

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP

Form 10-Q

October 21, 2004

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

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2004

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number 0-6964

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

95-1935264

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

6301 Owensmouth Avenue

Woodland Hills, California

(Address of principal executive offices)

91367

(Zip Code)

(818) 704-3700

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

www.21st.com

(Registrant's web site)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes x No o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes x No o

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock as of October 12, 2004 was 85,480,312.

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PART I -**FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1.****FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

Unaudited

	September 30, 2004	December 31, 2003
<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE DATA</i>		
Assets		
Fixed maturity investments available-for-sale, at fair value (amortized cost: \$1,305,484 and \$1,183,526)	\$ 1,329,813	\$ 1,219,676
Equity securities available-for-sale, at fair value (cost: \$39,613)	39,476	
Total investments	1,369,289	1,219,676
Cash and cash equivalents	34,754	65,010
Accrued investment income	15,107	14,746
Premiums receivable	117,028	104,638
Reinsurance receivables and recoverables	6,975	12,135
Prepaid reinsurance premiums	1,769	1,719
Deferred income taxes	62,015	76,611
Deferred policy acquisition costs	58,903	53,079
Leased property under capital lease, net of deferred gain of \$3,511 and \$4,698 and net of accumulated amortization of \$21,695 and \$12,397	34,422	42,534
Property and equipment, at cost less accumulated depreciation of \$65,248 and \$60,070	121,739	101,237
Other assets	35,846	46,747
Total assets	\$ 1,857,847	\$ 1,738,132
Liabilities and stockholders' equity		
Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	\$ 486,080	\$ 438,323
Unearned premiums	341,469	312,254
Debt	141,200	149,686
Claim checks payable	40,142	45,702
Reinsurance payable	661	1,761
Other liabilities	93,939	89,716
Total liabilities	1,103,491	1,037,442
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, par value \$0.001 per share; 110,000,000 shares authorized; shares issued and outstanding 85,478,962 and 85,435,505	85	85
Additional paid-in capital	420,052	419,245
Retained earnings	320,439	259,808
Accumulated other comprehensive income:		
Net unrealized gains on available-for-sale investments, net of deferred income taxes of \$8,467 and \$12,653	15,725	23,497
Minimum pension liability in excess of unamortized prior service cost, net of deferred income taxes of \$1,047 and \$1,047	(1,945)	(1,945)
Total stockholders' equity	754,356	700,690

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Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$	1,857,847	\$	1,738,132
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See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

Unaudited

	<i>Three Months Ended</i> <i>September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended</i> <i>September 30,</i>	
<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS,</i> <i>EXCEPT SHARE DATA</i>	2004	2003	2004	2003
Revenues				
Net premiums earned	\$ 333,440	\$ 303,675	\$ 978,681	\$ 862,347
Net investment income	15,118	11,350	42,579	34,660
Other				14,065
Net realized investment (losses) gains	(162)	836	8,821	13,116
Total revenues	348,396	315,861	1,030,081	924,188
Losses and expenses				
Net losses and loss adjustment expenses	252,359	240,926	744,429	722,452
Policy acquisition costs	55,866	49,857	164,338	143,767
Other operating expenses	8,942	7,234	25,186	8,567
Interest and fees expense	2,116	797	6,527	2,337
Total losses and expenses	319,283	298,814	940,480	877,123
Income before provision for income taxes	29,113	17,047	89,601	47,065
Provision for income taxes	4,554	4,338	23,843	11,918
Net income	\$ 24,559	\$ 12,709	\$ 65,758	\$ 35,147
Earnings per common share				
Basic and diluted	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.41
Weighted average shares outstanding - basic	85,473,603	85,432,838	85,459,383	85,431,949
Weighted average shares outstanding - diluted	85,579,863	85,745,822	85,603,010	85,621,463

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Unaudited

AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE DATA	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other		Total
	Shares	\$0.001 par value Amount			Income (Loss)		
Balance - January 1, 2004	85,435,505	\$ 85	\$ 419,245	\$ 259,808	\$ 21,552		\$ 700,690
Comprehensive income (loss)				65,758 ⁽¹⁾	(7,772) ⁽²⁾		57,986
Cash dividends declared on common stock (\$0.06 per share)				(5,127)			(5,127)
Other	43,457		807				807
Balance - September 30, 2004	85,478,962	\$ 85	\$ 420,052	\$ 320,439	\$ 13,780		\$ 754,356

(1)

Net income

(2) *Net change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, comprises net unrealized losses arising during the period on available-for-sale investments of \$7,772 (net of income tax benefit of \$4,186).*

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS
OF CASH FLOWS

Unaudited

AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS

Nine Months Ended September 30,

	2004	2003
Operating activities		
Net income	\$ 65,758	\$ 35,147
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	21,047	16,435
Amortization of restricted stock grants	297	247
Provision for deferred income taxes	18,781	18,781
Realized gains on sale of investments	(8,738)	(12,894)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Reinsurance balances	4,009	11,657
Federal income taxes	697	(6,863)
Other assets	(18,324)	(35,320)
Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	47,757	45,041
Unearned premiums	29,215	52,667
Claims checks payable	(5,560)	4,683
Other liabilities	14,272	15,684
Net cash provided by operating activities	169,211	145,265
Investing activities		
Investments available-for-sale		
Purchases	(809,793)	(516,673)
Calls or maturities	29,847	30,110
Sales	623,157	300,480
Purchases of property and equipment	(29,567)	(13,327)
Net cash used in investing activities	(186,356)	(199,410)
Financing activities		
Repayment of debt	(8,495)	(7,434)
Dividends paid (per share: \$0.06 and \$0.04)	(5,126)	(3,417)
Proceeds from the exercise of stock options	510	
Net cash used in financing activities	(13,111)	(10,851)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(30,256)	(64,996)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	65,010	105,897
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 34,754	\$ 40,901
Supplemental information:		
Income taxes (refunded) paid	\$ (474)	\$ 123
Interest paid	5,072	2,211

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

NOTE 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

General

21st Century Insurance Group and subsidiaries (the Company) prepared the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission for interim reporting. As permitted under those rules and regulations, certain notes or other information that are normally required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) have been condensed or omitted if they substantially duplicate the disclosures contained in the annual audited consolidated financial statements. The unaudited condensed financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and notes thereto included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003.

These condensed consolidated financial statements include all adjustments (consisting of normal, recurring accruals) that are considered necessary for the fair presentation of our financial position and results of operations in accordance with GAAP. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Operating results for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2004 are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for any other interim period or the year as a whole.

Certain amounts in the 2003 condensed consolidated financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the 2004 presentation.

Earnings Per Share (EPS)

For each of the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the numerator for the calculation of both basic and diluted earnings per common share is equal to net income reported for that period. The difference between basic and diluted earnings per share denominators is due to dilutive stock options. Options to purchase an aggregate of 6,568,759 and 6,091,424 shares of common stock during the third quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively, and 5,158,294 and 5,118,802 shares of common stock during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003, respectively, were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because the options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the common stock for each respective period. These options expire at various points in time through July 2014.

Stock-Based Compensation

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation-Transition and Disclosure*, amends the disclosure requirements of SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, to require prominent disclosures in both annual and interim financial statements about the method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation and the effect of the method used on reported results. As permitted by SFAS No. 148, the Company accounts for its fixed stock options using the intrinsic-value method, prescribed in Accounting Principles Board (APB) Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, which generally does not result in compensation expense recognition. Under the intrinsic-value method, compensation cost for stock options is measured at the date of grant as the excess, if any, of the quoted market price of the Company's stock over the exercise price of the options.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

Had compensation cost for the Company's stock-based compensation plans been determined based on the estimated fair value at the grant dates of options, net income and earnings per share would have been reduced to the pro-forma amounts indicated below:

	<i>Three Months Ended September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended September 30,</i>	
<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE DATA</i>	2004	2003	2004	2003
Net income, as reported	\$ 24,559	\$ 12,709	\$ 65,758	\$ 35,147
Add: Stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported net income, net of related tax effects	66	60	196	180
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects	(1,401)	(1,550)	(4,681)	(4,608)
Net income, pro-forma	\$ 23,224	\$ 11,219	\$ 61,273	\$ 30,719
Basic and diluted earnings per share:				
As reported	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.77	\$ 0.41
Pro-forma	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.36

For pro-forma disclosure purposes, the fair value of stock options was estimated for grants during the periods ended September 30 using the Black-Scholes valuation model with the following weighted-average assumptions:

	<i>Nine Months Ended September 30,</i>	
	2004	2003
Risk-free interest rate:		
Minimum	3.43%	2.65%
Maximum	4.24%	3.75%
Dividend yield	0.56%	0.67%
Volatility factor of the expected market price of the Company's common stock:		
Minimum	0.36	0.38
Maximum	0.41	0.40
Weighted-average expected life of the options	6 years	6 years

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In January 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued FASB Interpretation No. 46, *Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51* (FIN 46), and amended it in December 2003. An entity is subject to the consolidation rules of FIN 46 and is referred to as a variable interest entity (VIE) if it lacks sufficient equity to finance its activities without additional financial support from other parties or if its equity holders lack adequate decision making ability based on criteria set forth in the interpretation.

FIN 46 also requires disclosures about VIEs that companies are not required to consolidate but in which a company has a significant variable interest. On August 29, 2003, the Company funded a revolving loan agreement with Impact C.I.L., LLC (Impact C.I.L.), a VIE. At present the Company has contributed \$5.1 million to be used to purchase mortgage loans in economically disadvantaged areas. The Company is not the primary beneficiary of the VIE and participates at an 11.11% level in the entity's funding activities. Potential losses are limited to the amount invested as well as associated operating fees.

The Company's maximum commitment is for up to 11.11% (\$24.0 million) of \$216.0 million of participation. The mortgages purchased with these funds may be securitized. Otherwise, the loan will be liquidated in 10 years from the initial date of the agreement.

Impact C.I.L. is a subsidiary of Impact Community Capital, LLC (Impact), whose charter is to provide real estate loans in economically disadvantaged areas. At present, the Company has a \$2.0 million note receivable from Impact in addition to the \$5.1 million investment noted above. The Company has voting rights and ownership of Impact in proportion to its investment (approximately 10%).

The Company does not have any other material VIEs that it needs, or will need, to consolidate or disclose.

NOTE 2. HOMEOWNER AND EARTHQUAKE LINES IN RUNOFF

California Senate Bill 1899 (SB 1899), effective from January 1, 2001, to December 31, 2001, allowed the re-opening of previously closed earthquake claims arising out of the 1994 Northridge earthquake. The discovery stay imposed in early 2002 was lifted in the first quarter of 2003 and the Company obtained more information with which to estimate the ultimate cost of resolving its SB 1899 claims. Based on events occurring during the first quarter of 2003, the Company increased its 1994 Northridge earthquake/SB 1899 reserves by \$37.0 million, resulting in an after-tax charge of \$24.1 million. The revised estimate at that point was based on the pace and cost of settlements reached thus far, the actual costs incurred during that quarter, and the Company's assessment of the expected length and intensity of the litigation arising out of the remaining claims. The estimate was subsequently increased by \$1.0 million during the first quarter of 2004 based on the Company's reassessment of its remaining estimated litigation costs.

More than ninety percent of the claims submitted and litigation brought against the Company as a result of SB 1899 have been resolved. Substantially all of the Company's remaining 1994 Earthquake claims are in litigation. No class actions have been certified and the trial court has denied class action status for the two remaining cases seeking class action status. While the reserves established are the Company's current best estimate of the cost of resolving its 1994 Earthquake claims, the reserves for this legislatively created event continue to be highly uncertain because of the difficulty in predicting how the remaining litigated cases will be resolved. The estimate currently recorded by the Company assumes that relatively few of the remaining cases will require a full trial to resolve, that any trial costs will

approximate those encountered by the Company in the past, that most cases will be settled without need for extensive pre-trial preparation, and that the trial court's denial of class action status for those cases seeking such status will be upheld on any appeal. Current reserves contain no provisions for extracontractual or punitive damages, bad faith judgments or similar unpredictable hazards of litigation that possibly could result in the event an adverse verdict were to be sustained against the Company. To the extent these and other underlying assumptions prove to be incorrect, the ultimate amount to resolve these claims could exceed the Company's current reserves, possibly by a material amount. The Company continues to seek reasonable settlements of claims brought under SB 1899 and other Northridge earthquake related theories, but will vigorously defend itself against excessive demands and fraudulent claims. The Company may, however, settle cases in excess of its assessment of its contractual obligations in order to reduce the future cost of litigation.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

The Company has received some Northridge earthquake claims reported after the closing of the window established by SB 1899 which are based upon alternative legal theories. The Company is contesting these claims and has only nominal reserves for them. Should the courts determine that these claims, or additional claims brought in the future, are not barred by the applicable statute of limitations and the provisions of SB 1899, additional reserves may be needed to resolve these claims.

Loss and loss adjustment expenses for the homeowner and earthquake lines in runoff were \$ 0.4 million and \$0.9 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively, compared to \$3.2 million and \$40.2 million for the same periods in 2003.

NOTE 3. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Litigation. In the normal course of its business, the Company is named as a defendant in lawsuits related to claims and insurance policy issues, both on individual policy files and by class actions seeking to attack the Company's business practices. Many suits seek unspecified extracontractual and punitive damages as well as contractual damages under the Company's insurance policies in excess of the Company's estimates of its obligations under such policies. The Company has not established reserves for potential extracontractual or punitive damages, or for contractual damages in excess of estimates the Company believes are correct and reasonable under its insurance policies. Nevertheless, extracontractual and punitive damages, if assessed against the Company, could be material in an individual case or in the aggregate. The Company may choose to settle litigated cases for amounts in excess of its own estimate of contractual damages to avoid the expense and/or risk of litigation. Other than possibly for contingencies discussed below and in the Company's 2003 audited financial statements, the Company does not believe the ultimate outcome of these matters will be material to its results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

The Company has recorded its best estimate of liability for outstanding matters where such estimates can be made.

Poss v. 21st Century Insurance Company was filed on June 13, 2003, in Los Angeles Superior Court. The Complaint requests injunctive and restitutionary relief against the Company under Business and Professions Code ("B&P") Sec. 17200 for alleged unfair business practices in violation of California Insurance Code ("CIC") Sec. 1861.02(c) relating to company rating practices. The Superior Court has stayed its decision pending the appellate courts' decisions in *Donabedian v. Mercury Insurance Company* and *Poirer v. State Farm Mutual Auto Insurance Company*, which involve issues similar to *Poss*. An appellate court ruled against Mercury in the *Donabedian* case; and October 15, 2004, the appellate court in *Poirer*, in an unpublished decision, ruled against State Farm. Because this matter is in the pleading stages and no discovery has taken place, no estimate of the range of potential losses in the event of a negative outcome can be made at this time. The plaintiffs are seeking injunctive relief and unspecified restitutionary relief. A subsequent case, *Axen v. 21st Century Insurance Company*, contains allegations similar to those in *Poss*. This matter is likewise in the pleading stages and no estimate of potential losses in the event of a negative outcome can be made at this time.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

Cecelia Encarnacion, individually and as the Guardian Ad Litem for Nubia Cecelia Gonzalez, a Minor, Hilda Cecelia Gonzalez, a Minor, and Ramon Aguilera v. 20th Century Insurance was filed on July 3, 1997, in Los Angeles Superior Court. Plaintiffs allege bad faith, emotional distress, and estoppel involving the Company's (the Company was formerly named 20th Century Insurance) handling of a 1994 homeowner's claim. On March 1, 1994, Ramon Aguilera shot and killed Mr. Gonzalez (the minor children's father) and was later sued by Ms. Encarnacion for wrongful death. On August 30, 1996, judgment was entered against Ramon Aguilera for \$5.6 million. The Company paid for Aguilera's defense costs through the civil trial; however, the homeowner's policy did not provide indemnity coverage for the shooting incident, and the Company refused to pay the judgment. After the trial, Aguilera assigned a portion of his action against the Company to Encarnacion and the minor children. Aguilera and the Encarnacion family then sued the Company alleging that the Company had promised to pay its bodily injury policy limit if Aguilera pled guilty to involuntary manslaughter. In August 2003, the trial court held a bench trial on the limited issues of promissory and equitable estoppel, and policy forfeiture. On September 26, 2003, the trial court issued a ruling that the Company cannot invoke any policy exclusions as a defense to coverage. On May 14, 2004, the court granted the Encarnacion plaintiffs' motion for summary adjudication, ordering that the Company must pay the full amount of the underlying judgment, plus interest. The Company disagrees with this ruling. The court's ruling appears inconsistent with its simultaneous ruling denying the Company's motion for summary judgment on grounds that there are triable issues of material fact as to whether plaintiffs are precluded from recovering damages as a consequence of Aguilera's inequitable conduct. The Company has a motion for new trial and a motion to vacate the judgment as to the Encarnacions set for hearing on November 10, 2004. If not granted, the Company will appeal. The trial as to Aguilera is set for April 2005 on his claims for bad faith, emotional distress, punitive damages and attorney fees.

In a December 21, 2000, court ruling, Ceridian Corporation v. Franchise Tax Board, a California statute that allowed a tax deduction for the dividends received from wholly owned insurance subsidiaries was held unconstitutional on the grounds that it discriminated against out-of-state insurance holding companies. Subsequent to the court ruling, the staff of the California Franchise Tax Board (FTB) took the position that the discriminatory sections of the statute are not severable and the entire statute is invalid. As a result, the FTB began disallowing dividend-received deductions for all insurance holding companies, regardless of domicile, for open tax years ending on or after December 1, 1997. Although the FTB made no formal assessment, the Company anticipated a retroactive disallowance that would result in additional tax assessments and recorded a provision for this contingency in a prior year. In the third quarter of 2004, California enacted AB 263, which will allow the Company to file certain amended California tax returns and claim a dividends received deduction. As a result, the Company re-estimated its liability and recorded a favorable adjustment in its tax provision of approximately \$4.9 million, which reduced the effective tax rate for the quarter and nine months ended September 30, 2004.

NOTE 4. STOCK - BASED COMPENSATION

2004 Stock Option Plan

The stockholders approved the 2004 Stock Option Plan (the 2004 Plan) at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders on May 26, 2004. The 2004 Plan supersedes the 1995 Stock Option Plan, which will remain in effect only as to outstanding awards under it. The 2004 Plan authorizes a Committee of the Board of Directors to grant stock options in respect of 4,000,000 shares to eligible employees and nonemployee directors, subject to the terms of the 2004 Plan. Additionally, under the 2004 Plan, the Committee may grant stock options in respect of shares that were subject to outstanding awards under the 1995 Stock Option Plan to the extent such awards expire, are terminated, are cancelled, or are forfeited for any reason without shares being issued.

At September 30, 2004, 5,302,186 stock options remain available for future grants under the 2004 Plan. Options granted to employees generally have ten-year terms and vest over various periods, generally three years. Options granted to nonemployee directors expire one year after a nonemployee director ceases service with the Company, or ten years from the date of grant, whichever is sooner. Nonemployee director options vest over one year, provided that the nonemployee director is in the service of the Company at that time. Currently, the Company uses the intrinsic-value method to account for stock-based compensation paid to employees for their services.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

A summary of securities issuable and issued for the Company's stock option plans and the Restricted Shares Plan at September 30, 2004, follows:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	<i>1995 Stock Option Plan</i>	<i>2004 Stock Option Plan</i>	<i>Restricted Shares Plan</i>
Total number of securities authorized	10,000	4,000	1,422
Number of securities issued	(520)		(1,049)
Number of securities issuable upon the exercise of all outstanding options	(8,165)	(13)	
Number of securities forfeited	(1,601)		
Number of securities forfeited and returned to plan	1,601		156
Unused options assumed by 2004 Stock Option Plan	(1,315)	1,315	
Number of securities remaining available for future grants under each plan		5,302	529

Exercise prices for options outstanding at September 30, 2004 ranged from \$11.68 to \$29.25. The weighted-average remaining contractual life of those options is 7.1 years.

A summary of the Company's stock option activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, and related information follows:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PRICE DATA</i>	<i>Number of Options</i>	<i>Weighted- Average Exercise Price</i>
Options outstanding December 31, 2003	6,744	\$ 17.05
Granted in 2004	1,643	14.35
Exercised in 2004	(44)	14.04
Forfeited in 2004	(165)	16.24
Options outstanding September 30, 2004	8,178	\$ 16.54

Options exercisable numbered 5,118,089 and 3,600,217 at September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

NOTE 5. DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

The Company has both funded and unfunded non-contributory defined benefit pension plans, which together cover essentially all employees who have completed at least one year of service. For certain key employees designated by the Board of Directors, the Company sponsors an unfunded nonqualified supplemental executive retirement plan. The supplemental plan benefits are based on years of service and compensation during the three highest of the last ten years of employment prior to retirement and are reduced by the benefit payable from the pension plan and 50% of the social security benefit. For other eligible employees, the pension benefits are based on employees' compensation during all years of service. The Company's funding policy is to make contributions as required by applicable regulations.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

Components of Net Periodic Cost

Net pension costs for all plans were comprised of the following:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	<i>Three Months Ended</i> <i>September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended</i> <i>September 30,</i>	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Service cost	\$ 1,891	\$ 1,141	\$ 4,870	\$ 3,268
Interest cost	1,758	1,394	4,979	3,995
Expected return on plan assets	(1,608)	(1,197)	(4,831)	(3,481)
Amortization of prior service cost	29	27	81	70
Amortization of net loss	635	498	1,624	1,430
Total	\$ 2,705	\$ 1,863	\$ 6,723	\$ 5,282

Employer Contributions

The Company previously disclosed in its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2003 that it did not expect to contribute to its pension plans in 2004. As of September 30, 2004, no contributions have been made. After consideration of currently available information, the Company continues to anticipate that it will not contribute any funds to any of its pension plans in 2004.

NOTE 6. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company's Personal Auto Lines reportable segment primarily markets and underwrites personal automobile, motorcycle and umbrella insurance. The Company's Homeowner and Earthquake Lines in Runoff reportable segment, which is in runoff, manages the wind-down of the Company's homeowner and earthquake programs. The Company has not written any earthquake coverage since 1994 and ceased writing homeowner policies in February 2002.

Insurers offering homeowner insurance in California are required to participate in the California FAIR Plan (FAIR Plan). FAIR Plan is a state administered pool of difficult to insure homeowners. Each participating insurer is allocated a percentage of the total premiums written and losses incurred by the pool according to its share of total homeowner direct premiums written in the state. Participation in the current year FAIR Plan operations is based on the pool from two years prior. Since we ceased writing direct homeowners business in 2002, the Company will continue to receive assignments in the 2004 calendar year.

The Company evaluates segment performance based on profit or loss from operations before income taxes (i.e., underwriting profit or loss, which excludes interest income and expense). The accounting policies of the reportable segments are the same as those described in Note 2 of the notes to consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. All revenues are generated from external customers.

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
September 30, 2004
Unaudited

Segment information is as follows:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	<i>Personal Auto Lines</i>	<i>Homeowner and Earthquake Lines in Runoff¹</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Three Months Ended September 30, 2004</i>			
Net premiums earned	\$ 333,443	\$ (3)	\$ 333,440
Segment profit (loss)	16,709	(436)	16,273
<i>Three Months Ended September 30, 2003</i>			
Net premiums earned	\$ 303,588	\$ 87	\$ 303,675
Segment profit (loss)	8,814	(3,156)	5,658
<i>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2004</i>			
Net premiums earned	\$ 978,573	\$ 108	\$ 978,681
Segment profit (loss)	45,552	(824)	44,728
<i>Nine Months Ended September 30, 2003</i>			
Net premiums earned	\$ 862,259	\$ 88	\$ 862,347
Segment profit (loss)	27,718	(40,157)	(12,439)

The following table reconciles our segment profit (loss) to our consolidated income before provision for income taxes:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	<i>Three Months Ended September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended September 30,</i>	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Segment profit (loss)	\$ 16,273	\$ 5,658	\$ 44,728	\$ (12,439)
Net investment income	15,118	11,350	42,579	34,660
Net realized investment (losses) gains	(162)	836	8,821	13,116
Other revenues				14,065
Interest and fees expense	(2,116)	(797)	(6,527)	(2,337)
Income before provision for income taxes	\$ 29,113	\$ 17,047	\$ 89,601	\$ 47,065

1 Revenue represents premium earned as a result of the Company's participation in the California FAIR Plan.

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

Overview

We are a low cost, direct to consumer provider of personal automobile insurance in California. We also provide personal automobile insurance in four other western states (Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Washington) and three midwestern states (Illinois, Indiana and Ohio).¹ We believe that we have a reputation for high quality customer service and for being among the most efficient and lowest cost providers of personal auto insurance in the markets we serve.

Net income for the quarter ended September 30, 2004 was \$24.6 million, or \$0.29 per share, compared to net income of \$12.7 million, or \$0.15 per share, for the quarter ended September 30, 2003. Current quarter net income was increased by \$4.9 million, or \$0.06 per share, due to the effect of recent California legislation (AB 263) relating to holding company taxes on dividends from insurance subsidiaries.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, net income was \$65.8 million, or \$0.77 per share, compared to \$35.1 million, or \$0.41 per share, for the same period in 2003. The results for the nine months ended September 30, 2003 include the second quarter nonrecurring nonoperational income items of \$9.1 million after-tax, or \$0.11 per share, and a first quarter after-tax charge of \$24.1 million, or \$0.28 per share, to strengthen reserves on the 1994 Northridge earthquake claims.

Our primary goals include realizing 15% growth in direct premiums written and attaining a 96% combined ratio for our personal auto lines. The Company showed continued strength in its personal auto lines results:

- Direct premiums written increased 6.8% to \$346.1 million in the third quarter ended September 30, 2004, compared to \$324.2 million in the third quarter of 2003. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, direct premiums written increased 10.1% to \$1,011.4 million compared to \$918.7 million for the same period in 2003. These increases were primarily due to a higher number of insured vehicles generated through active advertising for new customers.
- The combined ratio improved to 95.0% in the third quarter of 2004 compared to 97.1% for the same quarter a year ago. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, the combined ratio improved to 95.3% from 96.8% in 2003. The improvement resulted mainly from the decrease in net losses and LAE incurred, offset by increases in advertising, sales and customer service costs.
- Underwriting profit increased 89.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2004 to \$16.7 million from \$8.8 million in the third quarter of 2003. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, underwriting profit was \$45.6 million, an increase of 64.3% over underwriting profit of \$27.7 million for same period in 2003.

Stockholders' equity and book value per share increased by \$53.7 million to \$754.4 million and \$0.63 to \$8.83, respectively, at September 30, 2004 from \$700.7 million and \$8.20, respectively, at December 31, 2003. The increase in stockholders' equity for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 was primarily due to net income of \$65.8 million and \$0.5 million in proceeds from stock option exercises partially offset by a decrease in net unrealized investment gains of \$7.8 million and dividends to stockholders of \$5.1 million.

Total assets increased to \$1.86 billion at September 30, 2004 from \$1.74 billion at December 31, 2003.

Statutory surplus increased by \$64.5 million, or 12.1%, to \$599.5 million at September 30, 2004 from \$535.0 million at December 31, 2003. The increase in statutory surplus was primarily due to statutory net income of \$77.8 million partially offset by an increase in nonadmitted assets of \$5.8 million and a \$7.8 million decrease in the deferred income tax asset. The net premiums written to statutory surplus ratio improved to 2.2 at September 30, 2004 from 2.3 at

December 31, 2003.

1 We began offering personal auto insurance in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio on January 28, 2004. Results from these new markets are not expected to be material in 2004.

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See Results of Operations for more details as to our overall and personal auto lines results.

The remainder of our Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements. It includes the following sections:

- Financial Condition
- Liquidity and Capital Resources
- Contractual Obligations and Commitments
- Results of Operations
- Underwriting Results
- Investment Income
- Critical Accounting Policies
- Forward-Looking Statements

Financial Condition

We utilize a conservative investment philosophy. No derivatives or nontraditional securities are held in our investment portfolio. Virtually all of our fixed maturity portfolio is investment-grade. At September 30, 2004, \$309.6 million, or 22.6%, of our total fixed maturity investments at fair value were invested in tax-exempt bonds with the remainder, representing 77.4% of the portfolio, invested in taxable securities, compared to 61.7% and 38.3%, respectively, at December 31, 2003. We decreased the percentage of total fixed maturity investments in tax-exempt securities to accelerate our net operating loss utilization, improve cash flow and continue to shorten the duration of the portfolio.

As of September 30, 2004, the pre-tax net unrealized gain on investments was \$24.2 million (unrealized gains of \$30.9 million and unrealized losses of \$6.7 million) compared to a pre-tax net unrealized gain of \$36.1 million at December 31, 2003 (unrealized gains of \$39.5 million and unrealized losses of \$3.4 million). Our policy is to investigate, on a quarterly basis, an investment for possible other-than-temporary impairment in the event the fair value of the security falls below its amortized cost, based on all relevant facts and circumstances. No such impairments were recorded in the quarters or years ended September 30, 2004 or 2003.

Premiums receivable were \$117.0 million at September 30, 2004, compared to \$104.6 million at December 31, 2003, with the increase mainly attributable to growth in our customer base. Balances past due 90 days or more totaled \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million at September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, respectively. Company policy is to write off receivable balances when they become past due 180 days. At September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, the recorded allowance for doubtful accounts was \$1.4 million and \$0.9 million, respectively.

Reinsurance receivables and recoverables, prepaid reinsurance premiums, and reinsurance payables were \$7.0 million, \$1.8 million and \$0.7 million at September 30, 2004, compared to \$12.1 million, \$1.7 million and \$1.8 million at December 31, 2003, respectively. The decline in these accounts is primarily due to the runoff related to the cancellation of the quota share treaty with American International Group, Inc. (AIG) subsidiaries.

Increased advertising, sales and customer service costs through September 30, 2004, associated with increased customer volume, contributed to an increase in deferred policy acquisition costs (DPAC) of \$5.8 million to \$58.9 million, compared to \$53.1 million at December 31, 2003. Our DPAC is estimated to be fully recoverable (see Critical Accounting Policies - Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs).

The following table summarizes unpaid losses and LAE with respect to our lines of business:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	<i>September 30, 2004</i>		<i>December 31, 2003</i>	
	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Unpaid Losses and LAE				
Personal auto lines	\$ 479,856	\$ 474,582	\$ 419,913	\$ 413,348
Homeowner and earthquake lines in runoff	6,224	5,318	18,410	16,011
Total	\$ 486,080	\$ 479,900	\$ 438,323	\$ 429,359

The following table summarizes losses and LAE incurred, net of applicable reinsurance, for the periods indicated:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	<i>Three Months Ended September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended September 30,</i>	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Net losses and LAE incurred related to insured events of:				
Current year	\$ 255,786	\$ 234,315	\$ 747,326	\$ 678,841
Prior years	(3,427)	6,611	(2,897)	43,611
Total	\$ 252,359	\$ 240,926	\$ 744,429	\$ 722,452

At September 30, 2004, net unpaid losses and LAE increased \$50.5 million from the prior year end to \$479.9 million. In the first nine months of 2004, net favorable reported loss development for the prior accident years was \$2.9 million. This is primarily due to the decrease in loss estimates in the auto line. The methods used to determine such estimates and to establish the resulting reserves are continually reviewed and updated. Any adjustments resulting therefrom are reflected in current operating income. It is management's belief that the unpaid losses and LAE are adequate to cover unpaid losses and LAE as of September 30, 2004. While we perform quarterly reviews of the adequacy of established unpaid losses and LAE, there can be no assurance that our ultimate unpaid losses and LAE will not develop redundancies or adversely develop and materially differ from our unpaid losses and LAE as of September 30, 2004. In the future, if the unpaid losses and LAE develop redundancies or deficiencies, such redundancy or deficiency would have a positive or adverse impact, respectively, on future results of operations.

The process of making quarterly changes to unpaid losses and LAE begins with the preparation of several point estimates of unpaid losses and LAE, a review of the actual claims experience in the quarter, actual rate changes achieved, actual changes in coverage, mix of business, and changes in certain other factors such as weather and recent tort activity that may affect the loss ratio. Our actuaries prepare several point estimates of unpaid losses and LAE for each of the coverages, and they use their experience and judgment to arrive at an overall actuarial point estimate of the unpaid losses and LAE for that coverage. Meetings are held with appropriate departments to discuss significant issues as a result of the review. This process culminates in a reserve meeting to review the unpaid losses and LAE. The basis for carried unpaid losses and LAE is the overall actuarial point estimate. Other relevant internal and external factors considered include a qualitative assessment of inflation and other economic conditions, changes in the legal, regulatory, judicial and social environments, underlying policy pricing, exposure and policy forms, claims handling, and geographic distribution shifts. As a result of the meeting, unpaid losses and LAE are finalized and we record quarterly changes in unpaid losses and LAE for each of our coverages. The change in unpaid losses and LAE for the quarter for each coverage is the difference between net ultimate losses and LAE and the net paid losses and LAE

recorded through the end of the quarter. The overall change in our unpaid losses and LAE is based on the sum of these coverage level changes.

The point estimate methods include the use of paid loss triangles, incurred loss triangles, claim count triangles, severity triangles, as well as expected loss ratio methods. Quantitative techniques frequently have to be supplemented by subjective consideration, including managerial judgment, to assure management satisfaction that the overall unpaid losses and LAE are adequate to meet projected losses. For example, in property damage coverages, repair cost trends by geographic region vary significantly. These factors are periodically reviewed and subsequently adjusted, as appropriate, to reflect emerging trends which are based upon past loss experience. Thus, many factors are implicitly considered in estimating the quarter-to-quarter growth in loss costs recognized.

Judgment is required in analyzing the appropriateness of the various methods and factors to avoid overreacting to data anomalies that may distort such prior trends. For example, changes in limits distributions or development in the most recent accident quarters would require more actuarial judgment. We do not believe disclosure of specific point estimates calculated by the actuaries would be meaningful. Any one actuarial point estimate is based on a particular series of judgments and assumptions of the actuary. Another actuary may make different assumptions, and therefore reach a different point estimate. So long as the series of judgments and assumptions are reasonable, no one such point estimate is necessarily a better estimate than another point estimate.

There is a potential for significant variation in developing unpaid losses and LAE. Most automobile claims are reported within two to three months whereas the estimate of ultimate severities exhibits greater variability at the same maturity. Generally, actual historical loss development factors are used to project future loss development, and there can be no assurance that future loss development patterns will be the same as in the past. However, we believe that our reserving methodologies are in line with other personal lines insurers and would normally expect ultimate unpaid losses and LAE development to vary by as much as 5% of the carried unpaid losses and LAE.

As a result of the significant growth in the non-Los Angeles County regions, the Company has experienced changes in the mix of business relative to geography and policy limits. We believe that the assumption with the highest likelihood of change that could materially affect carried unpaid losses and LAE is property damage and collision severity in the San Francisco and bay area regions, which have significantly different repair costs and have exhibited significant policy growth. A 5% change in the severity assumption for these regions would result in an increase or decrease in total unpaid losses and LAE of 2.3%, or \$11.2 million.

While we have settled a substantial majority of earthquake claims and are making progress in resolving outstanding litigation, estimates of both the litigation costs and ultimate settlement or judgment amounts related to these claims are subject to a high degree of uncertainty. Please see Note 2 of the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements for additional background on the Northridge Earthquake and SB 1899.

Stockholders' equity and book value per share increased to \$754.4 million and \$8.83 at September 30, 2004, compared to \$700.7 million and \$8.20 at December 31, 2003. The increase in stockholders' equity for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 was primarily due to net income of \$65.8 million and \$0.5 million in proceeds from stock option exercises partially offset by a decrease in net unrealized investment gains of \$7.8 million and dividends to stockholders of \$5.1 million.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

21st Century Insurance Group. Our holding company's main sources of liquidity historically have been dividends received from our insurance subsidiaries and proceeds from issuance of debt or equity securities. Apart from the exercise of stock options and restricted stock grants to employees, the effects of which have not been significant, we have not issued any equity securities since 1998 when AIG exercised its warrants to purchase common stock for cash of \$145.6 million. Our insurance subsidiaries have not paid any dividends to our holding company since 2001 due to the uncertainty that surrounded the taxability of dividends received by holding companies from their insurance subsidiaries in California. See the discussion of the Ceridian case in Note 3 of the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 1.

In December 2003, we completed a private offering of \$100 million principal amount of 5.9 % Senior Notes due in December 2013. The effective interest rate on the Senior Notes when all offering costs are taken into account and amortized over the term of the Senior Notes is approximately 6 percent per annum. Of the \$99.2 million net proceeds from the offering, \$85.0 million was used to increase the statutory surplus of our wholly-owned insurance subsidiary, 21st Century Insurance Company, and the balance was retained by our holding company.

Effective December 31, 2003, the California Department of Insurance (CDI) approved an intercompany lease whereby 21st Century Insurance Company has leased certain computer software from our holding company. The monthly lease payment, currently \$0.6 million, started in January 2004 and is subject to upward adjustment based on the cost incurred by the holding company to complete certain enhancements to the software.

Our holding company's significant cash obligations over the next several years consist of interest payments on the Senior Notes (approximately \$5.9 million annually) and the estimated cost to implement our California policy servicing system (approximately \$14.2 million), exclusive of any dividends to stockholders that our directors may declare, and the repayment of the \$100 million principal on the Senior Notes due in 2013. We expect to be able to meet those obligations from sources of cash currently available (i.e., payments received from the intercompany lease and cash and investments at the holding company, which totaled \$18.6 million at September 30, 2004) plus additional funds obtained from the capital markets or from dividends received from our insurance subsidiaries.

Our insurance subsidiaries in 2004 could pay \$79.3 million as dividends to us without prior written approval from insurance regulatory authorities.

Insurance Subsidiaries. We have achieved underwriting profits in our core auto insurance operations for the last eleven quarters and have thereby enhanced our liquidity. In California, where approximately 96% of our policies are written, we implemented a 3.9% auto premium rate increase effective April 1, 2003. However, there can be no assurance that insurance regulators will grant future rate increases that may be necessary to offset possible future increases in claims cost trends. Also, we remain exposed to possible upward development in previously recorded reserves for claims pursuant to SB 1899. As a result of such uncertainties, underwriting losses could occur in the future. Further, we could be required to liquidate investments to pay claims, possibly during unfavorable market conditions, which could lead to the realization of losses on sales of investments. Adverse outcomes to any of the foregoing uncertainties would create some degree of downward pressure on the insurance subsidiaries' earnings, which in turn could negatively impact our liquidity.

As of September 30, 2004, our insurance subsidiaries had a combined statutory surplus of \$599.5 million compared to \$535.0 million at December 31, 2003. The increase in statutory surplus was primarily due to statutory net income of \$77.8 million partially offset by an increase in nonadmitted assets of \$5.8 million and a \$7.8 million decrease in the deferred income tax asset. Our ratio of net premiums written to statutory surplus was 2.2 at September 30, 2004, compared to 2.3 at December 31, 2003.

On June 15, 2004 the CDI finalized its examination report on the statutory financial statements for the Company's California-domiciled insurance subsidiaries for the three-year period ended December 31, 2002. The report did not propose any adjustments to the insurance subsidiaries' statutory financial statements.

Transactions with Related Parties. Transactions with AIG subsidiaries, which are immaterial, have resulted from competitive bidding processes for certain corporate insurance coverages and certain software and data processing services. In October 2003, as a result of a competitive bidding process, we entered into an agreement with an AIG subsidiary to provide investment management services to us; the agreement was subject to approval by the CDI, which granted such approval in October 2003. We also have reinsurance transactions with AIG subsidiaries that are in runoff.

Contractual Obligations and Commitments

There were no material changes outside the ordinary course of our business in our contractual obligations during the quarter ended September 30, 2004.

Results of Operations

Overall Results. We reported net income of \$24.6 million, or earnings per share (basic and diluted) of \$0.29, on direct premiums written of \$346.0 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2004, compared to a net income of \$12.7 million, or earnings per share (basic and diluted) of \$0.15, on direct premiums written of \$324.3 million for the same quarter last year. Current quarter net income was increased by \$4.9 million, or \$0.06 per share, due to the effect of recent California legislation (AB 263) relating to holding company taxes on dividends from insurance subsidiaries. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, net income was \$65.8 million, or earnings per share (basic and diluted) of \$0.77, on direct premiums written of \$1,011.4 million. Net income for the nine months ended September 30, 2003, was \$35.1 million, or earnings per share (basic and diluted) of \$0.41, on direct premiums written of \$918.8 million. These results for the nine months ended September 30, 2003 include: (i) after-tax charges for 1994 Northridge earthquake costs of \$24.1 million (ii) after-tax net income of \$9.1 million resulting from a non-recurring, non-operational item and (iii) a favorable tax settlement with the IRS.

The following table presents the components of our personal auto lines underwriting profit or loss and the components of the combined ratio:

<i>PERSONAL AUTO LINES</i>	<i>Three Months Ended</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended</i>	
	<i>September 30,</i>		<i>September 30,</i>	
<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	2004	2003	2004	2003
Direct premiums written	\$ 346,087	\$ 324,190	\$ 1,011,430	\$ 918,730
Net premiums written	\$ 344,823	\$ 322,889	\$ 1,007,840	\$ 915,112
Net premiums earned	\$ 333,443	\$ 303,588	\$ 978,573	\$ 862,259
Net loss and loss adjustment expenses	251,926	237,683	743,497	682,207
Underwriting expenses incurred	64,808	57,091	189,524	152,334
Personal auto lines underwriting profit	\$ 16,709	\$ 8,814	\$ 45,552	\$ 27,718
Ratios:				
Loss and LAE ratio	75.6%	78.3%	75.9%	79.1%
Underwriting expense ratio	19.4%	18.8%	19.4%	17.7%
Combined ratio	95.0%	97.1%	95.3%	96.8%

The following table reconciles our personal auto lines underwriting profit to our consolidated net income:

	<i>Three Months Ended September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended September 30,</i>	
<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, NET OF TAX</i>	2004	2003	2004	2003
Personal auto lines underwriting profit	\$ 16,709	\$ 8,814	\$ 45,552	\$ 27,718
Homeowner and earthquake lines in runoff, underwriting loss	(436)	(3,156)	(824)	(40,157)
Net investment income	15,118	11,350	42,579	34,660
Realized investment (losses) gains	(162)	836	8,821	13,116
Other revenues				14,065
Interest and fees expense	(2,116)	(797)	(6,527)	(2,337)
Provision for income taxes	(4,554)²	(4,338)	(23,843)	(11,918)
Net income	\$ 24,559	\$ 12,709	\$ 65,758	\$ 35,147

Comments relating to the underwriting results of the personal auto and the homeowner and earthquake lines in runoff are presented below.

Underwriting Results

Personal Auto. Personal automobile insurance is the primary line of business. Vehicles insured outside of California accounted for less than 4.0% of our direct written premiums in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003.

Direct premiums written in the three months ended September 30, 2004, increased \$21.9 million (6.8%) to \$346.1 million compared to \$324.2 million for the same period in 2003. This increase was primarily due to a higher number of insured vehicles. Direct premiums written for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, increased \$92.7 million (10.1%) to \$1,011.4 million, compared to \$918.7 million for the same period in 2003, primarily due to a higher number of insured vehicles generated through active advertising for new customers.

Net premiums earned increased \$29.8 million (9.8%) to \$333.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004, compared to \$303.6 million for the same period a year ago. The increase is primarily due to the higher number of insured vehicles, as previously mentioned. Net premiums earned increased \$116.3 million (13.5%) to \$978.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, compared to \$862.3 million for the same period in 2003.

Net losses and LAE incurred increased \$14.2 million (6.0%) to \$251.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004, compared to \$237.7 million for the same period last year. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, net losses and LAE incurred increased \$61.3 million (9.0%) to \$743.5 million, compared to \$682.2 million for the same period in 2003.

The ratios of losses and LAE to net premiums earned were 75.6% and 78.3% for the quarters ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the ratios were 75.9% and 79.1%, respectively. The effects on the losses and LAE ratios of changes in estimates relating to insured events of prior years during the third quarter of 2004 and of 2003 were less than 3.0%. In general, changes in estimate are recorded in the period in which new information becomes available indicating that a change is warranted, usually in conjunction with our quarterly actuarial review.

2 Includes the effect of a favorable adjustment in tax provision of approximately \$4.9 million due to the effect of recent California legislation (AB 263) relating to holding company taxes on dividends from insurance subsidiaries.

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The ratios of net underwriting expenses to net premiums earned were 19.4% and 18.8% for the quarters ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The same ratios were 19.4% and 17.7% for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The increase in 2004 was primarily due to growth in advertising, sales and customer service costs associated with the growth in number of policies. Several productivity enhancement initiatives are underway aimed at reducing per unit process costs and lowering fixed costs in corporate support areas.

The combined ratio was 95.0% for the quarter ended September 30, 2004, compared to 97.1% for the same period a year ago. The combined ratios for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003 were 95.3% and 96.8%, respectively. The improvement resulted mainly from the decrease in net losses and LAE incurred, offset by increases in advertising, sales and customer service costs. Company management remains focused on achieving sustainable 15% growth in direct premiums written and a combined ratio of 96%.

Homeowner and Earthquake Lines in Runoff. Underwriting results of the homeowner and earthquake lines, which are in runoff, were losses and LAE incurred of \$0.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004 compared to \$3.2 million for the same period a year ago. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, losses and LAE for those same lines were \$0.8 million and \$40.2 million, respectively, of which the earthquake lines accounted for \$1.0 million and \$37.0 million, respectively. We have not written any earthquake coverage since 1994 and ceased writing homeowner policies in February 2002. Earthquake LAE reserves were increased by \$1.0 million in the first quarter of 2004 to provide for additional legal defense costs expected to be incurred in settling outstanding claims.

Under a January 1, 2002 agreement with Balboa Insurance Company (Balboa), a subsidiary of Countrywide Financial Corporation (Countrywide), 100% of homeowner unearned premium reserves and losses on or after that date were ceded to Balboa. Under the terms of this agreement, we retain certain loss adjustment expenses. We began non-renewing homeowner policies expiring on February 21, 2002, and thereafter. Substantially all of these customers were offered homeowner coverage through an affiliate of Countrywide. We have completed this process and no longer have any homeowner policies in force. During the first quarter of 2004, we reached an interim settlement with Balboa based on re-estimated ultimate loss and ALAE ratios, which resulted in a \$1.1 million reduction of incurred losses previously recorded.

Investment Income

Net investment income was \$15.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 2004 compared to \$11.4 million for the same quarter in 2003. Net investment income for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, was \$42.6 million and \$34.7 million, respectively. The increase in net investment income is primarily the result of higher average investment balances.

The average annual yields on invested assets for the three and nine months ended September 30, were as follows:

	<i>Three Months Ended</i> <i>September 30,</i>		<i>Nine Months Ended</i> <i>September 30,</i>	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Pre-tax	4.4%	4.1%	4.3%	4.4%
After-tax	3.2%	3.6%	3.3%	3.7%

Net realized losses on the sale of investments and fixed assets were \$0.2 million (gross realized gains \$0.2 million, gross realized losses \$0.4 million) and a gain of \$8.8 million (gross realized gains were \$11.3 million, gross realized losses were \$2.5 million) for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to net gains of \$0.8 million (gross realized gains \$0.9 million, gross realized losses \$0.1 million) and \$13.1 million (gross realized gains \$13.6 million, gross realized losses \$0.5 million) for the same periods in 2003.

Critical Accounting Policies

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The financial information contained within those statements is, to a significant extent, financial information that is based on approximate measures of the financial effects of transactions and events that have already occurred. Our significant accounting policies are essential to understanding Management's Discussion and Analysis of Results of Operations and Financial Condition. Some of our accounting policies require significant judgment to estimate values of either assets or liabilities. In addition, significant judgment may be needed to apply what often are complex accounting principles to individual transactions to determine the most appropriate treatment. We have established procedures and processes to facilitate making the judgments necessary to prepare financial statements.

The following is a summary of the more judgmental and complex accounting estimates and principles. In each area, we have discussed the assumptions most important in the estimation process. We have used the best information available to estimate the related items involved. Actual performance that differs from our estimates and future changes in the key assumptions could change future valuations and materially impact our financial condition and results of operations.

Management has discussed our critical accounting policies and estimates, together with any changes therein, with the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors.

Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses. The estimated liabilities for losses and loss adjustment expenses (LAE) include the accumulation of estimates of losses for claims reported on or prior to the balance sheet dates, estimates (based upon actuarial analysis of historical data) of losses for claims incurred but not reported, the development of case reserves to ultimate values and estimates of expenses for investigating, adjusting and settling all incurred claims. Amounts reported are estimates of the ultimate costs of settlement, net of estimated salvage and subrogation. The estimated liabilities are necessarily subject to the outcome of future events, such as changes in medical and repair costs, as well as economic and social conditions that impact the settlement of claims. In addition, time can be a critical part of reserving determinations since the longer the span between the incidence of a loss and the payment or settlement of the claim, the more variable the ultimate settlement amount can be. Accordingly, short-tail claims, such as property damage claims, tend to be more reasonably predictable than relatively longer-tail liability claims. For our current mix of auto exposures, which include both property and liability exposures, an average of approximately 80% of the ultimate losses are settled within twelve months of the date of loss. Given the inherent variability in the estimates, management believes the aggregate reserves are adequate, although we continue to caution that the reserve estimates relating to SB 1899 are subject to a greater than normal degree of variability and possible future material adjustment as new facts become known. The methods of making such estimates and establishing the resulting reserves are reviewed and updated monthly and any resulting adjustments are reflected in current operations. Changes in these recorded liabilities flow directly to the income statement on a dollar-for-dollar basis. For example, an upward revision of \$1 million in the estimated recorded liability for unpaid losses and LAE would decrease underwriting profit, and pre-tax income, by the same \$1 million amount. Conversely, a downward revision of \$1 million would increase pre-tax income by the same \$1 million amount.

Property and Equipment. Accounting standards require a write-off to be recognized when an asset is abandoned or an asset group's carrying value exceeds its fair value. For purposes of recognition and measurement of an impairment loss, a long-lived asset or assets are grouped with other assets and liabilities at the lowest level for which identifiable cash flows are largely independent of the cash flows of other assets and liabilities. Accounting standards require asset groups to be tested for possible impairment under certain conditions. There have been no events or circumstances in 2004 that would require a reassessment of any asset group for impairment.

Income Taxes. Determining the consolidated provision for income tax expense, deferred tax assets and liabilities and any related valuation allowance involves judgment. Generally accepted accounting principles require deferred tax assets and liabilities (DTAs and DTLs, respectively) to be recognized for the estimated future tax effects attributed to temporary differences and carryforwards based on provisions of the enacted tax law. The effects of future changes in tax laws or rates are not anticipated. Temporary differences are differences between the tax basis of an asset or liability and its reported amount in the financial statements. For example, we have a DTA because the tax bases of our loss and LAE reserves are smaller than their book bases. Similarly, we have a DTL because the book basis of our capitalized software exceeds its tax basis. Carryforwards include such items as alternative minimum tax credits, which may be carried forward indefinitely, and net operating losses (NOLs), which can be carried forward 15 years for losses incurred before 1998 and 20 years thereafter.

At September 30, 2004, our DTAs totaled \$140.7 million and our DTLs totaled \$78.7 million. The net of those amounts, \$62.0 million, represents the net deferred tax asset reported in the condensed consolidated balance sheet.

We are required to reduce DTAs (but not DTLs) by a valuation allowance to the extent that, based on the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not (i.e., a likelihood of more than 50%) that any DTAs will not be realized. Recognition of a valuation allowance would decrease reported earnings on a dollar-for-dollar basis in the year in which any such recognition were to occur. The determination of whether a valuation allowance is appropriate requires the exercise of management judgment. In making this judgment, management is required to weigh the positive and negative evidence as to the likelihood that the DTAs will be realized.

Portions of our NOL carryforward are scheduled to expire beginning in 2011, as shown in the table below (amounts in millions):

Year of Expiration	NOL Excluding 21st of Arizona	SRLY³ NOL of 21st of Arizona	Consolidated NOL
2011	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.6
2017	0.0	2.0	2.0
2018	0.0	1.1	1.1
2019	0.0	1.5	1.5
2020	50.0	3.2	53.2
2021	134.6	2.2	136.8
2022	37.3	0.0	37.3
Totals	\$ 221.9	\$ 10.6	\$ 232.5

Our core business has generated an underwriting profit for the past eleven quarters. Management believes it is reasonable to expect future underwriting profits and to conclude it is at least more likely than not that we will be able to realize the benefits of our DTAs. If necessary, we believe we could implement tax-planning strategies to generate sufficient future taxable income to utilize the NOL carryforwards prior to their expiration. Accordingly, no valuation allowance has been recognized as of September 30, 2004. However, generating future taxable income is dependent on a number of factors, including regulatory and competitive influences that may be beyond our ability to control. Future underwriting losses could possibly jeopardize our ability to utilize our NOLs. In the event adverse development or underwriting losses due to either SB 1899 matters or other causes were to occur, management might reach a different conclusion about the realization of the DTAs and, if so, recognize a valuation allowance at that time.

3 SRLY stands for Separate Return Limitation Year. Under the Federal tax code, only future income generated by our 21st of Arizona subsidiary may be utilized against this portion of our NOL.

Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs. Deferred policy acquisition costs (DPAC) include premium taxes and other variable costs incurred in connection with writing business. These costs are deferred and amortized over the 6-month policy period in which the related premiums are earned. Management assesses the recoverability of deferred policy acquisition costs on a quarterly basis.

The assessment calculates the relationship of actuarially estimated costs incurred to premiums from contracts issued or renewed for the period. We do not consider anticipated investment income in determining the recoverability of these costs. Based on current indications, no reduction in DPAC is required.

The loss and LAE ratio used in the recoverability estimate is based primarily on the assumption that the future loss and LAE ratio will approximate that of the recent past. While management believes that is a reasonable assumption, actual results could differ materially from such estimates.

Investments. Impairment losses for declines in value of fixed maturity investments below cost attributable to issuer-specific events are based upon all relevant facts and circumstances for each investment and are recognized when appropriate in accordance with Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 59, *Noncurrent Marketable Equity Securities*, Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) No. 99-20, *Recognition of Interest Income and Impairment of Certain Investments*, EITF No. 03-1, *The Meaning of Other-Than-Temporary Impairment and Its Application to Certain Investments*, and related guidance, which is evolving. For fixed maturity investments with unrealized losses due to market conditions or industry-related events, where we have the positive intent and ability to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow a market recovery or to maturity, declines in value below cost are not assumed to be other-than-temporary. Where declines in values of securities below cost or amortized cost are considered to be other-than-temporary, a charge is required to be reflected in income for the difference between cost or amortized cost and the fair value. No such charges were recorded in the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003.

The determination of whether a decline in market value is other-than-temporary is necessarily a matter of subjective judgment and the guidance is continually evolving. The timing and amount of realized losses and gains reported in income could vary if conclusions other than those made by management were to determine whether an other-than-temporary impairment exists. However, there would be no impact on equity because any unrealized losses are already included in accumulated other comprehensive income.

All of our rated investments as of September 30, 2004 were investment-grade. A summary by issuer of unrated securities held at September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, follows:

<i>AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS</i>	September 30, 2004	December 31, 2003
Unrated securities:		
Impact Community Capital LLC ⁴	\$ 2,023	\$ 2,023
Impact C.I.L. Parent	5,111	2,444
Total unrated securities	\$ 7,134	\$ 4,467
Percentage of fixed maturity investments	0.54%	0.37%

4 Impact Community Capital LLC, is a limited partnership that was established under California's COIN program (California Organized Investment Network), a voluntary association of California insurers providing funding for low cost housing projects.

The following table summarizes fixed maturity securities held having an unrealized loss of \$0.1 million or more and aggregate information relating to all other investments in unrealized loss positions:

AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT NUMBER OF ISSUES	September 30, 2004			December 31, 2003		
	# issues	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	# issues	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
Fixed maturity securities with unrealized losses: Exceeding \$0.1 million and for:						
Less than 6 months	13	\$ 169,976	\$ 2,993	4	\$ 50,512	\$ 680
6-12 months	6	65,659	1,351	2	8,509	662
More than 1 year	1	4,783	311			
Less than \$0.1 million	64	229,324	1,646	83	179,166	2,074
Total	84	\$ 469,742	\$ 6,301	89	\$ 238,187	\$ 3,416

The following table summarizes equity securities held having an unrealized loss of less than \$0.1 million relating to all other investments in unrealized loss positions:

AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT NUMBER OF ISSUES	September 30, 2004			December 31, 2003		
	# issues	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	# issues	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
Equity securities with unrealized losses:						
Less than \$0.1 million	30	\$ 19,281	\$ 411		\$	\$
Total	30	\$ 19,281	\$ 411		\$	\$

A summary by contractual maturity of bonds in an unrealized loss position by year of maturity follows:

AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS	September 30, 2004		December 31, 2003	
	Amortized Cost	Fair Value	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Bond Maturities				
Due in one year or less	\$ 13,444	\$ 13,419	\$ 2,519	\$ 2,515
Due after one year through five years	16,956	16,636	78,687	77,590
Due after five years through ten years	276,603	273,238	47,026	45,975
Due after ten years	169,040	166,449	113,371	112,107
Total	\$ 476,043	\$ 469,742	\$ 241,603	\$ 238,187

Stock-based compensation. Under the provisions of Statement of Financial Standards (SFAS) No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, as amended by SFAS No. 148, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation-Transition and Disclosure*, we have elected to continue using the intrinsic-value method of accounting for stock-based awards granted to employees in accordance with Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*. Accordingly, we have not recognized in income any compensation expense for the fair value of stock options awarded to employees. Companies electing to continue to follow the intrinsic-value method must make

pro-forma disclosures, as if the fair value based method of accounting had been applied. A summary of the expense that would have been recorded, together with the underlying assumptions, had we recognized the fair value of stock-based awards is included in Note 1 of the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Forward-Looking Statements

This report contains statements that constitute forward-looking information. Investors are cautioned that these forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance or results and involve risks and uncertainties, and that actual results or developments may differ materially from the forward-looking statements as a result of various factors. You should not rely on forward-looking statements in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q.

Forward-looking statements are statements not based on historical information and which relate to future operations, strategies, financial results or other developments. You can usually identify forward-looking statements by terminology such as may, will, should, expect, plan, anticipate, believe, estimate, predict, intend, or with the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee our future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. Forward-looking statements include, among other things, discussions concerning our potential expectations, beliefs, estimates, forecasts, projections and assumptions. Forward-looking statements may address, among other things:

- our strategy for growth;
- underwriting results;
- our expected combined ratio and growth of written premiums;
- product development;
- computer systems;
- regulatory approvals;
- market position;
- financial results;
- dividend policy; and
- reserves.

It is possible that our actual results, actions and financial condition may differ, possibly materially, from the anticipated results, actions and financial condition indicated in these forward-looking statements. Important factors that could cause our actual results and actions to differ, possibly materially, from those in the specific forward-looking statements include those discussed in this report under the heading Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations as well as:

- the effects of competition and competitors' pricing actions;
- adverse underwriting and claims experience, including as a result of revived earthquake claims under SB 1899;
- customer service problems;
-

the impact on our operations of natural disasters, principally earthquake, or civil disturbance, due to the concentration of our facilities and employees in Woodland Hills, California;

- the outcome of pending litigation;
- information system problems, including failures to implement information technology projects on time and within budget;
- internal control failures;
- adverse developments in financial markets or interest rates;
- results of legislative, regulatory or legal actions, including the inability to obtain approval for rate increases and product changes and adverse actions taken by state regulators in market conduct examinations; and
- our ability to service the senior notes, including our ability to receive dividends and/or sufficient payments from our subsidiaries to service our obligations.

We do not undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risk of loss from adverse changes in market prices and interest rates. In addition to market risk we are exposed to other risks, including the credit risk related to our financial instruments and the underlying insurance risk related to our core business and the exposure of the personal lines insurance business, as a regulated industry, to legal, legislative, judicial, political and regulatory action. The following table shows the financial statement carrying values of our financial instruments, which are reported at fair value. The estimated fair values at adjusted market rates/prices assumes a 100 basis point increase in market interest rates for the investment portfolio and a 100 basis point decrease in market interest rates for the debt.

The following sensitivity analysis summarizes only the exposure to market interest rate risk as of September 30, 2004.

<i>AMOUNTS IN MILLIONS</i>		<i>Estimated Fair Value at Adjusted Market Rates/Prices Indicated Above</i>		<i>Change in Value as a Percentage of Carrying Value</i>
	<i>Carrying Value</i>			
Fixed maturity investments available for sale, at fair value	\$ 1,329.8	\$ 1,267.6		4.68%
Debt	141.2	149.7		6.02%

Our cash flow from operations and short-term cash position generally is more than sufficient to meet our obligations for claim payments, which by the nature of the personal automobile insurance business tend to have an average duration of less than a year. As a result, it has been unnecessary for us to employ elaborate market risk management techniques involving complicated asset and liability duration matching or hedging strategies. For all of our financial assets and liabilities, we seek to maintain reasonable average durations, currently approximately 5.7 years, consistent with the maximization of income without sacrificing investment quality and providing for liquidity and diversification. Financial instruments are not used for trading purposes.

The sensitivity analysis provides only a limited, point-in-time view of the market risk sensitivity of our financial instruments. The actual impact of market interest rate and price changes on the financial instruments may differ significantly from those shown in the analysis.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

We have established disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the Company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to the officers who certify the Company's financial reports and to other members of senior management and the Board of Directors.

Based on their evaluation of the effectiveness of 21st Century Insurance Group's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of September 30, 2004, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of 21st Century Insurance Group have concluded that such disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that the information required to be disclosed by 21st Century Insurance Group in reports that it files or submits under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms. There were no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by this report that

have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect internal controls over financial reporting.

The Company intends to review and evaluate the design and effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures on an ongoing basis and to improve its controls and procedures over time and to correct any deficiencies that may be discovered in the future in order to ensure that senior management has timely access to all material financial and non-financial information concerning the Company's business. While management believes that the present design of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures is effective to achieve these results, future events affecting the Company's business may cause management to modify its disclosure controls and procedures.

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the normal course of business, the Company is named as a defendant in lawsuits related to claims and insurance policy issues, both on individual policy files and by class actions seeking to attack the Company's business practices. A description of the legal proceedings to which the Company and its subsidiaries are a party is contained in Note 3 of the Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

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

None.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

None.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

Exhibits

- 31.1 Certification of President and Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a).
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a).
- 32.1 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

SIGNATURES

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

21ST CENTURY INSURANCE GROUP
(Registrant)

Date: October 20, 2004 /s/ Bruce W. Marlow
BRUCE W. MARLOW
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: October 20, 2004 /s/ Carmelo Spinella
CARMELO SPINELLA
Sr. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Description

No.

- | | |
|------|---|
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