

ALLEGHANY CORP /DE
Form 10-Q
May 07, 2007

Table of Contents

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q**

(MARK ONE)

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
FOR QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2007**

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD ENDING _____**

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 1-9371

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION

EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER

DELAWARE

STATE OR OTHER JURISDICTION OF INCORPORATION OR ORGANIZATION

51-0283071

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR, NY, NY 10036

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICE, INCLUDING ZIP CODE

212-752-1356

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE

NOT APPLICABLE

FORMER NAME, FORMER ADDRESS, AND FORMER FISCAL YEAR, IF CHANGED SINCE LAST REPORT INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT (1) HAS FILED ALL REPORTS REQUIRED TO BE FILED BY SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 DURING THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS (OR FOR SUCH SHORTER PERIOD THAT THE REGISTRANT WAS REQUIRED TO FILE SUCH REPORTS), AND (2) HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO SUCH FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAST 90 DAYS.

YES NO

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT IS A LARGE ACCELERATED FILER, AN ACCELERATED FILER OR A NON-ACCELERATED FILER. SEE DEFINITION OF ACCELERATED FILER AND LARGE ACCELERATED FILER IN RULE 12b-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT.

(CHECK ONE):

LARGE ACCELERATED FILER ACCELERATED FILER NON-ACCELERATED FILER
INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT IS A SHELL COMPANY (AS DEFINED IN RULE 12B-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT). 12b-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT).

YES NO

INDICATE THE NUMBER OF SHARES OUTSTANDING OF EACH OF THE ISSUER'S CLASSES OF COMMON STOCK, AS OF THE LAST PRACTICABLE DATE.

8,148,689 SHARES AS OF APRIL 27, 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

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

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

SIGNATURES

EX-10.1: RETIREMENT PLAN

EX-10.2: OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

EX-31.1: CERTIFICATION

EX-31.2: CERTIFICATION

EX-32.1: CERTIFICATION

EX-32.2: CERTIFICATION

Table of Contents

PART 1. FINANCIAL INFORMATION
ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS
AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED
MARCH 31, 2007 AND 2006

(dollars in thousands, except share and per share amounts)
(unaudited)

	2007	2006
Revenues		
Net premiums earned	\$ 271,571	\$ 230,582
Net investment income	45,169	29,313
Realized capital gains	50,141	6,983
Other income	8,725	1,937
 Total revenues	 375,606	 268,815
 Costs and expenses		
Loss and loss adjustment expenses	122,604	122,530
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	71,278	57,385
Other operating expenses	13,166	10,829
Corporate administration	8,004	8,423
Interest expense	723	1,101
 Total costs and expenses	 215,775	 200,268
 Earnings before income taxes and minority interest	 159,831	 68,547
Income taxes	51,056	9,341
 Earnings before minority interest	 108,775	 59,206
Minority interest, net of tax	2,357	0
 Net earnings	 \$ 106,418	 \$ 59,206
 Changes in other comprehensive income		
Change in unrealized gains, net of deferred taxes	\$ 27,273	\$ 42,558
Less: reclassification for gains realized in net earnings, net of taxes	(32,592)	(4,539)
Other	13	444

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Comprehensive income	\$ 101,112	\$ 97,669
Net earnings	\$ 106,418	\$ 59,206
Preferred dividends	4,306	0
Net earnings available to common stockholders	\$ 102,112	\$ 59,206
Basic earnings per share of common stock *	\$ 12.57	\$ 7.23
Diluted earnings per share of common stock *	\$ 11.90	\$ 7.21
Dividends per share of common stock	*	*
Average number of outstanding shares of common stock **	8,126,281	8,193,541

* Adjusted to reflect the common stock dividend declared in February 2007.

** In February 2007 and 2006, Alleghany declared a stock dividend consisting of one share of Alleghany common stock for every fifty shares outstanding.

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(dollars in thousands, except share amounts)

	March 31, 2007 (unaudited)	December 31, 2006
Assets		
Investments		
Available for sale securities at fair value:		
Equity securities (cost: 2007 \$480,839; 2006 \$436,203)	\$ 903,629	\$ 872,900
Debt securities (cost: 2007 \$2,820,772; 2006 \$2,628,971)	2,819,257	2,622,307
Short-term investments	426,204	438,567
	4,149,090	3,933,774
Other invested assets	164,862	123,651
Total investments	4,313,952	4,057,425
Cash	33,260	68,332
Notes receivable	0	91,536
Premium balances receivable	210,302	222,958
Reinsurance recoverables	1,008,767	1,067,926
Ceded unearned premium reserves	306,132	324,988
Deferred acquisition costs	81,702	80,018
Property and equipment at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization	18,038	18,404
Goodwill and other intangibles, net of amortization	157,972	159,772
Other assets	80,930	87,381
	\$6,211,055	\$6,178,740
Liabilities and Stockholders Equity		
Losses and loss adjustment expenses	\$2,308,082	\$2,304,644
Unearned premiums	851,979	886,539
Reinsurance payable	99,853	114,454
Net deferred tax liabilities	32,899	62,937
Subsidiaries debt	0	80,000
Current taxes payable	104,904	29,499
Minority interest	80,232	77,875
Other liabilities	221,321	199,546
Total liabilities	3,699,270	3,755,494

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Preferred stock (shares authorized: 2007 and 2006 - 1,132,000; issued and outstanding 2007 - 1,131,880; 2006 - 1,132,000)	299,495	299,527
Common stock (shares authorized: 2007 and 2006 - 22,000,000; issued and outstanding 2007 - 8,145,532; 2006 - 8,118,479)	7,986	7,959
Contributed capital	618,953	627,215
Accumulated other comprehensive income	270,564	275,871
Retained earnings	1,314,787	1,212,674
Total stockholders' equity	2,511,785	2,423,246
	\$6,211,055	\$6,178,740
Shares of Common Stock Outstanding *	8,145,532	8,118,479

* Adjusted to reflect the common stock dividend declared in February 2007.

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents

**ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED**

MARCH 31, 2007 AND 2006

(dollars in thousands)

(unaudited)

	2007	2006
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net earnings	\$ 106,418	\$ 59,206
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	2,269	2,329
Net realized capital (gains) losses	(50,141)	(6,983)
(Increase) decrease in other assets	495	(4,926)
(Increase) decrease in reinsurance receivable, net of reinsurance payable	44,558	79,740
(Increase) decrease in premium balances receivable	12,656	16,101
(Increase) decrease in ceded unearned premium reserves	18,856	16,191
(Increase) decrease in deferred acquisition costs	(1,684)	(4,383)
Increase (decrease) in other liabilities and current taxes	39,957	33,012
Increase (decrease) in unearned premiums	(34,560)	(5,110)
Increase (decrease) in losses and loss adjustment expenses	3,438	(99,116)
Net adjustments	35,844	26,855
Net cash provided by operating activities	142,262	86,061
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of investments	(319,724)	(462,117)
Sales of investments	76,091	165,738
Maturities of investments	55,664	122,503
Purchases of property and equipment	(1,005)	(781)
Net change in short-term investments	15,594	113,190
Acquisition of insurance companies, net of cash acquired	0	(215)
Other, net	(14,467)	(3,742)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(187,847)	(65,424)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Treasury stock acquisitions	0	(39,186)
Principal payments on long-term debt	(80,000)	0
Decrease in notes receivable	91,535	0
Convertible preferred stock dividends paid	(4,306)	0
Tax benefit on stock options exercised	1,062	163
Other, net	2,222	401
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	10,513	(38,622)

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Net (decrease) increase in cash	(35,072)	(17,985)
Cash at beginning of period	68,332	47,457
Cash at end of period	\$ 33,260	\$ 29,472

Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information

Cash paid during the period for:		
Interest	\$ 506	\$ 890
Income taxes paid (refunds received)	\$ 1,390	(\$40,659)
See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.		

Table of Contents**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements****Alleghany Corporation and Subsidiaries*****1. Principles of Financial Statement Presentation***

This report should be read in conjunction with the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 (the 2006 10-K) of Alleghany Corporation (Alleghany).

The information in this report is unaudited, but reflects all adjustments which, in the opinion of management, are necessary to a fair statement of results of the interim periods covered thereby. All adjustments are of a normal and recurring nature except as described herein.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the results of Alleghany and its wholly-owned and majority-owned subsidiaries, and have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). All significant inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those reported results to the extent that those estimates and assumptions prove to be inaccurate.

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the 2007 presentation.

2. Earnings Per Share of Common Stock

The following is a reconciliation of the income and share data used in the basic and diluted earnings per share computations for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 (in thousands, except share amounts):

	2007	2006
Net earnings	\$ 106,418	\$ 59,206
Preferred dividends	4,306	
Income available to common stockholders for basic earnings per share	102,112	59,206
Preferred dividends	4,306	
Effect of other dilutive securities	68	49
Income available to common stockholders for diluted earnings per share	\$ 106,486	\$ 59,255
Weighted average shares outstanding applicable to basic earnings per share	8,126,281	8,193,541
Preferred stock	784,124	
Effect of other dilutive securities	39,666	28,485
Adjusted weighted average shares outstanding applicable to diluted earnings per share	8,950,071	8,222,026

Contingently issuable shares of 58,098 and 89,242 were potentially available during 2007 and 2006, respectively, but were not included in the computations of diluted earnings per share because the impact was anti-dilutive to the earnings per share calculation.

Table of Contents

Earnings per share by quarter may not equal the amount for the full year due to rounding.

3. Commitments and Contingencies

(a) Leases

Alleghany leases certain facilities, furniture and equipment under long-term lease agreements.

(b) Litigation

Alleghany's subsidiaries are parties to pending litigation and claims in connection with the ordinary course of their businesses. Each such subsidiary makes provisions for estimated losses to be incurred in such litigation and claims, including legal costs. In the opinion of management such provisions are adequate.

(c) Asbestos and Environmental Exposure

The reserves for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses of Alleghany Insurance Holdings LLC (AIHL) include \$23.6 million and \$23.5 million of gross and net reserves at March 31, 2007, respectively, and \$23.8 and \$23.7 million of gross and net reserves at December 31, 2006, respectively, for various liability coverages related to asbestos and environmental impairment claims that arose from reinsurance assumed by a subsidiary of Capitol Transamerica Corporation (CATA) between 1969 and 1976. This subsidiary exited this business in 1976. Although Alleghany is unable at this time to determine whether additional reserves, which could have a material impact upon its results of operations, may be necessary in the future, Alleghany believes that CATA's asbestos and environmental reserves are adequate at March 31, 2007. Additional information concerning CATA's asbestos and environmental exposure can be found in Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the 2006 10-K.

(d) Indemnification Obligations

On July 14, 2005, Alleghany completed the sale of its world-wide industrial minerals business, World Minerals, Inc. (World Minerals), to Imerys USA, Inc. (the Purchaser), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Imerys, S.A., pursuant to a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of May 19, 2005, by and among the Purchaser, Imerys, S.A. and Alleghany (the Stock Purchase Agreement). Pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, Alleghany undertook certain indemnification obligations, including a general indemnification for breaches of representations and warranties set forth in the Stock Purchase Agreement (the Contract Indemnification) and a special indemnification (the Products Liability Indemnification) related to products liability claims arising from events that occurred during pre-closing periods, including the period of Alleghany ownership (the Alleghany Period).

The representations and warranties to which the Contract Indemnification applies survive for a two-year period (with the exception of certain representations and warranties such as those related to environmental, real estate and tax matters, which survive for periods longer than two years) and generally, except for tax and certain other matters, apply only to aggregate losses in excess of \$2.5 million, up to a maximum of approximately \$123.0 million. The Stock Purchase Agreement provides that Alleghany has no responsibility for products liability claims arising in respect of events occurring after the closing, and that any products liability claims involving both pre-closing and post-closing periods will be apportioned on an equitable basis. Additional information concerning the Contract Indemnification and Products Liability Indemnification can be found in Note 13 to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the 2006 10-K.

Table of Contents

Based on Alleghany's experience to date and other analyses, Alleghany established a \$600,000 reserve in connection with the Products Liability Indemnification for the Alleghany Period. The reserve was \$499,000 at March 31, 2007.

(e) Equity Holdings Concentration

At March 31, 2007, Alleghany had a concentration of market risk in its available-for-sale equity securities portfolio of common stock of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation (Burlington Northern), a railroad holding company, amounting to \$402.2 million. During the first quarter of 2007, Alleghany sold approximately 809 thousand shares of Burlington Northern common stock for approximately \$65.7 million of proceeds, resulting in an after-tax gain of approximately \$36.3 million in the 2007 first quarter.

At March 31, 2007, Alleghany also had a concentration of market risk in its available-for-sale equity securities portfolio with respect to the common stock of certain energy sector companies amounting to \$281.5 million.

4. Segment of Business

Information related to Alleghany's reportable segment is shown in the table below. Property and casualty insurance and surety operations are conducted by AIHL through its insurance operating units RSUI Group, Inc. (RSUI), CATA, and Darwin Professional Underwriters, Inc. (Darwin). In addition, AIHL Re LLC (AIHL Re), established in June 2006, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of AIHL that is available to provide reinsurance to Alleghany group operating units and affiliates. Alleghany's reportable segment is reported in a manner consistent with the way management evaluates the businesses. As such, insurance underwriting activities are evaluated separately from investment activities. Net realized capital gains are not considered relevant in evaluating investment performance on an annual basis. Segment accounting policies are the same as those described in Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in the 2006 10-K.

The primary components of corporate activities are Alleghany Properties Holdings LLC (Alleghany Properties), AIHL's investment in Homesite Group Incorporated (Homesite), corporate investment, and other activities at the parent level, including strategic equity investments which are available to support the internal growth of subsidiaries and for acquisitions of, and substantial investments in, operating companies.

Table of Contents

<i>(in millions)</i>	For the three months ended March 31,	
	2007	2006
Revenues:		
<i>AIHL insurance group:</i>		
Net premiums earned		
RSUI	\$ 166.6	\$ 162.1
CATA	47.3	41.2
Darwin	40.0	27.3
AIHL Re	17.7	
	271.6	230.6
Net investment income	40.0	24.9
Net realized capital (losses) gains	(5.8)	4.6
Other income	0.1	0.8
Total insurance group	305.9	260.9
<i>Corporate activities:</i>		
Net investment income (1)	5.2	4.4
Net realized capital gains	55.9(2)	2.4
Other income	8.6	1.1
Total	\$375.6	\$268.8
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest:		
<i>AIHL insurance group:</i>		
Underwriting profit (3)		
RSUI	\$ 50.3	\$ 46.6
CATA	7.0	3.3
Darwin	2.8	0.8
AIHL Re	17.6	
	77.7	50.7
Net investment income	40.0	24.9
Net realized capital (losses) gains	(5.8)	4.6
Other income, less other expenses	(12.0)	(9.4)
Total insurance group	99.9	70.8
<i>Corporate activities:</i>		
Net investment income (1)	5.2	4.4
Net realized capital gains	55.9(2)	2.4
Other income	8.6	1.1

Corporate administration and other expenses	9.1	9.1
Interest expense	0.7	1.1
Total	\$159.8	\$ 68.5

- (1) Includes \$2.9 million of Alleghany's equity in earnings of Homesite, net of purchase accounting adjustments (See Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements in the 2006 10-K).
- (2) Reflects net realized capital gains from the sale of approximately 809,000 shares of Burlington Northern common stock in the 2007 first quarter.
- (3) Represents net premiums earned less loss and loss adjustment expenses and underwriting expenses, all as determined in accordance with GAAP, and does not include net investment income and other income or net realized capital gains.

Underwriting
expenses
represent
commission and
brokerage
expenses and
that portion of
salaries,
administration
and other
operating
expenses
directly
attributable to
underwriting
activities,
whereas the
remainder
constitutes other
expenses.

5. Income Taxes

Net earnings for the first three months of 2006 include a tax benefit of \$10.8 million resulting from the release in the first quarter of 2006 of a valuation allowance Alleghany held with respect

Table of Contents

to a portion of its deferred tax assets relating to unused foreign tax credits. The unused foreign tax credits arose from Alleghany's ownership of World Minerals prior to its sale in July 2005. Primarily as a result of the release, Alleghany's effective tax rate on earnings before taxes and minority interest was 13.6 percent for the 2006 first quarter, compared with 31.9 percent for the 2007 first quarter.

Alleghany's 2003 and forward income tax returns remain open to examination.

6. Reinsurance

As discussed in the 2006 10-K, RSUI reinsures its property lines of business through a program consisting of surplus share treaties, facultative placements, per risk and catastrophe excess of loss treaties. RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program (which covers catastrophe risks including, among others, windstorms and earthquakes) and per risk reinsurance program run on an annual basis from May 1 to the following April 30 and thus expired on April 30, 2007. RSUI has placed substantially all of its catastrophe reinsurance program for the 2007-2008 period. Under the new program, RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program covers \$400.0 million of losses, before co-participation by RSUI, in excess of a \$100.0 million net retention after application of the surplus share treaties, facultative reinsurance and per risk covers, compared with coverage for \$675.0 million of losses, before co-participation by RSUI, in excess of a \$75.0 million net retention under the expired program. In addition, RSUI's property per risk reinsurance program for the 2007-2008 period provides RSUI with reinsurance for \$90.0 million of losses in excess of \$10.0 million net retention per risk after application of the surplus share treaties and facultative reinsurance, which is substantially similar to the expired program.

As discussed in the 2006 10-K, RSUI reinsures its other lines of business through quota share treaties. RSUI's Professional Liability quota share reinsurance treaty, which expired on April 1, 2007, provided reinsurance for policies with limits up to \$10.0 million, with RSUI ceding 25 percent of the premiums and losses for policies with limits up to \$1.0 million, and 50 percent of the premiums and losses on policies with limits greater than \$1.0 million up to \$10.0 million. This treaty was not renewed by RSUI, as management decided to retain all of this business.

AIHL Re was formed in June 2006 as a captive reinsurance subsidiary of AIHL to provide catastrophe reinsurance coverage for RSUI. AIHL Re and RSUI entered into a reinsurance agreement, effective July 1, 2006, whereby AIHL Re, in exchange for market-based premiums, took that portion of RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program not covered by third party reinsurers. This reinsurance coverage expired on April 30, 2007, and AIHL Re is not participating in RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program for the 2007-2008 period. AIHL Re and Homesite entered into a reinsurance agreement, effective April 1, 2007, whereby AIHL Re, in exchange for an annual premium that is estimated will not be in excess of \$2.0 million, provides \$20.0 million of excess-of-loss reinsurance coverage to Homesite under its catastrophe reinsurance program. Homesite's catastrophe exposure is concentrated in the Northeast region of the United States.

As discussed in the 2006 10-K, Darwin reinsures all of its lines of business through a program consisting of a variety of excess of loss treaties. In April 2007, Darwin substantially completed the renewal of its main reinsurance program. For Darwin's medical lines of business, the new program provides coverage for \$10.0 million of losses, before a 15 percent co-

Table of Contents

participation by Darwin, in excess of \$5.0 million of losses for non-publicly traded directors and officers (D&O) liability (other than Side-A only liability) and primary insurance agents errors and omissions (E&O) liability and for \$5.0 million of losses for other non-medical lines, before a 15 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$5.0 million of losses. The third layer provides coverage for \$5.0 million of losses for Darwin's Side-A only D&O liability, before a 10 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$15.0 million of losses, and for \$10.0 million of losses for Managed Care E&O liability, before a 10 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$10.0 million of losses. As with its medical reinsurance program, premiums no longer vary depending on profitability as under the expired program, but ceding commissions may vary.

7. Debt and Notes Receivable

As of December 31, 2006, Alleghany Funding Corporation (Alleghany Funding) had outstanding notes payable of \$80.0 million, which were secured by a \$91.5 million installment note receivable. At the time of the debt issuance, Alleghany Funding also entered into a related interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$86.2 million for the purpose of matching interest expense with interest income. This swap was pay variable, receive variable, whereby Alleghany Funding paid a variable rate equal to the one-month commercial paper rate plus 0.0625 percent and received a variable rate equal to the three-month LIBOR rate plus 0.375 percent.

The notes payable, installment note receivable and swap matured on January 22, 2007, without gain or loss.

8. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2006, FASB Statement No. 155, Accounting for Certain Hybrid Instruments, an amendment to FASB Statement No. 133 and 140 was issued. This Statement permits fair value remeasurement for any hybrid financial instrument that contains an embedded derivative that otherwise would require bifurcation, and establishes a requirement to evaluate interests in securitized financial assets to identify interests that are freestanding derivatives or that are hybrid financial instruments that contain an embedded derivative requiring bifurcation. This Statement is effective for all financial instruments acquired or issued after the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after September 15, 2006. Alleghany has adopted the provisions of this Statement as of January 1, 2007, and the implementation did not have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In July 2006, FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, was issued. This Interpretation clarifies the accounting for income taxes recognized in an entity's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. This Interpretation prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. This Interpretation also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. This Interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. Alleghany has adopted the provisions of this Interpretation as of January 1, 2007. The implementation did not have any impact on Alleghany's results of operations and financial condition, and Alleghany did not have any unrecognized tax benefits as of January 1, 2007 or March 31, 2007.

The Securities and Exchange Commission released Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 108 (SAB 108), in September 2006. SAB 108 provides guidance on how the effects of the carryover or reversal of prior year financial statement misstatements should be considered in quantifying a current period misstatement. In addition, upon adoption, SAB 108 permits an entity to adjust for the cumulative effect of immaterial errors relating to prior years in the carrying amount of assets

Table of Contents

and liabilities as of the beginning of the current fiscal year, with an offsetting adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings. SAB 108 also requires the adjustment of any prior quarterly financial statements within the fiscal year of adoption for the effects of such errors on the quarters when the information is next presented. Alleghany has adopted the provisions of SAB 108 as of January 1, 2007, and the implementation did not have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In September 2006, FASB Statement No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*, was issued. This Statement provides guidance for using fair value to measure assets and liabilities. The Statement does not expand the use of fair value in any new circumstances. The Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Alleghany does not believe that this Statement will have a material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

At the September 2006 meeting, the Emerging Issues Task Force reached a consensus with respect to Issue No. 06-4, *Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements*. The Issue addresses split-dollar life insurance, which is defined as an arrangement in which the employer and an employee share the cash surrender value and/or death benefits of the insurance policy. Additional information regarding this Issue can be found in Note 1.p. to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the 2006 10-K. Alleghany will adopt this Issue in the first quarter of 2008, and does not anticipate that it will have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In February 2007, FASB Statement No. 159, *The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115*, was issued. This Statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value, at specified election dates, with unrealized gains and losses reported in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. This Statement is effective as of the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. Early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of a fiscal year that begins on or before November 15, 2007, provided the entity also elects to apply the provisions of FASB Statement No. 157, *Fair Value Measurements*. Alleghany does not anticipate that this Statement will have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

9. Subsequent Events

On April 27, 2007, AIHL entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Employers Direct Corporation (*EDC*) for a cash purchase price of approximately \$195.0 million. The transaction is subject to certain closing conditions, including the receipt of all required regulatory approvals, and is expected to close in the third quarter of 2007. *EDC*, which was founded in 2002, is an insurance holding company based in Agoura Hills, California that, through its wholly-owned subsidiary Employers Direct Insurance Company, writes workers' compensation insurance on a direct basis in the State of California. For the year ended 2006, *EDC* had net premiums earned of approximately \$139.5 million and net income of approximately \$46.6 million. At December 31, 2006, *EDC* had total stockholders equity of approximately \$131.7 million.

Table of Contents

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

References in Items 2, 3 and 4 of Part I, as well as in Part II, of this Form 10-Q to the Company, Alleghany, we, and our refer to Alleghany Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries unless the context otherwise requires. AIHL refers to our insurance holding company subsidiary Alleghany Insurance Holdings LLC. RSUI refers to our subsidiary RSUI Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries. AIHL Re refers to AIHL Re LLC. CATA refers to our subsidiary Capitol Transamerica Corporation and its subsidiaries and also includes the results and operations of Platte River Insurance Company unless the context otherwise requires. Darwin refers to Darwin Professional Underwriters, Inc. and its subsidiaries. Unless the context otherwise requires, references to AIHL include the operations of RSUI, CATA, Darwin and AIHL Re. Alleghany Properties refers to our subsidiary Alleghany Properties Holdings LLC and its subsidiaries.

Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk contain disclosures which are forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include all statements that do not relate solely to historical or current facts, and can be identified by the use of words such as may, will, expect, project, estimate, anticipate, plan, believe, potential, should, continue or the negative versions of those words or other comparable words. These forward-looking statements are based upon our current plans or expectations and are subject to a number of uncertainties and risks that could significantly affect current plans, anticipated actions and our future financial condition and results. These statements are not guarantees of future performance, and we have no specific intention to update these statements. The uncertainties and risks include, but are not limited to, risks relating to our insurance operating units such as

significant weather-related or other natural or human-made catastrophes and disasters;

the cyclical nature of the property and casualty industry;

the long-tail and potentially volatile nature of certain casualty lines of business written by our insurance operating units;

the cost and availability of reinsurance;

exposure to terrorist acts;

the willingness and ability of our insurance operating units' reinsurers to pay reinsurance recoverables owed to our insurance operating units;

changes in the ratings assigned to our insurance operating units;

claims development and the process of estimating reserves;

legal and regulatory changes;

the uncertain nature of damage theories and loss amounts;

increases in the levels of risk retention by our insurance operating units; and

adverse loss development for events insured by our insurance operating units in either the current year or in prior years.

Additional risks and uncertainties include general economic and political conditions, including the effects of a prolonged U.S. or global economic downturn or recession; changes in costs; variations in political, economic or other factors; risks relating to conducting operations in a competitive environment; effects of acquisition and disposition activities, inflation rates or recessionary or expansive trends; changes in market prices of our significant equity investments; extended labor disruptions, civil unrest or other external factors over which we have no control; and changes in our plans, strategies, objectives, expectations or intentions, which may happen at

Table of Contents

any time at our discretion. As a consequence, current plans, anticipated actions and future financial condition and results may differ from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf.

Business Overview

We are engaged, through AIHL and its subsidiaries RSUI, CATA and Darwin, in the property and casualty and surety insurance business. In addition, AIHL Re, a captive reinsurance subsidiary of AIHL, is available to provide reinsurance to Alleghany group operating units and affiliates. We also own and manage properties in the Sacramento, California region through our subsidiary Alleghany Properties and conduct corporate investment and other activities at the parent level, including the holding of strategic equity investments which are available to support the internal growth of subsidiaries and for acquisitions of, and substantial investments in, operating companies. On December 29, 2006, we acquired approximately 32.9 percent of the outstanding shares of common stock of Homesite Group Incorporated, or Homesite, a national, full-service, mono-line provider of homeowners insurance, for \$120.0 million in cash, and this investment is reflected in our financial statements in other invested assets.

The following discussion and analysis presents a review of our results for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006. You should read this review in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and other data presented in this Form 10-Q as well as Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation and Risk Factors contained in our Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, or the 2006 10-K. Our 2007 first quarter results are not indicative of operating results in future periods.

Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or GAAP, requires us to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period covered by the financial statements. Critical accounting estimates are defined as those estimates that are important to the presentation of our financial condition and results of operations and require us to exercise significant judgment.

We review our critical accounting estimates and assumptions quarterly. These reviews include evaluating the adequacy of reserves for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses and the reinsurance allowance for doubtful accounts, analyzing the recoverability of deferred tax assets, assessing goodwill for impairment and evaluating the investment portfolio for other-than-temporary declines in estimated fair value. Actual results may differ from the estimates used in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

Readers are encouraged to review our 2006 10-K for a more complete description of our critical accounting estimates.

Table of Contents**Consolidated Results of Operations**

The following table summarizes our consolidated revenues, costs and expenses and earnings for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006.

(in thousands)	2007	2006
Revenues		
Net premiums earned	\$ 271,571	\$ 230,582
Net investment income	45,169	29,313
Net realized capital gains	50,141	6,983
Other income	8,725	1,937
Total revenues	375,606	268,815
Costs and expenses		
Loss and loss adjustment expenses	122,604	122,530
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	71,278	57,385
Other operating expenses	13,166	10,829
Corporate administration	8,004	8,423
Interest expense	723	1,101
Total costs and expenses	215,775	200,268
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest	159,831	68,547
Income taxes	51,056	9,341
Earnings before minority interest	108,775	59,206
Minority interest, net of tax	2,357	
Net earnings	106,418	\$ 59,506
Revenues:		
AIHL	\$ 305,909	\$ 260,888
Corporate activities*	69,697	7,927
Earnings (loss) before income taxes and minority interest:		
AIHL	\$ 99,897	\$ 70,859
Corporate activities*	59,934	(2,312)

* Corporate activities consist of Alleghany Properties, Homesite and corporate activities at the parent level.

Our earnings before income taxes and minority interest in the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period, reflecting increases in net premiums earned, net investment income and other income, as well as substantially higher net realized capital gains. The increase in net premiums earned reflects growth at RSUI, CATA and Darwin, partially offset by increased commission, brokerage and other underwriting expenses related to such growth. The increase in net investment income primarily reflects strong underwriting cash flow, the reinvestment of net proceeds from our public offering of mandatory convertible preferred stock in June 2006, and receipt of net proceeds from the initial public offering of Darwin common stock in May 2006. The increase in other income reflects the sale of property by Alleghany Properties in the 2007 first quarter. The substantial increase in net realized capital gains reflects the sale by parent of 809 thousand shares of common stock of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation, or Burlington Northern, for a net realized capital gain of \$55.9 million.

The effective tax rate on net earnings before income taxes and minority interest was 31.9 percent for the 2007 first quarter, compared with 13.6 percent for the corresponding 2006 period. The effective tax rate in the 2006 first quarter includes a tax benefit of \$10.8 million resulting from the release of a valuation allowance we held with respect to a portion of our deferred tax assets related to unused foreign tax credits. The unused foreign tax credits arose from our ownership of World Minerals, Inc. prior to its sale in July 2005. Net earnings for 2006 include this \$10.8 million tax benefit.

Table of Contents**AIHL Operating Unit Pre-Tax Results**

<i>(in millions)</i>	RSUI	AIHL Re	CATA	Darwin	AIHL
Three months ended March 31, 2007					
Gross premiums written	\$ 288.9		\$ 52.7	\$ 74.3	\$ 415.9
Net premiums written	\$ 156.4		\$ 50.6	\$ 48.9	\$ 255.9
Net premiums earned (1)	\$ 166.6	\$ 17.7	\$ 47.3	\$ 40.0	\$ 271.6
Loss and loss adjustment expenses	76.4		20.7	25.5	122.6
Underwriting expenses (2)	39.9	0.1	19.6	11.7	71.3
Underwriting profit (3)	\$ 50.3	\$ 17.6	\$ 7.0	\$ 2.8	\$ 77.7
Net investment income (1)					40.0
Net realized capital losses (1)					(5.8)
Other income (1)					0.1
Other expenses (2)					(12.1)
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest					\$ 99.9
Loss ratio (4)	45.9%		43.8%	63.7%	45.1%
Expense ratio (5)	24.0%	0.3%	41.5%	29.1%	26.2%
Combined ratio (6)	69.9%	0.3%	85.3%	92.8%	71.3%
Three months ended March 31, 2006					
Gross premiums written	\$ 295.5		\$ 44.3	\$ 59.9	\$ 399.7
Net premiums written	162.7		42.2	36.8	241.7
Net premiums earned (1)	\$ 162.1		\$ 41.2	\$ 27.3	\$ 230.6
Loss and loss adjustment expenses	83.7		19.6	19.2	122.5
Underwriting expenses (2)	31.8		18.3	7.3	57.4
Underwriting profit (3)	\$ 46.6		\$ 3.3	\$ 0.8	\$ 50.7
Net investment income (1)					24.9
Net realized capital gains (1)					4.6
Other income (1)					0.8
Other expenses (2)					(10.2)
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest					\$ 70.8

Loss ratio (4)	51.7%	47.5%	70.6%	53.1%
Expense ratio (5)	19.6%	44.5%	26.5%	24.9%
Combined ratio (6)	71.3%	92.0%	97.1%	78.0%

(1) Represent components of total revenues.

(2) Underwriting expenses represent commission and brokerage expenses and that portion of salaries, administration and other operating expenses directly attributable to underwriting activities, whereas the remainder constitutes other expenses.

(3) Represents net premiums earned less loss and loss adjustment expenses and underwriting expenses, all as determined in accordance with GAAP, and does not include net investment income and other income or net realized capital gains. Underwriting profit does not replace net income determined in

accordance with GAAP as a measure of profitability; rather, we believe that underwriting profit, which does not include net investment income and other income or net realized capital gains, enhances the understanding of AIHL s insurance operating units operating results by highlighting net income attributable to their underwriting performance. With the addition of net investment income and other income and net realized capital gains, reported pre-tax net income (a GAAP measure) may show a profit despite an underlying underwriting loss. Where underwriting losses persist over extended periods, an insurance company s ability to continue as an ongoing concern may be at risk.

Therefore, we view underwriting profit as an important measure in the overall evaluation of performance.

- (4) Loss and loss adjustment expenses divided by net premiums earned, all as determined in accordance with GAAP.
- (5) Underwriting expenses divided by net premiums earned, all as determined in accordance with GAAP.
- (6) The sum of the loss ratio and expense ratio, all as determined in accordance with GAAP, representing the percentage of each premium dollar an insurance company has to spend on losses (including loss adjustment expenses) and underwriting expenses.

Discussion of individual AIHL operating unit results follows, and AIHL investment results are discussed below under Investments.

Table of Contents**RSUI**

The decrease in gross premiums written in the 2007 first quarter from the corresponding 2006 period primarily reflects increased competition and rate pressures in RSUI's general liability, umbrella and property lines of business. RSUI's net premiums earned in the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period as a result of property and casualty premiums written during 2006 being earned in the 2007 first quarter. In addition, 2007 first quarter net premiums earned were higher compared with the corresponding 2006 period as a result of catastrophe reinsurance reinstatement premiums related to Hurricane Katrina which RSUI incurred during the 2006 first quarter. The decrease in loss and loss adjustment expenses in the 2007 first quarter from the corresponding 2006 period reflects lower property losses in the 2007 period, while the increase in underwriting expenses in the first quarter of 2007 from the corresponding 2006 period reflects higher salary and benefit expenses and lower ceding commissions on RSUI's property surplus share reinsurance arrangements, which caused commission expenses incurred to increase. RSUI's underwriting profit for the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period, primarily reflecting an increase in net premiums earned and lower property losses incurred, partially offset by higher underwriting expenses. Rates at RSUI in the 2007 first quarter as compared with the 2006 first quarter reflect overall industry trends, with marginally decreased rates in all of RSUI's lines of business due to increased competition, particularly for the general liability and umbrella lines of business.

As discussed in the 2006 10-K, RSUI reinsures its property lines of business through a program consisting of surplus share treaties, facultative placements, per risk and catastrophe excess of loss treaties. RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program (which covers catastrophe risks including, among others, windstorms and earthquakes) and per risk reinsurance program run on an annual basis from May 1 to the following April 30 and thus expired on April 30, 2007. RSUI has placed substantially all of its catastrophe reinsurance program for the 2007-2008 period. Under the new program, RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program covers \$400.0 million of losses, before co-participation by RSUI, in excess of a \$100.0 million net retention after application of the surplus share treaties, facultative reinsurance and per risk covers, compared with coverage for \$675.0 million of losses, before co-participation by RSUI, in excess of a \$75.0 million net retention under the expired program. In addition, RSUI's property per risk reinsurance program for the 2007-2008 period provides RSUI with reinsurance for \$90.0 million of losses in excess of \$10.0 million net retention per risk after application of the surplus share treaties and facultative reinsurance, which is substantially similar to the expired program.

RSUI reinsures its other lines of business through quota share treaties. RSUI's Professional Liability quota share reinsurance treaty, which expired on April 1, 2007, provided reinsurance for policies with limits up to \$10.0 million, with RSUI ceding 25 percent of the premiums and losses for policies with limits up to \$1.0 million, and 50 percent of the premiums and losses on policies with limits greater than \$1.0 million up to \$10.0 million. This treaty was not renewed by RSUI, as management decided to retain all of this business.

AIHL Re

AIHL Re was formed in June 2006 as a captive reinsurance subsidiary of AIHL to provide catastrophe reinsurance coverage for RSUI. AIHL Re and RSUI entered into a reinsurance agreement, effective July 1, 2006, whereby AIHL Re, in exchange for market-based premiums, took that portion of RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program not covered by third party reinsurers. AIHL Re's underwriting profit in the 2007 first quarter reflects the absence of

Table of Contents

catastrophe losses during the period. This reinsurance coverage expired on April 30, 2007 and AIHL Re is not participating in RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program for the 2007-2008 period.

AIHL Re and Homesite entered into a reinsurance agreement, effective April 1, 2007, whereby AIHL Re, in exchange for annual premium that is estimated will not be in excess of \$2.0 million, provides \$20.0 million of excess-of-loss reinsurance coverage to Homesite under its catastrophe reinsurance program. Homesite's catastrophe exposure is concentrated in the Northeast region of the United States.

CATA

CATA's net premiums earned in the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period, reflecting growth in gross and net premiums written in CATA's property and casualty (including in excess and surplus markets) and commercial surety lines of business. The modest increase in loss and loss adjustment expenses in the 2007 first quarter from the corresponding 2006 period reflects growth in net premiums earned, partially offset by a \$3.4 million release of prior year loss reserves from the 2006 accident year due to lower loss emergence in the property and surety lines of business. Underwriting expenses for the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period, primarily reflecting higher commissions and other acquisition-related expenses as a consequence of increased premium volumes.

CATA's underwriting profit for the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period, primarily reflecting a \$3.4 million release of prior year commercial surety and property loss reserves and an increase in net premiums earned, partially offset by increases in loss and loss adjustment expenses and underwriting expenses.

With respect to rates, CATA experienced increased competition in its property and casualty and commercial surety lines of business during the first quarter of 2007, compared with the corresponding 2006 period.

Darwin

The increase in gross premiums written at Darwin in the 2007 first quarter from the corresponding 2006 period reflects growth in all of Darwin's liability lines of business. The increase in net premiums earned in the 2007 first quarter from the 2006 first quarter primarily reflects the increase in gross premiums written, as well as an increase in retentions under Darwin's reinsurance programs. The increase in loss and loss adjustment expenses and underwriting expenses in the 2007 first quarter compared with the 2006 first quarter primarily reflects an increase in premium volume.

Darwin's underwriting profit for the 2007 first quarter increased from the corresponding 2006 period, primarily reflecting an increase in net premiums earned and a release of prior year loss reserves and associated adjustment to ceded reinsurance premiums totaling \$1.2 million, partially offset by increases in loss and loss adjustment expenses and underwriting expenses related to the growth of Darwin's business. The \$1.2 million reserve adjustment consisted of \$0.8 million of loss reserve releases for the 2004 accident year, reflecting favorable loss emergence, and a corresponding \$0.4 million reduction in ceded reinsurance premiums.

Table of Contents

As discussed in the 2006 10-K, Darwin reinsures all of its lines of business through a program consisting of a variety of excess of loss treaties. In April 2007, Darwin substantially completed the renewal of its main reinsurance program. For Darwin's medical lines of business, the new program provides coverage for \$10.0 million of losses, before a 15 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of a \$1.0 million net retention, with premiums no longer varying depending on profitability as under the expired program. For Darwin's non-medical lines of business, the new program provides coverage in three layers. The first layer provides coverage for \$3.0 million of losses, before a 25 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of a \$2.0 million net retention. The second layer provides coverage for up to \$10.0 million of losses, before a 15 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$5.0 million of losses for non-publicly traded D&O liability (other than Side-A only liability) and primary insurance agents E&O liability and for \$5.0 million of losses for other non-medical lines, before a 15 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$5.0 million of losses. The third layer provides coverage for \$5.0 million of losses for Darwin's Side-A only D&O liability, before a 10 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$15.0 million of losses, and for \$10.0 million of losses for Managed Care E&O, before a 10 percent co-participation by Darwin, in excess of \$10.0 million of losses. As with its medical reinsurance program, premiums no longer vary depending on profitability as under the expired program, but ceding commissions may vary.

Reserve Review Process

AIHL's insurance operating units periodically analyze liabilities for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, or LAE, established in prior years and adjust their expected ultimate cost, where necessary, to reflect positive or negative development in loss experience and new information, including, for certain catastrophic events, revised industry estimates of the magnitude of a catastrophe. Adjustments to previously recorded liabilities for unpaid losses and LAE, both positive and negative, are reflected in our financial results in the periods in which these adjustments are made and are referred to as prior year reserve development. The following table presents the reserves established in connection with the losses and LAE of AIHL's insurance operating units on a gross and net basis by line of business. These reserve amounts represent the accumulation of estimates of ultimate losses (including for claims incurred but not yet reported, or IBNR) and LAE.

<i>(in millions)</i>	<i>Property</i>	<i>Casualty</i>	<i>CMP*</i>	<i>Surety</i>	<i>All Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>At December 31, 31, 2007</i>						
Gross loss and LAE reserves	\$ 474.5	\$ 1,640.5	\$ 87.8	\$ 19.1	\$ 86.2	\$ 2,308.1
Reinsurance recoverables on unpaid losses	(236.6)	(658.1)	(0.8)	(0.2)	(50.4)	(946.1)
Net loss and LAE reserves	\$ 237.9	\$ 982.4	\$ 87.0	\$ 18.9	\$ 35.8	\$ 1,362.0
<i>At December 31, 2006</i>						
Gross loss and LAE reserves	\$ 598.3	\$ 1,515.0	\$ 86.2	\$ 18.4	\$ 86.7	\$ 2,304.6
Reinsurance recoverables on unpaid losses	(348.4)	(608.7)	(1.1)	(0.2)	(51.4)	(1,009.8)
Net loss and LAE reserves	\$ 249.9	\$ 906.3	\$ 85.1	\$ 18.2	\$ 35.3	\$ 1,294.8

*

Commercial
multiple peril

Table of Contents

Changes in Loss and LAE Reserves between March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006.

Gross Reserves. The increase in gross loss and LAE reserves at March 31, 2007 from December 31, 2006 primarily reflects increases in casualty gross loss and LAE reserves at RSUI and Darwin, partially offset by a reduction in RSUI's property gross loss and LAE reserves. The increase in casualty (which includes, among other lines, excess and umbrella, directors and officers liability, professional liability, general liability, medical malpractice liability and workers compensation) gross loss and LAE reserves primarily reflects anticipated loss reserves on current accident year gross premiums earned and limited gross paid loss activity for the current and prior casualty accident years. The decrease in property gross loss and LAE reserves is mainly due to gross loss payments on 2004 and 2005 hurricane related losses, principally Hurricane Katrina.

Net Reserves. The increase in net loss and LAE reserves at March 31, 2007 from December 31, 2006 primarily reflects increases in casualty net loss and LAE reserves at RSUI and Darwin. The increase in net loss and LAE reserves for the casualty lines of business primarily reflects anticipated loss reserves on current accident year net premiums earned and limited net paid loss activity for current and prior casualty accident years. Net loss and LAE reserves for property lines of business decreased, primarily reflecting loss payments, net of reinsurance recoveries, on 2004 and 2005 hurricane related losses.

Reinsurance Recoverables

At March 31, 2007, AIHL had total reinsurance recoverables of \$1,008.8 million, consisting of \$946.1 million of ceded outstanding losses and LAE and \$62.7 million of recoverables on paid losses. Approximately 90.9 percent of AIHL's reinsurance recoverables balance at March 31, 2007 was due from reinsurers having an A.M. Best financial strength rating of A (Excellent) or higher.

Corporate Activities Results from Operations

Corporate activities recorded a pre-tax gain of \$59.9 million on revenues of \$69.7 million for 2007 first quarter, compared with pre-tax loss of \$2.3 million on revenues of \$7.9 million in the corresponding period of 2006. The 2007 first quarter results primarily reflect net realized capital gains at the parent level of \$55.9 million resulting from the sale of approximately 809 thousand shares of Burlington Northern common stock during the period. In addition, the 2007 results also benefited from the sale by Alleghany Properties of certain real estate holdings during the 2007 first quarter which generated a pre-tax gain of approximately \$7.2 million, compared with immaterial sales activity in the comparable 2006 period.

For the 2007 first quarter, net investment income includes \$2.9 million of Alleghany's equity in earnings of Homesite, net of purchase accounting adjustments.

Investments

On a consolidated basis, Alleghany's invested asset portfolio was approximately \$4.3 billion as of March 31, 2007, an increase of 6.3 percent from approximately \$4.1 billion at December 31, 2006. At March 31, 2007, the average duration of Alleghany's debt securities portfolio was 4.12 years, compared with 4.21 years at December 31, 2006.

The invested asset portfolio generated net investment income of \$45.2 million for the 2007 first quarter, of which \$40.0 million was generated by AIHL and \$5.2 million was generated

Table of Contents

by corporate activities. These amounts were \$29.3 million, \$24.9 million, and \$4.4 million, respectively, for the comparable 2006 period. The increase in AIHL's net investment income in the first three months of 2007 was due principally to strong underwriting cash flow and the reinvestment of proceeds from Darwin's initial public offering of common stock during the 2006 second quarter, as well as slightly higher average investment yields during the 2007 first quarter. The increase in net investment income for corporate activities in the first three months of 2007 is due principally to the reinvestment of proceeds from a mandatory convertible preferred stock offering (after capitalization of AIHL Re), which occurred during the 2006 second quarter.

The sales within our invested asset portfolio generated net realized capital gains of \$50.1 million for the first three months of 2007, compared with \$7.0 million for the corresponding 2006 period, reflecting net realized capital gains of \$55.9 million at the parent-level, partially offset by a net realized capital loss of \$5.8 million at AIHL. As noted above, the net realized capital gains for corporate activities in the 2007 first quarter were due to the sale of Burlington Northern common stock. As of March 31, 2007, we held approximately 5.0 million shares of Burlington Northern common stock with an aggregate market value at that date of approximately \$402.2 million. AIHL's \$5.8 million net realized capital loss in the 2007 first quarter consisted of \$6.6 million of unrealized losses related to AIHL's mortgage- and asset-backed bond portfolio that were deemed to be other than temporary, partially offset by \$0.8 million of net realized capital gains on the sale of securities by AIHL.

Financial Condition

Stockholders' equity increased to \$2,511.8 million as of March 31, 2007, compared with \$2,423.2 million as of December 31, 2006, representing an increase of 3.7 percent, due to net earnings in the 2007 first quarter.

As of December 31, 2006, Alleghany Funding Corporation, or Alleghany Funding, had outstanding notes payable of \$80.0 million, which were secured by a \$91.5 million installment note receivable. At the time of the debt issuance, Alleghany Funding also entered into a related interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$86.2 million for the purpose of matching interest expense with interest income. This swap was pay variable, receive variable, whereby Alleghany Funding paid a variable rate equal to the one-month commercial paper rate plus 0.0625 percent and received a variable rate equal to the three-month LIBOR rate plus 0.375 percent. The notes payable, installment note receivable and swap matured on January 22, 2007, without gain or loss.

We and our subsidiaries have adequate internally generated funds and unused credit facilities to provide for the currently foreseeable needs of our and their businesses, respectively.

Table of Contents

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In March 2006, FASB Statement No. 155, Accounting for Certain Hybrid Instruments, an amendment to FASB Statement No. 133 and 140 was issued. This Statement permits fair value remeasurement for any hybrid financial instrument that contains an embedded derivative that otherwise would require bifurcation, and establishes a requirement to evaluate interests in securitized financial assets to identify interests that are freestanding derivatives or that are hybrid financial instruments that contain an embedded derivative requiring bifurcation. This Statement is effective for all financial instruments acquired or issued after the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after September 15, 2006. Alleghany has adopted the provisions of this Statement as of January 1, 2007, and the implementation did not have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In July 2006, FASB Interpretation No. 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, was issued. This Interpretation clarifies the accounting for income taxes recognized in an entity's financial statements in accordance with FASB Statement 109, Accounting for Income Taxes. This Interpretation prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. This Interpretation also provides guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure and transition. This Interpretation is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The implementation did not have any impact on Alleghany's results of operations and financial condition, and Alleghany did not have any unrecognized tax benefits as of January 1, 2007 or March 31, 2007.

The Securities and Exchange Commission released Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 108 (SAB 108), in September 2006. SAB 108 provides guidance on how the effects of the carryover or reversal of prior year financial statement misstatements should be considered in quantifying a current period misstatement. In addition, upon adoption, SAB 108 permits an entity to adjust for the cumulative effect of immaterial errors relating to prior years in the carrying amount of assets and liabilities as of the beginning of the current fiscal year, with an offsetting adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings. SAB 108 also requires the adjustment of any prior quarterly financial statements within the fiscal year of adoption for the effects of such errors on the quarters when the information is next presented. Alleghany has adopted the provisions of SAB 108 as of January 1, 2007, and the implementation did not have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In September 2006, FASB Statement No. 157, Fair Value Measurements, was issued. This Statement provides guidance for using fair value to measure assets and liabilities. The Statement does not expand the use of fair value in any new circumstances. The Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. Alleghany does not believe that this Statement will have a material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

At the September 2006 meeting, the Emerging Issues Task Force reached a consensus with respect to Issue No. 06-4, Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements. The Issue addresses split-dollar life insurance, which is defined as an arrangement in which the employer and an employee share the cash surrender value and/or death benefits of the insurance policy. Additional information regarding this Issue can be found in Note 1.p. to the Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the 2006 10-K. Alleghany will adopt this Issue in the first quarter of 2008, and does not anticipate that it will have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

Table of Contents

In February 2007, FASB Statement No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an amendment of FASB Statement No. 115, was issued. This Statement permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value, at specified election dates, with unrealized gains and losses reported in earnings at each subsequent reporting date. This Statement is effective as of the beginning of an entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. Early adoption is permitted as of the beginning of a fiscal year that begins on or before November 15, 2007, provided the entity also elects to apply the provisions of FASB Statement No. 157, Fair Value Measurements. Alleghany does not anticipate that this Statement will have any material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK.

Market risk is the risk of loss from adverse changes in market prices and rates, such as interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices. The primary market risk related to our non-trading financial instruments is the risk of loss associated with adverse changes in interest rates.

The primary market risk for our and our subsidiaries' debt is interest rate risk at the time of refinancing. We monitor the interest rate environment to evaluate refinancing opportunities. We currently do not use derivatives to manage market and interest rate risks. One interest rate swap that we had matured in January 2007 at no gain or loss to us.

The table below presents a sensitivity analysis of our consolidated debt securities as of March 31, 2007. Sensitivity analysis is defined as the measurement of potential change in future earnings, fair values or cash flows of market sensitive instruments resulting from one or more selected hypothetical changes in interest rates over a selected time. In this sensitivity analysis model, we use fair values to measure its potential change, and a +/- 300 basis point range of change in interest rates to measure the hypothetical change in fair value of the financial instruments included in the analysis. The change in fair value is determined by calculating hypothetical March 31, 2007 ending prices based on yields adjusted to reflect a +/- 300 basis point range of change in interest rates, comparing these hypothetical ending prices to actual ending prices, and multiplying the difference by the par outstanding.

At March 31, 2007 (in millions)

Interest rate shifts	-300	-200	-100	0	100	200	300
Debt securities, fair value	\$ 3,174.5	\$ 3,053.3	\$ 2,935.7	\$ 2,819.3	\$ 2,701.2	\$ 2,583.3	\$ 2,467.7
Estimated change in fair value	\$ 355.2	\$ 234.0	\$ 116.4		\$ (118.1)	\$ (236.0)	\$ (351.6)

This sensitivity analysis provides only a limited, point-in-time view of the market risk of the financial instruments discussed above. The actual impact of changes in equity prices and market interest rates on the financial instruments may differ significantly from those shown in the sensitivity analysis. The sensitivity analysis is further limited because it does not consider any actions we could take in response to actual and/or anticipated changes in interest rates.

Our 2006 10-K provides a more detailed discussion of the market risks affecting our operations.

Table of Contents**ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.**

We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer, or CEO, and our Chief Financial Officer, or CFO, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report on Form 10-Q pursuant to Rule 13a-15 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Based on that evaluation, our management, including the CEO and CFO, concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective in timely alerting them to information required to be included in our periodic reports required to be filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Additionally, as of the end of the period covered by this report on Form 10-Q, there have been no changes in internal control over financial reporting that have occurred during the period covered by this report on Form 10-Q that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

There are no material changes from the risk factors set forth in Part I, Item 1A, Risk Factors, of our 2006 10-K. Please refer to that section for disclosures regarding the risks and uncertainties related to our businesses.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS.**(c) Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.**

The following table summarizes our common stock repurchases for the quarter ended March 31, 2007.

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
January 1, 2007 through January 31, 2007	534(1)	\$ 390.50		
February 1, 2007 through February 28, 2007				
March 1, 2007 through March 31, 2007				
Total	534(1)	\$ 390.50		

(1) Represents the tender to us by a director of already-owned common stock as payment of the exercise price in connection with his exercise of an option to

purchase 1,960
shares of our
common stock
(as adjusted for
stock dividends
and the spin-off
by us of
Chicago Title
Corporation in
1998) under the
Alleghany
Corporation
Amended and
Restated
Directors' Stock
Option Plan.

Table of Contents

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS.

Exhibit Number	Description
10.1	Alleghany Retirement Plan, as amended
10.2	Alleghany Officers and Directors Deferred Compensation Plan, as amended.
10.3	Alleghany 2007 Long-Term Incentive Plan, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to Alleghany's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 1, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference.
31.1	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer of the Company pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15(d)-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
31.2	Certification of the Chief Financial Officer of the Company pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15(d)-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
32.1	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. This exhibit shall not be deemed filed as a part of this report on Form 10-Q.
32.2	Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. This exhibit shall not be deemed filed as a part of this report on Form 10-Q.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

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

ALLEGHANY CORPORATION

Registrant

Date: May 7, 2007

/s/ Roger B. Gorham
Roger B. Gorham
Senior Vice President
(and chief financial officer)

21