

CGG VERITAS  
Form 20-F  
April 22, 2009

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 20-F

- o REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(B) OR (G)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
OR
- o ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2008  
OR
- o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
OR
- o SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D)  
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
Date of Event Requiring this Shell Company Report  
Commission File Number 001-14622

**Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas**  
*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*  
**CGGVeritas**

*(Translation of registrant's name into English)*

**Republic of France**

*(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)*

**Tour Maine Montparnasse**

**33, avenue du Maine**

**75015 Paris France**

*(Address of principal executive offices)*

**Stephane-Paul Frydman**

**Chief Financial Officer**

**CGGVeritas**

**Tour Maine Montparnasse**

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**75015 Paris France**

**tel: +33 (0) 16467 4500**

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*(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)*

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

<b>Title of each class</b>	<b>Name of each exchange on which registered</b>
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<b>American Depositary Receipts representing Ordinary Shares, nominal value 0.40 per share</b>	<b>New York Stock Exchange</b>
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Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

**None**

**(Title of class)**

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

**71/2% Senior Notes due 2015**

**73/4% Senior Notes due 2017**

**(Title of class)**

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

**150,247,083 Ordinary Shares, nominal value 0.40 per share**

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

Yes  No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

Note checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those sections.

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 which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing: U.S. GAAP

International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board  Other

If "other" has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow:

Item 17  Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes  No

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**PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION**

On January 12, 2007, CGG merged with Veritas (the merger) in a part cash, part stock transaction and upon completion of the merger, CGG was renamed Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas (abbreviated as CGGVeritas). Accordingly, where this annual report provides information for dates prior to January 12, 2007, such information relates to CGG only. We have also provided certain information relating to Veritas prior to January 12, 2007. Information in this annual report on or after January 12, 2007 relates to CGGVeritas.

As used in this annual report CGG refers to Compagnie Générale de Géophysique and its subsidiaries, except as otherwise indicated, Veritas refers to Veritas DGC Inc. and its subsidiaries before the merger and to CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc. following the merger. CGGVeritas refers to Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas, and we, us, our and Group refers to Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas and its subsidiaries after the merger and Compagnie Générale de Géophysique and its subsidiaries before the merger, except as otherwise indicated.

In this annual report, references to United States or U.S. are to the United States of America, references to U.S. dollars, \$ or U.S.\$ are to United States dollars, references to France are to the Republic of France, references to Norway are to the Kingdom of Norway, references to NOK are to Norwegian kroner and references to euro or the single currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European Economic and Monetary Union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Union.

As our shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (in the form of American Depositary Shares), we are required to file an annual report on Form 20-F with the SEC. Our annual report includes our annual financial statements prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and its interpretations as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). These consolidated financial statements were also prepared in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the European Union at December 31, 2008.

Unless otherwise indicated, statements in this annual report relating to market share, ranking and data are derived from management estimates based, in part, on independent industry publications, reports by market research firms or other published independent sources. Any discrepancies in any table between totals and the sums of the amounts listed in such table are due to rounding.

**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This annual report includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws, which involve risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation, certain statements made in the sections entitled Information on the Company and Operating and Financial Review and Prospects. You can identify forward-looking statements because they contain words such as believes, expects, may, should, seeks, approximately, intend, estimates, or anticipates or similar expressions that relate to our strategy, plans or intentions. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may change at any time, and, therefore, our actual results may differ materially from those that we expected. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current views and assumptions about future events. While we believe that our assumptions are reasonable, we caution that it is very difficult to predict the impact of known factors, and, of course, it is impossible for us to anticipate all factors that could affect our actual results. All forward-looking statements are based upon information available to us on the date of this annual report.

Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations (cautionary statements) are disclosed under Item 3: Key Information Risk Factors and elsewhere in this annual report, including, without

limitation, in conjunction with the forward-looking statements included in this annual report. Some of the factors that we believe could affect our actual results include:

- developments affecting our international operations;
- our ability to develop an integrated strategy for CGGVeritas;
- difficulties and delays in achieving synergies and cost savings;
- any write-downs of goodwill on our balance sheet;
- our substantial indebtedness and the restrictive covenants in our debt agreements;
- changes in international economic and political conditions and, in particular, in oil and gas prices;
- exposure to the credit risk of customers;
- exposure to interest rate risk;

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exposure to foreign exchange rate risk;

exposure to credit risk and counter-party risk;

our ability to finance our operations on acceptable terms;

the timely development and acceptance of our new products and services;

the complexity of products sold;

changes in demand for seismic products and services;

the effects of competition;

the social, political and economic risks of our global operations;

the costs and risks associated with pension and post-retirement benefit obligations;

changes to existing regulations or technical standards;

existing or future litigation;

difficulties and costs in protecting intellectual property rights and exposure to infringement claims by others;

the costs of compliance with environmental, health and safety laws;

the accuracy of our assessment of risks related to acquisitions, projects and contracts and whether these risks materialize;

our ability to integrate successfully the businesses or assets we acquire;

our ability to monitor existing and targeted partnerships;

our ability to sell our seismic data library;

difficulties and costs in obtaining new vessels or in temporarily or permanently reducing the capacity of our fleet;

our clients' ability to unilaterally terminate certain contracts in our backlog;

fluctuations in the value of our shareholdings;

our ability to access the debt and equity markets during the periods covered by the forward-looking statements, which will depend on general market conditions, including the ongoing crisis in the financial markets, and on our credit ratings for our debt obligations; and

our success at managing the risks of the foregoing.

We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. We caution you that the foregoing list of important factors may not contain all of the material factors that are important to you. In addition, in light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the forward-looking events discussed in this annual report might not occur. When considering forward-looking statements, you should keep in mind the risk factors and other cautionary statements included in this annual report, including those described in Item 3: Key Information Risk Factors of this annual report.



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Not applicable.

**Item 2: OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE**

Not applicable.

**Item 3: KEY INFORMATION****Selected Financial Data**

The selected financial data included below should be read in conjunction with, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, our consolidated financial statements and Item 5: Operating and Financial Review and Prospects included elsewhere in this annual report. The selected financial data included below are for CGG prior to the merger with Veritas, which was completed on January 12, 2007, and for CGGVeritas thereafter. The selected financial data for each of the years in the five-year period ended December 31, 2008 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS.

	<b>At December 31,</b>				
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
	<b>(In millions of euros except for share and per share data)</b>				
<b><i>Statement of operations data:</i></b>					
Operating revenues	2,602.5	2,374.1	1,329.6	869.9	687.4
Other revenues from ordinary activities	1.7	1.2	1.8	1.9	0.4
Cost of operations	(1,722.5)	(1,622.3)	(890.0)	(670.0)	(554.0)
Gross profit	881.7	753.0	441.4	201.8	133.8
Research and development expenses, net	(43.8)	(51.3)	(37.7)	(31.1)	(28.8)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	(256.1)	(231.0)	(126.4)	(91.2)	(78.6)
Other revenues (expenses)	(36.4)	18.4	11.7	(4.4)	19.3
Operating income	540.6	489.1	289.0	75.1	45.7
Cost of financial debt, net	(83.8)	(109.1)	(25.4)	(42.3)	(27.8)
Variance on derivative on convertible bonds			(23.0)	(11.5)	(23.5)
Other financial income (loss)	(11.5)	(5.2)	(8.8)	(14.5)	0.8
Income taxes	(108.3)	(129.4)	(83.2)	(26.6)	(10.9)
Equity in income of affiliates	3.0	4.2	10.1	13.0	10.3
Net income (loss)	340.0	249.6	158.7	(6.8)	(5.4)
Attributable to minority interests	7.2	4.1	1.6	1.0	1.0
Attributable to shareholders	332.8	245.5	157.1	(7.8)	(6.4)
Net income (loss) per share:					
Basic <sup>(1)</sup>	2.41	1.82	1.81	(0.13)	(0.11)
Diluted <sup>(2)</sup>	2.39	1.80	1.77	(0.13)	(0.11)

***Balance sheet data:***

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Cash and cash equivalents	516.9	254.3	251.8	112.4	130.6
Working capital <sup>(3)</sup>	458.0	367.1	210.4	154.1	116.4
Property, plant & equipment, net	822.4	660.0	455.2	480.1	204.1
Multi-client surveys	535.6	435.4	71.8	93.6	124.5
Goodwill	2,055.1	1,928.0	267.4	252.9	62.5
Total assets	5,634.2	4,647.0	1,782.1	1,565.1	971.2
Gross financial debt <sup>(4)</sup>	1,546.0	1,361.0	405.6	409.6	252.4
Shareholders equity	2,960.1	2,401.6	877.0	698.5	393.2
<b><i>Other financial historical data and other ratios:</i></b>					
EBITDAS <sup>(5)</sup>	1,058.4	997.3	483.0	221.4	178.2
Capital expenditures (Property, plant & equipment) <sup>(6)</sup>	155.4	230.5	149.3	125.1	49.8
Capital expenditures for multi-client surveys	343.4	371.4	61.5	32.0	51.1
Net financial debt <sup>(7)</sup>	1,029.1	1,106.7	153.8	297.2	121.8
Gross financial debt <sup>(4)</sup> /EBITDAS <sup>(5)</sup>	1.5x	1.3x	0.8x	1.9x	1.4x
Net financial debt <sup>(7)</sup> /EBITDAS <sup>(5)</sup>	1.0x	1.1x	0.3x	1.3x	0.7x
EBITDAS <sup>(5)</sup> /Net financial expenses	12.6x	9.1x	19.0x	5.2x	6.4x

(1) Basic per share amounts have been calculated on the basis of 137,910,388 weighted average outstanding shares in 2008. Basic per share amounts before 2008 have been restated in order to reflect our five for one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008 with the equivalent of 134,567,140 weighted average outstanding shares in 2007, 86,859,635 weighted average outstanding shares in 2006, 60,479,625 weighted average outstanding shares in 2005 and 58,407,030 weighted average outstanding shares in 2004.

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- (2) Diluted per share amounts have been calculated on the basis of 139,064,883 weighted average outstanding shares in 2008. Diluted per share amounts before 2008 have been restated in order to reflect our five for one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008 with the equivalent of 136,078,995 weighted average outstanding shares in 2007, 88,656,930 weighted average outstanding shares in 2006, 60,479,625 weighted average outstanding shares in 2005 and 58,407,030 weighted average outstanding shares in 2004.
- (3) Working capital is defined as net trade accounts and notes receivable, net inventories and work-in-progress, tax assets, other current assets and assets held for sale less trade accounts and notes payable, accrued payroll costs, income tax payable, advance billings to customers, deferred income, current provisions and other current liabilities.
- (4) Gross financial debt is defined as financial debt, including current maturities, capital leases, bank overdrafts and accrued interest.
- (5) EBITDAS is defined as earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortization and share-based compensation cost. Share-based compensation includes both stock options and shares issued under our share allocation plans. EBITDAS is presented as additional information because we understand that it is one measure used by certain investors to determine our operating cash flow and historical ability to meet debt service and capital expenditure requirements. However, other companies may present EBITDAS and similar measures differently than we do. EBITDAS is not a measure of financial performance under IFRS and should not be considered as an alternative to cash flow from operating activities or as a measure of liquidity or an alternative to net income as indicators of our operating performance or any other measures of performance derived in accordance with IFRS. See Item 5: Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Liquidity and Capital Resources EBITDAS for a reconciliation of EBITDAS to net cash provided by operating activities.
- (6) Capital expenditures is defined as purchases of property, plant and equipment plus equipment acquired under capital lease and suppliers of fixed assets.
- (7) Net financial debt is defined as bank overdrafts and financial debt including current portion (including capital lease debt) net of cash and cash equivalents.

**Exchange Rates**

The following table shows, for the periods indicated, information concerning the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the euro. This information is provided solely for your information, and we do not represent that euros could be converted into U.S. dollars at these rates or at any other rate. These rates are not the rates used by us in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

The data provided in the following table is expressed in U.S. dollars per euro and is based on noon buying rates published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the euro. On April 21, 2009, the most recent practicable day prior to the date of this annual report, the exchange rate as published by Bloomberg at approximately noon (New York time) was 1.00 = \$1.2982.

Period-End Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	Average Rate <sup>(2)</sup>	High	Low
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**Recent Monthly Data**

April 2009 (through April 17, 2009)	1.3030	1.3261	1.3458	1.3030
March 2009	1.3261	1.3050	1.3730	1.2549
February 2009	1.2662	1.2797	1.3064	1.2547
January 2009	1.2804	1.3244	1.3946	1.2804
December 2008	1.3919	1.3511	1.4358	1.2634
November 2008	1.2694	1.2744	1.3039	1.2525
October 2008	1.2682	1.3267	1.4058	1.2446

**Annual Data (Year Ended December 31,)**

2008	1.3919	1.4695	1.601	1.2446
2007	1.4603	1.3705	1.4862	1.2904
2006	1.3197	1.2560	1.3327	1.1860
2005	1.1842	1.2400	1.3476	1.1667
2004	1.3538	1.2478	1.3625	1.1801

Notes:

- (1) The period-end rate is the noon buying rate on the last business day of the applicable period.
- (2) The average rate for each monthly period was calculated by taking the simple average of the daily noon buying rates, as published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The average rate for each annual period was calculated by taking the simple average of the noon buying rates on the last business day of each month during the relevant period.

**Capitalization and Indebtedness**

Not applicable.

**Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds**

Not applicable.

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### **Risk Factors**

#### **Risks related to our business**

*We are subject to risks related to our international operations that could harm our business and results of operations.*

With operations worldwide, including in emerging markets, our business and results of operations are subject to various risks inherent in international operations. These risks include:

instability of foreign economies and governments;

risks of war, terrorism, civil disturbance, seizure, renegotiation or nullification of existing contracts; and

foreign exchange restrictions, sanctions and other laws and policies affecting taxation, trade and investment.

We are exposed to these risks in all of our foreign operations to some degree, and our exposure could be material to its financial condition and results of operations in emerging markets where the political and legal environment is less stable.

We cannot assure that we will not be subject to material adverse developments with respect to our international operations or that any insurance coverage we have will be adequate to compensate us for any losses arising from such risks.

Revenue generating activities in certain foreign countries may require prior United States government approval in the form of an export license and may otherwise be subject to tariffs and import/export restrictions. These laws can change over time and may result in limitations on our ability to compete globally. In addition, non-U.S. persons employed by our separately incorporated non-U.S. entities may conduct business in some foreign jurisdictions that are subject to U.S. trade embargoes and sanctions by the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control. We have typically generated revenue in these countries through the performance of data processing and reservoir consulting services and the sale of software licenses and software maintenance. We have current and ongoing relationships with customers in these countries. We have procedures in place to conduct these operations in compliance with applicable U.S. laws. However, failure to comply with U.S. laws on equipment and services exports could result in material fines and penalties and/or damage to our reputation. In addition, our presence in these countries could reduce demand for its securities among certain investors.

We and certain of our subsidiaries and affiliated entities also conduct business in countries that experience government corruption. We are committed to doing business in accordance with all applicable laws and our codes of ethics<sup>1</sup>, but there is a risk that we, our subsidiaries or affiliated entities or their respective officers, directors, employees or agents may act in violation of applicable laws, including the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977. Any such violations could result in substantial civil and/or criminal penalties and might materially adversely affect our business and results of operations or financial condition.

*We are subject to certain risks related to acquisitions, including the merger with Veritas DGC Inc., and these risks may materially adversely affect our revenues, expenses, operating results and financial condition.*

In the past have grown by acquisitions, some of which, such as the merger with Veritas DGC Inc. in 2007 or the Waivefield-Inseis acquisition in December 2008, have been quite significant. Such operations, whether completed,

pending or likely to be completed in the future, present various financial and management-related risks which can be material, such as integration of the acquired businesses in a cost-effective manner; implementation of a combined business strategy; diversion of CGGVeritas management's attention; outstanding or unforeseen legal, regulatory, contractual, labor or other issues arising from the acquisitions; additional capital expenditure requirements; retention of customers; combination of different company and management cultures; operations in new geographic markets; the need for more extensive management coordination; and retention, hiring and training of

<sup>1</sup> In 2005, we combined our internal control policies in a financial security program based on applicable laws and regulations in force, such as the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the French Financial Security Law (LSF) and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. This program involves all of our operational and financial officers in a process of ongoing improvement to our control procedures. The program also reflects our code of ethics and code of conduct, which are sent to managers and integrated into their training modules. In particular, to improve management of corruption risk and compliance with U.S. and European anti-corruption regulations, an external consultancy was appointed in 2005 to review the our internal rules, particularly for managing sales agents. Each agent was audited and selection and control procedures were strengthened. Best practices training was implemented within the Group in 2006.



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key personnel. Should any of these risks associated with acquisitions materialize, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

More particularly, the merger with Veritas DGC Inc. involved the integration of two companies, CGG and Veritas, that had previously operated independently and as competitors. Achieving the anticipated long-term benefits of the merger depends in particular on achieving the initially-anticipated cost synergies, the redeployment of both companies respective support resources and the combination and integration of their significant global activities. There can be no assurance that these objectives are being achieved or will be achieved successfully.

***We may need to write down goodwill from our balance sheet.***

We have been involved in a number of business combinations in the past, leading to the recognition of large amounts of goodwill on our balance sheet. Goodwill totaled 2,055.1 million on our balance sheet as at December 31, 2008. Goodwill is allocated to cash generating units (CGUs) (as described in note 11 to our consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008). The recoverable amount of a CGU is estimated at each balance sheet date and is generally determined on the basis of a group-wide estimate of future cash flows expected from the CGU in question. The estimate takes into account the possibility of significant underperformance in cash generation relative to previously-expected results, which may arise, for example, from the underperformance of certain assets or a change in the industry and/or economic environment. On this basis, at each balance sheet date, if we expect that a CGU's recoverable amount will fall below the amount of goodwill recorded on the balance sheet due to substantial underperformance, we may write down that goodwill in part or in whole. Such a write-down would not in itself have an impact on cash flow, but could have a substantial negative impact on our operating income and net income, and as a result, on our shareholders' equity and net debt/equity ratio.

***We invest significant amounts of money in acquiring and processing seismic data for multi-client surveys and for our data library without knowing precisely how much of the data we will be able to sell or when and at what price we will be able to sell the data.***

We invest significant amounts of money in acquiring and processing seismic data that we own. By making such investments, we are exposed to the following risks:

We may not fully recover the costs of acquiring and processing the data through future sales. The amounts of these data sales are uncertain and depend on a variety of factors, many of which are beyond our control. In addition, the timing of these sales is unpredictable, and sales can vary greatly from period to period. Technological or regulatory changes or other developments could also materially adversely affect the value of the data. Additionally, each of our individual surveys has a limited book life based on its location, so a particular survey may be subject to significant amortization even though sales of licenses associated with that survey are weak or non-existent, thus reducing our profits.

The value of our multi-client data could be significantly adversely affected if any material adverse change occurs in the general prospects for oil and gas exploration, development and production activities in the areas where we acquire multi-client data.

Any reduction in the market value of such data will require us to write down its recorded value, which could have a significant material adverse effect on our results of operations.

***Our results of operations may be significantly affected by currency fluctuations.***

We derive a substantial amount of our revenues from international sales, subjecting us to risks relating to fluctuations in currency exchange rates. Our revenues and expenses are mainly denominated in U.S. dollar and euro, and to a significantly lesser extent, in Canadian dollar, Brazilian real, Australian dollar, British pound and the Norwegian kroner. Historically, a significant portion of our revenues that were invoiced in euros related to contracts that were effectively priced in U.S. dollars, as the U.S. dollar often serves as the reference currency when bidding for contracts to provide geophysical services.

Fluctuations in the exchange rate of the euro against such other currencies, particularly the U.S. dollar, have had in the past and will have in the future a significant effect upon our results of operations, which are reported in euros. The merger with Veritas DGC Inc. very significantly increased both the dollar-denominated revenues and expenses of the Group, as Veritas's revenues and expenses were historically denominated largely in U.S. dollars. Thus, for financial reporting purposes, depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the euro will negatively affect our reported results of operations since U.S. dollar-denominated earnings that are converted to euros are stated at a decreased value. Moreover and in addition to the impact of the conversion of the U.S. dollar at a decreased value, since we participate in competitive bids for data acquisition contracts that are denominated in U.S. dollars, the

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depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the euro harms its competitive position against companies whose costs and expenses are denominated to a greater extent in U.S. dollars. While we attempt to reduce the risks associated with such exchange rate fluctuations through our hedging policy, we cannot assure that we will maintain our profitability level or that fluctuations in the values of the currencies in which we operate will not materially adversely affect our future results of operations. As of the date of this annual report, our fixed expenses in euros amount to 500 million and as a consequence, an unfavorable variation of U.S.\$0.10 in the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the euro would reduce our operating income by approximately U.S.\$50 million.

The following table shows our exchange rate exposure as of December 31, 2008.

	<b>USD million</b>
Assets	1,590.1
Liabilities	(1,339.5)
Net position before hedging	250.6
Off-balance sheet positions	(166.3)
Net position after hedging	84.3

Our net foreign-exchange exposure is principally to the U.S. dollar and currencies pegged to the U.S. dollar. We seek to reduce our foreign-exchange position by selling our future receivables as soon as they enter the backlog and taking out dollar-denominated loans supported by long-term assets. Although we attempt to reduce the risks associated with exchange rate fluctuations, we cannot assure that fluctuations in the values of the currencies in which we operate will not materially adversely affect our future results of operations. As of the date of this annual report, a decrease of U.S.\$0.10 in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the euro would reduce our operating income by U.S.\$50 million.

As a result of our compliance with IAS 12 (Income Taxes), our results of operation are also exposed to the effect of exchange rate variations on our deferred tax amounts when the functional currency for an entity that owns an asset is not the same as the currency used for taxation purposes. This is the case for several Norwegian subsidiaries that own offshore assets (vessels and equipment) for which the functional currency is the U.S. dollar, whereas the taxable currency is the Norwegian kroner. We estimate that as of the date of this annual report, a decrease of NOK 1 in the value of the Norwegian kroner, relative to the U.S. dollar would increase our deferred tax liability by approximately U.S.\$7 million.

***Our working capital needs are difficult to forecast and may vary significantly, which could result in additional financing requirements that we may not be able to meet on satisfactory terms, or at all.***

It is difficult for us to predict with certainty our working capital needs. This difficulty is due primarily to working capital requirements related to the marine seismic acquisition business and related to the development and introduction of new lines of geophysical equipment products. For example, under specific circumstances, we may extend the length of payment terms we grant to customers or increase our inventories substantially. We may therefore be subject to significant and rapid increases in our working capital needs that we may have difficulty financing on satisfactory terms, or at all, due notably to limitations in our debt agreements.

***Technological changes and new products and services are frequently introduced in the market, and our technology could be rendered obsolete by these introductions, or we may not be able to develop and produce new and enhanced products on a cost-effective and timely basis.***

Technology changes rapidly in the seismic industry, and new and enhanced products are frequently introduced in the market for our products and services, particularly in our equipment manufacturing and data processing and geosciences sectors. Our success depends to a significant extent upon our ability to develop and produce new and enhanced products and services on a cost-effective and timely basis in accordance with industry demands. While we commit substantial resources to research and development, we may encounter resource constraints or technical or other difficulties that could delay the introduction of new and enhanced products and services in the future. In addition, the continuing development of new products risks making our older products obsolete. New and enhanced products and services, if introduced, may not gain market acceptance and may be materially adversely affected by technological changes or product or service introductions by one of our competitors.

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***The nature of our business subjects us to significant ongoing operating risks for which we may not have adequate insurance or for which we may not be able to procure adequate insurance on acceptable terms, if at all.***

Our seismic data acquisition activities, particularly in deepwater marine areas, are often conducted under harsh weather and other hazardous operating conditions. These operations are subject to risks of loss to property and injury to personnel from fires, accidental explosions, ice floes and high seas. These types of events could result in loss from business interruption, delay, equipment destruction or other liability. We carry insurance against the destruction of or damage to our seismic equipment and against business interruption for our data processing activities in amounts we consider appropriate in accordance with industry practice. However, our insurance coverage may not be adequate in all circumstances or against all hazards, and we may not be able to maintain adequate insurance coverage in the future at commercially reasonable rates or on acceptable terms.

***We depend on proprietary technology and are exposed to risks associated with the misappropriation or infringement of that technology.***

Our results of operations depend in part upon our proprietary technology. We rely on a combination of patents, trademarks and trade secret laws to establish and protect our proprietary technology. We currently hold or have applied for 165 patents in various countries for products and processes. These patents last between four and twenty years, depending on the date of filing and the protection accorded by each country. In addition, we enter into confidentiality and license agreements with our employees, customers and potential customers and which limits access to and distribution of our technology. However, actions that we take to protect our proprietary rights may not be adequate to deter the misappropriation or independent third-party development of our technology. Although we are not currently involved in any material litigation regarding our intellectual property rights or the possible infringement of intellectual property rights of others, such litigation may be brought in the future. In addition, the laws of certain foreign countries do not protect proprietary rights to the same extent as either the laws of France or the laws of the United States, which may limit our ability to pursue third parties that misappropriate our proprietary technology.

***Our failure to attract and retain qualified employees may materially adversely affect our future business and operations.***

Our future results of operations will depend in part upon our ability to retain our existing highly skilled and qualified employees and to attract new employees. A number of our employees are highly skilled scientists and technicians.

We compete with other seismic products and services companies and, to a lesser extent, companies in the oil industry for skilled geophysical and seismic personnel, particularly in times when demand for seismic services is relatively high. A limited number of such skilled personnel is available, and demand from other companies may limit our ability to fill its human resources needs. If we are unable to hire, train and retain a sufficient number of qualified employees, this could impair our ability to compete in the geophysical services industry and to develop and protect our know-how. Our success also depends to a significant extent upon the abilities and efforts of members of our senior management, the loss of whom could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

***CGG and Veritas have had losses in the past and there is no assurance of our profitability for the future.***

CGG recorded net losses in 2004 and 2005 (attributable to shareholders) of 6.4 million and 7.8 million, respectively, although excluding the accounting impact under IFRS of our 7.75% subordinated convertible bonds due 2012 denominated in U.S. dollars, our net income would have been positive.

***We have ordered two new vessels whose construction may be delayed.***

We signed an agreement with the Norwegian company Eidesvik Offshore on July 2, 2007 for the construction of two large-capacity seismic vessels, with a total contractual value of approximately U.S.\$420 million. The two vessels should be delivered in 2010 and operated under a time charter for a period of 12 years. We have the necessary expertise to successfully carry out the project management, and thus ensure within the specified timeframe that the vessels' construction meets appropriate quality standards. However, the construction and planning of these vessels remain a long and complex process involving many parties (the shipyard, Eidesvik offshore and others) and subject to many factors.

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**Risks related to our industry:**

*The volume of our business depends on the level of capital expenditures by the oil and gas industry, and reductions in such expenditures may have a material adverse effect on our business.*

Demand for our products and services has historically been dependent upon the level of capital expenditures by oil and gas companies for exploration, production and development activities. These expenditures are significantly influenced by oil and gas prices and by expectations regarding future oil and gas prices. Oil and gas prices may fluctuate based on relatively minor changes in the supply of and demand for oil and gas, expectations regarding future supply of and demand for oil and gas and certain other factors beyond our control. Lower or volatile oil and gas prices tend to limit the demand for seismic services and products.

Factors affecting the prices of oil and gas include:

demand for oil and gas;

worldwide political, military and economic conditions, including political developments in the Middle East, economic growth levels and the ability of OPEC to set and maintain production levels and prices for oil;

levels of oil and gas production;

the price and availability of alternative fuels;

policies of governments regarding the exploration for and production and development of oil and gas reserves in their territories; and

global weather conditions.

We believe that the current crisis in the credit markets, the general slowdown of the global economy, global geopolitical uncertainty and the rapid decrease in the price of oil price to near U.S.\$40, far from its record peak in 2008, could cause hydrocarbon companies to suddenly delay or cancel some of their development projects and, as a consequence, reduce their need for seismic services. Given these uncertainties, we cannot predict future demand for seismic services and products.

*Our backlog includes contracts that can be unilaterally terminated at the client's option.*

In accordance with industry practice, contracts for the provision of seismic services typically can be canceled at the sole option of the oil or gas client without payment of significant cancellation costs to the service provider. As a result, even if contracts are not recorded in backlog unless they represent a firm commitment by the client, there can be no assurance that such contracts will be wholly executed by us and generate actual revenue, or even that the total costs already incurred by us in connection with the contract would be covered in full by any cancellation clause.

*We are subject to intense competition in the markets where we carry out our operations, which could limit our ability to maintain or increase our market share or to maintain our prices at profitable levels.*

Most of our contracts are obtained through a competitive bidding process, which is standard for the seismic services industry in which we operate. Competitive factors in recent years have included price, crew availability, technological expertise and reputation for quality, safety and dependability. While no single company competes with us in all of our

segments, we are subject to intense competition in each of its segments. We compete with large, international companies as well as smaller, local companies. In addition, we compete with major service providers and government-sponsored enterprises and affiliates. Some of our competitors operate more data acquisition crews than we do and have greater financial and other resources. These and other competitors may be better positioned to withstand and adjust more quickly to volatile market conditions, such as fluctuations in oil and gas prices and production levels, as well as changes in government regulations. In addition, if geophysical service competitors increase their capacity in the future (or do not reduce capacity if demand decreases), the excess supply in the seismic services market could apply downward pressure on prices. The negative effects of the competitive environment in which we operate could thus have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

***Our fleet of vessels may be subject to temporary or permanent measures to reduce capacity as a result of future conditions in the seismic market.***

Following our acquisition of Wavefield, we operate a fleet of 27 vessels composed of 13 large-capacity vessels with eight to 14 streamers, seven medium-capacity vessels with four to six streamers and seven smaller 3D/2D vessels. We own five 3D vessels and two 3D/2D vessels, hold purchase options on five 3D vessels, and operate the



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11 other 3D vessels and four other 3D/2D vessels under time charters running from one to seven years, with a weighted average term of 5 years. These time charters include extension clauses that, if exercised, would extend the weighted average term to 13 years. Taking into account only vessels that we own or over which we have purchase options, the average age of the vessels is 19 years. The oldest vessels in the fleet are 26 and 29 years old, respectively.

Future economic conditions in the seismic market could lead us to implement a plan to reduce our marine acquisition capacity, either permanently, by decommissioning the oldest vessels in our fleet, or temporarily, by ceasing to use of certain vessels for a period. This would result in additional industrial adjustment costs that could possibly be offset by improved commercial conditions for the vessels remaining in operation.

***We have high levels of fixed costs that are incurred regardless of our level of business activity.***

We have high fixed costs and data acquisition activities that require substantial capital expenditures. As a result, downtime or low productivity due to reduced demand, weather interruptions, equipment failures or other causes could result in significant operating losses.

***The revenues we derive from land and marine seismic data acquisition vary significantly during the year.***

Our land and marine seismic data acquisition revenues are partially seasonal in nature. The offshore data acquisition business is, by its nature, exposed to unproductive interim periods due to necessary repairs or transit time from one operational zone to another during which revenue is usually not recognized. Other factors that cause variations from quarter to quarter include the effects of weather conditions in a given operating area, the internal budgeting process of some important clients relative to their exploration expenses, and the time needed to mobilize production means and/or obtain the administrative authorizations necessary to commence data acquisition contracts.

***Our business is subject to governmental regulation, which may adversely affect our future operations.***

Our operations are subject to a variety of federal, provincial, state, foreign and local laws and regulations, including environmental, health and safety, labor laws. We need to invest financial and managerial resources to comply with these laws and related permit requirements. Our failure to do so could result in fines or penalties, enforcement actions, claims for personal injury or property damages, or obligations to investigate and/or remediate contamination. Failure to obtain the required permits on a timely basis may also result in crew downtime and operating losses. Moreover, if applicable laws and regulations, including environmental, health and safety requirements, or the interpretation or enforcement thereof, become more stringent in the future, we could incur capital or operating costs beyond those currently anticipated. The adoption of laws and regulations that directly or indirectly curtail exploration by oil and gas companies could also materially adversely affect our operations by reducing the demand for our geophysical products and services.

## **Risks related to our indebtedness**

***Our substantial debt could adversely affect our financial health and prevent us from fulfilling our obligations.***

We have a significant amount of debt. As at December 31, 2008, our net financial debt, total assets and shareholders equity were 1,029.1 million, 5,634.2 million and 2,960.1 million, respectively. We cannot assure that we will be able to generate sufficient cash to service our debt or sufficient earnings to cover fixed charges in future years.

Our substantial debt could have important consequences. In particular, it could:

increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of our cash flow to fund capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes;

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our businesses and the industries in which we operate;

place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt; and

limit, along with the financial and other restrictive covenants of our indebtedness, among other things, our ability to borrow additional funds.

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***Our debt agreements contain restrictive covenants that may limit our ability to respond to changes in market conditions or pursue business opportunities.***

The indentures governing our 7 1/2% senior notes due 2015 and 7 3/4% senior notes due 2017 (hereinafter the Senior Notes ) and the agreements governing our credit facilities (including our U.S.\$1.14 billion senior credit facilities dated January 12, 2007 (hereinafter the Senior Facilities ) and our U.S.\$200 million French revolving facility dated February 7, 2007 (hereinafter the French revolving facility )) contain restrictive covenants that limit our ability and the ability of certain of our subsidiaries to, among other things:

incur or guarantee additional indebtedness or issue preferred shares;

pay dividends or make other distributions;

purchase equity interests or reimburse subordinated debt;

create or incur certain liens;

enter into transactions with affiliates;

issue or sell capital stock of subsidiaries;

engage in sale-and-leaseback transactions; and

sell assets or merge or consolidate with another company.

Complying with the restrictions contained in some of these covenants requires us to meet certain ratios and tests, notably with respect to consolidated interest coverage, total assets, net debt, equity and net income. The requirement that we comply with these provisions may materially adversely affect our ability to react to changes in market conditions, take advantage of business opportunities we believe to be desirable, obtain future financing, fund needed capital expenditures, or withstand a continuing or future downturn in our business.

***If we are unable to comply with the restrictions and covenants in the indentures governing our Senior Notes, Senior Facilities agreement, French revolving facility agreement and other current and future debt agreements, there could be a default under the terms of these indentures and agreements, which could result in an acceleration of repayment.***

If we are unable to comply with the restrictions and covenants in the indentures governing the Senior Notes or in other current or future debt agreements, including the Senior Facilities agreement and the French revolving facility agreement, there could be a default under the terms of these indentures and agreements. Our ability to comply with these restrictions and covenants, including meeting financial ratios and tests, may be affected by events beyond our control. As a result, we cannot assure that we will be able to comply with these restrictions and covenants or meet such financial ratios and tests. In the event of a default under these agreements, lenders could terminate their commitments to lend or accelerate the loans and declare all amounts borrowed due and payable. Borrowings under other debt instruments that contain cross-acceleration or cross-default provisions may also be accelerated and become due and payable. If any of these events occur, our assets might not be sufficient to repay in full all of our outstanding indebtedness and we may be unable to find alternative financing. Even if we could obtain alternative financing, it might not be on terms that are favorable or acceptable to us.

***We and our subsidiaries may incur substantially more debt.***

We and our subsidiaries may incur substantial additional debt (including secured debt) in the future. The terms of the indentures governing our Senior Notes, the Senior Facilities agreement, French revolving facility agreement and our other existing senior indebtedness limit, but do not prohibit, we and our subsidiaries from doing so. As at December 31, 2008, we had drawn U.S.\$35.0 million under our existing credit facilities. The Group also benefited at such date from other long-term confirmed and undrawn credit lines amounting to 203.5 million.

If new debt is added to our current debt levels, the related risks for us could intensify.

***To service our indebtedness, we require a significant amount of cash, and our ability to generate cash will depend on many factors beyond our control.***

Our ability to make payments on and to refinance our indebtedness, and to fund planned capital expenditures depends in part on our ability to generate cash in the future. This ability is, to a certain extent, subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control.

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We cannot assure that we will generate sufficient cash flow from operations, that we will realize operating improvements on schedule or that future borrowings will be available to us in an amount sufficient to enable us to service and repay our indebtedness or to fund our other liquidity needs. If we are unable to satisfy our debt obligations, we may have to undertake alternative financing plans, such as refinancing or restructuring our indebtedness, selling assets, reducing or delaying capital investments or seeking to raise additional capital. We cannot assure that any refinancing or debt restructuring would be possible, that any assets could be sold or that, if sold, the timing of the sales and the amount of proceeds realized from those sales would be favorable to us or that additional financing could be obtained on acceptable terms. Disruptions in the capital and credit markets, as have been experienced during 2008 and 2009 to date, could adversely affect our ability to meet our liquidity needs, including our ability to draw on our existing credit facilities or enter into new credit facilities. Banks that are party to our existing credit facilities may not be able to meet their funding commitments to us if they experience shortages of capital and liquidity or if they experience excessive volumes of borrowing requests from us and other borrowers within a short period of time.

***Interest-rate risk as of December 31, 2008.***

We may have to subscribe part of our borrowings with financial institutions at variable interest rates depending upon the duration of the drawing periods, which can range from one to 60 months. As a result, interest expenses vary in line with movements in short-term interest rates. In particular, our senior credit facilities are subject to interest based on U.S. dollar LIBOR. As a result, our interest expenses may increase significantly if short-term interest rates increase. Each 50 basis point increase in the U.S. dollar LIBOR would increase our interest expense by U.S.\$4 million per year.

However, this risk is mitigated by the fact that a large proportion of the Group's debt consists of fixed-rate bonds, along with some fixed-rate finance leases and fixed-rate medium-term bank credit facilities with variable maturities.

The following table shows our variable interest rate exposure by maturity as of December 2008.

	<b>Overnight to 1 year</b>	<b>1 to 5 years ( million)</b>	<b>More than 5 years</b>
Financial liabilities <sup>(1)</sup>	144.0	687.8	655.6
Financial assets <sup>(2)</sup>	417.6		
Net position before hedging <sup>(3)</sup>	273.6	(687.8)	(655.6)
Off-balance sheet position			
Net position after hedging <sup>(3)</sup>			

Notes:

- (1) Excluding bank overdrafts and accrued interest but including employee profit-sharing
- (2) Invested cash and equivalents
- (3) Net assets/(liabilities)

As of December 31, 2008, the group's variable-rate assets (net of liabilities) due in less than one year totaled 203.9 million.

**Other financial risks**

*Risks related to certain of our shareholdings*

Our investment policy does not authorize investments in the shares of other companies. Any transactions involving the Company's shares are decided by general management in accordance with the applicable regulations.

As at December 31, 2008, we owned 855,350 of our own shares, worth 9,066,710 million. A 10% fall in the price of these treasury shares would therefore reduce shareholders' equity by 0.9 million, but would have no impact on earnings.

	<b>Shares in other companies and equity mutual fund units</b>	<b>Own shares</b>
	( million)	
On-balance sheet		9.1
Off-balance sheet		
Net overall position		

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We also hold minority interests in the following listed companies pursuant to our long-term investment strategy:

a 15% stake in Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping (OHM), a company listed on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange, recorded on our balance sheet as at December 31, 2008 at its market value of 0.3 million.

a 46.10% stake in Cybernetix, a company listed on Euronext Paris. The closing price of Cybernetix shares on December 30, 2008 was 10.99. A decline in the fair value of this investment equal to 2.6 million was reflected in our shareholders' equity as at December 31, 2008.

### ***Risk relating to the current financial crisis***

The current situation in the credit and capital markets is likely to have a significant adverse impact on industrial and commercial performance and the solvency of many companies in general, which may affect some of our customers and suppliers. As a result, the current economic climate may have an adverse impact on our business if customers cancel orders or delay or default on payment, or if suppliers fail to provide goods and services as agreed.

To deal with these risks as effectively as possible,

we are limiting customer risk by taking a selective approach with our customers (including looking at their solvency) in our services business and by systematically using letters of credit in our equipment business; and

we, and Sercel in particular, have adopted a highly selective policy regarding suppliers, aimed at keeping exposure to any one supplier within prudent limits.

## **Item 4: INFORMATION ON THE COMPANY**

We are a global participant in the geophysical seismic industry, as both a manufacturer of geophysical equipment and a provider of a wide range of services (including seismic data acquisition and related processing and interpretation software) principally to clients in the oil and gas exploration and production industry.

Our operations are organized into two segments: Services and Equipment, in accordance with our internal reporting system, which we use to manage and measure our performance.

Our geophysical Equipment segment operates through our subsidiary Sercel, the market leader in the development and production of seismic acquisition systems and specialized equipment in the land and offshore seismic markets.

The geophysical Services segment is composed of the following activities:

land contract: seismic data acquisition for land, transition zones and shallow water on behalf of a specific client;

multi-client land: seismic data acquisition for land, transition zones and shallow water licensed to a number of clients on a non-exclusive basis;

marine contract: seismic data acquisition offshore on behalf of a specific client;

multi-client marine: seismic data acquisition offshore and licensed to a number of clients on a non-exclusive basis; and

processing and imaging: processing, imaging and interpretation of geophysical data, data management and reservoir studies for clients.

We are a recognized leader in data processing and imaging services, which we provide through a worldwide network of 28 open seismic data processing centers and 12 client-dedicated centers. A suite of advanced technologies, developed and honed through continuous innovation, take seismic data processing into the reservoir and have the potential to greatly enhance reservoir knowledge in order to improve exploitation.

We also offer the Hampson-Russell software that has delivered innovative interpretive solutions since 1987. Hampson-Russell software makes sophisticated technology accessible to the working geophysicist. It has an installed base of more than 1400 licenses at over 500 petroleum and service companies worldwide.



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CGG and Veritas together have 110 years of combined operating experience and a recognized track record of technological leadership in the science of geophysics. We believe we are well placed to capitalize on the growing importance of seismic technology to enhance the exploration and production performance of our broad base of clients, which includes independent, international and national oil companies.

Services accounted for 71% and Equipment accounted for 29% of our consolidated revenues for the year ended December 31, 2008.

For the year ended December 31, 2008, 31% of our consolidated revenues were from North America, 10% from South America, 32% from Europe, Africa, Middle East, and 27% from Asia Pacific.

Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas is the parent company of the Group. We are a *société anonyme* incorporated under the laws of the Republic of France and operating under the French Commercial Code. Our registered office is Tour Maine Montparnasse, 33, avenue du Maine, 75015 Paris, France. Our telephone number is (33) 1 64 47 45 00.

### ***Acquisition of Wavefield***

On December 19, 2008, we acquired 70% of Wavefield, a Norwegian marine geophysical company providing proprietary data acquisition services and seabed seismic equipment. Wavefield also offers a portfolio of non-exclusive multi-client data to global exploration clients, developed in partnership with oil companies and governments. The range of marine services includes long offset 2D, high capacity 3D, 4D, multi-azimuth and wide-azimuth data acquired with highly specified vessels and the latest seismic equipment. Wavefield's main offices are in Bergen and Oslo, Norway with other locations in Trondheim, London, Houston and Perth. As of the date of this report, we own 100% of Wavefield's share capital.

### **Our Strengths**

We believe a number of strategic factors favor our development:

#### ***The merger with Wavefield is a strategic transaction within a consolidating market***

The geophysical market has witnessed consolidation in recent years among both customers and suppliers. The geophysical market demands a wider range of solutions, as well as size, flexibility and global reach. Following the merger with Wavefield, we believe we are positioned to meet these demands in geophysical services and equipment in the world's principal markets for oil and gas exploration and production.

With a combined workforce of approximately 8,500 employees operating worldwide, including Sercel, a history of innovation and a broad base of customers, including independent, international and national oil and gas companies, we believe we are an industry leader in seismic technology, services and equipment.

#### ***Meeting the geophysical challenges of the future***

As worldwide oil and gas supplies continue to face constraints and exploration and development for reserve replacement is conducted in more challenging areas, high-end seismic and related technical expertise is required. We are positioned as a leading geophysical provider, with an expanded product offering to meet these future challenges. We believe our positions in data processing and imaging and the skill and reputation of our experts and geoscientists are an industry benchmark in this segment. We are particularly strong in advanced technologies such as depth

imaging, 4D processing and reservoir characterization.

***Strengthening fleet capability***

Following our acquisition of Wavefield, we operate a high-end, recently equipped, fleet of 18 3D vessels. Our expanded overall fleet of 27 vessels is made up of vessels already in operation and does not add further capacity to the market. As a result of this acquisition, no additional material investments will be required to grow our capacity and we can reduce the risk of potential delays associated with building new vessels.

***Strong operational expertise establishes Marine centre of excellence***

We believe that the proven performance of Wavefield, combined with our existing center of Marine excellence in Norway, has created one of the industry's leading teams of marine seismic operational talent.

***An expanded and complementary product offering based on innovative technology***

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Wavefield's Optoplan subsidiary brings to CGGVeritas a recognized leader in seabed fiber optic technology and a new product offering for our customers. The technology offering of Optoplan is complementary to CGGVeritas, and to Sercel in particular. Optoplan's equipment manufacturing infrastructure will benefit from Sercel's long standing expertise with equipment manufacturing and assembly. We believe that when Optoplan's offerings are developed and marketed alongside Sercel's current established product offering, we can add value in the emerging field of reservoir monitoring and accelerate the market entry of next generation technologies.

### ***Continue to build customer relationships***

We hope to benefit from deeper global market penetration and be able to extend our long-term customer relationships and be a seismic provider of choice. As an example, our supply of land seismic acquisition services is geographically and technologically well placed for high-end positioning and further development of local partnerships;

### ***Providing strong profitable growth potential***

We believe the acquisition of Wavefield may increase profitability potential in both the Services and Equipment segments by creating further business opportunities in data processing and imaging as well as in multi-client activities. The addition of Wavefield vessels also provides us with increased fleet management flexibility in current and future vessel operations.

## **Industry Conditions**

Overall demand for geophysical services and equipment is dependent on spending by oil and gas companies for exploration, production development and field management activities. This spending depends in part on present and expected future oil and gas prices. We believe that the short-term outlook for the geophysical services sector, particularly the offshore segment, is characterized by a slowdown in demand and an overcapacity in supply resulting in a significant decrease in prices. We believe that two fundamental factors have contributed to this situation.

First, global geopolitical uncertainty, particularly following the current economic and financial crisis, has translated into a strong drop in oil prices and has not created the confidence and visibility that are essential in our clients long-term decision-making processes, with many projects being possibly delayed or cancelled.

Second, given the relatively high energy prices in 2007 and much of 2008, the geophysical services market has developed strongly especially in offshore acquisition. We believe that following the decline in oil prices in the second half of 2008 and 2009 to date, geophysical services providers as a whole have not reacted efficiently, in particular in terms of capacity adjustment, which has resulted in excess supply applying downward pricing pressure on the market. The worldwide offshore fleet of large 3D vessels (with more than six streamers) increased from 31 vessels at the end of 2005 to 60 vessels by the end of 2008.

Nevertheless, we also believe that the medium-term outlook for the geophysical services sector, particularly the offshore segment, and the demand for geophysical equipment is fundamentally positive for a number of reasons:

First, oil and gas companies (including both the international oil companies and the national oil companies) and the large oil and gas consuming nations have perceived a growing and potentially lasting imbalance between reserves and future demand for hydrocarbons. A rapid rise in world consumption requirements, particularly in China and India, has resulted in demand for hydrocarbons growing more rapidly than anticipated. At the same time, excess production capacity has appeared to reach historical lows, increasing the focus on existing production capacities and reserves replacement.

Second, the recognition of a potential future imbalance between hydrocarbon supply and demand, combined with low reserve replacement rates, has led in the recent past and will lead in the future the oil and gas industry to sustain capital expenditure in exploration and production. The seismic services market generally benefits from this spending since seismic services are an important element in the search for new reserves and optimization of existing reservoirs from pure exploration (early cycle) to reservoir development, management and production (late cycle).

The strong technological developments in seismic equipment and services over the last decade have advanced the use of seismic in reservoir development and production, broadening the use of seismic techniques over the lifecycle of reservoirs.

Every year, three to four million barrels of new oil have to be found in deeper and more complex basins to offset declining reserve rates. We expect these fundamental trends to continue to drive increased demand for high-

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end seismic equipment and services in the medium-term. We believe that CGGVeritas is in a strong position to benefit from these long term favorable industry conditions.

### **Our Strategy**

We intend to continue to strengthen our competitive position in the global geophysical services and equipment markets by capitalizing on growth opportunities resulting from both the application of new technologies in every sector of the oil and gas business – from exploration to production and reservoir management – and from our worldwide presence.

To achieve this objective, we have adopted the following strategies:

#### ***Focus on growth areas for geophysical services***

We believe that our proprietary equipment and software provide us with a competitive advantage in specific growth markets, such as data acquisition in transition zones and difficult terrain, where recent technological advances have made seismic acquisition more feasible. We intend to focus on developing our technological capabilities in emerging markets for geophysical services, such as reservoir appraisal and production monitoring. We also believe that we have unique experience and expertise in complex land seismic acquisition projects in both desert and arctic regions.

We believe that our geographic footprint will allow us to respond to the growing demand for seismic imaging and reservoir solutions.

We also intend to maintain our position in the marine and land seismic market for multi-client data by developing our multi-client data library. We believe that a strong position in this market segment enhances our global competitive position and may provide opportunities for continuing future sales. In developing our multi-client data library, we carefully select survey opportunities in order to maximize our return on investment. We also intend to apply the latest advances in depth imaging technology to a selected part of our existing library.

Given the growing importance of geophysics in reservoir characterization, we intend to further develop the synergies between our data processing and reservoir services. This approach places us in a better position to meet the requirements of our clients with an extensive range of integrated services. With the increasing market use of wide-azimuth in the Gulf of Mexico and the growing demand for advanced imaging capabilities, we also intend to increase our processing capability in developing disciplines, such as reservoir description and monitoring, including wide-azimuth, multi-component and 4D studies. We also plan to continue promoting and developing our dedicated processing centers within our clients' offices and developing our regional centers. We are also actively continuing the convergence of our legacy software technologies in order to achieve full synergy expected in 2009.

#### ***Develop technological synergies for products and capitalize on new generation equipment***

We believe Sercel is the leading manufacturer of land, marine and subsea geophysical equipment. We plan to continue developing synergies among the technologies available to Sercel and to capitalize fully on our position as a market leader. Through our research and development, we seek to improve existing products and maintain an active new product development program in all segments of the geophysical equipment market (land, marine and ocean-bottom).

#### ***Develop and utilize innovative technology***

The significant technological developments in seismic services over the last decade have produced a marked change in the sector. The development of 4D and wide-azimuth techniques (providing time lapse views and enhanced

illumination of the reservoir as well as improved image resolution) now allows operators to better locate and monitor reservoir performance. This possibility broadens the use of seismic techniques from pure exploration (early cycle) into a tool for reservoir development, management and production (late cycle). Importantly, these techniques require more vessel time than traditional data acquisition. For example, three to six times more vessel time is required to shoot wide-azimuth data than traditional 3D.

We believe that growth in demand for geophysical services will continue to be driven in part by the development of new technologies. The industry is increasingly demanding clearer seismic imaging and better visibility, particularly underneath salt layers. We expect multi-azimuth, wide azimuth, multi-component (3C/4C) surveys and time-lapse (4D) surveys to become increasingly important for new production-related applications, particularly in the marine sector, and expect specialized recording equipment for difficult terrain to become more important in land seismic data acquisition, particularly in transition zones, shallow water and arctic areas. We

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believe that to remain competitive, geophysical services companies will need to combine advanced data acquisition technology with consistently improving processing capacity in order to reduce further delivery times for seismic services.

Our strategy is to continue our high level of research and development investment to reinforce our technological leadership. We also intend to take advantage of our full range of integrated services to enhance our position as a market leader in:

land and transition zone seismic data acquisition systems and know-how;

innovative marine or seabed acquisition systems and services;

seismic data processing and reservoir services; and

manufacturing of land, marine and subsea data acquisition equipment.

### ***Emphasize client service***

We believe it is important to operate in close proximity to our clients to develop a better understanding of their individual needs and to add measurable value to their business processes. We respond to these needs by creating new products or product enhancements that improve the quality of data and reduce the data delivery time to clients. We believe that our regional multi-client and dedicated data processing centers in our clients' offices provide us with an advantage in identifying contract opportunities, optimizing service to clients and developing products responsive to new market demands, such as seismic techniques applied to reservoir management. We believe that we are well positioned to benefit from the industry trend towards increased outsourcing. This trend is leading oil and gas companies to place greater emphasis on relationships and service quality (including health, safety and protection of the environment) in their selection of third party service providers, including geophysical services providers.

### ***Provide integrated services***

We are committed to providing clients with a full array of seismic data services, from acquisition and processing to data interpretation and management. We believe that integration of compatible technology and equipment increases the accuracy of data acquisition and processing, enhances the quality of our client service and thereby improves productivity in oil and gas exploration and production. Our clients increasingly seek integrated solutions to better evaluate known reserves and improve the ratio of recoverable hydrocarbons from producing fields. We are continuing to develop our ability to provide geosciences solutions through a combination of various exploration and production services, including technical data management, reservoir characterization and interpretation of well information.

### ***Develop well-positioned data libraries***

We intend to take advantage of our recent vintage, well-positioned seismic data libraries and will capitalize on our strong experience in the wide azimuth technology. The industry's growing interest in wide-azimuth technology to explore complex geological environments has translated into high pre-funding levels for the Gulf of Mexico. Walker Ridge and Garden Banks surveys may generate interest from deep offshore large oil and gas companies. Onshore, CGGVeritas' land library offers additional potential in North America. Our seismic data library is a strength in a market where a global library portfolio is increasingly attractive to clients.

### ***Develop reservoir applications***

Seismic data is currently mainly used by oil and gas companies for exploration purposes. However, we are progressively extending our core business towards compiling and analyzing seismic data of existing reservoirs. Through high-resolution images and our expertise in 4D seismic and permanent monitoring, we aim to assist hydrocarbon producers in better characterizing and predicting the static properties and dynamic behavior of their reservoirs.



**Table of Contents****Operating Revenues Data***Revenues by Business Lines*

The following table sets forth our consolidated operating revenues by activity in millions of euros or dollars, as the case may be, and the percentage of total consolidated operating revenues represented thereby, for the periods indicated:

	2008			2007			2006	
	M	MU.S.\$	%	M	MU.S.\$	%	M	%
Total land seismic								
Acquisition	454.4	672.2	17%	461.5	631.8	19%	119.1	9%
Contract	350.3	518.2	13%	327.3	448.0	14%	119.1	9%
Multi-client	104.1	154.0	4%	134.2	183.8	6%		
Total marine seismic								
Acquisition	1,112.7	1,646.1	43%	986.4	1,350.5	41%	533.3	40%
Contract	712.9	1,054.6	27%	531.2	727.3	22%	315.4	24%
Multi-client	399.8	591.5	16%	455.2	623.2	19%	217.9	16%
Processing and imaging	270.1	399.5	11%	263.2	360.5	11%	139.7	11%
<b>Total services</b>	<b>1,837.3</b>	<b>2,717.8</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>1,711.1</b>	<b>2,342.8</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>792.1</b>	<b>60%</b>
12 days elimination <sup>(1)</sup>				(16.5)	(22.6)			
<b>Total Services after elimination</b>	<b>1,837.3</b>	<b>2,717.8</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>1,694.6</b>	<b>2,320.2</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>792.1</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Equipment<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>765.2</b>	<b>1,110.3</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>679.5</b>	<b>930.5</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>537.5</b>	<b>40%</b>
Exchange differences		21.7						
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,602.5</b>	<b>3,849.8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,374.1</b>	<b>3,250.7</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,329.6</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Notes:

- (1) The merger with Veritas took effect on January 12, 2007. The 1,711.1 million figure above is composed of Services segment business line revenues for each of CGG and Veritas from and including January 1, 2007. We have consequently eliminated from this figure Veritas revenues in an amount of 16.5 million attributable to 2007 Veritas revenues between January 1 and January 12, 2007, the effective date of the merger of CGG and Veritas. Because our internal reporting systems did not permit us to identify the CGG/Veritas Services segment business lines to which such twelve days of Veritas revenues should be allocated, we have eliminated such twelve days of revenues from such 1,711.1 million figure to arrive at total Services revenues (including Veritas revenue after the merger date) of 1,694.6 million for the financial year ended December 31, 2007.
- (2) The dollar amounts for the equipment segment reflect the management reporting figures. The exchange differences between management reporting in US dollars and consolidated financial statements translated into US dollars are shown in the line Exchange differences .

**Revenues by Region (by location of customers)**

The following table sets forth our consolidated operating revenues by region in millions of euros or dollars, as the case may be, and the percentage of total consolidated operating revenues represented thereby, for the periods indicated:

	<b>2008</b>			<b>2007</b>			<b>2006</b>	
	<b>M</b>	<b>M\$</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>M\$</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>%</b>
North America	725.0	1,072.5	28%	734.6	1,005.8	31%	344.2	26%
Central and South Americas	203.2	300.7	8%	244.0	334.2	10%	138.3	10%
Europe, Africa and Middle East	1,045.2	1,546.2	40%	767.2	1,050.5	32%	472.7	36%
Asia Pacific	629.1	930.4	24%	628.3	860.2	27%	374.4	28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,602.5</b>	<b>3,849.8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,374.1</b>	<b>3,250.7</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,329.6</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Services**

Our geophysical Services segment is composed of:

land contract: seismic data acquisition for land, transition zones and shallow water on behalf of a specific client;

multi-client land: seismic data acquisition for land, transition zones and shallow water licensed to a number of clients on a non-exclusive basis;

marine contract: seismic data acquisition offshore on behalf of a specific client;

multi-client marine: seismic data acquisition offshore licensed to a number of clients on a non-exclusive basis;  
and

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processing and imaging; processing, imaging and interpretation of geophysical data, data management and reservoir studies for clients.

Our Services segment is organized by region to better promote our entire spectrum of services in our main markets, focusing on providing comprehensive solutions to client problems. We believe that our capacity to provide integrated geophysical services is a significant competitive advantage.

### ***Land Business Line***

#### ***Land Seismic Acquisition***

Land seismic acquisition includes all seismic surveying techniques where the recording sensor is either in direct contact with, or in close proximity to, the ground. Our land business line offers integrated services, including the acquisition and on site processing of seismic data on land, in transition zones and on the ocean floor (seabed surveys). We undertake land surveys with both a contract and multi-client basis.

We are a significant land seismic acquisition contractor worldwide, including in North America, and particularly in difficult terrain. In 2008, we had an average of 22 active land crews performing specialized 3D and 2D seismic surveys. Total land seismic acquisition activities accounted for 17% of our consolidated operating revenues in 2008. Contracts for land seismic acquisition accounted for 13% and land multi-client surveys accounted for 4% of our consolidated operating revenue in 2008.

Our land operations include surveying crews and recording crews. Surveying crews lay out the lines to be recorded and mark the sites for shot-hole placement or equipment location (except for stake-less operations where the sources locations are indicated through GPS tools rather than marked on the field). Recording crews produce acoustic impulses and use recording units to synchronize the shooting and record the seismic signals via geophones. On a land survey where explosives are used as the acoustic source, the recording crew is supported by several drill crews. Drill crews operate in advance of the recording crew and bore shallow holes for explosive charges which, when detonated by the recording crew, produce the necessary acoustic impulse. Seismic surveying in transition zones and on the sea-bed is carried out by laying cables or other stationary measuring devices on the ocean floor.

Land seismic crews are equipped with advanced equipment and software used in each stage of the land seismic acquisition process, including: the Sercel 408UL and 428XL seismic data recorders; the Sercel VE 432 and VE 464 vibrator electronic control system used to synchronize and verify the emission of acoustical waves by vibrators; DSU3 Sercel digital 3 components sensors; patented high vibroseis technologies such as HPVA™ and V1™ which seek to increase the productivity of a crew; and on-site processing software for acquired data.

We believe that our technology and our experience enable us to offer high quality, fully integrated land seismic services. We have pioneered real-time positioning of geophones and seismic sources, quality control of positioning during land surveys, and on-site processing, which together increase the accuracy and efficiency of such surveys.

One of the challenges inherent in land seismic acquisition surveys is gathering data without disrupting the sensitive ecosystems in which such surveys are frequently located. We have developed a strong position in environmentally sensitive zones, such as mountainous regions, tropical forests and swamps, by following a strict policy of preserving the natural environment to the extent possible. We also work in conjunction with the local community at site locations, hiring local employees and obtaining necessary local authorizations to alleviate potential opposition to our operations.

The difficulty of access to survey sites is a major factor in determining the number of personnel required to carry out a survey and the cost of a survey. A full crew for a land or transition zone survey may range from a total of less than 100 to a few thousands members (principally composed of local employees in the latter case), and the cost of a survey can range from several hundred thousand to several million dollars per month, depending on the size of the team and the type and difficulty of the survey.

We work closely with our clients to plan surveys in accordance with their specifications. This provides us with a competitive advantage in being selected to carry out surveys, whether such surveys are awarded based on competitive bids or directly negotiated agreements with clients. We regularly conduct land seismic acquisition surveys for national and international oil companies.

We have developed partnerships with local industry-related companies in several countries, including Saudi Arabia, Kazakhstan, and Indonesia. We contribute our international expertise, technical know-how, equipment and experienced key personnel to these partnerships as needed, while local partners provide their logistical resources, equipment and knowledge of the environment and local market.

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In Saudi Arabia, our land seismic acquisition activities are conducted through Arabian Geophysical & Surveying Co. ( Argas ), a joint venture owned 49% by us and 51% by TAQA, our local partner. Since June 2006, our other Middle East operations are conducted through Ardiseis, a joint venture owned 51% by us and 49% by TAQA.

### *Land Multi-Client Library*

In 2008, we invested 55 million (U.S.\$82 million) in multi-client land seismic surveys, mainly in North America. Total revenues from multi-client land seismic surveys in 2008 were 104 million (U.S.\$154 million), a 16% decrease in dollar terms year on year. Multi-client after-sales were 63 million (U.S.\$93 million) for 2008 driven by demand in our Canadian and US lower 48 states data library. The pre-financing level was high at 74% and as of December 31, 2008, the net book value of our land multi-client library was 120 million (U.S.\$166 million).

### *Land Seismic Acquisition Business Development Strategy*

*Land Seismic Acquisition Contract Activity.* Our land seismic acquisition services are geographically and technologically well placed for high-end positioning and further development of local partnerships. We have developed a unique expertise in North America's arctic regions.

The demand for land seismic acquisition services and for technology in particular remains strong and our strategy for the land acquisition business line is to:

focus our presence in certain geographic markets, such as Canada, Alaska, Europe, Africa and the Middle East, where we believe we have a competitive advantage;

serve the increasing demand for land seismic acquisition and using high-end technology, through the expanded use of our HPVA<sup>™</sup> and V1<sup>™</sup> wide azimuth technology and the introduction of Seismovie<sup>™</sup> for advanced 4D projects;

further reinforce our presence in North America through the introduction of new technology for high resolution acquisition; and

continue to promote our expertise in harsh environments, sensitive areas (in terms of environmental or community concerns), shallow water and transition zones, and in management of complex projects where barriers to entry are higher and pricing competition less intense.

*Multi-client.* We also plan to continue investing in non-exclusive land seismic data libraries, especially in the U.S. and in Canada, where we have a strong and recent vintage library.

### *Marine Seismic Acquisition*

We provide a full range of 3D marine seismic services, principally in the Gulf of Mexico, the North Sea and off the coasts of West Africa and Brazil, as well as in the Asia-Pacific region.

Marine seismic surveys are conducted through the deployment of submersible cables (streamers) and acoustic sources (airguns) from marine vessels. Such streamers are each up to 10 kilometers long and carry hydrophone groups normally spaced 12.5 meters apart along the length of the streamer. The recording capacity of a vessel is dependent upon the number of streamers it tows and the number of acoustic sources it carries, as well as the configuration of its data recording system. By increasing the number of streamers and acoustic sources used, a marine seismic operator

can perform large surveys more rapidly and efficiently.

We undertake both contract and multi-client marine seismic surveys. Contract surveys generally provide for us to be paid a fixed fee per square kilometer of data acquired. When we acquire marine seismic data on a contract basis, the customer contracts to pay for and directs the scope and extent of the survey and retains ownership of the data obtained. In regions where there is extensive petroleum exploration, such as Brazil, the Gulf of Mexico, West Africa, the Mediterranean Sea and the North Sea, we also undertake multi-client surveys, in which we fund the survey ourselves and retain ownership of the seismic data. This enables us to provide multiple companies access to the data by way of license. As a result, we have the potential to obtain multiple and higher revenues, while our customers who license the data have the opportunity to pay lower prices. The capacity to both acquire and process marine seismic data is an important element of our overall strategy to maintain and develop our leading position in marine seismic data acquisition and processing.

We operated more than 66% of our high-end 3D fleet on contract in 2008, mostly in the Eastern Hemisphere (85%).

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Total marine activities accounted for 43% of our consolidated operating revenue in 2008. Marine seismic acquisition contracts accounted for 27% and multi-client marine accounted for 16% of our consolidated operating revenue in 2008.

### ***Marine Business Line***

#### ***Marine Seismic Acquisition Fleet***

We operated a combined fleet of 19 vessels at the end of 2008 (before the integration of Wavefield), including eight high capacity vessels, seven mid capacity vessels and four small 3D/2D vessels. All vessels are equipped with Sercel solid or fluid streamers. In 2008, we continued performance upgrades, with the *Alizé* now capable of towing 14 streamers.

We own some of our vessels, we co-own one and we use the others pursuant to time charters. This flexibility allows us to adjust our fleet according to market requirements. The 3D vessels we own are the *Amadeus*, the *Symphony*, the *Orion* and the *Search*. The low capacity 3D/2D vessels we own are the *Venturer*, the *Princess* and the *Duke*. We co-own the vessel *Alizé* and charter, with a final purchase option, the following 3D vessels: the *Challenger*, the *Fohn* and the *Harmattan*. The other 3D vessels we charter are the *Viking Vision*, the *Viking Vanquish*, the *Viking*, the *Viking II* and the *Viking Vantage*. The low capacity 3D/2D vessels we charter are the *Voyager*, the *Pacific Titan* and the *Pacific Sword*.

The 2D vessels are used for 2D surveys or, when required, as source vessels for more complex operations, which have higher margins, such as for wide azimuth or complex undershooting surveys.

With more vessels, we can increase our geographical coverage and minimize unproductive time by reducing vessels transit between areas of operation. Each vessel is equipped with geophysical recording instrumentation, digital geophysical streamer cable, cable location and geophysical data location systems, multiple navigation systems, a source control system that controls the synchronization of the energy source, and a firing system that generates the acoustic impulses. Streamer cables contain hydrophones that receive the acoustic impulses reflected by variations in the subsurface strata.

The *Alizé*, the *Viking*, the *Viking II*, the *Viking Vantage*, the *Viking Vision* and the *Viking Vanquish* are each capable of deploying eight to fourteen streamers simultaneously. The *Alizé*, the *Challenger*, the *Symphony*, the *Viking*, the *Viking II*, the *Viking Vantage*, the *Viking Vision*, the *Viking Vanquish*, the *Voyager*, the *Princess* and the *Titan* are equipped with solid streamers, which offer numerous advantages over fluid-filled streamers. The solid streamers allow these vessels to work in rougher seas and record more desirable frequencies with less noise and less downtime than is possible with fluid-filled streamers.

On July 2, 2007, we entered into an agreement, amended on March 14, 2008, with Eidesvik Offshore ASA for the supply of two large seismic vessels to be newly built. The two vessels will be of an extremely advanced specification, incorporating many unique features, based on the most recent X-BOW™ design of Ulstein Design AS, and will be delivered in two or three years under 12-year time charter agreements. These two high-capacity, innovative vessels are key components of our strategy of progressive fleet renewal, involving the staged retirement of the former generation of lower capacity vessels in conjunction with the introduction of these new platforms. The new vessels are purpose-designed for the efficient deployment of industry-leading Sercel solid streamer technology and configured for spreads of up to 16 long streamers, or 20 shorter streamers in high-density applications.





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The following table provides certain information concerning the seismic vessels we currently operate.

Vessel	Year built	Year of upgrade	Year added to fleet	Charter expires	Options to extend <sup>(1)</sup>	2D/3D Streamers	#	Vessel Length(m)
Alizé	1999	n/a	1999	Mar. 2014	n/a	3D	14	100
Amadeus	1999	n/a	2001	owned	n/a	3D	8	84
Challenger	2000	2005	2005	Jun. 2010	3x1	3D	12	91
Duke	1983	1998	2005	owned	n/a	2D	1	67
Føhn	1983	1997	1985	Dec. 2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	1x1	3D	8	87
Harmattan	1993	1997	1993	Dec. 2008 <sup>(3)</sup>	1x1	3D	6	97
Laurentian	1983	2005	2003	Sept. 2008 <sup>(4)</sup>	n/a	3D	6	85
Orion	1979	2006	2005	owned	n/a	3D	8	81
Pacific Sword	1981	2000	2007	Oct. 2009	1x3	3D	2	58
Pacific Titan	1982	1998	2005	Jun. 2009	n/a	3D	2	65
Princess	1986	2001	2005	owned	n/a	2D	3	76
Search	1982	2002	2005	owned	n/a	3D	8	98
Symphony	1988	1999	2001	owned	n/a	3D	12	121
Venturer	1986	2007	2005	owned	n/a	3D	4	90
Viking	1998	2006	2007	May 2011	2x5	3D	10	93
Viking II	1999	n/a	2007	May 2013	1x5	3D	8	93
Viking Vanquish	1999	2007	2007	Sept. 2015	2x5	3D	12	93
Viking Vantage	2002	n/a	2007	Apr. 2010	3x2	3D	10	93
Viking Vision	1993	2007	2007	Jun. 2015	2x5	3D	12	105
Voyager	2005	2006	2006	Jun. 2011	1x3	3D	4	68
M/V Discoverer 2	1992	n/a	2009	Jan. 2010	2x1	2D	1	70
M/V Malene								
Ostervold	1965	2007	2009	Jan. 2010	3x1	2D	2	69
M/V Bergen Surveyor	1972	1997	2009	Apr. 2011	5x1	3D	2	66
M/V Geowave								
Commander	1997	2006	2009	Mar. 2013	10x1	3D	10	85
M/V Geowave								
Champion	1994	2007	2009	Aug. 2014	10x1	3D	12	107
M/V Geowave Master	2000	2007	2009	Nov. 2013	10x1	3D	12	101
M/V Geowave								
Voyager	2005	2009	2009	Nov. 2015	10x1	3D	12	83
M/V Geowave								
Endeavor	2007	n/a	2009	Jul. 2015	5x2	3D	12	92

Notes:

(1) In years

(2) Tow points

(3) Exercise of the purchase option on February 23, 2009

(4) Not renewed upon expiry date

*Marine Multi-client Library*

Our policy is generally to require a minimum share of the estimated cost of each multi-client survey to be covered by pre-commitments from clients (pre-funding) prior to commencement. We treat these multi-client projects as investments. In determining whether to undertake multi-client surveys, we consider factors that include the availability of oil and gas companies to pre-fund the survey, the location to be surveyed, the probability and timing of any future lease concessions and development activity in the area and the availability, quality and price of competing data. Once the final products are available to the market, customers license the data as-is ( after-sales ).

Multi-client survey production accounted for 34% of our high-end 3D fleet utilization in 2008. See Item 3: Key Information Risk Factors Risks Related to Our Business We invest significant amounts of money in acquiring and processing seismic data for multi-client surveys and for our data library without knowing precisely how much of the data we will be able to sell or when and at what price we will be able to sell the data.

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The multi-client libraries provide prospect-ready 3D or 2D data and therefore accelerate the exploration-production process. We believe that having a high quality and well located multi-client data library is important for our ability to generate cash flow in the future. In 2008, we expanded the size and the value of our US Gulf of Mexico, Brazilian and North Sea multi-client dataset by acquiring new blocks in key areas and by imaging the subsurface with our latest processing technology. In particular, we used wide azimuth technology in the deep offshore waters of the Gulf of Mexico for improved sub-salt illumination.

In 2008, we invested 288 million (U.S.\$426 million) mainly in the Gulf of Mexico but also in Brazil, in the North Sea and in Kazakhstan. Total revenues from multi-client marine seismic acquisition were 400 million (U.S.\$591 million) in 2008, a 5% decrease in dollar terms from 2007.

The pre-funding level was strong at 96% while well positioned multi-client libraries benefited from increased customer interest. As of December 31, 2008, the net book value of our offshore multi-clients library was 416 million (U.S.\$579 million).

In 2008, our wide-azimuth surveys in the Gulf of Mexico continued to receive a very high level of interest from all actors involved in deep water exploration. The acquisition of our Garden Bank wide-azimuth program was completed in November 2008 and our third survey (Green Canyon) commenced in December 2008 and was completed in March 2009. At that point our wide-azimuth coverage will stand at 1,452 OCS blocks, equivalent to 33,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

Multi-client after-sales in 2008 were 123 million (U.S.\$182 million), driven by strong interest for our Brazil and Gulf of Mexico data libraries.

### *Seabed*

Marine seismic data can also be acquired on the seabed and Ocean Bottom Seismic (OBC) data is of superior quality, but because this method was cumbersome and expensive in the early days, the towed streamer method became the dominant way to collect seismic data at sea. In recent years the improvements in equipment and survey efficiency and the need for more sophisticated data have revived OBC as a viable seismic data survey method. Today, oil companies frequently consider OBC to be the best seismic method for complex and subtle reservoirs analysis. For many years, we have been a leader in OBC both in shallow and deep waters. The two most common ways to collect OBC data are by deploying a cable or by placing discrete point receivers (nodes) on the seafloor which record data before retrieval and redeployment to cover a wide area. We are currently the only company in the industry that offers both methods. Our OBC group, with its strong focus on R&D, is located in the city of Bergen, on the west coast of Norway.

Recently, another dimension has been added to seabed seismic data acquisition by trenching cables into the seafloor for permanent reservoir monitoring. An early mover in this area, we offer high-end electrical cables through Sercel and modern fiber optic cables through Optoplan, a subsidiary of Wavefield. We believe we are the only company in the industry that can offer a total package of equipment, installation, data collection, processing and reservoir characterization for permanent reservoir monitoring.

### *Marine Seismic Acquisition Business Development Strategy*

*Marine contract.* We believe that marine seismic services constitute one of the essential pillars of a firm presence in the seismic sector and therefore want to maintain a strong position in both the 3D and 2D marine seismic segments in contract and multi-clients surveys. Historically, 2D was typically limited to pre-exploration efforts, as clients wished to have a rudimentary 2D image of an entire area in order to rapidly identify zones that justified 3D imaging. The possession of a mixed 2D/3D fleet thus becomes a strategic advantage and an essential factor in a company's

credibility with oil company clients.

The acquisition of Wavefield strengthens our fleet and operational capacity, adding eight vessels of which five are high-capacity vessels. Most of the additional vessels are recently-built and equipped with the latest Sercel solid streamer technology. The Wavefield acquisition also reinforces our operational team and expertise and brings a strong backlog with visibility well into 2009.

*Marine multi-client.* We intend to take advantage of our recent vintage, well positioned seismic data library. We will actively pursue our investment in wide azimuth programs in the Gulf of Mexico.

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***Processing and Imaging Business Line***

*Processing and Imaging*

Seismic data processing operations transform seismic data acquired in the field into 2D cross-sections, or 3D images of the earth's subsurface or 4D time-lapse seismic data using Geocluster and Hampson-Russell software, our proprietary seismic software, or third party applications. These images are then interpreted by geophysicists and geologists for use by oil and gas companies in evaluating prospective areas, selecting drilling sites and managing producing reservoirs.

We provide seismic data processing and reservoir services through our network of data processing centers and reservoir teams located around the world. We operated 40 worldwide processing and imaging centers, including 12 dedicated client centers at December 31, 2008. Contract revenues from our Processing and Imaging business line accounted for approximately 10% of our consolidated revenues in 2008.

*Data Processing Activity*

We process seismic data acquired by our land and marine seismic acquisition crews as well as seismic data acquired by non-affiliated third parties. Marine seismic data has been a significant source of the growth in demand for our data processing services. In addition, we reprocess previously processed data using new techniques to improve the quality of seismic images. Demand for processing and imaging remained strong worldwide in 2008, driven by marine data volumes, especially with the rapid market adoption of wide-azimuth in the Gulf of Mexico and the growing demand for our advanced imaging capabilities.

We complement our network of international centers with both regional centers, open to all our customers, and dedicated centers that bring processing facilities within our clients' premises. Twelve of our data processing centers are dedicated centers that are located in clients' offices. We believe that these dedicated centers are responsive to the trend among oil and gas companies to outsource processing work. Each of the principal computers used at our centers is leased for a period of approximately two years, permitting us to upgrade to more advanced equipment at the time of renewal.

Beyond conventional processing and reprocessing, we are also increasingly involved in reservoir-applied geophysics, an activity that encompasses large integrated reservoir studies from reprocessing to full reservoir simulation. It also includes advanced technology studies such as reservoir characterization, stratigraphic inversion and stochastic reservoir modeling. Our delivery time has decreased in recent years, enabling delivery of data to clients within the same timeframe as work performed directly onboard marine vessels.

We operate visualization centers in our Houston, London and Singapore hubs which allow teams of our customers geoscientists and engineers to view and interpret large volumes of complex 3D data. The visualization centers have imaging tools used for advanced interpretive techniques that enhance the understanding of regional as well as detailed reservoir geology. These visualization centers allow us to offer our expertise combined with the type of collaborative geophysical model building that is enabling oil companies to explore areas of complex geology such as the large sub-salt plays in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico.

We have groups of scientists available to perform advanced geophysical and geological interpretation on a contract basis. These experts work around the world, using third party and our own proprietary software to create subsurface models for our clients and advise them on how best to exploit their reservoirs. Their work is related to exploration as well as production activities. Convergence of CGG and Veritas legacy software technology is on track with full

synergy expected in 2009.

Additionally, we license our proprietary Hampson-Russell software to companies desiring to do their own geophysical interpretation.

*Data Processing Business Development Strategy*

Our position in data processing and imaging as well as the skills and reputation of our experts and geoscientists make us the industry benchmark in this segment. Our strategy for the Processing and Imaging business line is to enhance our particular competences in advanced technologies such as depth imaging, wide azimuth, 4D processing and reservoir characterization as well as to reinforce our close links with clients through dedicated centers.

**Equipment**

We conduct our equipment development and production operations through Sercel and its subsidiaries. We believe Sercel is the market leader in the development and production of seismic acquisition systems and

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specialized equipment in the land and offshore seismic markets. Sercel is operated as an independent division and makes most of its sales to purchasers other than CGGVeritas. Sercel currently operates seven seismic equipment manufacturing facilities, located in Nantes and Saint Gaudens in France, Houston, Singapore, Alfreton in England, Larbert in Scotland and Calgary. In China, Sercel operates through Sercel-JunFeng Geophysical Equipment Co Ltd ( JunFeng ), based in Hebei (China), in which Sercel acquired a 51% equity stake in 2004 and through Xian-Sercel a manufacturing joint venture with BGP, in which Sercel holds a 40% interest. In addition, three sites in Toulouse, Les Ulis and Brest (France) are dedicated to borehole tools and submarine acoustic instrumentation, respectively.

In 2008, Sercel had record revenues of 832 million (U.S.\$1,209 million), a 12% increase in dollar terms from 2007 ( 789 million or U.S.\$1,080 million). Sercel represented 29% of our consolidated revenue in 2008.

We estimate that the equipment market increased by around 7% in 2008, driven by the marine equipment market while the land equipment market remained flat. Sercel's market share in the seismic equipment market is estimated at around 60%.

### ***Sercel Activity***

Sercel offers and supports worldwide a complete range of geophysical equipment for seismic data acquisition, including seismic recording equipment, software and seismic sources, and provides its clients with integrated solutions. Sercel's principal product line is seismic recording equipment, particularly the 400 family of recording systems, the 408UL and the 428XL.

The 428XL was launched on November 2005 as a successor to the 408UL system. We believe that our 400 product series represents the market standard. The 428XL continues the characteristics that made the 408 a success, such as an evolutive architecture and the option of mixing different communication media (cable, radio, micro-wave, laser, fiber-optic) to form a true network allowing the user to define data routing and hence avoid obstacles in the field. In addition, the 428 XL offers enhanced possibilities in high density and multi-component land acquisition and is compatible with 408 field equipment.

Like the 408 system, the 428 system can be used with the digital sensor unit (DSU) featuring three component digital sensors based on the MicroElectroMechanicalSystem (MEMS). Sercel enhanced its product range in September 2006 by acquiring Vibration Technology Ltd., a Scottish company specialized in wireless acquisition systems.

Sercel is also a market leader for vibroseismic vehicles. Sercel's latest vibrator family, called Nomad, offers high reliability and unique ergonomic features. Nomad is available with either normal tires or a tracked drive system. The track drive system allows Nomad vibrators to operate in terrain not accessible to vehicles with tires. In sand dunes or arctic conditions, this can improve crew productivity. In particular, the Nomad 90 is capable of exerting a peak force 90,000 pounds and is believed to represent the heaviest vibrator on the market.

The Seal, our marine seismic data recording system, capitalizes on the 408 architecture and on our many years of experience in streamer manufacturing. The Seal is currently the sole system with integrated electronics. In 2005, Sercel launched the Sentinel solid streamer, a new product in its Seal line that is the outcome of the technological synergies realized in recent acquisitions. We estimate that Sentinel cables are used to equip a majority of new seismic vessels. In November 2006, Sercel launched SeaRay®, an ocean bottom cable offered under several configurations for depth of 100 to 500 meters. This cable is based on the 400 family acquisition systems technology and integrates DSU 3 components.

The marine range of products has been further improved with the launch of SeaProNav™, a navigation software allowing the real-time positioning for streamers and Nautilus™, a totally integrated system for positioning seismic

streamers and sources.

In addition to recording systems, Sercel develops and produces a complete range of geophysical equipment for seismic data acquisition and other ancillary geophysical products such as geophones, cables and connectors. Sercel significantly expanded its product range and increased its market share in the seismic equipment industry with the acquisitions of GeoScience Corporation in December 1999 and Mark Product in 2000. In October 2003, Sercel acquired Soderia S.A., a leading provider of air gun sources used mainly in marine seismic data acquisition. In January 2004, Sercel acquired a division of Thales Underwater Systems Pty Ltd. that develops and manufactures surface marine seismic acquisition systems, particularly solid streamers, and seabed marine seismic acquisition systems. The acquisition of a 51% stake in JunFeng, based in China, in January 2004 reinforced our manufacturing capabilities for geophone, cables and connectors, as well as our presence on the Chinese seismic market. Both Thales seismic equipment business and JunFeng have been consolidated within the CGG group from January 2004. In addition, through the acquisitions of Createch and Orca in 2004, Sercel is continuing its expansion while



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strengthening its position in two areas with perceived growth potential: sea-floor seismic systems and borehole seismic tools. In September 2006, Sercel acquired Vibration Technology Ltd, a Scottish company specialized in wireless systems. In May, 2008, Sercel acquired Metrolog, specialized in down-hole gauges, and in December 2008, Sercel acquired Quest Geo Solutions, an UK company focusing on navigation software.

As a result of these acquisitions, Sercel is a market leader in the development and production of both marine and land geophysical equipment. It is a global provider for the seismic acquisition industry with a balanced industrial position in terms of both product range and geographical presence.

### ***Equipment Business Development Strategy***

Our strategy for the Equipment segment is to:

use continuous and intensive R&D efforts, combined with dedicated business acquisitions, to expand Sercel's range of products, improve its existing technology and strengthen its leading position in the geophysical equipment market; and

maintain Sercel's leading position in the seismic data equipment market by capitalizing on growth opportunities resulting from the strength of its current product base, the application of new technologies in all of its products as well as from its diversified geographical presence, including in emerging markets.

### **Seasonality**

Our land and marine seismic acquisition activities are seasonal in nature. We generally experience decreased revenues in the first quarter of each year due to the effects of weather conditions in the Northern Hemisphere and to the fact that our principal clients are generally not prepared to fully commit their annual exploration budget to specific projects during that period.

We have historically experienced higher levels of activity in our equipment manufacturing operations in the fourth quarter as our clients seek to fully deploy annual budgeted capital.

### **Intellectual Property**

We continually seek the most effective and appropriate protection for our products, processes and software and, as a general rule, will file for patent, copyright or other statutory protection whenever possible. Our patents, trademarks, service marks, copyrights, licenses and technical information collectively represent a material asset to our business. However, no single patent, trademark, copyright, license or piece of technical information is of material importance to our business when taken as a whole. As of December 31, 2008, we held or had applied for 165 patents in respect of different products and processes worldwide. The duration of these patents varies from four to 20 years, depending upon the date filed and the duration of protection granted by each country.

### **Competition**

#### ***General***

Most contracts are obtained through a competitive bidding process, which is standard for the industry in which we operate. Important factors in awarding contracts include service quality, technological capacity, performance, reputation, experience of personnel, customer relations and long-standing relationships, as well as price. While no single company competes with us in all of our segments, we are subject to intense competition with respect to each of

our segments. We compete with large, international companies as well as smaller, local companies. In addition, we compete with major service providers and government-sponsored enterprises and affiliates. Some of our competitors operate more data acquisition crews than we do and have substantially greater financial and other resources.

*Land*

The land seismic market is extremely fragmented and characterized by intense price competition. The entrance of a significant number of local competitors, mostly Chinese, seeking to expand their international market share beginning in 2000 has driven down prices in this sector and decreased the market share of established participants. In addition, certain very active services markets, such as China and Russia, are not practically accessible to international services providers like us. In addition to CGGVeritas, the other significant service providers in the land seismic market are Western Geco and BGP. We believe that technology, quality of services and price are the principal bases of competition in this market, as well as relationships with local service providers, which are

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important, as is experience in unusual terrain. Volume in the land seismic market increased by almost 10% in 2008 with a positive, but moderate, impact on market prices.

***Marine***

The offshore sector has four leading participants: WesternGeco, PGS, Fugro and CGGVeritas. From 1999 to mid-2004, the offshore market experienced excess supply, which put downward pressure on prices. Because of the high fixed costs in this sector, excess supply was not reduced by operators but rather channeled into multi-client libraries. With supply flat since 2003, however, and demand increasing gradually until mid-2004 and more rapidly thereafter, prices recovered significantly in this market. The market upturn was confirmed in the second half of 2005 with a continuous increase of exclusive volumes and sales from the multi-client existing libraries. We estimate the number of large 3D vessels (six or more streamers) at around 60 vessels at the end of 2008, which was originally expected to grow to 74 vessels by the end of 2009 and 85 vessels in 2010. The current financial crisis and industry consolidation (such as our recent acquisition of Wavefield), may lead to of the number of vessels in the market being fewer than expected, partly due to vessel retirements. We believe that the supply / demand equilibrium should remain largely stable because 85% of the 3D worldwide fleet is concentrated among the four main players and they should adjust capacity in line with demand. The offshore market increased by approximately 20% in 2008 including a positive impact on market price, and was driven mostly by growth in the marine acquisition contract segment.

***Processing***

The processing sector is led by Western Geco and CGGVeritas. This market is characterized by greater client loyalty than the acquisition sector, as evidenced by the presence of processing centers on client premises. Processing capacity has multiplied in recent years as a result of improvements in computing technology. This increase in computing power has allowed improved processing and the use of more complex and accurate algorithms. We estimate that the processing market increased by 10% in 2008.

***Equipment***

Our principal competitor for the manufacture of seismic survey equipment is Ion Geophysical Inc. The market for seismic survey equipment is highly competitive and is characterized by continual and rapid technological change. We believe that technology is the principal basis for competition in this market, as oil and gas companies have increasingly demanded new equipment for activities such as reservoir management and data acquisition in difficult terrain. Oil and gas companies have also become more demanding with regard to the quality of data acquired. Other competitive factors include price and customer support services. The volume of sales in the seismic equipment market increased by around 7% in 2008, mainly driven by demand for marine equipment, while the land market remained flat.

**Organizational Structure**

We are the parent company of the CGGVeritas group. Our principal subsidiaries are as follows:

<b>Subsidiary</b>	<b>Jurisdiction of Organization</b>	<b>Head office</b>	<b>% of interest</b>
Sercel S.A.	France	Carquefou, France	100.0
CGGVeritas Services SA	France	Massy, France	100.0
CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V	Netherlands	Amsterdam, Netherlands	100.0

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Wavefield Inseis ASA	Norway	Bergen, Norway	100.0
CGG Americas, Inc.	United States	Houston, Texas, United States	100.0
CGG Marine Resources Norge A/S	Norway	Hovik, Norway	100.0
Compañía Mexicana de Geofísica	Mexico	Mexico City, Mexico	100.0
CGG do Brasil Participações Ltda.	Brazil	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	100.0
CGGVeritas Services (Norway) AS	Norway	Oslo, Norway	100.0
Sercel Inc.	United States	Tulsa, Oklahoma, United States	100.0
CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc.	United States	Delaware, United States	100.0

In 2008, to streamline operations and realize other benefits, we reorganized our Services segment by moving several of our subsidiaries, including CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc. and CGG Americas, Inc., to CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V., a newly-formed subsidiary organized under the laws of the Netherlands.

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The following table sets forth certain information relating to the principal properties of CGGVeritas group :

<b>Location</b>	<b>Type of facilities</b>	<b>Size (m<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>Owned/ Leased</b>	<b>Lease expiration date</b>
Paris, France	Headquarters of the CGGVeritas SA	1,655	Leased	2015
Massy, France	Headquarters of CGGVeritas Services SA	9,174	Owned	2016
Massy, France	Data processing centre	7,371	Owned	2016
Oslo, Norway	Data processing center CGG Services Norge (branch) and Offices of CGG Marine Resources Norge AS	1,978	Leased	2013
Bergen, Norway	Offices of CGGVeritas Services (Norway) AS	2,162	Leased	2012
Crawley, England	Manor Place Offices of Veritas DGC Ltd. and Data processing center	1,860	Leased	2010
Crawley, England	Crompton Way Offices of Veritas DGC Ltd. and Data processing center	7,570	Leased	2028
Redhill, England	Administrative offices and Operations Computer Hub	2,095	Leased	2010
Geneva Switzerland	CGGVeritas International Head Office	606	Leased	2017
Lagos, Nigeria	Registered office of CGG (Nigeria) Ltd and non-registered office of Veritas Geophysical (Nigeria) Ltd	800	Leased	2010
Cairo, Egypt	Data processing center	2,653	Owned	N/A
Mumbai, India	Offices and Data processing center	921	Leased	2011
Kuala Lumpur, Kuching, Malaysia	Offices of Geophysical Services and Data processing center	1,924	Leased	2008 / 2010
Singapore	Offices of Veritas Geophysical (Asia Pacific) Pte Ltd and Data processing center	4,996	Leased	2019
Jakarta, Indonesia	Offices of PT Veritas DGC Mega Pratama	337	Leased	2009
Perth, Australia	Offices of Veritas DGC Australia Pty Ltd	1,580	Leased	2009
Calgary, Canada	Offices of CGGVeritas Services (Canada) Partnership and Hampson Russell Ltd Partnership	9,273	Leased	2015
Calgary, Canada	Land Operation (Canada) offices	3,995	Leased	2014
Houston, Texas, U.S.A.	Principal executive offices of CGGVeritas Service (U.S.) Inc	29,536	Leased	2020
Villahermosa, Mexico	Offices of Compañía Mexicana de Geofisica	1,200	Leased	2009
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	Offices of CGG Do Brazil	4,320	Leased	2009 / 2010
Carquefou, France	Sercel factory. Activities include research and	23,318	Owned	

Saint Gaudens, France	development relating to, and manufacture of, seismic data recording equipment Sercel factory. Activities include research and	16,000	Owned	
Houston, Texas, U.S.A.	development relating to, and manufacture of, geophysical cables, mechanical equipment and borehole seismic tools Offices and manufacturing premises of Sercel	24,154	Owned	
Xu Shui, China	Activities include research and development relating to, and manufacture of, geophones	59,247	Owned	
<b>WAVEFIELD</b>				
Bergen, Norway	Offices of CGGVeritas Services Norway/Wavefield Inseis ASA	7,648	Leased	2019
Lysaker, Norway	Offices of CGGVeritas Services Norway/Wavefield Inseis ASA	667	Leased	2010

We also lease other offices worldwide to support our operations. We believe that our existing facilities are adequate to meet our current requirements.

Information concerning our seismic vessels is set out under Marine Business Line above.

### Environmental Matters and Safety

Our operations are subject to a variety of laws and regulations relating to environmental protection. We invest financial and managerial resources to comply with such laws and regulations. Although such expenditures historically have not been material to us, and we believe that we are in compliance in all material respects with applicable environmental laws and regulations, the fact that such laws and regulations are changed frequently prevents us from predicting the cost of impact of such laws and regulations on our future operations. We are not involved in any legal proceedings concerning environmental matters and are not aware of any claims or potential liability concerning environmental matters that could have a material adverse impact on our business or consolidated financial condition.

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Efforts to improve safety and environmental performance over the last few years continued as some procedures were strengthened and others implemented to increase awareness among personnel and subcontractors, including obligatory regular meetings in the field and onboard. A comprehensive Health, Safety and Environment management system, placing particular emphasis on risk management, has been in place for many years, covering all activities and is continuously adapted for each segment. It is now fully integrated into a sustainable development program called PRISM (People Responsibility Integrated Sustainable Management) which is in place company-wide.

## **Legal Proceedings**

From time to time we are involved in legal proceedings arising in the normal course of our business. We do not expect that any of these proceedings, either individually or in the aggregate, will result in a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

On October 20, 2006, a complaint was filed against CGG's subsidiary, Sercel Inc., in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. The complaint alleges that several of Sercel Inc.'s seismic data acquisition products that include micro electromechanical systems (MEMS) infringe a U.S. patent allegedly owned by the plaintiff. The plaintiff has requested a permanent injunction prohibiting Sercel Inc. from making, using, selling, offering for sale or importing the equipment in question into the United States. In addition, the plaintiff has requested damages based on lost profits in the amount of U.S.\$14,672,261 plus prejudgment interest of U.S.\$775,254. In the alternative, the plaintiff is requesting damages based on a reasonable royalty in the amount of U.S.\$6,185,924 plus prejudgment interest of U.S.\$374,898. Sercel is confident that the products in question do not infringe any valid claims under the patent in question and intends to contest this claim vigorously. During 2008, the discovery process was completed and the Court provided a claim construction opinion. The Court has found that three of the seven of the patent claims are invalid for indefiniteness and one claim is not infringed. We do not believe this litigation will have a material adverse effect on our financial position or results of operations. Accordingly, no provision has been recorded in our consolidated financial statements, except for the fees related to preparing the defence.

On July 7, 2008, we brought suit against Arrow Seismic ASA in order to seek compensation for the loss we suffered (approximately U.S.\$70 million at the date of the claim) following Arrow Seismic ASA's withdrawal from negotiations for the construction of a 3D seismic vessel. The negotiations were terminated after Arrow Seismic ASA was acquired by PGS. Discussions between us and Arrow Seismic ASA were at such an advanced stage that, in the Group's view, the parties were contractually committed. A judgement was rendered on April 8, 2009 in favour of Arrow Seismic ASA. CGGVeritas has decided not to appeal.

## **Item 4A: UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None.

## **Item 5: OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS**

### **Introduction**

We report financial information by operating segment in accordance with our internal reporting system and the internal segment information that is used to manage and measure our performance. We divide our business into two operating segments, geophysical Services and geophysical Equipment.

Our geophysical services segment comprises:

Land contract: seismic data acquisition for land, transition zones and shallow water undertaken by us on behalf of a specific client;

Marine contract: seismic data acquisition offshore undertaken by us on behalf of a specific client;

Multi-client land and marine: seismic data acquisition undertaken by us and licensed to a number of clients on a non-exclusive basis; and

Processing and Imaging: processing and imaging and interpretation of geophysical data, data management and reservoir studies for clients.

Our equipment segment, which we conduct through Sercel Holding S.A. and its subsidiaries, comprises our manufacturing and sales activities for seismic equipment used for data acquisition, both on land and offshore.



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### **Operating Results**

The following operating and financial review and prospects should be read in conjunction with our consolidated annual financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this annual report, which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) as issued by the IASB (International Accounting Standards Board) and adopted by the European Union on December 31, 2008.

### **Factors affecting our results of operations**

Our operating results are generally affected by a variety of factors, including changes in exchange rates, particularly the value of the euro against the dollar, and changes in oil prices, which are also generally denominated in dollars. See [Trend Information](#) and [Geophysical market environment](#) herein.

#### *Foreign exchange fluctuations*

We face foreign exchange risks because a large percentage of our revenues and cash receipts are denominated in U.S. dollars, while a significant portion of our operating expenses and income taxes accrue in euro and other currencies. Movements between the U.S. dollar and euro or other currencies may adversely affect our business by negatively impacting our revenues and income.

In order to present trends in our business that may be obscured by currency fluctuations, we have converted certain euro amounts in this Operating and Financial Review and Prospects into U.S. dollars. Converted figures are presented only to assist the reader in understanding our results and are not part of our reported financial statements and may not be indicative of changes in our actual or anticipated results. See [Trend Information](#) [Currency Fluctuations](#) below.

Unless otherwise indicated, balance sheet data expressed in U.S. dollars have been converted from euros at the exchange rate on the relevant balance sheet date, and income statement data in U.S. dollars have been converted from euros at the average exchange rate for the relevant year. The exchange rates as of December 31, 2006, 2007 and 2008 were U.S.\$1.3170, U.S.\$1.4721 and U.S.\$1.3917, respectively, per euro, and the average exchange rates for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 were U.S.\$1.2561, U.S.\$1.3692 and U.S.\$1.4793, respectively, per euro.

#### *Geophysical Market Environment*

Overall demand for geophysical services and equipment is dependent on spending by oil and gas companies for exploration development and production and field management activities. We believe the level of spending of such companies depends on their assessment of their ability to efficiently supply the oil and gas market in the future and the current balance of hydrocarbon supply and demand.

The geophysical market has historically been cyclical, with notably a trough in 1999 following a sharp drop in the price of oil to U.S.\$10 per barrel. We believe many factors contribute to the volatility of this market, such as the geopolitical uncertainties that can harm the confidence and visibility that are essential to our clients' long-term decision-making processes and the expected balance in the mid to long term between supply and demand for hydrocarbons.

See [Item 4: Information on the Company](#) [Industry Conditions](#) for a discussion of developments in the geophysical Industry.

#### *Acquisitions and disposals*

Acquisitions and disposals have had a significant impact on our year-on-year revenues. Recent acquisitions and disposals have included:

*During 2008*

*Wavefield-Inseis*

On November 25, 2008, we launched a voluntary exchange offer to acquire 100% of the share capital of Wavefield-Inseis ASA ( Wavefield ). We offered Wavefield shareholders one newly issued CGGVeritas share for every seven Wavefield shares. A total of 90,480,237 shares were tendered in the offer, representing 69.9% of the share capital of Wavefield. In consideration of the Wavefield shares tendered to the offer, we issued 12,925,743 new shares on December 18, 2008. The fair value of those issued shares amounted to 139.0 million.

On December 30, 2008, we launched a mandatory public offer for the remaining 38,903,024 outstanding shares (i.e, 30.1% of the share capital) as well as for the 2,892,875 shares that could result from the exercise of

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stock options. The offer price calculated in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VI of the Norwegian Securities Trading Act amounted to NOK 15.17 per share to be paid in cash. At the end of this mandatory offer period, which expired on January 27, 2009, we acquired 37,043,013 additional shares for a total of 98.6% of Wavefield's share capital. We then launched a squeeze-out process for the remaining outstanding shares of Wavefield at a price of NOK 15.17 per share to be paid in cash. As of February 13, 2009, we owned 100% of Wavefield's share capital. Wavefield was de-listed from the Oslo Bors on February 16, 2008.

The total consideration for the acquisition in our financial statements, including the remaining 30.1% acquired in February 2009, was 206.6 million (US\$287.6 million). The minority interest outstanding as of December 31, 2008 was treated like a put option by the shareholders (because of an obligation to conduct a mandatory public offer) and was recognized as financial debt at the fair value of the put option for an amount of 62.1 million as of December 31, 2008.

Total direct transaction costs related to the acquisition (including advisory fees and legal fees) amounted to 5.5 million and were recognized as part of the cost of the acquisition.

### *Quest Geo Solutions*

On December 12, 2008, Sercel acquired Quest Geo Solutions Ltd ( Quest ), a UK-based company, for a price of 5.1 million (GBP3 million, with an additional GBP1 million that will be paid in 2011 provided a certain level of revenues is achieved). Quest is specialized in navigation software for the seismic industry and was already cooperating with Sercel with respect to its SeaProNav products at the date of the acquisition. The purchase price allocation resulted in a preliminary goodwill of 2.8 million.

### *Metrolog*

On May 26, 2008, Sercel acquired Metrolog, a privately held company, for 25.7 million paid in cash (including legal fees). Metrolog is a leading provider of high-pressure, high-temperature gauges and other downhole instruments to the oil and gas industry. The purchase price allocation resulted in preliminary goodwill of 14.3 million.

### *Ardiseis*

On June 25, 2008, in conjunction with the Oman business transfer from Veritas DGC Ltd to Ardiseis, we subscribed to the increase of 805 shares in the capital of its subsidiary Ardiseis, and sold 407 Ardiseis shares to Industrialization & Energy Services Company (TAQA) for a total consideration of U.S.\$11.8 million. At the end of this transaction the Group's interest in Ardiseis remained unchanged at 51%.

### *During 2007*

#### *Veritas*

##### *Merger consideration*

On September 4, 2006, CGG entered into a definitive merger agreement with Veritas to acquire Veritas in a part cash, part stock transaction. The merger was completed on January 12, 2007. The combined company was renamed Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas, abbreviated as CGGVeritas .

At the merger closing date, and according to the formula set out in the merger agreement, the per share cash consideration to holders of Veritas stock was U.S.\$85.50 and the per share stock consideration was 2.0097

CGGVeritas ADSs upon the election of Veritas shareholders.

Of the 40,420,483 shares of Veritas common stock outstanding as of the merger date (January 12, 2007), approximately:

33,004,041 of the shares, or 81.7%, had elected to receive cash,

5,788,701 of the shares, or 14.3%, had elected to receive CGG ADSs; and

1,627,741 of the shares, or 4.0%, did not make a valid election.

Stockholders electing cash received, on average, 0.9446 CGGVeritas ADSs and U.S.\$45.32 in cash per share of Veritas common stock. Stockholders electing ADSs and stockholders making no valid election received 2.0097 CGGVeritas ADSs per share of Veritas common stock. In aggregate, approximately U.S.\$1.5 billion and approximately 46.1 million shares represented by ADSs were paid to Veritas stockholders as merger consideration. Based on a valuation of CGGVeritas ADS at U.S.\$40.5 on January 12, 2007, the total consideration of the merger amounted to approximately 2.7 billion (U.S.\$3.5 billion).

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Total direct transaction costs related to the merger (including advisory fees and legal fees) amounted to 26.3 million (U.S.\$34.6 million) and were recognized as a cost of the acquisition.

*Financing of the Veritas merger*

Bridge loan facility

On November 22, 2006, CGG, as borrower, and certain of its subsidiaries, as guarantors, entered into a U.S.\$1.6 billion senior secured bridge loan facility agreement with Credit Suisse International, as agent and security agent, and the lenders party thereto. On January 12, 2007, CGG borrowed U.S.\$700 million under the bridge loan facility, and the proceeds were used to:

finance a portion of the cash component of the merger consideration;

repay certain existing debt of CGG and Veritas; and

pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with the foregoing.

Upon such borrowing and the concurrent funding of the U.S.\$1.0 billion term loan facility described below, the unused commitments of U.S.\$900 million were terminated.

We used the net proceeds of our Senior Notes offering described below, together with cash on hand, to repay in full the bridge loan facility in February 2007.

Senior Facilities

On January 12, 2007, Volnay Acquisition Co. I (which subsequently changed its name to CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc.), as borrower, and CGG entered into a U.S.\$1.115 billion senior secured credit agreement with Credit Suisse, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto, pursuant to which Volnay Acquisition Co. I borrowed a U.S.\$1.0 billion senior secured term loan B and obtained a U.S.\$115 million senior secured U.S. revolving facility (which revolving facility includes letter of credit and swingline subfacilities). Aggregate commitments under the U.S. revolving facility were increased to U.S.\$140 million on January 26, 2007. The proceeds of the term loan B facility were used to:

finance a portion of the cash component of the merger consideration;

repay certain existing debt of CGG and Veritas; and

pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with the foregoing.

On June 29, 2007 we prepaid U.S.\$100 million of the term loan B facility. We prepaid an additional U.S.\$50 million on December 12, 2008.

Proceeds of loans under the U.S. revolving facility may be used for general corporate purposes by CGGVeritas.

Additional Senior Notes

On February 9, 2007, we issued an additional U.S.\$200 million in aggregate principal amount of 7 1/2% Senior Notes due 2015 and U.S.\$400 million in aggregate principal amount of 7 3/4% Senior Notes due 2017. Both series of Senior Notes were guaranteed on a senior basis by certain of our subsidiaries. The Senior Notes are listed on the Euro MTF market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. We used the net proceeds from the offering of the Senior Notes plus cash on hand to repay in full the U.S.\$700 million outstanding under the bridge loan facility described above.

#### Capital increases

In connection with the Veritas merger, we issued a total of 9,215,845 ordinary shares that were deposited with The Bank of New York Trust as ADS depository, which issued 46,079,225 ADSs to be paid as merger consideration to former holders of Veritas stock.

On January 26, 2007, we issued a further 108,723 ordinary shares that were deposited with The Bank of New York as ADS depository, which issued 543,614 ADSs to a holder of U.S.\$6.5 million in principal amount of Veritas convertible senior notes due 2024 that delivered a conversion notice on January 19, 2007.

On February 27, 2007, we issued a further 301,079 ordinary shares that were deposited with The Bank of New York as ADS depository, which issued 1,505,393 ADSs to a holder of U.S.\$18 million in principal amount of

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Veritas convertible senior notes due 2024 that delivered a conversion notice on February 23, 2007. No further Veritas convertible notes remain outstanding.

*Geomar*

Geomar is a subsidiary, owned 49% by CGGVeritas and 51% by Louis Dreyfus Armateurs ( LDA ), that has owned the seismic vessel *Alizé* since March 29, 2007. On April 1, 2007, Geomar entered into a new charter agreement with LDA and LDA entered into a new charter agreement with CGG Services. Additionally, on April 10, 2007, CGG Services acquired a call right and LDA a put on the 51% stake of Geomar held by LDA. In light of the risks and benefits related to these new agreements for CGGVeritas, Geomar has been fully consolidated in our financial statements since April 1, 2007. Prior to that date, Geomar was accounted for under the equity method.

*Cybernetix*

On June 27, 2007, Sercel Holding acquired 121,125 Cybernetix shares bringing its total holding to 352,125 shares, representing 32.01% of Cybernetix's share capital and 26.57% of its voting rights. On November 5, 2007, Sercel Holding increased its investment for a total amount of 0.8 million, bringing its total holding to 416,147 shares, representing for 32.20% of Cybernetix's share capital. Since June 30, 2007, Cybernetix has been consolidated under the equity method in our financial statements.

*Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping*

On July 17, 2007, we entered into strategic joint operating agreement with Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping plc ( OHM ) under which both companies will work together to develop Controlled Source ElectroMagnetic imaging activities (CSEM) and on seismic and CSEM integration opportunities. On August 21, 2007, subsequent to the approval by the shareholders of OHM, we acquired 6,395,571 shares of OHM at a price of 240 GBP pence per share. On October 19, 2007, we acquired an additional 80,695 shares at a price of 240 GBP pence per share. We thus paid in total 22.9 million for 14.99% of OHM's issued share capital.

*Eastern Echo Holding Plc*

On November 12, 2007, we acquired 30.9 million shares of Eastern Echo Holding plc (ECHO NO) for a total consideration of approximately 55 million (NOK 431 million), representing 12.67% of Eastern Echo's issued share capital. Eastern Echo is a geophysical company specializing in acquisition of high quality 3D seismic data. Our intent, with this minority stake, was to best position ourselves, and especially Sercel, for continuing cooperation with Eastern Echo in the expanding seismic market. On November 23, 2007, further to the cash offer launched by Schlumberger BV on November 16, 2007, we tendered all our shares of Eastern Echo to Schlumberger BV at price of NOK 15 per share. We therefore recognized a gain of 2.8 million.

***During 2006***

*TAQA*

On June 24, 2006, Industrialization & Energy Services Company (TAQA), our long term Saudi Partner in Arabian Geophysical and Surveying Company ( Argas ), acquired, for 16.8 million, 49% of the capital of CGG Ardiseis, a newly formed CGG subsidiary dedicated to land and shallow water seismic data acquisition in the Middle East, and we maintained a 51% interest. CGG Ardiseis, renamed Ardiseis, whose headquarters are located in Dubai, provides its clients with the complete range of land and shallow water acquisition services. As part of our agreement with TAQA, Ardiseis activities in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries are operated by Argas.

*Cybernetix*

On July 10, 2006, Sercel acquired a 20% interest (17% of voting rights) in the French listed company Cybernetix, a specialist in robotics, with the aim of strengthening our technical partnership with Cybernetix in offshore oil equipment, and an additional 1% interest by the end of the year 2006. The aggregate consideration for the transactions was 4.0 million.

*Vibtech*

On September 28, 2006, Sercel acquired the Scottish company Vibration Technologies Limited ( Vibtech ), pioneer in the use of advanced wireless technologies for seismic recording. The Unite system, and field trials of this new generation equipment, which have attracted interest from both oil companies and seismic contractors, is a unique, versatile product capable of recording and transmitting data in a stand alone or real time mode, enabling quality control while recording and is capable of handling thousands of channels. Use of new transmission technologies also reduces limitations inherent to radio frequencies. We expect that the combination of Sercel expertise in seismic recording and new skills arising from Vibtech s development group will help expand the



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capabilities of the Sercel portfolio of products and integrate advanced wireless technology with its latest generation products. The cash consideration was 49.5 million (GBP 33.3 million) and our valuation of the technological assets purchased was 11.6 million more (GBP 7.8 million), which led us to record goodwill of 35.6 million. The cash acquired was in an amount of 1.3 million (GBP 0.9 million).

### ***Backlog***

Backlog estimates are based on a number of assumptions and estimates, including assumptions as to exchange rates between the euro and the U.S. dollar and estimates of the percentage of completion contracts. Contracts for services are occasionally modified by mutual consent and in certain instances are cancelable by the customer on short notice without penalty. Consequently, backlog as of any particular date may not be indicative of actual operating results for any succeeding period.

Backlog for our Services segment represents the revenues it expects to receive from commitments for contract services it has with its customers and, in connection with the acquisition of multi-client data, represents the amount of pre-sale commitments for such data. Backlog for our Equipment segment represents the total value of orders it has received but not yet fulfilled.

Our backlog for our Services and Equipment segments, as of February 1, 2009 was U.S.\$1.98 billion (U.S.\$1.6 billion for the Services segment and U.S.\$344 million for the Equipment segment excluding intra-group sales with CGGVeritas).

### **Critical Accounting Policies**

Our significant accounting policies, which we have applied consistently, are fully described in note 1 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this document. However, certain of our accounting policies are particularly important to the portrayal of our financial position and results of operations, and these are described below. As we must exercise significant judgment when we apply these policies, their application is subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty.

### ***Operating revenues***

Operating revenues are recognized when they can be measured reliably, and when it is likely that the economic benefits associated with a transaction will flow to the relevant entity, which is at the point that such revenues have been realized or are considered realizable. For contracts where the percentage of completion method of accounting is being applied, revenues are only recognized when the costs incurred for the transaction and the cost to complete the transaction can be measured reliably and such revenues are considered earned and realizable.

### ***Multi-client surveys***

Multi-client surveys consist of seismic surveys to be licensed to customers on a non-exclusive basis. All costs directly incurred in acquiring, processing and otherwise completing seismic surveys are capitalized into the multi-client surveys. The value of our multi-client library is stated on our balance sheet at the aggregate of those costs less accumulated amortization or at fair value if lower. We review the library for potential impairment of our independent surveys on an ongoing basis.

Revenues related to multi-client surveys result from (i) pre-commitments and (ii) licenses after completion of the surveys ( after-sales ).

*Pre-commitments* Generally, we obtain commitments from a limited number of customers before a seismic project is completed. These pre-commitments cover part or all of the survey area blocks. In return for the commitment, the customer typically gains the right to direct or influence the project specifications, advance access to data as it is being acquired, and favorable pricing. We record payments that we receive during periods of mobilization as advance billing in the balance sheet in the line item Advance billings to customers .

We recognize pre-commitments as revenue when production is begun based on the physical progress of the project.

*After sales* Generally, we grant a license entitling non-exclusive access to a complete and ready for use, specifically-defined portion of our multi-client data library in exchange for a fixed and determinable payment. We recognize after sales revenue upon the client executing a valid license agreement and having been granted access to the data. Within thirty days of execution and access, the client may exercise our warranty that the medium on which the data is transmitted (a magnetic cartridge) is free from technical defects. If the warranty is exercised, we will provide the same data on a new magnetic cartridge. The cost of providing new magnetic cartridges is negligible.

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*After sales volume agreements* We enter into customer arrangements in which we agree to grant licenses to the customer for access to a specified number of blocks of the multi-client library. These arrangements typically enable the customer to select and access the specific blocks for a limited period of time. We recognize revenue when the blocks are selected and the client has been granted access to the data. Within thirty days of execution and access, the client may exercise our warranty that the medium on which the data is transmitted (a magnetic cartridge) is free from technical defects. If the warranty is exercised, we will provide the same data on a new magnetic cartridge. The cost of providing new magnetic cartridges is negligible.

### *Exclusive surveys*

In exclusive surveys, we perform seismic services (acquisition and processing) for a specific customer. We recognize proprietary/contract revenues as the services are rendered. We evaluate the progress to date, in a manner generally consistent with the physical progress of the project, and recognize revenues based on the ratio of the project cost incurred during that period to the total estimated project cost. We believe this ratio to be generally consistent with the physical progress of the project.

The billings and the costs related to the transits of seismic vessels at the beginning of the survey are deferred and recognized over the duration of the contract by reference to the technical stage of completion.

In some exclusive survey contracts and a limited number of multi-client survey contracts, we are required to meet certain milestones. We defer recognition of revenue on such contracts until all milestones that provide the customer a right of cancellation or refund of amounts paid have been met.

### *Other geophysical services*

Revenues from our other geophysical services are recognized as the services are performed and, when related to long-term contracts, using the performance method of recognizing income.

### *Equipment sales*

We recognize revenues on equipment sales upon delivery to the customer. Any advance billings to customers are recorded in current liabilities.

### *Software and hardware sales*

We recognize revenues from the sale of software and hardware products following acceptance of the product by the customer at which time we have no further significant vendor obligations remaining. Any advance billings to customers are recorded in current liabilities.

If an arrangement to deliver software, either alone or together with other products or services, requires significant production, modification, or customization of software, the entire arrangement is accounted for as a production-type contract, i.e. using the percentage of completion method.

If the software arrangement provides for multiple deliverables (e.g. upgrades or enhancements, post-contract customer support such as maintenance, or services), the revenue is allocated to the various elements based on specific objective evidence of fair value, regardless of any separate allocations stated within the contract for each element. Each element is appropriately accounted for under the applicable accounting standard.

Maintenance revenues consist primarily of post contract customer support agreements and are recorded as advance billings to customers and recognized as revenue on a straight-line basis over the contract period.

*Multi-client surveys*

Multi-client surveys consist of seismic surveys to be licensed to customers on a non-exclusive basis. All costs directly incurred in acquiring, processing and otherwise completing seismic surveys are capitalized into the multi-client surveys (including transit costs when applicable). The value of our multi-client library is stated on our balance sheet at the aggregate of those costs less accumulated amortization or at fair value if lower. We review the library for potential impairment of our independent surveys on an ongoing basis.

We amortize the multi-client surveys over the period during which the data is expected to be marketed using a pro-rata method based on recognized revenues as a percentage of total estimated sales.

In this respect, we use four amortization rates 50%, 75%, 80% or 83.3% of revenues depending on the category of the surveys. Multi-client surveys are classified into a same category when they are located in the same area with the same estimated sales ratio, such estimates generally relying on historical patterns.

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For all categories of surveys and starting from data delivery, a minimum straight-line depreciation scheme is applied over a five-year period, if total accumulated depreciation from the applicable amortization rate is below this minimum level.

Multi-client surveys acquired as part of the merger with Veritas and which have been valued for purchase price allocation purposes are amortized based on 65% of revenues and an impairment loss is recognized on a survey by survey basis in case of any indication of impairment.

Until December 1, 2006, an amortization rate of 66.6% of revenues with a minimum straight-line depreciation over a three-year period was used instead of 50% over a five-year period. The impact of this change of estimates applied from December 1, 2006 was a reduction in depreciation expenses of 1.2 million over the year ended December 31, 2006 and lower depreciation of 2.7 million over the year ended December 31, 2007.

From January 12, 2007 to October 1, 2007, we applied an amortization rate of 66.6% of revenues instead of 50% for a certain category of surveys. The impact of this change of estimates applied from October 1, 2007 is a reduction in depreciation expenses of 3.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

### ***Development costs***

Expenditures on research activities undertaken with the prospect of gaining new scientific or technological knowledge and understanding are recognized in the income statement as expenses as incurred and are presented as Research and development expenses net .

Expenditure on development activities, whereby research findings are applied to a plan or design for the production of new or substantially improved products and processes, are capitalized if:

the project is clearly defined, and costs are separately identified and reliably measured;

the product or process is technically and commercially feasible;

we have sufficient resources to complete development; and

the intangible asset is likely to generate future economic benefits, either because it is useful to us or through an existing market for the intangible asset itself or for its products.

Expenditures capitalized include the cost of materials, direct labor and an appropriate proportion of overhead. Other development expenditures are recognized in the income statement as expenses as incurred and are presented as Research and development expenses net .

Capitalized development expenditures are stated at cost less accumulated amortization and impairment losses.

We amortize capitalized developments costs over 5 years.

Research and development expenses in our income statement represent the net cost of development costs that are not capitalized, of research costs, offset by government grants acquired for research and development.

### ***Impairment***

In accordance with IAS 36 Impairment of assets, the carrying amounts of our assets, other than inventories and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, we estimate the asset's recoverable amount. Factors we consider important that could trigger an impairment review include the following:

significant underperformance relative to expected operating results based upon historical and/or projected data;

significant changes in the manner of our use of the acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business; and

significant negative industry or economic trends.

The recoverable amount of tangible and intangible assets is the greater of their net fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For cash generating units comprised of goodwill, assets that have an indefinite useful life or intangible assets that are not yet available for use, we estimate the recoverable amount at each balance sheet date.

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We determine the recoverable amounts by estimating future cash flows expected from the assets or from the cash generating units, discounted to their present value using a discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

We recognize an impairment loss whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Impairment losses are recognized in the income statement. Impairment losses recognized in respect of a group of non independent assets allocated to a cash-generating unit are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to cash-generating units (group of units) and then, to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the unit (group of units) on a pro rata basis.

***Onerous contracts***

We recognize a provision for onerous contracts corresponding to our estimates of the excess of the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract over the economic benefits expected to be received under the contract estimated by the Group.

***Convertible bonds***

As our U.S.\$85 million 7.75% subordinated bonds due 2012 convertible into new ordinary shares or redeemable into new shares and/or existing shares and/or in cash issued in 2004 were denominated in U.S. dollars and convertible into new ordinary shares denominated in euros, the embedded conversion option was bifurcated and accounted separately within non-current liabilities. The conversion option and the debt component were initially recognized at fair value on issuance. The amount of the debt component recorded in our financial statements was discounted at the rate of 10.75%, the rate borne by comparable indebtedness without a conversion option. As a result, we bifurcated the embedded conversion option by 10.5 million at the issuance of the bonds as Other non-current assets. The discounting of the bonds at issuance was accounted for as Cost of financial debt until the maturity of the bonds. Those convertible bonds were fully converted at December 31, 2006.

Changes in the fair value of the embedded derivative were recognized in the consolidated income statement in the line item Variance on derivative convertible bonds. The fair value of the embedded derivative was determined using a binomial model.

**Year ended December 31, 2008 compared with year ended December 31, 2007*****Operating revenues***

The following table sets forth our consolidated operating revenues by business line, and the percentage of total consolidated operating revenues represented thereby, during each of the periods stated.

<b>Year ended December 31,</b>			
<b>2008</b>		<b>2007</b>	
<b>U.S.\$<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>%</b>	<b>U.S.\$<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>%</b>
<b>(in millions of euros, except percentages)</b>			

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Land	454.4	672.2	18%	461.3	631.6	19%
Marine	1,112.7	1,646.1	43%	986.4	1,350.6	41%
Processing and Imaging	270.2	399.5	10%	263.3	360.5	11%
Merger adjustment <sup>(2)</sup>				(16.5)	(22.6)	
Total Services	1,837.3	2,717.8	71%	1,694.5	2,320.0	71%
Equipment <sup>(3)</sup>	765.2	1,110.3	29%	679.6	930.5	29%
Elimination and adjustments		21.7				
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,602.5</b>	<b>3,849.8</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,374.1</b>	<b>3,250.7</b>	<b>100%</b>

Notes:

- (1) Dollar amounts represent euro amounts converted at the average exchange rate of U.S.\$1.479 per in 2008 and of U.S.\$1.369 per in 2007, except for the Equipment segment in 2008.
- (2) Elimination of January 1 to January 12, 2007 operating revenues since the merger with Veritas was effective on January 12, 2007.
- (3) Dollar amounts for the Equipment segment reflect the management reporting figures. The exchange differences between management reporting in U.S.\$ and consolidated financial statements converted into U.S.\$ are included in the line Elimination and adjustments .



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Our consolidated operating revenues for the year ended December 31, 2008 increased 10% to 2,602.5 million from 2,374.1 for 2007. Expressed in U.S. dollars, our consolidated operating revenues increased 18% to U.S.\$3,849.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from U.S.\$3,250.7 million for 2007. This growth was driven mainly by our Equipment segment and marine performance. The euro and dollar figures for the year ended December 31, 2007 are after elimination of U.S.\$22.6 million in 2007 Veritas revenues between January 1 and January 12, 2007, the effective date of the merger of CGG and Veritas.

*Services*

Operating revenues for our Services segment increased 8% to 1,837.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 1,694.5 million for 2007 and increased 17% in U.S. dollar terms. This growth was mainly supported by a strong increase in marine contract combined with high utilization rates and continued interest in our wide-azimuth data library in the Gulf of Mexico, as well as a growing preference for our high-end land acquisition and imaging services.

*Marine*

Operating revenues from our Marine business line for the year ended December 31, 2008 increased 13% to 1,112.7 million from 986.4 million for 2007 and increased 22% in U.S. dollar terms.

Contract revenues increased 34% to 712.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 531.2 million for 2007 and increased 45% in U.S. dollar terms. Our fleet availability and production rate in 2008 were 92% and 88%, respectively, and 66% of our high end 3D fleet operated on exclusive contracts. Contract revenues accounted for 64% of marine revenues for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to 54% for 2007.

Multi-client marine data library revenues decreased 12% to 399.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 455.2 million for 2007 and decreased 5% in U.S. dollar terms. Four vessels were active in the Gulf of Mexico and the North Sea in our core areas. Prefunding was 276.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 with a prefunding rate of 96% driven by sales of our wide-azimuth programs compared to 230.2 million for 2007. After-sales decreased 45% to 122.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 225.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

*Land*

Operating revenues from our Land business line decreased 2% to 454.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 461.3 million for 2007 and increased 6% in U.S. dollar terms.

Contract revenues increased 7% to 350.3 million in the year ended December 31, 2008 from 327.1 million for 2007 and increased 16% in U.S. dollar terms. We continued to focus on key areas and had an average of 22 crews operating worldwide in both 2007 and 2008, including Argas crews in Saudi Arabia.

Multi-client land data library revenues decreased 22% to 104.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 134.2 million for the comparable period of 2007 and decreased 16% in U.S. dollar terms. Prefunding was 41.0 million with a prefunding rate of 74% for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to 69.5 million for 2007. After-sales were 62.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to 64.8 million for 2007.

*Processing and Imaging*

Operating revenues from our Processing and Imaging business line increased 3% to 270.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 262.9 million for 2007 and increased 11% in U.S. dollar terms. This increase resulted from a growing preference for our high-end depth imaging technologies, leading to increased direct awards and the renewal of dedicated centers.

*Equipment*

Operating revenues for our Equipment segment increased 6% to 832.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 788.5 million for 2007. In U.S. dollar terms, revenues increased 12% to U.S.\$1,209.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from U.S.\$1,079.5 million for 2007.

Operating revenues (excluding intra-group sales) increased 12% to 765.2 million from 679.6 million for 2007 and increased 19% in U.S. dollar terms. Throughout the year, increasing demand for high-resolution, high-productivity seismic, particularly in land, and increasing demand for Sentinel solid streamers drove our operating revenues.

**Table of Contents*****Operating Expenses***

Cost of operations, including depreciation and amortization, increased 6% to 1,722.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 1,622.3 million for 2007, due to increased activity. As a percentage of operating revenues, cost of operations decreased to 66% for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 68% for 2007. Gross profit increased 17% to 881.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 753.0 million for 2007, representing 34% and 32% of operating revenues, respectively.

Research and development expenditures, net of government grants, decreased 15% to 43.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 51.3 for 2007, representing approximately 2% of operating revenues for both periods. Gross research and development expenditures were stable at 2.6% of operating revenues.

Selling, general and administrative expenses, before share-based compensation, increased 10% to 232.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 210.4 million for 2007. Share based compensation expense increased to 23.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 20.6 million for 2007.

As a percentage of operating revenues, selling, general and administrative costs were stable at 10% for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007.

Other expenses amounted to 36.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to other revenues of 18.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 primarily due to an impairment loss of 22.6 million recognized on our investment in OHM, the unfavorable impact of 9.3 million on hedging activity and restructuring reserves of 3.3 million for the shut down of Sercel Australia. The costs incurred and assets scrapped due to the loss of propulsion incident on the *Symphony* in April, 2008, were entirely offset by an insurance indemnity of 13 million.

Other revenues in 2007 included primarily gains on foreign exchange hedging activities.

***Operating Income (Loss)***

Our operating income increased 11% to 540.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 489.1 million for 2007 and increased 19% in U.S. dollar terms as a result of the factors described above.

Goodwill for the year ended December 31, 2008 was reduced by 4.8 million as a result of the use of Veritas foreign carry forward losses existing prior to the merger and not recognized as an asset. This reduction of goodwill offsets the symmetrical tax credit recorded in the line item Other income taxes .

Operating income for our Services segment increased 16% to 353.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 304.9 million for 2007 (and increased 25% in U.S. dollar terms to U.S.\$522.2 million from U.S.\$417.5 million).

Operating income from our Equipment segment increased slightly to 268.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 266.2 million for 2007 (and increased 6% in U.S. dollar terms to U.S.\$386.4 million from U.S.\$364.4 million).

***Financial Income and Expenses***

Cost of net financial debt decreased 23% to 83.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to 109.1 million for 2007. This decrease was mainly due to a favorable effect of the U.S.\$/ exchange rate on our cost of financial debt. In addition, in 2007 we recognized a U.S.\$10 million amortization expense for the issuing fees for our

U.S.\$1.6 billion bridge loan facility entered into to finance the cash portion of the Veritas merger consideration.

Other financial loss amounted to 11.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 compared to a loss of 5.2 million for 2007. This increase was attributable to net foreign exchange losses generated by strong currency fluctuations at the end of 2008.

***Equity in Income (Losses) of Affiliates***

Income from investments accounted for under the equity method decreased to 3.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 4.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 mainly due to a 2.7 million impairment loss recognized on our Cybernetix investment.

Income from investments accounted for under the equity method corresponds notably to our share in the income of Argas, our joint venture in Saudi Arabia.

**Table of Contents*****Income Taxes***

Income taxes decreased 16% to 108.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 129.4 million for the comparable period of 2007. The effective tax rate was 24% and 35% for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 respectively.

Before deferred tax on currency translation, the effective tax rate was 23% and 37% for the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. This decrease was mainly due to the French tax credit generated from the internal disposals of investment performed as part of Services segment legal reorganization.

***Net Income***

Net income increased 36% to 340.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2008 from 249.6 million for 2007 as a result of the factors discussed above.

**Year ended December 31, 2007 compared with year ended December 31, 2006**

Our results of operations and financial condition as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007 have been significantly affected by the merger of CGG and Veritas, which was completed on January 12, 2007. Veritas results of operations and financial condition are consolidated into our consolidated financial statements as from the date of completion of the merger.

***Operating revenues***

The following table sets forth our consolidated operating revenues by business line, and the percentage of total consolidated operating revenues represented thereby, during each of the periods stated.

	Year ended December 31,			
	2007	%	2006	%
	(in millions of euros or U.S. dollars except percentages)			
Land	461.3	19%	119.1	9%
Marine	986.4	41%	533.3	40%
Processing and Imaging	263.3	11%	139.7	11%
Merger adjustment <sup>(1)</sup>	(16.5)			
Total Services	1,694.5	71%	792.1	60%
Equipment	679.6	29%	537.5	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,374.1</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,329.6</b>	<b>100%</b>

Note:

(1)

The merger with Veritas was effective on January 12, 2007. The revenue figures for the Land, Marine and Processing and Imaging business lines in 2007 above are comprised of Services segment business line revenues for each of CGG and Veritas from and including January 1, 2007. We have consequently eliminated from this total Veritas revenues an amount of 16.5 million (U.S.\$22.6 million) attributable to 2007 Veritas revenues between January 1 and January 12, 2007. Because our internal reporting systems did not permit us to identify the CGGVeritas Services segment business lines to which such twelve days of Veritas revenues should be allocated, we have eliminated such twelve days of revenues.

Our consolidated operating revenues for the year ended December 31, 2007 increased to 2,374.1 million from 1,329.6 million for 2006. This increase resulted from our merger with Veritas and increases in revenues for all our activities.

*Services*

Operating revenues for our Services segment, not including 16.5 million in Veritas operating revenues for the first twelve days of January 2007 prior to the merger, increased to 1,694.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 792 million for 2006, driven by the Veritas merger, strengthening market conditions, continued upward price mobility, our 83% vessel utilization rate and growing demand for multi-client data.

*Marine*

Operating revenues from our Marine business line for the year ended December 31, 2007 increased to 986.4 million from 533.3 million for 2006.

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Contract revenues increased to 531.2 million in the year ended December 31, 2007 from 315.4 million for 2006. Two large high-capacity 3D seismic vessels joined the fleet, the *Vision* in early July and the *Vanquish* in late November 2007. We upgraded two 2D seismic vessels to 3D (4 streamer configurations) and upgraded the seismic vessel *Geo-Challenger* to 12 streamers. Contract revenues accounted for 54% of marine revenues for the year ended December 31, 2007 compared to 59% for 2006.

Multi-client marine data library revenues increased to 455.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 217.8 million for 2006. Prefunding was 230.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 compared to 84.3 million for 2006. Forty percent of our 3D fleet operated on multi-client programs mainly in the Gulf of Mexico and in Brazil. After-sales were 225 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 compared to 133.2 million for 2006.

### *Land*

Operating revenues from our Land business line increased to 461.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 119.1 million for 2006.

Contract revenues increased to 327.1 million in the year ended December 31, 2007 from 119.1 million for 2006. We continued to focus on key areas where we believe our local excellence is widely acknowledged. Including Argas, we had an average of 22 crews operating worldwide.

Multi-client land data library revenues were 134.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. Prefunding was 69.5 million and after-sales were 64.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2007. We had no multi-client data library revenues in the year ended December 31, 2006.

### *Processing and Imaging*

Operating revenues from our Processing and Imaging business line increased to 262.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 139.7 million for 2006. Global demand for sophisticated imaging services continued to strengthen, driven by the growing volume of land and marine data.

### *Equipment*

Operating revenues for our Equipment segment increased to 788.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 610.0 million for 2006.

Operating revenues (excluding intra-group sales) increased to 679.6 million from 537.5 million for 2006. Growth was driven by a very strong demand for land seismic equipment and a sustained level of demand for marine equipment.

### *Operating Expenses*

Cost of operations, including depreciation and amortization, increased to 1,622.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 890.0 million for 2006, due to the Veritas merger and increased activity. As a percentage of operating revenues, cost of operations was 68% for the year ended December 31, 2007 and 67% for 2006. Gross profit increased to 753.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 441.4 million for 2006, representing 32% and 33% of operating revenues, respectively.

Research and development expenditures increased to 51.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 37.7 million for 2006, representing 2% of operating revenues in both years.

Selling, general and administrative expenses, excluding share-based compensation, increased to 210.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 126.4 million for 2006. Share based compensation expense increased to 20.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 7.4 million for 2006.

As a percentage of operating revenues, selling, general and administrative costs were stable at 10% for the years ended December 31, 2007 and 2006.

Other revenues increased to 18.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 11.7 million for 2006. Other revenues in 2007 included primarily gains on foreign exchange hedging activities. Other revenues in 2006 included primarily a 5.3 million gain on the sale of 49% of CGG Ardiseis to TAQA.



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### ***Operating Income (Loss)***

Our operating income increased to 489.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 289.0 million for 2006.

Operating income for our Services segment increased to 304.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 150.3 million for 2006.

Operating income from our Equipment segment increased to 266.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 174.2 million for 2006.

### ***Financial Income and Expenses***

Cost of net financial debt increased to 109.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 compared to 25.4 million for 2006. This increase was due to the Veritas merger and the increase in our financial debt to fund the cash portion of the merger consideration.

The cost of the conversion option embedded in our U.S.\$85 million 7.75% convertible bonds due 2012 resulted in an expense of 23.0 with respect to those bonds outstanding after November 2005 for the year ended December 31, 2006, accounted for as Derivative and other expenses on convertible bonds in our income statement. The expense was due in 2006 to (i) an increase of 20.7 million in the value of the derivative mainly due to the increase in our share price, (ii) the 1.6 million premium paid for the early conversion of the remaining convertible bonds on May 12, 2006 and (iii) the 0.7 million write-off of issuance costs recognized as an expense at the time of the early conversion.

Other financial loss amounted to 5.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 compared to a loss of 8.8 million for 2006. This increase was mainly attributable to exchange losses (offset by gains on forward exchange contracts, classified as Other operating income ) we experienced in 2006.

### ***Equity in Income (Losses) of Affiliates***

Income from investments accounted for under the equity method decreased to 4.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 10.1 million for 2006. This item corresponds essentially to our share in the income of Argas, our joint venture in Saudi Arabia, where, as anticipated, activity declined during the year ended December 31, 2007.

### ***Income Taxes***

Income tax expenses increased to 129.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 83.2 million on for 2006. The effective tax rate amounted to 35% in 2007.

Because we earn a majority of our taxable income outside France, foreign taxation significantly affects our overall income tax expense.

### ***Net Income***

Net income increased to 249.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 from 158.7 million for 2006 as a result of the factors discussed above.

### ***Liquidity and Capital Resources***

Our principal capital needs are for the funding of ongoing operations, capital expenditures (particularly repairs and improvements to our seismic vessels), investments in our multi-client data library and acquisitions (such as Veritas in 2007 and most recently Wavefield).

We intend to fund our liquidity needs through cash generated by operations, senior notes and borrowings under our U.S. and French facilities. Our senior facilities consist of a term loan B facility (U.S.\$830 million outstanding as of December 31, 2008) with a seven year maturity and a U.S. revolving facility (U.S.\$132 million outstanding as of December 31, 2008) with a five year maturity. The French revolving facility consists of a U.S.\$150 million senior secured revolving facility with a five year maturity.

At our option, borrowings under the term loan B facility bear interest at (i) the rate of adjusted LIBOR plus either 1.75% or 2.00% or (ii) the Alternate Base Rate plus either 0.75% or 1.00%, in each case depending on our corporate rating by S&P and our corporate family rating by Moody's. At our option, borrowings under the U.S. revolving facility bear interest at the rate of adjusted LIBOR plus a range from 1.75% to 2.25% or the Alternate Base Rate plus a range from 0.75% to 1.25%, in each case depending on our corporate rating by S&P and our corporate family rating by Moody's. The Alternate Base Rate is the higher of Credit Suisse's Prime Rate and the Federal Funds Effective Rate

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plus 1/2 of 1.0%. The senior credit facilities and the French revolving facility require us to meet minimum ratios of EBITDA (defined as operating income (loss) excluding non-recurring revenues (expenses) plus depreciation, amortization, additions (deductions) to valuation allowances of assets and dividends from companies accounted for under the equity method less capital expenditures to total interest costs and maximum ratios of total net debt to EBITDA. In addition, the Senior Facilities and the French revolving facility contain certain restrictive covenants which, among other things, limit our ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends, make investments, pledge assets, merge or consolidate, change our business and engage in certain other activities customarily restricted in such agreements. They also contain certain customary events of defaults, subject to grace periods, as appropriate.

Future principal debt payments are expected to be paid out of cash flows from operations, borrowings under the U.S. revolving facility and the French revolving facility and future refinancing of our debt. The indentures governing our notes also contain numerous covenants including, among other things, restrictions on our ability to: incur or guarantee additional indebtedness; pay dividends or make other equity distributions, repurchase or redeem equity interests; make investments or other restricted payments; sell assets or consolidate or merge with or into other companies; create limitations on the ability of our restricted subsidiaries to make dividends or distributions to us; engage in transactions with affiliates; and create liens. Our ability to make scheduled payments of principal, or to pay the interest or additional interest, if any, on, or to refinance our indebtedness, or to fund planned capital expenditures will depend on our future performance, which, to a certain extent, is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. Based upon the current level of operations, we believe that cash flow from operations, available cash and short-term investments, together with borrowings available under the U.S. revolving facility and the French revolving facility, will be adequate to meet our future liquidity needs for the next 12 months. Our assumptions with respect to future costs may not be correct, and funds available to us from the sources discussed above may not be sufficient to enable us to service our indebtedness, including the notes, or cover any shortfall in funding for any unanticipated expenses. In addition, to the extent we make future acquisitions, we may require new sources of funding including additional debt, or equity financing or some combination thereof. We may not be able to secure additional sources of funding on favorable terms.

Following the acceleration of the global financial crisis in September 2008, and especially in the wake of the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers and the bailouts of several other major financial institutions, conditions in the global credit market deteriorated drastically. Liquidity disappeared rapidly (as evidenced by the unprecedented high spreads of LIBOR rates over U.S. Treasury bond rates in the interbank lending market) as investors grew concerned about the size and scope of credit losses at banks and other counterparties. The global repricing of credit also led investors to tighten credit toward companies with high leverage or in sectors that have been negatively affected by the global economic crisis, including steel and other basic material producers. This risk aversion was also evidenced in the credit default swap market where spreads of many financial institutions and corporate issuers greatly increased, reflecting, among other things, counterparty concerns over liquidity. We believe that we are not subject to near-term liquidity constraints, given our liquidity available as of December 31, 2008, our cash flow generation capability and prospects, and our near-to mid-term debt repayment schedule.

***Cash Flows******Operating Activities***

For the year ended December 31, 2008, our net cash provided by operating activities, before changes in working capital, was 920.3 million compared to 845.8 million for 2007 and 405.9 million for 2006. Both of these increases were primarily due to the increase in our operating income. Changes in working capital for the year ended December 31, 2008 had a negative impact of 34.7 million compared to a negative impact of 198.5 million for 2007 and 58.5 million in 2006.

*Investing Activities*

During the year ended December 31, 2008, net cash used in investing activities was 503.5 million compared with 1,573.1 million for 2007 and 243.4 million for 2006.

During the year ended December 31, 2008, capital expenditures amounted to 155.4 million compared to 230.5 and 149.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, respectively. We upgraded our seismic vessel *Alizé* in 2008 with a fourteen solid streamer configuration and we had land recording system expenditures. In 2007, capital expenditures were primarily due to the upgrade of two of our 2D seismic vessels to 3D, the upgrade of the *Geo Challenger* to twelve streamers and the equipment of land crews. In 2006, we converted our vessel, the *Geo Challenger* from a cable vessel into a 3D seismic vessel and equipped the *Symphony* with Sentinel streamers.

We invested 343.4 million in our multi-client library during the year ended December 31, 2008, primarily for Gulf of Mexico with the Wide Azimuth programs and Brazil. We invested 371.4 million in our multi-client library

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during the year ended December 31, 2007, primarily for Gulf of Mexico, and 61.5 million during the year ended December 31, 2006. As of December 31, 2008, the net book value of our multi-client data library was 535.6 million compared to 435.4 million at December 31, 2007 and 71.8 million at December 31, 2006.

The total cash requirement related to the acquisition of Wavefield, Quest Geo and Metrolog during the year ended December 31, 2008 represented an investment, net of cash acquired, of 6 million.

The total cash requirement related to the merger with Veritas on January 12, 2007 represented an investment, net of cash acquired, of 993 million. We also acquired a 15% stake in Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping for 23 million in August 2007.

Sercel's acquisition of Vibtech in 2006 represented an investment net of acquired cash of 48.3 million.

Proceeds from sales of assets of 8.8 million in 2008 corresponded mainly to the sale of Ardiseis shares in connection with the Oman business transfer from Veritas DGC Ltd to Ardiseis. Proceeds from sales of assets in 2007 corresponded to the gain on our 12.7% stake in Eastern Echo following the cash offer launched by Schlumberger BV on November 16, 2007. Proceeds from the sale of assets in 2006 correspond to the sale of 49% of Ardiseis in 2006 for an amount of 16.8 million before tax.

## ***Financing Activities***

Net cash used by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2008 was 138.9 million compared to net cash provided by financing activities of 950.2 in 2007 and 46.8 million in 2006.

During the year ended December 31, 2008, we repaid U.S.\$50 million of our term loan B facility as part of the amendment agreement signed on December 12, 2008. We have drawn 35 million in 2008 under our French revolving credit facility. Financial interest paid in 2008 was 82.9 million compared to 123.5 million in 2007.

Total cash requirements related to the acquisition of Veritas on January 12, 2007 were financed by U.S.\$700 million drawn under our bridge loan facility, which was repaid with the proceeds of our U.S.\$600 million offering Senior Notes on February 9, 2007 plus cash on hand, and U.S.\$1.0 billion drawn under our term loan B facility with a maturity of 2014, of which U.S.\$100 million was repaid early on June 29, 2007.

Net cash provided by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2006 was 46.8 million partly as a result of the issuance in February 2006 of an additional U.S.\$165 million principal amount of our dollar-denominated 7 1/2% Senior Notes due 2015 used to repay the remaining U.S.\$140.3 million as of December 31, 2005 under the bridge loan to acquire Exploration Resources.

## ***Net Debt***

Net debt was 1,029.1 million at December 31, 2008, 1,106.7 million at December 31, 2007, and 153.8 million at December 31, 2006. The ratio of net debt to equity decreased to 35% at December 31, 2008 from 46% at December 31, 2007. This ratio was 18% at December 31, 2006.

Net debt is the amount of bank overdrafts, plus current portion of financial debt, plus financial debt, less cash and cash equivalents. Net debt is presented as additional information because we understand that certain investors believe that netting cash against debt provides a clearer picture of the financial liability exposure. However, other companies may present net debt differently than we do. Net debt is not a measure of financial performance under IFRS and should not be considered as an alternative to any other measures of performance derived in accordance with IFRS.

The following table presents a reconciliation of net debt to financing items of the balance sheet at December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006:

	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Bank overdrafts	8.2	17.5	6.5
Current portion of financial debt	241.5	44.7	38.1
Financial debt	1,296.3	1,298.8	361.0
Less cash and cash equivalents	(516.9)	(254.3)	(251.8)
<b>Net debt</b>	<b>1,029.1</b>	<b>1,106.7</b>	<b>153.8</b>

### ***EBITDAS***

EBITDAS for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 was 1,058.4 million, 997.3 million and 483.0 million respectively.

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EBITDAS is defined as earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, amortization and share-based compensation cost. Share-based compensation includes both stock options and shares issued under our share allocation plans. EBITDAS is presented as additional information because we understand that it is one measure used by certain investors to determine our operating cash flow and historical ability to meet debt service and capital expenditure requirements. However, other companies may present EBITDAS differently than we do. EBITDAS is not a measure of financial performance under IFRS and should not be considered as an alternative to cash flow from operating activities or as a measure of liquidity or an alternative to net income as indicators of our operating performance or any other measures of performance derived in accordance with IFRS.

The following table presents a reconciliation of EBITDAS to Net cash provided by operating activities, according to our cash-flow statement, for the periods indicated:

	<b>Year ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
<b>EBITDAS</b>	<b>1,058.4</b>	<b>997.3</b>	<b>483.0</b>
Other financial income (loss)	(11.2)	(5.2)	(8.8)
Variance on derivative on convertible bonds			(23.0)
Variance on Provisions	2.8	2.0	4.6
Net gain on disposal of fixed assets	2.0	(0.3)	(5.3)
Dividends received from affiliates	1.4	5.3	4.3
Other non-cash items	4.4	(9.2)	31.5
Income taxes paid	(137.5)	(144.1)	(80.4)
Change in trade accounts receivables	(39.7)	(133.0)	(18.8)
Change in inventories	(26.6)	(41.4)	(40.0)
Change in other current assets	9.7	(12.8)	(5.8)
Change in trade accounts payables	(17.5)	(13.3)	5.0
Change on other current liabilities	30.8	22.5	20.1
Impact of changes in exchange rate	8.6	(20.5)	(19.0)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>885.6</b>	<b>647.3</b>	<b>347.4</b>

**Contractual obligations**

The following table sets forth our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2008:

	<b>Payments due by period</b>				<b>Total</b>
	<b>Less than 1 year</b>	<b>2-3 years</b>	<b>4-5 years</b>	<b>More than 5 years</b>	
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>				
Long-term debt	137.4	46.1	22.4	1,133.0	1,338.9

Capital Lease Obligations	32.9	62.3	35.5	9.3	140.0
Operating Leases	164.7	166.6	165.0	237.4	733.7
Other Long-term Obligations (bond interest)	50.8	101.7	101.7	120.8	375.0
<b>Total Contractual Obligations</b>	<b>385.8</b>	<b>376.7</b>	<b>324.6</b>	<b>1,500.5</b>	<b>2,587.6</b>

### *Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements*

On September 23, 2008, CGGVeritas signed a letter of intent to charter the *Fearless*, a 2D seismic vessel currently under construction, from Swire Pacific Offshore. The amount of the contract is approximately U.S.\$83 million for a period of eight years. After this period, CGGVeritas has a purchase option as well as an option to extend the charter agreement for a further eight years. The vessel is due to be delivered in mid-2010.

CGGVeritas and Eidesvik Offshore entered into an agreement on July 2, 2007, amended on March 14, 2008, for the supply of two large seismic vessels to be newly built with a total contract value of U.S.\$420 million. These two vessels are key components of CGGVeritas' strategy of progressive fleet renewal and modernization. These vessels should be delivered in 2010 under 12-year time charter agreements.

We have not entered into any other off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future material effect on our financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that is material to investors.



**Table of Contents****Research and development**

Our ability to compete effectively and maintain a significant market position in our industry depends to a substantial extent upon our continued technological innovation. We have focused on rationalizing our research and development activities both to reduce costs and to focus our research and development efforts primarily on reservoir characterization, multi-component seabed seismic processing techniques, structural imaging and advanced seismic recording equipment. Our research and development teams, totaling approximately 581 employees, are divided among operating divisions. Sercel has strong research capabilities, especially in underwater acoustic transmission, oceanographic metrology and borehole electronics for area studies. We also access new sources of information or technology by entering into strategic alliances with equipment manufacturers, oil and gas companies, universities, such as Bergen University, or other clients or by acquiring technology under license from others. We have historically entered into and continue to pursue common research programs with the *Institut Français du Pétrole*, an agency of the French government.

While the market for our products and services is subject to continual and rapid technological changes, development cycles from initial conception through introduction can extend over several years. Our efforts have resulted in the development of numerous inventions, new processes and techniques, many of which have been incorporated as improvements to our product lines (as further discussed in Item 4). During 2008, 2007 and 2006, our research and development expenditures incurred (including capitalized costs and excluding grants received) were 68.8 million, 63.0 million, and 51.1 million, respectively, of which approximately 16%, 6.6% and 2.9%, respectively, was funded by governmental research entities, such as the *Fonds de Soutien aux Hydrocarbures* (which funding is to be repaid to such organizations from sales of products or services developed with such funds).

**Trend information*****Currency Fluctuations***

Certain changes in operating revenues set forth in U.S. dollars in this Annual Report on Form 20-F were derived by converting revenues recorded in euros at the average rate for the relevant period. Such information is presented in light of the fact that most of our revenues are denominated in U.S. dollars while our consolidated financial statements are presented in euros. Converted figures are presented only to assist in an understanding of our operating revenues but are not part of our reported financial statements and may not be indicative of changes in our actual or anticipated operating revenues.

Our business faces foreign exchange risks because a large percentage of our revenues and cash receipts are denominated in U.S. dollars, while a significant portion of our operating expenses and income taxes accrue in euro and other currencies. Movements between the U.S. dollar and euro or other currencies may adversely affect our operating revenues and results. In the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, more than 80% of our operating revenues and approximately two-thirds of our operating expenses were denominated in currencies other than euros. These included U.S. dollars and, to a significantly lesser extent, Canadian dollars, Brazilian reals, Australian dollars, British pounds and Norwegian kroner. In addition, a significant portion of our revenues that were invoiced in euros related to contracts that were effectively priced in U.S. dollars, as the U.S. dollar often serves as the reference currency when bidding for contracts to provide geophysical services to the oil and gas industry.

Fluctuations in the exchange rate of the euro against such other currencies, particularly the U.S. dollar, have had in the past and can be expected in future periods to have a significant effect upon our results of operations. For financial reporting purposes, such depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the euro negatively affects our reported results of operations since U.S. dollar-denominated earnings that are converted to euros are stated at a reduced value. Since we

participate in competitive bids for data acquisition contracts that are denominated in U.S. dollars, such depreciation reduces our competitive position against that of other companies whose costs and expenses are denominated in U.S. dollars. An appreciation of the U.S. dollar against the euro has the opposite effect. As a result, our sales and operating income are exposed to the effects of fluctuations in the value of the euro versus the U.S. dollar. In addition, our exposure to fluctuations in the U.S./euro exchange rate has considerably increased over the last few years due to increased sales outside Europe. Based on our level of operations in 2008, and given the portfolio of currencies during that year, a 10-cent variance of the U.S. dollar against the euro would have affected our dollar equivalent-value operating income by approximately U.S.\$50 million.

We attempt to match foreign currency revenues and expenses in order to balance our net position of receivables and payables denominated in foreign currencies. For example, charter costs for our vessels, as well as our most important computer hardware leases, are denominated in U.S. dollars. Nevertheless, during the past five years such dollar-denominated expenses have not equaled dollar-denominated revenues principally due to personnel costs payable in euros.

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In addition, to be protected against the reduction in value of future foreign currency cash flows, we follow a policy of selling U.S. dollars forward at average contract maturity dates that we attempt to match with future net U.S. dollar cash flows (revenues less costs in U.S. dollars) expected from firm contract commitments, generally over the ensuing six months. At December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, we had U.S.\$430.8 million (with a euro equivalent-value of 309.6 million), U.S.\$280.4 million (with a euro equivalent-value of 190.5 million) and U.S.\$327.8 million (with a euro equivalent-value of 248.9 million), respectively, of notional amounts outstanding under euro/U.S. dollar forward exchange contracts and other foreign exchange currency hedging instruments.

We do not enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts for trading purposes.

### ***Inflation***

Inflation has not had a material effect on our results of operations during the periods presented. We operate in, and receive payments in the currencies of, certain countries with historically high levels of inflation, such as Mexico, Brazil and Venezuela. We attempt to limit such risk by, for example, indexing payments in the local currency against, principally, the U.S. dollar exchange rate at a certain date to account for inflation during the contract term.

### ***Income Taxes***

We conduct the majority of our field activities outside of France and pay taxes on income earned or deemed profits in each foreign country pursuant to local tax rules and regulations.

We had significant tax loss carryforwards that are available to offset future taxation on income earned in certain OECD countries. We recognize deferred tax assets when a history of recent taxable profit exists and when it is highly probable that future taxable profit will be available.

### ***Seasonality***

Our land and marine seismic acquisition activities are usually seasonal in nature as a consequence of weather conditions in the Northern Hemisphere and of the timing chosen by our principal clients to commit their annual exploration budget to specific projects. We have historically experienced higher levels of activity in our equipment manufacturing operations in the fourth quarter as our clients seek to fully deploy annual budgeted capital.

## **Item 6: DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES**

### **Directors and Senior Management**

#### ***Board of Directors***

Under French law, the Board of Directors determines our business strategy and monitors business implementation. Subject to the specific powers granted by the ordinary general shareholders' meeting, the Board of Directors deals with any issues relating to our affairs. In particular, the Board of Directors prepares and presents our year-end accounts to our ordinary general shareholders' meeting. Our Board of Directors consists of between six and fifteen members elected by our shareholders. Under French law, a director may be an individual or a legal entity for which an individual is appointed as permanent representative.

Our *statuts* (memorandum and articles of association) provide that each director is elected for a six-year term by the ordinary general shareholders' meeting. There is no obligation for directors to be French nationals. According to

French corporate law, a physical person may simultaneously hold the office of director in no more than five *sociétés anonymes* whose registered offices are located on French territory, subject to certain exceptions. Pursuant to the Board's internal regulations each director is required to own at least 100 of our shares.

Directors are required to comply with applicable law and our *statuts*. Under French law, directors are responsible for actions taken by them that, *inter alia*, are contrary to the company's interests and may be held liable for such actions both individually and jointly with the other directors.

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The following table sets forth the names of our current directors, their positions, the dates of their initial appointment as directors and the expiration dates of their current term.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Initially appointed</b>	<b>Term expires</b>
Robert Brunck <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	1998	2012
Olivier Appert <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	Director	2003	2012
Loren Carroll <sup>(4)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i>	Director	2007	2013
Rémi Dorval <sup>(3)(4)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i> <sup>(5)</sup>	Director	2005	2010
Jean Dunand <sup>(4)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i> <sup>(5)</sup>	Director	1999	2013
Yves Lesage <sup>(2)(4)</sup>	Director	1988	2009
Christian Marbach <sup>(1)</sup>	Director	1995	2013
Thierry Pilenko <sup>(2)</sup>	Director	2007	2013
Robert Semmens <sup>(1)(3)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i> <sup>(5)</sup>	Director	1999	2011
Daniel Valot <sup>(4)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i> <sup>(5)</sup>	Director	2001	2012
David Work <sup>(3)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i> <sup>(5)</sup>	Director	2007	2013
Terence Young <sup>(2)</sup> <i>(independent director)</i> <sup>(5)</sup>	Director	2007	2013

Notes:

- (1) Member of Strategic Committee.
- (2) Member of the Technology Committee.
- (3) Member of Appointment-Remuneration Committee.
- (4) Member of Audit Committee.
- (5) Independent director within the meaning of the report of the working committee of the *Association Française des Entreprises Privées - Mouvement des Entreprises de France*. See Board Practices .

Mr. Brunck, 59, has been our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer since May 1999. Mr. Brunck was our Vice Chairman and President from September 1998 to May 1999 and was our President and Chief Operating Officer from February 1995 to September 1998. Mr. Brunck was Vice President of Administration and Development from 1991 to 1995 and Chief Financial Officer from 1989 to 1991. He is Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding S.A., Chairman of the Supervisory Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V, Chairman of the Board of Directors of CGG Americas, Inc., Director of Thalès, Director of the *Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Géologie*, Director of the

*Association pour la Recherche et le Développement des Méthodes et Processus industriels*, Director of the Bureau of Geological and Mining Research, Director of the *Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers*, Director of the *Groupement des Entreprises Parapétrolières et Paragazières*, Chairman of Armines and Director of the *Institut Français du Pétrole*.

Mr. Appert, 59, has been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the French Petroleum Institute (*Institut Français du Pétrole*, or IFP) since April 2003. Mr. Appert was President for long-term co-operation and energy policy analysis within the International Energy Agency until October 1999. He is also a Director of Technip, Director of Storengy and of the *Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris*.

Mr. Carroll, 65, joined our Board of Directors on January 12, 2007. Until that date, Mr. Carroll had been a Director of Veritas since 2003. Mr. Carroll is currently a financial and strategic business consultant. Until his retirement in April 2006, Mr. Carroll was President and Chief Executive Officer of M-I Swaco L.L.C. and was also Executive Vice President of Smith International, Inc. Mr. Carroll also serves as a Director of Smith International, Inc., Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc., Forest Oil Corporation and KBR Inc. He is also a member of the Supervisory Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. Mr. Carroll joined Smith International in December 1984 as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. In January 1988, he was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Smith International and served in that capacity until March 1989. Mr. Carroll then rejoined Smith International in 1992 as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Smith International holds a 60% interest in M-I Swaco L.L.C.

Mr. Dorval, 58, is Vice-Chairman and Director of Soletanche-Bachy Entreprise. Mr. Dorval is Director, Vice Chairman and President of Solétanche Bachy France, Chairman of Forsol, Chairman of SB 2007, a Director of

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Solétanche S.A., SHPIC, Bachy Soletanche Holdings, SBUSA, Soldata Iberia and Nicholson. He is also a member of the Supervisory Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V.

Mr. Dunand, 69, was Financial and Legal Director of ISIS from 1999 to December 2001 and was Deputy General Manager Finance (Russia and CIS) of Total Exploration-Production from 1994 to 1999.

Mr. Lesage, 71, has been our Honorary Chairman since May 1999. Mr. Lesage was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of CGG from January 1995 to May 1999. He was Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sogera from 1994 to 1995.

Mr. Marbach, 71, *Ingénieur Général des Mines*, was Advisor to the General Management of Suez-Lyonnaise des Eaux from 1996 to 2000. Before that time, Mr. Marbach was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Coflexip and Coflexip Stena Offshore from 1991 to 1996. Mr. Marbach is a member of the Supervisory Board of Lagardère, Supervisor of Sofinnova.

Mr. Pilenko, 51, joined our Board of Directors on January 12, 2007. He is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Technip since April 27, 2007. From January 15, 2007 until April 2007, he was Deputy General Manager of Technip. Until the merger with Veritas DGC Inc., Mr. Pilenko had been Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and a Director of Veritas since March 2004. Prior to his appointment and since 2001, Mr. Pilenko had served as Managing Director of SchlumbergerSema, a Schlumberger Ltd. company located in Paris. From 1998 to 2001, he was President of Geoquest, another Schlumberger Ltd. company located in Houston, Texas. Mr. Pilenko was employed by Schlumberger Ltd. and its affiliated companies in various parts of the world beginning in 1984 and progressed through a variety of operating positions. Mr. Pilenko is also Chairman of Technip Italy and a Director of Hercules Offshore, Inc. and a Permanent Representative of Technip on the Board of Directors of Technip France.

Mr. Semmens, 51, is an independent consultant and private investor. He was co-founder and General Partner of The Beacon Group LLC from 1993 to 2001. Mr. Semmens is a member of the Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding S.A, a Director of MicroPharma Ltd., a Director of Bronco Holdings LLC., and Advisory Director of Mao Networks Inc.

Mr. Valot, 64, was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Technip from September 1999 until April 2007. Mr. Valot was President of Total Exploration and Production, and was a member of the Total Group Executive Committee from 1995 to 1999. Mr. Valot is a Director of SCOR, Dietswell and Petrocanada, and a member of the Supervisory Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V.

Mr. Work, 63, joined our Board of Directors on January 12, 2007. Until that date, Mr. Work had been a Director of Veritas since 2004. Mr. Work is currently an oil and gas industry consultant. From 2001 until October 2003, he served as the Chairman of Energy Virtual Partners, Inc., a privately-held company engaged in the business of managing under-resourced oil and gas properties. For more than five years prior to his retirement from BP Amoco in October 2000, he served in various management capacities with Amoco and BP Amoco, including Group Vice President of exploration and, finally, as Regional President in the United States. Mr. Work currently also serves as a Director of Edge Petroleum Corporation and CrystaTech, Inc.

Mr. Young, 62, joined our Board of Directors on January 12, 2007. Until that date, Mr. Young had been a Director of Veritas since 2005. Mr. Young is currently a professor and head of the Department of Geophysics at the Colorado School of Mines and has served as such since 2000. From 1983 until 2000, Mr. Young was employed by Mobil Research and Development Corporation in a variety of roles, the last of which was as a visiting scholar at the Institute for Statistics and Its Applications, Carnegie Mellon University. From 1982 to 1983, he served as a research geophysicist with Compagnie Générale de Géophysique, from 1979 to 1982, he served as assistant professor, Colorado School of Mines, and from 1969 to 1974 was a pilot and flight instructor in the United States Navy.

***Executive Officers***

Under French law and our current *statuts*, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer has full executive authority to manage our affairs. The Board of Directors has the power to appoint and remove, at any time, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Under French law and our current *statuts*, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, where those functions are exercised by the same person, has full power to act on our behalf and to represent us in dealings with third parties, subject only to (i) the corporate purpose of the company, (ii) those powers expressly reserved by law to the Board of Directors or our shareholders and (iii) limitations that the Board of Directors may resolve, such limitations not being binding on third parties. The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer determines and is responsible for the implementation of the goals, strategies and budgets for our different businesses, which are reviewed and monitored by the Board of Directors. In accordance with French corporate law, our current *statuts* provide for the election by the Board of Directors of one person to assume the position of



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Chairman and Chief Executive Officer or the division of such functions between two different persons. In its session of May 15, 2002, the Board of Directors decided that Mr. Brunck would assume the position of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer until the expiry of his term as a director, unless otherwise decided by the Board. In its meeting of April 29, 2008, the Board of Directors renewed Mr. Brunck's position as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, after his term had been renewed by the general meeting of shareholders held the same day. Our current *statuts Généraux Délégués* upon proposal of the Chief Executive Officer, whether or not this person is also the Chairman of the Board. Thierry Le Roux was named to this position by our Board of Directors on September 7, 2005.

The following table sets forth the names of our current executive officers who serve as members of our Executive Committee, their current positions with us and the first dates as of which they served as our executive officers. We generally employ our executive officers under standard employment services agreements that have no fixed term, but Timothy Wells' and Fernando Aguilar's employment services agreement have a term of three years starting from December 27, 2006 and February 1, 2007 respectively.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Current position</b>	<b>Executive officer since</b>
Robert Brunck	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	1989
Thierry Le Roux	President and Chief Operating Officer	1995
Stephane-Paul Frydman	Chief Financial Officer	2003
Gérard Chambovet	Senior Executive Vice President	1995
Luc Benoît-Cattin	President of Support functions for Geophysical Services	2003
Fernando Aguilar	President in charge of Geophysical Services for the Americas	2008
Timothy Wells	Senior Executive Vice-President in charge of corporate development	2007
Pascal Rouiller	Chief Executive Officer, Sercel group	1997

Mr. Le Roux, 55, was appointed President and Chief Operating Officer in January 2007. Before that time, he had been Group President and Chief Financial Officer since September 2005 and Senior Executive Vice President of our Equipment segment since October 1998. Mr. Le Roux was Executive Vice President of CGG's Geophysical Equipment operations from March 1995 to October 1998. He was Business Development Manager from 1992 to 1995 and Far East Manager from 1984 to 1992. Mr. Le Roux is Chairman of Sercel S.A., Chairman of the Board of CGGVeritas Services SA, Chairman of the Board of Sercel Inc., Chairman of the Board of Hebei Sercel-Jungfeng Geophysical Prospecting Equipment Co. Ltd, Vice-Chairman and member of the Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding, a Director of CGG Americas Inc., Chairman of the Board of Sercel England, a Director of Sercel Singapore Private Ltd., a Director of CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc., a Director of Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping, INT. Inc., Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Tronic's Microsystems S.A and a Director of Cybernetix S.A. Mr. Le Roux is also the Chairman of the Management Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V.

Mr. Frydman, 45, was appointed Chief Financial Officer in January 2007. Before that time, he had been Group Controller, Treasurer and Deputy Chief Financial Officer since September 2005, Deputy Chief Financial Officer of the CGG group since January 2004 and Vice President in charge of corporate financial affairs reporting to the Chief Financial Officer since December 2002. Prior to joining CGG, Mr. Frydman was an Investor Officer of Butler Capital Partners, a private equity firm, from April 2000 to November 2002, and Industrial Advisor to the French Minister of the Economy and Finances from June 1997 to March 2000. Mr. Frydman is a Director of Sercel S.A., CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc., CGGVeritas Services (Norway) AS and CGGVeritas Services. He is a member of the

Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding and CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V and a member of the Executive Committee of Geomar.

Mr. Chambovet, 56, is Senior Executive Vice President Human Resources, Communication, HSE and Audit since January 2007. Until that time, he had been Senior Executive Vice President, Technology, Planning & Control and Communication since January 2005 and Senior Executive Vice President of our Services segment since October 1998. Mr. Chambovet was Executive Vice President of our Acquisition Product line from March 1995 to October 1998 and was Manager of our data processing center in Massy, France from 1987 to 1995. Mr. Chambovet is a Director of Argas, Sercel S.A., CGG Americas Inc., CGGVeritas Services, Ardiseis and member of the Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding S.A and a member of the Supervisory Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. He is Chairman of the Board of CGGVeritas International.

Mr. Benoît-Cattin, 45, was appointed President of Support Functions for Geophysical Services in April 2008. Before that time, he had been President of Eastern Hemisphere Geophysical Services since January 2007, Executive

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Vice President of our Offshore SBU division since January 2005, Deputy Vice President Geophysical Services from January 2004 to December 2004 and Vice President, Services from June 2002 to December 2003. Prior to joining CGG, Mr. Benoit-Cattin was Executive Vice President for oil and heat transfer businesses in the Pechiney Group from January 1998 to May 2002 and Advisor to the French Minister of Industry, in charge of energy and nuclear issues from June 1995 to May 1997. Mr. Benoit-Cattin is general manager of CGGVeritas Services and the Chairman of CGG Marine Resources Norge, a Director of Ardiseis, Viking Maritime Inc and CGGVeritas Services (Norway) AS. Mr. Benoît-Cattin is also a member of the Management Board of CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V and member of the Executive Committee of Geomar.

Mr. Rouiller, 55, was appointed Executive Vice President for Equipment and Chief Executive Officer of Sercel in September 2005 after having served as Chief Operating Officer of the Sercel group since December 1999. Mr. Rouiller was Vice President of our Product segment from October 1995 to December 1999 and Vice President for the Asia-Pacific region from May 1992 to September 1995. Mr. Rouiller is President of the Management Board of Sercel Holding, Chief Executive Officer of Sercel SA, Director and Chief Executive Officer of Sercel Inc., Chairman and Director of Sercel Canada, Director of the Board of Sercel Australia Pty Ltd., Sercel-JunFeng, Sercel Singapore Pte Ltd., Chairman of Sercel (Beijing) Technological Services Co Ltd. and Director of Vibration Technology Ltd., Cybernetix and Xian-Sercel Petroleum Exploration Instrument Limited Liability Company.

Mr. Aguilar, 49, was appointed President of the Eastern Hemisphere of the global organization effective April 1, 2008. His previous position with CGGVeritas was Executive Vice President for Canada Land Processing, Canada Land Library, and Western Hemisphere Land Acquisition, since joining the company in September, 2004. Formerly with Schlumberger, Mr. Aguilar has twenty-six years of worldwide experience on all continents in various technology, business and oilfield sectors.

Mr. Wells, 55, was appointed President of Western Hemisphere Geophysical Services in January 2007. Prior to the merger, Mr. Wells had been President and Chief Operating Officer of Veritas DGC, Inc. since 1999. He had been employed by Veritas for twenty years, having served as president of Veritas Asia Pacific division, regional manager of North and South American processing, manager of research and programming and in various other capacities in North and South America.

## **Compensation**

The aggregate compensation of our executive officers, including the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and our President and Chief Operating Officer, includes both a fixed element and a bonus element. The bonus due to the general management for a given fiscal year is paid during the first semester of the next fiscal year. With this bonus, the aggregate compensation may substantially vary from one year to another.

The aggregate compensation of our executive officers (including the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Operating Officer) who were members of the Executive Committee paid in fiscal year 2008 was 4,137,838, including the 2007 bonus and benefits in kind but excluding directors' fees. The amount of the bonus paid to the members of the Executive Committee (except for the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Operating Officer, for whom additional criteria are also taken into consideration) depends upon the achievement of commercial and financial targets for items such as consolidated net income, operating income, operational cash flow (i.e. EBITDAS less Capital Expenditures) of our various activities and earnings per share. Certain individual qualitative objectives need also to be satisfied.

The aggregate compensation paid to Mr. Brunck, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, in fiscal year 2008 was 526,840 of fixed compensation and 930,057 representing his 2007 bonus. For fiscal year 2008, the amount of his bonus depended upon the achievement of personal objectives (representing one third of the bonus) and financial

objectives (representing two thirds of the bonus). The financial objectives included net earnings per share (weighted 20%), Group EBIT (weighted 30%), Group operational cash flow (i.e. EBITDAS less Capital Expenditures) (weighted 35%) and the growth in the Group's year-to-year revenues (weighted 15%). Mr. Brunck was paid his 2008 bonus of 687,230 in March 2009. In addition, Mr. Brunck received 49,100.18 in his capacity as a director in 2008.

The aggregate compensation of Mr. Le Roux, President and Chief Operating Officer, in fiscal year 2008 was 400,000 plus a bonus of 572,343 for fiscal year 2007 paid during the first semester of 2008. For fiscal year 2008, the amount of his bonus depended upon the achievement of personal objectives (representing one third of the bonus) and financial objectives (representing two thirds of the bonus). The financial objectives included net earnings per share (weighted 20%), Group EBIT (weighted 30%), Group operational cash flow (i.e. EBITDAS less Capital Expenditures) (weighted 35%) and the growth in the Group's year-to-year revenues (weighted 15%). The bonus for fiscal year 2008 was 422,910 and was paid in March 2009.

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The aggregate compensation of Mr. Brunck, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and of Mr. Thierry Le Roux, President and Chief Operating Officer, over the last two years are set forth below:

**Robert Brunck**

<b>Chairman and Chief Executive Officer</b>	<b>2007</b>		<b>2008</b>	
	<b>Amounts earned</b>	<b>Amounts paid</b>	<b>Amounts earned</b>	<b>Amounts paid</b>
Fixed compensation	520,000.00	520,020.00	520,000.00	520,000.00
Variable compensation	930,057.00	610,000.00 <sup>(1)</sup>	687,230.00	930,057.00 <sup>(2)</sup>
Exceptional compensation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Director's fees <sup>(3)</sup>	50,038.81	43,277.05 <sup>(4)</sup>	49,100.18	50,038.81 <sup>(5)</sup>
Benefits in kind <sup>(6)</sup>	6,840.00	6,840.00	6,840.00	6,840.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,506,935.81</b>	<b>1,180,137.05</b>	<b>1,263,170.18</b>	<b>1,506,935.81</b>

Notes:

- (1) Paid in March 2007 for fiscal year 2006.
- (2) Paid in March 2008 for fiscal year 2007.
- (3) Mr. Brunck does not receive any compensation as member of the Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding or as Chairman of the Board of Directors of CGG Americas.
- (4) Paid at the beginning of 2007 for fiscal year 2006.
- (5) Paid at the beginning of 2008 for fiscal year 2007.
- (6) Benefits in kind are limited to the use of a company car.

**Thierry Le Roux**

<b>Chief Operating Officer</b>	<b>2007</b>		<b>2008</b>	
	<b>Amounts earned</b>	<b>Amounts paid</b>	<b>Amounts earned</b>	<b>Amounts paid</b>
Fixed compensation	400,000.00	400,018.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
Variable compensation	572,343.00	350,800.00 <sup>(1)</sup>	422,910.00	572,343.00 <sup>(2)</sup>
Exceptional compensation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Director's fees	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Benefits in kind	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>972,343.00</b>	<b>750,818.00</b>	<b>822,910</b>	<b>972,343.00</b>

Notes:

- (1) Paid in March 2007 for fiscal year 2006.
- (2) Paid in March 2008 for fiscal year 2007.

On February 27, 2008, pursuant to section L. 225-42-1 of the French Commercial Code, the Board of Directors approved an amendment to the previous provisions of the protection letter dated March 8, 2006 for Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux, in accordance with the procedure applicable to related party transactions and provided for by section L.225-38 *et seq.* of the French Commercial Code. These new provisions were approved by the general shareholders meeting held on April 29, 2008.

Consequently and pursuant to section L. 225-42-1 of the French Commercial Code, payment of the special severance indemnity provided for in the scope of such amendment as well as the early exercise of stock options, whether vested or not, that have been allocated to Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux pursuant to the stock options plans in force were subject to a performance condition assessed in comparison with the performance of the Company, requiring fulfillment of at least one of the three following objectives:

a share price performance objective relative to the share price considering the SBF 120 index;

a share price performance objective relative to the ADS price considering the PHLX Oil Service Sector<sup>SM</sup> (OSX<sup>SM</sup>); or

a financial indicator objective of EBIT expressed in U.S.\$ and related to the target for the annual variable part of the compensation of Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux.

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Finally, in order to take into account practices at comparable companies, the amount of special severance indemnities had been reduced from 250% to 200% of the annual reference compensation which corresponds to the global amount of gross fixed remuneration received over the twelve months preceding the date on which the period of notice begins, to which is added the annual average of the variable compensation received over the thirty-six months preceding the date of notice.

This special severance indemnity was a ceiling and a fixed payment paid in lieu of all sums to which Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux may be entitled as a consequence of severance including severance payments due by law or under collective bargaining agreements or compensation in lieu of notice and pay in lieu of vacation.

In addition, on February 27, 2008, the Board of Directors approved, in accordance with procedures applicable to related-party agreements and provided for by section L.225-38 *et seq.* of the French Commercial Code, the signing of a non-compete agreement between the Company and Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux.

This non-compete agreement applies to any geophysical data acquisition, processing or interpretation services or the provision of equipment or products designed for the acquisition, processing or interpretation of geophysical data. Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux have each agreed that they will not contribute to projects or activities in the same field as those in which they were involved at CGGVeritas for period of eighteen months starting on the date on which they leave the Group.

In consideration for this undertaking, Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux will each be entitled to receive compensation corresponding to 100% of their annual reference compensation upon leaving the Group. This agreement was approved by the general shareholders meeting held on April 29, 2008.

On December 19, 2008, the Board of Directors decided to refer to the recommendations on the compensation of executive officers of listed companies that were published by the AFEP-MEDEF on October 6, 2008 and incorporated into the AFEP-MEDEF consolidated code of corporate governance of December 2008.

Consequently, the Board of Directors decided on February 25, 2009, to amend the existing amendment to the employment contracts of Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux described as described below. However, during the time that Mr. Brunck serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, his employment contract is suspended.

The special termination indemnity will only be paid in case of termination of the employment agreement of Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux in the event of a forced departure relating to a Change of Control or a Change of Strategy.

Such indemnity shall be equal to the difference between (a) a gross amount of 200% of the reference annual compensation received by Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux described above and (b) any sum to which Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux may be entitled as a result of such termination, including the severance payment due by law or under collective bargaining agreements as well as any sums to be paid further to the application of his non-competition commitment. The indemnity global amount shall not exceed 200% of the reference annual compensation.

In addition, Messrs. Brunck and Le Roux will be entitled to exercise by anticipation the stock options to which they are entitled pursuant to the plans in force within the Group in case of the termination of their employment contract or in the event of a forced departure eventually qualified as a dismissal, provided that the performance conditions are met.

Pursuant to article L.225-42-1 of the Commercial Code, the payment of the special termination indemnity as well as the anticipated exercise of stock options shall remain subject to the performance conditions described above.

Finally, pursuant to article L.225-42-1 of the Commercial Code in particular, the Board of Directors shall verify prior to the payment of the special severance payment (i) that the performance conditions described above are duly fulfilled and (ii) that the payment of such special termination indemnity complies with the corporate governance code applicable at the date of departure.

A supplemental pension and retirement plan for the members of the Executive Committee and the Management Board of Sercel Holding (the Beneficiaries ) was implemented in December 2004. Our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Operating Officer benefit from this plan. The aggregate present benefit value of this supplemental plan as of December 31, 2008 amounts to 10,792,756 of which 1,195,530 has been recorded as an expense for fiscal year 2008. Of such present benefit value, the portions relating to our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and our Chief Operating Officer are 7,687,185 and 769,839 respectively.

Directors as a group received aggregate compensation of 580,000 in January 2009 for services provided in their capacity as directors during fiscal year 2008. No amounts were set aside or accrued by us or our subsidiaries to



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provide pension, retirement or similar benefits to directors. Directors' service contracts do not provide for benefits upon termination.

The following table sets forth the amounts CGGVeritas and its subsidiaries paid to directors of CGGVeritas, in their capacity as directors, for the year ended December 31, 2008:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Amount paid to CGGVeritas directors by the company or one of its subsidiaries for fiscal year 2008</b>
Robert Brunck <sup>(1)</sup>	49,100.18
Olivier Appert	46,010.11
Loren Carroll	58,969.48
Rémi Dorval	52,246.14
Jean Dunand	49,222.61
Yves Lesage	51,010.11
Christian Marbach	30,261.40
Thierry Pilenko	27,789.34
Robert F. Semmens <sup>(2)</sup>	86,572.24
Daniel Valot	37,115.44
David Work	55,205.51
Terence Young	51,497.43

**Notes:**

- (1) Mr. Brunck does not receive any compensation as member of the Supervisory Board of Sercel Holding or as Chairman of the Board of Directors of CGG Americas.
- (2) Includes 71,572.24 paid by CGGVeritas to Mr. Semmens as a director and 15,000 paid by Sercel Holding to Mr. Semmens as a member of the Supervisory Board.

As of March 31, 2009, our directors and executive officers held an aggregate of 261,523 shares of CGGVeritas. As of March 31, 2009, our directors and executive officers held options to purchase an aggregate of 2,589,870 ordinary shares and a maximum of 286,750 performance shares. As of March 31, 2009, none of our directors and executive officers held, on an individual basis, shares and options representing 1% or more of our outstanding capital.

**Board Practices**

In accordance with the Board of Directors' resolution of December 19, 2008, the Company complies with the AFEP-MEDEF code of corporate governance for listed companies (the AFEP-MEDEF Code). Pursuant to the standards set forth in the AFEP-MEDEF Code, we believe that seven of our directors do not have any relationship with CGGVeritas, the Group or its management that could impair their freedom of judgment and thus qualify as independent. Those directors are Mr. Carroll, Mr. Dorval, Mr. Dunand, Mr. Semmens, Mr. Valot, Mr. Work and Mr. Young. We also believe that (i) the position of Mr. Semmens as a member of the Supervisory Board of our subsidiary Sercel Holding S.A., (ii) the previous position of Mr. Carroll, Mr. Work and Mr. Young as members of the

Board of Directors of Veritas and (iii) the position of Mr. Carroll, Mr. Dorval and Mr. Valot as members of the Supervisory Board of our subsidiary CGGVeritas Services Holding BV do not impair their independence. Our Board of Directors reviews, on an annual basis, the qualification of directors as independent pursuant to the AFEP-MEDEF Code.

***Strategic Committee***

The Strategic Committee's assignment is to study:

- business plans and budgets,
- strategic options for the Group,
- organic development, and
- projects related to financial transactions.

This Committee customarily meets before each Board meeting and more often if necessary. During 2008, the Strategic Committee met seven times with an average meeting attendance rate of 96%.

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In 2008, the Committee was consulted regarding, inter alia, (i) the multi-client surveys (land and marine), (ii) the 2008 achievements and the convergence project of HSE systems currently existing within the Group, (iii) the convergence of the data processing software programs currently existing within the Group, (iv) the 2008 forecasts, (v) the acquisition of Metrolog by Sercel, (vi) the legal organization of the Services segment and the creation of a holding company for all subsidiaries of this segment, (vii) the 2009 budget, (viii) the 2009-2011 business plan and (ix) the acquisition of Wavefield Inseis ASA.

### ***Audit Committee***

The Audit Committee is chaired by Mr. Dunand. The other members are Mr. Carroll, Mr. Dorval, Mr. Lesage, and Mr. Valot. The Audit Committee is responsible for assisting the Board of Directors and undertaking preparatory work for the Board, particularly by reviewing our financial statements with management and our statutory auditors.

### ***Responsibilities***

The principal responsibilities of the Audit Committee are as follows:

Reviewing and discussing with management and our statutory auditors the consistency and appropriateness of the accounting methods we adopt to prepare our corporate and consolidated financial statements including:

Reviewing and discussing with management and the statutory auditors the consolidation perimeter and requesting, when necessary, all appropriate explanations;

Reviewing and discussing with management and the statutory auditors our draft annual, semi-annual and quarterly financial statements together with the notes to them, and especially off-balance sheet arrangements;

Reviewing and discussing with management and the statutory auditors the quality, comprehensiveness, accuracy and sincerity of the financial statements;

Receiving reports from the statutory auditors on their review, including any comments and suggestions they may have made in the scope of their audit; and

Raising any financial or accounting question that the Committee deems important.

Reviewing our annual report on Form 20-F and our *Document de Référence* .

In consultation with the statutory auditors, the internal auditors and management, reviewing the structure of our internal control procedures and the way in which they operate, notably those procedures relating to the preparation and treatment of accounting and financial information used to prepare our financial statements, to assess and manage risks and to comply with the principal regulations applicable to us. The Committee reviews the comments and observations made by the statutory auditors on internal control procedures.

With respect to internal audit, reviewing and discussing with management particularly:

its organization and operation, and

its activities and in particular the responsibilities proposed in the scope of the internal audit plan approved by the general management and presented to the Committee.

Reviewing and discussing with management and, when appropriate, the statutory auditors the transactions directly or indirectly binding us and our executive officers.

With respect to external audit:

Reviewing and discussing with the statutory auditors their annual audit plan;

Meeting, if necessary, with the statutory auditors outside the presence of management;

Ensuring the independence of the statutory auditors by managing the procedure for selection of the auditors. The Committee submits its choice to the Board of Directors, which, pursuant to law, must submit appointment of auditors to the vote at a shareholders meeting;

Discussing as appropriate the extent and results of the audit work with the statutory auditors and management and reviewing the amount of auditors fees regularly with management. Within the

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framework of a procedure that it determines annually, the Committee has sole authority to authorize performance by the auditors and/or by the members of their network of non-audit services.

Overseeing the anonymous handling of any report concerning a possible internal control problem or any problem of an accounting or financial nature.

Finally, our management must report to the Committee any suspected fraud of a significant amount so that the Committee may proceed with any verification that it deems appropriate.

Sessions of the Audit Committee are open to the members of the Executive Committee, including the Chief Financial Officer, the external auditors (in order to report on their audit reviews) and the Senior Vice-President, Corporate Internal Audit (in order to review important assignments).

The Audit Committee meets before each Board meeting. In addition, the members of the Audit Committee are systematically invited to attend Strategic Committee meetings. During 2008, the Audit Committee met seven times with an average meeting attendance rate of 91%.

*2008 Activities*

In 2008, the Audit Committee reviewed draft versions of the annual consolidated financial statements for 2007, the consolidated financial statements for the first quarter, the first semester and the third quarter of 2008 before these were presented to the Board. It also reviewed the 2008 forecasts. The Audit Committee also provided to the Board its recommendations concerning these financial statements. The audit committee reviewed the annual report on form 20-F and the *Document de Référence* .

Further to the merger with Veritas DGC Inc., the Audit Committee also reviewed the final version of the Group's opening balance sheet as well as the allocation of the purchase price of Veritas DGC Inc. to the different balance sheet items. Impairment tests carried out in 2007 were also presented to the Audit Committee.

It examined the work to be performed by the statutory auditors in the scope of their audit on the 2008 financial statements and approved their fee estimates for this work. In compliance with the Audit Committee's procedures providing for its prior approval of non-audit services provided by the members of our auditors' network, the Audit Committee reviewed the services so performed in 2008 and approved them as necessary.

The Audit Committee reviewed the activities of the internal audit team, which acts on the basis of a plan established by the Executive Committee and presented to the Audit Committee. This plan is established in light of perceived operational and financial risks and with the goal of systematically reviewing the major entities of each business division every three years.

The Audit Committee was also kept regularly informed on the development of the assessment of internal control procedures pursuant to section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and of the results thereof. The external auditors and the internal audit team presented their respective conclusions.

Finally, the Audit Committee also follows the Group's tax strategy and the rationalization program of the Services legal structures. In this respect, it was consulted regarding the valuations for the transfers of certain subsidiaries to the Services holding company incorporated in the Netherlands, based on an external evaluation report. In addition, it carried out at year-end a detailed review of the multi-client library and was kept regularly informed of the Group's situation with respect to cash, debt, cash flow forecasts and Group's hedging policy.

## **Appointment-Remuneration Committee**

The principal responsibilities of the Appointment-Remuneration Committee are as follows:

the compensation to be paid to the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer or any other senior executive officer considered as *mandataire social* appointed from time to time, including the procedures for setting the variable part thereof and the grant of any benefits in kind;

all provisions relative to the retirement of the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer and any other senior executive officer considered as *mandataire social* ;

for senior executive officers considered as *mandataires sociaux* , the deferred elements of the compensation packages (pension, severance payment) to be submitted to the shareholders' annual meeting;

the evaluation of financial consequences on the Company's financial statements of all compensation elements for senior executive officers considered as *mandataires sociaux* ;

the contracts between the Company and any senior executive officer considered as *mandataire social* ;

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the possible candidacies for filling positions of director, positions as senior executive officer considered as *mandataire social* or member of a Board Committee.

the periodical review of the independence of Board members;

the Directors' fees level and their allocation rules;

the realization of capital increases reserved for the employees; and

the installation of equity-based plans.

In addition to the responsibilities described above, the Appointment-Remuneration Committee is also in charge of:

examining the compensation of the Executive Committee members and its changes thereof;

carrying out the performance evaluation of the Board and its committees;

carrying out the performance evaluation of the Chief Executive Officer;

reviewing the succession planning process for Executive Committee members;

ensuring compliance of compensation and benefits policies with all applicable regulations;

reviewing the compensation data and other related information to be publicly disclosed by the Company in its annual reports and any other reports to be issued pursuant to applicable laws and regulations; and

approving the policy and process of verification and reimbursements of expenses.

The Committee may also consider any question that might be submitted to it by the Chairman in connection with any of the matters described above.

The Committee is also consulted on changes to the compensation of the other members of the executive committee.

During 2008, this Committee met eight times with an average attendance rate of 97%.

In 2008, the Appointment-Remuneration Committee met to review, inter alia, (i) the remuneration of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and of the Chief Operating Officer, (ii) the implementation of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer's and Chief Operating Officer's protection letters in conformity with the provisions of the law n° 2007-1223 of August 21, 2007, (iii) the non-competition clause applicable to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer, (iv) the amount of the directors' fees and their allocation rules, (v) the policy governing allocation of performance shares and stock options within the Group, (vi) its draft charter, (vii) the qualifications of directors as independent prior to their submission to the Board of Directors, (viii) the drafting of disclosure in the annual reports (management report, *Document de Référence*, Form 20-F) regarding compensation of the *mandataires sociaux*, (ix) the draft resolutions to be submitted to the general annual meeting concerning (a) the allocation of stock options and performance shares and (b) the performance conditions to which the protection letters of the *mandataires sociaux* are subject, (x) the 2008 bonus plans, (xi) the succession planning, (xii) the implementation of the evaluation process of the Board and of the Chairman, and (xiii) the new AFEP-MEDEF recommendations.

***Technology Committee***

The principal responsibilities of the Technology Committee are to assist the Board of Directors with respect to:

the Group's development strategy in reservoir imaging, seismic and opportunities in other oilfield services and products;

the main development programmes in services and equipment;

the technology offer from competitors and other oil service companies; and

the research and development budgets.

The Technology Committee usually meets twice a year. In 2008, the Technology Committee met twice with an attendance rate of 75%. During these meetings, the Committee reviewed the latest technological developments of the Services and Equipment segments and the Group research and development plan. Certain specific technological projects were also presented to the Committee.



**Table of Contents****Employees**

As of December 31, 2008, we had 8,470 permanent employees worldwide (not including 22 temporary staff in France), as well as several thousand auxiliary field personnel on temporary contracts. Of the total, 6,203 were involved in the Services segment, 2,237 in the Equipment segment and 41 worked at the Corporate level. CGGVeritas has never experienced a material work stoppage and considers its relations with its employees to be good. CGGVeritas permanently employs more than 5,000 technicians and persons holding engineering degrees and has developed a significant in-house training program.

Our total workforce has increased from 8,109 (not including 14 temporary staff) at December 31, 2007 to 8,470 at December 31, 2008. This increase in the size of our workforce is mainly attributable to the growth of our geophysical product and service activities. We are preparing for the future by improving recruitment programs and our management training program, and by putting increased emphasis on strengthening the technical and personal skills of our employees. On a seasonal basis we experience higher headcount and revenues during the second and third fiscal quarters, coinciding with the winter seismic acquisition seasons in Alaska and Canada. A total of 31 employees in Singapore are subject to collective bargaining agreements.

In accordance with French law for employees employed under French contracts, we and each of our French subsidiaries have an Employee Representation Committee (*Comité d'Entreprise*) consisting of representatives elected by our employees. The Employee Representation Committee reports regularly to employees, represents employees in relations with management, is consulted on significant matters relating to employee working conditions and is regularly informed of economic developments.

**Share Ownership**

In accordance with French law, we are authorized annually by our shareholders at the extraordinary general meeting to issue ordinary shares for sale to our employees and employees of our affiliates who elect to participate in our Group Employee Savings Plan (*Plan d'Epargne Entreprise Groupe*) instituted in 1997 (the Group Plan). Our shareholders, at the extraordinary general meeting held on April 29, 2008, renewed our authorization to issue up to 6,250,000 ordinary shares in sales to employees and affiliates who participate in the Group Plan. We may offer ordinary shares pursuant to the Group Plan at a price neither higher than the average market price for the 20 business days preceding the date on which the Board of Directors sets the commencement date for the offering, nor lower than 80% of such average market price. As of December 31, 2008, CGGVeritas group employees held 82,750 shares corresponding to 0.05% of the share capital and 0.11% of the voting rights.

Pursuant to resolutions adopted by our Board of Directors on March 14, 2001, May 15, 2002, May 15, 2003, May 11, 2006, March 23, 2007, March 14, 2008 and March 16, 2009, our Board of Directors has granted options to certain of our employees, executive officers and directors to subscribe for an aggregate of 7,907,081 ordinary shares taking into account the various adjustment made to the number of stock options issued pursuant to French law. Options with respect to 5,251,125 ordinary shares remained outstanding as of March 31, 2009. The following table sets forth certain information relating to these stock options plans as of March 31, 2009:

Options exercised (ordinary shares) at	Options outstanding at	Exercise price per
---	------------------------------	--------------------------

<b>Date of board of directors resolution</b>	<b>Options granted <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Number of beneficiaries</b>	<b>March 31, 2009</b>	<b>March 31, 2009</b>	<b>ordinary share<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Expiration date</b>
March 14, 2001 <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	1,393,626	144	180,598	0	13.08	March 13, 2009
May 15, 2002 <sup>(1)(5)</sup>	751,796	172	56,586	244,280	7.99	May 14, 2010
May 15, 2003 <sup>(1)(6)</sup>	924,910	176	35,163	347,000	2.91	May 14, 2011
May 11, 2006 <sup>(1)(7)</sup>	1,012,500	171	2,500	953,345	26.26	May 10, 2014
March 23, 2007 <sup>(1)(8)</sup>	1,308,750	145	2,000	1,226,500	30.4	March 23, 2015
March 14, 2008 <sup>(1)(9)</sup>	1,188,500	130	0	1,153,000	32.57	March 14, 2016
March 16, 2009 <sup>(10)</sup>	1,327,000	149	0	1,327,000	8.82	March 16, 2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,907,081</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>5,251,125</b>		

## Notes:

- (1) Pursuant to French law and the terms of the stock option plans, the numbers of options initially granted and the exercise price were adjusted following our share capital increase in December 2005 and our five-for-one stock split in June 2008. The figures shown are after adjustment.
- (2) The stock option plans provide for the cancellation of the non vested options if the holder is no longer our employee, director or executive officer.

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- (3) The stock option plans provide for the cancellation of the options whether vested or not if the holder is no longer our employee, director or executive officer.
- (4) Options under the 2001 plan vest by one-fifth each year from March 2001 and could not be exercised before March 14, 2004.
- (5) Options under the 2002 plan vest by one-fifth each year from May 2002 and could not be exercised before May 16, 2005.
- (6) Options under the 2003 plan vest by one-fourth each year from May 2003 and could not be exercised before May 16, 2006.
- (7) Options under the 2006 plan vest by one-fourth each year from May 2006 and can be exercised at any time. However the resulting shares cannot be sold before May 12, 2010.
- (8) Options under the 2007 plan vest by one-third each year from March 2007 and can be exercised at any time. However the resulting shares cannot be sold by French tax residents before March 24, 2011.
- (9) Options under the 2008 plan vest by one-third each year from March 2008 and can be exercised at any time. However the resulting shares cannot be sold by French tax residents before March 15, 2012.
- (10) Options under the 2009 plans vest by one-third each year from March 2009 and can be exercised at any time. However the resulting shares cannot be sold by French tax residents before March 17, 2013. The 2009 plans consist of a plan granting 325,000 options to the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer (subject to certain performance conditions) and a plan granting 1,002,000 options to certain other officers and employees.

At the extraordinary general shareholders meeting held on April 29, 2008, a new stock option plan was approved by shareholders whereby options to purchase up to 5% of our share capital outstanding on the date of allocation may be granted in one or several allocations by the Board of Directors to certain of our employees and executive officers during the 38-month period following the plan's approval. The Board has allocated 1,327,000 stock options to 149 beneficiaries pursuant to such shareholders' resolution on March 16, 2009, including stock options to purchase a total of 260,000 ordinary shares that were allocated to our executive officers who were members of the Executive Committee (excluding the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Operating Officer). The exercise price of the stock options is 8.82. The stock options expire on March 15, 2017.

At the extraordinary general shareholders meeting held on April 29, 2008, a performance share plan was approved by shareholders whereby performance shares up to 1% of our share capital outstanding on the date of allocation may be granted in one or several allocations by the Board of Directors to certain of our employees and executive officers during the 38-month period following the plan's approval. The Board has allocated 516,250 performance shares to 291 beneficiaries pursuant to such shareholders' resolution on March 16, 2009, including 46,250 performance shares that were allocated to our executive officers who were members of the Executive Committee (excluding the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Operating Officer).

The stock options allocated to Mr. Brunck, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Le Roux, Chief Operating Officer, under the plans implemented by the Company over the last two years are set forth below:

<b>Name of the Executive Officer</b>	<b>Date of the Plan</b>	<b>Number of options allocated during fiscal year<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Valuation of options pursuant to the method used for consolidated financial statements ( )</b>	<b>Subscription price<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Exercise period</b>
Robert Brunck	03/14/2008	200,000	2,412,000	32.57	From 03/15/2009 to 03/14/2016 inclusive
Robert Brunck	03/23/2007	200,000	2,530,000	30.40	From 03/24/2008 to 03/23/2015 inclusive
Thierry Le Roux	03/14/2008	125,000	1,507,500	32.57	From 03/15/2009 to 03/14/2016 inclusive
Thierry Le Roux	03/23/2007	125,000	1,581,250	30.40	From 03/24/2008 to 03/23/2015 inclusive

Note:

(1) Number and price adjusted pursuant to the five-for-one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008.

Pursuant to article L.225-197-1 of the French Commercial Code, the Board of Directors decided that the number of shares resulting from the exercise of stock options which the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer will have to keep under the registered form until the end of their term should be set at 10% of each individual allocation.

On March 16, 2009, the Board of Directors allocated 200,000 stock options to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and 125,000 stock options to the Chief Operating Officer. Their exercise price is 8.82. Rights to these options vest by one-third during each of the first three years of the plan. Such vesting is subject to performance conditions based on the fulfillment of one of the following objectives:

A share price performance objective relative to the share price considering the SBF 120 index;

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A share price performance objective relative to the ADS price considering the PHLX Oil Services Sector <sup>SM</sup> (OSX <sup>SM</sup>) index; or

A financial indicator of EBIT objective expressed in US\$ and related to the target for the annual variable part of compensation of the Executive Officers.

The options have an eight-year duration subject to the requirement, for all French residents, to hold the resulting shares in the registered form from their purchase date until March 16, 2013 inclusive, except in limited cases listed in the plan regulation.

Finally, pursuant to section L.225-185 of the commerce code, the Board of Directors decided that the number of shares resulting from the exercise of stock options that the Executive Officers are required to hold in the registered form until the end of their term should represent 20% of the net gain on the purchase price made by each beneficiary when exercising the options allocated by the Board of Directors on March 16, 2009.

The performance shares allocated to Mr. Brunck, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Le Roux, Chief Operating Officer, under the plans implemented by the Company over the last two years are set forth below:

<b>Name of the Executive Officer</b>	<b>Date of the Plan</b>	<b>Number of shares allocated during fiscal year<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Valuation of options pursuant to the method used for consolidated financial statements ( )</b>	<b>Final allocation Date</b>	<b>Date of availability</b>	<b>Performance conditions</b>
Robert Brunck	03/14/2008	27,500	840,950	03/14/2010	03/14/2012	Net earning per share and Operating income
Robert Brunck	03/23/2007	20,000	620,400	03/23/2009	03/23/2011	Net earning per share and Operating income
Thierry Le Roux	03/14/2008	17,500	535,150 <sup>(2)</sup>	03/14/2010	03/14/2012	Net earning per share and Operating income
Thierry Le Roux	03/23/2007	12,500	387,750	03/23/2009	03/23/2011	Net earning per share and Operating income

Note:

(1) Number adjusted pursuant to the five-for-one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008.

Pursuant to article L.225-197-1 of the French Commercial Code, the Board of Directors decided that the number of performance shares which the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer will be required to hold in registered form until the end of their term will be set at 10% of each allocation.

The performance shares allocated to Mr. Brunck, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Le Roux, Chief Operating Officer, that became available in 2008 under the plans implemented by the Company are set forth below:

<b>Name of the Executive Officer</b>	<b>Date of the Plan</b>	<b>Number of shares allocated during fiscal year<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Valuation of shares ( )</b>	<b>Final allocation Date</b>	<b>Date of availability</b>	<b>Performance conditions</b>
Robert Brunck	11/05/2006	12,500	430,425 <sup>(2)</sup>	12/05/2008	12/05/2010	Net earning per share
Thierry Le Roux	11/05/2006	8,750	301,297.50 <sup>(2)</sup>	12/05/2008	12/05/2010	Net earning per share

Notes:

- (1) Number adjusted pursuant to the five-for-one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008.
- (2) Valuation of shares based on the opening market price of the CGGVeritas share on May 12, 2008.

Pursuant to article L.225-197-1 of the French Commercial Code, the Board of Directors decided that the number of performance shares which the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer will be required to hold in registered form until the end of their term will be set at 10% of each allocation. On March 16, 2009, the Board of Directors allocated 27,500 performance shares to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, and 17,500 performance shares to the Chief Operating Officer.

Pursuant to section L.225-197-1 of the French Commercial Code, the Board of Directors decided that the number of shares that the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer will be required to hold in registered form until the end of their term will be set at 10% of the total number of shares allocated by the Board of Directors to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer. In addition, the Board of Directors decided that the number of shares that the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer will be required to purchase at the end of the availability period of the performance shares so allocated should be set at one share for every 20 allocated shares.

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The performance shares will be allocated to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer on the later of either March 16, 2011 or the date of the shareholders' meeting convened to approve the financial statements for fiscal year 2010, provided that the Board of Directors decides that the performance conditions set forth in the plan regulation are fulfilled. These performance conditions are based on the achievement of certain objectives related to earnings per share and EBIT over fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

**Item 7: PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS****Major Shareholders**

The table below sets forth certain information with respect to entities known to us or ascertained from public filings to beneficially own a significant percentage of our voting securities as at March 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006.

	March 31, 2009		2008		December 31, 2007		2006	
	% of shares	% of voting rights	% of shares	% of voting rights	% of shares	% of voting rights	% of shares	% of voting rights
<b>Identity of Person or Group</b>								
Jupiter Asset Management	4.55	4.35	4.55	4.35	0	0	0	0
Fidelity International Limited					3.29	3.14	10.36	9.59
Morgan Stanley					2.72	2.59	5.16	4.48
Institut Français du Pétrole	4.34	8.30	4.76	9.08	4.77	9.10	7.73	14.32
Public	90.42	87.18	89.23	85.19	89.15	88.19	76.75	71.31

Our *statuts* provide that each ordinary share that is fully paid and has been held in registered form by the same shareholder for a period of at least two consecutive years will entitle such shareholder to two votes at meetings of shareholders. As of March 31, 2009, IFP had held 6,540,610 fully paid ordinary shares in registered form for two consecutive years, giving IFP 8.30 % of the voting power of the outstanding ordinary shares as at such date. Other than in this respect, our ordinary shares carry identical voting rights. Our *statuts* provide that fully paid ordinary shares may be held in either registered form or bearer form at the option of the shareholder. Substantially all ordinary shares held by shareholders other than IFP are presently held in bearer form.

In connection with the Veritas merger we issued 9,215,845 ordinary shares (out of which 4,202 shares were subsequently cancelled since they had been issued in excess of merger consideration) that were deposited with The Bank of New York Trust as ADS depository, which issued 46,079,225 ADSs to be paid as merger consideration to former holders of Veritas common stock.

On February 1, 2007, we issued 108,723 ordinary shares that were deposited with The Bank of New York as ADS depository, which issued 543,614 ADSs to a holder of U.S.\$6.5 million in principal amount of Veritas' convertible senior notes due 2024 that delivered a conversion notice on January 19, 2007.

On March 1, 2007, we issued 301,079 ordinary shares that were deposited with The Bank of New York as ADS depository, which issued 1,505,393 ADSs to a holder of U.S.\$18 million in principal amount of Veritas' convertible

senior notes due 2024 that delivered a conversion notice on February 23, 2007.

On December 18, 2008, in connection with the acquisition of Wavefield, we issued 12,925,749 ordinary shares to be paid as consideration to former holders of Wavefield common stock.

See Item 9: The offer and Listing Offer and Listing Details for information regarding holdings of our shares in the United States.

### **Related Party Transactions**

The Group provides services to and receives services from related parties, and contracts for these services are concluded on an arm's length basis.



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	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	(in millions of euros)		
<b>Operating income</b>			
Sales of geophysical equipment to Argas	63.5	25.5	0.8
Charter revenues received from LDA for the <i>Alizé</i>	7.8	8.2	9.0
Technical consulting services to Argas	4.5		
Sales of geophysical equipment to JV Xian Peic	3.3	4.2	4.1
<b>Income</b>	<b>79.1</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>13.9</b>
Expenses paid for <i>Alizé</i> ship management to LDA	5.5	6.5	4.9
Purchases of geophysical equipment from Tronic s	7.5	8.3	
Purchases of geophysical equipment from Cybernetix	3.8	1.1	
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>15.9</b>	4.9
Trade receivables from LDA			0.1
Trade receivables from Norwegian Oilfield AS	16.8		
<b>Trade accounts and notes receivable</b>	<b>16.8</b>		<b>0.1</b>
Accounts payable to LDA	0.4	0.2	0.3
<b>Trade accounts and notes payables</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Future rents commitments to LDA	49.3	54.8	16.1
<b>Contractual Obligations</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>16.1</b>

Louis Dreyfus Armateurs ( LDA ) provides ship management services for a portion of our fleet. In addition, LDA is the owner, together with the Group, of Geomar, which is the owner of the seismic vessel *Alizé* . Geomar provides vessel charter services to LDA.

Argas, JV Xian Peic and Cybernetix are companies we consolidate using the equity method.

Norwegian Oilfield AS was consolidated under the equity method as at December 31, 2008, as part of our acquisition of Wavefield.

Tronic is 16% owned by us.

No credit facility or loan was granted to the Company by shareholders during the three years.

**Interests of Experts and Counsel**

None.

## **Item 8: FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### **Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information**

Reference is made to Item 18 for a list of all financial Statements and notes thereto filed as a part of this annual report.

## **Item 9: THE OFFER AND LISTING**

### **Offer and Listing Details**

The trading market for our ordinary shares is Euronext Paris S.A., where the ordinary shares have been listed since 1981. American Depositary Shares, or ADSs, representing ordinary shares have been traded on the New York Stock Exchange since May 1997. Each ADS represents one ordinary share. The ADSs are evidenced by American Depositary Receipts, or ADRs, issued by The Bank of New York, as Depositary, and are traded under the symbol CGV . The Bank of New York has advised us that as of March 31, 2009, there were 8,143,079 ADSs outstanding, which are held of record by five registered holders. On the basis of this information, the ADSs held on such date in the United States represented approximately 5.93% of our outstanding ordinary shares. Our by-laws provide that fully paid ordinary shares may be held in either registered or bearer form at the option of the shareholder.

#### *Price Information on Euronext Paris.*

The tables below set forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low prices for the outstanding ordinary shares on Euronext Paris as reported by NYSE Euronext.

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The table below indicates the high and low market prices for our most recent six months:

	<b>Price per Share</b>	
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
	( )	
<b>2009</b>		
March	9.89	7.63
February	10.62	7.64
January	13.16	8.50
<b>2008</b>		
December	12.89	9.65
November	15.00	8.44
October	22.96	9.02

The table below indicates the quarterly high and low market prices for our two most recent financial years and the first quarter of 2009:

	<b>Price per Share</b>	
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
	( )	
<b>2009</b>		
First Quarter	13.16	7.63
<b>2008</b>		
First Quarter	199.99	131.11
Second Quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	36.90	27.73
Third Quarter	30.06	20.06
Fourth Quarter	22.96	8.44
<b>2007</b>		
First Quarter	167.00	138.11
Second Quarter	186.00	151.10
Third Quarter	231.83	163.13
Fourth Quarter	241.49	173.11

Note:

(1) Reflects the five-for-one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008

The table below indicates the high and low market prices for the five most recent financial years:

<b>Price per Share</b>	
<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
( )	

2008	199.99	8.44 <sup>(1)</sup>
2007	241.49	138.11
2006	166.40	75.25
2005	89.00	50.20
2004	56.50	29.70

Note:

(1) Reflects the five-for-one stock split effective as of June 3, 2008.

**Table of Contents*****Price Information on the NYSE***

The table below sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sale prices for the ADSs representing our ordinary shares on the New York Stock Exchange:

The table below indicates the high and low market prices for our most recent six months and the first quarter of 2009:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
	<b>(U.S.\$)</b>	
<b>2009</b>		
March	13.24	9.67
February	13.90	10.60
January	17.61	10.97
<b>2008</b>		
December	16.73	12.14
November	19.34	10.50
October	31.00	11.76

The table below indicates the quarterly high and low market prices for our two most recent financial years:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
	<b>(U.S.\$)</b>	
<b>2009</b>		
First Quarter	17.61	10.97
<b>2008</b>		
First Quarter	58.48	41.00
Second Quarter	57.91	43.62
Third Quarter	45.76	28.90
Fourth Quarter	31.00	10.50
<b>2007</b>		
First Quarter	44.11	34.99
Second Quarter	50.24	40.89
Third Quarter	65.66	44.43
Fourth Quarter	68.78	51.95

The table below indicates the yearly high and low market prices on a yearly basis for the five most recent financial years:

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
	<b>(U.S.\$)</b>	
2008	58.48	10.50
2007	68.78	34.99

2006	45.00	18.33
2005	21.14	13.35
2004	14.05	7.47

### *Trading on Euronext Paris*

Official trading of listed securities on Euronext Paris is transacted through stockbrokers and other financial intermediaries, and takes place continuously on each business day from 9:00 a.m. through 5:25 p.m., with a pre-opening session from 7:15 a.m. through 9:00 a.m. during which transactions are recorded but not executed. Any trade effected after the close of a stock exchange session is recorded, on the next Euronext Paris trading day, at the closing price for the relevant security at the end of the previous day's session. Euronext Paris publishes a daily Official Price List that includes price information concerning listed securities. Euronext Paris has introduced continuous trading during trading hours by computer for most listed securities. Shares listed on Euronext Paris are placed in one of three categories depending on the issuer's market capitalization. Our outstanding ordinary shares are listed on Euronext Paris in the category known as Continu, which includes the most actively traded shares.

### **Plan of Distribution**

Not applicable.

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### **Markets**

Our ordinary shares are listed on Euronext Paris. American Depositary Shares representing our ordinary shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Our 71/2% Senior Notes due 2015 and our 73/4% Senior Notes due 2017 are listed on the Euro MTF market in Luxembourg.

### **Selling Shareholders**

Not applicable.

### **Dilution**

Not applicable.

### **Expenses of the Issue**

Not applicable.

## **Item 10: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Share Capital**

Not applicable.

### **Memorandum and By-laws**

Our company is a *société anonyme*, a form of limited liability company, established under the laws of France, and we are registered with the Trade Register of Paris, France under the number 969 202 241 RCS Paris. Our financial year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 of each calendar year. The following paragraphs set forth information concerning our share capital and provide related descriptions of certain provisions of our by-laws (*statuts*), and applicable French law. This information and description do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to our by-laws.

#### ***Object and Purposes***

Under Article 2 of our *statuts*, our object is:

to develop and operate, in any form and under any conditions whatsoever, any and all businesses relating to the geophysical surveying of soil and subsoil in any and all countries, on behalf of third parties or ourselves;

to participate directly or indirectly in any business, firm or company whose object would be likely to promote our object; and

generally, to engage in any commercial, industrial, mining, financial, personal or real property activities relating directly or indirectly to the above objects without limitation or reserve.

#### ***Directors***

For a further description of the Board of Directors powers under French law and our *statuts*, see Item 6: Directors, Senior Management and Employees.

*Transaction with Interested Directors*

French corporate law provides for prior approval and control of transactions entered into between, directly or indirectly, us and our directors, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer and, or any entity in which any of these persons is at the same time an owner, partner with unlimited liability, managing director, member of the supervisory board or an executive officer, unless the transaction is entered into in the ordinary course of business and under normal terms and conditions. Transactions entered into between us and one of our shareholders who holds, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of our voting rights, or with an entity controlling such a shareholder, are also considered related party transactions requiring the prior approval of our board of directors.

The interested party has the obligation to inform our board of directors as soon as it is aware of the existence of the related party transaction, and a majority of our disinterested directors must approve the transaction.



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If a related party transaction is pre-approved by the majority of our disinterested directors, our chairman must then report the authorized transaction to our statutory auditors within one month following the entering into of this transaction. The auditors must then prepare a special report on the transaction to be submitted to our shareholders at their next general meeting, during which our shareholders would consider the transaction for ratification (any interested shareholder would be excluded from voting). If the transaction is not ratified by the shareholders, such absence of ratification would normally and except in the case of fraud have no impact on the validity of the transaction, but the shareholders may in turn hold the board of directors or interested representative of the company liable for any damages suffered as a result thereof.

Any related party transaction concluded without the prior consent of a majority of our disinterested directors can be voided by a court, if we incur a loss as a result. In addition, an interested related party may be held liable on this basis.

### *Power to Decide Upon the Compensation of Directors, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

Under our *statuts*, the shareholders' meeting may provide for the payment to the directors of an annual fixed sum for their attendance at board meetings (*jetons de présence*). The amount of such compensation remains unchanged until further decision by the shareholders' meeting. The Board of Directors allocates this amount between its members in the manner it deems appropriate.

Under our *statuts*, the Board of Directors has authority to determine the compensation of its chairman as well as of its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer.

### *Borrowing Powers Exercisable by the Directors*

Under French company law and our *statuts*, directors other than legal entities are forbidden to take out loans from CGGVeritas in any form whatsoever or to have CGGVeritas grant them an overdraft in current account or otherwise. It is also forbidden to have CGGVeritas stand as surety for them or back their commitments in respect of third parties. This prohibition also applies to chief operating officers and to permanent representatives of legal-entity directors. It also applies to the spouses, lineal forebearers or descendants of the persons referred to in this paragraph and also to any trustee.

Also, under article L.225-43 of the French Commercial Code, directors and executive officers may not borrow money or obtain a guarantee from the company. Any such loan or guarantee would be void and may not be relied upon by third parties.

### *Retirement of Directors Under an Age Limit Requirement*

Under our *statuts*, the Chairman of the Board's term of office ends, at the latest, after the annual Ordinary Shareholders Meeting following the date on which he reaches the age of 65. However, the Board of Directors may further extend the office of the Chairman, one or more times for a total period not to exceed three years. Our *statuts* also provide that when the offices of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer are held by the same person, the Chief Executive Officer's term of office ends on the same date as that of the Chairman. In accordance with article L.225-19 of the French Commercial Code, no more than one-third of the members of the Board of Directors may be more than 70 years old, unless the *statuts* of the company provide otherwise. Our *statuts* do not contain any provisions contrary to this limitation.

### *Number of Shares Required for a Director's Qualification*

Under our *statuts*, throughout his term of office, each director must own at least one share. Nevertheless, the internal regulations of the Board provides that each director owns at least one hundred shares of the company.

***Share Capital***

As of March 31, 2009, our issued share capital amounts to 60,247,083 divided into 150,617,709 shares of the same class with a nominal value of 0.40 per share. The shares are fully paid. Pursuant to our *statuts*, fully paid shares may be held either in registered or in bearer form at the option of the shareholder. The *statuts* also allow us to avail ourselves of a procedure known as *titres au porteur identifiables* by which we may request Euroclear France to disclose the name, nationality, address and the number of shares held by the holders of any of our securities which have, or may in the future have, voting rights. See Form, Holding and Transfer of Shares.

***Dividend and Liquidation Rights***

We may only distribute dividends out of our distributable profits, plus any amounts held in our reserve which the shareholders decide to make available for distribution, other than those reserves which are specifically required

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by law. Distributable profits consist of our unconsolidated net profit in each fiscal year, as increased or reduced by any profit or loss carried forward from prior years, less any contributions to the reserve accounts pursuant to law.

Under French law, before dividends may be paid with respect to any fiscal year, we must contribute a minimum of 5% of our annual unconsolidated net income to a legal reserve fund, until it reaches an amount equal to 10% of our outstanding share capital. The legal reserve is distributable only upon our liquidation.

Our *statuts* provide that the general shareholders' meeting, either on a recommendation from the board of directors or on its own initiative, may allocate all or part of our distributable profits, if any, to one or more special or general reserves or to keep such profits as retained earnings to be carried forward to the next fiscal year. Any remaining distributable profits are distributed to shareholders as dividends in proportion to their holdings. However, except in the case of a decrease in share capital which aims to offset losses, no distribution may be made to shareholders when the shareholders' equity is or would become, as a result of the distribution, less than the amount of the share capital increased by amounts held in reserve accounts pursuant to law. The methods of payment of dividends are determined by the annual general meeting of shareholders or by the board of directors in the absence of a decision by the shareholders. According to our *statuts*, the general meeting has the power to give each shareholder the option of receiving all or part of its dividend payment in either cash or shares.

If we have earned distributable profits since the end of the preceding fiscal year, as shown on an interim income statement certified by our auditors, the board of directors has the authority, without the approval of shareholders, to distribute interim dividends to the extent of such distributable profits for the period covered by the interim income statement.

Subject to the statement above regarding interim dividends, the payment of dividends is fixed at the ordinary general meeting of shareholders at which the annual accounts are approved, upon the recommendation of the board of directors. Under French law, dividends are normally distributed to shareholders in proportion to their respective holdings. Dividends are payable to all holders of shares, except for treasury stock, issued and outstanding on the date of the shareholders' meeting approving the distribution of dividends or, in the case of interim dividends, on the date of the board of directors' meeting approving the distribution of interim dividends. We must make annual dividend payments within nine months of the end of our fiscal year, unless otherwise authorized by a court order. Dividends not claimed within five years of the date of payment revert to the French State.

Our Board of Directors may, at any time and for any reason, propose to an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders the early dissolution of the company and we may be placed in liquidation in compliance with the relevant provisions of the French company law. If the company is liquidated, those of its assets remaining after payment of our debts, liquidation expenses and all of our remaining obligations will be distributed first to repay in full the nominal value of the shares, and the surplus, if any, will be distributed among the shareholders in proportion to the nominal value of their shareholdings.

### ***Changes in Share Capital***

#### ***Increases in the Share Capital***

We may increase our share capital either:

by issuing additional shares (either ordinary or preferred shares) or securities giving access, immediately or in the future, to a portion of our share capital; or

by increasing the nominal value of our existing shares.

We may issue additional shares:

for cash;

for assets contributed in kind;

upon the conversion of preferred shares, debt securities or other debt instruments previously issued;

upon the conversion of ordinary shares into preferred shares;

as a result of a merger or a split;

by the capitalization of reserves, retained earnings or issuance premiums;

for cash credits payable by the company; or

for any combination of the preceding items.

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We may increase our share capital only with the approval of the shareholders at an extraordinary general meeting, following a report of the Board of Directors. However, when a capital increase takes place through capitalization of reserves, retained earnings or issuance premiums, the general meeting at which the decision to increase the capital is taken follows the quorum and majority requirements of ordinary general meetings. Increases effected by an increase in the nominal value of shares require unanimous approval of the shareholders, unless effected by capitalization of reserves, retained earnings or issuance premiums. See Attendance and Voting at Shareholders Meetings.

The shareholders may delegate to the Board of Directors (i) the decision to increase the share capital or (ii) after authorizing the increase in share capital, the right to carry out any such increase. The Board of Directors may further delegate this right to the chief executive officer. Each time the shareholders decide on a share capital increase or decide to delegate to the Board of Directors the decision to increase the share capital or the right to carry out a capital increase, they must also determine in a separate resolution whether or not to proceed with a capital increase reserved for employees of the company and its subsidiaries or whether to delegate to the Board of Directors the right to carry out such reserved capital increase.

At a meeting held on April 29, 2008 our shareholders renewed the existing authorization permitting the Board of Directors to increase our share capital, through one or more issuances of securities, by an additional aggregate nominal amount of up to 54,000,000. This authorization is effective for a period not to exceed 26 months. Our shareholders have preferential rights to subscribe for such additional securities. (see Item 7: Principal Shareholders Identity of Person or Group ).

### *Decreases in Share Capital*

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders also has the power to authorize and implement a reduction in share capital which may be effected either:

by decreasing the nominal value of our outstanding shares; or

by reducing the number of our outstanding shares.

The number of outstanding shares may be reduced either by an exchange of shares or by the repurchase and cancellation of shares.

According to French company law, any decrease in our share capital requires approval by the shareholders entitled to vote at an extraordinary general meeting. In the case of a capital reduction, other than a reduction to absorb losses and a reduction pursuant to a program of acquisition of shares, all holders of shares must be offered the possibility to participate in such a reduction. See Acquisition of our own Shares . All holders of shares in a given class of shares must be treated equally unless each affected shareholder agrees otherwise. Our creditors may oppose a capital reduction during the 20-day period following the registration with the Registry of Commerce of the minutes of the shareholders meeting approving the capital reduction. Upon a creditor's request, the *Tribunal de Commerce* may order us to reimburse our creditors or guarantee our debt.

### *Preferential Rights to Subscribe*

According to French law, our current shareholders have preferential rights on a pro rata basis to subscribe (*droit préférentiel de souscription*) for any issue of additional shares to be subscribed in cash or by set-off of cash debts and to subscribe to any issue of other securities which may either directly or indirectly result in, or carry rights to subscribe for, additional shares issued by us. An extraordinary shareholders meeting may decide to withdraw the

shareholders preferential right to subscribe, either in respect of any specific issue of securities, or more generally, with respect to an authorization by the extraordinary general meeting, to issue shares or other equity securities, for a duration not to exceed 26 months or 18 months in the case of an authorization given for an issue of securities to identified persons or categories of persons. Shareholders may also individually waive their preferential right to subscribe in respect of any offering. French law requires that the Board of Directors and our independent auditors present reports that specifically address any proposal to waive preferential subscription rights. In the event of a waiver, the issue of securities must be completed within the period prescribed by law. Preferential rights to subscribe, if not previously waived, are tradable during the subscription period relating to a particular offering of shares and may be quoted on Euronext Paris. In the event that the preferential rights of shareholders are withdrawn, the shareholders meeting has the power to grant, or to authorize the Board of Directors to grant, existing shareholders a non-transferable priority right (*délai de priorité*) to subscribe for new shares issued during a minimum period of three trading days.

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***Attendance and Voting at Shareholders Meetings***

*General*

In accordance with French law, general shareholders meetings may be ordinary or extraordinary. Ordinary general meetings of shareholders are required for matters such as:

the election, replacement and removal of directors;

the appointment of statutory auditors;

the approval of annual accounts;

more generally, all decisions which do not require the approval of the extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders; and

the declaration of dividends or the authorization for dividends to be paid in shares.

Extraordinary general meetings of shareholders are required for approval of all matters and decisions involving:

changes in our *statuts* (including changing our corporate purposes);

increasing or reducing our share capital;

change of nationality of the company, subject to certain conditions as described in article L.225-97 of the French Commercial Code;

extending or abridging the duration of the company;

mergers and spin-offs;

creation of a new class of shares;

issuance of debt securities;

authorization of notes or other securities giving access, immediately or in the future, to a portion of our share capital;

transformation of our company into another legal form; and

voluntary liquidation of our company before the end of its statutory term.

*Annual Ordinary Meetings*

Our Board of Directors must convene the annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders each year for approval of the annual accounts. This meeting must be held within six months of the end of our fiscal year, unless such time is extended by an order of the President of the *Tribunal de Commerce* pursuant to a request. Other ordinary or extraordinary meetings may be called at any time during the year. Meetings of shareholders may be convened by the

Board of Directors or, in the circumstances prescribed by law, if the Board of Directors fails to call such a meeting, by our statutory auditors or by an administrator appointed by the President of the *Tribunal de Commerce* or by a shareholder holding the majority of the share capital or voting rights following a public offer or the transfer of a block trade. Any of the following may request the President of the *Tribunal de Commerce* to appoint an administrator:

one or several shareholders holding in the aggregate at least 5% of our share capital;

any interested parties in cases of emergency;

the workers' committee in case of emergency; or

an association of holders of shares who have held the shares in registered form held for at least two years and holding, in the aggregate, at least 1% of our voting rights.

#### *Notice of Shareholders' Meetings*

French law requires that a preliminary notice (*avis de réunion*) of a general meeting of a listed company be published in the *Bulletin des Annonces Légales Obligatoires* ( BALO ) at least 35 days before the date set for the meeting. A copy of the preliminary notice must first be sent to the *Autorité des marchés financiers* (the AMF ), the self-regulatory organization that has general regulatory authority over the French regulated exchanges, with an indication of the date of its publication in the BALO. The preliminary notice of a general meeting must state the



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details of the company and information about the voting process and the meeting, the matters to be discussed at the meeting and the draft of the resolutions to be discussed. The agenda of the meeting and the draft of the resolutions to be discussed, such as described in the preliminary notice, may be modified between the date of publication of the preliminary notice and that of the publication of the notice actually calling the general meeting (*avis de convocation*). From the date of publication until 25 days before the date of the general meeting (or within 20 days from the date of publication if publication takes place more than 45 days before the date of the general meeting), additional resolutions to be submitted for approval by the shareholders at the meeting may be proposed to the Board of Directors by:

one or more shareholders holding, in the aggregate, a certain percentage of our share capital (0.5% to 4% determined on the basis of a statutory formula relating to capitalization); or

a duly authorized association of shareholders who have held their shares in registered form for at least two years and holding, in the aggregate, at least 1% of our voting rights.

The Board of Directors must submit these resolutions to a vote of the shareholders.

At least 15 days before the date set for any general meeting on first call, and at least six days before any second call, we must send a notice (*avis de convocation*) by mail to all holders of registered shares who have held such shares for more than one month prior to the date of the notice. Notice of the meeting must also be given by publication in a journal authorized to publish legal announcements in the local administrative department (*département*) in which we are registered as well as in the BALO, with prior notice having been given to the AMF. Such a notice must include the details of the company, as well as a description of the type, agenda, place, date and time of the meeting and other information about the voting process. With the sole exception of removal and replacement of directors (which may be discussed at any meeting), any matter which does not appear on the agenda may not be discussed at the meeting.

### *Attendance and Voting at Shareholders Meetings*

Attendance and exercise of voting rights at both ordinary and extraordinary general meetings of shareholders are subject to certain conditions. A shareholder does not need to have a minimum number of shares in order to be able to attend or be represented at an extraordinary general meeting. Any statutory provision to the contrary is null and void. In order to participate in any general meeting, a holder of registered shares must have paid up its shares and have its shares registered in his name or in the name of the accredited financial intermediary referred to in article L. 228-1 of the French Commercial Code in a shareholder account maintained by us or on our behalf three business days prior to the meeting. Similarly, a holder of bearer shares must obtain from the accredited financial intermediary (*intermédiaire financier habilité*) with whom such holder has deposited its shares a statement of holdings and send it to the location specified in the notice of the meeting three business days before the meeting convenes.

### *Proxies and Votes by Mail*

Subject to the foregoing, all shareholders have the right to participate in general meetings, either in person, by a proxy or by mail and, subject only to any applicable laws, may vote according to the number of shares they hold. Proxies may be granted by a shareholder to:

his or her spouse;

another shareholder;

in the case of a non-French resident person, to the relevant intermediary;

in the case of a corporation, to a legal representative;

in the case of an employee, to the representative of the shareholding employees pursuant to article L.225-106 of the French Commercial Code.

Alternatively, the shareholder may send us a blank proxy without nominating any representative.

In the last case, the chairman of the shareholders meeting will vote the shares with respect to which such blank proxy has been given in favor of all resolutions proposed by the board of directors and against all others. We will send proxy forms to any shareholder on request, provided such request is received by the company at least six days before the date of the relevant general meeting. In order to be counted, we must receive proxy forms at our registered office or at such other address indicated in the notice convening the meeting prior to the date of the relevant general meeting. With respect to voting by mail, we must send our shareholders a form of such vote and we must receive the form at least three days prior to the date of the relevant general meeting.

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### *Quorum*

Under French law, a quorum requires the presence in person or voting by mail or by proxy of shareholders representing, in the aggregate, not less than:

20% of the shares entitled to vote (in the case of an ordinary general meeting convened on first call, an extraordinary general meeting convened on second call or an extraordinary general meeting convened on first call, if deciding upon any capital increase by capitalization of reserves, retained earnings or share premium);  
or

25% of the shares entitled to vote (in the case of any other extraordinary general meeting convened on first call).

No quorum is required in the case of an ordinary general meeting convened on second call or an extraordinary general meeting convened on second call, if deciding upon any capital increase by capitalization of reserves, retained earnings or share premium.

If a quorum is not present at any meeting on first call, the meeting is adjourned and reconvened, and in the case of an extraordinary general meeting, for a date not more than two months later. When a general meeting is reconvened, only questions which were on the agenda of the adjourned meeting may be discussed and voted upon.

Any shareholder may also, if the Board of Directors or its Chairman allows at the time of the convocation to a general meeting, attend the meeting via video-conference or by means of electronic telecommunication or tele-transmission subject to, and in accordance with, the conditions laid down by the legislation or the regulations then in force. This shareholder is then considered to be present at the meeting when calculating the quorum and the majority.

### *Majority*

At an ordinary general meeting or an extraordinary general meeting deciding upon any capital increase by capitalization of reserves, retained earnings or share premium, a simple majority of votes cast by the shareholders present or represented at such meeting is required to pass a resolution. At any other extraordinary general meeting, a two-thirds majority of votes cast is required to pass a resolution. A unanimous vote, however, is required to increase the liabilities of shareholders. Abstention from voting by those present or represented by proxy or voting by mail is viewed as a vote against the resolutions submitted to a vote.

Our *statuts* provide that, as from May 22, 1997, each share that is fully paid and has been held in registered form by the same shareholder for a period of at least two consecutive years will entitle such shareholder to two votes. In the event of capital increases effected by an attribution of new shares, as a result of the incorporation of reserves, retained earnings or issuance premiums, the shares attributed by reason of and proportionately to the ownership of shares holding double voting rights are immediately granted double voting rights as if they themselves had fulfilled the requirements therefore. Under French company law, shares that have to be transferred pursuant to laws and regulations applicable to cross-shareholdings, as well as shares held by entities controlled directly or indirectly by us, are not entitled to voting rights. In the latter case, the shares do not count for quorum or majority purposes.

### *Acquisition of our own Shares*

Under French law, our company may not issue shares to itself either directly or through a financial intermediary acting on our behalf. However, exceptionally, we may, either directly or through a financial intermediary acting on our

behalf, purchase our shares:

- (1) to reduce our share capital (albeit not to absorb losses), canceling the shares we purchase, with our shareholders' approval at an extraordinary general meeting;
- (2) to provide shares to our employees under a profit sharing plan or stock option plan; or
- (3) in the context of a share repurchase program that allows us to acquire up to 10% of our share capital for a maximum period of 18 months. To acquire shares in the context of a share repurchase program, we must first obtain our shareholders' approval at an ordinary general meeting and make public a description of such program prior to its launch.

We may not repurchase under either (2) or (3) above an amount of shares that would result in our company holding, directly or through a person acting on our behalf, more than 10% of our outstanding share capital, without

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canceling the said 10% first. In addition, we may not cancel more than 10% of our outstanding share capital over any 24-month period.

We must hold any shares we repurchase in registered form. These shares also must be fully paid up. Shares repurchased by us are deemed outstanding under French law but are not entitled to dividends or voting rights and we may not ourselves exercise preferential subscription rights. Such shares do not count for quorum or majority purposes. The shareholders, at an extraordinary general meeting, may decide not to take such shares into account in determining the preferential rights to subscribe attached to the other shares (if such a decision is not taken, these rights must be either sold on the market before the end of the subscription period or distributed to the other shareholders on a pro rata basis.)

A direct subsidiary is generally prohibited by French law from holding shares in its parent and, in the event it becomes a holder of shares, such subsidiary must transfer such shares within one year following the date on which it becomes the holder thereof. An indirect subsidiary may only acquire shares if such subsidiary demonstrates a business purpose for holding the shares but in no event will it be entitled to vote such shares.

At the shareholders' meeting held on April 29, 2008, our shareholders renewed the existing authorization to acquire up to 10 percent of our share capital through purchases of shares and to resell shares so acquired for the 18 months following the date of such meeting.

Under such authorization, we are allowed to carry out transactions on our shares with the following objectives:

to support liquidity of our shares through a liquidity contract entered into with an investment service provider in compliance with the Code of Practice of the *Association Française des Marchés Financiers* (formerly known as the *Association Française des Entreprises d' Investissement*),

to deliver shares in the scope of securities giving access, immediately or in the future, to shares by redemption, conversion, exchange, presentation of a warrant or by any other means,

to deliver, immediately or in the future, shares in exchange in the scope of external growth, in accordance with the conditions to be defined by the AMF,

to allocate bonus shares to employees and officers of the company or affiliated companies within the meaning of article L.225-180 of the French Commercial Code, especially in the scope of options to purchase shares of the company, and

to cancel the shares through a capital reduction, subject to a decision of, or an authorization, by the extraordinary general meeting.

The general meeting approved a maximum purchase price of 300. The maximum number of shares that we are entitled to hold is 10% of our share capital as at the time of the purchase, less any shares acquired under previous authorizations.

The shares may be acquired on one or several occasions, by any method, including by agreement, by stock market purchase, by purchasing blocks of shares or by an offer to buy, which may take place at any time, excluding during a take-over bid.

This authorization was granted for a period of 18 months from April 29, 2008 and cancelled and replaced the authorization granted to the Board of Directors by the general meeting held on May 10, 2007.

In 2008 we implemented the share repurchase plan authorized by our shareholders in April 2008 with the sole aim to support the liquidity of the shares through a liquidity contract entered into with an investment service provider in compliance with the Code of Practice of the *Association Française des Marchés Financiers*.

We concluded this liquidity contract with Crédit Agricole Cheuvreux in July 9, 2007. This liquidity contract is tacitly renewable and compliant with the Code of Practice of the *Association Française des Marchés Financiers*.

Upon implementation of this contract, we allocated 22,000,000 to the liquidity account.

During fiscal year 2008, Crédit Agricole Cheuvreux:

purchased, between April 1, 2008 and May 31, 2008, 139,381 CGGVeritas shares at an average weighed price of 174.10 and sold 1,119,534 CGGVeritas shares at an average weighed price of 175.02;

purchased, between June 1, 2008<sup>(\*)</sup> and December 31, 2008, 2,105,984 CGGVeritas shares at an average weighed price of 21.73 and sold 1,496,884 CGGVeritas shares at an average weighed price of 19.95.

(\*) after the five-for-one stock split

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As of December 31, 2008, we held 855,350 shares in relation to this contract, i.e. 0.57% of our share capital. The net book value of these shares amounts to 9,066,710.

As of December 31, 2008, we did not hold any shares directly outside the scope of this liquidity contract.

### ***Trading in Our Own Shares***

Under European Commission Regulation Number 2273/2003 of December 22, 2003 applicable in France since October 13, 2004, trades by a company in its own shares are deemed valid when the following conditions are met:

each trade must not be made at a price higher than the higher of the price of the last trade and the highest current independent bid on Euronext Paris;

if we carry out the purchase of our own shares through derivative financial instruments, the exercise price of those derivative financial instruments must not be above the higher of the last independent trade and the highest current independent bid; and

the trade must not account for more than 25% of the average daily trading volume on Euronext Paris in the shares during the twenty trading days immediately preceding the trade.

However, there are two periods during which we are not permitted to trade in our own securities: the 15-day period before the date on which we make our consolidated annual accounts public, and the period beginning on the date on which we become aware of information that, if disclosed, would have a significant impact on the market price of our securities and ending on the date this information is made public.

We must file a report with the AMF every six months as well as at entry into force, amendment or termination of the liquidity arrangement containing the assessment of such arrangement. Such report is then posted on our website. In addition, we must also file with the AMF a monthly report containing details of all transactions relating to our shares that we may have carried out during the month.

### ***Form, Holding and Transfer of Shares***

*Form of Shares.* Our *statuts* provides that our fully paid shares may be held in either registered or bearer form at the option of the shareholder. We may avail ourselves of the procedure known as *titres au porteur identifiables*, according to which we are entitled to request Euroclear France to disclose the name, nationality, address and the number of shares held by holders of those securities of ours which have, or which may in the future acquire, voting rights.

*Holding of Shares.* In accordance with French law concerning dematerialization of securities, the ownership rights of holders of shares are represented by book entries rather than by share certificate. According to our *statuts*, registered shares are entered into an account held by us or by a representative nominated by us, while shares in bearer form are placed in an account held by an accredited financial intermediary (*intermédiaire financier habilité*).

We maintain a share account with Euroclear France in respect of all shares in registered form, which, in France, is administered by BNP Paribas Securities Services, acting on our behalf as our agent. Shares held in registered form are inscribed in the name of each shareholder (either directly, or, at the shareholder's request, through such shareholder's accredited financial intermediary) in separate accounts maintained by BNP Paribas Securities Services on our behalf. Each shareholder account shows the name of the holder and the number of shares held and, in the case of shares inscribed through an accredited financial intermediary, shows that they are so held. BNP Paribas Securities Services, as a matter of course, issues confirmations to each registered shareholder as to holdings of shares inscribed in the

shareholder's accounts, but these confirmations do not constitute documents of title.

Shares held in bearer form are held and inscribed on the shareholder's behalf in an account maintained by an accredited financial intermediary with Euroclear France separately from our share account with Euroclear France. Each accredited financial intermediary maintains a record of shares held through it and will issue certificates of inscription in respect thereof. Shares held in bearer form may only be transferred effected through accredited financial intermediaries and Euroclear France. As noted above, our *statuts* allow us to request from Euroclear France details concerning the identity of the holders of shares in bearer form at any time.

*Transfer of Shares.* Our *statuts* do not contain any restrictions relating to the transfer of shares. An owner of shares resident outside France may trade such shares on Euronext Paris. Should such owner (or the broker or other agent) require assistance in this connection, an accredited financial intermediary should be contacted.



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Prior to any transfer of shares held in registered form on Euronext Paris, such shares must be converted into bearer form and, accordingly, must be registered in an account maintained by an accredited financial intermediary. A shareholder may initiate a transfer by giving instructions (through an agent if appropriate) to the relevant accredited financial intermediary.

***Requirements for Holdings Exceeding Certain Percentages***

French company law provides that any individual or entity, who acting alone or in concert with others, acquires more than 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 33 1/3%, 50%, 66 2/3%, 90% or 95% of our outstanding shares or voting rights thereof or whose shareholding falls below any such percentage must notify us within five trading days of the date such threshold was crossed of the number of shares it holds and of the voting rights attached thereto. Such individual or entity must also notify the AMF within five (5) trading days of the date such threshold was crossed.

In order to permit holders of our shares to give the notice required by law, we must monthly, in accordance with article 221-3 of the *Règlement Général* of the AMF, post (notably on the company website) information with respect to the total outstanding number of voting rights and shares if these have changed and provide the AMF with a written notice.

If any person fails to comply with the legal notification requirement, the shares or voting rights in excess of the relevant threshold will be deprived of voting rights for all shareholder meetings until the end of a two-year period following the date on which the owner thereof complies with the notification requirements. In addition, any shareholder who fails to comply with the above requirements may have all or part of its voting rights (and not only with respect to the shares in excess of the relevant threshold) suspended for up to five years by the *Tribunal de Commerce* at the request of our chairman, any shareholder or the AMF, and may be subject to criminal penalties.

French law imposes additional reporting requirements on persons who acquire more than 10% or 20% of our outstanding shares or voting rights. These persons must file a report with us and the AMF within 10 trading days of the date they cross the threshold. In the report, the acquirer must specify its intentions for the following 12-month period, including whether or not it intends to continue its purchases, to acquire control of our company or to seek nomination to our Board of Directors. The AMF makes the notice public. The acquirer must also publish a press release stating its intentions in a financial newspaper of national circulation in France. The acquirer may only amend its stated intentions in case of significant changes in its own situation or shareholders, or in our situation. Upon any change of intention, it must file a new report. Failure to comply with the notification requirements or to abide by the stated intentions may result in the acquirer being deprived of all or part of its voting rights, for a period of up to five years, by the *Tribunal de Commerce*, at our request or that of the AMF or one of our shareholders.

In addition to the provisions of French company law our *statuts* provide that any shareholder who directly or indirectly acquires ownership or control of shares representing 1% or any multiple thereof of our share capital or voting rights, or whose shareholding falls below any such limit, must inform us within five trading days of the crossing of the relevant threshold, of the number of shares then owned by such shareholder. Failure to comply with these notification requirements may result, at the request, recorded in the minutes of the general meeting, of one or several shareholders holding at least 1% of the capital, in the shares in excess of the relevant threshold being deprived of voting rights for all shareholder meetings until the end of a two-year period following the date on which the owner thereof has complied with such notification requirements.

***Compulsory Tender.*** General Regulations of the AMF provide that a shareholder, acting alone, or shareholders acting in concert, as these terms are defined in article L.233-10 of the French Commercial Code, who come to own more than one-third of the voting rights or share capital of a French company listed on a regulated securities exchange in

France must immediately notify the AMF, and submit a compulsory tender for all the shares of capital and all securities giving access to the share capital or voting rights of such company. The tender must be submitted on terms acceptable to the AMF. The acquisition of control of a private company, the principal asset of which is a one-third or more interest in a company listed on a regulated market in France, is treated as a direct acquisition of such interest.

In addition, the same obligation applies to any shareholder acting alone or shareholders acting in concert who, owning between one-third and 50% of the voting rights or share capital of a French company listed on a regulated market in France, increase their interest by more than 2% of the existing total number of shares or voting rights over a maximum period of twelve consecutive months.

The AMF is vested with the power to grant relief from the obligation to tender for all of the shares of the target company and may consider certain exemptions when petitioned for such relief by the acquiring shareholders. These exemptions primarily concern previous control of the target company or a commitment to divest within a given period.

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### **Material Contracts**

The following contracts (not being contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business) have been entered into by us or our subsidiaries within the two years immediately preceding the date of this document and are, or may be, material:

***Amendments to the U.S.\$1.115 billion Credit Agreement and the U.S.\$200 million Revolving Credit Agreement, dated as of December 12, 2008, among us, certain of our subsidiaries, the lenders party thereto, Credit Suisse as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent and Natixis as Facility Agent.***

On December 12, 2008, we entered into amendment agreements concerning our U.S.\$1.115 billion Credit Agreement and our U.S.\$200 million Revolving Credit Agreement. The amendments included, among other things, changes to the covenants to increase flexibility with respect to intra-group transactions. Pursuant to these amendment agreements we made an optional prepayment of \$50,000,000 on our term loan and agreed to increase by \$100,000,000 the mandatory repayments due in 2009 in respect of our term loan.

***Supplemental Indentures in respect of our Senior Notes, dated as of December 12, 2008, between us, our subsidiary CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, as Trustee.***

On December 12, 2008, we entered into supplemental indentures in respect of our 7 1/2% Senior Notes due 2015 and our 7 3/4% Senior Notes due 2017 in order to add CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. as an additional guarantor to the Senior Notes.

### **Exchange Controls**

#### ***Ownership of ADSs or shares by Non-French Persons***

Under French law, there is no limitation on the right of non-resident or foreign shareholders to own or to exercise their voting rights attached to the securities they hold in a French company.

Pursuant to the French Monetary and Financial Code, administrative authorization is no longer required of non-European residents prior to acquiring a controlling interest in a French company, with exceptions regarding sensitive economic areas such as defense, public health, etc. However a notice (*déclaration administrative*) must be filed with the French Ministry of the Economy in certain circumstances and in particular for the acquisition of an interest in us by any person not residing in France or any foreign controlled resident if such acquisition would result in (i) the acquisition of a controlling interest of more than 33.33% of our share capital or voting rights or (ii) the increase of a controlling interest in us unless such person not residing in France or group of non-French residents already controls more than 50% of our share capital or voting rights prior to such increase. In certain circumstances (depending upon such factors as the percentage and value of the acquired part of our share capital), an additional declaration, for statistical purposes shall be filled with the *Banque de France*.

#### ***Exchange Controls***

Under current French exchange control regulations, there are no limitations on the amount of payments that may be remitted by us to non-residents. Laws and regulations concerning foreign exchange control do require, however, that all payments or transfers of funds (including payments of dividends to foreign shareholders) made by a French resident to a non-resident be handled by an accredited intermediary. In France, all registered banks and substantially all credit establishments are accredited intermediaries.

## **Taxation**

The following summarizes the material French tax and U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders (as defined below) of the ownership and disposal of ADSs.

For the purposes of this discussion, a U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of ADSs that is:

an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

a corporation, or other entity treated as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or of any State thereof;

an estate the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

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a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or the trust has elected to be treated as a domestic trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

This discussion is not a complete description of all of the tax consequences of the ownership or disposition of ADSs. The summary assumes that each obligation in the deposit agreement between The Bank of New York and us (the Deposit Agreement ) and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms and is based on the current tax laws of the Republic of France and the United States, including the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), its legislative history, existing and proposed Treasury Regulations, Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ) rulings and judicial opinions as well as the Convention between the United States and the Republic of France for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital dated August 31, 1994 (the Treaty ), all as currently in effect and all subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect.

In particular, the United States and France signed a protocol on January 13, 2009, that, upon ratification, will make several changes to the Treaty, including changes to the Limitation on Benefits provision. The provisions of the protocol will be effective as soon as the ratification occurs in both jurisdictions, and with respect to withholding taxes will be effective for amounts paid or accrued on or after the first day of the year in which the protocol enters into force.

Your individual circumstances may affect the tax consequences of the ownership or disposition of ADSs to you, and your particular facts or circumstances are not considered in the discussion below.

For purposes of the Treaty, French tax law and the Code, U.S. Holders of ADSs will be treated as owners of the corresponding number of our shares underlying those ADSs held by The Bank of New York as depositary (the Depositary ). There are currently no procedures available for holders that are not U.S. residents to claim tax treaty benefits in respect of dividends received on ADSs or shares registered in the name of a nominee. Such holders should consult their own tax advisor about the consequences of owning and disposing of ADSs.

This discussion summary is not intended to apply to holders of ADSs in particular circumstances, such as:

- investors that own (directly or indirectly) 10% or more of our voting stock;
- banks;
- dealers in securities or currencies;
- traders in securities who elect to apply a mark-to-market method of accounting;
- financial institutions;
- regulated investment companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- tax-exempt organizations;
- insurance companies;

persons holding ADSs as part of a hedging, straddle, conversion or other integrated transaction;

U.S. Holders who hold ADSs other than as capital assets;

persons whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;

certain U.S. expatriates;

individual retirement accounts and other tax-deferred accounts;

partners in partnerships;

persons subject to the U.S. alternative minimum tax; and

persons who acquired ADSs pursuant to an employee stock option or otherwise as compensation.

You should consult your own tax advisor regarding the French and United States federal, state and local and other tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of ADSs in the light of your particular circumstances, including the effect of any state, local or other national laws. In particular, you should confirm whether you are eligible for the benefits of the Treaty with your advisor and should discuss any possible

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consequences of failing to be so eligible. You should also consult your tax advisor in the event that you become entitled to receive any dividend that is approved to be paid.

The U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner in a partnership that holds ADSs will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Holders that are partnerships should consult their tax advisers concerning the U.S. federal income tax consequences to their partners of the ownership and disposition of ADSs by the partnership.

### ***French Taxation***

The following describes the material French tax consequences of owning and disposing of ADSs relevant to U.S. Holders which do not hold their ADSs in connection with a permanent establishment or fixed base in France through which a holder carries on business or performs personal services in France. The statements relating to French tax laws set out below are based on the laws in force as at the date hereof, and are subject to any changes in applicable French tax laws or in any applicable double taxation conventions or treaties with France occurring after such date.

This discussion is intended only as a descriptive summary and does not purport to be a complete analysis or list of all potential tax effects of the purchase or ownership of ADSs.

### ***Taxation of Dividends***

France generally imposes a 25% withholding tax on dividends distributed in cash or in the form of shares by a French corporation (such as our company) to shareholders who are residents of the United States. However, the Treaty generally reduces the withholding tax rate to 15% on dividends paid in cash or in the form of shares to an Eligible U.S. Holder (as defined below).

Under the Treaty, an Eligible U.S. Holder is a U.S. Holder whose ownership of ADSs is not attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base in France and who is:

an individual or other non-corporate holder; or

a corporation that does not own, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the capital of our company, provided in each case that such holder:

is a resident of the United States under the Treaty;

is entitled to Treaty benefits under the limitation on benefits provisions in Article 30 of the Treaty; and

complies with the procedural rules to obtain Treaty benefits described below under *Taxation of Dividends Procedure to Obtain Treaty Benefits* .

### ***Taxation of Dividends Procedure to Obtain Treaty Benefits***

Eligible U.S. Holders must follow certain procedures in order to be eligible for the 15% dividend withholding tax under the Treaty.

An Eligible U.S. Holder who wishes to obtain a reduced withholding rate at source must complete and deliver to the U.S. financial institution that is in charge of the administration of the ADSs of that Eligible U.S. Holder a Treaty form establishing that such U.S. Holder is a U.S. resident for the purpose of the Treaty (Form 5000).

If Form 5000 is not filed prior to the dividend payment, we or the French paying agent will withhold tax from the dividend at the above rate of 25%, and the Eligible U.S. Holder will be entitled to claim a refund of the excess withholding tax by filing Form no. 5001-EN with the Depositary or the French paying agent early enough to enable them to forward that application to the French tax authorities before December 31 of the second year following the calendar year in which the related dividend was paid.

The Depositary will provide to all U.S. Holders of ADSs the applications or certificates, together with instructions, and will arrange for the filing with the French tax authorities of all applications and certificates completed by U.S. Holders of ADSs and returned to the Depositary in sufficient time to effect the filing.

Form 5000 and Form 5001-EN and their respective instructions are available at the *trésorerie des non-résidents* (10, rue du Centre, 93160 Noisy-le-Grand, France).



**Table of Contents*****Taxation on Sale or Disposal of ADSs***

Subject to the provisions of any relevant double tax treaty, persons who are not French residents for the purpose of French taxation (as well as, under certain conditions, foreign states, international organizations and certain foreign public bodies) and who have held not more than 25%, directly or indirectly, of the dividend rights (*droits aux bénéfices sociaux*) of our company at any time during the preceding five years, are not generally subject to any French income tax or capital gains tax on any sale or disposal of ADSs.

If a transfer of listed shares is evidenced by a written agreement, such share transfer agreement is, in principle, subject to registration formalities and therefore to a 3% registration duty assessed on the higher of the purchase price or the market value of the shares (subject to a maximum assessment of 5,000 per transfer). However, under certain circumstances, no duty is due if such written share transfer agreement is executed outside France.

***French Estate and Gift Taxes***

Pursuant to The Convention Between the United States of America and the French Republic for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Estates, Inheritance and Gifts dated November 24, 1978, a transfer of ADSs by gift or by reason of the death of a U.S. Holder will not be subject to French gift or inheritance tax, unless (i) the donor or the transferor is domiciled in France at the time of making the gift or at the time of his or her death, or (ii) the ADSs were used in, or held for use in, the conduct of a business through a permanent establishment or fixed base in France. In such a case, the French gift or inheritance tax may be credited against the U.S. gift or inheritance tax. This tax credit is limited to the amount of the U.S. gift or inheritance tax due on the ADSs.

***French Wealth Tax***

The French wealth tax (*impôt de solidarité sur la fortune*) does not generally apply to a U.S. Holder who is a resident of the United States as defined in the provisions of the Treaty, unless the ADSs form part of the business property of a permanent establishment or fixed base in France.

**United States Taxation**

The following summary assumes that we are not a passive foreign investment company (a PFIC) for U.S. federal income tax purposes, which we believe to be the case. Our possible status as a PFIC must be determined annually and therefore may be subject to change. If we were to be a PFIC in any year, materially adverse consequences could result for U.S. Holders.

**THE SUMMARY OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES SET OUT BELOW IS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY. U.S. HOLDERS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISERS AS TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF OWNING THE ADSs, INCLUDING THEIR ELIGIBILITY FOR THE BENEFITS OF THE TREATY, THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN AND OTHER TAX LAWS AND POSSIBLE CHANGES IN TAX LAW.**

***Dividends***

*General.* Distributions paid on our shares out of current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes), before reduction for any French withholding tax paid by us with respect thereto, will generally be taxable to a U.S. Holder as foreign source dividend income in the year in which the distribution is

received (which, in the case of a U.S. Holder of ADSs, will be the year of receipt by the Depositary), and will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction allowed to corporations. Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated as a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of the U.S. Holder's basis in the ADSs and thereafter as capital gain. However, we do not maintain calculations of our earnings and profits in accordance with U.S. federal income tax accounting principles. U.S. Holders should therefore assume that any distribution by us with respect to our Ordinary Shares will constitute ordinary dividend income. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the appropriate U.S. federal income tax treatment of any distribution received from us.

For taxable years that begin before 2011, dividends paid by us will be taxable to a non-corporate U.S. Holder at the special reduced rate normally applicable to capital gains, provided either we qualify for the benefits of the Treaty or the ADSs are considered to be readily tradable on the NYSE. A U.S. Holder will be eligible for this reduced rate only if it has held the ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date. A U.S. Holder will not be able to claim the reduced rate for any year in which we are treated as a PFIC. See [Passive Foreign Investment Company Status](#) below.

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*Foreign Currency Dividends.* Dividends paid in euro will be included in income in a U.S. dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the day the dividends are received by the Depositary, regardless of whether the euro are converted into U.S. dollars at that time. If dividends received in euro are converted into U.S. dollars on the day they are received by the Depositary, the U.S. Holder generally will not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income.

***Effect of French Withholding Taxes***

As discussed above under *Taxation – French Taxation – Taxation of Dividends*, under French domestic law, dividends paid by us to a United States resident shareholder are subject to a 25% withholding tax. Under the Treaty, however, the rate of withholding tax applicable to Eligible U.S. Holders is reduced to a maximum of 15%. Please see *Taxation – French Taxation – Taxation of Dividends – Procedure to Obtain Treaty Benefits* for the procedure to claim the reduced rate of withholding tax under the Treaty.

A U.S. Holder will generally be entitled, subject to certain limitations, to a credit against its U.S. federal income tax liability, or a deduction in computing its U.S. federal taxable income, for any French tax withheld from a dividend. Eligible U.S. Holders will not be entitled to a foreign tax credit for the amount of any French taxes withheld in excess of the 15% maximum rate, and with respect to which the holder can obtain a refund from the French taxing authorities. For purposes of the foreign tax credit limitation, foreign source income is classified in one of two baskets, and the credit for foreign taxes on income in any basket is limited to U.S. federal income tax allocable to that income. Dividends paid by us generally will constitute foreign source income in the passive income basket. If a U.S. Holder receives a dividend from us that qualifies for the reduced rate described above under *United States Taxation – Dividends – General*, the amount of the dividend taken into account in calculating the foreign tax credit limitation will in general be limited to the gross amount of the dividend, multiplied by the reduced rate divided by the highest rate of tax normally applicable to dividends. In certain circumstances, a U.S. Holder may be unable to claim foreign tax credits (and may instead be allowed deductions) for foreign taxes imposed on a dividend if the U.S. Holder has not held the ADSs for at least 16 days in the 31-day period beginning 15 days before the ex dividend date.

U.S. Holders that are accrual basis taxpayers, and who do not otherwise elect, must translate French taxes into U.S. dollars at a rate equal to the average exchange rate for the taxable year in which the taxes accrue, while all U.S. Holders must translate taxable dividend income into U.S. dollars at the spot rate on the date received. This difference in exchange rates may reduce the U.S. dollar value of the credits for French taxes relative to the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability attributable to a dividend. However, cash basis and electing accrual basis U.S. Holders may translate French taxes into U.S. dollars using the exchange rate in effect on the day the taxes were paid. Any such election by an accrual basis U.S. Holder will apply for the taxable year in which it is made and all subsequent taxable years, unless revoked with the consent of the IRS.

***Exchange of ADSs for Shares***

No gain or loss will be recognized upon the exchange of ADSs for the U.S. Holder's proportionate interest in our ordinary shares. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in the withdrawn shares will be the same as the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the ADSs surrendered, and the holding period of the shares will include the holding period of the ADSs.

***Sale or other Disposition***

Upon a sale or other disposition of ADSs (other than an exchange of ADSs for ordinary shares), a U.S. Holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes equal to the difference, if any, between the amount realized on the sale or other disposition and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the ADSs. This

capital gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder's holding period in the ADSs exceeds one year. Any gain or loss will generally be U.S. source.

***Passive Foreign Investment Company Status***

A foreign corporation will be a PFIC in any taxable year in which either (i) 75% or more of its gross income consists of certain specified types of passive income or (ii) the average percentage of its assets (by value) that produce or are held for the production of passive income is at least 50%. We do not expect that we will be a PFIC in 2009, but our possible status as a PFIC must be determined annually and therefore we might become a PFIC in future years.

If we were a PFIC in any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder owned ADSs and the U.S. Holder had not made a mark to market or qualified electing fund election, the U.S. Holder would generally be subject to special

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rules (regardless of whether we continued to be a PFIC) with respect to (i) any excess distribution (generally, any distributions received by the U.S. Holder on ADSs in a taxable year that are greater than 125% of the average annual distributions received by the U.S. Holder in the three preceding taxable years or, if shorter, the U.S. Holder's holding period for the ADSs) and (ii) any gain realized on the sale or other disposition of ADSs. Under these rules (a) the excess distribution or gain would be allocated ratably over the U.S. Holder's holding period, (b) the amount allocated to the current taxable year and any taxable year prior to the first taxable year in which we are a PFIC would be taxed as ordinary income, and (c) the amount allocated to each of the other taxable years would be subject to tax at the highest rate of tax in effect for the applicable class of taxpayer for that year and an interest charge for the deemed deferral benefit would be imposed with respect to the resulting tax attributable to each such other taxable year. If we were a PFIC, a U.S. Holder of ADSs would generally be subject to similar rules with respect to distributions to us by, and dispositions by us of the stock of, any direct or indirect subsidiaries of ours that were also PFICs. A U.S. Holder who beneficially owns an interest in a PFIC is generally required to file an annual information return on IRS Form 8621 describing the distributions received from and any gain realized upon the disposition of a beneficial interest in the PFIC. Additionally, dividends paid by us would not be eligible for the special reduced rate of tax described above under United States Taxation - Dividends - General. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers regarding the potential application of the PFIC regime.

***Backup Withholding and Information Reporting***

Payments of dividends and other proceeds with respect to ADSs by a U.S. paying agent or other U.S. intermediary will be reported to the IRS and to the U.S. Holder as may be required under applicable regulations. Backup withholding may apply to these payments if the U.S. Holder fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number or certification of exempt status or fails to report all interest and dividends required to be shown on its U.S. federal income tax returns. Certain U.S. Holders (including, among others, corporations) are not subject to backup withholding. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers as to their qualification for exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining an exemption.

**Dividends and Paying Agents**

Not applicable.

**Statement by Experts**

Not applicable.

**Documents on Display**

We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act) applicable to foreign private issuers. In accordance with the Exchange Act, we electronically file or submit reports, including annual reports on Form 20-F and interim reports on Form 6-K, and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You may obtain these reports and other information by sending a written request to CGGVeritas, Tour Maine-Montparnasse, 33, avenue du Maine, BP 191, 75755 Paris cedex 15, France, Attention: Investor Relations Officer, Telephone: (33) 1 64 47 4500.

You can inspect and copy these reports, and other information, without charge, at the Public Reference Room of the Commission located at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can also obtain copies of these materials at prescribed rates from the Public Reference Room of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 or by calling the Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330. The Commission also maintains a web site at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains reports and other information regarding registrants that file electronically with the

Commission.

In addition, you can inspect material filed by CGGVeritas at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, on which American Depositary Shares representing shares of our common stock are listed. As a foreign private issuer, we are not subject to the proxy rules under Section 14 or the short-swing insider profit disclosure rules under Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

On January 12, 2007, following the completion of the merger with CGG, Veritas was delisted from the New York Stock Exchange and filed a Form 15 to terminate its registration and reporting obligations under the Exchange Act.

**Subsidiary Information**

Not applicable.

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**Item 11: QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ABOUT MARKET RISK**

Because we operate internationally, we are exposed to general risks linked to operating abroad. The table below provides information about our market sensitive financial instruments and constitutes a forward-looking statement. Our major market risk exposures are changing interest rates and currency fluctuations.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Our policy is to manage interest rates through use of a combination of fixed and floating rate debt. Our exposure to interest rate fluctuations is reduced to the extent that the main part of our financial debt at December 31, 2008 consisted of a long-term bond issues maturing in May 2015 and 2017 and bearing a fixed interest rate. However, our sources of liquidity include a Senior Facility with financial institutions charging variable interest rates. We may also use interest rate swaps to adjust interest rate exposures when appropriate based upon market conditions.

**Foreign Exchange Rate Risk**

As a company that derives a substantial amount of its revenue from sales internationally, we are subject to risks relating to fluctuations in currency exchange rates. In the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, more than 80% of our operating revenues and more than two-thirds of our operating expenses were denominated in currencies other than euros. These included U.S. dollars and, to a significantly lesser extent, Canadian dollars, Brazilian reals, Australian dollars, British pounds and Norwegian kroner.

We attempt to match foreign currency revenues and expenses in order to balance our net position of receivables and payables denominated in foreign currencies. We also seek to improve the balance of our net position of receivables and payables denominated in U.S. dollars by maintaining a portion of our financing in U.S. dollars. In addition, our policy generally is to hedge major foreign currency cash exposures through foreign exchange forward contracts or other foreign exchange currency hedging instruments. These contracts are entered into with major financial institutions, thereby minimizing the risk of credit loss. All instruments are entered into for non-trading purposes. See Item 5: Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Trend Information Currency Fluctuations above.

**Credit Risk and Counter-Party Risk**

We seek to minimize our counter-party risk by entering into hedging contracts only with highly rated commercial banks or financial institutions and by distributing the transactions among the selected institutions. Although our credit risk is the replacement cost at the then-estimated fair value of the instrument, we believe that the risk of incurring losses is remote and those losses, if any, would not be material. Our receivables and investments do not represent a significant concentration of credit risk due to the wide variety of customers and markets in which we sell our services and products and our presence in many geographic areas. During 2008, our two largest clients accounted for 3.9% and 3.8% of our operating revenues, respectively. During 2007, our two largest clients accounted for 4.5% and 2.8% of our operating revenues, respectively.

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The table below presents principal amounts and related weighted average interest rates by year of maturity for our debt obligations and our foreign exchange forward contracts, all of which mature in one year or less and their fair value as of December 31, 2008:

Carrying value	2009	2010	2011	2012 (in million)	2013	Thereafter	Total	Fair Value
<b>Debt</b>								
U.S. dollar	24.0	19.0	32.7	3.5	3.5	657.6	740.3	745.8
<i>Average fixed rate</i>	6.5%	6.4%	5.8%	9.6%	9.7%	7.9%	7.7%	
U.S. dollar	107.0	27.6	22.7	21.9	21.0	483.3	683.5	683.5
<i>Average variable rate</i>	4.9%	3.8%	3.9%	3.9%	4.0%	5.4%	5.1%	
Euro	0.1						0.1	
<i>Average fixed rate</i>	5.0%						5.0%	
Euro	35.0						35.0	35.0
<i>Average variable rate</i>	6.8%						6.8%	
Other currencies								
<i>Average fixed rate</i>								
Other currencies	1.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	6.2	6.2
<i>Average variable rate</i>	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%	8.4%	
<b>Foreign Exchange</b>								
<b>Firm commitments</b>								
Forward sales (in U.S.\$)	418.8							(6.5)
U.S. dollars average rate/	1.4354							
Forward sales (in GBP)	5.5							(1.0)
GBP average rate/U.S	0.5055							
Forward sales (in Ren-min-bi Yuan)	6.5							(0.1)
Ren-min-bi Yuan average rate/U.S	6.8248							

**Item 12: DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES**

Not applicable.



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**PART II**

**Item 13: DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES**

Not applicable.

**Item 14: MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITYHOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

Not applicable.

**Item 15: CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

(a) *Disclosure controls and procedures.* As of the end of the period covered by this report, we carried out an evaluation of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in 17 CFR 240.13a-15(e) and 240.15d-15(e)), under the supervision of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer concluded that such controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports filed with or submitted to the SEC under the Exchange Act, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Exchange Act and its rules and forms.

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting during the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Pursuant to section L.225-37 of the French Commercial Code, as amended by a French financial law (the *Loi de Sécurité Financière*) enacted on August 1, 2003, our Chairman of the Board must deliver a report to the annual general meeting of our shareholders on the preparation and organization of the meeting of our Board of Directors, on the limitations placed on the authority of the Chief Executive Officer as well as on the internal control procedures put in place by us. This report for 2008 informed our shareholders of the internal control procedures that we have put in place in order to circumvent identified risks resulting from our activities and the risks of errors or fraud, particularly in accounting and finance. It describes the existing control environment, i.e. our values with respect to integrity and ethics, the organization of our corporate governance committees, the functions of our disclosure committee and the way we delegate powers and determine areas of responsibility. It also describes the procedures put in place to identify and assess our major risks, whether internal or external. It gives details on our control procedures, particularly those applied to financial information, so as to ensure reliability of financial reporting. A self-assessment process of internal control procedures currently existing within our Group has been implemented.

(b) *Management annual report on internal control over financial reporting.* We are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934) for CGGVeritas.

Due to its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements, and can only provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements. 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.

We assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, and concluded that our internal control over financial reporting is effective. In making this assessment, we used the criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Our assessment of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting did not include the internal controls of Wavefield, which is included in our 2008 consolidated financial statements and constituted \$395.7 million and \$226.8 million of total and net assets, respectively. Based on our assessment under these criteria, we concluded that, as of December 31, 2008, our internal control over financial reporting was effective to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and with IFRS as adopted by the European Union as of December 31, 2008.

The effectiveness of management's internal control over financial reporting has been audited by Ernst & Young and Mazars, our independent registered public accounting firms, as stated in their report, which is included herein.

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*(c) Attestation Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firms.*

Year ended December 31, 2008

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A.

We have audited Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria). Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A.'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 annual 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.

As indicated in the accompanying management's report on internal control over financial reporting, management's assessment of and conclusion on the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting did not include the internal controls of Wavefield, which is included in the 2008 consolidated financial statements of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A. and constituted MEUR 395.7 and MEUR 226.8 of total and net assets respectively, as of December 31, 2008. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A. also did not include an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of Wavefield.

In our opinion, Compagnie Générale de Géophysique Veritas S.A. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A. as of December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 and the related consolidated statements of income, statements of cash flows and statements of income and expenses recognized directly in equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008 of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas S.A. and our report dated April 10, 2009, expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

Courbevoie and Neuilly-sur-Seine, France, April 10, 2009.

Mazars

ERNST & YOUNG

/s/ Xavier Charton

/s/ Philippe Diu

Xavier Charton

Philippe Diu

/s/ Olivier Thireau

/s/ Nicolas Pfeuty

Olivier Thireau

Nicolas Pfeuty

**Table of Contents****Item 16A: AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT**

Pursuant to section 407 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, Mr. Dunand was appointed Financial Expert of the Audit Committee by a Board resolution dated December 10, 2003, as reaffirmed by a board resolution on February 20, 2007. Mr. Dunand is independent, as that term is defined by the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange.

**Item 16B: CODE OF ETHICS**

The Board of Directors has adopted a code of ethics that applies to our Chief Executive Officer, our Chief Financial Officer, other senior financial officers (including our principal accounting officer), the members of the Group Management Committee and the Disclosure Committee to promote honest and ethical conduct, full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in periodic reports required to be filed by us and compliance with applicable governmental rules and regulations. A copy of this code of ethics is filed as an exhibit to this annual report.

**Item 16C: PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES**

	<b>2008</b>		<b>December 31,</b>		<b>2007</b>
	<b>Ernst &amp; Young</b>	<b>Mazars</b>	<b>Ernst &amp; Young</b>	<b>Mazars &amp; Guerard</b>	
	<b>(in thousands of euros)</b>				
Audit Fees <sup>(a)</sup>	3,353	2,097	4,020	2,534	
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(b)</sup>	284	117	278		
Tax Fees <sup>(c)</sup>	95	13	101	6	
All Other Fees <sup>(d)</sup>	1				
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,733</b>	<b>2,227</b>	<b>4,399</b>	<b>2,540</b>	

## Notes:

- (a) Audit fees are the aggregate fees billed by our independent auditors for the audit of the individual and consolidated annual and semi-annual financial statements and the provision of services that are normally provided by our independent auditors in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements.
- (b) Audit-related fees are the aggregate fees billed by our independent auditors for services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of our financial statements and are not reported under audit fees. They include consultations relating to accounting principles and internal controls.
- (c) Tax fees are the aggregate fees billed by our independent auditors for services rendered by our auditors for tax compliance, tax advice, and tax planning. They include assistance when dealing with local authorities, advice regarding tax audit and litigation, expatriate taxation and tax advice relating to mergers and acquisitions.

(d) All other fees are the aggregate fees billed by our independent auditors other than the services reported in notes (a) through (c) of this table. They include training services as well as general and specific advice.

In December 2003, the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee adopted an audit and non-audit services pre-approval policy. This policy requires the Audit Committee to pre-approve the audit and non-audit services performed by the independent auditors in order to assure that they do not impair the auditors' independence from us.

Pursuant to this policy, a list of proposed services is pre-approved, on an annual basis, without consideration of specific case-by-case services by the Audit Committee. Unless a type of service has received such general pre-approval, it will require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee or by any person to whom the audit committee has delegated pre-approval authority. In addition, any proposed services exceeding pre-approved cost levels or budgeted amounts will also require specific pre-approval by the Audit Committee. The services list and the cost levels are reviewed annually by the Audit Committee.

The annual audit services engagement terms and fees as defined in note (a) of table above are subject to the specific pre-approval of the Audit Committee.

**Item 16D: EXEMPTIONS FROM THE LISTING STANDARDS FOR AUDIT COMMITTEES**

Not applicable.

**Table of Contents****Item 16E: PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY THE ISSUER AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS**

	<b>Total number of Shares purchased as part of the programs</b>	<b>Total number of shares purchased</b>	<b>Average price paid per share ( )</b>	<b>Total amount paid ( )</b>	<b>Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the program</b>
January, 2008 <sup>(a)</sup>	129,813	129,813	170.17	22,090,924.73	2,732,094
February, 2008 <sup>(a)</sup>	76,338	76,338	161.83	12,353,835.58	2,737,422
March 2008 <sup>(a)</sup>	59,607	59,607	125.25	9,075,409.40	2,740,803
April, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	55,181	55,181	160.36	8,848,768.89	2,742,319
May, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	84,200	84,200	167.71	14,120,772.00	2,744,402
June, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	523,553	523,553	30.98	16,219,814.50	13,716,169
July, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	216,727	216,727	25.19	5,459,806.92	13,746,852
August, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	141,227	141,227	30.91	4,365,038.21	13,754,402
September, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	329,444	329,444	23.80	7,841,360.79	13,736,069
October, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	530,033	530,033	14.98	7,937,724.69	13,716,010
November, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	194,700	194,700	11.04	2,149,819.00	13,749,543
December, 2008 <sup>(b)</sup>	170,300	170,300	10.56	1,798,981.00	13,752,166
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511,123</b>	<b>2,511,123</b>		<b>112,262,255.71</b>	

## Notes:

- (a) Shares purchased as part of the 2007 program approved by the shareholders' meeting of May 10, 2007 for a period of 18 months, authorizing purchases of shares up to 10% of our common stock at a maximum price of \$250 per share. This program replaced the previous program announced on May 11, 2006.
- (b) Shares purchased as part of the 2008 program approved by the shareholders' meeting of April 29, 2008 for a period of 18 months, authorizing purchases of shares up to 10% of our common stock at a maximum price of \$300 per share. This program replaced the previous program announced on May 10, 2007.

**Item 16F: CHANGE IN REGISTRANT'S CERTIFYING ACCOUNTANT**

Not applicable.

**Item 16G: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The corporate governance rules of the New York Stock Exchange differ from the regulations and recommendations applicable in France, especially those governing the definition of director independence and the role and operation of the Board's committees. As a non-U.S. listed company, we are exempted from many of these corporate governance rules, which are applicable to U.S. listed companies. For example, notwithstanding our conclusions as to independence under the AFEP-MEDEF Code, our Board has not formally determined which of our directors meet

NYSE independence standards, and non-management directors do not meet regularly. Our Appointment-Remuneration Committee is not made up exclusively of independent directors, and the Board's internal charter does not address committee purposes and responsibilities in the manner specified by the NYSE rules applicable to nominating, compensation and audit committees. However, our Audit Committee members meet the independence test for audit committee members established by the SEC, and we believe that they also meet the definition of independence under the NYSE rules.



**Table of Contents****PART III****Item 17: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Not applicable.

**Item 18: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The following audited financial statements of CGGVeritas and CGG and related schedules, together with the report of Ernst & Young & Autres and Mazars, are filed as part of this Annual Report:

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Report of Independent Auditors	F-1
Consolidated Financial Statements:	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as at December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006</u>	F-2
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006</u>	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006</u>	F-4
<u>Statement of income and expenses attributable to shareholders December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006</u>	F-5
<u>Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-6

**Item 19: EXHIBITS**

The following instruments and documents are included as Exhibits to this Annual Report. Exhibits incorporated by reference are so indicated.

<b>Exhibit No</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
1.1*	English translation of our Articles of Association ( <i>statuts</i> ).
2.1	Indenture dated as of April 28, 2005 between us, certain of our subsidiaries acting as guarantors and JP Morgan Chase Manhattan Bank as Trustee, which includes the form of the 71/2% Senior Notes due 2015 as an exhibit thereto (Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form F-4, dated September 21, 2005, as amended, is incorporated herein by reference).
2.2	Supplemental Indenture dated as of January 12, 2007 between us, certain of our subsidiaries acting as guarantors and The Bank of New York Trust Company, as Trustee to add guarantors to the 71/2% Senior Notes due 2015 (Exhibit 4.1 to the Registrant's Report on Form 6-K, dated February 2, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference).
2.3	Supplemental Indenture dated as of February 9, 2007 between us, certain of our subsidiaries acting as guarantors and The Bank of New York Trust Company, for the issuance of the additional U.S.\$200 million in aggregate principal amount of the 71/2% Senior Notes due 2015. (Exhibit 2.3 to the Registrant's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, dated May 7, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference).
2.4	Indenture dated as of February 9, 2007 between us, certain of our subsidiaries acting as guarantors and The Bank of New York Trust Company, as Trustee, which includes the form of the 73/4% Senior Notes due 2017 as an exhibit thereto. (Exhibit 2.4 to the Registrant's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended

- December 31, 2006, dated May 7, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference).
- 2.5\* Supplemental Indenture dated as of December 12, 2008 between us, our subsidiary CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, as Trustee to add CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. as a guarantor to the 7 1/2% Senior Notes due 2015.
- 2.6\* Supplemental Indenture dated as of December 12, 2008 between us, our subsidiary CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, as Trustee to add CGGVeritas Services Holding B.V. as a guarantor to the 7 3/4% Senior Notes due 2017.
- 4.1 Mixed Capital Company Contract dated November 26, 2003 by and among Sercel SA, the Committee of the Hebei JunFeng Prospecting Equipment Company, the Dongfang Geological Prospecting Limited Liability Company, and the Xian General Factory for Oil Prospecting Equipment (Exhibit 10.1 to the Report on Form 6-K, dated May 13, 2004, is incorporated herein by reference).
- 4.2 U.S.\$70 million Term Credit Facility, dated March 29, 2006, by and among Exploration Investment Resources II AS, DnB NOR Bank ASA and certain banks and financial institutions (Exhibit 4.22 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, dated May 9, 2006, is incorporated herein by reference).

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<b>Exhibit No</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
4.3	Agreement between the Shareholders of CGG Ardiseis, dated June 23, 2006, between Industrialization & Energy Services Company (TAQA) and us (we have requested that the Commission grant confidential treatment for certain portions of this document) (Exhibit 4.22 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, dated May 7, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference).
4.4	Credit Agreement, dated as of January 12, 2007, among Volnay Acquisition Co. I, us, certain of our subsidiaries acting as guarantors, the lenders party thereto and Credit Suisse as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent (Exhibit 4.25 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, dated May 7, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference).
4.5	Revolving Credit Agreement, dated as of February 7, 2007, among us, certain of our subsidiaries acting as guarantors, Natixis as Facility Agent, Credit Suisse as Collateral Agent and the lenders party thereto (Exhibit 4.27 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, dated May 7, 2007, is incorporated herein by reference).
4.6*	Amendment No. 1 and Agreement, dated as of December 12, 2008, among CGGVeritas Services Holding (U.S.) Inc. (formerly Volnay Acquisition Co. I), us, the lenders party to the Credit Agreement dated January 12, 2007, and Credit Suisse, as Administrative Agent and Collateral Agent.
4.7*	Amendment No. 1, dated as of December 12, 2008, among us, the lenders party to the Revolving Credit Agreement dated February 7, 2007, Natixis, as Facility Agent, and Credit Suisse, as Collateral Agent.
4.8	Employment Agreement between Veritas DGC Inc. and Timothy L. Wells dated December 27, 2006 (Exhibit 10.12 to Veritas DGC Inc.'s Form 8-K dated January 4, 2007 is incorporated herein by reference).
8*	Our Subsidiaries
11	Code of Ethics (Exhibit 11 to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, dated June 1, 2004, is incorporated herein by reference).
12.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
12.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002
13.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 (10 U.S.C. § 1350)
13.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002 (10 U.S.C. § 1350)
15*	Consent of Mazars and Ernst & Young & Autres

Notes:

\* Filed herewith.

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**SIGNATURES**

The registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this annual report on its behalf.

Compagnie Generale de Geophysique-Veritas  
(Registrant)

/s/ Robert Brunck

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Stephane-paul Frydman

Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 22, 2009

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS**

**ERNST & YOUNG**

41, rue Ybry  
92576 Neuilly sur Seine cedex

**MAZARS**

Exaltis 61, rue Henri Regnault  
92400 Courbevoie

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique Veritas:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Compagnie Générale de Géophysique Veritas S.A. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and statement of operations and expenses recognized directly in equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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 consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Company at December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated results of its operations and its consolidated cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008, in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the COSO criteria) and our report dated April 10, 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Courbevoie and Neuilly-sur-Seine, France, April 10, 2009.

Mazars  
/s/ Xavier Charton  
Xavier Charton

/s/ Olivier Thireau  
Olivier Thireau

ERNST & YOUNG  
/s/ Philippe Diu  
Philippe Diu

/s/ Nicolas Pfeuty  
Nicolas Pfeuty

**Table of Contents****COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

The consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on February 25, 2009 and are subject to the approval of our General Shareholders Meeting expected to be held on April 29, 2009.

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

	Notes	December 31,		
		2008	2007	2006
		(amounts in millions of euros)		
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	28	516.9	254.3	251.8
Trade accounts and notes receivable, net	3	712.3	601.9	301.1
Inventories and work-in-progress, net	4	287.9	240.2	188.7
Income tax assets		102.2	34.6	18.0
Other current assets, net	5	101.5	89.6	63.1
Assets held for sale, net	9	7.6		0.4
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>1,728.4</b>	<b>1,220.6</b>	<b>823.1</b>
Deferred tax assets	24	109.2	81.4	43.4
Investments and other financial assets, net	7	26.2	32.0	19.2
Investments in companies under equity method	8	72.9	44.5	46.2
Property, plant and equipment, net	9	822.4	660.0	455.2
Intangible assets, net	10	820.0	680.5	127.6
Goodwill, net	11	2,055.1	1,928.0	267.4
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>3,905.8</b>	<b>3,426.4</b>	<b>959.0</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>5,634.2</b>	<b>4,647.0</b>	<b>1,782.1</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>				
Bank overdrafts	13	8.2	17.5	6.5
Current portion of financial debt	13	241.5	44.7	38.1
Trade accounts and notes payables		286.2	256.4	161.2
Accrued payroll costs		144.3	113.2	74.4
Income taxes payable		85.5	59.1	37.7
Advance billings to customers		43.5	51.9	45.9
Provisions - current portion	16	20.7	9.6	10.4
Other current liabilities	12	173.3	109.0	31.3
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>1,003.2</b>	<b>661.4</b>	<b>405.5</b>
Deferred tax liabilities	24	223.8	157.7	66.5
Provisions - non-current portion	16	82.4	76.5	25.5
Financial debt	13	1,296.3	1,298.8	361.0
Other non-current liabilities	17	29.9	27.0	23.7

<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>1,632.4</b>	<b>1,560.0</b>	<b>476.7</b>
Common stock: 276,413,038 shares authorized and 150,617,709 shares with a 0.40 nominal value issued and outstanding at December 31, 2008; 137,253,790 at December 31, 2007; 87,989,440 at December 31, 2006 <sup>(1)</sup>	15	60.2	54.9	35.2
Additional paid-in capital		1,964.7	1,820.0	394.9
Retained earnings		799.4	538.6	320.6
Treasury shares		(18.1)	(3.9)	3.0
Net income (loss) for the period Attributable to the Group		332.8	245.5	157.1
Income and expense recognized directly in equity		(2.5)	(5.1)	4.8
Cumulative translation adjustment		(176.4)	(248.4)	(38.6)
<b>Total shareholders equity</b>		<b>2,960.1</b>	<b>2,401.6</b>	<b>877.0</b>
Minority interests		38.5	24.0	22.9
<b>Total shareholders equity and minority interests</b>		<b>2,998.6</b>	<b>2,425.6</b>	<b>899.9</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		<b>5,634.2</b>	<b>4,647.0</b>	<b>1,782.1</b>

(1) Number of shares at December 31, 2007 and at December 31, 2006 has been restated to reflect the five-for-one stock split on June 3, 2008.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements



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	Notes	2008	December 31, 2007	2006
		(in millions of euros, except per share data)		
Operating revenues	19	2,602.5	2,374.1	1,329.6
Other income from ordinary activities	19	1.7	1.2	1.8
<b>Total income from ordinary activities</b>		<b>2,604.2</b>	<b>2,375.3</b>	<b>1,331.4</b>
Cost of operations		(1,722.5)	(1,622.3)	(890.0)
<b>Gross profit</b>		<b>881.7</b>	<b>753.0</b>	<b>441.4</b>
Research and development expenses net	20	(43.8)	(51.3)	(37.7)
Selling, general and administrative expenses		(256.1)	(231.0)	(126.4)
Other revenues (expenses) net	21	(36.4)	18.4	11.7
<b>Operating income before reduction of goodwill</b>	19	<b>545.4</b>	<b>489.1</b>	<b>289.0</b>
Reduction of goodwill	11	(4.8)		
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>540.6</b>	<b>489.1</b>	<b>289.0</b>
Expenses related to financial debt		(93.0)	(121.7)	(31.8)
Income provided by cash and cash equivalents		9.2	12.6	6.4
<b>Cost of financial debt, net</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>(83.8)</b>	<b>(109.1)</b>	<b>(25.4)</b>
Derivative and other expenses on convertible bonds	23			(23.0)
Other financial income (loss)	23	(11.5)	(5.2)	(8.8)
<b>Income (loss) of consolidated companies before income taxes</b>		<b>445.3</b>	<b>374.8</b>	<b>231.8</b>
Income taxes	24	(108.3)	(129.4)	(83.2)
<b>Net income (loss) from consolidated companies</b>		<b>337.0</b>	<b>245.4</b>	<b>148.6</b>
Equity in income of affiliates		3.0	4.2	10.1
<b>Net income (loss)</b>		<b>340.0</b>	<b>249.6</b>	<b>158.7</b>
Attributable to:				
Shareholders		332.8	245.5	157.1
Minority interests		7.2	4.1	1.6
Weighted average number of shares outstanding	29	137,910,388	134,567,140	86,859,635
Dilutive potential shares from stock options	29	579,432	992,915	1,547,920
Dilutive potential shares from performance share plan	29	575,063	518,940	249,375

Dilutive weighted average number of shares outstanding adjusted when dilutive	139,064,883	136,078,995	88,656,930
<b>Net income (loss) per share</b>			
Basic	2.41	1.82	1.81
Diluted	2.39	1.80	1.77

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

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Table of Contents**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

	Notes	2008	Year 2007	2006
(in millions of euros)				
<b>OPERATING</b>				
Net income (loss)		340.0	249.6	158.7
Depreciation and amortization		233.5	179.1	106.0
Multi-client surveys amortization	10	260.8	308.5	80.6
Variance on provisions		2.8	2.0	4.6
Stock based compensation expenses		23.8	20.6	7.4
Net gain (loss) on disposal of fixed assets		2.0	(0.3)	(5.3)
Share in profits of affiliates		(3.0)	(4.2)	(10.1)
Dividends received from affiliates		1.4	5.3	4.3
Other non-cash items	28	4.4	(9.2)	31.5
<b>Net cash including net cost of financial debt and income tax</b>		<b>865.7</b>	<b>751.4</b>	<b>377.7</b>
Less net cost of financial debt		83.8	109.1	25.4
Less income tax expense		108.3	129.4	83.2
<b>Net cash excluding net cost of financial debt and income tax</b>		<b>1,057.8</b>	<b>989.9</b>	<b>486.3</b>
Income tax paid		(137.5)	(144.1)	(80.4)
<b>Net cash before changes in working capital</b>		<b>920.3</b>	<b>845.8</b>	<b>405.9</b>
change in trade accounts and notes receivables		(39.7)	(133.0)	(18.8)
change in inventories and work-in-progress		(26.6)	(41.4)	(40.0)
change in other current assets		9.7	(12.8)	(5.8)
change in trade accounts and notes payable		(17.5)	(13.3)	5.0
change in other current liabilities		30.8	22.5	20.1
Impact of changes in exchange rate on financial items		8.6	(20.5)	(19.0)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>885.6</b>	<b>647.3</b>	<b>347.4</b>
<b>INVESTING</b>				
Total capital expenditures (including variation of fixed assets suppliers, excluding multi-client surveys)	9 & 10	(155.4)	(230.5)	(149.2)
Investments in multi-client surveys	10	(343.4)	(371.4)	(61.5)
Proceeds from disposals of tangible & intangible assets		1.5	27.4	6.1
Total net proceeds from financial assets	28	8.8	2.8	16.8
Acquisition of investments, net of cash & cash equivalents acquired	28	(6.0)	(1,019.1)	(48.3)
Variation in loans granted		(7.6)	(0.2)	(0.2)
Variation in subsidies for capital expenditures		(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.2)
Variation in other non-current financial assets	28	(1.3)	18.0	(6.9)
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>		<b>(503.5)</b>	<b>(1,573.1)</b>	<b>(243.4)</b>
<b>FINANCING</b>				
Repayment of long-term debt		(64.7)	(622.8)	(131.9)

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Total issuance of long-term debt		39.2	1,698.3	208.3
Lease repayments		(7.2)	(10.0)	(19.6)
Change in short-term loans		(9.7)	12.0	(2.4)
Financial expenses paid	28	(82.9)	(123.5)	(23.8)
<i>Net proceeds from capital increase:</i>				
from shareholders		1.9	9.1	12.4
from minority interest of integrated companies				
<i>Dividends paid and share capital reimbursements:</i>				
to shareholders				
to minority interest of integrated companies		(1.4)	(6.0)	(0.3)
Acquisition/disposal from treasury shares		(14.1)	(6.9)	4.1
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>		<b>(138.9)</b>	<b>950.2</b>	<b>46.8</b>
Effect of exchange rates on cash		19.4	(21.9)	(11.4)
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>262.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>139.4</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	28	254.3	251.8	112.4
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>516.9</b>	<b>254.3</b>	<b>251.8</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements

**Table of Contents****Consolidated Statements of income and expenses attributable to shareholders**

	<b>2008</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
		<b>(amounts in million of euros)</b>	
Net income (loss) attributable to the Group	332.8	245.5	157.1
Change in actuarial gains and losses on pension plan	0.6	(3.8)	(1.0)
Change in fair value of available-for-sale investments <sup>(a)</sup>	6.9	(6.9)	
Change in fair value of hedging instruments	(4.3)	(3.0)	6.2
Change in foreign currency translation adjustment	72.1	(209.8)	(49.9)
<b>Income recognized directly in equity for the period</b>	<b>408.1</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>112.4</b>

(a) The change in fair value of available-for-sale investments corresponds to our investment in Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping that was impaired in 2008 (See note 7).

**Consolidated Statements of income and expenses attributable to minority interests**

	<b>2008</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
		<b>(amounts in million of euros)</b>	
Net income (loss) attributable to minority interests	7.2	4.1	1.6
Change in foreign currency translation adjustment	3.5	(2.5)	(1.6)
<b>Income recognized directly in equity for the period</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	

See notes to consolidated financial statements

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Compagnie Générale de Géophysique Veritas, S.A. ( the Company ) and its subsidiaries (together, the Group ) is a global participant in the geophysical services industry, providing a wide range of seismic data acquisition, processing and interpretation services as well as related processing and interpretation software to clients in the oil and gas exploration and production business. It is also a global manufacturer of geophysical equipment.

Given that the Company is listed on a European Stock Exchange and pursuant to European regulation n<sup>o</sup>1606/ 2002 dated July 19, 2002, the accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ( IFRS ) and its interpretations as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). These consolidated financial statements are also in accordance with IFRS adopted by the European Union at December 31, 2008.

According to the general conditions of the standard IFRS 1, regarding the first adoption of IFRS, the Group elected the following options:

Business combinations (IFRS 3): the Company elected not to restate business combinations consummated prior to January 1, 2004;

Fair value used as assumed cost (IAS 16): the Company did not elect to assess its property, plant and equipment at fair value. Property, plant and equipment are recognized at amortized historical cost;

Actuarial gains (losses) on pension plans (IAS 19): the Company elected to recognize actuarial gains (losses) on pension plans previously unrecognized at January 1, 2004, in retained earnings;

Currency translation adjustments (IAS 21): the Company elected to recognize currency translation adjustments at January 1, 2004 through retained earnings.

Moreover, the Company elected for the early adoption from January 1, 2004 of the following standards:

Financial instruments: the Company early adopted the standards IAS 32 and IAS 39 from January 1, 2004;

Actuarial gains (losses) on pension plans (IAS 19): the Company elected to recognize actuarial gains (losses) on pension plans directly in retained earnings.

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates, assumptions and judgments 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 materially from those estimates due to the change in economic conditions, changes in laws and regulations, changes in strategy and the inherent imprecision associated with the use of estimates.

*Use of estimates*

Significant estimates in preparing financial statements that could have a material impact on the carrying values of assets and liabilities are:

Amortization of multi-client data library,

Depreciation and, if applicable, impairment of tangible and intangible assets, including goodwill,

Development costs,

Valuation of investments,

Recoverability of goodwill and intangible assets,

Income taxes, and

Employee benefit plans.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Judgments*

The major accounting matters that are subject to management judgments, which have a material effect on the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities recognized in the consolidated financial statements, relate to:

- Collectibility of accounts receivable,
- Recoverability of deferred tax assets,
- Fair value of assets and liabilities as part of the different purchase price allocations,
- Provision for contingencies, claims and litigations.

**Critical Accounting Policies**

Our significant accounting policies, which we have applied consistently, are fully described below. However, certain of our accounting policies are particularly important to reflect our financial position and results of operations. As we must exercise significant judgment when we apply these policies, their application is subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty.

The following Standards, Amendments and Interpretations have been effective since January 1, 2008:

- IFRIC 11 IFRS 2 Group and Treasury Share Transactions
- Amendments to IAS 39 and IFRS 7 Reclassification of financial assets

These Standards, Amendments and Interpretations have had no significant impact on our consolidated financial statements at December 31, 2008.

The applied accounting treatment do not differ from IFRS and its interpretations as issued by the IASB nor from IFRS as adopted by the European Union at December 31, 2008 as the application of the following standards, compulsory for financial years starting as of January 1, 2008 but not yet adopted by the European Union would have no significant impact on our consolidated financial statements:

- IFRIC 12 Service Concession Arrangements
- IFIC 14 IAS 19 The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction endorsed by the European Union in December 2008 but compulsory for financial years starting as of December 31, 2008

Concerning Standards, Amendments and Interpretations that were adopted by the European Union and are optional at December 31, 2008, CGGVeritas decided not to anticipate them:

- Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of financial statements (revised)
- Amendments to IAS 23 Borrowing costs



IFRS 8 Operating segments

IFRIC 13 Customer loyalty programs

Amendments to IFRS 2 Share based payments Vesting conditions and cancellations

IFRIC 14 IAS 19 The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction

Furthermore, CGGVeritas does not apply the following Standards, Amendments and interpretations published by the IASB but not yet adopted in the European Union at December 31, 2008:

IFRS 3 (revised) Business combinations

Amendments to IAS 27 Consolidated and separate financial statements

Amendments to IAS 39 Financial Instruments Recognition and Measurement Eligible Hedged Items

IFRIC 15 Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate

IFRIC 16 Hedges of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation

IFRIC 17 Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

Amendments to IAS 32 and IAS 1 Puttable Financial Instruments and Obligations Arising on Liquidation

Improvements to IFRS (and specifically amendment to IAS 38 Intangible assets Advertising and promotional activities).

We are currently reviewing them to measure the potential impact on our consolidated financial statements. At this stage, we do not anticipate any significant impact.

***1 Basis of consolidation***

Our consolidated financial statements include CGGVeritas and all majority-owned subsidiaries.

We use the equity method for investments in which our ownership interest ranges from 20% to 50% and we exercise significant influence over operating and financial policies. We may account for certain investments where the Group's ownership is below 20% using the equity method when we exercise significant influence (Board membership or equivalent) over the business.

All inter-company transactions and accounts are eliminated in consolidation.

Our consolidated financial statements are reported in euros.

***2 Foreign currency***

The financial statements of all of our French subsidiaries are maintained in euro, with the exception of the financial statements of certain subsidiaries for which the functional currency is the U.S. dollar, the currency in which they primarily conduct their business.

The financial statements of all of our foreign subsidiaries are maintained in the local currency, which is the functional currency, with the exception of the financial statements of historical subsidiaries of CGG operating in Norway (including notably some subsidiaries of Exploration Resources), in Malaysia, Venezuela and historical subsidiaries of Veritas (excluding Canada). In those subsidiaries, the functional currency is the U.S. dollar, the currency in which they primarily conduct their business. Goodwill attributable to foreign subsidiaries is accounted for in the functional currency of the applicable entities.

When translating the foreign currency financial statements of foreign subsidiaries to euro, year-end exchange rates are applied to balance sheet items, while average annual exchange rates are applied to income statement items. Adjustments resulting from this process are recorded in a separate component of shareholders' equity. With respect to foreign affiliates accounted for using the equity method, the effects of exchange rates changes on the net assets of the affiliate are recorded in a separate component of shareholders' equity.

Transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of a given entity are recorded at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies other than the functional currency are revalued at year-end exchange rates and any resulting unrealized

exchange gains and losses are included in income.

### **3 Business combinations**

Business combinations after January 1, 2004 are accounted for in accordance with IFRS 3. Assets and liabilities acquired under a business combination are recognized at their fair values at the date of acquisition. The remaining difference between the fair value of assets and liabilities acquired and the consideration tendered in an acquisition is recorded as goodwill and allocated to the cash generating units.

### **4 Operating revenues**

Operating revenues are recognized when they can be measured reliably, and when it is likely that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity, which is at the point that such revenues have been realized or are considered realizable. For contracts where the percentage of completion method of accounting is being applied, revenues are only recognized when the costs incurred for the transaction and the cost to complete the transaction can be measured reliably and such revenues are considered earned and realizable.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Multi-client surveys*

Multi-client surveys consist of seismic surveys to be licensed to customers on a non-exclusive basis. All costs directly incurred in acquiring, processing and otherwise completing seismic surveys are capitalized into the multi-client surveys. The value of our multi-client library is stated on our balance sheet at the aggregate of those costs less accumulated amortization or at fair value if lower. We review the library for potential impairment of our independent surveys on an ongoing basis.

Revenues related to multi-client surveys result from (i) pre-commitments and (ii) licenses after completion of the surveys ( after-sales ).

*Pre-commitments* Generally, we obtain commitments from a limited number of customers before a seismic project is completed. These pre-commitments cover part or all of the survey area blocks. In return for the commitment, the customer typically gains the right to direct or influence the project specifications, advance access to data as it is being acquired, and favorable pricing. The Company records payments that it receives during periods of mobilization as advance billing in the balance sheet in the line item Advance billings to customers .

The Company recognizes pre-commitments as revenue when production is begun based on the physical progress of the project.

*After sales* Generally, we grant a license entitling non-exclusive access to a complete and ready for use, specifically defined portion of our multi-client data library in exchange for a fixed and determinable payment. We recognize after sales revenue upon the client executing a valid license agreement and having been granted access to the data. Within thirty days of execution and access, the client may exercise our warranty that the medium on which the data is transmitted (a magnetic cartridge) is free from technical defects. If the warranty is exercised, the Company will provide the same data on a new magnetic cartridge. The cost of providing new magnetic cartridges is negligible.

*After sales volume agreements* We enter into a customer arrangement in which we agree to grant licenses to the customer for access to a specified number of blocks of the multi-client library. These arrangements typically enable the customer to select and access the specific blocks for a limited period of time. We recognize revenue when the blocks are selected and the client has been granted access to the data and if the corresponding revenue can be reliably estimated. Within thirty days of execution and access, the client may exercise our warranty that the medium on which the data is transmitted (a magnetic cartridge) is free from technical defects. If the warranty is exercised, the Company will provide the same data on a new magnetic cartridge. The cost of providing new magnetic cartridges is negligible.

*Exclusive surveys*

In exclusive surveys, we perform seismic services (acquisition and processing) for a specific customer. We recognize proprietary/contract revenues as the services are rendered. We evaluate the progress to date, in a manner generally consistent with the physical progress of the project, and recognize revenues based on the ratio of the project cost incurred during that period to the total estimated project cost. We believe this ratio to be generally consistent with the physical progress of the project.

The billings and the costs related to the transit of seismic vessels at the beginning of the survey are deferred and recognized over the duration of the contract by reference to the technical stage of completion.

In some exclusive survey contracts and a limited number of multi-client survey contracts, the Company is required to meet certain milestones. The Company defers recognition of revenue on such contracts until all milestones that provide the customer a right of cancellation or refund of amounts paid have been met.

*Other geophysical services*

Revenues from our other geophysical services are recognized as the services are performed and, when related to long-term contracts, using the proportional performance method of recognizing revenues.

*Equipment sales*

We recognize revenues on equipment sales upon delivery to the customer. Any advance billings to customers are recorded in current liabilities.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Software and hardware sales*

We recognize revenues from the sale of software and hardware products following acceptance of the product by the customer at which time we have no further significant vendor obligations remaining. Any advance billings to customers are recorded in current liabilities.

If an arrangement to deliver software, either alone or together with other products or services, requires significant production, modification, or customization of software, the entire arrangement is accounted for as a production-type contract, i.e. using the percentage of completion method.

If the software arrangement provides for multiple deliverables (e.g. upgrades or enhancements, post-contract customer support such as maintenance, or services), the revenue is allocated to the various elements based on specific objective evidence of fair value, regardless of any separate allocations stated within the contract for each element. Each element is appropriately accounted for under the applicable accounting standard.

Maintenance revenues consist primarily of post contract customer support agreements and are recorded as advance billings to customers and recognized as revenue on a straight-line basis over the contract period.

**5 *Cost of net financial debt***

Cost of financial debt is expensed in the income statement on the period in which it is borne, regardless of the use of funds borrowed.

Cost of net financial debt includes expenses related to financial debt, composed of bonds, the debt component of convertible bonds, bank loans, capital-lease obligations and other financial borrowings, net of income provided by cash and cash equivalents.

**6 *Income taxes and deferred taxes***

Income taxes includes all tax based on taxable profit.

Deferred taxes are recognized on all temporary differences between the carrying value and the tax value of assets and liabilities, as well as on carry-forward losses, using the liability method. Deferred tax assets are recognized only when its recovery is probable.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognized on intangibles assets valued in purchase accounting of business combinations (technological assets, customer relationships).

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are not discounted.

**7 *Intangible and tangible assets***

In accordance with IAS 16 Property, Plant and equipment and IAS 38 Intangible assets only items for which cost can be reliably measured and for which the future economic benefits are likely to flow to us are recorded in our consolidated financial statements.

*Property, plant and equipment*

Property, plant and equipment are valued at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Depreciation is generally calculated over the following useful lives:

equipments and tools	3 to 10 years
vehicles	3 to 5 years
seismic vessels	12 to 30 years
buildings for industrial use	20 years
buildings for administrative and commercial use	20 to 40 years

Depreciation expense is determined using the straight-line method.

We include residual value, if significant, when calculating the depreciable amount. We segregate tangible assets into their separate components if there is a significant difference in their expected useful lives, and depreciate them accordingly.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Lease agreements*

Assets under a capital lease agreement or a long-term lease agreement that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership to the Group are accounted for as fixed assets at the commencement of the lease term, at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction of the outstanding liability and the finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease term so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Assets under capital lease are depreciated over the shorter of its useful life and the lease term, if there is no reasonable certainty that the Group will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term.

Rent payments under operating leases are recognized as operating expenses over the lease term.

*Goodwill*

Goodwill is determined according to IFRS 3 Business Combinations. Upon transition to IFRS, goodwill is not amortized but subject to an annual impairment test.

*Multi-client surveys*

Multi-client surveys consist of seismic surveys to be licensed to customers on a non-exclusive basis. All costs directly incurred in acquiring, processing and otherwise completing seismic surveys are capitalized into the multi-client surveys (including transit costs when applicable). The value of our multi-client library is stated on our balance sheet at the aggregate of those costs less accumulated amortization or at fair value if lower. We review the library for potential impairment of our independent surveys on an ongoing basis.

We amortize the multi-client surveys over the period during which the data is expected to be marketed using a pro-rata method based on recognized revenues as a percentage of total estimated sales.

In this respect, we use four amortization rates 50%, 75%, 80% or 83.3% of revenues depending on the category of the surveys. Multi-client surveys are classified into a same category when they are located in the same area with the same estimated sales ratio, such estimates generally relying on the historical patterns.

For all category of surveys and starting from data delivery, a minimum straight-line depreciation scheme is applied over a five-year period, if total accumulated depreciation from the applicable amortization rate is below this minimum level.

Multi-client surveys acquired as part of the business combination with Veritas and which have been valued for purchase price allocation purposes are amortized based on 65% of revenues and an impairment loss is recognized on a survey by survey basis in case of any indication of impairment.

Until December 1, 2006, an amortization rate of 66.6% of revenues with a minimum straight-line depreciation over a three-year period were used instead of 50% over a five-year period. The impact of this change of estimates applied



from December 1, 2006 was a reduction in depreciation expenses of 1.2 million over the year ended December 31, 2006 and lower depreciation of 2.7 million over the year ended December 31, 2007.

From January 12, 2007 to October 1, 2007, we applied an amortization rate of 66.6% of revenues instead of 50% for a certain category of surveys. The impact of this change of estimates applied from October 1, 2007 is a reduction in depreciation expenses of 3.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2007.

*Development costs*

Expenditures on research activities undertaken with the prospect of gaining new scientific or technological knowledge and understanding are recognized in the income statement as expenses as incurred and are presented as Research and development expenses net .

Expenditures on development activities, whereby research findings are applied to a plan or design for the production of new or substantially improved products and processes, are capitalized if:

the project is clearly defined, and costs are separately identified and reliably measured,

the product or process is technically and commercially feasible,

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

we have sufficient resources to complete development, and

the intangible asset is likely to generate future economic benefits, either because it is useful to us or through an existing market for the intangible asset itself or for its products.

The expenditures capitalized include the cost of materials, direct labor and an appropriate proportion of overhead. Other development expenditures are recognized in the income statement as expenses as incurred and are presented as Research and development expenses net .

Capitalized development expenditures are stated at cost less accumulated amortization and impairment losses.

We amortize capitalized developments costs over 5 years.

Research & development expenses in our income statement represent the net cost of development costs that are not capitalized, of research costs, offset by government grants acquired for research and development.

*Impairment*

In accordance with IAS 36 Impairment of assets , the carrying amounts of our assets, other than inventories and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, we estimate the asset s recoverable amount. Factors we consider important by that could trigger an impairment review include the following:

significant underperformance relative to expected operating results based upon historical and/or projected data,

significant changes in the manner of our use of the acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business, and

significant negative industry or economic trends.

The recoverable amount of tangible and intangible assets is the greater of their net fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

Goodwill, assets that have an indefinite useful life and intangible assets are allocated to cash generating units, for which we estimate the recoverable amount at each balance sheet closing date.

We determine the recoverable amounts by estimating future cash flows expected from the assets or from the cash generating units, discounted to their present value using a discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

We recognize an impairment loss whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Impairment losses are recognized in the income statement. Impairment losses recognized in respect of a group of non independent assets allocated to a cash-generating unit are allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill allocated to cash-generating units (group of units) and then, to reduce the carrying amount of the other assets in the unit (group of units) on a pro rata basis.

*Assets held for sale*

Assets classified as assets held for sale correspond to assets for which the net book value will be recovered by a sale rather than by its use in operations. Assets held for sale are valued at the lower of historical cost and net realizable value.

**8 *Investments and other financial assets***

Investments and other financial assets include investments in non-consolidated entities and loans and non-current receivables.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Investments in non-consolidated entities*

In accordance with IAS 39 Financial instruments, we classify investments in non-consolidated companies as available-for-sale and therefore present them on the balance sheet at their fair value. The fair value for listed securities is their market price at the balance sheet date. If a reliable fair value cannot be established, securities are valued at historical cost. We account for changes fair value directly in shareholders' equity, except in case of impairment.

*Loans and non-current receivables*

Loans and non-current receivables are accounted for at amortized cost.

*Impairment*

We examine available-for-sale securities and other financial assets at each balance sheet date to detect any objective evidence of impairment. Where this is the case, we record an impairment loss.

Where there is objective evidence of impairment of a financial asset (for instance in case of significant and prolonged decline of the value of the asset) we record an irreversible impairment provision. This provision can only be released upon the sale of the relevant financial asset.

**9 Treasury shares**

We value treasury shares at their cost, as a reduction of shareholders' equity. Proceeds from the sale of treasury shares are included in shareholders' equity and have no impact on the income statement.

**10 Inventories**

We value inventories at the lower of cost (including direct production costs where applicable) and net realizable value.

We calculate the cost of inventories on a weighted average price basis for our Equipment segment and on a first-in first-out basis for our Services segment.

**11 Provisions**

We record a provision when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event for which it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.

*Onerous contracts*

We record a provision for onerous contracts equal to the excess of the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract over the economic benefits expected to be received under it, as estimated by the Group.

*Pension, post-employment benefits and other post-employment benefits*

Defined contribution plans

We record obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans as an expense in the income statement as incurred.

Defined benefit plans

Our net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and the fair value of any plan assets is deducted. We perform the calculation by using the projected unit credit method.

When the benefits of a plan are increased, the portion of the increased benefit relating to past service by employees is recognized as an expense in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the average period until

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

the benefits become vested. To the extent that the benefits vest immediately, the expense is recognized immediately in the income statement.

We record actuarial gains and losses that arise subsequent to the adoption of IAS 19 on January 1, 2004 directly in equity.

**12 Financial debt**

Financial debt is accounted for:

As at the date of issuance, at the fair value of the consideration received, less issuance fees and/or issuance premium;

subsequently, at amortized cost, corresponding to the fair value at which is initially recognized, less repayments at the nominal amount and increased or decreased for the amortization of all differences between this original fair value recognized and the amount at maturity; differences between the initial fair value recognized and the amount at maturity are amortized using the effective interest rate method.

*Convertible bonds*

As the US\$85 million 7.75% subordinated bonds due 2012 convertible into new ordinary shares or redeemable into new shares and/or existing shares and/or in cash issued in 2004 were denominated in U.S. dollars and convertible into new ordinary shares denominated in Euros, the embedded conversion option was bifurcated and accounted for separately within non-current liabilities. The conversion option and the debt component were initially recognized at fair value on issuance. The amount of the debt component recorded in our financial statements was discounted at the rate of 10.75%, the rate borne by comparable indebtedness without a conversion option. As a result, we bifurcated the embedded conversion option by 10.5 million at issuance as Other non-current assets. The discounting of the debt at issuance is accounted for as Cost of financial debt until the maturity of the convertible bonds. Those convertible bonds were fully converted at December 31, 2006.

Changes of the fair value of the embedded derivative were recognized in the consolidated income statement in the line item Variance on derivative convertible bonds. The fair value of the embedded derivative had been determined using a binomial model.

**13 Derivative financial instruments**

We use derivative financial instruments to hedge our exposure to foreign exchange fluctuations (principally U.S. dollars) from operational, financing and investment activities. In accordance with our treasury policy, we do not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for trading purposes. However, derivatives that do not qualify for hedge accounting are accounted for as trading instruments in Other financial income (loss).

Exchange gains or losses on foreign currency financial instruments that represent the efficient portion of an economic hedge of a net investment in a foreign subsidiary are reported as translation adjustments in shareholder's equity under the line item Cumulative translation adjustments, the inefficient portion being recognized in the income statement.

The cumulative value of foreign exchange gains and losses recognized directly in equity will be transferred to income statement when the net investment is sold or lost.

Derivative financial instruments are stated at fair value.

The gain or loss on reassessment to fair value is recognized immediately in the income statement. However, where derivatives qualify for hedge accounting, recognition of any resulting gain or loss is as follows (cash flow hedges), we account for changes in the fair value of the effective hedged amount in shareholder's equity. The ineffective portion is recorded in Other financial income (loss) .

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

**14 Cash-flow statement**

The cash flows of the period are presented in the cash flow statement within three activities: operating, investing and financing activities:

*Operating activities*

Operating activities are the principal revenue-producing activities of the entity and other activities that are not investing or financing activities.

*Investing activities*

Investing activities are the acquisition and disposal of long-term assets and other investments not included in cash equivalents. When a subsidiary is acquired, a separate item, corresponding to the consideration paid net of cash and cash equivalents held by the subsidiary at the date of acquisition, provides the cash impact of the acquisition.

*Financing activities*

Financing activities are activities that result in changes in the size and composition of the contributed equity and borrowings of the entity. They include the cash impact of financial expenses.

*Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents are liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash in less than three months.

**15 Stock options**

We include stock options granted to employees in the financial statements using the following principles: the stock option's fair value is determined on the grant date and is recognized in personnel costs on a straight-line basis over the period between the grant date and the end of the vesting period. We calculate stock option fair value using the Black-Scholes model.

**16 Grants**

Government grants, including non-monetary grants at fair value, are not recognized until there is reasonable assurance that the entity will comply with the conditions of the grant and that the grants will be received.

Government grants are recognized as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs which they are intended to compensate. They are presented as a reduction of the corresponding expenses in the item Research and development expenses, net in the income statement.

Refundable grants are presented in the balance sheet as Other non-current liabilities .



**17 Earnings per share**

Basic per share amounts are calculated by dividing net income for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year.

Diluted earnings per share amounts are calculated by dividing the net income attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company (after deducting interest, amortization on deferred expenditures and variance on derivative related to convertible bonds) by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year plus the weighted average number of ordinary shares that would be issued on the conversion of convertible bonds and the exercise of stock options.

**Table of Contents****COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)****NOTE 2 ACQUISITIONS AND DIVESTITURES***during 2008**Wavefield Inseis ASA*

On November 25, 2008, CGGVeritas SA launched a voluntary exchange tender offer to acquire 100% of the share capital of Wavefield-Inseis ASA ( Wavefield ). CGGVeritas SA offered Wavefield shareholders one newly issued CGGVeritas share for each 7 Wavefield shares. Completion of the offer was subject to customary conditions (or waive from CGGVeritas no later than on settlement date of the offer). The total number of shares tendered to the offer amounted to 90,480,237, representing 69.9% of the share capital of Wavefield. In consideration of the Wavefield shares tendered to the offer, on December 18, 2008, CGGVeritas issued 12,925,743 new shares. The fair value of those issued shares amounted to 139.0 million.

On December 30, 2008, CGGVeritas SA launched a mandatory public offer on the remaining 38,903,024 outstanding shares (i.e. 30.1% of the share capital) as well as on the 2,892,875 shares that could result from the exercise of stock options. The offer price calculated in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VI of the Norwegian Securities Trading Act amounted to NOK 15.17 per share to be paid in cash. At the end of this mandatory offer period which expired on January 27, 2009, CGGVeritas acquired 37,043,013 additional shares of Wavefield and held as a result thereof 98.6% of the share capital.

The total consideration of the acquisition, including the 30% acquired in February 2009 after the Mandatory Public Offer that was considered as a put option granted to minority interest, and squeeze-out process, amounted to 206.6 million (US\$287.6 million). The minority interests have been recognized as a financial debt at the fair value of the put option for an amount of 62 million.

Total direct transaction costs related to the acquisition (including advisory fees and legal fees) amounted to 5.5 million and were recognized as part of the cost of the acquisition.

*Purchase price allocation*

The purchase price has been preliminary allocated to the net assets acquired based upon their estimated fair values as follows:

	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>
Intangible assets, net	41.3
Multi-client seismic library, net	27.2
Fixed assets, net	180.0
Current assets / (liabilities), net	45.1
Financial debt	(92.6)
Cash & cash equivalents	25.8

<b>Net book value of assets acquired</b>	<b>226.8</b>
<b><i>Fair Value Adjustments</i></b>	
Technology (useful life of 10 years)	(3.6)
Customer contracts (maximum life of 2 years)	2.0
Multi-client seismic library	(12.9)
Unfavorable contracts (weighted average remaining life of 5.6 years)	(8.9)
Other financial & current assets	(9.4)
Contingent liabilities	(1.5)
Deferred taxes on fair value adjustments	5.5
<b>Preliminary Goodwill</b>	<b>8.6</b>
<b>Purchase Price</b>	<b>206.6</b>

The amount allocated to goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets acquired. This preliminary purchase price allocation is subject to modification during the next twelve months.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Multi-client data library*

The fair value of the completed surveys was determined by projecting the expected future revenues net of selling costs over the estimated remaining life (5 years) of the surveys at the date of acquisition. The fair value is estimated at US\$20.5 million.

*Unfavorable contracts*

The fair values of Wavefield's unfavorable contracts correspond to the difference in economic terms between Wavefield's existing vessel charters' conditions and their estimated market value at the date of the acquisition.

Expenses related to unfavorable contracts are expected to be a reduction of cost of US\$2 million per year over the remaining life.

*Other financial & current assets*

The fair values of certain investments were determined by using comparable market data and certain current assets were discounted or written-down due to the uncertainty of their recoverability.

*Contingent liabilities*

Due to the acquisition and the change of control of Wavefield, contractual obligations related to the stock-option plans have been recognized for an amount of 1.5 million (US\$2.1 million).

*Quest Geo Solutions*

On December 12, 2008, Sercel acquired Quest Geo Solutions Ltd ( Quest ), a UK-based company, for a price of 5.1 million (GBP3 million, with an additional GBP1 million that will be paid in 2011 provided a certain level of revenues is achieved). Quest is specialized in navigation software for the seismic industry and was already cooperating with Sercel with respect to its SeaProNav products.

The purchase price allocation resulted in a preliminary goodwill of 2.8 million.

*Metrolog*

On May 26, 2008, Sercel acquired Metrolog, a privately held company, for 25.7 million paid in cash (including advisory and legal fees). Metrolog is a leading provider of high pressure, high temperature gauges and other downhole instruments to the oil and gas industry. The purchase price allocation resulted in a preliminary goodwill of 14.3 million.

*Ardiseis FZCO*

On June 25, 2008, in conjunction with the Oman business transfer from Veritas DGC Ltd to Ardiseis FZCO, CGGVeritas subscribed to the increase of 805 shares in the capital of its subsidiary Ardiseis FZCO, and sold 407 Ardiseis FZCO shares to Industrialization & Energy Services Company (TAQA) for a total consideration of U.S.\$11.8 million. At the end of this transaction the Group's percentage interest in Ardiseis remained unchanged at 51%.

***CGGVeritas Services Holding BV***

On October 20, 2008 CGGVeritas Services Holding BV has been incorporated in the Netherlands. This allows CGGVeritas to benefit from a structure comparable to similar-sized international industrial groups, within a tax and legal environment better suited to our business needs. With the creation of CGGVeritas Services Holding BV, all Services operations will be conducted under a unified mode at the level of this new entity by the Services management team, also responsible for CGGVeritas Services SA.

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On September 4, 2006, CGG entered into a definitive merger agreement with Veritas DGC Inc. ( Veritas ) to acquire Veritas in a part cash, part stock transaction. The merger was completed on January 12, 2007 upon satisfaction of the closing conditions of the merger agreement. The combined company has been renamed Compagnie Générale de Géophysique-Veritas, abbreviated as CGGVeritas , and is listed on both the Euronext Paris and the New York Stock Exchange (in ADS form). The trading symbol of the combined company's ADS on the New York Stock Exchange is CGV .

At the merger closing date, and according to the formula set out in the merger agreement, the per share cash consideration to holders of Veritas stock was US\$85.50 and the per share stock consideration was 2.0097 CGGVeritas ADSs upon the election of Veritas shareholders. Of the 40,420,483 shares of Veritas common stock outstanding as of the merger date (January 12, 2007), approximately:

33,004,041 of the shares, or 81.7%, had elected to receive cash,

5,788,701 of the shares, or 14.3%, had elected to receive CGG ADSs; and

1,627,741 of the shares, or 4.0%, did not make a valid election.

Stockholders electing cash received, on average, 0.9446 CGV ADSs and US\$45.32 in cash per share of Veritas common stock. Stockholders electing ADSs and stockholders making no valid election received 2.0097 CGV ADSs per share of Veritas common stock. In aggregate, approximately US\$1.5 billion and approximately 46.1 million shares of CGV ADSs were paid to Veritas stockholders as merger consideration. Based on a valuation of CGV's ADS at US\$40.5 on January 12, 2007, the total consideration of the merger amounted to approximately 2.7 billion (US\$3.5 billion).

Total direct transaction costs related to the merger (including advisory fees and legal fees) amounted to 26.3 million (US\$34.6 million) and were recognized as cost of the acquisition.

*Purchase price allocation*

The purchase price has been allocated to the net assets acquired based upon their estimated fair values as follows:

	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>
Fixed assets, net	448
Current assets /(liabilities), net	43
Cash & cash equivalents	97
<b>Net book value of assets acquired</b>	<b>588</b>

**Fair Value Adjustments**

Trade name (indefinite life)	23
Technology (useful life of 5 years)	31
Customer relationship (useful life of 20 years)	130
Multi-client seismic library (maximum life of 6 years)	73
Favorable contracts (weighted average remaining life of 5 years)	52
Fixed assets (weighted average remaining life of 3 years)	24
Other intangible assets	23
Contingent liabilities	(40)
Other liabilities	(24)
Deferred taxes on the above adjustments	(106)
<b>Goodwill</b>	<b>1,884</b>
<b>Purchase Price</b>	<b>2,658</b>

The amount allocated to goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets acquired.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

*Technology, customer relationships and other intangible assets*

Amortization expense related to technologies and customer relationships acquired was 12.0 million (US\$16.4 million) for the year ended December 31, 2007 and is expected to be US\$17.0 million per year over the useful life.

Other intangible assets relate to exploration and appraisal licenses in the U.K. North Sea that were sold in February 2007 for a net amount of US\$27.5 million and an asset sold in Canada for US\$2.3 million. Neither amortization expense nor gain was recognized in the year ended December 31, 2007.

*Favorable contracts and fixed assets*

The fair values of Veritas' favorable contracts correspond essentially to the difference in economic terms between Veritas' existing vessel charters' conditions and their market value at the date of the acquisition.

Amortization expense related to favorable contracts acquired was 11.5 million (US\$15.7 million) for the year ended December 31, 2007 and is expected to be US\$16.2 million per year over the remaining life.

In determining the fair value of the fixed assets, it was considered that the remaining useful life of the fixed assets acquired exceeded the estimated useful life currently being used for amortization expense. Therefore, the combined effect of the fair value adjustments and the change in estimate of the useful life of the assets resulted in a net reduction of depreciation cost of 3.3 million (US\$4.5 million) for the year ended December 31, 2007.

*Multi-client data library*

After consideration of the estimated number of future years that revenues are expected to be generated from the completed surveys of the multi-client data library at the time of the transaction, CGGVeritas concluded that the remaining life of the completed surveys was a maximum of 6 years. The fair value of these surveys was determined by projecting the expected future revenues net of selling costs over the estimated remaining life of the surveys at the date of acquisition.

The US\$285 million of total capitalized multi-client data costs, including a US\$96 million adjustment, will be amortized pro rata the percentage of revenues generated and, in case of any indication of impairment, an impairment loss will be recognized. The net impact of the US\$96 million fair value adjustment combined with the estimated remaining life of the surveys resulted in an additional amortization expense of 27.5 million (US\$37.6 million) for the year ended December 31, 2007.

*Contingent liabilities and Other liabilities*

Due to the merger and the change of control of Veritas, contractual obligations related to a portion of severance costs for certain Veritas employees have been recognized for an amount of US\$21 million (16 million) as well as success fees for an amount of approximately US\$30 million.

*Geomar*



Geomar is a subsidiary, owned 49% by CGGVeritas and 51% by Louis Dreyfus Armateurs ( LDA ), that has owned the seismic vessel Alizé since March 29, 2007. On April 1, 2007, Geomar entered into a new charter agreement with LDA and LDA entered into a new charter agreement with CGG Services. Additionally, on April 10, 2007, CGG Services acquired a call right and LDA a put on the 51% stake of Geomar held by LDA. In light of the risks and benefits related to these new agreements for CGGVeritas, Geomar has been fully consolidated in our financial statements since April 1, 2007. Prior to that date, Geomar was accounted for under the equity method.

### *Cybernetix*

On June 27, 2007, Sercel Holding acquired 121,125 Cybernetix shares bringing its total holding to 352,125 shares, representing voting rights for 32.01% of Cybernetix's share capital and 26.57% of its voting rights. On November 5, 2007, Sercel Holding increased its investment for a total amount of 0.8 million, bringing its total holding to 416,147 shares, representing voting rights for 32.20%. Since June 30, 2007, Cybernetix has been accounted for under the equity method in our financial statements.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

***Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping***

On July 17, 2007, we entered into strategic joint operating agreement with Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping plc ( OHM ) under which both companies will work together to develop the Controlled Source ElectroMagnetic imaging activities (CSEM) and on seismic and CSEM integration opportunities. On August 21, 2007, subsequent to the approval by the shareholders of OHM, we acquired 6,395,571 shares of OHM at a price of 240 GBP pence per share. On October 19, 2007, we acquired an additional 80,695 shares at a price of 240 GBP pence per share. We thus paid in total 22.9 million for 14.99% of OHM s issued share capital.

***Eastern Echo Holding Plc***

On November 12, 2007, we acquired 30.9 million shares of Eastern Echo Holding plc (ECHO NO) for a total consideration of approximately 55 million (NOK 431 million), representing 12.67% of Eastern Echo s issued share capital. Eastern Echo is a geophysical company specializing in acquisition of high quality 3D seismic data. Our intent, with this minority stake, was to best position ourselves, especially Sercel, for continuing cooperation with Eastern Echo in the expanding seismic market.

On November 23, 2007, further the cash offer launched by Schlumberger BV on November 16, 2007, we tendered our shares of Eastern Echo to Schlumberger BV at price of NOK 15 per share. We therefore recognized a gain of 2.8 million.

***during 2006***

***TAQA***

On June 24, 2006, Industrialization & Energy Services Company (TAQA), our long term Saudi 51% Partner in Arabian Geophysical and Surveying Company ( Argas ), acquired, for 16.8 million, 49% of the capital of CGG Ardiseis, a newly formed CGG subsidiary dedicated to land and shallow water seismic data acquisition in the Middle East, and the company maintained a 51% interest. CGG Ardiseis, whose headquarters are located in Dubai, provides its clients with the complete range of CGG land and shallow water acquisition services, focusing on Eye-D, the latest CGG technology for full 3D seismic imaging. As part of our agreement with TAQA, CGG Ardiseis activities in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries are operated by Argas.

***Cybernetix***

On July 10 2006, Sercel acquired a 20% interest (17% of voting rights) in the French listed company Cybernetix, a specialist in robotics, with the aim of strengthening our technical partnership with Cybernetix in offshore oil equipment, and an additional 1% by the end of the year 2006. The aggregate consideration for the transactions is 4.0 million.

***Vibtech***

On September 28, 2006, Sercel acquired the Scottish company Vibration Technologies Limited ( Vibtech ), pioneer in the use of advanced wireless technologies for seismic recording. The Unite system, and field trials of this new generation equipment, which have attracted interest from both oil companies and seismic contractors, is a unique versatile product capable of recording and transmitting data in a stand alone or real time mode, enabling quality control while recording and is capable of handling thousands of channels. Use of new transmission technologies also reduces limitations inherent to radio frequencies. We expect that the combination of Sercel expertise in seismic recording and new skills arising from Vibtech s development group will help expand the capabilities of the Sercel portfolio of products and integrate advanced wireless technology with its latest generation products. The cash consideration was 49.5 million (GBP 33.3 million) and our valuation of technological assets purchased of 11.6 million more (GBP 7.8 million), led us to record a goodwill of 35.6 million. The cash acquired was an amount of 1.3 million (GBP 0.9 million).

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Table of Contents**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)****NOTE 3 TRADE ACCOUNTS AND NOTES RECEIVABLE**

Analysis of trade accounts and notes receivables by maturity is as follows:

	<b>December 31</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Trade accounts and notes receivable gross    current portion	522.9	409.1	207.5
Less: allowance for doubtful accounts	(12.4)	(6.8)	(8.3)
<b>Trade accounts and notes receivables net    current portion</b>	<b>510.5</b>	<b>402.3</b>	<b>199.2</b>
Trade accounts and notes receivable gross    non current portion	0.1	3.3	4.3
Less: allowance for doubtful accounts			
<b>Trade accounts and notes receivables net    non current portion</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Recoverable costs and accrued profit, not billed	201.7	196.3	97.6
<b>Total accounts and notes receivables</b>	<b>712.3</b>	<b>601.9</b>	<b>301.1</b>

In the geophysical services segment, customers are generally large national or international oil and gas companies, which management believes reduces potential credit risk. In the geophysical equipment segment, a significant portion of sales is paid by irrevocable letters of credit.

The Group maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific customers, historical trends and other information. Credit losses have not been material for the periods presented and have consistently been within management's expectations.

Recoverable costs and accrued profit not billed comprise amounts of revenue recognized under the percentage of completion method on contracts for which billings had not been presented to the contract owners. Such unbilled accounts receivable are generally billed over the 30 or 60 days following the project commencement.

The non current receivables as of December 31, 2008 amounted to 0.1 million for the geophysical equipment segment. The non current receivables as of December 31, 2007 amounted to 3.3 million for the geophysical equipment segment. The non current receivables as of December 31, 2006 amounted to 1.4 million for the geophysical services segment and to 2.9 million for the geophysical equipment segment.

As of December 31, the ageing analysis of trade receivables is as follows:

**Past due but not impaired**

		<b>No past due</b>	<b>30 days</b>	<b>30 - 60 days</b>	<b>60 - 90 days</b>	<b>90 - 120 days</b>	<b>&gt; 120 days</b>	<b>Total</b>	
(in millions of euros)									
<b>2008</b>	Trade accounts and notes receivables	net	335.3	81.2	49.9	15.4	7.1	21.7	<b>510.6</b>
<b>2007</b>	Trade accounts and notes receivables	net	295.0	53.2	18.6	14.2	4.2	20.4	<b>405.6</b>

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Table of Contents**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)****NOTE 4 INVENTORIES AND WORK IN PROGRESS**

Analysis of Inventories and work-in-progress is as follows:

	December 31, 2008			December 31, 2007			December 31, 2006		
	Cost	Valuation Allowance	Net	Cost	Valuation Allowance	Net	Cost	Valuation Allowance	Net
	(in millions of euros)								
<i>Geophysical services</i>									
Consumables and spares parts	31.7	(0.9)	30.8	38.5	(1.0)	37.5	30.3	(1.1)	29.2
Work in progress	39.3		39.3	30.3		30.3	8.0		8.0
<i>Geophysical equipment</i>									
Raw materials and spare parts	76.2	(6.2)	70.0	67.3	(7.9)	59.4	62.6	(8.0)	54.6
Work in progress	89.1	(4.2)	84.9	78.9	(4.1)	74.8	73.8	(4.3)	69.5
Finished goods	66.3	(3.4)	62.9	39.9	(1.7)	38.2	30.3	(2.9)	27.4
<b>Inventories and work in progress</b>	<b>302.6</b>	<b>(14.7)</b>	<b>287.9</b>	<b>254.9</b>	<b>(14.7)</b>	<b>240.2</b>	<b>205.0</b>	<b>(16.3)</b>	<b>188.7</b>

The item « Work in progress » for Geophysical Services includes transit costs of seismic vessels that are deferred and recognized over the contract period according to the technical progress ratio.

The variation of inventories and work in progress is as follows:

	December 31, 2008	December 31, 2007	December 31, 2006
<b>Variation of the period</b>			
	(in millions of euros)		
Balance at beginning of period	240.2	188.7	139.5
Variations	26.7	40.3	39.3
Movements in valuation allowance		1.0	0.7
Change in consolidation scope	18.9	18.7	3.1
Change in exchange rates	3.0	(8.7)	(4.6)
Others	(0.9)	0.2	10.7
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>287.9</b>	<b>240.2</b>	<b>188.7</b>

The additions and deductions in valuation allowances for inventories and work-in-progress are presented in the consolidated statements of operations as Cost of sales .

The change in consolidation scope relates to the acquisition of Wavefield for 17.1 million and Metrolog for 1.8 million in 2008, to the acquisition of Veritas in 2007.

#### **NOTE 5 OTHER CURRENT ASSETS**

Detail of other current assets is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Personnel and other tax assets	20.9	24.3	15.4
Fair value of financial instruments (see note 14)	1.1	8.3	8.8
Other miscellaneous receivables	34.4	18.9	18.1
Supplier prepayments	19.8	12.3	10.6
Prepaid expenses <sup>(a)</sup>	25.3	25.8	10.2
<b>Other current assets</b>	<b>101.5</b>	<b>89.6</b>	<b>63.1</b>

(a) includes principally prepaid rent, vessel charters.

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Details of valuation allowances recorded against assets are as follows:

	Balance at beginning of year	December 31, 2008 Additions/ Deductions charged in		Balance at end of period
		income (in millions of euros)	Others <sup>(a)</sup>	
Trade accounts and notes receivables	6.8	5.6		12.4
Inventories and work-in-progress	14.7			14.7
Tax assets	1.0	(1.0)		
Other current assets	0.8	1.9	(0.9)	1.8
Loans receivables and other investments	1.1	0.3	(0.3)	1.1
<b>Total assets valuation allowance</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>(1.2)</b>	<b>30.0</b>

(a) includes the effects of exchange rate changes and changes in the scope of consolidation.

	Balance at beginning of year	December 31, 2007 Additions/ Deductions charged		Balance at end of period
		in income (in millions of euros)	Others <sup>(a)</sup>	
Trade accounts and notes receivables	8.3	(1.6)	0.1	6.8
Inventories and work-in-progress	16.3	(1.0)	(0.6)	14.7
Tax assets	0.8	(0.3)	0.5	1.0
Other current assets	0.7	0.2	(0.1)	0.8
Loans receivables and other investments	1.0	0.1		1.1
<b>Total assets valuation allowance</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>(2.6)</b>	<b>(0.1)</b>	<b>24.4</b>



	Balance at beginning of year	December 31, 2006 Additions/ Deductions charged in		Balance at end of period
		income (in millions of euros)	Others <sup>(a)</sup>	
Trade accounts and notes receivables	6.2	2.3	(0.2)	8.3
Inventories and work-in-progress	17.7	(0.7)	(0.7)	16.3
Tax assets	0.3	0.5		0.8
Other current assets	1.4	(0.7)		0.7
Loans receivables and other investments	1.3	(0.2)	(0.1)	1.0
<b>Total assets valuation allowance</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>(1.0)</b>	<b>27.1</b>

**NOTE 7 INVESTMENTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS**

Detail of investments and other financial assets is as follows:

	December 31,		
	2008	2007	2006
	(in millions of euros)		
Non-consolidated investments	5.2	21.1	8.9
Loans and advances <sup>(a)</sup>	9.9	0.6	6.8
Other	11.1	10.3	3.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>19.2</b>

(a) includes loans and advances to companies accounted for under the equity method, at December 31, 2008 for 2.0 million and at December 31, 2006 for 6.0 million.

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Non-consolidated investments are as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
<i>Assets available for sale investments</i>			
Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping <sup>(a)</sup>	0.3	16.4	
<i>Other investments in non-consolidated companies</i>			
Cybernetix <sup>(b)</sup>			4.1
Tronic s Microsystems S.A.	3.9	3.9	3.9
Other investments in non-consolidated companies	1.0	0.8	0.9
<b>Total non-consolidated investments</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>8.9</b>

- (a) The Group's shareholding in Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping was 14.99% at December 31, 2008 and at December 31, 2007. As it is listed on Alternative Investment Market (London Stock Exchange), Offshore Hydrocarbon Mapping is recognized at the fair value based on closing share price of GBP0.05 pence as of December 31, 2008 and on closing share price of GBP 185.50 pence as of December 31, 2007. At December 31, 2008 a definitive impairment loss of 22.6 million was recognized in the line item Other revenues (expenses) (see note 21). At December 31, 2007, the change in fair value recognized in shareholders' equity was a negative amount of 6.9 million.
- (b) The Group's shareholding in Cybernetix was 21% interest and 17% of voting rights at December 31, 2006. Since June 30, 2007, Cybernetix has been accounted for under the equity method in our financial statements due to additional 112,125 shares acquired leading to 32.01% voting rights.
- (c) The Group's shareholding in Tronic s Microsystems S.A. was 16.07% at December 31, 2008 and at December 31, 2007 and 15.90% at December 31, 2006.

**NOTE 8 INVESTMENTS IN COMPANIES UNDER EQUITY METHOD**

The variation of Investments in companies under equity method is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	44.5	46.2	43.9
Change in consolidation scope	24.1	2.1	
Investments made during the year	0.1	0.9	1.0

Equity in income	3.0	4.2	10.1
Dividends received during the period, reduction in share capital	(1.4)	(5.3)	(4.3)
Changes in exchange rates	2.6	(3.6)	(4.5)
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>46.2</b>

The change in consolidation scope in 2008 corresponds to the entrance of Norwegian Oilfield Services AS and Multifield Geophysics at December 31, 2008 as part of the acquisition of Wavefield. The change in consolidation scope in 2007 corresponded to the exit of Geomar which was fully consolidated since April 1, 2007 for 5.4 million, and the entrance of Cybernetix which was accounted for under equity method since June 30, 2007 for 7.5 million (see note 2).

The investments in 2007 corresponded to the subscription of the capital increase in Cybernetix, and to the subscription of the capital increase in VS Fusion LLC in 2006.

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Investments in companies accounted for under equity method are comprised of:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Argas	40.7	32.8	37.5
Norwegian Oilfield Services AS	24.1		
Cybernetix <sup>(a)</sup>	5.0	8.2	
JV Xian Peic/Sercel Limited	2.6	2.4	2.4
VS Fusion LLC	0.5	1.1	0.9
Geomar			5.4
Multifield Geophysics			
<b>Investments in companies under the equity method</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>46.2</b>

(a) the investment under equity method for Cybernetix includes an impairment of 2.7 million.

The net contribution to equity of affiliates accounted for under the equity method is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Argas	36.4	28.5	33.2
Norwegian Oilfield Services AS	24.1		
Cybernetix	(3.5)	(0.3)	
JV Xian Peic/Sercel Limited	1.0	0.7	0.9
VS Fusion LLC	(0.7)	0.1	(0.3)
Geomar			(0.2)
Multifield Geophysics			
<b>Total</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>33.6</b>

**NOTE 9 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Analysis of Property, plant and equipment is as follows:

	December 31						2006 Net
	2008			2007			
	Gross	Accumulated depreciation	Net	Gross	Accumulated depreciation	Net	
	(amounts in millions of euros)						
Land	7.0	(0.2)	6.8	7.7	(0.2)	7.5	4.5
Buildings	89.1	(40.7)	48.4	83.1	(41.1)	42.0	30.6
Machinery & equipment	1,131.6	(623.0)	508.6	910.8	(547.9)	362.9	183.7
Vehicles & vessels	405.3	(181.9)	223.4	374.4	(148.5)	225.9	221.4
Other tangible assets	61.8	(41.1)	20.7	50.0	(36.8)	13.2	9.5
Assets under constructions	14.5		14.5	8.5		8.5	5.5
<b>Total Property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>1,709.3</b>	<b>(886.9)</b>	<b>822.4</b>	<b>1,434.5</b>	<b>(774.5)</b>	<b>660.0</b>	<b>455.2</b>

At December 31, 2008, lands and buildings of the current Massy headquarters have been reclassified as Assets held for sale for 8.0 million.

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Land, buildings and geophysical equipment recorded under capital leases are as follows:

	<b>December 31</b>						<b>2006 Net</b>
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>Net</b>	
	<b>(amounts in millions of euros)</b>						
Land and buildings under capital leases							
Geophysical equipment and vessels under capital leases	186.0	(44.9)	141.1	56.1	(17.9)	38.2	50.5
Other tangible assets under capital leases	0.5	(0.5)		0.4	(0.4)		
<b>Total Property, plant and equipment under capital leases</b>	<b>186.5</b>	<b>(45.4)</b>	<b>141.1</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>(18.3)</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>50.5</b>

In 2008, the increase in geophysical equipment and vessels under capital leases is related to the acquisition of Wavefield.

The decrease in geophysical equipment and vessels under capital leases in 2007 was due to the termination of a US\$13 million ( 10 million) lease and impact of changes in exchange rate.

In July 2006, the time charter party agreement of our seismic vessel, the Laurentian, had been renewed with modified contractual conditions and still qualifies as a capital lease. The total lease obligation is approximately US\$20.8 million ( 16 million) over its three-year term. The net present value of future lease payments under the capital lease was approximately US\$7.8 million ( 6 million) and the remaining part of the obligation is accounted for as operating expenses over the agreement duration. The capital lease amount was depreciated over the agreement duration, maturing in September 2008.

Depreciation of assets recorded under capital leases is determined on the same basis as owned-assets and is included in depreciation expense.

Included in assets recorded under capital leases are land and buildings of the Massy headquarters, which were sold under a sale and leaseback agreement in 1990, which included a purchase option that was exercised in 2006. The assets were maintained at their original cost and the buildings continue to be depreciated over their initial estimated useful lives.

The variation of the period for tangible assets is as follows :

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	660.0	455.2	480.1
Acquisitions	142.2	214.1	133.3
Acquisitions through capital lease			0.1
Depreciation	(168.4)	(142.2)	(92.8)
Disposals	(7.8)	(7.8)	(3.6)
Changes in exchange rates	27.2	(64.4)	(41.1)
Change in consolidation scope	180.2	204.0	(6.5)
Reclassification of tangible assets as Assets held for sale	(8.0)		(0.4)
Other	(3.0)	1.1	(13.9)
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>822.4</b>	<b>660.0</b>	<b>455.2</b>

The change in consolidation scope in 2008 corresponds to the fair value of Wavefield's tangible assets acquired for 179.8 million and of Metrolog's tangible assets acquired for 0.4 million.

The change in consolidation scope in 2007 corresponded to the fair value of Veritas' tangible assets acquired for 173.3 million and the consolidation of Geomar, owner of the seismic vessel *Alizé* for 30.7 million, and in 2006 to the adjustment in the estimated fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed from the acquisition of Exploration Resources.

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Reconciliation of acquisitions with the consolidated statements of cash flows and capital expenditures in note 19 is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Acquisitions of tangible assets (excluding capital lease) see above	142.2	214.1	133.3
Development costs capitalized see note 20	13.7	8.2	11.9
Additions in other tangible assets (excluding non-exclusive surveys) see note 10	5.9	3.8	4.1
Variance of fixed assets suppliers	(6.4)	4.4	(0.1)
<b>Total purchases of tangible and intangible assets according to cash-flow statement</b>	<b>155.4</b>	<b>230.5</b>	<b>149.2</b>
Acquisitions through capital lease see above			0.1
Increase in multi-client surveys see note 10	343.4	371.4	61.5
Less variance of fixed assets	6.4	(4.4)	0.1
<b>Capital expenditures according to note 19</b>	<b>505.2</b>	<b>597.5</b>	<b>210.9</b>

**Repairs and maintenance expenses**

Repairs and maintenance expenses included in cost of operations amounted to 79.6 million in 2008, 68.3 million in 2007 and 36.0 million in 2006.

**NOTE 10 INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

Analysis of intangible assets is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>						
	<b>2008</b>			<b>2007</b>			<b>2006</b>
	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Gross</b>	<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>Net</b>
	<b>(amounts in millions of euros)</b>						
Multi-client surveys							
Marine	1,326.3	(910.0)	416.3	955.8	(660.2)	295.6	71.8
Multi-client surveys Land	262.7	(143.4)	119.3	228.9	(89.1)	139.8	
	104.6	(19.6)	85.0	47.3	(12.8)	34.5	31.6



Development costs capitalized							
Software	45.8	(33.6)	12.2	41.0	(32.0)	9.0	7.3
Other intangible assets	249.9	(62.7)	187.2	239.4	(37.8)	201.6	16.9
<b>Total intangible assets</b>	<b>1,989.3</b>	<b>(1,169.3)</b>	<b>820.0</b>	<b>1,512.4</b>	<b>(831.9)</b>	<b>680.5</b>	<b>127.6</b>

The variation of the period for intangible assets is as follows:

Variation of the period	December 31,		
	2008	2007	2006
	(in millions of euros)		
Balance at beginning of period	680.5	127.6	136.3
Increase in multi-client surveys	343.4	371.4	61.5
Development costs capitalized	13.7	8.2	11.9
Others acquisitions	5.9	3.8	4.1
Depreciation on multi-client surveys	(260.8)	(308.5)	(80.6)
Other depreciation	(37.3)	(36.9)	(13.2)
Disposals		(21.9)	
Changes in exchange rates	32.5	(67.1)	(4.0)
Change in consolidation scope	62.1	584.8	11.4
Other	(20.0)	19.1	0.2
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>820.0</b>	<b>680.5</b>	<b>127.6</b>

The change in consolidation scope in 2008 corresponds to the fair value of Wavefield's intangible assets acquired for 54.0 million, Metrolog for 4.8 million and Quest Geo for 3.3 million, in 2007 to the fair value of

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Veritas intangible assets acquired (see note 2), and in 2006 to technology acquired in Sercel Vibtech's purchase accounting.

In 2007 the disposals of assets related mainly to the sale of certain of Veritas North Sea licenses and a Canadian asset (see note 2).

**NOTE 11 GOODWILL**

Analysis of goodwill is as follows:

<b>Variation of the period</b>	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Balance at beginning of period	1,928.0	267.4	252.9
Additions	25.8	1,883.6	35.6
Adjustments	4.3		2.9
Changes in exchange rates	97.0	(223.0)	(24.0)
Other			
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>2,055.1</b>	<b>1,928.0</b>	<b>267.4</b>

The additions in 2008 correspond to the preliminary goodwill arising on the acquisition of Metrolog for 14.3 million, the acquisition of Wavefield for 8.6 million, and the acquisition of Quest for 2.8 million (see note 2).

The adjustments to goodwill in 2008 correspond to an increase of 9.1 million related to the deferred tax asset previously recognized on Veritas acquisition fees, and a decrease of 4.8 million arising from the use of Veritas foreign carry-forward losses existing prior to the merger and not recognized as an asset according to IAS 12.68 Income taxes Deferred tax arising from a business combination. This reduction of goodwill offsets the symmetrical tax credit recorded in the line item Other income taxes.

The additions in 2007, corresponded to the goodwill arising on the acquisition of Veritas for 1,883.6 million (US\$2,480.7 million), and in 2006 to the goodwill arising on the acquisition of Vibtech renamed Sercel Vibtech for 35.6 million (GBP 24.4 million). The goodwill arising on the acquisition of Exploration Resources was adjusted in 2006 for 2.9 million, according to the adjustment of the fair value of Exploration Resources acquired assets and assumed liabilities, and was presented as Goodwill adjustments. The final goodwill of Exploration Resources amounted to 179.9 million.

**Impairment review**

Group management undertakes at least an annual impairment test covering goodwill, intangible assets and indefinite lived assets allocated to the cash generated units to consider whether an impairment is required.

The recoverable value retained by the Group corresponds to the discounted expected cash flows from the cash generating units or group of cash generating units.

The cash generating units are as follows:

Equipment segment (test of the carrying value of the goodwill);

Marine business line (test of carrying value of the goodwill, multi-client library and tangible assets corresponding mainly to the Veritas and Exploration Resources purchase accounting in 2007 and 2005);

Processing & Imaging business line (test of the carrying value of the goodwill, intangible and tangible assets resulting from the Veritas purchase accounting in 2007);

Land business line level (test of the carrying value of the goodwill and intangible and tangible assets resulting from the Veritas purchase accounting in 2007).

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**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

**Key assumptions used in the determination of value in use**

In determining the asset recoverability, management makes estimates, judgments and assumptions on uncertain matters. The recoverable amounts are determined based on economic and regulation assumptions and forecasted operating conditions as follows:

- expected cash flows estimated in the 3-year business plans,
- use of what is considered as normative cash flows beyond Year 3,
- industrial outlook consisting in a slow down in 2009 and 2010, and recovery in 2011 and beyond,
- average exchange rate of U.S.\$1.35 for 1 € ,
- discount rates corresponding to the respective sector weighted average cost of capital (WACC):
  - n 10.1% for the Equipment segment (corresponding to a pre-tax rate of 15.2%);
  - n 9.0% for the Marine business line (corresponding to a pre-tax rate of 11.2%);
  - n 9.6% for the Processing & Imaging business line (corresponding to a pre-tax rate of 12.2%); and
  - n 9.2% for the Land business line (corresponding to a pre-tax rate of 11.2%).

The result of the different impairment tests performed as of December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 is that no impairment loss was recorded in any year.

**Sensitivity to changes in assumptions**

Changing the assumptions selected by Group management, in particular the discount rate and the normative cash flows (EBITDAS) could significantly affect the Group's impairment evaluation and, hence, results.

The following changes to the assumptions used in the impairment test lead to the following:

<b>Excess of the expected future discounted cash-flows over the carrying</b>	<b>Sensitivity on normative cash flows</b>	<b>Sensitivity on discount rate (after tax)</b>
--	--	---

			<b>Decrease by</b>	<b>Increase by</b>	<b>Decrease by</b>	<b>Increase by</b>
	<b>Goodwill</b>	<b>value of assets including goodwill</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1%</b>
			<b>(in millions of euros)</b>			
Equipment segment	101	844	(148)	+ 148	+ 143	(127)
Marine	1,345	1,042	(890)	+ 890	+ 622	(507)
Processing & Imaging	323	277	(99)	+ 99	+ 118	(83)
Land	286	187	(189)	+ 189	+ 130	(101)

**NOTE 12 OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES**

The analysis of other current liabilities is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Value added tax and other taxes payable	34.7	25.9	15.7
Deferred income	93.1	63.5	7.0
Fair value of financial instruments (see note 14)	10.2	1.1	0.6
Other liabilities	35.3	18.5	8.0
<b>Other current liabilities</b>	<b>173.3</b>	<b>109.0</b>	<b>31.3</b>

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Analysis of financial debt by type is as follows:

	<b>December 31</b>						<b>2006 Total</b>
	<b>2008 Current</b>	<b>2008 Non- current</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2007 Current</b>	<b>2007 Non- current</b>	<b>Total</b>	
	<b>(amounts in millions of euros)</b>						
Outstanding bonds		642.8	642.8		606.6	606.6	245.5
Bank loans	137.3	558.7	696.0	28.4	657.4	685.8	95.2
Capital lease debt	31.4	94.8	126.2	8.5	34.8	43.3	55.5
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>168.7</b>	<b>1,296.3</b>	<b>1,465.0</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>1,298.8</b>	<b>1,335.7</b>	<b>396.2</b>
Bank overdrafts	8.2		8.2	17.5		17.5	6.5
Accrued interest	10.7		10.7	7.8		7.8	2.9
Other <sup>(a)</sup>	62.1		62.1				2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>249.7</b>		<b>1,546.0</b>	<b>62.2</b>		<b>1,361.0</b>	<b>405.6</b>

(a) corresponds at December 31, 2008 to the 30.1% share capital of Wavefield that was subject to the mandatory public offer launched on December 30, 2008 and acquired on February 16, 2009 (see note 30).

The current portion corresponds to a one year maturity (See note 18).

Analysis of financial debt by currency is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Euro	35.1		1.5
U.S. dollar	1,423.8	1,335.6	394.6
Other currencies	6.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,465.0</b>	<b>1,335.7</b>	<b>396.2</b>

Analysis of financial debt by interest rate is as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	
	<b>2006</b>		
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Variable rates (average effective rate December 31, 2008: 4.82%, 2007: 7.62%, 2006: 6.34%)	724.7	633.5	85.3
Fixed rates (average effective rate December 31, 2008: 7.46%, 2007: 7.65%, 2006: 7.30%)	740.3	702.2	310.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,465.0</b>	<b>1,335.7</b>	<b>396.2</b>

Variable interest rates generally are based on inter-bank offered rates of the related currency. The weighted average interest rate on bank overdrafts was 7.90%, 11.50% and 9.40% at December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006 respectively.

Out of the fixed rate credit lines, no significant credit line is expected to be renewed within the next twelve months (see note 18).

The impact of hedging instruments has not been considered in the above two tables.

#### **n Outstanding Bonds**

##### ***High Yield bonds Additional notes (US\$400 million, 7 3/4% Senior Notes, maturity 2017)***

On February 9, 2007, we issued US\$400 million of 7 3/4% Senior Notes due 2017. These notes were guaranteed on a senior basis by certain of our subsidiaries. The notes are listed on the Euro MTF market of the Luxembourg

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**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

Stock Exchange. We used the net proceeds from the notes to repay one part of US\$700 million outstanding under the bridge loan facility used to finance Veritas acquisition.

Those bonds include some covenants, specifically on additional indebtedness subscriptions, pledges arrangements, sales and lease-back transactions, issuance and sale of equity instruments and dividends payments by certain subsidiaries of the Group.

In addition, the ratio of EBITDAS to gross interest expenses has to be equal or greater than 3.

All those covenants were complied with at December 31, 2008. They were also complied with at December 31, 2007.

***High Yield bonds Additional notes (US\$200 million, 7 1/2% Senior Notes, maturity 2015)***

On February 9, 2007, we issued an additional US\$200 million in aggregate principal amount of 7 1/2% senior notes due 2015. These notes were guaranteed on a senior basis by certain of our subsidiaries. The notes are listed on the Euro MTF market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. We used the net proceeds from the notes to repay one part of US\$700 million outstanding under the bridge loan facility used to finance Veritas acquisition.

Those bonds include some covenants, specifically on additional indebtedness subscriptions, pledges arrangements, sales and lease-back transactions, issuance and sale of equity instruments and dividends payments by certain subsidiaries of the Group.

In addition, the ratio of EBITDAS to gross interest expenses has to be equal to or greater than 3.

All those covenants were complied with at December 31, 2008. They were also complied with at December 31, 2007.

***High Yield bonds Additional notes (US\$165 million, 7 1/2% Senior Notes, maturity 2015)***

On February 3, 2006, we issued an additional US\$165 million principal amount of our dollar-denominated 7 1/2% Senior Notes due 2015 issued in April 2005 in a private placement with certain eligible investors. The notes were issued at a price of 103 1/4% of their principal amount, resulting in a Yield-to-Worst of 6.9%. The net proceeds from the notes were used on February 10, 2006 to repay the US\$140.3 million remaining outstanding under our US\$375 million bridge credit facility used to finance the acquisition of Exploration Resources. On August 17, 2006, US\$164 million in principal amount of these notes were exchanged for identical notes registered with the SEC.

Those bonds include some covenants, specifically on additional indebtedness subscriptions, pledges arrangements, sales and lease-back transactions, issuance and sale of equity instruments and dividends payments by certain subsidiaries of the Group.

In addition, the ratio of EBITDAS to gross interest expenses has to be equal to or greater than 3.

All those covenants were complied with at December 31, 2008. They were also complied with at December 31, 2007 and at December 31, 2006.



***High Yield bonds (US\$165 million, 7 1/2% Senior Notes, maturity 2015)***

On April 28, 2005, we issued US\$165 million of 7 1/2% Senior Notes due 2015. The net proceeds were used to redeem and pay accrued interest on all US\$150 million outstanding aggregate principal of our existing 10 5/8% Senior Notes due 2007, on May 31, 2005 (see above).

Those bonds include some covenants, specifically on additional indebtedness subscriptions, pledge arrangements, sale and lease-back transactions, issuance and sale of equity instruments and dividends payments by certain subsidiaries of the Group.

In addition, the ratio of EBITDAS to gross interest expenses has to be equal to or greater than 3.

All those covenants were complied with at December 31, 2008. They were also complied with at December 31, 2007 and at December 31, 2006.

**Table of Contents****COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)*****Convertible bonds (7.75%, due 2012)***

On November 4, 2004 the Company issued 14,000 subordinated bonds in favor of Onex Partners LP, Onex American Holdings II LLC, Onex US Principals LP and CGG Executive Invesco, LLC, with maturity of 2012, in a total nominal amount of US\$84,980,000, convertible into new ordinary shares or redeemable in new shares and/or existing shares and/or in cash (the Bonds), at an interest rate of 7.75%.

The terms of the convertible bonds were amended as approved by the General Meeting of bondholders held on November 2, 2005, and approved by a General Meeting of CGG shareholders held on November 16, 2005. The early conversion period was open from November 17 to November 18 2005, inclusive. At the conclusion of the conversion period, 11,475 convertible bonds due 2012 were converted, leading to the issuance of 1,147,500 new shares. Thereafter 2,525 convertible bonds remained outstanding representing a nominal value of US\$15.3 million. The Group paid a total premium of US\$10.4 million ( 8.9 million) to the bondholders who converted its bonds. This premium has been recognized as a charge under the line item Other financial income (loss) in the income statement for the year ended December 31, 2005. In addition, the write-off of the deferred issuance costs linked to this redemption amounted to 3.7 million and has been recognized as a charge under the line item Other financial income (loss) in the income statement for the year ended December 31, 2005 (see note 23).

A component of our convertible bonds due 2012 issued on November 4, 2004 and denominated in US dollars constitutes an embedded derivative as the shares to be issued upon conversion are denominated in Euro. A portion of the issuance proceeds was deemed to relate to the fair value of the derivative on issuance and subsequent changes in fair value of the derivative are recorded through earnings. The allocation of a portion of the proceeds to the derivative created a discount on issuance that is being amortized to earnings over the life of the bonds.

The fair value of the embedded derivative has been determined using a binomial model.

The indenture of the Bonds states that, in case of fundamental change (shares or American depository shares ceasing to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange, sale of a substantial part of the assets of the Company, liquidation or dissolution of the Company, change of control of the Company), any bondholder may require the Company to redeem its Bonds and to pay, in addition to the principal amount of the Bonds, an amount equal to the amount of basic interest at a rate of 7.75% that would have accrued on the Bonds until maturity for a maximum period of five years. This provision may trigger a payment by the Company of a maximum of U.S.\$6 million in additional interest. At December 31, 2004 and at December 31, 2005, no expense related to this clause was booked since its realization was considered unlikely.

Approximately US\$70 million of our US\$85 million 7.75% convertible bonds due 2012 were converted in November 2005. A general meeting of bondholders, held on April 5, 2006, and a general meeting of CGG shareholders, held on May 11, 2006, approved a change to the terms and conditions of the remaining convertible bonds to grant bondholders a right to receive a cash payment upon immediate conversion of the bonds. The early conversion period was open on May 12, 2006 only. At the conclusion of the conversion period, all the remaining 2,525 convertible bonds were converted, leading us to issue of 274,914 new shares of CGG and pay a total premium of US\$2.1 million ( 1.6 million) to the converting bondholders. This premium has been recognized as an expense under the line item Derivative and other expenses on convertible bonds in our income statement for the twelve months period ended December 31, 2006.

In addition, we wrote-off the deferred issuance costs attached to the remaining 2,525 convertible bonds in connection with the early conversion, corresponding to a 0.7 million expense under the line item Derivative and other expenses on convertible bonds in our income statement for the twelve months ended December 31, 2006 (see note 23).

The fair value of the derivative increased from 11.3 million at December 31, 2005 to 32.0 million at May 12, 2006 when the remaining 2,525 convertible bonds due 2012 were converted. At the conversion, the derivative of 32.0 million was reclassified to retained earnings in the balance sheet.

The increase in the value of the derivative of 20.7 million from January 1, 2006 to May 12, 2006 is explained principally by the increase in CGG share price, taking into account that the value was reduced by the time component upon the conversion in shares for an amount of 1.6 million. The corresponding income was accounted under the line item Derivative and other expenses on convertible bonds .

#### **n Bank loans**

At December 31, 2008, 617.7 million of bank loans were secured by tangible assets and receivables.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

At December 31, 2008, the Group had 11.1 million available in unused short-term credit lines and overdraft facilities and 203.5 million in unused long-term credit lines.

***Amendments to the credit agreement dated January 12, 2007 and the French revolver credit agreement dated February 7, 2007 (hereafter the credit agreements ) :***

An amendment to the credit agreements was signed on December 12, 2008. Such amendments give the Group a larger flexibility with respect to (i) the acquisition of companies through a tender offer process, (ii) share buyback and (iii) recapitalization of subsidiaries that are not Guarantors under the credit agreements.

In consideration of such amendments, the Company (i) reimbursed US\$50 million on the signature date of such amendments and (ii) shall reimburse an additional US\$100 million (in addition to the reimbursement initially scheduled) in 2009, to be paid in four quarterly installments of US\$25 million. Half of these additional payments (US\$75 million) correspond to early payment of compulsory reimbursements to be made in the first semester of 2010.

***U.S.\$1,140 million Senior Facilities***

On January 12, 2007, the Group entered into a US\$1.140 billion senior secured credit agreement with Credit Suisse, as administrative agent and collateral agent, and the lenders party thereto, pursuant to which credit agreement the Group borrowed a US\$1.0 billion senior secured term loan B and obtained a US\$140 million senior secured U.S. revolving facility (which revolving facility includes letter of credit and swingline subfacilities). We repaid US\$100 million on June 29, 2007 of the Term Loan B early.

The proceeds of the term loan facility were used to:

- finance a portion of the cash component of the merger consideration;
- repay certain existing debt of CGG and Veritas; and
- pay the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the foregoing.

Proceeds of loans under the U.S. revolving facility may be used for the general corporate purposes of the borrower and other subsidiaries.

The obligations of CGGVeritas Services Holding (US) under the senior facilities are guaranteed by CGGVeritas and certain subsidiaries including the former Veritas group subsidiaries. Shares of CGGVeritas Services Holding (US) and of certain of its first-tier subsidiaries are pledged as well as those of other first-tier subsidiaries of CGGVeritas. In addition, certain guarantors have provided first-priority security interests in certain of their respective tangible and intangible assets, including (without limitation) certain vessels, real property, mineral rights, deposit accounts and intellectual property. In the case of certain of subsidiaries (most notably CGGVeritas Services Holding (US) and certain U.S. and Canadian subsidiaries), the collateral may comprise substantially all of their respective assets.

The interest rate applicable to the term loan facility is LIBOR + 200 bps. The interest rate applicable to the U.S. revolving facility of U.S.\$140 million is LIBOR + 225 bps.

Pursuant to this agreement, the group is required to adhere to certain financial covenants including maximum ratio of total net debt to EBITDAS, and minimum ratio of EBITDAS less capital expenditures to total interest costs. Besides, the group is subject to affirmative and negative covenants that affect its ability, among other things, to borrow money, incur liens, dispose of assets and acquisitions and pay dividends or redeem shares.

***U.S.\$1,600 million Bridge Loan***

On November 22, 2006, the Group entered into a US\$1.6 billion senior secured bridge loan facility agreement with Credit Suisse International, as agent and security agent, and the lenders party thereto. On January 12, 2007, the Group borrowed US\$700 million under the bridge loan facility, and the proceeds were used to:

finance a portion of the cash component of the merger consideration;

repay certain existing debt of CGG and Veritas; and

pay the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the foregoing.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

Upon such borrowing and the concurrent funding of the US\$1.0 billion term loan facility described above, the unused commitments of US\$900 million were terminated.

We used the net proceeds of our February 2007 senior notes offering described above, together with cash on hand, to repay in full the bridge loan facility.

***U.S.\$375 million Bridge Loan (used credit line and presented as bank loans - current portion)***

On September 1, 2005, we entered into a single currency US\$375 million term credit facility, which was amended on September 30, 2005, with Crédit Suisse, Paris Branch and BNP Paribas as arrangers, with a maturity date at September 1, 2006 with the option (upon our request and upon approval of a majority of the lenders) to extend it for a further six months. The use of proceeds for this credit facility was to fund our initial purchase of approximately 60% of Exploration Resources shares, our continuing purchases of Exploration Resources shares, our mandatory offer for the purchase of the remaining Exploration Resources shares and the "squeeze out" of remaining shareholders.

The credit facility bears interest at a graduated rate beginning with a base margin, depending on the credit rating assigned by either Moody's or Standard & Poor's to our outstanding U.S.\$165 million 7 1/2% senior notes due 2015 (4.25% at BB-/Ba3 or higher, 5.25% at B+/B1, 5.75% at B/B2 and 6.25% at B-/B3 or lower), over US\$ LIBOR until March 1, 2006, plus 0.50% from March 1, 2006 until June 1, 2006, plus 1.00% from June 1, 2006 until September 1, 2006 plus 2.00% from September 1, 2006 until the repayment. The interest expense represents \$10.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2005.

In order to comply with the conditions of the acquisitions of Exploration Resources shares noted above, we obtained waivers from the lenders under our US\$60 million syndicated credit facility dated March 12, 2004 of the negative pledge and any other relevant provisions hereunder, as well as amendments to the financial covenants (see below).

As a consequence of the capital increase dated December 16, 2005, we repaid, on December 23, 2005, US\$234.7 million of the US\$375 million which had been drawn on this credit facility. The unamortized portion of the deferred expenditures linked to this redemption amounted to \$3.8 million and were recognized in the income statement as "Cost of financial debt" at December 31, 2005. At December 31, 2005, we have drawn down US\$140.3 million (\$118.9 million), which was effectively repaid on February 10, 2006. The net proceeds from the notes issued on February 3, 2006 were used on February 10, 2006 to repay the US\$140.3 million which remained outstanding under our US\$375 million bridge credit facility used to finance the acquisition of Exploration Resources. We agreed to maintain some provisions under the bridge loan agreement: those were respected at December 31, 2005 and were invalid and void from February 10, 2006. The corresponding interest expense amounted to \$2.0 million in 2006.

***Additional asset financing agreement***

On March 13, 2006, CGG Marine Resources Norge AS concluded an asset financing agreement for US\$26.5 million with a bank. The purpose of this agreement was to finance the acquisition of newly-developed "Sentinel" streamers for the vessel Symphony. This financing agreement is guaranteed by a pledge on the streamers. At December 31, 2006, this facility was fully drawn. The outstanding value at December 31, 2008 is US\$9.5 million.

***Additional credit facility***

On March 29, 2006, Exploration Resources concluded a credit facility of US\$70 million. The proceeds from this credit facility were used to finance the conversion of the *Geo-Challenger* from a cable laying vessel to a 3D seismic vessel and seismic equipment for the vessels *C-Orion* and *Geo-Challenger*. At December 31, 2006, this facility was fully drawn. The outstanding value at December 31, 2008 is US\$35 million.

***U.S.\$25 million Secured Term Loan Facility***

On April 30, 2007, Geomar concluded a credit facility of US\$25 million. The proceeds from this credit facility were used to refinance the seismic vessel *Alizé*. At December 31, 2007, this facility was fully drawn. The outstanding value at December 31, 2008 is US\$19.6 million.

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

***U.S.\$200 million Revolving Credit Agreement***

On February 7, 2007, CGGVeritas entered into a US\$200 million revolving credit agreement with Natixis as administrative agent and Crédit Suisse as collateral agent. The proceeds of this revolving credit agreement may be drawn in US\$ or in €, and may be used for the general corporate purposes of the borrower. At December 31, 2008, 35 million were drawn.

**NOTE 14 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Because we operate internationally, we are exposed to general risks linked to operating abroad. Our major market risk exposures are changing interest rates and currency fluctuations. We do not enter into or trade financial instruments including derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

**n Foreign currency risk management**

As a company that derives a substantial amount of its revenue from sales internationally, we are subject to risks relating to fluctuations in currency exchange rates. In the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007 and 2006, more than 80% of our operating revenues were denominated in U.S. dollar while in the same time the part of our operating expenses denominated in currencies other than euros grew to approximately three-quarters. These included U.S. dollars and, to a significantly lesser extent, other non-Euro Western European currencies, principally British pounds and Norwegian kroner.

***Foreign currency sensitivity analysis***

The reporting currency for the Group's consolidated financial statements is the euro. As a result, the Group's sales and operating income are exposed to the effects of fluctuations in the exchange rate of the euro against such other currencies, particularly the U.S. dollar. A depreciation of the U.S. dollar against the euro will negatively affect our reported results of operations since U.S. dollar denominated earnings that are converted to euros are stated at a decreased value. Based upon the level of operations we reached in year 2008, and given the current portfolio of currencies, a 10 cents variance of the U.S. dollar against the euro would impact by approximately 50 million dollars our dollar equivalent-value results of operations.

To mitigate the exposure, we attempt to match foreign currency revenues and expenses in order to balance our net position of receivables and payables denominated in foreign currencies. Nevertheless, during the past five years such dollar-denominated expenses have not equaled dollar-denominated revenues principally due to personnel costs payable in euros. In order to improve the balance of our net position of receivables and payables denominated in foreign currencies, we maintain our financing in U.S. dollars.

***Foreign forward exchange contracts***

In order to protect the Group against the reduction in the value of future foreign currency cash flows we follow a policy of selling U.S. dollars forward at average contract maturity dates that the Group attempts to match with future net U.S. dollar cash flows (revenues less costs in U.S. dollars) to be generated by firm contract commitments in its



backlog generally over the ensuing six months. A similar policy, to a lesser extent, is carried out with respect to contracts denominated in British pounds and in Australian dollars. This foreign currency risk management strategy has enabled us to reduce, but not eliminate, the positive or negative effects of exchange movements with respect to these currencies.

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Details of forward exchange contracts are as follows:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Forward sales of U.S. dollars against euros</b>			
Notional amount (in millions of US\$)	418.8	255.9	305.9
<i>of which forward sales qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>	408.8	255.9	305.9
<i>of which forward sales not qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>	10.0		
Weighted average maturity	83 days	70 days	94 days
Weighted average forward US\$/Euro exchange rate	1.4354	1.4065	1.2619
<b>Forward sales of U.S. dollars against British pounds</b>			
Notional amount (in millions of US\$)	5.5	15.0	21.9
<i>of which forward sales qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>	5.5	15.0	21.9
<i>of which forward sales not qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>			
Weighted average maturity	8 days	26 days	123 days
Weighted average forward U.S./£ exchange rate	0.5055	1.9847	1.8956
<b>Forward sales of U.S. dollars against Australian dollars</b>			
Notional amount (in millions of US\$)		9.5	
<i>of which forward sales qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>		9.5	
<i>of which forward sales not qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>			
Weighted average maturity		229 days	
Weighted average forward U.S./AUD\$ exchange rate		0.8383	
<b>Forward sales of U.S. dollars against Ren-min-bi Yuan</b>			
Notional amount (in millions of US\$)	6.5		
<i>of which forward sales qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>	6.5		
<i>of which forward sales not qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>			
Weighted average maturity	61 days		
Weighted average forward U.S./RMB exchange rate	6.8248		

Effects of forward exchange contracts on financial statements are as follows:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>December 31, 2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Carrying value of forward exchange contracts (see notes 5 and 12)	(7.6)	8.3	8.8
Fair value of forward exchange contracts	(7.6)	8.3	8.8
Gains (losses) recognized in profit and loss (see note 21)	(9.1)	18.7	8.9
Gains (losses) recognized directly in equity	(3.9)	(4.6)	8.7

**Call contracts**

In 2008, the Group has acquired call contracts in connection with the mandatory public offer to acquire the portion of Wavefield shares not yet acquired at December 31, 2008, so as to mitigate the exchange risk related to the cash consideration of the transaction in a context of appreciation of the Norwegian Kroner against Euro.

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Call NOK / Put</b>			
Notional amount (in millions of NOK)	600.0		
<i>of which qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>	600.0		
<i>of which not qualifying as cash-flow hedges</i>			
Maturity	33 days		
Exercise price (NOK/ )	9.50		

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**Table of Contents****COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

Effects of call contracts on financial statements are as follows:

	<b>December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Carrying value of call contracts	1.0		
Fair value of call contracts	1.0		

**n Interest rate risk management**

Our policy is to manage interest rates through use of a combination of fixed and floating rate debt. Our exposure to interest rate fluctuations is reduced to the extent that part of our financial debt at December 31, 2008 consists of bond issues maturing in November 2015 and 2017 and bearing a fixed interest rate. However, our sources of liquidity include a Senior Term Loan B credit with financial institutions charging variable interest rates. We may also use interest rate swaps to adjust interest rate exposures when appropriate based upon market conditions.

***Interest rate sensitivity analysis***

Our sources of liquidity include credit facilities and debt securities which are or may be subject to variable interest rates. In particular, the Senior Facilities are subject to interest based on U.S. dollar LIBOR. As a result, our interest expenses could increase significantly if short-term interest rates increase. Each 50 basis point increase in the LIBOR will increase our interest expense by approximately \$4 million per year.

***Interest rate swap contracts***

There is one outstanding agreement at December 31, 2008, subscribed by Exploration Resources on a variable rate loan in U.S. dollars to pay the interest at fixed rate of 5.67% and to receive interest at the variable rate of the loan. This contract is designated as a cash flow hedge starting January 1, 2008. The outstanding value of the loan at December 31, 2008 is US\$35.0 million. The maturity of this agreement is June 2011.

Effects of interest rate swap on financial statements are as follows:

	<b>At December 31,</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
Carrying value of interest rate swaps (see note 12)	(1.5)	(1.1)	(0.6)
Fair value of interest rate swaps	(1.5)	(1.1)	(0.6)
Gains (losses) recognized in profit and loss		(0.5)	(0.6)
Gains (losses) recognized directly in equity	(1.8)		

*Interest rate cap contracts*

There is no interest rate cap agreement as at December 31,2008.

**n Credit risk management**

We seek to minimize our counter-party risk by entering into hedging contracts only with highly rated commercial banks or financial institutions and by distributing the transactions among the selected institutions. Although our credit risk is the replacement cost at the then-estimated fair value of the instrument, we believe that the risk of incurring losses is remote and those losses, if any, would not be material. Our receivables and investments do not represent a significant concentration of credit risk due to the wide variety of customers and markets in which we sell our services and products and our presence in many geographic areas. In 2008, the Group's two most significant customers accounted for 3.9% and 3.8% of the Group's consolidated revenues compared with 4.5% and 2.8% in 2007 and 9.0% and 3.2% in 2006.

**n Liquidity risk management**

Our principal capital needs are for the funding of ongoing operations, capital expenditures (particularly repairs and improvements to our seismic vessels), investments in our multi-client data library and acquisitions (such as, most recently, Exploration Resources and Veritas).

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We intend to fund ongoing operations and debt service requirements through cash generated by operations. Our ability to make scheduled payments of principal, or to pay the interest or additional interest, if any, on, or to refinance our indebtedness, or to fund planned capital expenditures will depend on our future performance, which, to a certain extent, is subject to general economic, financial, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other factors that are beyond our control. Based upon the current level of operations, we believe that cash flow from operations, available cash and short-term investments, together with borrowings available under the U.S. revolving facility and the French revolving facility, will be adequate to meet our future liquidity needs for the next twelve months.

**n Financial instruments by categories in the Balance sheet**

The impact and the breakdown of the Group's financial instruments in the balance sheet at December 31, 2008 are as follows:

	December 31, 2008					Debts at	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Fair value in statement (in millions of euros)	Available-for-sale assets	Loans, receivables	amortized cost	Derivatives
Non-consolidated investments	5.2	5.2		5.2			
Financial and non-current assets	21.0	21.0			21.0		
Notes receivables	712.3	712.3			712.3		
Financial and current assets	1.1	1.1					1.1
Cash equivalents	77.5	77.5	76.5				1.0
Cash	439.4	439.4	439.4				
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,256.5</b>	<b>1,256.5</b>	<b>515.9</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>733.3</b>		<b>2.1</b>
Financial and non-current liabilities	1.4	1.4			1.4		
Financial debts <sup>(a)</sup>	1,546.0	1,551.5				1,546.0	
Notes payables	286.2	286.2			286.2		
Financial and current liabilities	10.2	10.2					10.2
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,843.8</b>	<b>1,849.3</b>			<b>287.6</b>	<b>1,546.0</b>	<b>10.2</b>

(a) Financial debts include long term debt, bank overdraft facilities and accrued interest (see note 13)

**n Fair value information**

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Group's financial instruments are as follows:

	2008		December 31, 2007		2006	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	(in millions of euros)					
Cash and cash equivalents	516.9	516.9	254.3	254.3	251.8	251.8
Bank overdraft facilities	8.2	8.2	17.5	17.5	6.5	6.5
Bank loans, vendor equipment financing and shareholder loans:						
Variable rate	724.7	724.7	633.5	633.5	85.3	85.3
Fixed rate	740.3	745.8	702.2	1,106.9	310.9	369.2
Forward currency exchange contracts	(7.6)	(7.6)	8.3	8.3	8.7	8.7
Interest rate swaps	(1.5)	(1.5)	(1.1)		(0.6)	

The Group considers the carrying value for loans receivable and other investments, trade accounts and notes receivable, other receivables, trade accounts and notes payable and other current liabilities to be the most representative estimate of fair value.

For bank loans with fixed interest rates, the fair values have been estimated using discounted cash flow (interest payments and reimbursements) analysis based on the Group's incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements. At December 31, 2008, the rate of 17.5% (source Bloomberg) is used to

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**COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

determine the fair value of high yield bonds. For variable-rate bank loans, vendor equipment financing and the shareholder loans, fair values approximate carrying values.

The market value of forward sales is assessed based on forward rates, available on the financial markets for similar maturities.

**NOTE 15 COMMON STOCK AND STOCK OPTION PLANS**

The Company's share capital at December 31, 2008 consisted of 150,617,709 shares, each with a nominal value of 0.40.

**Five-for-one stock split**

On June 3, 2008 at the opening of the Paris stock exchange, CGGVeritas implemented a five-for-one stock split.

As a consequence:

the market price of CGGVeritas shares listed on Euronext Paris was divided by 5;

the number of outstanding shares was multiplied by 5;

the par value of each share decreased from 2.00 to 0.40 each; and

an ADS listed on the NYSE has one-to-one parity with an ordinary share listed on Euronext Paris.

This transaction did not require any specific formalities from CGGVeritas shareholders and did not involve additional costs.

As a consequence, the following information has been restated in order to reflect this split: granted / exercised or forfeited options have been multiplied by 5, and issued shares price or exercise option price have been divided by 5.

**Rights and privileges related to ordinary shares**

Ordinary shares give right to dividend. Dividends may be distributed from the statutory retained earnings, subject to the requirements of French law and the Company's articles of incorporation. Retained earnings available for distribution amounted to 1,867.9 million at December 31, 2008.

Ordinary shares registered held for more than two years give a double voting right.

**Issued Shares**

In 2008, CGGVeritas S.A. issued 13,363,919 fully paid shares related to the following operations:

226 165 ordinary shares corresponding to allocated stock options;



237 500 ordinary shares corresponding to allocated performance shares;

12 925 749 ordinary shares corresponding to the acquisition of Wavefield;

25 495 cancellation of ordinary shares related to the acquisition of Veritas.

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**Table of Contents****COMPAGNIE GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIQUE-VERITAS, S.A.****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)****Consolidated statements of changes in shareholders' equity**

	Number of shares issued	Share capital	Additional paid-in capital	Retained earnings	Treasury shares	Income and expense recognized directly in equity	Cumulative translations adjustment	Total shareholders' equity	Minority interest	Total sharehold- ers' equity and minority interest
	(amounts in millions of euros, except share data)									
<b>Balance at January 1, 2006</b>	<b>85,408,400</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>372.3</b>	<b>283.2</b>	<b>(1.1)</b>	<b>(1.4)</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>698.5</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>710.2</b>
Capital increase	1,206,470	0.5	11.9					12.4		12.4
Conversion of convertible bonds	1,374,570	0.5	10.7	31.0				42.2		42.2
Net income				157.1				157.1	1.6	158.7
Cost of share-based payment				7.4				7.4	(0.3)	7.1
Operations on treasury shares					4.1			4.1		4.1
Actuarial gains and losses of pension provisions(1)(b)				(1.0)				(1.0)		(1.0)
Financial instruments: Change in fair value and transfer to income statement(2)(b)						6.2		6.2		6.2
Foreign currency translation: Change in fair value and transfer to income statement(3)(b)							(49.9)	(49.9)	(1.6)	(51.5)
Income and expense				(1.0)		6.2	(49.9)	(44.7)	(1.6)	(46.0)

Recognized directly in equity(1)+(2)+(3) changes in consolidation scope									11.5	11.5
<b>Balance at December 31, 2016</b>	<b>87,989,440</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>394.9</b>	<b>477.7</b>	<b>3.0(a)</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>(38.6)</b>	<b>877.0</b>	<b>22.9</b>	<b>899.9</b>
Capital increase	47,914,350	19.7	1,425.1	44.1				1,488.9		1,488.9
Net income				245.5				245.5	4.1	249.6
Net loss of share-based payment				20.6				20.6		20.6
Operations on treasury shares					(6.9)			(6.9)		(6.9)
Actuarial gains and losses of pension provisions(1)(b)				(3.8)				(3.8)		(3.8)
Financial instruments: Change in fair value and transfer income statement(2)(b)						(9.9)		(9.9)		(9.9)
Foreign currency translation: Change in fair value and transfer income statement(3)(b)							(209.8)	(209.8)	(2.5)	(212.3)
Income and expense Recognized directly in equity(1)+(2)+(3) changes in consolidation scope				(3.8)		(9.9)	(209.8)	(223.5)	(2.5)	(226.3)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2017</b>	<b>135,903,790</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>1,820.0</b>	<b>784.1</b>	<b>(3.9)</b>	<b>(5.1)</b>	<b>(248.4)</b>	<b>2,401.6</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>2,425.6</b>
Capital increase	13,363,919	5.3	144.7	(9.6)				140.4		140.4
Net income				332.8				332.8	7.2	340.0
Net loss of share-based payment				25.1				25.1	(1.4)	23.7
					(14.2)			(14.2)		(14.2)

operations on treasury shares										
actuarial gains and losses of provision										
Items(1) <sup>(b)</sup>			0.6					0.6		0.
Financial instruments:										
Change in fair value and transfer income										
Item(2) <sup>(b)</sup>						2.6		2.6		2.
Foreign currency translation:										
Change in fair value and transfer income										
Item(3) <sup>(b)</sup>							72.1	72.1	3.5	75.
Income and expense recognized directly in equity(1)+(2)+(3)			0.6			2.6		75.3	3.5	78.
Changes in consolidation scope and other			(0.8)				(0.1)	(0.9)	5.2	4.
<b>Balance at December 31, 2008</b>	<b>150,617,709</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>1,964.7</b>	<b>1,132.2</b>	<b>(18.1)</b>	<b>(2.5)</b>	<b>(176.4)</b>	<b>2,960.1</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>2,998.</b>

(a) at December 31, 2006, CGGVeritas S.A. did not hold any own shares through the liquidity contract.

(b) net of deferred tax.

### Stock options

Pursuant to various resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors, the Group has granted options to purchase Ordinary Shares to certain employees, executive officers and directors of the Group.

Options granted under the provisions of the 2000 option plan expired on January 17, 2008.

Options granted under the provisions of the March 2001 option plan, which expires eight years from the date of grant, are vested by one fifth each year from March 2001 and could not generally be exercised before 2004 and for the options to subscribe for 1,000 shares or more, the shares resulting from the exercise of those options could not be sold before January 18, 2005.

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Options granted under the May 2002 option plan, which expires eight years from the date of grant, are vested by one fifth each year from May 2002 and could not generally be exercised before 2005. Moreover, for options to subscribe for 1,000 shares or more, the shares resulting from the exercise of those options could not be sold before May 15, 2006.

Options granted under the May 2003 option plan, which expires eight years from the date of grant, are vested by one-fourth each year from May 2003 and could not generally be exercised before May 16, 2006. Moreover, for options to subscribe for 1,000 shares or more, the shares resulting from the exercise of those options could not be sold before May 16, 2007.

Options granted under the May 2006 option plan, which expires eight years from the date of grant, are vested by one fourth each year from May 2006 and could not generally be exercised before May 2010. Moreover, for options to subscribe for 1,000 shares or more, the shares resulting from the exercise of those options could not be sold before May, 2010. Out of the 1,012,500 options granted in May 2006, 680,000 were granted to the executive managers of the Group.

Options granted under the March 2007 option plan, which expires eight years from the date of grant, are vested by one third each year from March 2007 and, once vested, can be exercised at anytime. For the French tax residents, the shares resulting from the exercise of those options may not be sold before March 24, 2011. Out of the 1,308,750 options granted in March 2007, 675,000 were granted to the executive officers.

Options granted under the March 2008 option plan, which expires eight years from the date of grant, are vested by one third each year from March 2008 and, once vested, can be exercised at anytime. For the French tax residents, the shares resulting from the exercise of those options may not be sold before March 14, 2012. Out of the 1,188,500 options granted in March 2008, 584,742 were granted to the executive officers.

The exercise price of each option is the average market value of the share during the twenty-day period ending the day before the date the option is allocated.

Information related to options outstanding at December 31, 2008 is summarized below:

<b>Date of Board of Directors</b>	<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Options granted</b>	<b>Options outstanding at Dec. 31, 2008</b>	<b>Exercise price per share ( )</b>	<b>Expiration date</b>	<b>Remaining duration</b>
March 14, 2001		1,280,000	251,120	13.08	March 13, 2009	2.5 months
May 15, 2002		690,500	244,280	7.99	May 14, 2010	16.5 months
May 15, 2003		849,500	347,000	2.91	May 14, 2011	28.5 months
May 11, 2006		1,012,500	954,085	26.26	May 10, 2014	64.5 months

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March 23, 2007	1,308,750	1,226,500	30.40	March 22, 2015	74.5 months
March 14, 2008	1,188,500	1,159,000	32.57	March 14, 2016	86.5 months
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,329,750</b>	<b>4,181,985</b>			

A summary of the Company's stock option activity, and related information for the years ended December 31 follows:

	2008		2007		2006	
	Number of	Weighted	Number of	Weighted	Number of	Weighted
	options	average	options	average	options	average
		exercise		exercise		exercise
		price ( )		price		price
		(weighted average exercise price in euro)				
Outstanding-beginning of year	3,306,000	21.84	3,253,985	13.59	3,459,695	8.73
Granted	1,188,500	32.57	1,308,750	30.40	1,012,500	26.25
Exercised	(226,165)	11.55	(1,157,125)	7.89	(1,206,470)	10.30
Forfeited	(86,350)	22.89	(99,610)	26.94	(11,740)	9.67
<b>Outstanding-end of year</b>	<b>4,181,985</b>	<b>25.43</b>	<b>3,306,000</b>	<b>21.84</b>	<b>3,253,985</b>	<b>13.59</b>
Exercisable-end of year	1,728,276	18.05	1,077,935	7.90	1,896,535	8.44

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**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

The average price of CGGVeritas share was 23.74 in 2008, 36.20 in 2007 and 25.60 in 2006.

**Performance shares**

The Board of Directors meeting held on April 29, 2008 resolved that the performance conditions set forth by the general regulations of the plan dated May 11, 2006 had been fulfilled and, as a result, finally allocated the performance shares to those beneficiaries that were employees or officers of the company or one of its subsidiaries at the time of the final allocation, i.e. May 12, 2008. 237,500 shares were thus allocated.

Additionally to our 2006 performance share allocation plan, the Board of Directors implemented, on March 23, 2007, a performance share allocation plan. The maximum number of performance shares that may be allocated is 408,750 shares, out of which 67,500 may be allocated to the executive officers. Performance shares are allocated according to the following conditions:

If the realization of the performance conditions described below has been enacted by the Board of Directors shares will be issued on the latest of the two following dates : March 23, 2009 or the date of the General Shareholders meeting approving the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008.

The beneficiaries would be allocated the shares only if such beneficiary still has a valid employment contract with CGGVeritas or one of its subsidiaries (subject to specific conditions) at the date the two-year acquisition period expires and if the conditions of allocation are met.

The Board of Directors defined two general performance conditions based on the Group's average consolidated net income per share for the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2008 and the average yearly return before tax on capital employed for the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2008 of either CGGVeritas, the Services segment, or the Equipment segment, according to the segment to which the beneficiary belongs.

Once allocated, the shares may not be sold for a two years conservation period from the date of the actual allocation.

In addition to our 2006 and 2007 performance share allocation plans, on March 14, 2008, the Board of Directors decided to allocate a maximum amount of 459,250 performance shares to senior executives and certain other employees of the Group. These shares will be allocated at the end of a two-year allocation period expiring on the later of March 14, 2010 or the date of the shareholders meeting convened to approve the 2009 financial statements.

Such allocation will be final provided (i) the Board resolves that the performance conditions provided for by the plan regulations, i.e. the achievement in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 of a minimum average consolidated net earning per share and an average operating income of either the Group, the Services segment or the Equipment segment, depending upon the segment to which each beneficiary belongs, and (ii) the beneficiary is still an employee or officer of the Group upon final allocation of the shares.

The allocated shares will have to be kept in registered form for a two-period as from the allocation date before they can be sold.

**Compensation cost on stock options and performance shares**

The following table lists the assumptions used to value the 2006, 2007 and 2008 options plan and the 2006, 2007 and 2008 performance shares allocation plan according to IFRS 2 :

	<b>Options granted</b>	<b>Volatility</b>	<b>Risk-free rate</b>	<b>Fair value per share at the grant date ( )</b>
2006 stock options plan	1,012,500	35%	3.80%	14.97 <sup>(a)</sup>
2007 stock options plan	1,308,750	36%	3.95%	12.65 <sup>(b)</sup>
2008 stock options plan	1,188,500	39%	3.47%	12.06

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	<b>Performance shares granted</b>	<b>Annual Turnover</b>	<b>Achievement of performance Conditions</b>	<b>Fair value per share at the grant date ( )</b>
2006 performance shares allocation plan	266,000	2.5%	100%	31.64 <sup>(c)</sup>
2007 performance shares allocation plan	408,750	2.5%	100%	31.02 <sup>(c)</sup>
2008 performance shares allocation plan	459,250	5.0%	75%	30.58 <sup>(c)</sup>

(a) the hypothetical exercise date was estimated at May 11, 2012, corresponding to the mid-term between the last acquisition date (May 11, 2010) and the end of the plan (May 11, 2014);

(b) the hypothetical exercise date was estimated at September 23, 2012, corresponding to the mid-term between the last acquisition date (March 23, 2010) and the end of the plan (March 23, 2015);

(c) corresponds to CGGVeritas share price at the date of allocation

According to IFRS 2, fair value of stock options and performance shares granted since November 7, 2002 must be recognized as an expense over the life of the plan. Detail of this expense is as follows:

	<b>Year</b>		
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	<b>(in millions of euros)</b>		
2003 stock options plan <sup>(a)</sup>			0.2
2006 stock options plan <sup>(b)</sup>	2.5	5.6	4.8
2007 stock options plan <sup>(c)</sup>	5.1	8.1	
2008 stock options plan <sup>(d)</sup>	6.5		
2006 performance shares plan <sup>(e)</sup>	1.7	4.0	2.4
2007 performance shares plan <sup>(f)</sup>	4.1	2.9	
2008 performance shares plan <sup>(g)</sup>	3.9		
<b>Total recognized expense according to IFRS 2</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>

(a) of which 0.1 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2006;

(b) of which 1.3 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2008, 2.7 million in 2007, 3.2 million in 2006;

- (c) of which 2.6 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2008, 3.9 million in 2007;
- (d) of which 3.2 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2008;
- (e) of which 0.3 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2008, 0.7 million in 2007, 0.6 million in 2006;
- (f) of which 0.7 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2008, 1.5 million in 2007.
- (g) of which 0.4 million for the executive managers of the Group in 2008.

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Detail of provisions for liabilities and charges is as follows:

	<b>Balance at 31 December, 2007</b>	<b>Additions</b>	<b>Deductions (used) (in millions of euros)</b>	<b>Deductions (non used)</b>	<b>Others<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>Balance at 31 December, 2008</b>
Provisions for onerous contracts <sup>(b)</sup>	1.4	1.4	1.3		8.6	10.1
Provisions for restructuring costs	1.1	2.0	0.2		(0.4)	2.5
Provisions for litigations	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.1		0.6
Others provisions	6.2	5.8	3.7		(0.8)	7.5
<b>Total current provisions</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>20.7</b>
Customers Guarantee provisions	12.1	7.4	8.5		(0.4)	10.6
Retirement indemnity provisions	28.6	6.3	7.3		(2.1)	25.5
Other provisions	35.8	3.5			7.0	46.3
<b>Total non current provisions</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>17.2</b>				