance and annuity reserves are supported primarily by EFL's long-term, fixed income investments as the underlying policy reserves are generally also of a long-term nature.

Shareholders' Equity

Pension plan

The funded status of our postretirement benefit plans is recognized in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding adjustment to accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax. At December 31, 2012, shareholders' equity decreased by \$30 million, net of tax, of which \$8 million represents amortization of the prior service cost and net actuarial loss and \$38 million represents the current period actuarial loss. The 2012 actuarial loss was primarily due to the change in the discount rate assumption used to measure the future benefit obligations to 4.19% in 2012, from 4.99% in 2011. At December 31, 2011, shareholders' equity decreased by \$41 million, net of tax, of which \$5 million represents amortization of the prior service cost and net actuarial loss and \$46 million represents the current period actuarial loss. The 2011 actuarial loss was primarily due to the change in the discount rate assumption used to measure the future benefit obligations to 4.99% in 2011, from 5.69% in 2010. Although Indemnity is the sponsor of these postretirement plans and records the funded status of these plans, the Exchange and EFL reimburse Indemnity for approximately 58% of the annual benefit expense of these plans, which represents pension benefits for Indemnity employees performing claims and life functions.

IMPACT OF INFLATION

Property and casualty insurance premiums are established before losses occur and before loss expenses are incurred, and therefore, before the extent to which inflation may impact such costs is known. Consequently, in establishing premium rates, we attempt to anticipate the potential impact of inflation, including medical cost inflation, construction and auto repair cost inflation and tort issues. Medical costs are a broad element of inflation that impacts personal and commercial auto, general liability, workers compensation and commercial multi-peril lines of insurance written by the

Property and Casualty Group. Inflation assumptions take the form of explicit numerical values in the survival ratio, individual claim, and massive injury lifetime medical reserving methods. Inflation assumptions are implicitly derived through the selection of applicable loss development patterns for all other reserving methods. Occasionally, unusual aberrations in loss development patterns are caused by external and internal factors such as changes in claim reporting, settlement patterns, unusually large losses, process changes, legal or regulatory changes and other influences. In these instances, analyses of alternate development factor selections are performed to evaluate the effect of these factors and actuarial judgment is applied to make appropriate assumptions needed to develop a best estimate of ultimate losses.

Table of Contents

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Sources and Uses of Cash

Liquidity is a measure of a company's ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meet the short- and long-term cash requirements of its business operations and growth needs. Our liquidity requirements have been met primarily by funds generated from premiums collected and income from investments. Our insurance operations provide liquidity in that premiums are collected in advance of paying losses under the policies purchased with those premiums. Cash outflows for the property and casualty insurance operations are generally variable since settlement dates for liabilities for unpaid losses and the potential for large losses, whether individual or in the aggregate, cannot be predicted with absolute certainty. Accordingly, after satisfying our operating cash requirements, excess cash flows are used to build our investment operation's portfolios in order to increase future investment income, which then may be used as a source of liquidity if cash from our insurance operations would not be sufficient to meet our obligations. Cash provided from these sources is used primarily to fund losses and policyholder benefits, fund the costs of our management operations including commissions, salaries and wages, pension plans, share repurchases, dividends to shareholders and the purchase and development of information technology. We expect that our operating cash needs will be met by funds generated from operations.

Volatility in the financial markets presents challenges to us as we do occasionally access our investment portfolio as a source of cash. Some of our fixed income investments, despite being publicly traded, are illiquid. Volatility in these markets could impair our ability to sell certain of our fixed income securities or cause such securities to sell at deep discounts. Additionally, our limited partnership investments are significantly less liquid. We believe we have sufficient liquidity to meet our needs from other sources even if market volatility persists throughout 2013.

Cash flow activities – Erie Insurance Group

The following table provides condensed consolidated cash flow information for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|----------------------|---------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$577 | \$360 | \$721 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (85) | (375) | (405) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (277) | (230) | (120) |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash | \$215 | \$(245) | \$196 |

Net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$577 million in 2012, \$360 million in 2011, and \$721 million in 2010. Increased cash from operating activities in 2012 was driven primarily by an increase in premiums collected by the Exchange driven by the increase in premiums written, a decrease in losses and loss expenses paid, and a slight increase in net investment income received. Offsetting this increase somewhat was an increase in income taxes paid and other underwriting and acquisition costs paid compared to 2011. The decrease in 2011, compared to 2010, was primarily driven by increased losses paid to policyholders related to catastrophic events and commissions paid to agents, offset by increases in premiums collected by the Exchange and limited partnership distributions received.

At December 31, 2012, we recorded a net deferred tax asset of \$37 million related to Indemnity and a net deferred tax liability of \$365 million related to the Exchange. There was no valuation allowance at December 31, 2012. In the fourth quarter of 2012 we received tax refunds of \$17 million and \$32 million related to the overpayment of taxes for tax years 2010 and 2011, respectively. In the fourth quarter of 2011 we received a tax refund of \$8 million related to the carry-back of 2010 capital losses and a refund of \$1 million related to the 2010 return. Our capital gain and loss strategies take into consideration its ability to offset gains and losses in future periods, carry-back of capital loss opportunities to the three preceding years, and capital loss carry-forward opportunities to apply against future capital

gains over the next five years.

Net cash used in investing activities totaled \$85 million in 2012, \$375 million in 2011, and \$405 million in 2010. Investing activities in 2012 primarily included increased cash used to purchase fixed maturities, offset somewhat by increased cash generated from the sale of other fixed maturities compared to 2011. At December 31, 2012, we had contractual commitments to invest up to \$427 million related to our limited partnership investments to be funded as required by the partnerships' agreements. Of this amount, the total remaining commitment to fund limited partnerships that invest in private equity securities was \$172 million, mezzanine debt securities was \$155 million, and real estate activities was \$100 million. In 2011, cash used in investing activities decreased compared to 2010 as we generated more proceeds from the sale of common stocks offset somewhat by an increase in cash used to purchase other common stock investments.

56

Table of Contents

For a discussion of net cash used in financing activities, see the following “Cash flow activities – Indemnity,” for the primary drivers of financing cash flows related to Indemnity.

Cash flow activities – Indemnity

The following table is a summary of cash flows for Indemnity for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$205 | \$169 | \$193 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | 95 | (211) |) 196 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (299) |) (257) |) (155) |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash | \$1 | \$(299) |) \$234 |

See Item 8. “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data - Note 23, Indemnity Supplemental Information, of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements” contained within this report for more detail on Indemnity’s cash flows.

Net cash provided by Indemnity’s operating activities increased to \$205 million in 2012, compared to \$169 million in 2011, and \$193 million in 2010. Increased cash from operating activities in 2012 was primarily due to increases in management fee revenue and net investment income received. Offsetting these increases were increases in commissions paid to agents, general operating expenses paid, and cash paid for salaries and wages compared to 2011. Management fee revenues were higher reflecting the increase in premiums written or assumed by the Exchange. Cash paid for agent commissions and bonuses increased to \$617 million in 2012, compared to \$583 million in 2011, as a result of an increase in cash paid for ordinary commissions. Indemnity made a \$16 million contribution to its pension plan in 2012, compared to \$15 million in 2011. Additionally, Indemnity made a contribution to its pension plan for \$17 million in January 2013. Indemnity’s policy for funding its pension plan is generally to contribute an amount equal to the greater of the IRS minimum required contribution or the target normal cost for the year plus interest to the date the contribution is made. Indemnity is reimbursed approximately 58% of the net periodic benefit cost of the pension plan from its affiliates, which represents pension benefits for Indemnity employees performing claims and life functions. In 2011, decreased cash from operating activities, compared to 2010, was primarily due to increases in commissions paid to agents, salaries and benefits paid to employees and income taxes paid, combined with less net investment income received, offset somewhat by an increase in management fee revenue received.

At December 31, 2012, Indemnity recorded a net deferred tax asset of \$37 million. There was no valuation allowance at December 31, 2012.

Net cash provided by Indemnity’s investing activities totaled \$95 million in 2012, compared to cash used of \$211 million in 2011, and cash provided of \$196 million in 2010. Indemnity’s 2012 investing activities included increased cash generated from the sale of fixed maturities and common stocks combined with decreased cash used to purchase other fixed maturities compared to 2011. Also impacting Indemnity’s future investing activities are limited partnership commitments, which totaled \$38 million at December 31, 2012, and will be funded as required by the partnerships’ agreements. Of this amount, the total remaining commitment to fund limited partnerships that invest in private equity securities was \$15 million, mezzanine debt securities was \$10 million, and real estate activities was \$13 million. Indemnity’s investing activities in 2011 included increased cash used to purchase fixed maturities, offset somewhat by increased cash from the sale of other fixed maturities and common stocks as compared to 2010.

In the first quarter of 2011, Indemnity received cash consideration from the Exchange of \$82 million as a result of the sale of Indemnity’s 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, which was based upon an estimated purchase price. Final settlement of this transaction was made on April 25, 2011 for a final purchase price of

\$82 million. Net after-tax cash proceeds to Indemnity from this sale were \$58 million. Also in the first quarter of 2011, on March 18, Indemnity paid \$8 million to the Exchange as final settlement of the sale of Indemnity's wholly owned property and casualty insurance subsidiaries, EIC, ENY and EPC, to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, which was based upon the final purchase price. In the fourth quarter of 2010, Indemnity received cash consideration from the Exchange of \$281 million, net of \$12 million cash disposed, as a result of the sale of EIC, ENY and EPC, to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, which was based upon an estimated purchase price. At this time, Indemnity recorded an \$8 million liability to the Exchange for the difference between the GAAP book value and the deferred tax asset, which was payable to the Exchange by March 31, 2011. Net after-tax cash proceeds to Indemnity from this sale were \$285 million.

Table of Contents

Net cash used in Indemnity's financing activities totaled \$299 million in 2012, \$257 million in 2011, and \$155 million in 2010. The increase in cash used in financing activities in 2012 was primarily driven by an increase in the cash outlay for dividends paid to shareholders and the purchase of treasury stock. Dividends paid to shareholders totaled \$229 million, \$102 million and \$98 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Indemnity increased both its Class A and Class B shareholder regular quarterly dividends for 2012 and 2011. In addition to the regular quarterly dividend declared in November 2012, the Board also declared a special one-time cash dividend of \$2.00 on each Class A share and \$300.00 on each Class B share, totaling \$95 million. The payment of both the regular and special dividend was made in December 2012 due to the potential significant increases in tax rates on 2013 dividend income pending at the time of declaration. In prior years, the regular quarterly dividend was declared by the Board at its December meeting and paid in January of the following year. There are no regulatory restrictions on the payment of dividends to Indemnity's shareholders. Dividends have been approved at a 7.2% increase for 2013. Indemnity repurchased 1.0 million shares of its Class A nonvoting common stock in conjunction with its stock repurchase program at a total cost of \$70 million in 2012, based upon settlement date. In 2011, shares repurchased under this program totaled 2.2 million at a total cost of \$155 million, compared to 1.1 million shares at a total cost of \$57 million in 2010. In October 2011, our Board of Directors approved a continuation of the current stock repurchase program for a total of \$150 million with no time limitation. This repurchase authority includes, and is not in addition to, any unspent amounts remaining under the prior authorization. Indemnity had approximately \$68 million of repurchase authority remaining under this program at December 31, 2012, based upon trade date.

In 2012, we also repurchased 1,803 shares of our outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock outside of our publicly announced share repurchase program at a total cost of \$129,849 to settle payments due to two retired senior vice presidents under our long-term incentive plan. These shares were delivered to the plan participants in January 2012 and June 2012, respectively.

In July 2011, we repurchased 64,095 shares of our outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock outside of our publicly announced share repurchase program at a total cost of \$5 million in conjunction with our long-term incentive plan, and for the vesting of stock-based awards for executive management. These shares were delivered to plan participants and executive management, respectively, in July 2011.

In 2010, we repurchased 44,206 shares of our outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock outside of our publicly announced share repurchase program at a total cost of \$2 million in conjunction with our long-term incentive plan, and for the vesting of stock-based awards for executive management. These shares were delivered to plan participants and executive management, respectively, in July 2010.

Capital Outlook

We regularly prepare forecasts evaluating the current and future cash requirements of Indemnity and the Exchange for both normal and extreme risk events. Should an extreme risk event result in a cash requirement exceeding normal cash flows, we have the ability to meet our future funding requirements through various alternatives available to us.

Indemnity

Outside of Indemnity's normal operating and investing cash activities, future funding requirements could be met through: 1) Indemnity's cash and cash equivalents, which total approximately \$12 million at December 31, 2012, 2) a \$100 million bank revolving line of credit held by Indemnity, and 3) liquidation of assets held in Indemnity's investment portfolio, including common stock, preferred stock and investment grade bonds which totaled approximately \$389 million at December 31, 2012. Volatility in the financial markets could impair Indemnity's ability to sell certain of its fixed income securities or cause such securities to sell at deep discounts. Additionally, Indemnity has the ability to curtail or modify discretionary cash outlays such as those related to shareholder dividends and share repurchase activities.

Indemnity had no borrowings under its line of credit at December 31, 2012. At December 31, 2012, bonds with fair values of \$108 million were pledged as collateral. These securities have no trading restrictions. The bank requires compliance with certain covenants, which include minimum net worth and leverage ratios. Indemnity was in compliance with its bank covenants at December 31, 2012.

Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010. The net cash provided from these entities by operating activities totaled \$30 million in 2010. These operating cash flows accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, in 2011 and thereafter.

Table of Contents

Exchange

Outside of the Exchange's normal operating and investing cash activities, future funding requirements could be met through: 1) the Exchange's cash and cash equivalents, which total approximately \$388 million at December 31, 2012, 2) a \$300 million bank revolving line of credit held by the Exchange, and 3) liquidation of assets held in the Exchange's investment portfolio, including common stock, preferred stock and investment grade bonds which totaled approximately \$10.5 billion at December 31, 2012. Volatility in the financial markets could impair the Exchange's ability to sell certain of its fixed income securities or cause such securities to sell at deep discounts.

The Exchange had no borrowings under its line of credit at December 31, 2012. At December 31, 2012, bonds with fair values of \$323 million were pledged as collateral. These securities have no trading restrictions. The bank requires compliance with certain covenants, which include statutory surplus and risk based capital ratios. The Exchange was in compliance with its bank covenants at December 31, 2012.

Indemnity has no rights to the assets, capital, or line of credit of the Exchange and, conversely, the Exchange has no rights to the assets, capital, or line of credit of Indemnity. We believe we have the funding sources available to us to support our cash flow requirements in 2013.

Contractual Obligations

Cash outflows for the Property and Casualty Group are variable because the fluctuations in settlement dates for claims payments vary and cannot be predicted with absolute certainty. While volatility in claims payments could be significant for the Property and Casualty Group, the cash flow requirements for claims have not historically had a significant effect on our liquidity. Based upon a historical 15 year average, approximately 30% of losses and loss expenses included in reserves for the Property and Casualty Group are paid out within the first 12 months, and approximately 70% are paid out within the first five years. Amounts that are paid out after the first five years reflect long-tail lines such as workers compensation and auto bodily injury.

Table of Contents

We have certain obligations and commitments to make future payments under various contracts. As of December 31, 2012, the aggregate obligations were as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
| | Payments due by period | | | | |
| | Total | 2013 | 2014- 2015 | 2016- 2017 | 2018 and thereafter |
| Fixed obligations: | | | | | |
| Indemnity: | | | | | |
| Limited partnership commitments ⁽¹⁾ | \$38 | \$38 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Pension contribution ⁽²⁾ | 17 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other commitments ⁽³⁾ | 51 | 23 | 27 | 1 | 0 |
| Operating leases – vehicles | 15 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 0 |
| Operating leases – real estate ⁽⁴⁾ | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Operating leases – computer equipment | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Financing arrangements | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed contractual obligations – Indemnity | 129 | 86 | 38 | 5 | 0 |
| Noncontrolling interest: | | | | | |
| Limited partnership commitments ⁽¹⁾ | 389 | 242 | 38 | 98 | 11 |
| Total fixed contractual obligations – Exchange | 389 | 242 | 38 | 98 | 11 |
| Total fixed contractual obligations – Erie Insurance Group | 518 | 328 | 76 | 103 | 11 |
| Gross property and casualty loss and loss expense reserves – Exchange | 3,598 | 1,151 | 1,043 | 432 | 972 |
| Life gross long-term liabilities ⁽⁵⁾ | 4,548 | 198 | 422 | 420 | 3,508 |
| Gross contractual obligations – Erie Insurance Group | \$8,664 | \$1,677 | \$1,541 | \$955 | \$4,491 |

Gross contractual obligations net of estimated reinsurance recoverables are as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
| | Payments due by period | | | | |
| | Total | 2013 | 2014- 2015 | 2016- 2017 | 2018 and thereafter |
| Gross contractual obligations – Erie Insurance Group | \$8,664 | \$1,677 | \$1,541 | \$955 | \$4,491 |
| Estimated reinsurance recoverables – property and casualty | 154 | 6 | 14 | 12 | 122 |
| Estimated reinsurance recoverables – life ⁽⁶⁾ | 482 | 26 | 50 | 53 | 353 |
| Net contractual obligations – Erie Insurance Group | \$8,028 | \$1,645 | \$1,477 | \$890 | \$4,016 |

Limited partnership commitments will be funded as required for capital contributions at any time prior to the agreement expiration date. The commitment amounts are presented using the expiration date as the factor by which to age when the amounts are due. At December 31, 2012, Indemnity's total commitment to fund limited partnerships that invest in private equity securities is \$15 million, mezzanine debt of \$10 million, and real estate activities \$13 million. At December 31, 2012, the Exchange's total commitment to fund limited partnerships that invest in private equity securities is \$157 million, mezzanine debt of \$145 million, and real estate activities \$87 million.

(1) The pension contribution for 2013 was estimated in accordance with the Pension Protection Act of 2006. Contributions anticipated in future years depend upon certain factors that cannot be reasonably predicted. If

contributions become required in future years, they will be in an amount at least equal to the IRS minimum required contribution in accordance with this Act. The obligations for our unfunded benefit plans, including the Supplemental Employee Retirement Plan (SERP) for our executive and senior management, are not included in gross contractual obligations. The recorded accumulated benefit obligation for this plan at December 31, 2012, is \$8 million. We expect to have sufficient cash flows from operations to meet the future benefit payments as they become due.

- (3) Other commitments include various agreements for service, including such things as computer software, telephones and maintenance.
- (4) Operating leases—real estate are for 16 of our 24 field offices that are operated in the states in which the Property and Casualty Group does business and two operating leases are for warehousing facilities leased from unaffiliated parties.
Life gross long-term liabilities represent estimated benefit payments from insurance policies and annuity contracts including claims currently payable. Actual obligations in any single year will vary based upon actual mortality, morbidity, lapse and withdrawal experience. The sum of these obligations exceeds the liability on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position of \$1.7 billion due to expected future premiums and investment income that, along with invested assets backing the liabilities, will be used to fund these obligations.
- (6) Reinsurance recoverables on life business includes estimated amounts from reinsurers on long-term liabilities that are subject to the credit worthiness of the reinsurer.

Table of Contents

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Off-balance sheet arrangements include those with unconsolidated entities that may have a material current or future effect on our financial condition or results of operations, including material variable interests in unconsolidated entities that conduct certain activities. We have no material off-balance sheet obligations or guarantees, other than limited partnership investment commitments.

Financial Ratings

Our property and casualty insurers are rated by rating agencies that provide insurance consumers with meaningful information on the financial strength of insurance entities. Higher ratings generally indicate financial stability and a strong ability to pay claims. The ratings are generally based upon factors relevant to policyholders and are not directed toward return to investors. The insurers of the Property and Casualty Group are currently rated by AM Best Company as follows:

| | |
|--|----|
| Erie Insurance Exchange | A+ |
| Erie Insurance Company | A+ |
| Erie Insurance Property and Casualty Company | A+ |
| Erie Insurance Company of New York | A+ |
| Flagship City Insurance Company | A+ |
| Erie Family Life Insurance Company | A |

The outlook for all ratings is stable. According to AM Best, a “Superior” rating (A+), the second highest of their financial strength rating categories, is assigned to those companies that, in AM Best’s opinion, have achieved superior overall performance when compared to the standards established by AM Best and have a superior ability to meet their obligations to policyholders over the long term. Only 9.4% of insurance groups are rated A+ or higher, and we are included in that group. By virtue of its affiliation with the Property and Casualty Group, EFL is typically rated one level lower, or an “Excellent” rating (A), than our property and casualty insurance companies by AM Best Company. The insurers of the Property and Casualty Group are also rated by Standard & Poor’s, but this rating is based solely on public information. Standard & Poor’s rates these insurers Api, “strong.” Financial strength ratings continue to be an important factor in evaluating the competitive position of insurance companies.

Regulatory Risk-Based Capital

The standard set by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) for measuring the solvency of insurance companies, referred to as Risk-Based Capital (RBC), is a method of measuring the minimum amount of capital appropriate for an insurance company to support its overall business operations in consideration of its size and risk profile. The RBC formula is used by state insurance regulators as an early warning tool to identify, for the purpose of initiating regulatory action, insurance companies that potentially are inadequately capitalized. In addition, the formula defines minimum capital standards that will supplement the current system of low fixed minimum capital and surplus requirements on a state-by-state basis. At December 31, 2012, the members of the Property and Casualty Group and EFL had RBC levels substantially in excess of levels that would require regulatory action.

Regulatory Restrictions on Surplus

The members of the Property and Casualty Group and EFL are subject to various regulatory restrictions that limit the maximum amount of dividends available to be paid without prior approval by insurance regulatory authorities. The Exchange’s property and casualty insurance subsidiaries have a maximum of \$31 million available for such dividends in 2013 without prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner for Pennsylvania-domiciled subsidiaries and the New York Superintendent of Insurance for the New York domiciled subsidiary. No dividends were paid from the property and casualty insurance subsidiaries in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

The maximum dividend EFL could pay the Exchange in 2013 without prior approval is \$28 million. No dividends were paid to Indemnity or the Exchange in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

The Exchange is operated for the interest of its subscribers (policyholders) and any distributions it might declare would only be payable to them. The Exchange did not make any distributions to its subscribers (policyholders) in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

61

Table of Contents

Enterprise Risk Management

We are exposed to many risks as a large property and casualty insurer with supplemental life insurance operations. The role of our Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) function is to ensure that all significant risks are clearly identified, understood, proactively managed and consistently monitored to achieve strategic objectives for all stakeholders of the Erie Insurance Group. As an insurance company, we are in the business of taking risks from our policyholders, managing these risks in a cost-effective manner and ensuring long term stability for policyholders as well as shareholders. Since risk is integral to our business, we strive to manage the multitude of risks we face in an optimal manner.

Our risks can be broadly classified into insurance, investment and operational risks. These risks are a consequence of our chosen business segments, the market and regulatory environment within which we operate, and unplanned operational events that can impact any business. Since certain risks can occur simultaneously or be correlated with other risks, an event or a series of events has the potential to impact multiple areas of our business and materially affect our operations, financial position or liquidity. Therefore our ERM program takes a holistic view of risk and ensures implementation of risk responses to mitigate potential impacts across our entire group of companies.

Our ERM process is founded on a governance framework that includes oversight at multiple levels of our organization, including our Board of Directors and risk committees made up of senior management. Accountability to identify, manage and mitigate risk is embedded within all functions and areas of our business. We have defined risk tolerances to monitor and manage significant risks within acceptable levels. In addition to identifying, evaluating, prioritizing, monitoring and mitigating significant risks, our ERM process includes extreme event analyses and scenario testing. Dynamic Financial Analysis (DFA) and catastrophe modeling enable us to quantify risk within our property and casualty insurance operations and investment portfolio. Model output is used to quantify the potential variability of future performance and the sufficiency of capital levels given our defined tolerance for risk. These models provide insight into capital management, allocation of capital by product lines, catastrophe exposure management and reinsurance purchasing decisions. Additionally, ERM tools have been developed and modified to enhance our ability to assess project level risk and to provide senior management with pertinent risk information, enabling them to make better informed decisions.

Table of Contents

TRANSACTIONS / AGREEMENTS BETWEEN INDEMNITY AND NONCONTROLLING INTEREST
(EXCHANGE)

Board Oversight

Our Board of Directors has a broad oversight responsibility over our intercompany relationships within and among the Property and Casualty Group. As a consequence, our Board of Directors may be required to make decisions or take actions that may not be solely in the interest of our shareholders, such as setting the management fee rate paid by the Exchange to Indemnity and ratifying any other significant intercompany activity.

Subscriber's Agreement

Indemnity serves as attorney-in-fact for the policyholders at the Exchange, a reciprocal insurance exchange. Each applicant for insurance to a reciprocal insurance exchange signs a subscriber's agreement that contains an appointment of an attorney-in-fact. Through the designation of attorney-in-fact, Indemnity is required to provide sales, underwriting and policy issuance services to the policyholders of the Exchange, as discussed previously. Pursuant to the subscriber's agreement, Indemnity earns a management fee for these services calculated as a percentage of the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group, which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement.

Intercompany Agreements

Pooling

Members of the Property and Casualty Group participate in an intercompany reinsurance pooling agreement. Under the pooling agreement, all insurance business of the Property and Casualty Group is pooled in the Exchange. The Erie Insurance Company and Erie Insurance Company of New York share in the underwriting results of the reinsurance pool through retrocession. Since 1995, the Board of Directors has set the allocation of the pooled underwriting results at 5.0% participation for Erie Insurance Company, 0.5% participation for Erie Insurance Company of New York, and 94.5% participation for the Exchange.

Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by Erie Insurance Company and Erie Insurance Company of New York accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

Service agreements

Indemnity makes certain payments on behalf of the Erie Insurance Group's related entities. These amounts are reimbursed to Indemnity on a cost basis in accordance with service agreements between Indemnity and the individual entities within the Erie Insurance Group. These reimbursements are settled on a monthly basis.

Leased property

The Exchange leases certain office space to Indemnity, including the home office and three field office facilities. Rents are determined considering returns on invested capital and building operating and overhead costs. Rental costs of shared facilities are allocated based upon square footage occupied.

Cost Allocation

The allocation of costs affects the financial condition of the Erie Insurance Group companies. Management's role is to determine that allocations are consistently made in accordance with the subscriber's agreements with the policyholders at the Exchange, intercompany service agreements and applicable insurance laws and regulations. Allocation of costs under these various agreements requires judgment and interpretation, and such allocations are performed using a consistent methodology, which is intended to adhere to the terms and intentions of the underlying agreements.

Table of Contents

Intercompany Receivables of Indemnity

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|---|-------|--|---|--|------|---|
| | 2012 | Percent of Indemnity total assets | | 2011 | Percent of Indemnity total assets | | Percent of Indemnity total assets | | |
| Receivables from the Exchange and other affiliates (management fees, costs and reimbursements) | \$281 | 24.2 | % | \$254 | 20.5 | % | \$232 | 17.7 | % |
| Note receivable from EFL | 25 | 2.2 | | 25 | 2.0 | | 25 | 1.9 | |
| Total intercompany receivables | \$306 | 26.4 | % | \$279 | 22.5 | % | \$257 | 19.6 | % |

Indemnity has significant receivables from the Exchange that result in a concentration of credit risk. These receivables include management fees due for services performed by Indemnity for the Exchange under the subscriber's agreement, and costs Indemnity pays on behalf of the Exchange. Credit risks related to the receivables from the Exchange are evaluated periodically by management. Indemnity also pays certain costs for, and is reimbursed monthly by, EFL. The receivable from the Exchange for management fees and costs Indemnity pays on behalf of the Exchange is settled monthly.

Surplus Notes

Indemnity holds a surplus note for \$25 million from EFL that is payable on demand on or after December 31, 2018; however, no principal or interest payments may be made without prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner. Interest payments are scheduled to be paid semi-annually. Indemnity recognized interest income on the note of \$2 million in both 2012 and 2011.

The Exchange holds a surplus note for \$20 million from EFL that is payable on demand on or after December 31, 2025; however, no principal or interest payments may be made without prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner. Interest payments are scheduled to be paid semi-annually. The Exchange recognized interest income on the note of \$1 million in both 2012 and 2011.

Table of Contents

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices, such as interest rates, as well as other relevant market rate or price changes. The volatility and liquidity in the markets in which the underlying assets are traded directly influence market risk. The following is a discussion of our primary risk exposures, including interest rate risk, investment credit risk, concentration risk, liquidity risk, equity price risk and how those exposures are currently managed as of December 31, 2012.

Interest Rate Risk

We invest primarily in fixed maturity investments, which comprised 66% of invested assets for Indemnity and 64% of invested assets for the Exchange at December 31, 2012. The value of the fixed maturity portfolio is subject to interest rate risk. As market interest rates decrease, the value of the portfolio goes up with the opposite holding true in rising interest rate environments. We do not hedge our exposure to interest rate risk since we have the capacity and intention to hold the fixed maturity positions until maturity. A common measure of the interest sensitivity of fixed maturity assets is modified duration, a calculation that utilizes maturity, coupon rate, yield and call terms to calculate an average age of the expected cash flows. The longer the duration, the more sensitive the asset is to market interest rate fluctuations. Duration is analyzed quarterly to ensure that it remains in the targeted range we established.

A sensitivity analysis is used to measure the potential loss in future earnings, fair values or cash flows of market-sensitive instruments resulting from one or more selected hypothetical changes in interest rates and other market rates or prices over a selected period. In our sensitivity analysis model, a hypothetical change in market rates is selected that is expected to reflect reasonably possible changes in those rates. The following pro forma information is presented assuming a 100-basis point increase in interest rates at December 31 of each year and reflects the estimated effect on the fair value of our fixed maturity investment portfolio. We used the modified duration of our fixed maturity investment portfolio to model the pro forma effect of a change in interest rates at December 31, 2012 and 2011.

Fixed maturities interest-rate sensitivity analysis

(dollars in millions)

| | Erie Insurance Group At December 31, | |
|--|---|---------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Indemnity | | |
| Fair value of fixed maturity portfolio | \$452 | \$548 |
| Fair value assuming 100-basis point rise in interest rates | \$443 | \$535 |
| Modified duration – Indemnity | 3.0 | 2.8 |
| Exchange | | |
| Fair value of fixed maturity portfolio | \$7,707 | \$7,292 |
| Fair value assuming 100-basis point rise in interest rates | \$7,328 | \$6,964 |
| Modified duration – Exchange | 5.3 | 4.9 |

Table of Contents

While the fixed maturity portfolio is sensitive to interest rates, the future principal cash flows that will be received by contractual maturity date are presented below at December 31, 2012 and 2011. Actual cash flows may differ from those stated as a result of calls, prepayments or defaults.

Contractual repayments of principal by maturity date
(in millions)

| | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | |
|----------------------|---|----------|
| | Indemnity | Exchange |
| Fixed maturities: | | |
| 2012 | \$ 114 | \$ 512 |
| 2013 | 110 | 424 |
| 2014 | 75 | 615 |
| 2015 | 19 | 561 |
| 2016 | 14 | 696 |
| Thereafter | 93 | 4,137 |
| Total ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 425 | \$ 6,945 |
| Fair value | \$ 452 | \$ 7,707 |

(1) These amounts exclude Indemnity's \$25 million surplus note due from EFL and the Exchange's \$20 million surplus note due from EFL.

| | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2011 | |
|----------------------|---|----------|
| | Indemnity | Exchange |
| Fixed maturities: | | |
| 2012 | \$ 150 | \$ 511 |
| 2013 | 114 | 668 |
| 2014 | 89 | 530 |
| 2015 | 25 | 596 |
| 2016 | 20 | 617 |
| Thereafter | 124 | 3,890 |
| Total ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 522 | \$ 6,812 |
| Fair value | \$ 548 | \$ 7,292 |

(1) These amounts exclude Indemnity's \$25 million surplus note due from EFL and the Exchange's \$20 million surplus note due from EFL.

Investment Credit Risk

Our objective is to earn competitive returns by investing in a diversified portfolio of securities. Our portfolios of fixed maturity securities, nonredeemable preferred stock, mortgage loans and, to a lesser extent, short-term investments are subject to credit risk. This risk is defined as the potential loss in fair value resulting from adverse changes in the borrower's ability to repay the debt. We manage this risk by performing upfront underwriting analysis and ongoing reviews of credit quality by position and for the fixed maturity portfolio in total. We do not hedge the credit risk inherent in our fixed maturity investments.

Generally, the fixed maturities in our portfolio are rated by external rating agencies. If not externally rated, we rate them internally on a basis consistent with that used by the rating agencies. We classify all fixed maturities as available-for-sale securities, allowing us to meet our liquidity needs and provide greater flexibility to appropriately

respond to changes in market conditions.

66

Table of Contents

The following table shows our fixed maturity investments by rating as of December 31, 2012:

| (dollars in millions) | Erie Insurance Group ⁽¹⁾ | | Percent of total | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------|---|
| | Amortized cost | Fair value | | |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| AAA, AA, A | \$295 | \$308 | 68 | % |
| BBB | 132 | 134 | 30 | |
| Total investment grade | 427 | 442 | 98 | |
| BB | 10 | 10 | 2 | |
| B | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| CCC, CC, C | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Total non-investment grade | 10 | 10 | 2 | |
| Total – Indemnity | \$437 | \$452 | 100 | % |
| Exchange | | | | |
| AAA, AA, A | \$3,809 | \$4,167 | 54 | % |
| BBB | 2,968 | 3,279 | 43 | |
| Total investment grade | 6,777 | 7,446 | 97 | |
| BB | 222 | 239 | 3 | |
| B | 13 | 17 | 0 | |
| CCC, CC, C | 4 | 5 | 0 | |
| Total non-investment grade | 239 | 261 | 3 | |
| Total – Exchange | \$7,016 | \$7,707 | 100 | % |

(1) Ratings are supplied by S&P, Moody's, and Fitch. The table is based upon the lowest rating for each security.

Approximately 1% of Indemnity's and 5% of the Exchange's fixed income portfolios are invested in structured products. This includes mortgage-backed securities (MBS), collateralized debt and loan obligations (CDO and CLO), collateralized mortgage obligations (CMO) and asset-backed securities (ABS). The overall credit rating of the structured product portfolio is AA-.

Our municipal bond portfolio accounts for \$185 million, or 41% of the total fixed maturity portfolio for Indemnity, and \$1.3 billion, or 17% of the total fixed maturity portfolio for the Exchange. The overall credit rating of our municipal portfolio, without consideration of the underlying insurance, is AA.

Our limited partnership investment portfolio is exposed to credit risk, as well as price risk. Price risk is defined as the potential loss in estimated fair value resulting from an adverse change in prices. Our investments are directly affected by the impact of changes in these risk factors on the underlying investments held by our fund managers, which could vary significantly from fund to fund. We manage these risks by performing up-front due diligence on our fund managers, ongoing monitoring, and through the construction of a diversified portfolio.

Indemnity is also exposed to a concentration of credit risk with the Exchange. See the section, "Transactions / Agreements between Indemnity and Noncontrolling Interest (Exchange), Intercompany receivables of Indemnity" for further discussion of this risk.

Concentration Risk

While our portfolio is well diversified within each market sector, there is an inherent risk of concentration in a particular industry or sector. We continually monitor our level of exposure to individual issuers as well as our allocation to each industry and market sector against internally established policies. See the "Financial Condition"

section of Item 7. “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” contained within this report for details of investment holdings by sector.

Liquidity Risk

Periods of volatility in the financial markets can create conditions where fixed maturity investments, despite being publicly traded, can become illiquid. However, we actively manage the maturity profile of our fixed maturity portfolio such that scheduled repayments of principal occur on a regular basis. Additionally, there is no ready market for our investments in limited partnerships which increases the risk that they may not be converted to cash on favorable terms and on a timely basis.

Table of Contents

Equity Price Risk

Our portfolio of equity securities, which include common stock classified as available-for-sale and trading securities and non-redeemable preferred stock classified as available-for-sale, are carried on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position at estimated fair value. Equity securities are exposed to the risk of potential loss in estimated fair value resulting from an adverse change in prices (“price risk”). We do not hedge our exposure to price risk inherent in our equity investments.

The majority of our equity security portfolio is invested in common stock. Our objective is to earn competitive relative returns by investing in a diverse portfolio of high-quality, liquid securities. Portfolio holdings are diversified across industries and among exchange-traded, small- to large-cap stocks. We measure the risk of our common stock investments designated as trading securities by comparing performance to benchmark returns such as the Standard & Poors (S&P) 500 Composite Index. Beta is a measure of a security’s systematic (non-diversifiable) risk, which is the percentage change in an individual security’s return for a 1% change in the return of the market. At December 31, 2012, the average Beta for our common stock holdings designated as trading securities was 1.05 for the Exchange. Based upon a hypothetical 20% reduction in the overall value of the stock market, the fair value of the common stock portfolio designated as trading securities would decrease by approximately \$508 million for the Exchange.

Common stocks designated as available-for-sale securities represent investments in certain exchange traded funds with underlying holdings of fixed maturity securities. While the performance of the exchange traded funds closely tracks that of the underlying fixed maturity securities, they are reported as common stock based on U.S. GAAP requirements. The average effective duration of these investments as reported by the fund provided was 3.9 for Indemnity and 5.4 for the Exchange.

Table of Contents

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of Erie Indemnity Company

Erie, Pennsylvania

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of financial position of Erie Indemnity Company as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012. Our audits also included the financial statement schedules listed in the Index at 15 (a). These financial statements and schedules are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedules based on our audits.

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Erie Indemnity Company at December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedules, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, present fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Erie Indemnity Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated February 26, 2013 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Cleveland, Ohio
February 26, 2013

Table of Contents

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
Years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010
(dollars in millions, except per share data)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|---|
| Revenues | | | | |
| Premiums earned | \$4,493 | \$4,214 | \$3,987 | |
| Net investment income | 438 | 433 | 433 | |
| Net realized investment gains (losses) | 418 | (4 |) 313 | |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings | 0 | (2 |) (6 |) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | 131 | 149 | 128 | |
| Other income | 32 | 34 | 35 | |
| Total revenues | 5,512 | 4,824 | 4,890 | |
| Benefits and expenses | | | | |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses | 3,480 | 3,444 | 2,900 | |
| Policy acquisition and underwriting expenses | 1,133 | 1,022 | 969 | |
| Goodwill impairment | — | — | 22 | |
| Total benefits and expenses | 4,613 | 4,466 | 3,891 | |
| Income from operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interest | 899 | 358 | 999 | |
| Provision for income taxes | 280 | 90 | 339 | |
| Net income | \$619 | \$268 | \$660 | |
| Less: Net income attributable to noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 459 | 99 | 498 | |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | \$160 | \$169 | \$162 | |
| Earnings Per Share | | | | |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity per share | | | | |
| Class A common stock – basic | \$3.38 | \$3.45 | \$3.18 | |
| Class A common stock – diluted | \$2.99 | \$3.08 | \$2.85 | |
| Class B common stock – basic and diluted | \$505 | \$522 | \$463 | |
| Weighted average shares outstanding attributable to Indemnity – Basic | | | | |
| Class A common stock | 47,357,836 | 48,875,316 | 50,705,607 | |
| Class B common stock | 2,544 | 2,546 | 2,546 | |
| Weighted average shares outstanding attributable to Indemnity – Diluted | | | | |
| Class A common stock | 53,547,833 | 55,057,437 | 56,884,894 | |
| Class B common stock | 2,544 | 2,546 | 2,546 | |

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. See Note 23, “Indemnity Supplemental Information,” for supplemental statements of operations information.

Table of Contents

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
Years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010
(in millions)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Net income | \$619 | \$268 | \$660 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | | | |
| Change in unrealized holding gains on investments, net of tax expense of \$121, \$12, and \$64, respectively | 224 | 22 | 118 |
| Reclassification adjustment for gross gains included in net income, net of tax expense of \$23, \$27 and \$13, respectively | (44 |) (51 |) (23 |
| Postretirement plans, net of tax expense of \$17, \$22 and \$2, respectively | (30 |) (41 |) (4 |
| Other comprehensive income (loss) | 150 | (70 |) 91 |
| Unrealized gains transferred to noncontrolling interest on sale of life affiliate, net of tax expense of \$0, \$4, and \$0, respectively | — | 9 | — |
| Comprehensive income | 769 | 207 | 751 |
| Less: Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 637 | 90 | 599 |
| Total comprehensive income – Indemnity | \$132 | \$117 | \$152 |

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At December 31, 2012 and 2011

(dollars in millions, except per share data)

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|--|----------|----------|
| Assets | | |
| Investments – Indemnity | | |
| Available-for-sale securities, at fair value: | | |
| Fixed maturities (amortized cost of \$437 and \$535, respectively) | \$452 | \$548 |
| Equity securities (cost of \$54 and \$24, respectively) | 55 | 25 |
| Trading securities, at fair value (cost of \$0 and \$23, respectively) | 0 | 27 |
| Limited partnerships (cost of \$151 and \$185, respectively) | 180 | 208 |
| Other invested assets | 1 | 1 |
| Investments – Exchange | | |
| Available-for-sale securities, at fair value: | | |
| Fixed maturities (amortized cost of \$7,016 and \$6,829, respectively) | 7,707 | 7,292 |
| Equity securities (cost of \$871 and \$531, respectively) | 945 | 564 |
| Trading securities, at fair value (cost of \$1,910 and \$2,021, respectively) | 2,417 | 2,308 |
| Limited partnerships (cost of \$913 and \$1,003, respectively) | 1,037 | 1,082 |
| Other invested assets | 20 | 19 |
| Total investments | 12,814 | 12,074 |
| Cash and cash equivalents (Exchange portion of \$388 and \$174, respectively) | 400 | 185 |
| Premiums receivable from policyholders – Exchange | 1,062 | 976 |
| Reinsurance recoverable – Exchange | 168 | 166 |
| Deferred income taxes – Indemnity | 37 | 19 |
| Deferred acquisition costs – Exchange | 504 | 487 |
| Other assets (Exchange portion of \$339 and \$322, respectively) | 456 | 441 |
| Total assets | \$15,441 | \$14,348 |
| Liabilities and shareholders' equity | | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Indemnity liabilities | | |
| Other liabilities | \$515 | \$455 |
| Exchange liabilities | | |
| Losses and loss expense reserves | 3,598 | 3,499 |
| Life policy and deposit contract reserves | 1,708 | 1,671 |
| Unearned premiums | 2,365 | 2,178 |
| Deferred income taxes | 365 | 147 |
| Other liabilities | 99 | 105 |
| Total liabilities | 8,650 | 8,055 |
| Indemnity's shareholders' equity | | |
| Class A common stock, stated value \$0.0292 per share; 74,996,930 shares authorized; 68,299,200 and 68,289,600 shares issued, respectively; 46,892,681 and 47,861,842 shares outstanding, respectively | 2 | 2 |
| Class B common stock, convertible at a rate of 2,400 Class A shares for one Class B share, stated value \$70 per share; 3,070 shares authorized; 2,542 and 2,546 shares issued and outstanding, respectively | 0 | 0 |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

| | | | |
|--|----------|----------|---|
| Additional paid-in-capital | 16 | 16 | |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | (133 |) (105 |) |
| Retained earnings | 1,852 | 1,894 | |
| Total contributed capital and retained earnings | 1,737 | 1,807 | |
| Treasury stock, at cost; 21,406,519 and 20,427,758 shares held, respectively | (1,095 |) (1,026 |) |
| Total Indemnity shareholders' equity | 642 | 781 | |
| Noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 6,149 | 5,512 | |
| Total equity | 6,791 | 6,293 | |
| Total liabilities, shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest | \$15,441 | \$14,348 | |

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. See Note 23, “Indemnity Supplemental Information,” for supplemental consolidating statements of financial position information.

72

Table of Contents

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
AND NONCONTROLLING INTEREST

Years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

(dollars in millions, except per share data)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|---------|----------|---------|
| Common stock | | | |
| Class A | \$2 | \$2 | \$2 |
| Class B | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total common stock | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Additional paid-in-capital | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | 16 | 8 | 8 |
| Realized gain on sale of life affiliate | — | 8 | — |
| Balance, end of year | 16 | 16 | 8 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | (105 |) (53 |) (43 |
| Change in accumulated other comprehensive loss | (28 |) (52 |) (10 |
| Balance, end of year | (133 |) (105 |) (53 |
| Retained earnings | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | 1,894 | 1,827 | 1,749 |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | 160 | 169 | 162 |
| Dividends declared – Class A (\$4.25, \$2.0975 and \$1.955 per share, respectively) | (200 |) (101 |) (99 |
| Dividends declared – Class B (\$637.50, \$314.625 and \$293.25 per share, respectively) | (2 |) (1 |) 0 |
| Reclassification of unrealized gain on sale of P&C affiliated subsidiaries, net of tax | — | — | 15 |
| Balance, end of year | 1,852 | 1,894 | 1,827 |
| Treasury stock | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | (1,026 |) (872 |) (814 |
| Net purchase of treasury stock | (69 |) (154 |) (58 |
| Balance, end of year | (1,095 |) (1,026 |) (872 |
| Total Indemnity shareholders' equity | \$642 | \$781 | \$912 |
| Noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | | | |
| Balance, beginning of year | \$5,512 | \$5,422 | \$4,823 |
| Comprehensive income | 637 | 90 | 599 |
| Balance, end of year | 6,149 | 5,512 | 5,422 |
| Total equity | \$6,791 | \$6,293 | \$6,334 |

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
Years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010
(in millions)

| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|---------|----------|----------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Premiums collected | \$4,594 | \$4,276 | \$4,055 |
| Net investment income received | 471 | 458 | 445 |
| Limited partnership distributions | 164 | 166 | 122 |
| Service agreement fee received | 31 | 33 | 34 |
| Commissions and bonuses paid to agents | (617 |) (583 |) (532 |
| Losses paid | (2,818 |) (2,953 |) (2,398 |
| Loss expenses paid | (464 |) (439 |) (419 |
| Other underwriting and acquisition costs paid | (557 |) (531 |) (517 |
| Income taxes paid | (227 |) (67 |) (69 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 577 | 360 | 721 |
| Cash flows from investing activities | | | |
| Purchase of investments: | | | |
| Fixed maturities | (2,112 |) (1,801 |) (1,760 |
| Preferred stock | (172 |) (119 |) (179 |
| Common stock | (1,807 |) (1,742 |) (1,495 |
| Limited partnerships | (100 |) (209 |) (165 |
| Sales/maturities of investments: | | | |
| Fixed maturity sales | 881 | 631 | 562 |
| Fixed maturity calls/maturities | 1,169 | 950 | 1,009 |
| Preferred stock | 154 | 113 | 135 |
| Common stock | 1,733 | 1,652 | 1,376 |
| Sale of and returns on limited partnerships | 201 | 163 | 142 |
| Net purchase of property and equipment | (33 |) (11 |) (33 |
| Net collections (distributions) on agent loans | 1 | (1 |) 3 |
| Net distributions on life policy loans | 0 | (1 |) 0 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (85 |) (375 |) (405 |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | | |
| Annuity deposits and interest | 92 | 95 | 111 |
| Annuity surrenders and withdrawals | (83 |) (81 |) (79 |
| Universal life deposits and interest | 23 | 29 | 38 |
| Universal life surrenders | (10 |) (16 |) (35 |
| Purchase of treasury stock | (70 |) (155 |) (57 |
| Dividends paid to shareholders | (229 |) (102 |) (98 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (277 |) (230 |) (120 |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 215 | (245 |) 196 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | 185 | 430 | 234 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year | \$400 | \$185 | \$430 |

See accompanying notes to Consolidated Financial Statements. See Note 21, "Supplementary Data on Cash Flows," and Note 23, "Indemnity Supplemental Information," for supplemental cash flow information.

74

Table of Contents

ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Note 1. Nature of Operations

Erie Indemnity Company (“Indemnity”) is a publicly held Pennsylvania business corporation that has been the managing attorney-in-fact for the subscribers (policyholders) at the Erie Insurance Exchange (“Exchange”) since 1925. The Exchange is a subscriber-owned, Pennsylvania-domiciled reciprocal insurer that writes property and casualty insurance.

Indemnity’s primary function is to perform certain services for the Exchange relating to the sales, underwriting and issuance of policies on behalf of the Exchange. This is done in accordance with a subscriber’s agreement (a limited power of attorney) executed by each subscriber (policyholder), which appoints Indemnity as their common attorney-in-fact to transact business on their behalf and to manage the affairs of the Exchange. Pursuant to the subscriber’s agreement and for its services as attorney-in-fact, Indemnity earns a management fee calculated as a percentage of the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group (defined below), which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement.

Indemnity has the power to direct the activities of the Exchange that most significantly impact the Exchange’s economic performance by acting as the common attorney-in-fact and decision maker for the subscribers (policyholders) at the Exchange.

Through December 31, 2010, Indemnity also operated as a property and casualty insurer through its wholly owned subsidiaries, Erie Insurance Company (“EIC”), Erie Insurance Company of New York (“ENY”) and Erie Insurance Property and Casualty Company (“EPC”). EIC, ENY and EPC, together with the Exchange and its wholly owned subsidiary, Flagship City Insurance Company (“Flagship”), are collectively referred to as the “Property and Casualty Group”. The Property and Casualty Group operates in 11 Midwestern, Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern states and the District of Columbia and primarily writes private passenger auto (45%), homeowners (26%), commercial multi-peril (12%), commercial automobile (7%), and workers compensation (7%) lines of insurance based upon 2012 direct written premiums. On December 31, 2010, Indemnity sold all of the outstanding capital stock of its wholly owned property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange.

Erie Family Life Insurance Company (“EFL”) is an affiliated life insurance company that underwrites and sells individual and group life insurance policies and fixed annuities. On March 31, 2011, Indemnity sold its 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange.

All property and casualty and life insurance operations are now owned by the Exchange, and Indemnity functions solely as the management company.

The consolidated financial statements of Erie Indemnity Company reflect the results of Indemnity and its variable interest entity, the Exchange, which we refer to collectively as the “Erie Insurance Group” (“we,” “us,” “our”).

“Indemnity shareholder interest” refers to the interest in Erie Indemnity Company owned by the Class A and Class B shareholders. “Noncontrolling interest” refers to the interest in the Erie Insurance Exchange held for the subscribers (policyholders).

Table of Contents

Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of presentation

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) and include the accounts of Indemnity together with its affiliated companies in which Indemnity holds a majority voting or economic interest.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Principles of consolidation

We consolidate the Exchange as a variable interest entity for which Indemnity is the primary beneficiary. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The required presentation of noncontrolling interests is reflected in the consolidated financial statements. Noncontrolling interests represent the ownership interests of the Exchange, all of which is held by parties other than Indemnity (i.e., the Exchange’s subscribers (policyholders)). Noncontrolling interests also include the Exchange subscribers’ ownership interest in EFL.

Presentation of assets and liabilities – While the assets of the Exchange are presented separately in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position, the Exchange’s assets can only be used to satisfy the Exchange’s liabilities or for other unrestricted activities. Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 810, Consolidation, does not require separate presentation of the Exchange’s assets; however, because the shareholders of Indemnity have no rights to the assets of the Exchange and, conversely, the Exchange has no rights to the assets of Indemnity, we have presented the invested assets of the Exchange separately on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position along with the remaining consolidated assets reflecting the Exchange’s portion parenthetically. Liabilities are required under ASC 810, Consolidation, to be presented separately for the Exchange on the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as the Exchange’s creditors do not have recourse to the general credit of Indemnity.

Rights of shareholders of Indemnity and subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange – The shareholders of Indemnity, through the management fee, have a controlling financial interest in the Exchange; however, they have no other rights to or obligations arising from assets and liabilities of the Exchange. The shareholders of Indemnity own its equity but have no rights or interest in the Exchange’s (noncontrolling interest) income or equity. The noncontrolling interest equity represents the Exchange’s equity held for the interest of its subscribers (policyholders), who have no rights or interest in the Indemnity shareholder interest income or equity.

All intercompany assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses between Indemnity and the Exchange have been eliminated in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Adopted accounting pronouncements

In October 2010, the FASB issued ASU 2010-26, Accounting for Costs Associated with Acquiring or Renewing Insurance Contracts. This guidance modified the definition of the types of costs incurred by insurance entities that can be capitalized in the acquisition of new and renewal insurance contracts. The amendments in this guidance specify that the costs are limited to incremental direct costs that result directly from successful contract transactions and would not have been incurred by the insurance entity had the contract transactions not occurred. These costs must be directly related to underwriting, policy issuance and processing, medical and inspection reports and sales force contract selling. The amendments also specify that advertising costs are only included as deferred acquisition costs if

the direct-response advertising criteria are met. ASU 2010-26 was effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2011. We elected to prospectively adopt this guidance. The change does not affect the Indemnity shareholder interest nor does it affect Indemnity's earnings per share. Acquisition costs capitalized during the year ended December 31, 2012 totaled \$743 million. Acquisition costs that would have been capitalized during the year ended December 31, 2012 using the previous method of capitalization totaled \$763 million. Included in this note below is our updated accounting policy under the caption "Deferred acquisition costs".

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-4, Fair Value Measurements. This guidance changed the description of the requirements in GAAP for measuring fair value and for disclosing information about fair value measurements and certain other changes to converge with the fair value guidance of the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB"). The amendments in this guidance detail the requirements specific to measuring the fair value of an instrument classified in a reporting entity's

Table of Contents

shareholders' equity. The amendments also clarify that a reporting entity should disclose quantitative information about the significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. ASU 2011-4 was effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. The adoption of this new guidance did not have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements. The additional disclosures required by this guidance have been included in Note 6, "Fair Value".

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-5, Comprehensive Income. This guidance eliminated the option to present components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in shareholders' equity. The amendments in this guidance specify that an entity has the option to present the total comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. The disclosures required remain the same. In both options, an entity is required to present each component of net income along with total net income, each component of other comprehensive income along with a total for other comprehensive income, and a total amount for comprehensive income. ASU 2011-5 was effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, Comprehensive Income – Deferral of The Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassification of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update 2011-5. The amendments in this ASU supersede changes to paragraphs in ASU 2011-5 that pertain to how, when and where reclassification adjustments are presented. We have elected to present total comprehensive income in two separate but consecutive statements. The disclosures required by this guidance have been included in the Consolidated Statements of Operations and the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income.

Investments

Available-for-sale securities – Fixed maturity, preferred stock and common stock securities classified as available-for-sale are reported at fair value. Unrealized holding gains and losses, net of related tax effects, on available-for-sale securities are charged or credited directly to shareholders' equity as accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).

Common stock securities classified as available-for-sale represent certain exchange traded funds with underlying holdings of fixed maturity securities.

Realized gains and losses on sales of available-for-sale securities are recognized in income based upon the specific identification method. Interest and dividend income are recognized as earned.

Fixed income and redeemable preferred stock (debt securities) are evaluated monthly for other-than-temporary impairment loss. For debt securities that have experienced a decline in fair value and that we intend to sell, or for which it is more likely than not we will be required to sell the security before recovery of its amortized cost, an other-than-temporary impairment is deemed to have occurred, and is recognized in earnings.

Debt securities that have experienced a decline in fair value and that we do not intend to sell, and that we will not be required to sell before recovery, are evaluated to determine if the decline in fair value is other-than-temporary.

Some factors considered in this evaluation include:

- the extent and duration to which fair value is less than cost;
- historical operating performance and financial condition of the issuer;
- short and long-term prospects of the issuer and its industry based upon analysts' recommendations;
- specific events that occurred affecting the issuer, including a ratings downgrade;
- near term liquidity position of the issuer; and

• compliance with financial covenants.

If a decline is deemed to be other-than-temporary, an assessment is made to determine the amount of the total impairment related to a credit loss and that related to all other factors. Consideration is given to all available information relevant to the collectability of the security in this determination. If the entire amortized cost basis of the security will not be recovered, a credit loss exists. Currently, we have the intent to sell all of our securities that have been determined to have a credit-related impairment. As a result, the entire amount of any impairment would be recognized in earnings. If we had securities with credit impairments that we did not intend to sell, the non-credit portion of the impairment would be recorded in other comprehensive income.

Other-than-temporary impairment charges on non-redeemable preferred securities, hybrid securities with equity characteristics and common stock are included in earnings consistent with the treatment for equity securities.

77

Table of Contents

Trading securities – Common stock securities classified as trading securities are reported at fair value. Unrealized holding gains and losses on trading securities are included in net realized gains (losses) in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. Realized gains and losses on sales of trading securities are recognized in income based upon the specific identification method. Dividend income is recognized as of the ex-dividend date.

Limited partnerships – Limited partnerships include U.S. and foreign private equity, mezzanine debt, and real estate investments. The majority of our limited partnership holdings are considered investment companies and are recorded using the equity method of accounting. For these limited partnerships the general partners record assets at fair value, including any other-than-temporary impairments of these individual investments. We also own some real estate limited partnerships that do not meet the criteria of an investment company. These partnerships prepare their audited financial statements on a cost basis. We have elected to report these limited partnerships under the fair value option, which is based on the net asset value (NAV) from our partner's capital statement reflecting the general partner's estimate of fair value for the fund's underlying assets. Limited partnerships reported under the fair value option are disclosed in Note 6 "Fair Value" as other investments. Fair value provides consistency in the evaluation and financial reporting for these limited partnerships and limited partnerships accounted for under the equity method.

Because of the timing of the preparation and delivery of financial statements for limited partnership investments, the use of the most recently available financial statements provided by the general partners result in a quarter delay in the inclusion of the limited partnership results in our Consolidated Statements of Operations. Due to this delay, these financial statements do not yet reflect the market conditions experienced in the fourth quarter of 2012 for all partnerships other than the real estate limited partnerships that are reported under fair value.

Nearly all of the underlying investments in our limited partnerships are valued using a source other than quoted prices in active markets. The fair value amounts for our private equity and mezzanine debt partnerships are based upon the financial statements of the general partners, who use multiple methods to estimate fair value including the market approach, income approach or the cost approach. The market approach uses prices and other pertinent information from market-generated transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities. Such valuation techniques often use market multiples derived from a set of comparables. The income approach uses valuation techniques to convert future cash flows or earnings to a single discounted present value amount. The measurement is based upon the value indicated by current market expectations on those future amounts. The cost approach is derived from the amount that is currently required to replace the service capacity of an asset. If information becomes available that would impair the cost of investments owned by the partnerships, then the general partner would adjust to the net realizable value. For real estate limited partnerships, the general partners record these at fair value based upon an independent appraisal or internal estimates of fair value.

We perform various procedures in review of the general partners' valuations. While we generally rely on the general partners' financial statements as the best available information to record our share of the partnership unrealized gains and losses resulting from valuation changes, we adjust our financial statements for impairments at the fund level as necessary. As there is a limited market for these investments, they have the greatest potential for market price variability.

Unrealized gains and losses for these investments are reflected in equity in earnings (losses) of limited partnerships in our Consolidated Statements of Operations in accordance with the equity method of accounting or the fair value option, as applicable. Cash contributions made to and distributions received from the partnerships are recorded in the period in which the transaction occurs.

Cash and cash equivalents – Short-term investments, consisting of cash, money market accounts and other short-term, highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase, are considered cash and cash equivalents.

Deferred acquisition costs

Acquisition costs that vary with and relate to the successful production of insurance and investment-type contracts are deferred. Beginning in 2012, deferred acquisition costs (“DAC”) are incremental direct costs of contract acquisition and are limited to the successful acquisition of new and renewal contracts. Such costs consist principally of commissions, premium taxes and policy issuance expenses. Prior to 2012, certain of these acquisition costs were deferred regardless of whether a contract was acquired.

Property and casualty insurance – DAC related to property and casualty insurance contracts are primarily composed of commissions, premium taxes and certain underwriting expenses. These costs are amortized on a pro-rata basis over the applicable policy term. We consider investment income in determining if a premium deficiency exists, and if so, it would first be recognized by charging any unamortized acquisition costs to expense to the extent required to eliminate the deficiency. If

78

Table of Contents

the premium deficiency would be greater than unamortized acquisition costs, a liability would be accrued for the excess deficiency.

There was no reduction in costs deferred in any periods presented. Profitability is analyzed annually to ensure recoverability.

Life insurance – DAC related to traditional life insurance products is amortized in proportion to premium revenues over the premium-paying period of related policies using assumptions about mortality, morbidity, lapse rates, expenses and future yield on related investments established when the policy was issued. Amortization is adjusted each period to reflect policy lapse or termination rates as compared to anticipated experience. DAC related to universal life products and deferred annuities is amortized over the estimated lives of the contracts in proportion to actual and expected future gross profits, investment, mortality, expense margins and surrender charges. Both historical and anticipated investment returns, including realized gains and losses, are considered in determining the amortization of DAC.

Estimated gross profits are adjusted monthly to reflect actual experience to date and/or for the unlocking of underlying key assumptions based upon experience studies. DAC is periodically reviewed for recoverability. For traditional life products, if the benefit reserves plus anticipated future premiums and interest earnings for a line of business are less than the current estimate of future benefits and expenses (including any unamortized DAC), a charge to income is recorded for additional DAC amortization or for increased benefit reserves. For universal life and deferred annuities, if the current present value of future expected gross profits is less than the unamortized DAC, a charge to income is recorded for additional DAC amortization.

Deferred taxes

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded for temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and their reported amounts in the consolidated financial statements, using the statutory tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in the results of operations in the period that includes the enactment date under the law. Valuation allowances on deferred tax assets are estimated based upon our assessment of the realizability of such amounts.

Property and casualty unpaid losses and loss expenses

Unpaid losses and loss expenses include estimates for claims that have been reported and those that have been incurred but not reported, as well as estimates of all expenses associated with processing and settling these claims, less estimates of anticipated salvage and subrogation recoveries. Unpaid loss and loss expense reserves are set at full expected cost, except for workers compensation loss reserves, which have been discounted using an interest rate of 2.5%. Estimating the ultimate cost of future losses and loss expenses is an uncertain and complex process. This estimation process is based upon the assumption that past developments are an appropriate indicator of future events, and involves a variety of actuarial techniques that analyze experience, trends and other relevant factors. The uncertainties involved with the reserving process include internal factors, such as changes in claims handling procedures, as well as external factors, such as economic trends and changes in the concepts of legal liability and damage awards. Accordingly, final loss settlements may vary from the present estimates, particularly when those payments may not occur until well into the future.

We regularly review the adequacy of our estimated loss and loss expense reserves by line of business. Adjustments to previously established reserves are reflected in the operating results of the period in which the adjustment is determined to be necessary. Such adjustments could possibly be significant, reflecting any variety of new and adverse or favorable trends.

Life insurance reserves

The liability for future benefits of life insurance contracts is the present value of such benefits less the present value of future net premiums. Life insurance and income-paying annuity future policy benefit reserves are computed primarily by the net level premium method with assumptions as to mortality, withdrawal, lapses and investment yields. Traditional life insurance products are subject to loss recognition testing. The adequacy of the related reserves is verified as part of loss recognition testing. Loss recognition is necessary when the sum of the reserve and the present value of projected policy cash flows is less than unamortized DAC.

Deferred annuity future benefit reserves are established at accumulated account values without reduction for surrender charges. These account values are credited with varying interest rates determined at the discretion of EFL subject to certain minimums.

Agent bonus estimates

Agent bonuses are based upon an individual agency's property and casualty underwriting profitability and also include a component for growth in agency property and casualty premiums if the agency's underwriting profitability targets for our book of business are met. The estimate for agent bonuses, which are based upon the performance over 36 months, is modeled on a monthly basis using actual underwriting data by agency for the prior 2 years combined with the current year-to-date actual data.

Table of Contents

At December 31 of each year, we use actual data available and record an accrual based upon the expected payment amount. These costs are included in the policy acquisition and underwriting expenses in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Recognition of premium revenues and losses

Property and casualty insurance – Insurance premiums written are earned over the terms of the policies on a pro-rata basis. Unearned premiums represent that portion of premiums written which is applicable to the unexpired terms of policies in force. Losses and loss expenses are recorded as incurred.

Life insurance – Premiums on traditional life insurance products are recognized as revenue when due. Reserves for future policy benefits are established as premiums are earned. Premiums received for annuity and universal life products are reported as deposits and included in liabilities. For universal life products, revenue is recognized as amounts are assessed against the policyholder's account for mortality coverage and contract expenses. The primary source of revenue on annuity deposits is derived from the interest earned by EFL, which is reflected in net investment income.

Reinsurance

Property and casualty insurance – Property and casualty assumed and ceded reinsurance premiums are earned over the terms of the reinsurance contracts. Premiums ceded to other companies are reported as a reduction of premium income. Reinsurance contracts do not relieve the Property and Casualty Group from its obligations to policyholders.

Life insurance – Reinsurance premiums, commissions and expense reimbursements on reinsurance ceded on life insurance policies are accounted for on a basis consistent with those used in accounting for the underlying reinsured policies. Expense reimbursements received in connection with new reinsurance ceded have been accounted for as a reduction of the related policy acquisition costs. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers for future policy benefits are estimated in a manner consistent with the assumptions used for the underlying policy benefits. Amounts recoverable for incurred claims, future policy benefits and expense reimbursements are recorded as assets. Reinsurance contracts do not relieve EFL from its obligations to policyholders.

Recognition of management fee revenue

Indemnity earns management fees from the Exchange for providing sales, underwriting and policy issuance services. Pursuant to the subscriber's agreements with the policyholders at the Exchange, Indemnity may retain up to 25% of all premiums written or assumed by the Exchange. Management fee revenue is calculated by multiplying the management fee rate by the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group, which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement. The Property and Casualty Group issues policies with annual terms only. Management fees are recorded as revenue upon policy issuance or renewal, as substantially all of the services required to be performed by us have been satisfied at that time. Certain activities are performed and related costs are incurred by us subsequent to policy issuance in connection with the services provided to the Exchange; however, these activities are inconsequential and perfunctory. Management fee revenue is eliminated upon consolidation.

Recognition of service agreement revenue

Included in service agreement revenue are service charges Indemnity collects from policyholders for providing multiple payment plans on policies written by the Property and Casualty Group. Service charges, which are flat dollar charges for each installment billed beyond the first installment, are recognized as revenue when bills are rendered to the policyholder. Service agreement revenue also includes late payment and policy reinstatement fees. Service agreement revenue is included in other income in the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Table of Contents

Note 3. Indemnity Earnings Per Share

Class A and Class B basic earnings per share and Class B diluted earnings per share are calculated under the two-class method. The two-class method allocates earnings to each class of stock based upon its dividend rights. Class B shares are convertible into Class A shares at a conversion ratio of 2,400 to 1.

Class A diluted earnings per share are calculated under the if-converted method, which reflects the conversion of Class B shares to Class A shares. Diluted earnings per share calculations include the effect of any potential common shares. Potential common shares include outstanding vested and not yet vested awards related to our outside directors' stock compensation plan and any employee stock-based awards.

In 2012, four shares of Class B common stock were converted into 9,600 shares of Class A common stock. See Note 18, "Indemnity Capital Stock."

A reconciliation of the numerators and denominators used in the basic and diluted per-share computations is presented as follows for each class of Indemnity common stock:

| (dollars in millions, except per share data) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | | | 2011 | | | 2010 | | |
| | Allocated net income (numerator) | Weighted shares (denominator) | Per-share amount | Allocated net income (numerator) | Weighted shares (denominator) | Per-share amount | Allocated net income (numerator) | Weighted shares (denominator) | Per-share amount |
| Class A – Basic EPS: | | | | | | | | | |
| Income available to Class A stockholders | \$ 159 | 47,357,836 | \$ 3.38 | \$ 168 | 48,875,316 | \$ 3.45 | \$ 161 | 50,705,607 | \$ 3.18 |
| Dilutive effect of stock-based awards | 0 | 84,397 | — | 0 | 71,721 | — | 0 | 68,887 | — |
| Assumed conversion of Class B shares | 1 | 6,105,600 | — | 1 | 6,110,400 | — | 1 | 6,110,400 | — |
| Class A – Diluted EPS: | | | | | | | | | |
| Income available to Class A stockholders on Class A equivalent shares | \$ 160 | 53,547,833 | \$ 2.99 | \$ 169 | 55,057,437 | \$ 3.08 | \$ 162 | 56,884,894 | \$ 2.85 |
| Class B – Basic and diluted EPS: | | | | | | | | | |
| Income available to Class B | \$ 1 | 2,544 | \$ 505 | \$ 1 | 2,546 | \$ 522 | \$ 1 | 2,546 | \$ 463 |

stockholders

81

Table of Contents

Note 4. Variable Interest Entity

Erie Insurance Exchange

The Exchange is a reciprocal insurance exchange domiciled in Pennsylvania, for which Indemnity serves as attorney-in-fact. Indemnity holds a variable interest in the Exchange due to the absence of decision-making capabilities by the equity owners (subscribers/policyholders) of the Exchange and due to the significance of the management fee the Exchange pays to Indemnity as its decision maker. As a result, Indemnity is deemed to have a controlling financial interest in the Exchange and is considered to be its primary beneficiary.

Consolidation of the Exchange's financial results is required given the significance of the management fee to the Exchange and because Indemnity has the power to direct the activities of the Exchange that most significantly impact the Exchange's economic performance. The Exchange's anticipated economic performance is the product of its underwriting results combined with its investment results. The fees paid to Indemnity under the subscriber's agreement impact the anticipated economic performance attributable to the Exchange's results. Indemnity earns a management fee from the Exchange for the services it provides as attorney-in-fact. Indemnity's management fee revenues are based upon all premiums written or assumed by the Exchange. Indemnity's Board of Directors determines the management fee rate to be paid by the Exchange to Indemnity. This rate cannot exceed 25% of the direct and affiliated assumed written premiums of the Exchange, as defined by the subscriber's agreement signed by each policyholder. Management fee revenues and management fee expenses are eliminated upon consolidation.

The shareholders of Indemnity have no rights to the assets of the Exchange and no obligations arising from the liabilities of the Exchange. Indemnity has no obligation related to any underwriting and/or investment losses experienced by the Exchange. Indemnity would, however, be adversely impacted if the Exchange incurred significant underwriting and/or investment losses. If the surplus of the Exchange were to decline significantly from its current level, its financial strength ratings could be reduced and, as a consequence, the Exchange could find it more difficult to retain its existing business and attract new business. A decline in the business of the Exchange would have an adverse effect on the amount of the management fees Indemnity receives. In addition, a decline in the surplus of the Exchange from its current level may impact the management fee rate received by Indemnity. Indemnity also has an exposure to a concentration of credit risk related to the unsecured receivables due from the Exchange for its management fee. If any of these events occurred, Indemnity's financial position, financial performance and/or cash flows could be adversely impacted.

On December 31, 2010, Indemnity sold all of the outstanding capital stock of its wholly owned subsidiaries to the Exchange. On March 31, 2011, Indemnity sold its 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange. Under this structure, all property and casualty and life insurance operations are owned by the Exchange, and Indemnity functions solely as the management company. There was no impact on the existing reinsurance pooling agreement between the Exchange and EIC or ENY as a result of the sales, nor was there any impact to the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, the Exchange's independent insurance agents, or Indemnity's employees.

Indemnity has not provided financial or other support to the Exchange for any of the reporting periods presented. At December 31, 2012, there are no explicit or implicit arrangements that would require Indemnity to provide future financial support to the Exchange. Indemnity is not liable if the Exchange was to be in violation of its debt covenants or was unable to meet its obligation for unfunded commitments to limited partnerships.

Table of Contents

Note 5. Segment Information

Our reportable segments include management operations, property and casualty insurance operations, life insurance operations and investment operations. Accounting policies for segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies (see Note 2, "Significant Accounting Policies"). Assets are not allocated to the segments, but rather, are reviewed in total for purposes of decision-making. No single customer or agent provides 10% or more of revenues.

Management operations

Our management operations segment consists of Indemnity serving as attorney-in-fact for the Exchange. Indemnity operates in this capacity solely for the Exchange. We evaluate profitability of our management operations segment principally on the gross margin from management operations. Indemnity earns a management fee from the Exchange for providing sales, underwriting and policy issuance services. Management fee revenue, which is eliminated upon consolidation, is calculated as a percentage not to exceed 25% of all the direct premiums written by the Exchange and the other members of the Property and Casualty Group, which are assumed by the Exchange under an intercompany pooling arrangement. The Property and Casualty Group issues policies with annual terms only. Management fees are recorded upon policy issuance or renewal, as substantially all of the services required to be performed by Indemnity have been satisfied at that time. Certain activities are performed and related costs are incurred by us subsequent to policy issuance in connection with the services provided to the Exchange; however, these activities are inconsequential and perfunctory. Although these management fee revenues and expenses are eliminated upon consolidation, the amount of the fee directly impacts the allocation of our consolidated net income between the noncontrolling interest, which bears the management fee expense and represents the interests of the Exchange subscribers (policyholders), and Indemnity's interest, which earns the management fee revenue and represents the Indemnity shareholder interest in net income.

Additionally, the year ended December 31, 2012 includes an adjustment that reduced commission expense by \$6 million. This amount represents the reimbursement by the North Carolina Reinsurance Facility (NCRF) for commissions Indemnity paid to agents on the surcharges collected on behalf of the NCRF in prior periods. This amount was incorrectly recorded as a benefit to the Exchange in prior periods. If these amounts had been correctly recorded, Indemnity's commission expense would have been lower by \$0.5 million and \$0.7 million, for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Property and casualty insurance operations

Our property and casualty insurance operations segment includes personal and commercial lines. Personal lines consist primarily of personal auto and homeowners and are marketed to individuals. Commercial lines consist primarily of commercial multi-peril, commercial auto and workers compensation and are marketed to small- and medium-sized businesses. Our property and casualty policies are sold by independent agents. Our property and casualty insurance underwriting operations are conducted through the Exchange and its subsidiaries and include assumed voluntary reinsurance from nonaffiliated domestic and foreign sources, assumed involuntary and ceded reinsurance business. The Exchange exited the assumed voluntary reinsurance business effective December 31, 2003, and therefore unaffiliated reinsurance includes only run-off activity of the previously assumed voluntary reinsurance business. We evaluate profitability of the property and casualty insurance operations principally based upon net underwriting results represented by the combined ratio.

Life insurance operations

Our life insurance operations segment includes traditional and universal life insurance products and fixed annuities marketed to individuals using the same independent agency force utilized by our property and casualty insurance operations. We evaluate profitability of the life insurance segment principally based upon segment net income, including investments, which for segment purposes are reflected in the investment operations segment. At the same

time, we recognize that investment-related income is integral to the evaluation of the life insurance segment because of the long duration of life products. In 2012, investment activities on life insurance-related assets generated revenues of \$104 million, resulting in EFL reporting income before income taxes of \$46 million, before intercompany eliminations. In 2011, investment activities on life insurance-related assets generated revenues of \$109 million, resulting in EFL reporting income before income taxes of \$50 million, before intercompany eliminations. In 2010, investment activities on life insurance-related assets generated revenues of \$107 million, resulting in EFL reporting income before income taxes of \$50 million, before intercompany eliminations.

Investment operations

The investment operations segment performance is evaluated based upon appreciation of assets, rate of return and overall return. Investment-related income for the life insurance operations is included in the investment segment results.

Table of Contents

The following tables summarize the components of the Consolidated Statements of Operations by reportable business segment:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group Year ended December 31, 2012 | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Management operations | Property and casualty insurance operations | Life insurance operations | Investment operations | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| Premiums earned/life policy revenue | | \$4,422 | \$73 | | \$(2) | \$ 4,493 |
| Net investment income | | | | \$449 | (11) | 438 |
| Net realized investment gains | | | | 418 | | 418 |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings | | | | 0 | | 0 |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | | | | 131 | | 131 |
| Management fee revenue | \$1,157 | | | | (1,157) | — |
| Service agreement and other revenue | 31 | | 1 | | | 32 |
| Total revenues | 1,188 | 4,422 | 74 | 998 | (1,170) | 5,512 |
| Cost of management operations | 983 | | | | (983) | — |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses | | 3,384 | 101 | | (5) | 3,480 |
| Policy acquisition and underwriting expenses | | 1,284 | 31 | | (182) | 1,133 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 983 | 4,668 | 132 | — | (1,170) | 4,613 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 205 | (246) | (58) | 998 | — | 899 |
| Provision for income taxes | 72 | (86) | (20) | 314 | — | 280 |
| Net income (loss) | \$133 | \$(160) | \$(38) | \$684 | \$— | \$ 619 |

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group Year ended December 31, 2011 | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Management operations | Property and casualty insurance operations | Life insurance operations | Investment operations | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| Premiums earned/life policy revenue | | \$4,149 | \$67 | | \$(2) | \$ 4,214 |
| Net investment income | | | | \$444 | (11) | 433 |
| Net realized investment losses | | | | (4) | | (4) |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings | | | | (2) | | (2) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | | | | 149 | | 149 |
| Management fee revenue | \$1,067 | | | | (1,067) | — |
| Service agreement and other revenue | 33 | | 1 | | | 34 |
| Total revenues | 1,100 | 4,149 | 68 | 587 | (1,080) | 4,824 |
| Cost of management operations | 892 | | | | (892) | — |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses | | 3,349 | 100 | | (5) | 3,444 |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| Policy acquisition and underwriting expenses | | 1,178 | 27 | | (183 |) 1,022 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 892 | 4,527 | 127 | — | (1,080 |) 4,466 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 208 | (378 |) (59 |) 587 | — | 358 |
| Provision for income taxes | 73 | (132 |) (21 |) 170 | — | 90 |
| Net income (loss) | \$135 | \$(246 |) \$(38 |) \$417 | \$— | \$ 268 |

84

Table of Contents

| Erie Insurance Group | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Year ended December 31, 2010 | | | | | | |
| (in millions) | Management operations | Property and casualty insurance operations | Life insurance operations | Investment operations | Eliminations | Consolidated |
| Premiums earned/life policy revenue | | \$3,925 | \$64 | | \$(2) | \$ 3,987 |
| Net investment income | | | | \$444 | (11) | 433 |
| Net realized investment gains | | | | 313 | | 313 |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings | | | | (6) | | (6) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | | | | 128 | | 128 |
| Management fee revenue | \$1,009 | | | | (1,009) | — |
| Service agreement and other revenue | 34 | | 1 | | | 35 |
| Total revenues | 1,043 | 3,925 | 65 | 879 | (1,022) | 4,890 |
| Cost of management operations | 841 | | | | (841) | — |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses | | 2,815 | 90 | | (5) | 2,900 |
| Policy acquisition and underwriting expenses | | 1,113 | 32 | | (176) | 969 |
| Goodwill impairment | | | | 22 | | 22 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 841 | 3,928 | 122 | 22 | (1,022) | 3,891 |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 202 | (3) | (57) | 857 | — | 999 |
| Provision for income taxes | 71 | (1) | (20) | 289 | — | 339 |
| Net income (loss) | \$131 | \$(2) | \$(37) | \$568 | \$— | \$ 660 |

Table of Contents

Note 6. Fair Value

Our available-for-sale and trading securities are recorded at fair value, which is the price that would be received to sell the asset in an orderly transaction between willing market participants as of the measurement date.

Valuation techniques used to derive the fair value of our available-for-sale and trading securities are based upon observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources. Unobservable inputs reflect our own assumptions regarding fair market value for these securities. Although the majority of our prices are obtained from third party sources, we also perform an internal pricing review for securities with low trading volumes in the current market conditions. Financial instruments are categorized based upon the following characteristics or inputs to the valuation techniques:

• Level 1 – Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity can access at the measurement date.

• Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

• Level 3 – Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Estimates of fair values for our investment portfolio are obtained primarily from a nationally recognized pricing service. Our Level 1 category includes those securities valued using an exchange traded price provided by the pricing service. The methodologies used by the pricing service that support a Level 2 classification of a financial instrument include multiple verifiable, observable inputs including benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data. Pricing service valuations for Level 3 securities are based upon proprietary models and are used when observable inputs are not available or in illiquid markets.

In limited circumstances we adjust the price received from the pricing service when, in our judgment, a better reflection of fair value is available based upon corroborating information and our knowledge and monitoring of market conditions such as a disparity in price of comparable securities and/or non-binding broker quotes. In other circumstances, certain securities are internally priced because prices are not provided by the pricing service.

We perform continuous reviews of the prices obtained from the pricing service. This includes evaluating the methodology and inputs used by the pricing service to ensure that we determine the proper classification level of the financial instrument. Price variances, including large periodic changes, are investigated and corroborated by market data. We have reviewed the pricing methodologies of our pricing service as well as other observable inputs, such as data, and transaction volumes and believe that their prices adequately consider market activity in determining fair value. Our review process continues to evolve based upon accounting guidance and requirements.

When a price from the pricing service is not available, values are determined by obtaining non-binding broker quotes and/or market comparables. When available, we obtain multiple quotes for the same security. The ultimate value for these securities is determined based upon our best estimate of fair value using corroborating market information. Our evaluation includes the consideration of benchmark yields, reported trades, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data.

For certain structured securities in an illiquid market, there may be no prices available from a pricing service and no comparable market quotes available. In these situations, we value the security using an internally-developed, risk-adjusted discounted cash flow model.

Table of Contents

The following table represents our consolidated fair value measurements on a recurring basis by asset class and level of input at December 31, 2012:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 Fair value measurements using: | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Total | Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets Level 1 | Observable inputs Level 2 | Unobservable inputs Level 3 |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$185 | \$0 | \$185 | \$0 |
| Corporate debt securities | 261 | 0 | 260 | 1 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Total fixed maturities | 452 | 0 | 448 | 4 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 29 | 4 | 25 | 0 |
| Common stock | 26 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 507 | 30 | 473 | 4 |
| Other investments ⁽¹⁾ | 19 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Total – Indemnity | \$526 | \$30 | \$473 | \$23 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| U.S. government & agencies | \$191 | \$0 | \$191 | \$0 |
| States & political subdivisions | 1,321 | 0 | 1,321 | 0 |
| Foreign government securities | 16 | 0 | 16 | 0 |
| Corporate debt securities | 5,777 | 0 | 5,734 | 43 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 231 | 0 | 231 | 0 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 67 | 0 | 67 | 0 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 49 | 0 | 33 | 16 |
| Other debt securities | 55 | 0 | 55 | 0 |
| Total fixed maturities | 7,707 | 0 | 7,648 | 59 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 631 | 199 | 432 | 0 |
| Common stock | 314 | 314 | 0 | 0 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 8,652 | 513 | 8,080 | 59 |
| Trading securities: | | | | |
| Common stock | 2,417 | 2,402 | 0 | 15 |
| Total trading securities | 2,417 | 2,402 | 0 | 15 |
| Other investments ⁽¹⁾ | 109 | 0 | 0 | 109 |
| Total – Exchange | \$11,178 | \$2,915 | \$8,080 | \$183 |
| Total – Erie Insurance Group | \$11,704 | \$2,945 | \$8,553 | \$206 |

(1) Other investments measured at fair value represent four real estate funds included on the balance sheet as limited partnership investments that are reported under the fair value option. These investments can never be redeemed with the funds. Instead, distributions are received when liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds occur. It is estimated that the underlying assets will generally be liquidated between 5 and 10 years from the inception

of the funds. The fair value of these investments is based on the net asset value (NAV) information provided by the general partner. Fair value is based on our proportionate share of the NAV based on the most recent partners' capital statements received from the general partners, which is generally one quarter prior to our balance sheet date. These values are then analyzed to determine if they represent the NAV at our balance sheet date, with adjustment being made where appropriate. We consider observable market data and perform a review validating the appropriateness of the NAV at each balance sheet date. It is likely that all of the investments will be redeemed at a future date for an amount different than the NAV of our ownership interest in partners' capital as of December 31, 2012. During the year ended December 31, 2012, Indemnity made contributions totaling \$0.2 million and received distributions totaling \$0.3 million, and the Exchange made contributions totaling \$0.7 million and received distributions totaling \$4.7 million for these investments. As of December 31, 2012, the amount of unfunded commitments related to the investments was \$1.5 million for Indemnity and \$4.5 million for the Exchange.

Table of Contents

Level 3 Assets – Quarterly Change:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | | | Ending balance at December 31, 2012 |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | Beginning balance at September 30, 2012 | Included in earnings ⁽¹⁾ | Included in other comprehensive income | Purchases | Sales | Transfers in and (out) of Level 3 ⁽²⁾ | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| Corporate debt securities | \$1 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Total fixed maturities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Other investments | 18 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Indemnity | \$22 | \$1 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$23 |
| Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$4 | \$(1) | \$1 | \$0 | \$(4) | \$0 | \$0 |
| Corporate debt securities | 34 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 43 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 46 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (9) | (21) | 16 |
| Other debt securities | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (5) | 0 |
| Total fixed maturities | 89 | (1) | 1 | 0 | (13) | (17) | 59 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (6) | 0 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 95 | (1) | 1 | 0 | (13) | (23) | 59 |
| Trading securities: | | | | | | | |
| Common stock | 13 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Total trading securities | 13 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Other investments | 108 | 2 | 0 | 1 | (2) | 0 | 109 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Exchange | \$216 | \$3 | \$1 | \$1 | \$(15) | \$(23) | \$183 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Erie Insurance Group | \$238 | \$4 | \$1 | \$1 | \$(15) | \$(23) | \$206 |

(1) These amounts are reported in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. There is \$1 million included in net realized investment gains (losses) and \$3 million included in equity in earnings of limited partnerships for the three months ended December 31, 2012 on Level 3 investments.

(2) Transfers in and out of Level 3 are attributable to changes in the availability of market observable information for individual investments within the respective categories. Transfers in and out of levels are recognized at the start of the period.

We review the fair value hierarchy classifications each reporting period. Transfers between hierarchy levels may occur due to changes in the available market observable inputs. Transfers in and out of level classifications are reported as having occurred at the beginning of the quarter in which the transfers occurred.

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

For the three months ended December 31, 2012, Level 1 to Level 2 transfers in the Indemnity totaled \$4 million. Trading activity levels for two preferred stock holdings necessitated reclassification between levels. There were no Level 2 to Level 1 transfers in Indemnity for the three months ended December 31, 2012.

For the three months ended December 31, 2012, Level 1 to Level 2 transfers in the Exchange totaled \$69 million. Trading activity levels for 10 preferred stock holdings necessitated reclassification. In addition seven U.S. Treasury securities were reclassified from Level 1 to Level 2. There were no Level 2 to Level 1 transfers in the Exchange for the three months ended December 31, 2012.

88

Table of Contents

Level 3 Assets –Year-to-Date Change:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | | | Ending balance at December 31, 2012 |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|---------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | Beginning balance at December 31, 2011 | Included in earnings ⁽¹⁾ | Included in other comprehensive income | Purchases | Sales | Transfers in and (out) of Level 3 ⁽²⁾ | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| Corporate debt securities | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1 | \$1 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 3 |
| Total fixed maturities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1) | 1 | 4 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (1) | 1 | 4 |
| Other investments | 17 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Indemnity | \$21 | \$2 | \$0 | \$0 | \$(1) | \$1 | \$23 |
| Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$4 | \$(1) | \$1 | \$0 | \$(4) | \$0 | \$0 |
| Corporate debt securities | 12 | 0 | 2 | 1 | (5) | 33 | 43 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 29 | 1 | 0 | 0 | (13) | (1) | 16 |
| Other debt securities | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (5) | 0 |
| Total fixed maturities | 50 | 0 | 3 | 1 | (22) | 27 | 59 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (5) | 0 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 55 | 0 | 3 | 1 | (22) | 22 | 59 |
| Trading securities: | | | | | | | |
| Common stock | 12 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Total trading securities | 12 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Other investments | 102 | 11 | 0 | 1 | (5) | 0 | 109 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Exchange | \$169 | \$14 | \$3 | \$2 | \$(27) | \$22 | \$183 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Erie Insurance Group | \$190 | \$16 | \$3 | \$2 | \$(28) | \$23 | \$206 |

(1) These amounts are reported in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. There is \$3 million included in net realized investment gains (losses) and \$13 million included in equity in earnings of limited partnerships for the year ended December 31, 2012 on Level 3 investments.

(2) Transfers in and out of Level 3 are attributable to changes in the availability of market observable information for individual investments within the respective categories. Transfers in and out of levels are recognized at the start of the period.

For the year ended December 31, 2012, Level 1 to Level 2 transfers in the Indemnity totaled \$5 million. Trading activity levels for two preferred stock holdings necessitated reclassification between levels. There were no Level 2 to Level 1 transfers in Indemnity for the year ended December 31, 2012.

For the year ended December 31, 2012, Level 1 to Level 2 transfers in the Exchange totaled \$79 million. Trading activity levels for eight preferred stock holdings necessitated reclassification. Additionally, eight U.S. Treasury securities were reclassified from Level 1 to Level 2. For the year ended December 31, 2012, Level 2 to Level 1 transfers in the Exchange totaled \$12 million. Trading activity levels for one preferred stock holding necessitated reclassification between levels.

89

Table of Contents

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Unobservable Inputs

| Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------------|----------------------|---|---------------------|------------------|
| (dollars in millions) | Fair value | No. of holdings | Valuation techniques | Unobservable input | Range | Weighted average |
| Indemnity | | | | | | |
| Corporate debt securities | \$1 | 1 | Market approach | Non-binding broker quote | 114.90 | |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 3 | 2 | Income approach | Projected maturity date | Sep 2014 - Sep 2015 | |
| | | | | Repayment at maturity | 41 - 100% | 88.3% |
| | | | | Discount rate | 7.5 - 15.0% | 10.0% |
| | | | | Projected LIBOR rate | 0.31% | |
| Total Level 3 assets – Indemnity | \$4 | 3 | | | | |
| Exchange | | | | | | |
| Corporate debt securities | 43 | 8 | Market approach | Non-binding broker quote | 104 - 114.90 | 109.68 |
| | | | | Comparable transaction EBITDA multiples | 6.7 - 17.1x | 8.0x |
| | | | | Comparable security yield | 6.00% | |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 15 | 5 | Income approach | Projected maturity date | Sep 2014 - Oct 2035 | |
| | | | | Repayment at maturity | 42 - 100% | 91.2% |
| | | | | Discount rate | 7.0 - 15.0% | 9.2% |
| | | | | Projected LIBOR rate | 0.31% | |
| | 1 | 1 | Market approach | Non-binding broker quote | 11.5 | |
| Common stock | 15 | 4 | Market approach | Comparable transaction EBITDA multiples | 6.7 - 17.1x | 8.0x |
| | | | | Discount for lack of marketability | 5 - 30% | 30% |
| Total Level 3 assets – Exchange | \$74 | 18 | | | | |
| Total Level 3 assets – Erie Insurance Group | \$78 | 21 | | | | |

Securities valued using unobservable inputs shown above totaled \$78 million at December 31, 2012. Other investments representing certain limited partnerships recorded at fair value of \$128 million are also included in Level 3 within our consolidated fair value measurements. These values are based upon net asset value (NAV) information provided by the general partner. In total, Level 3 assets represent less than 1.8% of the assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis for the Erie Insurance Group.

Collateralized-debt-obligation securities – The unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of certain collateralized-debt-obligation securities are the repayment at maturity of underlying collateral available to pay note holders, the projected maturity of the underlying security, an expectation that the London Inter-Bank Offer Rates (“LIBOR”) do not change until maturity and a discount rate appropriate for the security. Significant changes in any of those inputs in isolation would result in a significantly higher or lower fair value measurement. Generally, a change in the assumption used for the performance of the underlying collateral is accompanied by an opposite change in the maturity and a directionally opposite change in the discount rate used to value the security. LIBOR assumptions are independent of collateral performance.

Corporate debt securities and Other debt securities – The unobservable input used in the fair value measurement of certain corporate debt securities and other debt securities is the likelihood of repayment by the underlying entity when there is no market for trading these securities. When available, we obtain non-binding broker quotes to value such securities.

Common stock investments and Corporate debt securities – The unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of direct private equity common stock investments and certain corporate debt securities are comparable private transaction earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (“EBITDA”) multiples, the average EBITDA multiple for comparable publicly traded companies and the amount of discount applied to the price due to the illiquidity of the securities being valued. Significant changes in any of those inputs in isolation could result in a significantly higher or lower fair value measurement.

Table of Contents

The following table represents our consolidated fair value measurements on a recurring basis by asset class and level of input at December 31, 2011:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2011 Fair value measurements using: | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Total | Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets Level 1 | Observable inputs Level 2 | Unobservable inputs Level 3 |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$221 | \$0 | \$221 | \$0 |
| Corporate debt securities | 303 | 0 | 303 | 0 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Other debt securities | 7 | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| Total fixed maturities | 548 | 0 | 544 | 4 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 25 | 10 | 15 | 0 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 573 | 10 | 559 | 4 |
| Trading securities: | | | | |
| Common stock | 27 | 27 | 0 | 0 |
| Total trading securities | 27 | 27 | 0 | 0 |
| Other investments ⁽¹⁾ | 17 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| Total – Indemnity | \$617 | \$37 | \$559 | \$21 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| U.S. government & agencies | \$17 | \$6 | \$11 | \$0 |
| States & political subdivisions | 1,379 | 0 | 1,375 | 4 |
| Foreign government securities | 15 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Corporate debt securities | 5,499 | 20 | 5,467 | 12 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 189 | 0 | 189 | 0 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 66 | 0 | 66 | 0 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 65 | 0 | 36 | 29 |
| Other debt securities | 62 | 0 | 57 | 5 |
| Total fixed maturities | 7,292 | 26 | 7,216 | 50 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 564 | 188 | 371 | 5 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 7,856 | 214 | 7,587 | 55 |
| Trading securities: | | | | |
| Common stock | 2,308 | 2,296 | 0 | 12 |
| Total trading securities | 2,308 | 2,296 | 0 | 12 |
| Other investments ⁽¹⁾ | 102 | 0 | 0 | 102 |
| Total – Exchange | \$10,266 | \$2,510 | \$7,587 | \$169 |
| Total – Erie Insurance Group | \$10,883 | \$2,547 | \$8,146 | \$190 |

(1) Other investments measured at fair value represent four real estate funds included on the balance sheet as limited partnership investments that are reported under the fair value option. Prior to 2012, these investments were

presented with our limited partnerships reported under the equity method of accounting and therefore were not included in our fair value measurements table. This table has been adjusted to reflect the appropriate fair value of these assets at December 31, 2011. These investments can never be redeemed with the funds. Instead, distributions are received when liquidation of the underlying assets of the funds occur. It is estimated that the underlying assets will generally be liquidated between 5 and 10 years from the inception of the funds. The fair value of these investments is based on the net asset value (NAV) information provided by the general partner. Fair value is based on our proportionate share of the NAV based on the most recent partners' capital statements received from the general partners, which is generally one quarter prior to our balance sheet date. These values are then analyzed to determine if they represent the NAV at our balance sheet date, with adjustment being made where appropriate. We consider observable market data and perform a review validating the appropriateness of the NAV at each balance sheet date. It is likely that all of the investments will be redeemed at a future date for an amount different than the NAV of our ownership interest in partners' capital as of December 31, 2011. During the year ended December 31, 2011, Indemnity made contributions totaling \$1.0 million and received distributions totaling \$0.2 million, and the Exchange made contributions totaling \$11.5 million and received distributions totaling \$2.5 million for these investments. As of December 31, 2011, the amount of unfunded commitments related to the investments was \$1.7 million for Indemnity and \$5.2 million for the Exchange.

Table of Contents

Level 3 Assets – Quarterly Change:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | | | Ending balance at December 31, 2011 |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------|--------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | Beginning balance at September 30, 2011 | Included in earnings ⁽¹⁾ | Included in other comprehensive income | Purchases | Sales | Transfers in and (out) of Level 3 ⁽²⁾ | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | \$4 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$4 |
| Total fixed maturities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Other investments ⁽³⁾ | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Indemnity | \$21 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$21 |
| Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$4 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$4 |
| Corporate debt securities | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 29 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| Other debt securities | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Total fixed maturities | 50 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 50 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 6 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 56 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 55 |
| Trading securities: | | | | | | | |
| Common stock | 13 | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Total trading securities | 13 | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Other investments ⁽³⁾ | 96 | 6 | 0 | 1 | (1) | 0 | 102 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Exchange | \$165 | \$5 | \$ (1) | \$ 1 | \$ (1) | \$ 0 | \$169 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Erie Insurance Group | \$186 | \$5 | \$ (1) | \$ 1 | \$ (1) | \$ 0 | \$190 |

(1) These amounts are reported in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. There is \$(1) million included in net realized investment gains (losses), \$0 million included in net investment income and \$6 million included in equity in earnings of limited partnerships for the three months ended December 31, 2011 on Level 3 investments.

(2) Transfers in and out of Level 3 are attributable to changes in the availability of market observable information for individual investments within the respective categories. Transfers in and out of levels are recognized at the start of the period.

(3) The other investments reported as Level 3 assets represent four real estate funds which were previously presented with our limited partnerships reported under the equity method of accounting and therefore were not included in our fair value measurements table. This table has been adjusted to reflect the appropriate fair value of these assets during the fourth quarter of 2011.

There were no transfers between Levels 1 and 2 for the three months ended December 31, 2011.

92

Table of Contents

Level 3 Assets – Year-to-Date Change:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | | Transfers in and (out) of Level 3 ⁽²⁾ | Ending balance at December 31, 2011 |
|--|---|--|---|-----------|-------|--|--|
| | Beginning balance at December 31, 2010 | Included in earnings (¹) | Included in other comprehensive income | Purchases | Sales | | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | \$4 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$4 |
| Total fixed maturities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Other investments ⁽³⁾ | 16 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Indemnity | \$20 | \$0 | \$0 | \$1 | \$0 | \$0 | \$21 |
| Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$4 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$4 |
| Corporate debt securities | 11 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 30 | 0 | (1) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| Other debt securities | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | (5) | 0 | 5 |
| Total fixed maturities | 55 | 0 | (1) | 1 | (5) | 0 | 50 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 7 | 0 | (2) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 62 | 0 | (3) | 1 | (5) | 0 | 55 |
| Trading securities: | | | | | | | |
| Common stock | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Total trading securities | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| Other investments ⁽³⁾ | 77 | 16 | 0 | 11 | (2) | 0 | 102 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Exchange | \$151 | \$16 | \$(3) | \$12 | \$(7) | \$0 | \$169 |
| Total Level 3 assets – Erie Insurance Group | \$171 | \$16 | \$(3) | \$13 | \$(7) | \$0 | \$190 |

(1) These amounts are reported in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. There is \$0 million included in net realized investment gains (losses), \$0 million included in net investment income and \$16 million included in equity in earnings of limited partnerships for the year ended December 31, 2011 on Level 3 securities.

(2) Transfers in and out of Level 3 are attributable to changes in the availability of market observable information for individual investments within the respective categories. Transfers in and out of levels are recognized at the end of the period.

(3) The other investments reported as Level 3 assets represent four real estate funds which were previously presented with our limited partnerships reported under the equity method of accounting and therefore were not included in our fair value measurements table. This table has been adjusted to reflect the appropriate fair value of these assets during 2011.

There were no transfers between Levels 1 and 2 for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth our consolidated fair value measurements on a recurring basis by pricing source at December 31, 2012:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | | | |
|--|---|---------|---------|---------|
| | Total | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Fixed maturities: | | | | |
| Priced via pricing services | \$434 | \$0 | \$434 | \$0 |
| Priced via market comparables/non-binding broker quotes ⁽¹⁾ | 15 | 0 | 14 | 1 |
| Priced via unobservable inputs | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Total fixed maturities | 452 | 0 | 448 | 4 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock: | | | | |
| Priced via pricing services | 27 | 4 | 23 | 0 |
| Priced via market comparables/non-binding broker quotes ⁽¹⁾ | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Priced via unobservable inputs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total nonredeemable preferred stock | 29 | 4 | 25 | 0 |
| Common stock: | | | | |
| Priced via pricing services | 26 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| Priced via market comparables/non-binding broker quotes ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Priced via unobservable inputs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total common stock | 26 | 26 | 0 | 0 |
| Other investments: | | | | |
| Priced via unobservable inputs ⁽²⁾ | 19 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Total other investments | 19 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| Total – Indemnity | \$526 | \$30 | \$473 | \$23 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Fixed maturities: | | | | |
| Priced via pricing services | \$7,517 | \$0 | \$7,517 | \$0 |
| Priced via market comparables/non-binding broker quotes ⁽¹⁾ | 165 | 0 | 131 | 34 |
| Priced via unobservable inputs | 25 | 0 | 0 | 25 |
| Total fixed maturities | 7,707 | 0 | 7,648 | 59 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock: | | | | |
| Priced via pricing services | 591 | 199 | 392 | 0 |
| Priced via market comparables/non-binding broker quotes ⁽¹⁾ | 40 | 0 | 40 | 0 |
| Priced via unobservable inputs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total nonredeemable preferred stock | 631 | 199 | 432 | 0 |
| Common stock: | | | | |
| Priced via pricing services | 2,716 | 2,716 | 0 | 0 |
| Priced via market comparables/non-binding broker quotes ⁽¹⁾ | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Priced via unobservable inputs | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Total common stock | 2,731 | 2,716 | 0 | 15 |
| Other investments: | | | | |
| Priced via unobservable inputs ⁽²⁾ | 109 | 0 | 0 | 109 |
| Total other investments | 109 | 0 | 0 | 109 |
| Total – Exchange | \$11,178 | \$2,915 | \$8,080 | \$183 |
| Total – Erie Insurance Group | \$11,704 | \$2,945 | \$8,553 | \$206 |

(1) All broker quotes obtained for securities were non-binding. When a non-binding broker quote was the only price available, the security was classified as Level 3.

Other investments measured at fair value represent four real estate funds included on the balance sheet as limited (2) partnership investments that are reported under the fair value option. The fair value of these investments is based on the net asset value (NAV) information provided by the general partner.

There were no assets measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis during the year ended December 31, 2012.

94

Table of Contents

Note 7. Investments

The following table summarizes the cost and fair value of our available-for-sale securities at December 31, 2012:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | | | Estimated fair value |
|--|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Amortized cost | Gross unrealized gains | Gross unrealized losses | |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$ 172 | \$ 13 | \$ 0 | \$ 185 |
| Corporate debt securities | 259 | 2 | 0 | 261 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Total fixed maturities | 437 | 15 | 0 | 452 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 28 | 2 | 1 | 29 |
| Common stock | 26 | 0 | 0 | 26 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Indemnity | \$ 491 | \$ 17 | \$ 1 | \$ 507 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| U.S. government & agencies | \$ 190 | \$ 2 | \$ 1 | \$ 191 |
| States & political subdivisions | 1,218 | 103 | 0 | 1,321 |
| Foreign government securities | 15 | 1 | 0 | 16 |
| Corporate debt securities | 5,211 | 569 | 3 | 5,777 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 226 | 6 | 1 | 231 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 62 | 5 | 0 | 67 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 43 | 6 | 0 | 49 |
| Other debt securities | 51 | 4 | 0 | 55 |
| Total fixed maturities | 7,016 | 696 | 5 | 7,707 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 555 | 77 | 1 | 631 |
| Common stock | 316 | 0 | 2 | 314 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Exchange | \$ 7,887 | \$ 773 | \$ 8 | \$ 8,652 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Erie Insurance Group | \$ 8,378 | \$ 790 | \$ 9 | \$ 9,159 |

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes the cost and fair value of our available-for-sale securities at December 31, 2011:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2011 | | | Estimated fair value |
|--|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Amortized cost | Gross unrealized gains | Gross unrealized losses | |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$208 | \$13 | \$0 | \$221 |
| Corporate debt securities | 303 | 1 | 1 | 303 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 13 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Other debt securities | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Total fixed maturities | 535 | 14 | 1 | 548 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 24 | 1 | 0 | 25 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Indemnity | \$559 | \$15 | \$1 | \$573 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | |
| U.S. government & agencies | \$16 | \$1 | \$0 | \$17 |
| States & political subdivisions | 1,289 | 91 | 1 | 1,379 |
| Foreign government securities | 15 | 0 | 0 | 15 |
| Corporate debt securities | 5,144 | 386 | 31 | 5,499 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 178 | 11 | 0 | 189 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 62 | 4 | 0 | 66 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 66 | 4 | 5 | 65 |
| Other debt securities | 59 | 3 | 0 | 62 |
| Total fixed maturities | 6,829 | 500 | 37 | 7,292 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 531 | 45 | 12 | 564 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Exchange | \$7,360 | \$545 | \$49 | \$7,856 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Erie Insurance Group | \$7,919 | \$560 | \$50 | \$8,429 |

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of fixed maturities at December 31, 2012, are shown below by remaining contractual term to maturity. Mortgage-backed securities are allocated based upon their stated maturity dates. Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| | Amortized cost | Estimated fair value |
| Indemnity | | |
| Due in one year or less | \$116 | \$116 |
| Due after one year through five years | 222 | 227 |
| Due after five years through ten years | 38 | 41 |
| Due after ten years | 61 | 68 |
| Total fixed maturities – Indemnity | \$437 | \$452 |
| Exchange | | |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Due in one year or less | \$512 | \$524 |
| Due after one year through five years | 2,302 | 2,486 |
| Due after five years through ten years | 2,816 | 3,161 |
| Due after ten years | 1,386 | 1,536 |
| Total fixed maturities – Exchange | \$7,016 | \$7,707 |
| Total fixed maturities – Erie Insurance Group | \$7,453 | \$8,159 |

Table of Contents

Available-for-sale securities in a gross unrealized loss position at December 31, 2012 are as follows. Data is provided by length of time for securities in a gross unrealized loss position.

| (dollars in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | Less than 12 months | | 12 months or longer | | Total | | No. of holdings |
| | Fair value | Unrealized losses | Fair value | Unrealized losses | Fair value | Unrealized losses | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| Corporate debt securities | \$59 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$59 | \$0 | 12 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Total fixed maturities – Indemnity | 59 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 62 | 0 | 13 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 7 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 4 |
| Common stock | 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 0 | 2 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Indemnity | \$92 | \$0 | \$6 | \$1 | \$98 | \$1 | 19 |
| Quality breakdown of fixed maturities: | | | | | | | |
| Investment grade | \$55 | \$0 | \$3 | \$0 | \$58 | \$0 | 12 |
| Non-investment grade | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 |
| Total fixed maturities – Indemnity | \$59 | \$0 | \$3 | \$0 | \$62 | \$0 | 13 |
| Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| U.S. government & agencies | \$80 | \$1 | \$0 | \$0 | \$80 | \$1 | 7 |
| States & political subdivisions | 23 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 23 | 0 | 11 |
| Corporate debt securities | 152 | 3 | 9 | 0 | 161 | 3 | 31 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 56 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 56 | 1 | 9 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 0 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 1 |
| Other debt securities | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 2 |
| Total fixed maturities – Exchange | 316 | 5 | 30 | 0 | 346 | 5 | 61 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 64 | 0 | 18 | 1 | 82 | 1 | 13 |
| Common stock | 314 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 314 | 2 | 3 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Exchange | \$694 | \$7 | \$48 | \$1 | \$742 | \$8 | 77 |
| Quality breakdown of fixed maturities: | | | | | | | |
| Investment grade | \$296 | \$4 | \$24 | \$0 | \$320 | \$4 | 53 |
| Non-investment grade | 20 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 26 | 1 | 8 |
| Total fixed maturities – Exchange | \$316 | \$5 | \$30 | \$0 | \$346 | \$5 | 61 |

The above securities for Indemnity and the Exchange have been evaluated and determined to be temporary impairments for which we expect to recover our entire principal plus interest. The primary components of this analysis include a general review of market conditions and financial performance of the issuer along with the extent and duration at which fair value is less than cost. Any debt securities that we intend to sell or will more likely than not be required to sell before recovery are included in other-than-temporary impairments with the impairment charges recognized in earnings.

Table of Contents

Available-for-sale securities in a gross unrealized loss position at December 31, 2011 are as follows. Data is provided by length of time for securities in a gross unrealized loss position.

| (dollars in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2011 | | | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | Less than 12 months | | 12 months or longer | | Total | | No. of holdings |
| | Fair value | Unrealized losses | Fair value | Unrealized losses | Fair value | Unrealized losses | |
| Indemnity | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| Corporate debt securities | \$220 | \$1 | \$0 | \$0 | \$220 | \$1 | 41 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 4 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 3 |
| Other debt securities | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 |
| Total fixed maturities – Indemnity | 229 | 1 | 11 | 0 | 240 | 1 | 46 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 4 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 3 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Indemnity | \$233 | \$1 | \$14 | \$0 | \$247 | \$1 | 49 |
| Quality breakdown of fixed maturities: | | | | | | | |
| Investment grade | \$229 | \$1 | \$11 | \$0 | \$240 | \$1 | 46 |
| Non-investment grade | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total fixed maturities – Indemnity | \$229 | \$1 | \$11 | \$0 | \$240 | \$1 | 46 |
| Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | | | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$7 | \$0 | \$6 | \$1 | \$13 | \$1 | 3 |
| Corporate debt securities | 635 | 27 | 50 | 4 | 685 | 31 | 108 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 4 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 0 | 0 | 32 | 5 | 32 | 5 | 6 |
| Other debt securities | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 2 |
| Total fixed maturities – Exchange | 663 | 27 | 88 | 10 | 751 | 37 | 124 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 168 | 11 | 34 | 1 | 202 | 12 | 27 |
| Total available-for-sale securities – Exchange | \$831 | \$38 | \$122 | \$11 | \$953 | \$49 | 151 |
| Quality breakdown of fixed maturities: | | | | | | | |
| Investment grade | \$625 | \$26 | \$79 | \$9 | \$704 | \$35 | 109 |
| Non-investment grade | 38 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 47 | 2 | 15 |
| Total fixed maturities – Exchange | \$663 | \$27 | \$88 | \$10 | \$751 | \$37 | 124 |

The above securities for Indemnity and the Exchange have been evaluated and determined to be temporary impairments for which we expect to recover our entire principal plus interest. The primary components of this analysis include a general review of market conditions and financial performance of the issuer along with the extent and duration at which fair value is less than cost. Any debt securities that we intend to sell or will more likely than not be required to sell before recovery are included in other-than-temporary impairments with the impairment charges recognized in earnings.

Table of Contents

Interest and dividend income are recognized as earned and recorded to net investment income. Investment income, net of expenses, was generated from the following portfolios:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$13 | \$14 | \$33 |
| Equity securities | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Cash equivalents and other | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total investment income | 17 | 17 | 38 |
| Less: investment expenses | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Investment income, net of expenses – Indemnity | \$16 | \$16 | \$37 |
| Exchange | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$350 | \$364 | \$350 |
| Equity securities | 102 | 86 | 72 |
| Cash equivalents and other | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Total investment income | 454 | 450 | 424 |
| Less: investment expenses | 32 | 33 | 28 |
| Investment income, net of expenses – Exchange | \$422 | \$417 | \$396 |
| Investment income, net of expenses – Erie Insurance Group | \$438 | \$433 | \$433 |

Indemnity's net investment income decreased by \$21 million in 2011, compared to 2010, while the Exchange's net investment income increased by \$21 million during the same period. These changes were primarily caused by the sale of the EIC, ENY and EPC from Indemnity to the Exchange on December 31, 2010.

Table of Contents

Realized gains (losses) on investments were as follows:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group Years ended December 31, | | |
|---|--|--------|--------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | |
| Fixed maturities: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | \$0 | \$2 | \$6 |
| Gross realized losses | 0 | 0 | (1) |
| Net realized gains | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| Equity securities: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Gross realized losses | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net realized gains | 0 | 3 | 1 |
| Trading securities: | | | |
| Common stock: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 9 | 2 | 6 |
| Gross realized losses | (1) | (1) | (1) |
| Valuation adjustments | (3) | (3) | 0 |
| Net realized gains (losses) | 5 | (2) | 5 |
| Limited partnerships: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gross realized losses | 0 | 0 | (12) |
| Net realized (losses) | 0 | 0 | (12) |
| Net realized investment gains (losses) – Indemnity | \$5 | \$3 | \$(1) |
| Exchange | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | |
| Fixed maturities: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | \$78 | \$77 | \$49 |
| Gross realized losses | (20) | (29) | (24) |
| Net realized gains | 58 | 48 | 25 |
| Equity securities: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 17 | 28 | 14 |
| Gross realized losses | (8) | (1) | (3) |
| Net realized gains | 9 | 27 | 11 |
| Trading securities: | | | |
| Common stock: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 213 | 271 | 205 |
| Gross realized losses | (88) | (106) | (135) |
| Valuation adjustments | 221 | (247) | 254 |
| Net realized gains (losses) | 346 | (82) | 324 |
| Limited partnerships: | | | |
| Gross realized gains | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gross realized losses | 0 | 0 | (46) |
| Net realized (losses) | 0 | 0 | (46) |
| Net realized investment gains (losses) – Exchange | \$413 | \$(7) | \$314 |
| Net realized investment gains (losses) – Erie Insurance Group | \$418 | \$(4) | \$313 |

In 2010, Indemnity sold its interest in nine limited partnerships and the Exchange sold its interest in eleven limited partnerships, which generated net realized losses. These partnerships were sold to recapture tax paid on previous period capital gains that were due to expire. There were no sales of limited partnerships in 2012 or 2011.

100

Table of Contents

The components of other-than-temporary impairments on investments are included below:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| | Years ended December 31 | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$0 | \$0 | \$(1) |
| Equity securities | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total other-than-temporary impairments | 0 | 0 | (1) |
| Portion recognized in other comprehensive income | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings – Indemnity | \$0 | \$0 | \$(1) |
| Exchange | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$0 | \$0 | \$(4) |
| Equity securities | 0 | (2) | (1) |
| Total other-than-temporary impairments | 0 | (2) | (5) |
| Portion recognized in other comprehensive income | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings – Exchange | \$0 | \$(2) | \$(5) |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings – Erie Insurance Group | \$0 | \$(2) | \$(6) |

In considering if fixed maturity securities were credit-impaired, some of the factors considered include: potential for the default of interest and/or principal, level of subordination, collateral of the issue, compliance with financial covenants, credit ratings and industry conditions. We have the intent to sell all credit-impaired fixed maturity securities, therefore the entire amount of the impairment charges were included in earnings and no non-credit impairments were recognized in other comprehensive income. See also Note 2, “Significant Accounting Policies.”

Limited partnerships

Limited partnership investments, excluding certain real estate limited partnerships recorded at fair value, are generally reported on a one-quarter lag, therefore our year-to-date limited partnership results through December 31, 2012 are comprised of partnership financial results for the fourth quarter of 2011 and the first, second and third quarters of 2012. Given the lag in reporting, our limited partnership results do not reflect the market conditions of the fourth quarter of 2012. Cash contributions made to and distributions received from the partnerships are recorded in the period in which the transaction occurs.

We have provided summarized financial information in the following table for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011. Amounts provided in the table are presented using the latest available financial statements received from the partnerships. Limited partnership financial information has been presented based upon the investment percentage in the partnerships for the Erie Insurance Group consistent with how management evaluates the investments.

Table of Contents

As these investments are generally reported on a one-quarter lag, our limited partnership results through December 31, 2012 include partnership financial results for the fourth quarter of 2011 and the first three quarters of 2012.

| (dollars in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---|------------------------|
| | As of and for the year ended December 31, 2012 | | | |
| Investment percentage in limited partnerships | Number of partnerships | Asset recorded | Income (loss) recognized due to valuation adjustments by the partnerships | Income (loss) recorded |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Private equity: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 26 | \$60 | \$(3) | \$6 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 13 | 4 | 0 |
| Greater than 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total private equity | 29 | 73 | 1 | 6 |
| Mezzanine debt: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 11 | 18 | (2) | 5 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 9 | 0 | 2 |
| Greater than 50% | 1 | 0 | 1 | (1) |
| Total mezzanine debt | 15 | 27 | (1) | 6 |
| Real estate: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 12 | 55 | 4 | (3) |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 16 | (1) | 1 |
| Greater than 50% | 3 | 9 | 2 | 0 |
| Total real estate | 18 | 80 | 5 | (2) |
| Total limited partnerships – Indemnity | 62 | \$180 | \$5 | \$10 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Private equity: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 42 | \$424 | \$22 | \$24 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 58 | 16 | (1) |
| Greater than 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total private equity | 45 | 482 | 38 | 23 |
| Mezzanine debt: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 18 | 132 | (5) | 29 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 4 | 27 | 1 | 4 |
| Greater than 50% | 3 | 37 | (2) | 5 |
| Total mezzanine debt | 25 | 196 | (6) | 38 |
| Real estate: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 22 | 274 | (7) | 26 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 5 | 52 | (4) | 3 |
| Greater than 50% | 3 | 33 | 6 | (1) |
| Total real estate | 30 | 359 | (5) | 28 |
| Total limited partnerships – Exchange | 100 | \$1,037 | \$27 | \$89 |
| Total limited partnerships – Erie Insurance Group | | \$1,217 | \$32 | \$99 |

Per the limited partnership financial statements, total partnership assets were \$53 billion and total partnership liabilities were \$6 billion at December 31, 2012 (as recorded in the September 30, 2012 limited partnership financial statements). For the twelve month period comparable to that presented in the preceding table (fourth quarter of 2011 and first three quarters of 2012), total partnership valuation adjustment gains were \$2 billion and total partnership net income was \$5 billion.

102

Table of Contents

As these investments are generally reported on a one-quarter lag, our limited partnership results through December 31, 2011 include partnership financial results for the fourth quarter of 2010 and the first three quarters of 2011.

| (dollars in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---|------------------------|
| | As of and for the year ended December 31, 2011 | | | |
| | Number of partnerships | Asset recorded | Income (loss) recognized due to valuation adjustments by the partnerships | Income (loss) recorded |
| Investment percentage in limited partnerships | | | | |
| Indemnity | | | | |
| Private equity: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 26 | \$73 | \$2 | \$5 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 9 | 0 | 3 |
| Greater than 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total private equity | 29 | 82 | 2 | 8 |
| Mezzanine debt: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 11 | 22 | 0 | 6 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 12 | 1 | 1 |
| Greater than 50% | 1 | 1 | (1) | 0 |
| Total mezzanine debt | 15 | 35 | 0 | 7 |
| Real estate: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 12 | 62 | 5 | (1) |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 18 | 1 | 0 |
| Greater than 50% | 3 | 11 | 3 | 1 |
| Total real estate | 18 | 91 | 9 | 0 |
| Total limited partnerships – Indemnity | 62 | \$208 | \$11 | \$15 |
| Exchange | | | | |
| Private equity: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 41 | \$452 | \$13 | \$30 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 43 | (1) | 12 |
| Greater than 50% | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total private equity | 44 | 495 | 12 | 42 |
| Mezzanine debt: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 17 | 133 | (9) | 26 |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 3 | 33 | 3 | 3 |
| Greater than 50% | 3 | 35 | (2) | 3 |
| Total mezzanine debt | 23 | 201 | (8) | 32 |
| Real estate: | | | | |
| Less than 10% | 25 | 284 | 31 | (1) |
| Greater than or equal to 10% but less than 50% | 5 | 59 | 3 | 0 |
| Greater than 50% | 3 | 43 | 2 | 10 |
| Total real estate | 33 | 386 | 36 | 9 |
| Total limited partnerships – Exchange | 100 | \$1,082 | \$40 | \$83 |
| Total limited partnerships – Erie Insurance Group | | \$1,290 | \$51 | \$98 |

Per the limited partnership financial statements, total partnership assets were \$54 billion and total partnership liabilities were \$6 billion at December 31, 2011 (as recorded in the September 30, 2011 limited partnership financial statements). For the twelve month period comparable to that presented in the preceding table (fourth quarter of 2010 and first three quarters of 2011), total partnership valuation adjustment gains were \$2 billion and total partnership net income was \$3 billion.

See also Note 20, "Commitments and Contingencies," for investment commitments related to limited partnerships.

103

Table of Contents

Note 8. Goodwill Impairment

Goodwill is reviewed for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events occur or circumstances change that would indicate that a triggering event has occurred. Goodwill impairment testing follows a two step process. In the first step, the fair value of a reporting unit is compared to its carrying value. If the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value, the second step of the impairment test is performed for purposes of measuring the impairment.

Prior to December 31, 2010, the Exchange had \$22 million of goodwill attributable to its purchase of EFL stock in 2006. In the fourth quarter of 2010, the Exchange entered into an agreement to purchase Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL and a valuation of EFL was performed by an external independent third party in preparation for the sale, which occurred on March 31, 2011. The valuation resulted in a purchase price determination of 95% of book value. In response to the valuation and sale price, management concluded that the possibility for impairment existed and step two of the goodwill impairment test was completed to determine the impairment amount. Step two of the impairment test compared the value of new business for EFL to the current goodwill balance. The analysis determined that the value of EFL's new business did not support the \$22 million goodwill, and an impairment entry was made to write down the entire balance at December 31, 2010. The charge of \$22 million decreased the net income attributable to the Exchange in 2010.

Note 9. Capitalized Software Development Costs

We capitalize computer software costs developed or obtained for internal use. Capitalized costs include internal and external labor and overhead, all of which are attributable to Indemnity. Capitalization ceases and amortization begins no later than the point at which a computer software project is complete and ready for its intended use. Capitalized software costs are amortized over the estimated useful life of the software.

The following table outlines the total capitalized software development costs subject to amortization and the related amortization expense:

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Gross carrying amount | \$54 | \$43 | \$32 |
| Accumulated amortization | (11 |) (5 |) (1 |
| Net carrying amount | \$43 | \$38 | \$31 |
| Amortization expense | \$6 | \$4 | \$1 |

The following table outlines the estimated future amortization expense related to capitalized software development costs as of December 31, 2012:

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Estimated amortization expense |
| Year ending December 31, 2013 | \$7 |
| 2014 | 7 |
| 2015 | 8 |
| 2016 | 8 |

2017

7

We anticipate incurring additional costs related to our software development initiatives. These costs are unknown at this time and therefore are not considered in the table above.

104

Table of Contents

Note 10. Bank Line of Credit

As of December 31, 2012, Indemnity has available a \$100 million bank revolving line of credit that expires on November 3, 2016. There were no borrowings outstanding on the line of credit as of December 31, 2012. Bonds with a fair value of \$108 million were pledged as collateral on the line at December 31, 2012.

As of December 31, 2012, the Exchange has available a \$300 million bank revolving line of credit that expires on October 28, 2016. There were no borrowings outstanding on the line of credit as of December 31, 2012. Bonds with a fair value of \$323 million were pledged as collateral on the line at December 31, 2012.

Securities pledged as collateral on both lines have no trading restrictions and are reported as available-for-sale fixed maturities in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as of December 31, 2012. The banks require compliance with certain covenants, which include minimum net worth and leverage ratios for Indemnity's line of credit and statutory surplus and risk based capital ratios for the Exchange's line of credit. We are in compliance with all covenants at December 31, 2012.

Note 11. Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes consists of the following for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|----------------------|------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Current income tax expense | \$84 | \$85 | \$37 |
| Deferred income tax (benefit) expense | (3 |) 0 | 67 |
| Total provision for income taxes – Indemnity | 81 | 85 | 104 |
| Exchange | | | |
| Current income tax expense (benefit) | 78 | 110 | (43 |
| Deferred income tax expense (benefit) | 121 | (105 |) 278 |
| Total provision for income taxes – Exchange | 199 | 5 | 235 |
| Total provision for income taxes – Erie Insurance Group | \$280 | \$90 | \$339 |

The deferred income tax expense in 2012 was primarily driven by unrealized gains on investments. The deferred income tax benefit in 2011 was primarily driven by unrealized losses on common stock. The deferred income tax expense in 2010 was primarily driven by the sale of previously impaired investments and unrealized gains on common stock and limited partnerships. In addition, the deferred tax liability recorded for Indemnity's investment in EFL increased by \$18 million in 2010 as a result of a change in the tax rate used to calculate the liability. This deferred tax charge was required due to Indemnity's decision to sell its 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, rather than receiving its share of EFL's earnings in the form of future dividends, which would have been eligible for an 80% dividends received deduction.

Table of Contents

A reconciliation of the provision for income taxes, with amounts determined by applying the statutory federal income tax rates to pre-tax income, is as follows for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|----------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Income tax at statutory rates | \$84 | \$89 | \$93 |
| Tax-exempt interest | (2 |) (3 |) (3 |
| Dividends received deduction | (1 |) (1 |) (1 |
| Deferred tax valuation allowance | 0 | 0 | (2 |
| Erie Family Life earnings (losses) (1) | 0 | (1 |) 15 |
| Other, net | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Provision for income taxes – Indemnity | 81 | 85 | 104 |
| Exchange | | | |
| Income tax at statutory rates | 230 | 37 | 259 |
| Tax-exempt interest | (13 |) (15 |) (16 |
| Dividends received deduction | (14 |) (13 |) (11 |
| Deferred tax valuation allowance | 0 | 0 | (4 |
| Goodwill impairments | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Return to provision adjustments | (3 |) (5 |) 0 |
| Other, net | (1 |) 1 | (1 |
| Provision for income taxes – Exchange | 199 | 5 | 235 |
| Provision for income taxes – Erie Insurance Group | \$280 | \$90 | \$339 |

(1) In 2010 Indemnity's tax rate on its share of EFL earnings was adjusted from 7% to 35% due to Indemnity's decision to sell its 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange, which closed on March 31, 2011, rather than receiving its share of EFL's earnings in the form of future dividends, which would have been eligible for an 80% dividends received deduction.

Temporary differences and carry-forwards, which give rise to consolidated deferred tax assets and liabilities, are as follows for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|--|----------------------|------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Indemnity | | |
| Deferred tax assets: | | |
| Net allowance for service fees and premium cancellations | \$3 | \$3 |
| Other employee benefits | 9 | 9 |
| Pension and other postretirement benefits | 65 | 45 |
| Other | 3 | 1 |
| Total deferred tax assets | 80 | 58 |
| Deferred tax liabilities: | | |
| Unrealized gains on investments | 6 | 6 |
| Limited partnerships | 13 | 10 |
| Depreciation | 15 | 13 |
| Prepaid expenses | 5 | 7 |
| Capitalized internally developed software | 3 | 1 |
| Other | 1 | 2 |

| | | |
|---|------|------|
| Total deferred tax liabilities | 43 | 39 |
| Net deferred income tax asset – Indemnity | \$37 | \$19 |

106

Table of Contents

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group (continued) | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------|---|
| | 2012 | 2011 | |
| Exchange | | | |
| Deferred tax assets: | | | |
| Loss reserve discount | \$78 | \$81 | |
| Liability for future life and annuity policy benefits | 7 | 12 | |
| Unearned premiums | 179 | 165 | |
| Write-downs of impaired securities | 19 | 29 | |
| Other | 22 | 27 | |
| Total deferred tax assets | 305 | 314 | |
| Deferred tax liabilities: | | | |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs | 165 | 159 | |
| Unrealized gains on investments | 443 | 272 | |
| Limited partnerships | 43 | 12 | |
| Other | 19 | 18 | |
| Total deferred tax liabilities | 670 | 461 | |
| Net deferred tax liability – Exchange | \$(365 |) \$(147 |) |
| Net deferred income tax liability – Erie Insurance Group | \$(328 |) \$(128 |) |

Neither the Indemnity nor the Exchange had a valuation allowance recorded at December 31, 2012 or December 31, 2011.

In 2010, Indemnity generated taxable losses of \$38 million and the Exchange generated taxable losses of \$175 million on the sale of limited partnerships. These partnerships were sold to recapture tax paid on prior period capital gains that were due to expire. The unrealized losses on these partnerships were previously recorded as a deferred tax asset. Indemnity and the Exchange received \$13 million and \$61 million, respectively, in tax refunds on these transactions in 2011.

At December 31, 2011, we had one uncertain income tax position for which a current liability was recorded. As a related temporary tax difference was also recognized, there was no impact on our results of operations or financial position. We recognized interest related to this uncertain tax position in income tax expense. The issue was resolved during 2012, at which time the Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation No. 48 liability, the deferred tax asset and the accrued interest were reversed. During 2012 we determined there was a new uncertain income tax position for which a current liability was recorded. This item was permanent in nature and therefore, a charge of \$0.9 million was recorded in our results for the tax and associated interest expense. The IRS has examined tax filings through 2007 and is currently examining our federal income tax returns for 2008 and 2009. We currently estimate that our unrecognized tax benefits will not change significantly in the next 12 months.

Indemnity is the attorney-in-fact for the subscribers (policyholders) at the Exchange, a reciprocal insurance exchange. In that capacity, Indemnity provides all services and facilities necessary to conduct the Exchange's insurance business. Indemnity and the Exchange together constitute one insurance business. Indemnity is not subject to state corporation income or franchise taxes in states where the Exchange conducts its business, as a result of the Exchange's remittance of premium taxes in those states.

Table of Contents

Note 12. Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs

The following table summarizes the components of the Property and Casualty Group's and EFL's deferred policy acquisition costs assets for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|--|----------------------|--------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Property and Casualty Group | | |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs asset at beginning of year | \$ 343 | \$ 327 |
| Capitalized deferred policy acquisition costs | 726 | 684 |
| Amortized deferred policy acquisition costs | (705) | (668) |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs asset at end of year – Property and Casualty Group | \$ 364 | \$ 343 |
| Erie Family Life Insurance Company | | |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs asset at beginning of year | \$ 144 | \$ 140 |
| Capitalized deferred policy acquisition costs | 17 | 18 |
| Amortized deferred policy acquisition costs | (10) | (12) |
| Change in shadow deferred policy acquisition costs | (11) | (2) |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs asset at end of year – EFL | \$ 140 | \$ 144 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs asset at end of year – Erie Insurance Group | \$ 504 | \$ 487 |

Note 13. Property and Casualty Unpaid Losses and Loss Expenses

The following table provides a reconciliation of our property and casualty beginning and ending loss and loss expense reserve balances for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Property and Casualty Group | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at January 1, – Gross | \$3,499 | \$3,584 | \$3,598 |
| Less: reinsurance recoverable | 151 | 188 | 200 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at January 1, – Net | 3,348 | 3,396 | 3,398 |
| Incurred losses and loss expenses related to: | | | |
| Current accident year | 3,494 | 3,616 | 3,053 |
| Prior accident years | (115) | (272) | (244) |
| Total incurred losses and loss expenses | 3,379 | 3,344 | 2,809 |
| Paid losses and loss expenses related to: | | | |
| Current accident year | 2,166 | 2,360 | 1,855 |
| Prior accident years | 1,117 | 1,032 | 956 |
| Total paid losses and loss expenses | 3,283 | 3,392 | 2,811 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at December 31, – Net | 3,444 | 3,348 | 3,396 |
| Add: reinsurance recoverable | 154 | 151 | 188 |
| Losses and loss expense reserves at December 31, – Gross | \$3,598 | \$3,499 | \$3,584 |

Loss reserves are set at full expected cost, except for workers compensation loss reserves, which have been discounted using an interest rate of 2.5% for all periods presented. This discounting reduced unpaid losses and loss expenses by \$85 million, \$84 million and \$127 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The reserves for losses and loss expenses are reported net of receivables for salvage and subrogation, which totaled \$150 million, \$145 million and \$141 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

Favorable development on prior accident year direct loss reserves in 2012 was primarily the result of improved claims frequency and severity trends combined with the closing of several large claims in our homeowners, commercial multi-peril, and commercial auto lines of business, offset somewhat by adverse development in our workers compensation line of business as a result of increased severity trends. In 2011, the favorable development on prior accident year direct loss reserves was primarily the result of improvements in severity trends in our personal auto, workers compensation, commercial multi-peril and homeowners lines of business combined with the closing of several large claims. In 2010, the favorable development on prior accident year direct loss reserves was primarily the result of improvements in severity trends in the commercial multi-peril, personal auto and workers compensation lines of business, combined with the closing of several large claims.

108

Table of Contents

Note 14. Life Policy and Deposit Contract Reserves

The following table provides the components of our life policy and deposit contract liability balances for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Family Life Insurance Company | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Deferred annuities | \$1,136 | \$1,144 | \$1,117 |
| Ordinary/traditional life | 313 | 282 | 254 |
| Universal life | 242 | 228 | 214 |
| Other | 17 | 17 | 18 |
| Life policy and deposit contract reserves | \$1,708 | \$1,671 | \$1,603 |

The reinsurance credit related to life policy and deposit contract reserves was \$122 million, \$108 million and \$95 million at December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 respectively, and is presented in other assets in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position.

Note 15. Reinsurance

Members of the Property and Casualty Group participate in an intercompany reinsurance pooling agreement. Under the pooling agreement, all insurance business of the Property and Casualty Group is pooled in the Exchange. EIC and ENY share in the underwriting results of the reinsurance pool through retrocession. Since 1995, the Board of Directors has set the allocation of the pooled underwriting results at 5.0% participation for EIC, 0.5% participation for ENY and 94.5% participation for the Exchange. The purpose of the pooling agreement is to spread the risks of the members of the Property and Casualty Group collectively across the different lines of business they underwrite and geographic regions in which each operates. This agreement may be terminated by any party as of the end of any calendar year by providing not less than 365 days advance written notice. Intercompany pooling accounts are settled in cash within 30 days after the end of each quarterly accounting period. On December 31, 2010, Indemnity sold all of the outstanding capital stock of its wholly owned subsidiaries, EIC and ENY, to the Exchange. Under this structure, all property and casualty insurance operations are owned by the Exchange, and Indemnity functions solely as the management company. There was no impact on the existing reinsurance pooling agreement between the Exchange and EIC or ENY as a result of the sale.

Reinsurance contracts do not relieve the Property and Casualty Group or EFL from their primary obligations to policyholders. A contingent liability exists with respect to reinsurance recoverables in the event reinsurers are unable to meet their obligations under the reinsurance agreements.

The Property and Casualty Group maintains several property catastrophe reinsurance treaties with nonaffiliated reinsurers to mitigate future potential catastrophe loss exposures. During 2012, a first treaty provided coverage of up to 90% of a loss of \$500 million in excess of the Property and Casualty Group's loss retention of \$350 million per occurrence, a second treaty provided coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$275 million in excess of \$850 million, and a third treaty provided coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$25 million in excess of \$1.125 billion. The property catastrophe reinsurance treaties were renewed for 2013, with the first property catastrophe reinsurance treaty providing coverage of up to 90% of a loss of \$550 million in excess of the Property and Casualty Group's loss retention of \$350 million per occurrence, the second treaty providing coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$225 million in excess of \$900 million, and a third treaty providing coverage of up to 70% of a loss of \$25 million in excess of \$1.125 billion. There have been no losses subject to these treaties.

EFL maintains several reinsurance treaties with nonaffiliated life reinsurance companies in order to reduce claims volatility. EFL had direct life insurance in force totaling \$44 billion and \$42 billion at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. Of these amounts, EFL ceded \$22 billion and \$23 billion of life insurance in force at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the largest amount of in force life insurance ceded to one reinsurer totaled \$11 billion.

109

Table of Contents

The following tables summarize the direct insurance and reinsurance for our property and casualty and life insurance activities, respectively, for the years ended December 31:

(in millions)

| | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|----------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Property and casualty insurance: | | | |
| Premiums written: | | | |
| Direct | \$4,631 | \$4,271 | \$4,035 |
| Assumed | 21 | 21 | 19 |
| Ceded | (49 |) (37 |) (35 |
| Premiums written, net | 4,603 | 4,255 | 4,019 |
| Premiums earned: | | | |
| Direct | 4,449 | 4,164 | 3,939 |
| Assumed | 21 | 21 | 20 |
| Ceded | (48 |) (36 |) (34 |
| Premiums earned, net | 4,422 | 4,149 | 3,925 |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses: | | | |
| Direct | 3,382 | 3,311 | 2,834 |
| Assumed | 10 | 11 | (15 |
| Ceded | (13 |) 22 | (9 |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses, net | \$3,379 | \$3,344 | \$2,810 |
| Life insurance: | | | |
| Premiums earned: | | | |
| Direct | \$113 | \$108 | \$104 |
| Ceded | (42 |) (43 |) (42 |
| Premiums earned, net | 71 | 65 | 62 |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses: | | | |
| Direct | 120 | 120 | 102 |
| Ceded | (19 |) (20 |) (12 |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses, net | \$101 | \$100 | \$90 |
| Total: | | | |
| Premiums earned: | | | |
| Property and casualty | \$4,422 | \$4,149 | \$3,925 |
| Life | 71 | 65 | 62 |
| Premiums earned, net | 4,493 | 4,214 | 3,987 |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses: | | | |
| Property and casualty | 3,379 | 3,344 | 2,810 |
| Life | 101 | 100 | 90 |
| Insurance losses and loss expenses, net | \$3,480 | \$3,444 | \$2,900 |

110

Table of Contents

Note 16. Postretirement Benefits

Pension plans

Our pension plans consist of a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan covering substantially all employees and an unfunded supplemental employee retirement plan (“SERP”) for certain members of executive and senior management of the Erie Insurance Group. The pension plans provide benefits to covered individuals satisfying certain age and service requirements. The defined benefit pension plan and SERP each provide benefits through a final average earnings formula.

The liabilities for the plans described in this note are presented in total for all employees of the Erie Insurance Group. The gross liability for postretirement benefits is presented in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as part of other liabilities. Approximately 58% of postretirement benefit expenses are reimbursed to Indemnity from the Exchange and EFL, which represents pension benefits for Indemnity employees performing claims and life insurance functions. For our funded pension plan, amounts are settled in cash for the portion of pension costs allocated to the Exchange and EFL, respectively. For our unfunded plans, we pay the obligations when due and amounts are settled in cash between entities when there is a payout.

Cost of pension plans

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------|------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Cost of pension plans: | | | |
| Service cost for benefits earned | \$21 | \$17 | \$15 |
| Interest cost on benefit obligation | 24 | 23 | 21 |
| Expected return on plan assets | (27) | (27) | (25) |
| Prior service cost amortization | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Net actuarial loss amortization | 11 | 6 | 3 |
| Pension plan cost ⁽¹⁾ | \$30 | \$20 | \$15 |

⁽¹⁾ Pension plan costs represent the total cost for the Erie Insurance Group before reimbursements to Indemnity from the Exchange and EFL.

Actuarial assumptions

The following table describes the assumptions at December 31 used to measure the year-end benefit obligations and the net periodic benefit costs for the subsequent year:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|--|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 |
| Actuarial assumptions: | | | | |
| Employee pension plan: | | | | |
| Discount rate | 4.19 | % 4.99 | % 5.69 | % 6.11 |
| Expected return on assets | 7.50 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.25 |
| Compensation increases ⁽¹⁾ | 4.15 | 4.15 | 4.15 | 4.15 |
| SERP: | | | | |
| Discount rate – pre-retirement/post-retirement | 4.19/3.69 | 4.99/4.49 | 5.69/5.19 | 6.11/5.00 |
| Rate of compensation increase | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 6.00 |

⁽¹⁾ The rate of compensation increase for the employee plan is age-graded. An equivalent single compensation increase rate of 4.15% in 2012, 2011 and 2010 would produce similar results.

The two economic assumptions that have the most impact on the postretirement benefit expense are the discount rate and the long-term rate of return on plan assets. The discount rate assumption used to determine the benefit obligation for 2012 was based upon a yield curve developed from corporate bond yield information. The same methodology was employed to develop the discount rates used to determine the benefit obligation for 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The pension plan's expected long-term rate of return represents the average rate of return to be earned on plan assets over the period the benefits included in the benefit obligation are paid. To determine the expected long-term rate of return assumption, we utilized models based upon rigorous historical analysis and forward-looking views of the financial markets based upon key factors such as historical returns for the asset class' applicable indices, the correlations of the asset classes under various market conditions and general market trends. The expected future return for each asset class is then weighted based upon the plan's asset allocation to produce a reasonable range of asset return results within which our expected long-term rate of return assumption falls.

111

Table of Contents

Funding policy/funded status

Our current policy is generally to contribute an amount equal to the greater of the IRS minimum required contribution or the target normal cost for the year plus interest to the date the contribution is made. A \$17 million contribution was made to the plan in January 2013. The following table sets forth the funded status of the pension plans and the amounts recognized in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as of December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Funded status at end of period | \$ (201) | \$ (140) |
| Pension liability recorded in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position: | | |
| Pension liabilities – due within one year | \$ (2) | \$ (1) |
| Pension liabilities – due after one year | (199) | (139) |
| Net amount recognized | \$ (201) | \$ (140) |

Benefit obligations

Benefit obligations are described in the following tables. Accumulated and projected benefit obligations (“ABO” and “PBO”) represent the obligations of a pension plan for past service as of the measurement date. ABO is the present value of benefits earned to date with benefits computed based on current compensation levels. PBO is ABO increased to reflect expected future compensation. The following tables set forth: the change in our projected benefit obligation, the accumulated benefit obligation, and information for the defined benefit pension plans with an accumulated benefit obligation in excess of plan assets as of December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|--|----------------------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Projected benefit obligation: | | |
| Balance at January 1 | \$488 | \$400 |
| Service cost for benefits earned | 21 | 17 |
| Interest cost on benefit obligations | 24 | 23 |
| Plan amendments | 0 | 1 |
| Actuarial loss | 87 | 54 |
| Benefits paid | (8) | (7) |
| Balance at December 31 | \$612 | \$488 |
| Accumulated benefit obligation, December 31, | \$453 | \$363 |

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|---|----------------------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Plans with assets less than ABO, December 31: | | |
| Plan assets | \$411 | \$348 |
| Accumulated benefit obligations | 453 | 363 |
| Projected benefit obligations | 612 | 488 |

At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the defined benefit pension plan and the SERP had an accumulated benefit obligation in excess of plan assets.

Table of Contents

| Pension assets (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Fair value of plan assets: | | |
| Balance at January 1 | \$348 | \$328 |
| Actual gain on plan assets | 55 | 12 |
| Employer contributions | 16 | 15 |
| Benefits paid | (8) | (7) |
| Balance at December 31 | \$411 | \$348 |

| Shareholders' equity (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|---|----------------------|-------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Amounts included in shareholders' equity (unamortized): | | |
| Net actuarial loss | \$220 | \$173 |
| Prior service cost | 6 | 6 |
| Net amount not yet recognized | \$226 | \$179 |

The estimated net actuarial loss and prior service cost for the pension plans that will be amortized from accumulated other comprehensive income into pension cost during 2013 are \$15 million and \$1 million, respectively.

| Other comprehensive income (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Amounts recognized in other comprehensive income for pension plans: | | |
| Amortization of net actuarial loss | \$(11) | \$(6) |
| Amortization of prior service cost | (1) | (1) |
| Net actuarial loss arising during the year | 59 | 69 |
| Amendments | 0 | (1) ⁽¹⁾ 1 ⁽²⁾ |
| Total recognized in other comprehensive income | \$47 | \$63 |

(1) The charges recognized as amendments were the result of factoring in the prior service cost for one new plan participant in 2012.

(2) The charges recognized as amendments were the result of factoring in the prior service cost for seven new plan participants in 2011.

Asset allocation

The employee pension plan utilizes a return seeking and a liability asset matching allocation strategy. It is based upon the understanding that 1) equity investments are expected to outperform debt investments over the long-term, 2) the potential volatility of short-term returns from equities is acceptable in exchange for the larger expected long-term returns, and 3) a portfolio structured across investment styles and markets (both domestic and foreign) reduces volatility. As a result, the employee pension plan's investment portfolio utilizes a broadly diversified asset allocation across domestic and foreign equity and debt markets. The investment portfolio is composed of commingled pools that are dedicated exclusively to the management of employee benefit plan assets.

Table of Contents

The target and actual asset allocation for the portfolio is as follows for the years ended December 31:

| Asset allocation: | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | Target asset allocation 2011-2012 | Actual asset allocation 2012 | Actual asset allocation 2011 | |
| Equity securities: | | | | |
| U.S. equity securities ⁽¹⁾ | 40 | % 41 | % 41 | % |
| Non-U.S. equity securities ⁽²⁾ | 20 | 21 | 19 | |
| Total equity securities | 60 | 62 | 60 | |
| Debt securities ⁽³⁾ | 39 | 37 | 39 | |
| Other ⁽⁴⁾ | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| Total | 100 | % 100 | % 100 | % |

For the U.S. equity securities 20% seek to achieve excess returns relative to the Russell 2000 Index while 39% (1) seek to achieve excess returns relative to the S&P 500. The remaining 41% of the allocation to U.S. equity securities are comprised of equity index funds that track the S&P 500.

For the Non-U.S. equity securities, 11% are allocated to international small cap investments while another 11% are (2) allocated to international emerging market investments. The remaining 78% of the Non-U.S. equity securities are allocated to investments seeking to achieve excess returns relative to an international market index.

(3) For the debt securities, 50% are allocated to investment-grade fixed income securities while the remaining 50% are allocated to U.S. corporate bonds with an emphasis on long duration bonds rated A or better.

(4) Institutional money market fund.

The following tables represent the fair value measurements for the pension plan assets by major category and level of input:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group At December 31, 2012 | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| | Total | Fair value measurements of plan assets using: | | |
| | | Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets Level 1 | Significant observable inputs Level 2 | Significant unobservable inputs Level 3 |
| Equity securities: | | | | |
| U.S. equity securities | \$168 | \$0 | \$168 | \$0 |
| Non-U.S. equity securities | 87 | 0 | 87 | 0 |
| Total equity securities | 255 | 0 | 255 | 0 |
| Debt securities – U.S. fixed income | 153 | 0 | 153 | 0 |
| Other | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | \$411 | \$3 | \$408 | \$0 |

Erie Insurance Group
At December 31, 2011

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

| (in millions) | Fair value measurements of plan assets using: | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | Total | Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets Level 1 | Significant observable inputs Level 2 | Significant unobservable inputs Level 3 |
| Equity securities: | | | | |
| U.S. equity securities | \$140 | \$0 | \$140 | \$0 |
| Non-U.S. equity securities | 68 | 0 | 68 | 0 |
| Total equity securities | 208 | 0 | 208 | 0 |
| Debt securities – U.S. fixed income | 138 | 0 | 138 | 0 |
| Other | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | \$348 | \$2 | \$346 | \$0 |

Table of Contents

Estimates of fair values of the pension plan assets are obtained primarily from our trustee and custodian of our pension plan. Our Level 1 category includes a money market fund that is a mutual fund for which the fair value is determined using an exchange traded price provided by the trustee and custodian. Our Level 2 category includes commingled pools. Estimates of fair values for securities held by our commingled pools are obtained primarily from the trustee and custodian. The methodologies used by the trustee and custodian that support a financial instrument Level 2 classification include multiple verifiable, observable inputs including benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuers spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data. There were no Level 3 investments during 2012 or 2011.

Estimated future benefit payments

The following table sets forth amounts of benefits expected to be paid over the next 10 years from our pension and other postretirement plans as of December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Year ending | Expected future |
| December 31, | cash flows |
| 2013 | \$12 |
| 2014 | 11 |
| 2015 | 13 |
| 2016 | 15 |
| 2017 | 17 |
| 2018 - 2022 | 123 |

Retiree health benefit plan

The retiree health benefit plan was terminated in 2006. We continue to provide retiree health benefits only to employees who met certain age and service requirements on or before July 1, 2010. The accumulated benefit obligation and net periodic benefit cost of this plan were not material to our consolidated financial statements. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the projected benefit obligation associated with these benefits was \$5 million and \$6 million, respectively. This plan is funded only as claims are incurred. Periodic benefit costs for the Erie Insurance Group were \$0.1 million in 2012, \$0.2 million in 2011 and \$0.3 million in 2010.

Employee savings plan

All full-time and regular part-time employees are eligible to participate in a traditional qualified 401(k) or a Roth 401(k) savings plan. We match 100% of the participant contributions up to 3% of compensation and 50% of participant contributions over 3% and up to 5% of compensation. Matching contributions paid to the plan were \$10 million in 2012, \$9 million in 2011, and \$9 million in 2010. Employees are permitted to invest the employer-matching contributions in our Class A common stock. Employees, other than executive and senior officers, may sell the shares at any time without restriction; sales by executive and senior officers are subject to restrictions imposed by our insider trading policies and the federal securities laws. The plan acquires shares in the open market necessary to meet the obligations of the plan. Plan participants held 0.2 million shares of our Class A common stock at December 31, 2012 and 2011.

Note 17. Incentive Plans and Deferred Compensation

We have separate annual and long-term incentive plans for our executive and senior vice presidents. We also make available deferred compensation plans for executive and senior management and outside directors.

Annual incentive plan

Our annual incentive plan is a bonus plan that pays cash to our executive and senior vice presidents annually.

The awards under the annual incentive plan are based on attainment of corporate and individual performance measures established at the beginning of each year. These measures, which can include various financial measures, are established by the Executive Compensation and Development Committee of our Board of Directors, and are then approved by the Board of Directors. A funding qualifier was introduced into the plan in 2009. The Executive Compensation and Development Committee of our Board of Directors determined that the plan should first consider the Indemnity's financial results before a payout could be made to participants of the plan. The funding qualifier is based upon Indemnity's operating income. If the funding qualifier is met, each member of executive and senior management becomes eligible for incentive compensation based upon specific performance measures. The corporate performance measures considered in the plan primarily included the Property and Casualty Group's direct written premium and statutory combined ratio in 2012 and 2011.

Table of Contents

Long-term incentive plan

Our long-term incentive plan (“LTIP”) is a performance based incentive plan designed to reward executive and senior vice presidents who can have a significant impact on our long-term performance.

The LTIP award is based upon the level of achievement of objective measures of performance over a three-year period as compared to a peer group of property and casualty companies selected by our Executive Compensation and Development Committee of our Board of Directors. The 2012, 2011 and 2010 awards were based upon the reported combined ratio, growth in direct written premiums and return on invested assets as defined by the Erie Insurance Group. These performance measures are compared to the same performance measures of a peer group of companies. Because the award is based upon a comparison to results of a peer group over a three-year period, the award accrual is based upon estimates of probable results for the remaining performance period. This estimate is subject to variability if our results or the results of the peer group are substantially different than the results we project.

The Executive Compensation and Development Committee determines the form of the distribution to be granted at the beginning of each performance period. The 2010-2012 performance period is closed and distributions will be made in the form of cash later in 2013 once peer group financial information becomes available. The Executive Compensation and Development Committee agreed to distribute awards under the 2011-2013 and 2012-2014 performance periods in shares of Indemnity’s Class A common stock. If the Executive Compensation and Development Committee determines that awards will be paid in restricted performance shares, then shares of our Class A common stock will be purchased on the open market and distributed to the plan participants when the award is paid. We do not issue new shares of common stock to plan participants. Accordingly, the disclosure requirements of Item 201(d) of Regulation S-K are not applicable. The performance shares awarded through the LTIP are considered vested at the end of each applicable performance period.

The maximum number of shares which may be earned under the plan by any single participant during any one performance period is limited to 250,000 shares. The aggregate number of Class A common stock that may be issued pursuant to awards granted under the LTIP is 1.0 million shares. With respect to an award of performance units, the maximum dollar amount which may be earned under the plan by any single participant during any one performance period is \$3 million. A liability is recorded and compensation expense is recognized ratably over the performance period.

At December 31, 2012, the plan awards for the 2010-2012 performance period were fully earned in accordance with the LTIP. The awards for this performance period will be calculated upon receipt of the final financial information for the peer group. The estimated plan award based upon the peer group information as of December 31, 2012 is \$6 million.

At December 31, 2011, the awards for the 2009-2011 performance period were fully vested in accordance with the LTIP. The plan award of \$5 million was paid in cash in June 2012.

At December 31, 2010, the awards for the 2008-2010 performance period were fully vested in accordance with the LTIP. The average share price on the date the shares were paid to participants for the 2008-2010 performance period was \$73.97. The plan award of \$5 million was paid in July 2011.

Earned amounts are allocated to related entities and settled in cash once the payout is made. The total compensation cost charged to operations related to these LTIP awards for the Erie Insurance Group was \$5 million in 2012, \$9 million in 2011 and \$7 million in 2010.

Deferred compensation plans

Our deferred compensation plans are arrangements for our executive and senior vice presidents and outside directors. The deferred compensation plan for our executive and senior vice presidents allows participants to elect to defer receipt of a portion of their base salary and/or annual incentive plan award until a later date. Employer matching contributions that cannot be credited to our tax-qualified 401(k) plan, because they exceed the annual contribution or compensation limits of that plan, are also credited to the accounts of participants who elected to participate in the deferred compensation plan for the year by deferring receipt of some portion of their base salary. The deferred compensation plan for our outside directors allows participants to defer receipt of a portion of their director and meeting fees until a later date. Employees or outside directors participating in the respective plans select hypothetical investment funds for their deferrals which are credited with the hypothetical returns generated.

Table of Contents

The awards, payments, deferrals and liabilities under the annual incentive plan, long-term incentive plan and deferred compensation plans for officers and outside directors were as follows for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|----------------------|-------|------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Awards, employer match and hypothetical earnings by plan: | | | |
| Long-term incentive plan awards | \$5 | \$9 | \$7 |
| Annual incentive plan awards | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Deferred compensation plans, employer match and hypothetical earnings | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Total plan awards and earnings | 11 | 13 | 13 |
| Total plan awards paid | (8) | (10) | (6) |
| Compensation deferred under the plans | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Distributions from the deferred compensation plans | (1) | (1) | (1) |
| Gross incentive plan and deferred compensation liabilities at end of period | \$26 | \$24 | \$22 |

Stock compensation plan for outside directors

We have a stock compensation plan for our outside directors to further align the interests of directors with shareholders by providing for a portion of annual compensation for the directors' services in shares of our Class A common stock. Each director vests in the grant 25% every three months over the course of a year. Dividends paid by us are reinvested into each director's account as additional share credits which vest immediately. Upon leaving board service, directors are paid shares of our Class A common stock equal to the number of share credits in their deferred stock account. Our practice is to purchase the shares that will be paid to the directors on the open market. We do not issue new shares of common stock to directors. Accordingly, the disclosure requirements of Item 201(d) of Regulation S-K are not applicable. The annual charge related to the stock compensation plan for our directors totaled \$0.5 million in 2012, \$1 million in 2011, and \$2 million in 2010.

Note 18. Indemnity Capital Stock

Class A and B common stock

We have two classes of common stock: Class A which has a dividend preference and Class B which has voting power and a conversion right. Each share of Class A common stock outstanding at the time of the declaration of any dividend upon shares of Class B common stock shall be entitled to a dividend payable at the same time, at the same record date, and in an amount at least equal to 2/3 of 1.0% of any dividend declared on each share of Class B common stock. We may declare and pay a dividend in respect to Class A common stock without any requirement that any dividend be declared and paid in respect to Class B common stock. Sole shareholder voting power is vested in Class B common stock except insofar as any applicable law shall permit Class A common shareholders to vote as a class in regards to any changes in the rights, preferences and privileges attaching to Class A common stock. Holders of Class B shares may, at their option, convert their shares into Class A shares at the rate of 2,400 Class A shares per Class B share. In 2012, four shares of Class B common stock were converted into 9,600 shares of Class A common stock. There were no conversions of Class B shares to Class A shares in 2011 or 2010. There is no provision for conversion of Class A shares to Class B shares, and, Class B shares surrendered for conversion cannot be reissued.

Stock repurchases

A stock repurchase program was authorized for our outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock beginning January 1, 2004. Treasury shares are recorded in the Consolidated Statements of Financial Position at total cost based upon trade date. Shares repurchased under this program, based upon trade date, totaled 1.0 million at a total cost of \$69 million during 2012, and 2.2 million shares at a total cost of \$155 million during 2011. In October 2011, our Board of Directors approved a continuation of the current stock repurchase program for a total of \$150 million, with

no time limitation. We had approximately \$68 million of repurchase authority remaining under this program at December 31, 2012, based upon trade date.

In 2012, we also repurchased 1,803 shares of our outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock outside of our publicly announced share repurchase program at a total cost of \$129,849. Of this amount, 669 and 1,134 shares were purchased in January 2012 and June 2012, respectively, for \$50,724, or \$75.82 per share, and \$79,125, or \$69.78 per share, respectively, to settle payments due to two retired senior vice presidents under our long-term incentive plan. These shares were delivered to the plan participants in January 2012 and June 2012, respectively.

117

Table of Contents

In July 2011, we repurchased 64,095 shares of our outstanding Class A nonvoting common stock outside of our publicly announced share repurchase program at a total cost of \$4.8 million. Of this amount, 57,695 shares were purchased for \$4.3 million, or \$73.72 per share, in conjunction with our long-term incentive plan, and 6,400 shares were purchased for \$0.5 million, or \$73.74 per share, for the vesting of stock-based awards for executive management. These shares were delivered to plan participants and executive management, respectively, in July 2011.

Note 19. Indemnity Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

A rollforward of Indemnity's accumulated other comprehensive loss attributable to the Indemnity shareholder interest is presented as follows for the year ended December 31, 2012:

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | |
|--|---|--|-----------|
| | Unrealized net appreciation of investments | Net losses associated with postretirement benefits | Total |
| Balance at December 31, 2011 | \$ 11 | \$ (116) | \$ (105) |
| Change in other comprehensive loss, net of tax: | | | |
| Unrealized appreciation of investments, net of tax | 2 | — | 2 |
| Postretirement plans, net of tax | — | (30) | (30) |
| Change in other comprehensive loss, net of tax | 2 | (30) | (28) |
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | \$ 13 | \$ (146) | \$ (133) |

Note 20. Commitments and Contingencies

Indemnity has contractual commitments to invest up to \$38 million related to its limited partnership investments at December 31, 2012. These commitments are split between private equity securities of \$15 million, mezzanine debt securities of \$10 million, and real estate activities of \$13 million. These commitments will be funded as required by the limited partnership agreements.

The Exchange, including EFL, has contractual commitments to invest up to \$389 million related to its limited partnership investments at December 31, 2012. These commitments are split between private equity securities of \$157 million, mezzanine debt securities of \$145 million, and real estate activities of \$87 million. These commitments will be funded as required by the limited partnership agreements.

We are involved in litigation arising in the ordinary course of conducting business. In accordance with current accounting standards for loss contingencies and based upon information currently known to us, we establish reserves for litigation when it is probable that a loss associated with a claim or proceeding has been incurred and the amount of the loss or range of loss can be reasonably estimated. When no amount within the range of loss is a better estimate than any other amount, we accrue the minimum amount of the estimable loss. To the extent that such litigation against us may have an exposure to a loss in excess of the amount we have accrued, we believe that such excess would not be material to our consolidated financial condition, operations or cash flows. Legal fees are expensed as incurred.

We believe that our accruals for legal proceedings are appropriate and, individually and in the aggregate, are not expected to be material to our consolidated financial condition, operations or cash flows.

We review all litigation on an ongoing basis when making accrual and disclosure decisions. For certain legal proceedings, we cannot reasonably estimate losses or a range of loss, if any, particularly for proceedings that are in their early stages of development or where the plaintiffs seek indeterminate damages. Various factors, including, but

not limited to, the outcome of potentially lengthy discovery and the resolution of important factual questions, may need to be determined before probability can be established or before a loss or range of loss can be reasonably estimated. If the loss contingency in question is not both probable and reasonably estimable, we do not establish an accrual and the matter will continue to be monitored for any developments that would make the loss contingency both probable and reasonably estimable. In the event that a legal proceeding results in a substantial judgment against, or settlement by, us, there can be no assurance that any resulting liability or financial commitment would not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition, results of operations or cash flows of the Indemnity shareholder interest or the consolidated financial statements of Erie Indemnity Company.

Table of Contents

We are subject to escheatment laws and regulations requiring the identification, reporting and payment to the state of unclaimed or abandoned funds of our policyholders, annuitants, claimants and shareholders. We are also subject to audit and examination for compliance with these requirements.

In August 2012, we were notified that we will be subject to an audit of our compliance with the unclaimed property laws of a number of jurisdictions both within and outside our operating territory. Additionally, EFL has been named in a lawsuit filed by the State Treasurer of West Virginia. The Complaint alleges that EFL has failed to comply with the West Virginia Uniform Unclaimed Property Act.

It is probable that ongoing inquiries, audits, and other regulatory activity will result in the payment of additional death claims and escheatment of funds, as well as possible fines. EFL will incur expenses to identify death claims, confirm that benefits are due and notify the beneficiaries. At this time, we are not able to reasonably estimate the possible loss or range of loss related to this issue due to the early stage of development.

Note 21. Supplementary Data on Cash Flows

Indirect method of cash flows

A reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities as presented in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows is as follows for the years ended December 31:

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | |
|---|----------------------|---------|----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | | |
| Net income | \$619 | \$268 | \$660 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | | |
| Depreciation | 17 | 4 | 12 |
| Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | 715 | 680 | 652 |
| Impairment of goodwill | — | — | 22 |
| Deferred income tax expense (benefit) | 118 | (105) |) 342 |
| Realized (gains) losses and impairments on investments | (418) |) 6 | (307) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | (131) |) (149) |) (128) |
| Net amortization of bond premium | 28 | 26 | 9 |
| Increase in deferred compensation | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| Limited partnership distributions | 164 | 166 | 122 |
| (Increase) decrease in receivables, reinsurance recoverables and reserve credits | (166) |) 91 | (158) |
| Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses | 63 | (56) |) 10 |
| Increase in deferred policy acquisition costs | (743) |) (701) |) (667) |
| (Decrease) increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses | (28) |) 83 | 18 |
| Increase in accrued commissions and agent bonuses | 20 | 4 | 1 |
| Increase (decrease) in loss reserves | 99 | (85) |) (11) |
| Increase in future life policy benefits and claims reserves | 31 | 28 | 21 |
| Increase in unearned premiums | 187 | 96 | 116 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | \$577 | \$360 | \$721 |

Note 22. Statutory Information

Accounting principles used to prepare statutory financial statements differ from those used to prepare financial statements under GAAP. Prescribed statutory accounting practices (“SAP”) include state laws, regulations, and general administration rules, as well as a variety of publications from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (“NAIC”). The statutory financial statements of the Exchange and its subsidiaries, EIC, EPC, Flagship and EFL, are prepared in accordance with accounting practices prescribed and permitted by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department. ENY prepares its statutory financial statements in accordance with accounting practices prescribed by the New York Insurance Department.

Financial statements prepared under statutory accounting principles focus on the solvency of the insurer and generally provide a more conservative approach than under GAAP. Differences between SAP and GAAP include the valuation of investments,

119

Table of Contents

deferred policy acquisition cost assets, the actuarial assumptions used in life reserves, deferred tax assets and unearned subscriber fees.

Statutory net income and capital and surplus as determined in accordance with SAP prescribed or permitted by insurance regulatory authorities are as follows:

| (in millions) | SAP Net income (loss) | | | SAP Capital and surplus | |
|--|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------|---------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | | At December 31, | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Erie Insurance Exchange | \$311 | \$182 | \$531 | \$5,633 | \$5,166 |
| Erie Insurance Company | 14 | 9 | 21 | 276 | 260 |
| Erie Insurance Company of New York | (1 |) (1 |) 2 | 21 | 20 |
| Erie Insurance Property & Casualty Company | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 11 |
| Flagship City Insurance Company | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 11 |
| Erie Family Life Insurance Company | 25 | 34 | 38 | 281 | 245 |

The minimum statutory capital and surplus requirements under Pennsylvania and New York law for the Exchange's property and casualty insurance subsidiaries amounts to \$12 million. The Exchange's subsidiaries' total statutory capital and surplus significantly exceed these minimum requirements, totaling \$319 million at December 31, 2012. The risk-based capital levels of all members of the Property and Casualty Group and EFL significantly exceed the minimum requirements. Cash and securities with a carrying value of \$16 million were deposited by the property and casualty and life entities with regulatory authorities under statutory requirements at December 31, 2012.

As prescribed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Exchange records unearned subscriber fees (fees to the attorney-in-fact) as deductions from unearned premium reserve and charges current operations on a pro-rata basis over the periods covered by the policies. The Pennsylvania-domiciled members of the Property and Casualty Group discount workers compensation loss reserves on a non-tabular basis as prescribed by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Exchange's NAIC prepared statutory surplus, excluding the impact of the Pennsylvania prescribed practices, would have been \$5.1 billion at December 31, 2012. EIC's NAIC prepared statutory surplus, excluding the impact of the Pennsylvania prescribed practices, would have been \$272 million at December 31, 2012. EPC and Flagship record the discounting of workers compensation loss reserves on a direct basis, however, after application of the intercompany pooling arrangement, there is no impact on their financial statements.

The amount of dividends that can be paid to the Exchange without the prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner by EIC, EPC and Flagship, the Exchange's Pennsylvania-domiciled property and casualty insurance subsidiaries, is limited to not more than the greater of: (a) 10% of statutory surplus as reported in the last annual statement, or (b) net income as reported in the last annual statement. The amount of dividends that EIC's New York-domiciled property and casualty subsidiary, ENY, can pay without the prior approval by the New York Superintendent of Insurance is limited to the lesser of: (a) 10% of statutory surplus as reported in the last annual statement, or (b) 100% of adjusted net investment income during such period. In 2013, the maximum dividend payout that the Exchange could receive from its property and casualty insurance subsidiaries would be \$31 million. No dividends were paid by these property and casualty insurance subsidiaries in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

The amount of dividends that can be paid to the Exchange without the prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner by EFL, a Pennsylvania-domiciled life insurer, is limited by statute to the greater of: (a) 10% of statutory surplus as shown in the last annual statement on file with the commissioner, or (b) net income as reported in the last annual statement, but shall not include pro-rata distribution of any class of the insurer's own securities. Accordingly, the maximum dividend payout that the Exchange could receive in 2013 without prior Pennsylvania

Commissioner approval is \$28 million. There were no dividends paid to either the Exchange or Indemnity in 2012, 2011 or 2010.

120

Table of Contents

Note 23. Indemnity Supplemental Information

Consolidating Statement of Financial Position

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| | December 31, 2012 | | | |
| | Indemnity shareholder interest | Exchange noncontrolling interest | Reclassifications and eliminations | Erie Insurance Group |
| Assets | | | | |
| Investments | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities, at fair value: | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$452 | \$ 7,707 | \$— | \$8,159 |
| Equity securities | 55 | 945 | — | 1,000 |
| Trading securities, at fair value | — | 2,417 | — | 2,417 |
| Limited partnerships | 180 | 1,037 | — | 1,217 |
| Other invested assets | 1 | 20 | — | 21 |
| Total investments | 688 | 12,126 | — | 12,814 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 12 | 388 | — | 400 |
| Premiums receivable from policyholders | — | 1,062 | — | 1,062 |
| Reinsurance recoverable | — | 168 | — | 168 |
| Deferred income tax asset | 37 | — | — | 37 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | — | 504 | — | 504 |
| Other assets | 117 | 339 | — | 456 |
| Receivables from the Exchange and other affiliates | 281 | — | (281 |) — |
| Note receivable from EFL | 25 | — | (25 |) — |
| Total assets | \$1,160 | \$ 14,587 | \$(306 |) \$15,441 |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Losses and loss expense reserves | \$— | \$ 3,598 | \$— | \$3,598 |
| Life policy and deposit contract reserves | — | 1,708 | — | 1,708 |
| Unearned premiums | — | 2,365 | — | 2,365 |
| Deferred income tax liability | — | 365 | — | 365 |
| Other liabilities | 518 | 402 | (306 |) 614 |
| Total liabilities | 518 | 8,438 | (306 |) 8,650 |
| Shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest | | | | |
| Total Indemnity shareholders' equity | 642 | — | — | 642 |
| Noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | — | 6,149 | — | 6,149 |
| Total equity | 642 | 6,149 | — | 6,791 |
| Total liabilities, shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest | \$1,160 | \$ 14,587 | \$(306 |) \$15,441 |

Table of Contents

Consolidating Statement of Financial Position

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| | December 31, 2011 | | | |
| | Indemnity | Exchange | Reclassifications | Erie |
| Assets | shareholder | noncontrolling | and | Insurance |
| | interest | interest | eliminations | Group |
| Investments | | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities, at fair value: | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | \$548 | \$ 7,292 | \$— | \$7,840 |
| Equity securities | 25 | 564 | — | 589 |
| Trading securities, at fair value | 27 | 2,308 | — | 2,335 |
| Limited partnerships | 208 | 1,082 | — | 1,290 |
| Other invested assets | 1 | 19 | — | 20 |
| Total investments | 809 | 11,265 | — | 12,074 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 11 | 174 | — | 185 |
| Premiums receivable from policyholders | — | 976 | — | 976 |
| Reinsurance recoverable | — | 166 | — | 166 |
| Deferred income tax asset | 19 | — | — | 19 |
| Deferred acquisition costs | — | 487 | — | 487 |
| Other assets | 119 | 322 | — | 441 |
| Receivables from the Exchange and other affiliates | 254 | — | (254 |) — |
| Note receivable from EFL | 25 | — | (25 |) — |
| Total assets | \$1,237 | \$ 13,390 | \$(279 |) \$14,348 |
| Liabilities | | | | |
| Losses and loss expense reserves | \$— | \$ 3,499 | \$— | \$3,499 |
| Life policy and deposit contract reserves | — | 1,671 | — | 1,671 |
| Unearned premiums | — | 2,178 | — | 2,178 |
| Deferred income tax liability | — | 147 | — | 147 |
| Other liabilities | 456 | 383 | (279 |) 560 |
| Total liabilities | 456 | 7,878 | (279 |) 8,055 |
| Shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest | | | | |
| Total Indemnity shareholders' equity | 781 | — | — | 781 |
| Noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | — | 5,512 | — | 5,512 |
| Total equity | 781 | 5,512 | — | 6,293 |
| Total liabilities, shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest | \$1,237 | \$ 13,390 | \$(279 |) \$14,348 |

Receivables from the Exchange and EFL and concentrations of credit risk – Financial instruments could potentially expose Indemnity to concentrations of credit risk, including unsecured receivables from the Exchange. A majority of Indemnity's revenue and receivables are from the Exchange and affiliates. See also Note 4, "Variable Interest Entity."

Management fees and expense allocation amounts due from the Exchange were \$278 million and \$251 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The receivable from EFL for expense allocations and interest on the surplus note totaled \$3 million at December 31, 2012 and 2011.

Indemnity is due \$25 million from EFL in the form of a surplus note that was issued in 2003. The note may be repaid only out of unassigned surplus of EFL. Both principal and interest payments are subject to prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner. The note bears an annual interest rate of 6.7% and will be payable on demand on or after December 31, 2018, with interest scheduled to be paid semi-annually, subject to prior approval by the Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner. Indemnity recognized interest income on the note of \$2 million in 2012 and 2011.

122

Table of Contents

Income attributable to Indemnity shareholder interest

| (in millions) | Percent | | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | |
|---|---------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | | | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | | | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Management operations: | | | | | |
| Management fee revenue, net | 100.0 | % | \$1,157 | \$1,067 | \$1,009 |
| Service agreement revenue | 100.0 | % | 31 | 33 | 34 |
| Total revenue from management operations | | | 1,188 | 1,100 | 1,043 |
| Cost of management operations | 100.0 | % | 983 | 892 | 841 |
| Income from management operations before taxes | | | 205 | 208 | 202 |
| Property and casualty insurance operations: ⁽²⁾ | | | | | |
| Net premiums earned | 5.5 | % ⁽²⁾ | — | — | 216 |
| Losses and loss expenses | 5.5 | % ⁽²⁾ | — | — | 155 |
| Policy acquisition and underwriting expenses | 5.5 | % ⁽²⁾ | — | — | 61 |
| Income from property and casualty insurance operations before taxes | | | — | — | 0 |
| Life insurance operations: ⁽¹⁾ | | | | | |
| Total revenue | 21.6 | % ⁽³⁾ | — | 10 | 37 |
| Total benefits and expenses | 21.6 | % ⁽³⁾ | — | 7 | 26 |
| Income from life insurance operations before taxes | | | — | 3 | 11 |
| Investment operations: | | | | | |
| Net investment income ⁽²⁾ | | | 16 | 16 | 37 |
| Net realized gains (losses) on investments ⁽²⁾ | | | 5 | 3 | (1) |
| Net impairment losses recognized in earnings ⁽²⁾ | | | 0 | 0 | (1) |
| Equity in earnings of limited partnerships | | | 15 | 26 | 21 |
| Income from investment operations before taxes ⁽²⁾ | | | 36 | 45 | 56 |
| Income from operations before income taxes | | | 241 | 256 | 269 |
| Provision for income taxes | | | 81 | 87 | 107 |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | | | \$160 | \$169 | \$162 |

Earnings on life insurance related invested assets are integral to the evaluation of the life insurance operations because of the long duration of life products. On that basis, for presentation purposes, the life insurance operations (1) in the table above include life insurance related investment results. However, the life insurance investment results are included in the investment operations segment discussion in Note 5, "Segment Information".

Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's (2) property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

Prior to and through March 31, 2011, Indemnity retained a 21.6% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest, and the Exchange retained a 78.4% ownership interest in EFL, which accrued to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest. Due to the sale of (3) Indemnity's 21.6% ownership interest in EFL to the Exchange on March 31, 2011, 100.0% of EFL's life insurance results accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after March 31, 2011.

Expense allocations – All claims handling services for the Exchange are performed by Indemnity employees who are entirely dedicated to claims related activities. All costs associated with these employees are reimbursed to Indemnity from the Exchange’s revenues in accordance with the subscriber’s agreement. Indemnity is reimbursed by EFL from its revenues for all costs associated with employees who perform life insurance related operating activities for EFL in accordance with its service agreement with Indemnity. Common overhead expenses included in the expenses paid by Indemnity are allocated based upon appropriate utilization statistics (employee count, square footage, vehicle count, project hours, etc.) specifically measured to accomplish proportional allocations. Executive compensation is allocated based upon each executive’s primary responsibilities (management services, property and casualty claims operations, EFL operations and investment operations). We believe the methods used to allocate common overhead expenses among the affiliated entities are reasonable.

Cash settlements for payments on the account of the Exchange totaled \$343 million, \$325 million and \$293 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively, and \$30 million, \$28 million and \$27 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively, for EFL. These reimbursements are settled on a monthly basis.

Table of Contents

Office leases – Indemnity leases certain office space from the Exchange, including the home office and three field office facilities. Rent expenses under these leases totaled \$6 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010. Indemnity also has a lease commitment with EFL for a branch office until 2018. Annual rentals paid to EFL under this lease totaled \$0.4 million in 2012, 2011 and 2010.

Indemnity's components of direct cash flows as included in the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

| (in millions) | Indemnity Shareholder Interest | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| | Years ended December 31, | | |
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| Management fee received | \$1,135 | \$1,053 | \$947 |
| Service agreement fee received | 31 | 33 | 34 |
| Premiums collected ⁽¹⁾ | — | — | 220 |
| Net investment income received ⁽¹⁾ | 28 | 22 | 45 |
| Limited partnership distributions | 21 | 22 | 21 |
| Decrease in reimbursements collected from affiliates | (4) | (9) | (15) |
| Commissions and bonuses paid to agents | (617) | (583) | (532) |
| Salaries and wages paid | (130) | (124) | (106) |
| Pension contribution and employee benefits paid | (38) | (36) | (33) |
| Losses paid ⁽¹⁾ | — | — | (132) |
| Loss expenses paid ⁽¹⁾ | — | — | (23) |
| Other underwriting and acquisition costs paid ⁽¹⁾ | — | — | (53) |
| General operating expenses paid | (139) | (127) | (119) |
| Income taxes paid | (82) | (82) | (61) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 205 | 169 | 193 |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities | 95 | (211) | 196 |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (299) | (257) | (155) |
| Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 1 | (299) | 234 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | 11 | 310 | 76 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year | \$12 | \$11 | \$310 |

Prior to and through December 31, 2010, the underwriting results retained by EIC and ENY and the investment results of EIC, ENY and EPC accrued to the Indemnity shareholder interest. Due to the sale of Indemnity's (1) property and casualty insurance subsidiaries to the Exchange on December 31, 2010, all property and casualty underwriting results and all investment results for these companies accrue to the interest of the subscribers (policyholders) of the Exchange, or noncontrolling interest, after December 31, 2010.

Table of Contents

Note 24. Quarterly Results of Operations (unaudited)

| (in millions, except per share data) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| | Year ended December 31, 2012 | | | | |
| | First quarter | Second quarter | Third quarter | Fourth quarter | Year |
| Revenues | \$1,520 | \$1,160 | \$1,460 | \$1,372 | \$5,512 |
| Benefits and expenses | 986 | 1,230 | 1,190 | 1,207 | 4,613 |
| Income (loss) from operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interest | 534 | (70) | 270 | 165 | 899 |
| Net income (loss) | 354 | (38) | 184 | 119 | 619 |
| Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 318 | (81) | 133 | 89 | 459 |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | \$36 | \$43 | \$51 | \$30 | \$160 |
| Earnings per share ⁽¹⁾ | | | | | |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity per share | | | | | |
| Class A common stock – basic | \$0.76 | \$0.90 | \$1.08 | \$0.63 | \$3.38 |
| Class A common stock – diluted | \$0.67 | \$0.80 | \$0.96 | \$0.56 | \$2.99 |
| Class B common stock – basic and diluted | \$114 | \$135 | \$162 | \$94 | \$505 |

- (1) The cumulative sum of quarterly basic and diluted net income per share amounts may not equal total basic and diluted net income per share for the year due to differences in weighted average shares and equivalent shares outstanding for each of the periods presented.

| (in millions, except per share data) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
| | Year ended December 31, 2011 | | | | |
| | First quarter | Second quarter | Third quarter | Fourth quarter | Year |
| Revenues | \$1,365 | \$1,245 | \$796 | \$1,418 | \$4,824 |
| Benefits and expenses | 953 | 1,419 | 1,101 | 993 | 4,466 |
| Income (loss) from operations before income taxes and noncontrolling interest | 412 | (174) | (305) | 425 | 358 |
| Net income (loss) | 274 | (107) | (180) | 281 | 268 |
| Less: Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest in consolidated entity – Exchange | 230 | (159) | (227) | 255 | 99 |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity | \$44 | \$52 | \$47 | \$26 | \$169 |
| Earnings per share ⁽¹⁾ | | | | | |
| Net income attributable to Indemnity per share | | | | | |
| Class A common stock – basic | \$0.88 | \$1.05 | \$0.97 | \$0.55 | \$3.45 |
| Class A common stock – diluted | \$0.78 | \$0.94 | \$0.87 | \$0.49 | \$3.08 |
| Class B common stock – basic and diluted | \$126 | \$158 | \$147 | \$82 | \$522 |

- (1) The cumulative sum of quarterly basic and diluted net income per share amounts may not equal total basic and diluted net income per share for the year due to differences in weighted average shares and equivalent shares outstanding for each of the periods presented.

Note 25. Subsequent Events

We have evaluated for recognized and nonrecognized subsequent events through the date of financial statement issuance. No items were identified in this period subsequent to the financial statement date that required adjustment or disclosure.

125

Table of Contents

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

As required by the Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 13a-15(e), we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2012. Based upon the foregoing, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There has been no change in our internal controls over financial reporting during our most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect our internal controls over financial reporting. Our process for evaluating controls and procedures is continuous and encompasses constant improvement of the design and effectiveness of established controls and procedures.

Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting of Erie Indemnity Company, as such term is defined in the Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f). Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Erie Indemnity Company's internal control over financial reporting based upon the framework in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based upon our evaluation under the framework in Internal Control-Integrated Framework, management has concluded that Erie Indemnity Company's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2012.

/s/ Terrence W. Cavanaugh
Terrence W. Cavanaugh
President and
Chief Executive Officer
February 26, 2013

/s/ Marcia A. Dall
Marcia A. Dall
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
February 26, 2013

/s/ Gregory J. Gutting
Gregory J. Gutting
Senior Vice President and
Controller
February 26, 2013

Our independent auditor, Ernst & Young LLP, a registered public accounting firm, has issued an attestation report on our internal control over financial reporting. This report appears on the following page.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

There was no additional information in the fourth quarter of 2012 that has not already been filed in a Form 8-K.

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of Erie Indemnity Company

Erie, Pennsylvania

We have audited Erie Indemnity Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Erie Indemnity Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

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

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

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

In our opinion, Erie Indemnity Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2012, based on the COSO criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated statements of financial position of Erie Indemnity Company as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity and noncontrolling interest, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2012 of Erie Indemnity Company and our report dated February 26, 2013 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Cleveland, Ohio
February 26, 2013

127

Table of Contents

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information with respect to our outside directors, audit committee and audit committee financial experts and Section 16(a) beneficial ownership reporting compliance, is incorporated by reference to the information statement on Form 14(C) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012.

We have adopted a Code of Conduct that applies to all of our outside directors, officers and employees. In addition to this, we have adopted a Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers that also applies to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Accounting Officer and any other person performing similar functions. We have previously filed a copy of this Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers as Exhibit 14.1 and 14.2, respectively, to the Registrant's Form 8-K as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 25, 2012. Our Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers are also available on our website at <http://www.erieinsurance.com>.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

| Name | Age as of 12/31/2012 | Principal Occupation for Past Five Years and Positions with Erie Insurance Group |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| President & Chief Executive Officer: | | |
| Terrence W. Cavanaugh | 59 | President and Chief Executive Officer of Erie Indemnity Company since July 29, 2008; Senior Vice President, Chubb & Son/Federal Insurance, for more than five years prior thereto; Chief Operating Officer, Chubb Surety, for more than five years prior thereto; Director, Erie Indemnity Company, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY and EPC. |
| Executive Vice Presidents: | | |
| Richard F. Burt, Jr. | 49 | Executive Vice President - Products since August 22, 2012; Senior Vice President, Actuarial, and Chief Actuary, July 2011 through August 2012; Partner and Western Region Practice Leader, Actuarial Risk & Analytics, Deloitte Consulting, LLP, 2002 to July 2011; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY, and EPC, effective January 1, 2013. |
| Marcia A. Dall | 49 | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since March 30, 2009; Chief Financial Officer – Healthcare, Cigna Corporation, January 2008 through March 2009; Chief Financial Officer – International & U.S. Mortgage Insurance, Genworth Financial, September 2006 through January 2008; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY and EPC. |
| George D. Dufala | 41 | Executive Vice President – Services since September 1, 2010; Senior Vice President, Erie Family Life Insurance Company, October 2008 through August 2010; Senior Vice President, Customer Service, January 2005 through September 2008; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY and EPC. |
| Robert C. Ingram, III | 54 | |

Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer since August 13, 2012; Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer (for Commercial Lines, Hartford Investment Management Company and Enterprise Risk Management), The Hartford Financial Services Group, February 2011 through August 2012; Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Commercial and Consumer Markets, The Hartford Financial Services Group, August 2009 through February 2011; Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer Director, SAFECO, February 2008 through February 2009; Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Argonaut Group, March 2006 through February 2008; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY, and EPC, effective January 1, 2013.

Table of Contents

| Name | Age as of 12/31/2012 | Principal Occupation for Past Five Years and Positions with Erie Insurance Group |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Executive Vice Presidents (continued): | | |
| John F. Kearns | 53 | Executive Vice President – Sales & Marketing since September 1, 2010; Senior Vice President, Commercial Lines Division, February 2007 through August 2010; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY and EPC. |
| James J. Tanous | 65 | Executive Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel since April 30, 2007; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY and EPC. |
| Michael S. Zavasky | 60 | Executive Vice President–Insurance Operations since March 7, 2008; Senior Vice President–Strategy Management, January 2006 through March 2008; Director, EFL, EIC, Flagship, ENY and EPC. As discussed in our Form 8-K filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 8, 2011, Michael S. Zavasky has retired effective December 31, 2012. |

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item with respect to executive compensation is incorporated by reference to the information statement on Form 14(C) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The information with respect to security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management and securities authorized for issuance under equity compensation plans, is incorporated by reference to the information statement on Form 14(C) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Information with respect to certain relationships with our outside directors is incorporated by reference to the information statement on Form 14(C) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to the information statement on Form 14(C) to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012.

Table of Contents

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) The following documents are filed as part of this report:

1. Consolidated Financial Statements

Included in Item 8 “Financial Statements and Supplementary Data” contained in this report.

Erie Indemnity Company:

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on the Effectiveness of Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on the Consolidated Financial Statements

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income for the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Financial Position as of December 31, 2012 and 2011

Consolidated Statements of Shareholders’ Equity and Noncontrolling Interest for the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

2. Financial Statement Schedules

Erie Indemnity Company:

| | Page |
|--|------------|
| <u>Schedule I.</u> Summary of Investments – Other than Investments in Related Parties | <u>132</u> |
| <u>Schedule III.</u> Supplementary Insurance Information | <u>133</u> |
| <u>Schedule IV.</u> Reinsurance | <u>134</u> |
| <u>Schedule VI.</u> Supplemental Information Concerning Property-Casualty Insurance Operations | <u>135</u> |

All other schedules have been omitted since they are not required, not applicable or the information is included in the financial statements or notes thereto.

3. Exhibit Index

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

February 26, 2013 ERIE INDEMNITY COMPANY
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Terrence W. Cavanaugh
Terrence W. Cavanaugh, President and CEO
(Principal Executive Officer)

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the date indicated.

February 26, 2013 /s/ Terrence W. Cavanaugh
Terrence W. Cavanaugh, President and CEO
(Principal Executive Officer)

/s/ Marcia A. Dall
Marcia A. Dall, Executive Vice President & CFO
(Principal Financial Officer)

/s/ Gregory J. Gutting
Gregory J. Gutting, Senior Vice President & Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Board of Directors:

/s/ J. Ralph Borneman, Jr.
J. Ralph Borneman, Jr.

/s/ Lucian L. Morrison
Lucian L. Morrison

/s/ Terrence W. Cavanaugh
Terrence W. Cavanaugh

/s/ Thomas W. Palmer
Thomas W. Palmer

/s/ Jonathan Hirt Hagen
Jonathan Hirt Hagen

/s/ Martin P. Sheffield
Martin P. Sheffield

/s/ Susan Hirt Hagen
Susan Hirt Hagen

/s/ Richard L. Stover
Richard L. Stover

/s/ Thomas B. Hagen
Thomas B. Hagen

/s/ Elizabeth A. Vorsheck
Elizabeth A. Vorsheck

/s/ C. Scott Hartz
C. Scott Hartz

/s/ Robert C. Wilburn
Robert C. Wilburn

/s/ Claude C. Lilly, III

Claude C. Lilly, III

131

Table of Contents

SCHEDULE I

SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS – OTHER THAN INVESTMENTS IN RELATED PARTIES

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group December 31, 2012 | | Amount at which shown in the balance sheet |
|---|---|-------------------------|--|
| | Amortized cost | Estimated fair value | |
| Indemnity | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | |
| States & political subdivisions | \$ 172 | \$ 185 | \$ 185 |
| Corporate debt securities | 259 | 261 | 261 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Total fixed maturities – Indemnity | 437 | 452 | 452 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 28 | 29 | 29 |
| Common stock | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 491 | 507 | 507 |
| Limited partnerships | 151 | 180 | 180 |
| Real estate mortgage loans | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Total Investments – Indemnity | \$ 643 | \$ 688 | \$ 688 |
| Exchange | | | |
| Available-for-sale securities: | | | |
| U.S. government & agencies | \$ 190 | \$ 191 | \$ 191 |
| States & political subdivisions | 1,218 | 1,321 | 1,321 |
| Foreign government securities | 15 | 16 | 16 |
| Corporate debt securities | 5,211 | 5,777 | 5,777 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) | 226 | 231 | 231 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) | 62 | 67 | 67 |
| Collateralized debt obligations (CDO) | 43 | 49 | 49 |
| Other debt securities | 51 | 55 | 55 |
| Total fixed maturities – Exchange | 7,016 | 7,707 | 7,707 |
| Nonredeemable preferred stock | 555 | 631 | 631 |
| Common stock | 316 | 314 | 314 |
| Total available-for-sale securities | 7,887 | 8,652 | 8,652 |
| Trading securities | 1,910 | 2,417 | 2,417 |
| Limited partnerships | 913 | 1,037 | 1,037 |
| Life policy loans | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Real estate mortgage loans | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Total Investments – Exchange | \$ 10,730 | \$ 12,126 | \$ 12,126 |
| Total Investments – Erie Insurance Group | \$ 11,373 | \$ 12,814 | \$ 12,814 |

Table of ContentsSCHEDULE III
SUPPLEMENTARY INSURANCE INFORMATION

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group Deferred policy acquisition costs | Reserves for losses, loss expenses, life policy deposit contracts | Unearned Premiums premiums earned | Net investment income* | Benefits, claims, losses, and settlement expenses | Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | Other operating expenses* | Net premiums written (excluding life) | |
|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------|---|---------|
| December 31, 2012 | | | | | | | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance operations | \$364 | \$3,598 | \$2,365 | \$4,422 | \$327 | \$3,379 | \$705 | \$397 | \$4,603 |
| Life insurance operations | 140 | 1,708 | — | 71 | 95 | 101 | 10 | 21 | — |
| Management operations | — | — | — | — | 16 | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$504 | \$5,306 | \$2,365 | \$4,493 | \$438 | \$3,480 | \$715 | \$418 | \$4,603 |
| December 31, 2011 | | | | | | | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance operations | \$343 | \$3,499 | \$2,178 | \$4,149 | \$324 | \$3,344 | \$668 | \$327 | \$4,255 |
| Life insurance operations | 144 | 1,671 | — | 65 | 93 | 100 | 12 | 15 | — |
| Management operations | — | — | — | — | 16 | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$487 | \$5,170 | \$2,178 | \$4,214 | \$433 | \$3,444 | \$680 | \$342 | \$4,255 |
| December 31, 2010 | | | | | | | | | |
| Property and casualty insurance operations | \$327 | \$3,584 | \$2,082 | \$3,925 | \$325 | \$2,810 | \$635 | \$303 | \$4,019 |
| Life insurance operations | 140 | 1,603 | — | 62 | 96 | 90 | 16 | 15 | — |
| Management operations | — | — | — | — | 12 | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$467 | \$5,187 | \$2,082 | \$3,987 | \$433 | \$2,900 | \$651 | \$318 | \$4,019 |

* Net investment income and other operating expenses are charged directly to the respective entities, therefore an allocation basis is not required.

Table of ContentsSCHEDULE IV
REINSURANCE

| | Erie Insurance Group | | | | Percentage of amount assumed to net |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| | Gross amount (direct) | Ceded to other companies | Assumed from other companies | Net amount | |
| (in millions) | | | | | |
| December 31, 2012 | | | | | |
| Life insurance in force | \$43,810 | \$21,897 | \$— | \$21,913 | 0.0% |
| Premiums for the year: | | | | | |
| Life insurance | \$113 | \$42 | \$— | \$71 | 0.0% |
| Property and liability insurance | 4,449 | 48 | 21 | 4,422 | 0.5% |
| Total premiums | \$4,562 | \$90 | \$21 | \$4,493 | 0.5% |
| December 31, 2011 | | | | | |
| Life insurance in force | \$42,086 | \$22,753 | \$— | \$19,333 | 0.0% |
| Premiums for the year: | | | | | |
| Life insurance | \$108 | \$43 | \$— | \$65 | 0.0% |
| Property and liability insurance | 4,164 | 36 | 21 | 4,149 | 0.5% |
| Total premiums | \$4,272 | \$79 | \$21 | \$4,214 | 0.5% |
| December 31, 2010 | | | | | |
| Life insurance in force | \$40,431 | \$22,303 | \$— | \$18,128 | 0.0% |
| Premiums for the year: | | | | | |
| Life insurance | \$104 | \$42 | \$— | \$62 | 0.0% |
| Property and liability insurance | 3,939 | 34 | 20 | 3,925 | 0.5% |
| Total premiums | \$4,043 | \$76 | \$20 | \$3,987 | 0.5% |

Table of Contents

SCHEDULE VI

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION CONCERNING PROPERTY-CASUALTY INSURANCE OPERATIONS

| (in millions) | Erie Insurance Group | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|--|--|----------------------------|
| | Deferred policy acquisition costs | Reserve for unpaid losses and loss expenses | Discount, if any, deducted from reserves* | Unearned premiums | Earned premiums | Net investment income | Losses and loss expenses incurred related to: | | Amortization of deferred policy acquisition costs | Net losses and loss expenses paid | Net premiums written |
| | | | | | | | (1) Current year | (2) Prior years | | | |
| December 31, 2012 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consolidated P&C Entities | \$364 | \$3,598 | \$85 | \$2,365 | \$4,422 | \$327 | \$3,494 | (\$115) | \$705 | \$3,283 | \$4,603 |
| Unconsolidated P&C Entities | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Proportionate share of registrant & subsidiaries | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$364 | \$3,598 | \$85 | \$2,365 | \$4,422 | \$327 | \$3,494 | (\$115) | \$705 | \$3,283 | \$4,603 |
| December 31, 2011 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consolidated P&C Entities | \$343 | \$3,499 | \$84 | \$2,178 | \$4,149 | \$324 | \$3,616 | (\$272) | \$668 | \$3,392 | \$4,255 |
| Unconsolidated P&C Entities | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Proportionate share of registrant & subsidiaries | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$343 | \$3,499 | \$84 | \$2,178 | \$4,149 | \$324 | \$3,616 | (\$272) | \$668 | \$3,392 | \$4,255 |
| December 31, 2010 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consolidated P&C Entities | \$327 | \$3,584 | \$127 | \$2,082 | \$3,925 | \$325 | \$3,053 | (\$244) | \$635 | \$2,811 | \$4,019 |
| Unconsolidated P&C Entities | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Proportionate share of registrant & subsidiaries | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | \$327 | \$3,584 | \$127 | \$2,082 | \$3,925 | \$325 | \$3,053 | (\$244) | \$635 | \$2,811 | \$4,019 |

* Workers compensation case and incurred but not reported loss reserves were discounted at 2.5% for all years presented.

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

(Pursuant to Item 601 of Regulation S-K)

| Exhibit Number | Description of Exhibit |
|-------------------|---|
| 3.1 | Articles of Incorporation of Registrant. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like numbered exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10 Registration Statement Number 0-24000 filed with the Commission on May 2, 1994. |
| 3.1A | Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Registrant effective May 2, 1996. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like numbered exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on July 29, 2010. |
| 3.1B | Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Registrant effective May 4, 2001. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like numbered exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on July 29, 2010. |
| 3.1C | Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Registrant effective May 10, 2007. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like numbered exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on July 29, 2010. |
| 3.7 | Erie Indemnity Company Amended and Restated Bylaws effective May 5, 2009. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on May 11, 2009. |
| 3.8 | Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of Registrant dated April 19, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on August 2, 2011. |
| 10.12 | Form of Subscriber's Agreement whereby policyholders of Erie Insurance Exchange appoint Registrant as their Attorney-in-Fact. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled but renumbered exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 6, 2002. |
| 10.119 | Indemnification Agreement that Registrant has entered into on February 23, 2010 with Marcia A. Dall (Executive Vice President & CFO). Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 25, 2010. |
| 10.120 | First Amendment to Erie Indemnity Company Annual Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2009) effective January 1, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on May 6, 2010. |
| 10.121 | Second Amendment to Erie Indemnity Company Annual Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective January 1, 2009) effective January 1, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on November 4, 2010. |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

- 10.122 Stock Purchase Agreement between Erie Indemnity Company and Erie Insurance Exchange Relating to the Capital Stock of Erie Insurance Company, Erie Insurance Company of New York and Erie Property and Casualty Company dated November 4, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on November 4, 2010.
- 10.123 Stock Purchase Agreement between Erie Indemnity Company and Erie Insurance Exchange Relating to the Capital Stock of Erie Family Life Insurance Company dated November 4, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on November 4, 2010.
- 10.124 Erie Insurance Group Retirement Plan for Employees (As Amended and Restated Effective December 31, 2009) dated December 23, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 24, 2011.
- 10.125 Erie Insurance Group Employee Savings Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective as of January 1, 2010) dated December 23, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 24, 2011.
- 10.126 Agreement dated January 13, 2010, by and between Erie Indemnity Company and George R. Lucore. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 24, 2011.

Table of Contents

| Exhibit Number | Description of Exhibit |
|-------------------|---|
| 10.127 | Eleventh Amendment to Loan Documents between Erie Indemnity Company and PNC Bank, National Association dated July 20, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 24, 2011. |
| 10.128 | Amendment to Loan Documents between Erie Indemnity Company and PNC Bank, National Association dated December 22, 2010. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 24, 2011. |
| 10.129 | Lease Agreement between Erie Insurance Exchange and Erie Indemnity Company dated January 1, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K that was filed with the Commission on February 24, 2011. |
| 10.130 | Services Agreement between Erie Indemnity Company and Erie Family Life Insurance Company effective March 31, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on March 31, 2011. |
| 10.131 | Third Amendment to Erie Indemnity Company Annual Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective as of January 1, 2009) dated February 24, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on May 5, 2011. |
| 10.132 | First Amendment to Erie Indemnity Company Long-Term Incentive Plan (As Amended and Restated Effective as of January 1, 2009) dated February 24, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on May 5, 2011. |
| 10.133 | Indemnification Agreement by and between Erie Indemnity Company and George D. Dufala dated April 1, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on May 5, 2011. |
| 10.134 | Indemnification Agreement by and between Erie Indemnity Company and John F. Kearns dated April 1, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on May 5, 2011. |
| 10.135 | Executive Retention Agreement between Erie Indemnity Company and James J. Tanous dated August 3, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 4, 2011. |
| 10.136 | Credit Agreement among JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, as Administrative Agent; the Lenders named therein; and Erie Indemnity Company, dated November 3, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on November 8, 2011. |
| 10.137 | |

Edgar Filing: ERIE INDEMNITY CO - Form 10-K

Pledge Agreement made by Erie Indemnity Company in favor of JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as administrative agent, for itself and certain other Lenders, dated November 3, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on November 8, 2011.

10.138 Executive Retention Agreement between Erie Indemnity Company and Michael S. Zavasky dated December 6, 2011. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on December 8, 2011.

10.139 First Amended and Restated Credit Agreement among PNC Bank, National Association, as Administrative Agent; the Lenders named therein; and Erie Insurance Exchange, dated October 28, 2011.

10.140 First Amended and Restated Pledge Agreement made by Erie Indemnity Company as Attorney-in-Fact for Erie Insurance Exchange in favor of PNC Bank, National Association, as administrative agent, for itself and certain other Lenders, dated October 28, 2011.

10.141 First Amendment to Erie Insurance Group Retirement Plan for Employees (As Amended and Restated Effective December 31, 2009) dated March 27, 2012. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on May 3, 2012.

10.142 Indemnification Agreement by and between Erie Indemnity Company and Robert C. Ingram, III dated August 13, 2012. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on November 1, 2012.

137

Table of Contents

| Exhibit Number | Description of Exhibit |
|-------------------|--|
| 10.143 | Indemnification Agreement by and between Erie Indemnity Company and Richard F. Burt, Jr. dated August 22, 2012. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-Q that was filed with the Commission on November 1, 2012. |
| 14 | Code of Conduct. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 10-K annual report for the year ended December 31, 2003 that was filed with the Commission on March 8, 2004. |
| 14.1 | Code of Conduct. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on April 25, 2012. |
| 14.2 | Code of Ethics for Senior Financial Officers. Such exhibit is incorporated by reference to the like titled exhibit in the Registrant's Form 8-K that was filed with the Commission on April 25, 2012. |
| 23* | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. |
| 31.1* | Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 31.2* | Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 32* | Certifications pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. |
| 101.INS* | XBRL Instance Document. |
| 101.SCH* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document. |
| 101.CAL* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document. |
| 101.LAB* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document. |
| 101.PRE* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document. |
| 101.DEF* | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document. |

* Filed herewith.