

TRINET GROUP INC  
Form 10-K  
March 30, 2015

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934  
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014

OR

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 001-36373

TRINET GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its Charter)

Delaware ( State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	95-3359658 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
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1100 San Leandro Blvd., Suite 400

San Leandro, CA (Address of principal executive offices)	94577 (Zip Code)
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Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (510) 352-5000

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: Common Stock, Par Value \$0.000025 Per Share; Common stock traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

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

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. YES  NO

Indicate by check mark if the Registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. YES  NO

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

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to submit and post such files). YES  NO

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the Registrant, based on the closing price of the shares of common stock on The New York Stock Exchange on June 30, 2014, was \$537,714,485.

The number of shares of Registrant's Common Stock outstanding as of March 18, 2015 was 70,672,600.

Portions of the Registrant's Definitive Proxy Statement relating to the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, scheduled to be held on May 21, 2015, are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Report.



TriNet, Inc.

Form 10-K – Annual Report

For the Fiscal Year End December 31, 2014

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## Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Forward-looking statements are often identified by the use of words such as, but not limited to, “anticipate,” “believe,” “can,” “continue,” “could,” “estimate,” “expect,” “intend,” “may,” “plan,” “project,” “seek,” “should,” “strategy,” “target,” “will,” “would” and similar expressions or variations thereof to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance, but are based on management’s expectations as of the date of this report and assumptions that are inherently subject to uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those identified below and those discussed in the section titled “Risk Factors” included under Part I, Item 1A below. All information provided in this report is as of the date of this report and we undertake no duty to update this information except as required by law.

## PART I

### Item 1. Business

#### Company Overview

TriNet is a leading provider of a comprehensive human resources solution for small to medium-sized businesses, or SMBs. We enhance business productivity by enabling our clients to outsource their HR function to one strategic partner and allowing them to focus on operating and growing their core businesses. Our HR solution includes services such as payroll processing, human capital consulting, employment law compliance and employee benefits, including health insurance, retirement plans and workers compensation insurance. Our services are delivered by our expert team of HR professionals and enabled by our proprietary, cloud-based technology platform, which allows our clients and their employees to efficiently conduct their HR transactions anytime and anywhere. We believe we are a leader in the industry due to our size, our presence in the United States and Canada and the number of clients and employees that we serve.

We utilize a co-employment model pursuant to which both we and our clients become employers of our clients’ employees, which we refer to as worksite employees, or WSEs. This model affords us a close and embedded relationship with our clients and their employees. Under the co-employment model, employment-related liabilities are contractually allocated between us and our clients. We assume responsibility for, and manage the risks associated with, each clients’ employee payroll obligations, including the liability for payment of salaries and wages to each client employee, the payment of payroll taxes and, at the client’s option, responsibility for providing group health, welfare, workers compensation and retirement benefits to such individuals. Unlike a payroll service provider, we issue each WSE a payroll check drawn on our bank accounts and contract with insurance carriers to provide health and workers compensation insurance to WSEs under TriNet’s name.

We serve thousands of clients in specific industry vertical markets, including technology, life sciences, property management, professional services, banking and financial services, retail, manufacturing and hospitality services, as well as non-profit entities. As of December 31, 2014, we served over 10,000 clients in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada and co-employed approximately 288,000 WSEs. In 2014, we processed over \$25 billion in payroll and payroll tax payments for our clients.

Our total revenues consist of professional service revenues and insurance service revenues. For 2014 and 2013, 16% and 17% of our total revenues, respectively, consisted of professional service revenues, and 84% and 83% of our total revenues, respectively, consisted of insurance service revenues. We earn professional service revenues by processing HR transactions, such as payroll and employment tax withholding, and providing labor and benefit law compliance services, on behalf of our clients. We earn insurance service revenues by providing risk-based, third-party plans to our clients, primarily employee health benefit plans and workers compensation insurance.

For professional service revenues, we recognize as revenues the fees we earn for processing HR transactions, which fees do not include the payroll that is paid to us by the client and paid out to WSEs or remitted as taxes. We recognize as insurance service revenues all insurance-related billings and administrative fees collected from clients and withheld from WSEs for risk-based insurance plans provided through third-party insurance carriers, primarily employee health insurance and workers compensation insurance. We in turn pay premiums to third-party insurance carriers for these insurance benefits, as well as reimburse them for claim payments within our insurance deductible layer. These premiums and reimbursements are classified as insurance costs on our statements of operations. To augment our financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP, we use internally a non-GAAP financial measure, Net Insurance Service Revenues, which consists of insurance service revenues less insurance costs. We also use a measure of total non-GAAP revenue, or Net Service Revenues, which is the sum of professional service revenues and Net Insurance Service Revenues. For 2014, 67% of our Net Service Revenues consisted of professional service revenues and 33% of our Net Service Revenues consisted of Net Insurance Service Revenues.

We have grown our business organically and through strategic acquisitions. For 2014, 2013 and 2012, our total revenues were \$2.2 billion, \$1.6 billion, and \$1.0 billion respectively, Net Service Revenues were \$507.2 million, \$417.7 million and \$269.0 million, respectively, and our net income was \$15.5 million, \$13.1 million and \$31.8 million, respectively. For 2014, 2013 and 2012, our Adjusted Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization or Adjusted EBITDA was \$165.3 million, \$136.0 million and \$95.4 million, respectively. We conduct our business primarily in the United States, and all of our clients are U.S. employers. However, we provide services with respect to certain of our clients' employees in Canada. The percentage of our total revenues attributable to WSEs in Canada was less than 1% for each of 2014, 2013 and 2012.

#### Our Services

We provide a comprehensive suite of core HR services that allows our clients to outsource their HR function. We also provide a set of strategic services to support and enhance each stage of our clients' growth. Our services are supported by our network of HR experts and integrated through a single-sign-on, proprietary, cloud-based SaaS platform, designed so that our clients have access to big-company benefits, excellent service and a scalable HR infrastructure. The following diagram depicts the services that we offer:

#### Benefits Programs and Risk Management

We provide benefits to our WSEs and clients under arrangements with a variety of vendors that provide employee benefit plans, workers compensation insurance and employee practices liability insurance. These agreements typically have a term of one year and generally may be terminated by either us or the insurance carrier partner on 90 days' notice.

Risk management is a core competency of our company. We leverage the insight that we have gained over our 25-year operating history as well as our robust risk management capabilities to mitigate the risks associated with providing workers compensation and employee benefit plans to our clients. Our programs are fully insured by top-rated insurance carriers, which limits our ultimate exposure or potential losses. We assess all workers compensation and medical benefits risks on an individual client basis and annually adjust pricing to reflect their current risk based on Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act or HIPAA-compliant analytics.

## Employee Benefit Plans

We sponsor a number of fully-insured employee benefit plans, including group health, dental, vision and group and individual life insurance, legal services, commuter benefits, home insurance, critical illness insurance, pet insurance and auto insurance, as an employer plan sponsor under Section 3(5) of Employee Retirement Income Security Act or ERISA. Approximately 41% of our 2014 health insurance premiums were for policies with respect to which our carriers set the premiums and for which we were not responsible for any deductible. The remainder of our health insurance premiums are for policies with respect to which we agree to reimburse our carriers for any claims that they pay within our deductible layer. Our agreements with our health insurance carriers with respect to these policies typically include limits to our exposure for individual claims, which we refer to as pooling limits, and limits to our maximum aggregate exposure for claims in a given policy year, which we refer to as stop losses. We have experienced variability in the level of our insurance claims based on the unpredictable nature of large claims. We manage the risk that we assume in connection with these policies by utilizing group risk assessments and HIPAA-compliant analytics and pricing these policies accordingly. Following our initial pricing of these policies, we analyze claims data for each client on an ongoing basis and seek to adjust our prices on each client's annual anniversary date as appropriate.

We believe that our provision of group health insurance is one of the most important employee benefits we provide to our WSEs. We provide group health insurance coverage to our WSEs through a national network of carriers including Aetna, Blue Shield of California, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, Kaiser Permanente, MetLife and United Healthcare, all of which provide fully insured policies for our WSEs.

## Workers Compensation Insurance

We provide fully-insured workers compensation insurance coverage to our WSEs through agreements that we negotiate with our third-party insurance providers ACE, AIG, The Hartford, Lumberman's Mutual and American Zurich Insurance Company. These agreements typically obligate us to reimburse our carriers up to \$1 million per claim. We manage the risk that we assume in connection with these policies by: being selective in terms of the types of businesses that we take on as clients; performing workplace assessment, safety consultation, accident investigation and other risk management services at our client locations to help prevent claims and remediate them when they occur; and monitoring claims data and the performance of our carriers and third-party claims management services to improve our actuarial projections.

## Employment Practices Liability Insurance

We provide employment practices liability insurance, or EPLI, through several insurance carriers, including Allied World Assurance Company, Lexington Insurance Company and Beazley. These policies provide for a per-claim deductible. For most of our clients, the deductible is split between the client and TriNet, with the client paying its deductible first. Our legal department manages all employee practices liabilities claims processing and defense, while the actual litigation defense is conducted by one of several employment law firms that we retain to assist with the cases.

## Our Technology Platform

We have a proprietary, cloud-based technology platform that allows clients and employees real-time access to a suite of secure online HR resources. Our platform is designed to function as the core system of record for all of our clients' HR activities and allows our clients to enjoy 24/7, ubiquitous access. Through the use of our online self-service tools, managers can effectively manage employee hiring and termination, administer employee payroll, view real-time benefits data and create compensation reports. Single-sign-on system functionality allows employees to manage their own payroll information, enroll in benefits and view paystubs, W-2s and more. Employees can also view real-time workflow data, such as requests and approvals for personal time off. As a result of our long-standing partnerships and the significant investments that we have made in our platform, our technology and benefits services partners have

integrated with our platform, allowing employees to access a unified view of all of their pertinent HR information.

We invest significant capital to create and offer state-of-the-art HR technology tailored to our vertical markets. Our proprietary, cloud-based platform enables us to provide our clients with the best and latest version of our software. We leverage our existing online platform to build additional products and features, including a full-service mobile platform.

We maintain a proprietary, cloud-based HR information system. Our clients receive the efficiencies of an enterprise-level platform without the significant cost of in-house installation or ongoing maintenance. Features include:

- multi-tenant system enabling multiple clients and WSEs to share one version of our system while isolating each client's and WSE's data;
- rule-based provisioning ensuring that all users are authenticated, authorized and validated before they can access our platform;

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- redundant processing centers to protect client data from loss; and
- integrated benefits and payroll processing for faster, more accurate data; and flexible and extensible platform architecture.

From 2010 through 2014, we invested approximately \$125.5 million in our technology platform. We plan to continue to invest to upgrade and improve our platform.

### Sales and Marketing

We sell our solutions primarily through our direct sales organization, which consists of sales representatives, sales management and sales operations and support personnel. Our sales representatives focus on serving clients in specific vertical markets. The number of sales representatives has grown substantially in recent years, from 114 Total Sales Representatives as of December 31, 2010 to 385 Total Sales Representatives as of December 31, 2014. We recruit and hire sales professionals who have experience in a specific industry vertical market, and we also seek sales professionals with a background in selling business services such as accounting, HR or sales solutions. As of December 31, 2014, we had approximately 60 regional sales offices.

We also employ a broad range of awareness and demand-generation marketing programs, including billboards, digital and print advertising, e-mail, direct mail and social media. We have an internal public relations team that works with an external agency to promote relevant content to target media outlets. We sponsor and participate in associations and events around the country and utilize these forums to target specific vertical and geographic markets.

### Clients

We serve thousands of clients in a variety of industries, including technology, life sciences, property management, professional services, banking and financial services, retail, manufacturing and hospitality services, as well as non-profit entities. We have grown our number of clients from approximately 5,600 as of December 31, 2010 to over 10,000 clients as of December 31, 2014. We have also grown our number of WSEs from approximately 97,000 in 46 states and the District of Columbia as of December 31, 2010 to approximately 288,000 in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada as of December 31, 2014.

### The Co-Employment Model

We deliver our services through a co-employment model, pursuant to which both we and our clients are employers of our clients' workforce. Our co-employment model affords us a close and embedded relationship with our clients and their employees. In this arrangement, we assume certain aspects of the employer/employee relationship, according to a contract between us and our client. Each of our clients enters into a client service agreement with us that defines the bundled suite of services and benefits to be provided by us, the fees payable to us, and the division of responsibilities between us and our client as co-employers. We currently co-employ employees only in the United States and Canada, but in some cases also provide payroll processing services for our clients' employees outside these countries utilizing third-party vendors. Each of our customer services agreements has a one-year term that guarantees its pricing terms and typically may be terminated by either party upon 30 days' prior written notice. The division of responsibilities under our client service agreements is typically as follows:

### TriNet Responsibilities

- Payment to WSEs of salaries, commissions, bonuses, vacations, paid time off, sick pay, paid leaves of absence and severance payments as reported by the client, related tax reporting and remittance and processing of garnishment and wage deduction orders;
- maintenance of workers compensation insurance and workers compensation claims processing;
- provision and administration of employee benefits that we provide to the WSEs;
- compliance with applicable law for employee benefits offered to WSEs;

- processing of unemployment claims;
- provision and promulgation of HR policies, including an employee handbook describing the co-employment relationship; and
- HR consulting services.

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## Client Responsibilities

- Compliance with laws associated with the classification of employees as exempt or non-exempt, such as overtime pay and minimum wage law compliance;
- accurate and timely reporting to TriNet of compensation and deduction information, including information relating to salaries, commissions, bonuses, vacations, paid time off, sick pay, paid leaves of absence and severance payments;
- accurate and timely reporting to TriNet of information relating to workplace injuries, employee hires and termination, and other information relevant to TriNet's services;
- provision and administration of any employee benefits not provided by TriNet (e.g., equity incentive plans);
- compliance with all laws and regulations applicable to the client's workplace and business, including work eligibility laws, laws relating to workplace safety or the environment, laws relating to family and medical leave, laws pertaining to employee organizing efforts and collective bargaining and employee termination notice requirements; and
- all other matters for which TriNet does not assume responsibility under the client service agreement, such as intellectual property ownership and protection and liability for products produced and/or services provided.

As a result of our co-employment relationship with each of our WSEs, we are liable for payment of salary, wages and other compensation to the WSEs as reported by the client and are responsible for providing specified employee benefits to such persons, regardless of whether the client pays the associated amounts to us. In most instances, clients are required to remit payment prior to the applicable payroll date by wire transfer or automated clearinghouse transaction. Although we are ultimately liable under the terms of our client service agreements, as the employer for payroll purposes, to pay employees for work previously performed, we are not obligated to continue to provide services to the client if payment has not been made. For the year ended December 31, 2014, our bad debt expense was approximately \$1.4 million.

We also assume responsibility for payment and liability for the withholding and remittance of federal and state income and employment taxes with respect to wages and salaries paid to WSEs. In the event we fail to meet these obligations, the client may be held ultimately liable for those obligations. We secure insurance to ensure that our clients are not required to be responsible for taxes in the event we fail to meet these obligations.

## Strategic Acquisitions

We operate in a highly fragmented industry and have completed numerous strategic acquisitions over the course of the past decade. We intend to continue to pursue strategic acquisitions that will enable us to add new clients and employees to our existing business and offer our clients and their employees more comprehensive and attractive services. Our recent acquisitions are listed below:

- In July 2013, we acquired Ambrose Employer Group, LLC, which we refer to as, Ambrose, a New York-based company that provides premium HR services primarily to WSEs in the financial services industry in the New York area. Through our acquisition of Ambrose, we acquired approximately 13,000 WSEs, approximately 1,000 clients and 12 sales representatives.
- In October 2012, we acquired South Carolina-based SOI Holdings, Inc., which we refer to as, SOI, which expanded our presence in the property management and food services industry vertical markets. Through our acquisition of SOI, we acquired approximately 66,000 WSEs, approximately 1,500 clients and 92 sales representatives.
- In May 2012, we acquired Los Angeles-based technology company App7, Inc., which does business under the name of, and which we refer to as, ExpenseCloud, which enabled us to enhance our technology platform with additional expense management capabilities.
- In April 2012, we acquired Oklahoma-based 210 Park Avenue Holding, Inc., which does business under the name of, and which we refer to as, Accord, through which we expanded our presence in the hospitality and manufacturing industry vertical markets. Through our acquisition of Accord, we acquired approximately 14,000 WSEs, approximately 500 clients and 8 sales representatives.
- In June 2009, we acquired Florida-based Gevity HR Inc., which we refer to as, Gevity, which has provided us with insurance and risk-management expertise and a national presence through its East Coast processing facility. Through

our acquisition of Gevity, we acquired approximately 92,000 WSEs and approximately 6,000 clients. Following our acquisition of Gevity, we elected to change the pricing terms with certain of Gevity's clients, terminate Gevity's relationships with certain of its clients, significantly restructure Gevity's and our combined sales forces and migrate all of Gevity's WSEs to our technology platform. As a result of these actions, our revenues fell short of our expectations in 2010 and declined in 2011, and we incurred restructuring charges of \$2.4 million, \$5.9 million and \$6.2 million in the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

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Because many of the companies we have acquired were focused on specific industries, our acquisitions have allowed us to expand our vertical service offerings into areas such as financial services, property management and food services, hospitality and manufacturing in which we did not previously have a significant presence. In addition, we have acquired sales representatives with experience in these vertical markets. Our acquisitions have provided us with additional clients and WSEs to allow us to continue to leverage our operations over a larger client base.

### Our Growth Strategies

Our goal is to become the leading HR solutions provider to SMBs. Our strategies to achieve that goal include the following:

- Continue to Penetrate the SMB Market Using Our Vertical Market Approach. Our focus on serving clients in specific industry vertical markets has given us deep, substantive knowledge of the HR needs facing SMBs in those industries. This enables us to provide a bundled solution of services to each client that is tailored to its specific needs and better enables us to attract sales professionals with industry expertise. We intend to continue this focus on industry vertical markets. We also regularly assess additional and new industry vertical markets and intend to add them, either through acquisition or internal development, selectively based on what we believe the market opportunity is.
- Expand Our Direct Sales Force. We believe that the SMB market remains significantly underpenetrated for a bundled HR solution such as ours. We intend to continue to invest in our direct sales force to enable us to identify and acquire new clients across our target vertical markets, in addition to expanding our sales force to target new vertical markets.
- Grow With Our Clients by Enhancing the Breadth and Quality of Our Services. We intend to continue to expand the breadth and quality of our HR solution. We believe that this will allow us to continue to enhance the value proposition for our clients, as well as grow and retain them longer by providing additional high-quality service offerings.
- Continue to Enhance Our Technology Platform. We intend to continue to invest in and improve our proprietary, cloud-based technology platform, including mobile applications, in order to provide our clients with enhanced features and functionality with which to conduct their HR transactions, manage employees and analyze employee benefits data. This may include acquiring or developing additional functionality or technology.
- Continue to Grow Through Strategic Acquisitions. We have successfully completed numerous strategic acquisitions over the course of the past decade, which has allowed us to enhance and expand our presence in both existing and new target industries, as well as expand our solution and technology platform. We intend to continue to pursue strategic acquisitions that will enable us to leverage our existing assets and offer our clients more comprehensive and attractive services.

We believe that if effectively pursued, these strategies represent opportunities for us to increase the demand for our services. We also face challenges to our growth strategy. We must be able to convince SMBs of the benefits of outsourcing their HR function, effectively execute our strategies and minimize client attrition, in addition to addressing or responding to other issues identified below under “Risk Factors.”

### U.S. Legal and Regulatory Environment

#### General

Numerous federal and state laws and regulations relating to employment matters, benefit plans and income and employment taxes affect our operations. Many of these laws, such as ERISA, were enacted before the development of the co-employment relationship that we use and other non-traditional employment relationships, such as temporary employment and other employment-related outsourcing arrangements. Therefore, many of these laws do not specifically address the obligations and responsibilities of our industry, the participants in which are referred to as professional employer organizations. Other federal and state laws and regulations, such as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, are relatively new, and administrative agencies and federal and state courts have only begun to interpret and apply these regulations to our industry. The development of additional regulations and interpretation of

those regulations can be expected to evolve over time.

While we believe that our operations are currently in compliance in all material respects with applicable federal and state statutes and regulations, the topics discussed below summarize what we believe are the most important regulatory aspects of our business.

#### Employer Status

In order for WSEs to receive the full benefit of our benefits offerings, it is important that we constitute the “employer” of the WSEs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the Code and ERISA. The definitions of “employer” under both the Code and ERISA are not clear and are defined in part by complex multi-factor tests under common law. We believe that we qualify as an

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“employer” of our WSEs in the United States under both the Code and ERISA, and we implement processes to protect and preserve this status.

**Tax Qualified Plans.** In order to qualify for favorable tax treatment under the Code, certain employee benefit plans such as 401(k) retirement plans and cafeteria plans must be established and maintained by an employer for the exclusive benefit of its employees. Generally, an entity is an “employer” of certain workers for federal employment tax purposes if an employment relationship exists between the entity and the workers under the common law test of employment. The common law test of employment, as applied by the IRS, involves an examination of many factors to ascertain whether an employment relationship exists between a worker and a purported employer. Our 401(k) retirement plans are operated pursuant to guidance provided by the IRS for the operation of defined contribution plans maintained by co-employers that benefit WSEs. This guidance provides qualification standards for such plans. All of our 401(k) retirement plans have received determination letters from the IRS confirming the qualified status of the plans. The IRS 401(k) guidance and qualification requirement are not applicable to the operation of our cafeteria plans.

**ERISA Regulations.** Employee pension and welfare benefit plans are also governed by ERISA. ERISA defines an “employer” as “any person acting directly as an employer, or indirectly in the interest of an employer, in relation to an employee benefit plan.” ERISA defines the term “employee” as “any individual employed by an employer.” The courts have held that the common law test of employment must be applied to determine whether an individual is an employee or an independent contractor under ERISA. However, in applying that test, control and supervision are less important for ERISA purposes when determining whether an employer has assumed responsibility for an individual’s benefits status. A definitive judicial interpretation of “employer” in the context of a professional employer organization has not been established, and the U.S. Department of Labor has issued guidance that certain entities in the HR outsourcing industry do not qualify as common law employers of WSEs for ERISA purposes. If we were found not to be an employer for ERISA purposes, our plans would not comply with ERISA, and fines and penalties could be imposed. In addition, our ERISA plans would not enjoy, with respect to WSEs, the full preemption of state laws provided by ERISA and could be subject to various state laws and regulation.

#### Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or the Act, implements sweeping health care reforms with staggered effective dates from 2010 through 2018, and many provisions in the Act require the issuance of additional guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor, the IRS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the states. The Act imposes a number of new mandates on the coverage required to be provided under health insurance plans beginning in 2010, with additional requirements staged in subsequent years. We believe that our group health plans comply with existing mandates. However, the guidance issued to date by the IRS and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have not addressed, or in some instances are unclear, as to their application in the co-employer context or whether such provisions should be applied at the client level. As a result, we are not yet able to predict all of the impacts to our business, and to our clients, resulting from the Act.

#### State Unemployment Taxes

State unemployment taxes are based on taxable wages and tax rates assigned by each state. The tax rates vary by state and are determined, in part, based on our prior years’ compensation experience in each state. Certain rates are also determined, in part, by each client’s own compensation experience. In addition, states have the ability under law to increase unemployment tax rates, including retroactively, to cover deficiencies in the unemployment tax funds. Due to the adverse U.S. economic conditions during recent years and the associated reductions in employment levels, the state unemployment funds have experienced a significant increase in the number of unemployment claims. Accordingly, state unemployment tax rates increased substantially over the past few years. Employers in certain states are also experiencing higher federal unemployment tax rates as a result of certain states not repaying their unemployment loans from the federal government in a timely manner. We have taken steps to mitigate the risk of

fluctuations in state and federal unemployment tax rates, including reporting and remitting unemployment insurance taxes or contributions at the customer level and/or under the customer's own account number in approximately 30 states, and we will continue to seek such reporting relationships in the future.

#### State Regulation of Co-Employers

Forty-two states have adopted provisions for licensing, registration, certification or recognition of co-employers, and others are considering such regulation. Such laws vary from state to state but generally provide for monitoring or ensuring the fiscal responsibility of professional employer organizations, and in some cases codify and clarify the co-employment relationship for unemployment, workers compensation and other purposes under state law. We believe we are in compliance in all material respects with the requirements in all 42 states. Regardless of whether a state has licensing, registration or certification requirements for co-employers, we must comply with a number of other state and local regulations that could impact our operations, such as state and local taxes, licensing, zoning and business regulations.

## Competition

We face significant competition on a national and regional level from a number of companies purporting to deliver a range of bundled services that are generally similar to the services we provide. The National Association of Professional Employer Organizations, or NAPEO, estimates that there are between 700 and 900 such entities currently operating in the United States. We are one of only four professional employer organizations or PEOs accredited by the Employer Services Assurance Corporation that offers services in all 50 states and believe that we are one of the largest PEOs in the industry. Our competitors include large professional employer organizations such as the TotalSource unit of Automatic Data Processing, Inc. and Insperty, Inc., as well as specialized and small professional employer organization service providers. If and to the extent that we and other companies providing these services are successful in growing our businesses, we anticipate that future competitors will enter this industry.

In addition to competition from other professional employer organizations, we also face competition in the form of companies serving their HR needs in traditional manners. These forms of competition include:

- HR and information systems departments and personnel of companies that perform their own administration of benefits, payroll and HR;
- providers of certain endpoint HR services, including payroll, benefits and business process outsourcers with high-volume transaction and administrative capabilities, such as Automatic Data Processing, Inc., Paychex, Inc. and other third-party administrators; and
- benefits exchanges that provide benefits administration services over the Internet to companies that otherwise maintain their own benefit plans.

We believe that our services are attractive to many SMBs in part because of our ability to provide workers compensation, health care and other benefits programs to them on a cost-effective basis. We compete with insurance brokers and other providers of this coverage in this regard, and our offerings must be priced competitively with those provided by these competitors in order for us to attract and retain our clients.

We believe the principal competitive factors in our market include the following:

- level of customer satisfaction;
- ease of customer setup and on-boarding;
- breadth and depth of benefit plans and online functionality;
- vertical market expertise;
- total cost of service;
- brand awareness and reputation;
- ability to innovate and respond to customer needs rapidly; and
- subject matter expertise.

We believe that we compete favorably on the basis of each of these factors.

## Seasonality and Insurance Variability

Our business is affected by cyclicity in business activity and WSE behavior. Historically, we have experienced our highest monthly addition of WSEs, as well as our highest monthly levels of client attrition, in the month of January, primarily because clients that change their payroll service providers tend to do so at the beginning of a calendar year. In addition, we experience higher levels of client attrition in connection with renewals of the health insurance we provide for our WSEs, in the event that such renewals result in increased premiums that we pass on to our clients. We have also historically experienced higher insurance claim volumes in the second and third quarters of a fiscal year than in the first and fourth quarters of a fiscal year, as WSEs typically access their health care providers more often in the second and third quarters of a fiscal year, which has negatively impacted our insurance costs in these quarters. We

have also experienced variability on a quarterly basis in the level of our insurance claims based on the unpredictable nature of large claims. These historical trends may change, and other seasonal trends and variability may develop that make it more difficult for us to manage our business.

## Intellectual Property

Our success depends in part on intellectual property rights to the services that we develop. We rely on a combination of contractual rights, including non-disclosure agreements, trade secrets, copyrights and trademarks, to establish and protect our intellectual property rights in our names, services, methodologies and related technologies. If we lose intellectual property protection or the ability to secure intellectual property protection on any of our names, confidential information or technology, this could harm our business. Our intellectual property rights may not prevent competitors from independently developing services and methodologies similar to ours, and the steps we take might be inadequate to deter infringement or misappropriation of our intellectual property by competitors, former employees or other third parties, any of which could harm our business. We currently have one pending U.S. patent application covering our technology. We own registered trademarks in the United States, Canada and the European Union that have various expiration dates unless renewed through customary processes. Our trademark registrations may be unenforceable or ineffective in protecting our trademarks. Our trademarks may be unenforceable in countries outside of the United States, which may adversely affect our ability to build our brand outside of the United States.

Although we believe that our conduct of our business does not infringe on the intellectual property rights of others, third parties may nevertheless assert infringement claims against us in the future. We may be required to modify our products, services, internal systems or technologies, or obtain a license to permit our continued use of those rights. We may be unable to do so in a timely manner, or upon reasonable terms and conditions, which could harm our business. In addition, future litigation over these matters could result in substantial costs and resource diversion. Adverse determinations in any litigation or proceedings of this type could subject us to significant liabilities to third parties and could prevent us from using some of our services, internal systems or technologies.

## Corporate Employees

We refer to our employees, excluding employees that we co-employ on behalf of our clients, as our corporate employees. We had 2,057 corporate employees as of December 31, 2014. We believe our relations with our corporate employees are good. None of our corporate employees is covered by a collective bargaining agreement.

## Directors and Executive Officers

Name	Principal Occupation(s)
Executive Officers	
Burton M. Goldfield	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director, TriNet
William Porter	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, TriNet
Gregory L. Hammond	Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, TriNet
John Turner	Senior Vice President of Sales, TriNet
Non-Employee Directors	
H. Raymond Bingham	Advisory Director, General Atlantic LLC (a global growth equity investment firm)
Katherine August-deWilde	President and Chief Operating Officer, First Republic Bank (commercial bank specializing in private banking, business banking and wealth management)
Martin Babinec	Founder and Chairman, Upstate Venture Connect (a nonprofit corporation focused on the creation of new companies and jobs across Upstate New York); Founder and Chairman, StartFast Venture Accelerator (a mentorship-driven startup accelerator based in New York)
Kenneth Goldman	Chief Financial Officer, Yahoo! Inc. (an Internet services company)
David C. Hodgson	Managing Director, General Atlantic LLC (a global growth equity investment firm)
John Kispert	

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Wayne B. Lowell

President and Chief Executive Officer, Spansion, Inc. (a provider of flash memory-based embedded systems solutions until acquired by Cypress Semiconductor in March 2015)  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Senior Whole Health Holdings, Inc. (a health insurance company focused on providing health insurance coverage to senior citizens)

### Corporate and Other Available Information

We were incorporated in 1988 as TriNet Employer Group, Inc., a California corporation. We reincorporated as TriNet Merger Corporation, a Delaware corporation, in 2000 and during that year changed our name to TriNet Group, Inc. Our principal executive offices are located at 1100 San Leandro Blvd., Suite 400, San Leandro, CA 94577 and our telephone number is (510) 352-5000. Our website address is [www.trinet.com](http://www.trinet.com). Information contained in or accessible through our website is not a part of this report.

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On the Investor Relations page of our Internet website at <http://www.trinet.com>, we make available, free of charge, our Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. Information on our website is not incorporated into this report and is not a part of this report.

## Item 1A. Risk Factors

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risks and all of the other information contained in this report, including our consolidated financial statements and related notes. If any of the following risks materialize, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose some or all of your investment.

### Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

Our success depends on growth in market acceptance of the human resources outsourcing and related services we provide.

Our success depends on the willingness of SMBs to outsource their HR function to a third-party service provider. We estimate that fewer than 5% of U.S. employees of businesses with fewer than 500 employees are part of a co-employment arrangement, in which all or some portion of the employer's HR function was outsourced to a single third-party provider such as TriNet. We believe that our growth opportunity is primarily a function of our ability to penetrate the SMB market. Many companies have invested substantial personnel, infrastructure and financial resources in their own internal HR organizations and therefore may be reluctant to switch to our solution. Companies may not engage us for other reasons, including a desire to maintain control over all aspects of their HR activities, a belief that they manage their HR activities more effectively using their internal administrative organizations, perceptions about the expenses associated with our services, perceptions about whether our services comply with laws and regulations applicable to them or their businesses, or other considerations that may not always be evident. Additional concerns or considerations may also emerge in the future. We must address our potential clients' concerns and explain the benefits of our approach in order to convince them to change the way that they manage their HR activities, particularly in parts of the United States where our company and solution are less well-known. If we are not successful in addressing potential clients' concerns and convincing companies that our solution can fulfill their HR needs, then the market for our solution may not develop as we anticipate and our business may not grow.

If we are unable to rapidly grow our sales force, we will not be able to grow our business at the rate that we anticipate, which could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

In order to raise awareness of the benefits of our services and identify and acquire new clients, we must rapidly grow our direct sales force, which consists of regional sales representatives who focus on serving clients in specific industry vertical markets. Competition for skilled sales personnel is intense, and we cannot assure you that we will be successful in attracting, training and retaining qualified sales personnel, or that our newly hired sales personnel will function effectively, either individually or as a group. In addition, our newly hired sales personnel are typically not productive for up to a year following their hiring. This results in increased near-term costs to us relative to the sales contributions of these newly hired sales personnel. If we are unable to rapidly grow and effectively train our sales force, our revenues likely will not increase at the rate that we anticipate, which could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We are subject to client attrition.

We regularly experience significant client attrition due to a variety of factors, including increases in administrative fees and insurance costs, disruption caused by the transition of WSEs we have gained through acquisition to our technology platform, client business failure, competition and clients determining to bring HR administration in-house. Our standard client service agreement can be cancelled by us or by the client without penalty with 30 days' prior written notice. Clients who intend to cease doing business with us often elect to do so effective as of the beginning of a calendar year. As a result, we have historically experienced our largest concentration of client attrition in the first quarter of each year. In addition, we experience higher levels of client attrition in connection with renewals of the health insurance we provide for WSEs in the event that such renewals result in increased premiums that we pass on to our clients. If we were to experience client attrition in excess of our projected annual attrition rate of approximately 20% of our installed WSE base, as we did in 2010 and 2011, it could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our acquisition strategy creates risks for our business.

We have completed numerous acquisitions of other businesses, and we expect that we will continue to grow through acquisitions of other businesses, assets or technologies. We may fail to identify attractive acquisition candidates or we may be unable to reach acceptable terms for future acquisitions. If we are unable to complete acquisitions in the future, our ability to grow our business will be impaired.

We may pay for acquisitions by issuing additional shares of our common stock, which would dilute our stockholders, or by issuing debt, which could include terms that restrict our ability to operate our business or pursue other opportunities and subject us to meaningful debt service obligations. We may also use significant amounts of cash to complete acquisitions. To the extent that we complete acquisitions in the future, we likely will incur future depreciation and amortization expenses associated with the acquired assets. We may also record significant amounts of intangible assets, including goodwill, which could become impaired in the future. Acquisitions involve numerous other risks, including:

- difficulties integrating the operations, technologies, services and personnel of the acquired companies, including the migration of WSEs from an acquired company's technology platform to ours;
- challenges maintaining our internal standards, controls, procedures and policies;
- diversion of management's attention from other business concerns;
- over-valuation by us of acquired companies;
- litigation resulting from activities of the acquired company, including claims from terminated employees, customers, former stockholders and other third parties;
- insufficient revenues to offset increased expenses associated with the acquisitions and unanticipated liabilities of the acquired companies;
- insufficient indemnification or security from the selling parties for legal liabilities that we may assume in connection with our acquisitions;
- entering markets in which we have no prior experience and may not succeed;
- risks associated with foreign acquisitions, such as communication and integration problems resulting from geographic dispersion and language and cultural differences, compliance with foreign laws and regulations and general economic or political conditions in other countries or regions;
- potential loss of key employees of the acquired companies; and
- impairment of relationships with clients and employees of the acquired companies or our clients and employees as a result of the integration of acquired operations and new management personnel.

If we fail to integrate newly acquired businesses effectively, we might not achieve the growth, service enhancement or operational efficiency objectives of the acquisitions, and our business, results of operations and financial condition could be harmed.

Unexpected changes in workers compensation and health insurance claims by worksite employees could harm our business.

Our insurance costs are impacted significantly by our WSEs' health and workers compensation insurance claims experience. We establish reserves to provide for the estimated costs of reimbursing our workers compensation and health insurance carriers for paying claims within the deductible layer in accordance with their insurance policies. Estimating these reserves involves our consideration of a number of factors and requires significant judgment. If there is an unexpected increase in the severity or frequency of claims, such as due to our WSEs generating additional claims activity, or if we subsequently receive updated information indicating insurance claims were higher than previously estimated and reported, our insurance costs could be higher in that period or subsequent periods as we adjust our reserves accordingly. We have also experienced variability in our insurance claims based on the unpredictable nature of large claims. In addition, we may be unable to increase our pricing to offset increases in insurance costs on a timely basis. A number of factors affect claim activity levels, such as changes in general economic conditions, proposed and enacted regulatory changes and disease outbreaks.

Our quarterly results of operations may fluctuate as a result of numerous factors, many of which are outside of our control.

Our quarterly results of operations are likely to fluctuate, and our results in some quarters may be below the expectations of research analysts and our investors, which could cause the price of our common stock to decline. Some of our significant expenses, such as insurance costs for our WSEs, rent expense and debt expense, may require

significant lead time to reduce. If we do not achieve our expected revenues targets, we may be unable to adjust our costs quickly enough to offset any revenues shortfall, which could harm our results of operations. Some of the important factors that may cause our revenues, results of operations and cash flows to fluctuate from quarter to quarter include:

- the number and severity of health and workers compensation insurance claims by WSEs and the timing of claims information provided by our insurance carriers;
- the number of our new clients initiating service and the number of WSEs employed by each new client;
- our loss of existing clients;

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- reduction in the number of WSEs at existing clients;
- the timing of client payments and payment defaults by clients;
- the amount and timing of our operating expenses and capital expenditures;
- costs associated with our acquisitions of companies, assets and technologies;
- payments or drawdowns on our credit facility, or any amendments to our obligations under our credit facility;
- expenses we incur for geographic and service expansion;
- our regulatory compliance costs;
- changes to our credit ratings by rating agencies;
- changes in our effective tax rate;
- extraordinary expenses such as litigation or other dispute-related settlement payments; and
- the impact of new accounting pronouncements.

Many of the above factors are discussed in more detail elsewhere in this “Risk Factors” section and in the section of this report titled “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations”. Many of these factors are outside our control, and the variability and unpredictability of these factors could cause us to fail to meet our expectations for revenues or results of operations for a given period. In addition, the occurrence of one or more of these factors might cause our results of operations to vary widely, which could lead to negative impacts on our margins, short-term liquidity or ability to retain or attract key personnel, and could cause other unanticipated issues. Accordingly, we believe that quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our revenues, results of operations and cash flows may not be meaningful and should not be relied upon as an indication of our future performance.

Our business is subject to numerous state and federal laws, and uncertainty as to the application of these laws, or adverse applications of these laws, as well as changes in applicable laws, could adversely affect our business.

Our operations are governed by numerous federal, state and local laws relating to labor, tax, benefits, insurance and employment matters. We are a professional employer organization, and by entering into a co-employment relationship with WSEs, we assume certain obligations, responsibilities and potential legal risks of an employer under these laws. However, many of these laws (such as the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, or ERISA, and federal and state employment tax laws) do not specifically address the obligations and responsibilities of a provider of outsourced HR in a co-employment relationship, and the definition of employer under these laws is not uniform. In addition, many states have not addressed the co-employment relationship for purposes of compliance with applicable state laws governing the relationship between employers and employees and state insurance laws. There is even greater uncertainty on the federal level, such as the application of immigration reform to a co-employment relationship, and tax credits for small businesses that utilize a co-employment relationship.

We are not able to predict whether broader federal or state regulation governing the co-employment relationship will be implemented, or if it is, how it will affect us. Any adverse application or interpretation (in courts, agencies or otherwise) of new or existing federal or state laws to the co-employment relationship with our WSEs and clients could harm our business. If federal, state or local jurisdictions were to change their regulatory framework related to outsourced HR, or introduce new laws governing our industry that were materially different from existing laws, those changes could reduce or eliminate the need for some of our services, or could require that we make significant changes in our methods of doing business, which could increase our cost of doing business. Changes in regulations could also affect the extent and type of benefits employers can or must provide employees, the amount and type of taxes employers and employees are required to pay or the time within which employers must remit taxes to the applicable authority. These changes could substantially decrease our revenues and substantially increase our cost of doing business. If we fail to educate and assist our clients regarding new or revised legislation that impacts them, our reputation could be harmed.

Although some states do not explicitly regulate professional employer organizations, 42 states have passed laws that have licensing, certification or registration requirements applicable to professional employer organizations or recognize the professional employer organization model, and other states may implement such requirements in the future. Laws regulating professional employer organizations vary from state to state, but generally provide for

oversight of the fiscal responsibility of professional employer organizations, and in some cases codify and clarify the co-employment relationship for processing unemployment claims, workers compensation and other purposes under state law. We may be required to spend significant time and resources to satisfy licensing requirements or other applicable regulations in some states, and we may not be able to satisfy these requirements or regulations in all states, which could prohibit us from doing business in such states. In addition, we cannot assure you that we will be able to renew our licenses in all states.

If we are not recognized as an employer of worksite employees under federal and state regulations, we and our clients could be adversely impacted.

In order for WSEs to receive the full benefit of our benefits offerings, it is important that we act and qualify as an employer of the WSEs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the Code, and ERISA. In addition, our status as an employer is important for purposes of ERISA preemption of state laws. The definition of employer under various laws is not uniform, and under both the Code and ERISA the term is defined in part by complex multi-factor tests under common law. We believe that we qualify as an employer of our WSEs in the United States under both the Code and ERISA, and we implement processes to protect and preserve this status. However, the U.S. Department of Labor has issued guidance that certain entities in the HR outsourcing industry do not qualify as common law employers of WSEs for ERISA purposes. If we were found not to be an employer under the Code, our WSEs may not receive the favorable tax treatment for any plans intended to qualify under Section 401 of the Code, including our 401(k) plans and cafeteria plans, which could have a material adverse effect on our business. If we were found not to be an employer for ERISA purposes, our plans would not comply with ERISA, and fines and penalties could be imposed. In addition, if we were found not to be an employer for ERISA purposes, we and our plans would not enjoy the full preemption of state laws provided by ERISA and could be subject to varying state laws and regulations, including laws governing multiple employer welfare arrangements, or MEWAs, as well as to claims based upon state laws.

We and our clients could be adversely impacted by health care reform.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, which we refer to collectively as the Act, entail sweeping health care reforms with staggered effective dates through 2018, and many provisions of the Act require the issuance of additional guidance from the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services, the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, and U.S. states. A number of key provisions of the Act have begun to take effect over the last year, including the establishment of state and federally run insurance exchanges, insurance market reforms, “pay or play” penalties on applicable large employers and the imposition and assessment of excise taxes on the health insurance industry and reinsurance taxes on insurers and third-party administrators. Collectively, these items have the potential to significantly change the insurance marketplace for employers and how employers offer or provide insurance to employees.

As a co-employer of our clients’ WSEs, we assume or share many of the employer-related responsibilities and legal risks and assist our clients in complying with many employment-related governmental regulations. Generally, the Act and subsequently issued guidance by the IRS and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have not addressed, or in some instances are unclear, as to their application in the co-employment relationship. For example, the Act provides for a small business tax credit for eligible companies offering health care coverage to employees. We believe that these tax credits are available to our clients that meet the qualification requirements; however, the Act and subsequently issued IRS guidance do not expressly address the issue of whether small business clients of a professional employer organization may still qualify as small businesses eligible for such tax credits. As a result of this uncertainty, we are not yet able to determine the impacts to our business, and to our clients, resulting from the Act. In future periods, the changes may result in increased costs to us and our clients and could affect our ability to attract and retain clients. Additionally, we may be limited or delayed in our ability to increase service fees to offset any associated potential increased costs resulting from compliance with the Act. Furthermore, the uncertainty surrounding the terms and application of the Act may delay or inhibit the decisions of potential clients to outsource their HR needs. Any of these developments could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We may have additional tax liabilities, which could harm our business, operating results, financial condition and prospects.

Significant judgments and estimates are required in determining our provision for income taxes and other tax liabilities. Our provision for income taxes, results of operations and cash flows may be impacted if any of our tax positions are challenged and successfully disputed by the tax authorities. In determining the adequacy of our tax

provision, we assess the likelihood of adverse outcomes that could result if our tax positions were challenged by the IRS and other tax authorities. The tax authorities in the United States regularly examine our income and other tax returns. For example, in connection with an IRS examination of prior federal income tax returns filed by Gevity, a company we acquired in 2009, we received a technical advice memorandum from the IRS taking the position that approximately \$10.1 million of tax credits taken by Gevity, and an additional approximately \$1.5 million taken by us after acquiring Gevity, should be reversed, which position we dispute. The ultimate outcome of these examinations and tax disputes cannot be predicted with certainty. Should the IRS or other tax authorities assess additional taxes as a result of examinations, we may be required to record charges to operations that could have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

Our business and operations have experienced rapid growth in recent periods, and if we are unable to effectively manage this growth, our business and results of operations may suffer.

We have experienced rapid growth and have significantly expanded our operations in recent periods, which has placed a strain on our management and our administrative, operational and financial infrastructure. Managing this growth requires us to further refine our operational, financial and management controls and reporting systems and procedures.

Our ability to effectively manage any significant growth of our business will depend on a number of factors, including our ability to do the following:

- effectively recruit, integrate, train and motivate a large number of new employees, including our direct sales force, while retaining our existing employees, maintaining the beneficial aspects of our corporate culture and effectively executing our business plan;
- satisfy our existing clients and identify and acquire new clients;
- enhance the breadth and quality of our services;
- continue to improve our operational, financial and management controls; and
- make sound business decisions in light of the scrutiny associated with operating as a public company.

These activities will require significant operating and capital expenditures and allocation of valuable management and employee resources, and we expect that our growth will continue to place significant demands on our management and on our operational and financial infrastructure.

Our future financial performance and our ability to execute on our business plan will depend, in part, on our ability to effectively manage any future growth. We cannot assure you that we will be able to do so in an efficient or timely manner, or at all. In particular, any failure to successfully implement systems enhancements and improvements will likely negatively impact our ability to manage our expected growth, ensure uninterrupted operation of key business systems and comply with the rules and regulations that are applicable to public companies. If we fail to manage our growth effectively, our costs and expenses may increase more than we expect them to, which in turn could harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We may not be able to sustain our revenue growth rate or profitability in the future.

While we have achieved profitability on an annual basis in each of the last four fiscal years, we expect our operating expenses to increase substantially in the near term, particularly as we make significant investments in our sales and marketing organization, expand our operations and infrastructure and enhance the breadth and quality of our services. If our revenues do not increase to offset these increases in our operating expenses, we may not be profitable in future periods.

Moreover, you should not consider our historical revenue growth to be indicative of our future performance. As we grow our business, our revenue growth rates may slow in future periods due to a number of reasons, which may include slowing demand for our services, increasing competition, a decrease in the growth of our overall market, our failure, for any reason, to continue to capitalize on growth opportunities, the maturation of our business or the decline in the number of SMBs in our target markets.

Our industry is highly competitive, which may limit our ability to maintain or increase our market share or improve our results of operations.

We face significant competition on a national and regional level from a number of companies purporting to deliver a range of bundled services that are generally similar to the services we provide, including large professional employer organizations such as the TotalSource unit of Automatic Data Processing, Inc. and Insperity, Inc., as well as specialized and small professional employer organization service providers. If and to the extent that we and other companies providing these services are successful in growing our businesses, we anticipate that future competitors

will enter this industry. Some of our current, and any future, competitors have or may have greater marketing and financial resources than we do, and may be better positioned than we are in certain markets. Increased competition in our industry could result in price reductions or loss of market share, any of which could harm our business. We expect that we will continue to experience competitive pricing pressure. If we cannot compete effectively, our market share, business, results of operations and financial condition may suffer.

In addition to competition from other professional employer organizations, we also face competition in the form of companies and third parties serving HR needs in traditional manners. These forms of competition include:

- HR and information systems departments and personnel of companies that perform their own administration of benefits, payroll and other HR functions;
- providers of certain endpoint HR services, including payroll, benefits and business process outsourcers with high-volume transaction and administrative capabilities, such as Automatic Data Processing, Inc., Paychex, Inc. and other third-party administrators; and
- benefits exchanges that provide benefits administration services over the Internet to companies that otherwise maintain their own benefit plans.

We believe that our services are attractive to many SMBs in part because of our ability to provide workers compensation, health care and other benefits programs to them on a cost-effective basis. We compete with insurance brokers and other providers of this coverage in this regard, and our offerings must be priced competitively with those provided by these competitors in order for us to attract and retain our clients.

We may not be successful in convincing potential clients that the use of our services is a superior, cost-effective means of satisfying their HR obligations relative to the way in which they currently satisfy these obligations.

If we cannot compete effectively against other professional employer organizations or against the alternative means by which companies meet their HR obligations, our market share, business, results of operations and financial condition may suffer.

Adverse changes in our relationships with key vendors could impair the quality of our solution.

Our success depends in part on our ability to establish and maintain arrangements and relationships with vendors that supply us with essential components of our services. These service providers include insurance carriers to provide health and workers compensation insurance coverage for WSEs, as well as other vendors such as couriers used to deliver client payroll checks and banks used to electronically transfer funds from clients to their employees. Failure by these service providers, for any reason, to deliver their services in a timely manner could result in material interruptions to our operations, impact client relations, and result in significant penalties or other liabilities to us. Our agreements with many of these service providers typically have a term of one year. However, we engage some service providers, such as payroll couriers, on an as needed basis at published rates. In addition, many of our employee benefit plan agreements may be terminated by the insurance companies on 90 days' notice. If any of these vendors decided to terminate its relationship with us, we may have difficulty obtaining replacement services at reasonable rates or on a timely basis, if at all. The loss of any one or more of our key vendors, or our inability to partner with certain vendors that are better-known or more desirable to our clients or potential clients, could impair the quality of our solution and harm our business.

We depend on licenses to third-party software in order to provide our services.

We license a substantial portion of the software on which we depend to provide services to our clients from third-party vendors, including Oracle America, Inc. If we are unable to maintain these licenses, or if we are required to make significant changes in the terms and conditions of these licenses, we may need to seek replacement vendors or change our software architecture to address licensing revisions with our current vendors, either of which could increase our expenses and impair the quality of our services. In addition, we cannot assure you that our key vendors will continue to support their technology. Financial or other difficulties experienced by these vendors may adversely affect the technologies we incorporate into our products and services. If this software ceases to be available, we may be unable to find suitable alternatives on reasonable terms, or at all.

If we are deemed to be an insurance agent or third-party administrator, we may incur significant additional costs and expenses, which could harm our results of operations.

State regulatory authorities generally require licenses for companies that do business in their states as insurance agents or third-party administrators, such as those that handle health or retirement plan funding and claim processing. Insurance and third-party administrator regulation covers a host of activities, including sales, underwriting, rating, claims payments and record keeping by companies and agents. We do not believe that our services constitute acting as an insurance agent or third-party administrator. If regulatory authorities in any state determine that the nature of our business requires that we be licensed as an insurance agent or as a third-party administrator, we may need to hire additional personnel to manage regulatory compliance and become obligated to pay annual regulatory fees, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

Most of our clients are concentrated in a relatively small number of industries, making us vulnerable to downturns in those industries.

Most of our clients operate in the technology, life sciences, property management, professional services, banking and financial services, retail, manufacturing and hospitality services industries. As a result, if any of those industries suffers a downturn, the portion of our business attributable to clients in that industry could be adversely affected. For example, in July 2013, we acquired Ambrose Employer Group, LLC, or Ambrose, a New York-based company that provides HR services primarily to WSEs in the financial services industry in the New York area. If the financial services industry were to suffer a downturn similar to the one that began in the fall of 2008, our Ambrose product line would likely suffer.

We have a substantial amount of indebtedness, which could adversely affect our financial condition and our operating flexibility.

As of December 31, 2014, we had \$544.9 million in outstanding indebtedness under our credit facility, all of which was secured indebtedness of our subsidiary, TriNet HR Corporation, guaranteed on a senior secured basis by us and certain of our subsidiaries. Our level of indebtedness and the limitations imposed on us by our credit facility could affect our business in various ways, including the following:

- we will have to use a portion of our cash flows from operating activities for debt service rather than for other operational activities;
- we may not be able to borrow additional funds or obtain additional financing for future working capital, acquisitions, capital expenditures or other corporate purposes, or may have to pay more for such financing;
- some or all of the indebtedness under our current or future credit facilities bears interest at variable interest rates, making us more vulnerable to interest rate increases;
- we could be less able to take advantage of significant business opportunities, such as acquisition opportunities, and to react to changes in market or industry conditions; and
- we may be more vulnerable to general adverse economic and industry conditions as a result of our inability to reduce our debt service costs in response to reduced revenues.

Because borrowings under our credit facility bear interest at a variable rate, our interest expense could increase even though the amount borrowed remains the same, exacerbating these risks. Our ability to meet these expenses depends on our future business performance, which will be affected by various factors, including the risks described in this “Risk Factors” section. We are not able to control many of these factors, such as economic conditions in the markets where we operate and pressure from competitors. Our operations may provide insufficient cash to pay the principal and interest on our credit facility and to meet our other debt obligations. If so, we may be required to refinance all or part of our existing indebtedness or borrow additional funds, which we may not be able to do on terms that are acceptable to us, if at all. In addition, the terms of our existing or future debt agreements may restrict our ability to take some or all of these responsive actions. If we were unable to pay the principal and interest on our credit facility or meet our other debt obligations, the lenders under our credit facility could terminate their commitments to extend further credit to us and accelerate a substantial part of our indebtedness. If that were to happen, we may not be able to repay all of the amounts that would become due under our indebtedness or refinance our debt. If we were unable to repay those amounts or refinance our debt, the lenders under our credit facility could proceed against the collateral granted to them to secure that indebtedness. If that were to happen, our results of operations and financial condition could be harmed and we might be forced to seek bankruptcy protection.

The terms of our credit facility may restrict our current and future operations, which would impair our ability to respond to changes in our business and to manage our business.

Our credit facility contains, and any future indebtedness of ours would likely contain, a number of restrictive covenants that impose significant operating and financial restrictions on us, including restricting our ability to:

- incur, assume or guarantee additional debt;
- pay dividends or distributions or redeem or repurchase capital stock;
- incur or assume liens;
- make loans, investments and acquisitions;
- engage in sales of assets and subsidiary stock;
- enter into sale-leaseback transactions;
- enter into certain transactions with affiliates;

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- complete dividends, loans or asset transfers from our subsidiaries;
- enter into new lines of business;
- prepay other indebtedness;
- transfer all or substantially all of our assets or enter into merger or consolidation transactions with another person;
- and
- make capital expenditures.

Under the revolving credit facility, we are required to comply with a financial covenant that requires us and our subsidiaries to maintain a maximum leverage ratio so long as there is any indebtedness outstanding under the revolving credit facility (excluding letters of credit issued and outstanding of up to \$15.0 million other than letters of credit that have been cash collateralized). Our ability to meet the leverage ratio can be affected by events beyond our control, and we may be unable to comply with it. Our failure to comply with this financial covenant or other restrictive covenants under our credit facility and other debt instruments could result in a default under our credit facility and/or other debt instruments, which in turn could result in the termination of the lenders' commitments to extend further credit to us under our revolving credit facility and acceleration of a substantial portion of our indebtedness then outstanding under our credit facility. If that were to happen, we may not be able to repay all of the amounts that would become due under our indebtedness or refinance our debt. If we were unable to repay those amounts or refinance our debt, the lenders under our credit facility could proceed against the collateral granted to them to secure that indebtedness. If that were to happen, our results of operations and financial condition could be harmed and we might be forced to seek bankruptcy protection.

Volatility in the financial and economic environment could harm our business.

Demand for our services is sensitive to changes in the level of overall economic activity in the markets in which we operate. During periods of weak economic conditions, employment levels tend to decrease, small business failures tend to increase and interest rates may become more volatile. Current or potential clients may also react to weak economic conditions or forecasted weak economic conditions by reducing their employee headcount or by lowering their wage, bonus or benefits levels, any of which would affect our revenues, and may affect our margins, because we may be unable to reduce our selling, administrative or other expenses sufficient to offset the drop in revenues. It is difficult for us to forecast future demand for our services due to the inherent difficulty in forecasting the direction and strength of economic cycles. These conditions may affect the willingness of our clients and potential clients to pay outside vendors for services like ours, and may impact their ability to pay their obligations to us on time, or at all. In addition, if businesses have difficulty obtaining credit, business growth and new business formation may be impaired, which could also harm our business. Even modest downturns in economic activity or the availability of credit on a regional or national level could harm our business.

If we fail to retain our key personnel or fail to attract additional skilled personnel, our business may suffer.

Our operations are dependent on the continued efforts of our officers and executive management and the performance and productivity of our regional managers and field personnel. Our ability to attract and retain business depends on the quality of our services and the relationships that we maintain with our clients. If we lose key personnel with significant experience in managing our business, this could impair our ability to deliver services effectively or profitably, could divert other senior management time in seeking replacements, and could adversely affect our reputation with our clients and potential clients. Some of our most important client relationships depend on the continued involvement of individual managers or sales personnel, and any loss of those individuals could jeopardize those relationships and in turn adversely affect our operating results.

Our future success will depend on our ability to attract, hire, train and retain highly skilled technical, sales and marketing and support personnel, particularly with expertise in outsourced solutions and the technology platforms that we deploy today and will deploy in the future. Qualified personnel are in great demand throughout the HR industry. Our failure to attract and retain the appropriate personnel may limit the rate at which we can expand our business, including developing new services and attracting new clients.

Improper disclosure of sensitive or confidential company, employee or client data, including personal data, could result in liability and harm our reputation.

Our business involves the use, storage and transmission of information about our corporate employees, WSEs and clients. This information includes sensitive or confidential data, such as employees' Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, retirement account information and medical information. We and our third-party service providers have established policies and procedures to help protect the security and privacy of this information, but it is possible that our security controls over sensitive or confidential data may not prevent the improper access to or disclosure of this information. Third parties, including vendors that provide services for our operations, could also be a source of security risk to us in the event of a failure of their own security systems and infrastructure. Any such disclosure could harm our reputation and expose us to liability under our contracts and under the many and sometimes contradictory laws and regulations regarding data privacy in the various markets in which we operate. Any failure to adhere to

applicable laws and regulations or to our contractual commitments with respect to the preservation and use of confidential information could result in legal liability and could damage our reputation.

Any failure in our business systems could reduce the quality of our business services, which could harm our reputation and expose us to liability.

Our business systems rely on the complex integration of numerous hardware and software subsystems to manage the transactions involved in managing the client relationship through the processing of employee, payroll and benefits data. These systems can be disrupted by, among other things, equipment failures, computer server or systems failures, network outages, malicious acts, software errors or defects, vendor performance problems and power failures. Any delay or failure in our systems that impairs our ability to communicate electronically with our clients, employees or vendors or our ability to store or process data could harm our reputation and our business. If we are unable to meet client demands or service expectations, we may lose existing clients and we may have difficulty attracting new clients. In addition, errors in our products and services, such as the erroneous denial of healthcare benefits or delays in making payroll, could expose our clients to liability claims from improperly serviced WSEs, for which we are contractually obligated to provide indemnification.

We have disaster recovery, business continuity, and crisis management plans and procedures designed to protect our business against a multitude of events, including natural disasters, military or terrorist actions, power or communication failures, or similar events. Despite our preparations, our plans may not be successful in preventing the loss of client data, service interruptions, and disruptions to our operations, or damage to our important facilities. The precautions that we have taken to protect ourselves against these types of events may prove to be inadequate. If we suffer damage to our data or operations centers, experience a telecommunications failure or experience a security breach, our operations could be interrupted. Any interruption or other loss may not be covered by our insurance and could harm our reputation.

If our systems were to fail for any of these reasons during payroll processing, preventing the proper payment of employees, or the proper remission of payroll taxes, we could be liable for wage payment delay penalties and payroll tax penalties, as well as other contractual penalties. Any inaccuracies in the processing of health insurance benefits could result in our being liable for lapses in insurance. If any of our systems fails to operate properly or becomes disabled even for a brief period of time, we could suffer financial loss, a disruption of our businesses, liability to clients, regulatory intervention, or damage to our reputation.

Security breaches could compromise our data and the data of our clients and WSEs, exposing us to liability, which would cause our business and reputation to suffer.

Our ability to ensure secure electronic processing, maintenance and transmission of payroll, insurance and other sensitive client and WSE information is critical to our operations. We rely on standard internet and other security systems to provide the security and authentication necessary to effect secure transmission of data. Despite our security measures, our information technology and infrastructure may be vulnerable to cybersecurity threats, including attacks by hackers and other malfeasance. Any such security breach could compromise our networks and result in the information stored or transmitted there to be accessed, publicly disclosed, lost or stolen. Any such access, disclosure or other loss of information could result in legal claims or proceedings leading to liability, including under laws that protect the privacy of personal information, disrupt our operations and the services we provide to our clients, damage our reputation and cause a loss of confidence in our products and services, which could adversely affect our business, operations and competitive position.

In the course of providing our services to our clients, we also rely on certain third-party service providers and products, such as insurance carriers, to process information related to our clients and WSEs. Through contractual provisions, we take steps to require that our service providers protect sensitive information. However, we cannot provide assurances as to the security steps taken by such providers. Any security breach or other disruption of our

third-party service providers that results in an inadvertent disclosure or loss of confidential information could adversely affect our reputation and our business.

We must keep pace with rapid technological change in order to succeed.

Our business depends upon the use of software, hardware and networking technologies that must be frequently and rapidly upgraded in response to technological advances, competitive pressures and consumer expectations. To succeed, we will need to effectively develop or license and integrate these new technologies as they become available to improve our services commensurate with client requirements. In particular, we rely on enterprise software applications licensed from third parties that are upgraded from time to time, such as PeopleSoft HR information systems and Oracle databases, that provide the basis for our HR information system platform supporting payroll, benefits and other HR functions. Any difficulties we encounter in adapting applications upgrades to our systems could harm our performance or delay or prevent the successful development, introduction or marketing of new services. New products or upgrades may not be released according to schedule, or may contain defects when released. Difficulties in integrating new technologies could result in adverse publicity, loss of sales, delay in market acceptance of our services, or client claims against us, any

of which could harm our business. We could also incur substantial costs in modifying our services or infrastructure to adapt to these changes. In addition, we could lose market share if our competitors develop technologically superior products and services.

Our co-employment relationship with our worksite employees exposes us to business risks.

We are a co-employer of our WSEs, and there is a possibility that we may be subject to liability for violations of employment laws by our clients and acts or omissions of our WSEs, who may be deemed to be our agents, even if we do not participate in any such acts or violations. Such laws include, but are not limited to, laws relating to payment of wages, employment discrimination, labor relations and whistleblower protection. Although our client agreements establish the contractual division of responsibilities between us and our clients for various personnel management matters, including compliance with and liability under various governmental regulations, as well as providing for clients to indemnify us for any liability attributable to clients' or their employees' conduct, we may not be able to effectively enforce or collect these contractual obligations with our clients, which could harm our business. We maintain employment practices liability insurance coverage (including coverage for our clients) to manage our and our clients' exposure for various employee-related claims, and as a result, our incurred costs with respect to this exposure have historically been insignificant to our operating results. Employment practices liability insurance generally excludes coverage for claims relating to compliance with laws associated with the classification of employees as exempt or non-exempt, such as overtime pay and minimum wage law compliance. We cannot assure you that our insurance will be sufficient in amount or scope to cover all claims that may be asserted against us and for which we are unable to obtain indemnification from our clients. If judgments or settlements related to WSEs that we and our clients employ exceed our insurance coverage, it could harm our results of operations and financial condition. We cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain appropriate types and levels of insurance in the future, that we will be able to replace existing policies on acceptable terms, or at all, or that our insurers will be able to pay all claims that we may make under our policies, any of which could harm our business.

Our failure to maintain or enhance our reputation or brand recognition could harm our business.

We believe that maintaining and enhancing our reputation and the TriNet brand identity is critical to maintaining our relationships with our clients and vendors and our ability to attract new clients and vendors. We also believe that our reputation and brand identity will become more important as competition in our industry continues to develop. Our ability to maintain and enhance our reputation and brand identity will be affected by a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control, including:

- the effectiveness of our marketing efforts;
- our ability to attract and retain new sales personnel to expand our direct sales force;
- our ability to retain our existing clients and attract new clients;
- the quality and perceived value of our services;
- our ability to successfully differentiate our services from those of our competitors;
- actions of our competitors and other third parties;
- positive or negative publicity about us or our industry in general;
- interruptions, delays or attacks on our website; and
- litigation or regulatory developments.

Any brand promotion activities in which we engage may not be successful or yield increased revenues. Furthermore, negative publicity, whether or not justified, relating to events or activities attributed to us, our corporate employees, our WSEs, our vendors, other companies in our industry or others associated with any of these parties, may tarnish our reputation and reduce the value of our brand. Damage to our reputation and loss of brand equity may reduce demand for our services and harm our business, results of operations and financial condition. Moreover, any attempts to rebuild our reputation and restore the value of our brand may be costly and time-consuming, and any such efforts may not ultimately be successful.

If we are unable to protect our intellectual property, or if we infringe on the intellectual property rights of others, our business may be harmed.

Our success depends in part on intellectual property rights to the services that we develop. We rely on a combination of contractual rights, including non-disclosure agreements, trade secrets, copyrights and trademarks, to establish and protect our intellectual property rights in our names, services, methodologies and related technologies. If we lose intellectual property protection or the ability to secure intellectual property protection on any of our names, confidential information or technology, this could harm our business. Our intellectual property rights may not prevent competitors from independently developing services and methodologies similar to ours, and the steps we take might be inadequate to deter infringement or misappropriation of our intellectual property by competitors, former employees or other third parties, any of which could harm our business. We currently have one pending U.S.

patent application covering our technology. We own registered trademarks in the United States, Canada and the European Union that have various expiration dates unless renewed through customary processes. Our trademark registrations may be unenforceable or ineffective in protecting our trademarks. Our trademarks may be unenforceable in countries outside of the United States, which may adversely affect our ability to build our brand outside of the United States.

Although we believe that our conduct of our business does not infringe on the intellectual property rights of others, third parties may nevertheless assert infringement claims against us in the future. We may be required to modify our products, services, internal systems or technologies, or obtain a license to permit our continued use of those rights. We may be unable to do so in a timely manner, or upon reasonable terms and conditions, which could harm our business. In addition, future litigation over these matters could result in substantial costs and resource diversion. Adverse determinations in any litigation or proceedings of this type could subject us to significant liabilities to third parties and could prevent us from using some of our services, internal systems or technologies.

Our use of open source software could subject us to possible litigation.

A portion of our technologies incorporates open source software, and we expect to continue to incorporate open source software into our platform in the future. Few of the licenses applicable to open source software have been interpreted by courts, and their application to the open source software integrated into our proprietary technology platform may be uncertain. If we fail to comply with these licenses, then pursuant to the terms of these licenses, we may be subject to certain requirements, including requirements that we make available the source code for our software that incorporates the open source software. We cannot assure you that we have not incorporated open source software in our software in a manner that is inconsistent with the terms of the applicable licenses or our current policies and procedures. If an author or other third party that distributes such open source software were to allege that we had not complied with the conditions of one or more of these licenses, we could incur significant legal expenses defending against such allegations. Litigation could be costly for us to defend, have a negative effect on our operating results and financial condition or require us to devote additional research and development resources to change our technology platform.

If we are unable to implement and maintain effective internal control over financial reporting in the future, investors may lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports and the market price of our common stock may be negatively affected.

As a public company, we are required to maintain internal control over financial reporting and to report any material weaknesses in such internal controls. Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires that we evaluate and determine the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting and, beginning with our annual report for the year ending December 31, 2015, provide a management report on our internal control over financial reporting. This report must be attested to by our independent registered public accounting firm. If we have a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting, we may not detect errors on a timely basis and our financial statements may be materially misstated.

We are in the process of designing and implementing our internal control over financial reporting, which process will be time consuming, costly and complicated. If we identify material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting in the future, we are unable to comply with the requirements of Section 404 in a timely manner, we are unable to assert that our internal control over financial reporting is effective or our independent registered public accounting firm is unable to express an opinion as to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting when required to do so, investors may lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports and the market price of our common stock could be negatively affected, and we could become subject to investigations by the stock exchange on which our securities are listed, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, or other regulatory authorities, which could require additional financial and management resources.

If we are unable to successfully remediate the existing material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting, the accuracy and timing of our financial reporting may be adversely affected.

In preparing and reviewing our consolidated financial statements as of and for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and in connection with our restatement of previously issued consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, we and our independent registered public accounting firm identified a material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting related to accounting for income taxes. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of our financial statements will not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. The material weakness identified related to our incorrectly recording a deferred tax asset in connection with our accounting for our acquisition of Ambrose that should have been recorded as goodwill as of September 30, 2013, and to incorrectly recording a true-up to the income tax provision in 2011 related to the allocation of stock compensation between qualified and nonqualified stock options that should have been identified and recorded in 2010. As such, our controls over financial reporting were not designed or operating effectively, and as a result there were adjustments required in connection with closing our books and records and preparing our consolidated financial statements for the nine months ended September 30, 2013 and a restatement was required for our consolidated financial statements for 2010 and 2011.

In response to this material weakness, we hired a Director of Income Tax Accounting, who reports directly to our Chief Accounting Officer, we engaged external technical advisers with expertise in accounting for income taxes to assist us with the evaluation of complex tax issues, and we improved our process, procedures and documentation standards relating to the preparation of income tax provision calculations. We continue to assess and develop our tax professionals to provide appropriate technical and accounting expertise commensurate with our needs to properly consider and apply GAAP for income taxes.

We believe our remediation efforts resulted in the elimination of the previously identified material weakness. While this material weakness has been remediated, we cannot assure you that we have identified all of our existing material weaknesses, or that we will not in the future have additional material weaknesses. We have dedicated resources to the design, implementation, documentation and testing of our internal controls. We will continue to evaluate the effectiveness of our internal controls, including our internal control over accounting for income taxes and will continue to make changes that we believe will strengthen our internal controls to ensure that our financial statements continue to be fairly stated in all material respects.

Neither we nor our independent registered public accounting firm has performed an evaluation of our internal control over financial reporting during any period in accordance with the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. In light of the material weakness that was identified in 2013 as a result of the limited procedures performed, we believe that it is possible that, had we and our independent registered public accounting firm performed an evaluation of our internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the provisions of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, additional material weaknesses or significant control deficiencies may have been identified.

If we fail to meet the demands that will be placed upon us as a public company, including the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, we may be unable to accurately report our financial results, or report them within the timeframes required by law or stock exchange regulations. Failure to comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act could also potentially subject us to sanctions or investigations by the SEC or other regulatory authorities. We cannot assure you that additional material weaknesses will not exist or otherwise be discovered. If other material weaknesses or other significant control deficiencies occur, our ability to accurately and timely report our financial results could be impaired, which could result in late filings of our annual and quarterly reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, restatements of our consolidated financial statements, a decline in our stock price, suspension or delisting of our common stock from the New York Stock Exchange, or NYSE, and could adversely affect our reputation, results of operations and financial condition.

We incur substantial increased costs as a result of being a public company.

As a public company, we incur significant levels of legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not incur as a private company. We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Dodd-Frank Act, the listing requirements of the NYSE and other applicable securities rules and regulations. Compliance with these rules and regulations has increased our legal and financial compliance costs, made some activities more difficult, time-consuming or costly and increased demand on our systems and resources. The Exchange Act requires, among other things, that we file annual, quarterly and current reports with respect to our business and results of operations. The Sarbanes-Oxley Act requires, among other things, that we maintain effective disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting. In order to maintain and, if required, improve our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting to meet this standard, significant resources and management oversight may be required. As a result, management's attention may be diverted from other business concerns, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations. Although we have already hired additional corporate employees to comply with these requirements, we may need to hire more corporate employees in the future or engage outside consultants, which would increase our costs and expenses.

In addition, changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure are creating uncertainty for public companies, increasing legal and financial compliance costs and making some activities

more time-consuming. These laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations, in many cases due to their lack of specificity, and, as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. This could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices. We intend to invest resources to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards, and this investment may result in increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management's time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. If our efforts to comply with new laws, regulations and standards differ from the activities intended by regulatory or governing bodies due to ambiguities related to their application and practice, regulatory authorities may initiate legal proceedings against us and our business may be adversely affected.

As a result of disclosure of information in this report and the other filings that we are required to make as a public company, our business, results of operations and financial condition are more visible, which may result in threatened or actual litigation, including by competitors and other third parties. If any such claims are successful, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected, and even if the claims do not result in litigation or are resolved in our favor, these claims, and the time

and resources necessary to resolve them, could divert the resources of our management and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock

Our stock price may be volatile or may decline regardless of our operating performance, resulting in substantial losses for our stockholders.

The market price of our common stock has been, and is likely to continue to be, volatile for the foreseeable future. For example, since shares of our common stock were sold in our initial public offering, or IPO, in March 2014 at a price of \$16.00 per share, the daily closing price of our common stock has ranged from \$19.10 to \$32.59 per share through December 31, 2014. The market price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly in response to numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control, including the factors listed below and other factors described in this “Risk Factors” section:

- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our results of operations;
- any financial projections we provide to the public, any changes in these projections or our failure to meet these projections;
- failure of securities analysts to initiate or maintain coverage of our company, changes in financial estimates by any securities analysts who follow our company, or our failure to meet these estimates or the expectations of investors;
- ratings changes by any securities analysts who follow our company;
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant innovations, acquisitions, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments;
- changes in operating performance and stock market valuations of other business services companies generally, or those in our industry in particular;
- price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market, including as a result of trends in the economy as a whole;
- changes in our board of directors or management;
- sales of large blocks of our common stock, including sales by our executive officers, directors and significant stockholders;
- lawsuits threatened or filed against us;
- short sales, hedging and other derivative transactions involving our capital stock;
- general economic conditions in the United States and abroad; and
- other events or factors, including those resulting from war, incidents of terrorism or responses to these events.

In addition, stock markets have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected and continue to affect the market prices of equity securities of many business services companies. Stock prices of many business services companies have fluctuated in a manner unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. In the past, stockholders have instituted securities class action litigation following periods of market volatility. If we were to become involved in securities litigation, it could subject us to substantial costs, divert resources and the attention of management from our business and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Substantial future sales of shares of our common stock could cause the market price of our common stock to decline.

We may issue additional shares of common stock or securities convertible into shares of our common stock in one or more transactions and at prices and in a manner as we may determine from time to time. Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in the public market, or the perception that these sales might occur, could depress the market price of our common stock and impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity securities. We cannot predict the effect that such sales may have on the prevailing market price of our common stock.

As of December 31, 2014, there were 6,892,810 shares of common stock subject to outstanding options and 7,750 shares of common stock issuable upon settlement of restricted stock units. We have registered all of the shares of

common stock issuable upon exercise of these outstanding options and settlement of these outstanding restricted stock units, and upon exercise or settlement of any options or other equity incentives we may grant in the future, as well as the shares we have reserved for future issuance under our Employee Stock Purchase Plan, or ESPP, for public resale under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. Accordingly, these shares are eligible for sale in the public market to the extent such options are exercised or such restricted stock units settle, or such shares are purchased pursuant to our ESPP, subject to compliance with applicable securities laws.

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As of December 31, 2014, the holders of 20,091,312 shares of common stock have rights, subject to some conditions, to require us to file registration statements for the public resale of such shares or to include such shares in registration statements that we may file for TriNet or our stockholders.

The existing ownership of capital stock by our executive officers, directors and their affiliates has the effect of concentrating voting control with our executive officers, directors and their affiliates for the foreseeable future, which limits your ability to influence corporate matters.

As of December 31, 2014, funds affiliated with General Atlantic, our largest stockholder, beneficially own approximately 26.2% of our outstanding common stock, and all of our directors, officers and their affiliates, including the funds affiliated with General Atlantic, beneficially own, in the aggregate, approximately 42.1% of our outstanding common stock. As a result, these stockholders will be able to determine substantially all matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors and approval of significant corporate transactions, such as a merger or other sale of our company or its assets. This concentration of ownership could limit the ability of other stockholders to influence corporate matters and may have the effect of delaying or preventing a third party from acquiring control over us.

If securities or industry analysts do not publish research or reports about our business, or publish negative reports about our business, our share price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will depend in part on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us or our business, our market and our competitors. We do not have any control over these analysts. If one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our shares or change their opinion of our shares, our share price would likely decline. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which could cause our share price or trading volume to decline.

Anti-takeover provisions in our charter documents and under Delaware law could make an acquisition of our company more difficult, limit attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management and limit the market price of our common stock.

Provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control or changes in our management. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws include provisions that:

- establish a classified board of directors so that not all members of our board of directors are elected at one time;
- permit our board of directors to establish the number of directors;
- provide that directors may only be removed “for cause”;
- require super-majority voting to amend some provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws;
- authorize the issuance of “blank check” preferred stock that our board of directors could use to implement a stockholder rights plan;
- eliminate the ability of our stockholders to call special meetings of stockholders;
- prohibit stockholder action by written consent, which requires all stockholder actions to be taken at a meeting of our stockholders;
- provide that our board of directors is expressly authorized to make, alter or repeal our bylaws; and
- establish advance notice requirements for nominations for election to our board of directors or for proposing matters that can be acted upon by stockholders at annual stockholder meetings.

These provisions may frustrate or prevent any attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management by making it more difficult for our stockholders to replace members of our board of directors, which is responsible for appointing the members of our management. In addition, because we are incorporated in Delaware, we are governed by the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which generally prohibits a

Delaware corporation from engaging in any of a broad range of business combinations with any holder of at least 15% of our capital stock for a period of three years following the date on which the stockholder became a 15% stockholder.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

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## Item 2. Properties

We lease space for our client service centers in Bradenton, Florida, Reno, Nevada, Fort Mill, South Carolina, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and New York, New York, approximately 60 regional sales offices in various states in the United States and our corporate headquarters in San Leandro, California. All of these leases expire at various times through 2023.

We believe our current facilities are adequate for the purposes for which they are intended and provide for further expansion to accommodate our long-term growth and expansion goals. We believe that short-term leased facilities are readily available if needed to accommodate near-term needs if they arise. We will continue to evaluate the need for additional facilities based on the extent of our product and service offerings, the rate of client growth, the geographic distribution of our client base and our long-term service delivery requirements.

## Item 3. Legal Proceedings

As a co-employer, we are regularly involved in legal proceedings and are subject to WSE claims arising in the ordinary course of our business. Some of these claims and legal proceedings arise out of our clients' conduct by virtue of our co-employer relationship, over which we have no control.

We are not presently a party to any legal proceedings that in the opinion of our management, if determined adversely to us, would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, operating results or cash flows. Regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on us because of defense and settlement costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

## Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

## PART II

## Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

## Market Information and Holders of Record

Our common stock has been listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "TNET" since March 27, 2014. Prior to that date, there was no public trading market for our common stock. The following table sets forth for the periods indicated the high and low sale prices per share of our common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange:

Year Ended December 31, 2014:	High	Low
First Quarter (from March 27, 2014)	\$23.44	\$17.28
Second Quarter	\$27.78	\$18.81
Third Quarter	\$29.96	\$21.79
Fourth Quarter	\$32.79	\$24.38

On March 18, 2015, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$35.76 per share. As of March 18, 2015, we had 55 holders of record of our common stock. The actual number of stockholders is greater than this number of record holders, and includes stockholders who are beneficial owners, but whose shares are held in street name by brokers and other nominees. This number of holders of record also does not include stockholders whose shares may be held in trust by other entities.

## Dividend Policy

Our board of directors has declared two special dividends since January 1, 2013. In August 2013, our board of directors declared a special dividend of \$5.88 per common-equivalent share for holders of record of our preferred stock and \$5.88 per share for holders of record of our common stock and restricted stock units, for a total of approximately \$310.8 million. In December 2013, our board of directors declared a special dividend of \$0.88 per common-equivalent share for holders of record of our preferred stock and \$0.88 per share for holders of record of our common stock and restricted stock units, for a total amount of approximately \$46.7 million. In each case, we determined to pay such dividends to our stockholders because our board of directors determined that such dividends were in our best interests and those of our stockholders, that we had sufficient surplus capital to pay such dividends and that we would be able to continue to fund our operations and service our indebtedness utilizing cash flows from operations after payment of such dividends.

Any future determination as to the declaration and payment of dividends, if any, will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on then existing conditions, including our financial condition, operating results, contractual restrictions, capital requirements, business prospects and other factors our board of directors may deem relevant.

In addition, our credit facility, as amended and restated in 2014, contains restrictions on our ability to declare and pay cash dividends on our capital stock. So long as no event of default has occurred and is continuing and no ECF Shortfall Amount (as defined in the credit agreement) exists, our credit facility permits cash dividends in amounts up to the sum of (a) specified dollar amounts under the facility, plus (b) so long as a specified leverage ratio under the

credit facility is satisfied, the available Excess Cash Flow (as defined in the credit agreement and subject to certain adjustments). See Note 8 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this report.

## Performance Graph

The following graph compares the cumulative return on the Company's common stock since the initial public offering on March 27, 2014 with the cumulative return on the S&P 500 Index and a Peer Group Index.

### COMPARISON OF 9 MONTH CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN

Among TriNet Group, Inc., the S&P 500 Index, and a Peer Group\*

\* The Peer Group Index is comprised of the following companies:

Automatic Data Processing, Inc.

Insperity, Inc.

Paychex, Inc.

Barrett Business Services, Inc.

Heartland Payment Systems, Inc.

Intuit, Inc.

This graph shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing.

## Use of Proceeds

On March 31, 2014, we closed our IPO, pursuant to which we sold 15,000,000 shares of our common stock at a public offering price of \$16.00 per share, for an aggregate offering price of \$240 million, resulting in net proceeds to us of \$217.8 million, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions of approximately \$16.8 million and offering expenses payable by us of approximately \$5.6 million. An additional 2,250,000 shares were sold by certain selling stockholders pursuant to the underwriters’ option to purchase additional shares. We did not receive any proceeds from the sale by the selling stockholders. The offer and sale of all of the shares in the IPO were registered under the Securities Act pursuant to a registration statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-192465), which was declared effective by the SEC on March 26, 2014. The offering commenced on March 26, 2014, closed on March 31, 2014, and did not terminate before all of the shares that were registered in the registration statement were sold. J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Jefferies LLC, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated and William Blair & Company, L.L.C acted as underwriters. No payments were made by us to directors, officers or persons owning ten percent or more of our common stock or to their associates, or to our affiliates in connection with the issuance and distribution of the securities registered. On March 31, 2014, we used \$216.6 million of the proceeds of our IPO to repay the indebtedness outstanding under our credit facilities, as described in our final prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 424(b) with the SEC on March 27, 2014. The remaining proceeds have been used for working capital purposes.

## Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table provides information about our purchases of TriNet common stock during the quarter ended December 31, 2014:

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased Publicly Announced Plans <sup>(1)</sup>	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans <sup>(1)</sup>
October 1 - October 31, 2014	-	-	-	-
November 1 - November 30, 2014	490,419	\$ 30.58	490,419	980,198
December 1 - December 31, 2014	-	-	-	-
Total	490,419			

(1) During the fourth quarter of 2014, our board of directors approved a \$30 million increase to our ongoing stock repurchase program, authorizing us to repurchase in the aggregate up to \$45 million of our outstanding common stock. The program was initially approved by our board of directors in May 2014 to authorize us to repurchase in the aggregate up to \$15 million of our outstanding common stock. We repurchased approximately \$15 million of our outstanding common stock year-to-date in 2014. Stock repurchases under the program are intended to offset the dilutive effect of share-based employee incentive compensation.

## Item 6. Selected Financial Data.

The following selected consolidated financial and other data should be read in conjunction with the section titled “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” as well as our audited consolidated financial statements and related notes included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. We have derived the consolidated statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2014 and 2013 from our audited consolidated financial statements that are included elsewhere in this report. We have derived the consolidated statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 and consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010 from our audited consolidated financial statements that are not included in this report. Our historical results are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected in the future.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands, except share and per share data)				
<b>Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Professional service revenues	\$342,074	\$272,372	\$148,233	\$113,279	\$139,495
Insurance service revenues	1,851,457	1,371,903	870,828	727,111	766,695
Total revenues	2,193,531	1,644,275	1,019,061	840,390	906,190
<b>Costs and operating expenses:</b>					
Insurance costs	1,686,315	1,226,585	750,025	651,094	713,653
Cost of providing services (exclusive of depreciation and amortization of intangible assets) <sup>(1)</sup>	134,256	106,661	63,563	59,388	72,073
Sales and marketing <sup>(1)</sup>	139,997	109,183	59,931	38,087	46,454
General and administrative <sup>(1)</sup>	53,926	52,455	37,879	31,421	28,366
Systems development and programming costs <sup>(1)</sup>	26,101	19,948	16,718	15,646	15,045
Amortization of intangible assets	52,302	51,369	17,441	12,388	17,960
Depreciation	13,843	11,737	11,676	9,201	12,042
Restructuring	—	—	—	2,358	5,922
Total costs and operating expenses	2,106,740	1,577,938	957,233	819,583	911,515
Operating income (loss)	86,791	66,337	61,828	20,807	(5,325 )
<b>Other income (expense):</b>					
Interest expense	(54,193 )	(45,724 )	(9,709 )	(751 )	(4,444 )
Other, net	478	471	57	127	67
Income (loss) before provision for (benefit from) income taxes	33,076	21,084	52,176	20,183	(9,702 )
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	17,579	7,937	20,344	5,421	(875 )
Net income (loss)	\$15,497	\$13,147	\$31,832	\$14,762	\$(8,827 )
<b>Net income (loss) per share attributable to common stock:</b>					
Basic	\$0.24	\$0.26	\$0.66	\$0.32	\$(1.18 )
Diluted	\$0.22	\$0.24	\$0.63	\$0.31	\$(1.18 )
<b>Weighted average common stock outstanding:</b>					

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Basic	56,160,539	12,353,047	9,805,384	7,842,682	7,454,390
Diluted	59,566,773	15,731,807	12,476,091	10,103,979	7,454,390

(1) Includes stock-based compensation expense as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands)				
Cost of providing services	\$2,658	\$1,193	\$516	\$438	\$467
Sales and marketing	2,755	1,284	500	637	670
General and administrative	4,517	3,220	3,144	3,590	3,385
Systems development and programming costs	1,030	416	200	160	531
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$10,960	\$6,113	\$4,360	\$4,825	\$5,053

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	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands)				
<b>Other Financial Data:</b>					
Net Insurance Service Revenues <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 165,142	\$ 145,318	\$ 120,803	\$ 76,017	\$ 53,042
Net Service Revenues <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 507,216	\$ 417,690	\$ 269,036	\$ 189,296	\$ 192,537
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 165,319	\$ 136,027	\$ 95,362	\$ 47,348	\$ 29,797
Adjusted Net Income <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 74,392	\$ 57,456	\$ 47,431	\$ 27,626	\$ 13,798

- (1) Net Insurance Service Revenues is a non-GAAP financial measure that we calculate as insurance service revenues less insurance costs. For more information about Net Insurance Service Revenues and a reconciliation of Net Insurance Service Revenues to insurance service revenues, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, see “Non-GAAP Financial Measures.”
- (2) Net Service Revenues is a non-GAAP financial measure that we calculate as the sum of professional service revenues and Net Insurance Service Revenues. For more information about Net Service Revenues and a reconciliation of Net Service Revenues to total revenues, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, see “Non-GAAP Financial Measures.”
- (3) Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure that we calculate as net income (loss), excluding the effects of our income tax provision (benefit), interest expense, depreciation, amortization of intangible assets and stock-based compensation expense. For more information about Adjusted EBITDA and a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to net income (loss), the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, see “Non-GAAP Financial Measures.”
- (4) Adjusted Net Income is a non-GAAP financial measure that we calculate as net income (loss), excluding the effects of stock-based compensation, amortization of intangible assets, non-cash interest expense, debt prepayment premium and the income tax effect of these pre-tax adjustments at our effective tax rate. In 2014, Adjusted Net Income also includes an adjustment to exclude income tax on non-deductible stock-based compensation and other discrete items, including the effect of state law changes, to reach an effective tax rate of 39.5%. For more information about Adjusted Net Income and a reconciliation of Adjusted Net Income to net income (loss), the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, see “Non-GAAP Financial Measures.”

	As of December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands)				
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 134,341	\$ 94,356	\$ 63,749	\$ 31,620	\$ 45,535
Working capital	\$ 55,577	\$ 65,061	\$ 27,380	\$ 26,424	\$ 44,280
Total assets	\$ 2,347,764	\$ 1,434,738	\$ 887,727	\$ 335,369	\$ 340,739
Notes payable and borrowings under capital leases	\$ 545,150	\$ 818,877	\$ 301,334	\$ 1,683	\$ 1,798
Total liabilities	\$ 2,373,523	\$ 1,705,100	\$ 830,407	\$ 241,771	\$ 214,190
Convertible preferred stock	\$ —	\$ 122,878	\$ 122,878	\$ 122,878	\$ 122,878
Total stockholders' equity (deficit)	\$ (25,759 )	\$ (393,240 )	\$ (65,558 )	\$ (29,280 )	\$ 3,671

#### Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We use Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income to provide an additional view of our operational performance. Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income are financial measures that are not prepared in accordance with GAAP. We define Net Insurance Service Revenues as insurance service revenues less insurance costs, which include the premiums we pay to insurance carriers for the health and workers compensation insurance coverage provided to our clients and WSEs and the reimbursements we pay to the insurance carriers for claim payments within our insurance deductible layer. We define Net Service Revenues as the sum of professional service revenues and Net Insurance Service Revenues. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income (loss), excluding the effects of our income tax provision (benefit), interest expense, depreciation, amortization of intangible assets and stock-based compensation expense. We define Adjusted Net Income as net income (loss), excluding the effects of stock-based compensation, amortization of intangible assets, non-cash interest expense, debt prepayment premium and the income tax effect of these pre-tax adjustments at our effective tax rate. In 2014, Adjusted Net Income also includes an adjustment to exclude income tax on non-deductible stock-based compensation and other discrete items, including the effect of state law changes, to reach an effective tax rate of 39.5%. Non-cash interest expense represents amortization and write-off of the debt issuance cost.

We believe that the use of Net Insurance Service Revenues provides useful information as it presents a measure of revenues from our provision of insurance services to our clients that eliminates the cost to us of that insurance. We believe that Net Service Revenues provides a useful measure of total revenues for the two main components of our revenues calculated on a consistent basis. We believe that the use of Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income provides additional period-to-period comparisons and analysis of trends in our business, as they exclude certain one-time and non-cash expenses. We believe that Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income are useful for our stockholders and board of directors by helping them to identify trends in our business and understand how our management evaluates our business. We use Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income to monitor and evaluate our operating results and trends on an ongoing basis and internally for operating, budgeting and financial planning purposes, in addition to allocating our

resources to enhance the financial performance of our business and evaluating the effectiveness of our business strategies. We also use Net Service Revenues and Adjusted EBITDA in determining the incentive compensation for management.

Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income are not prepared in accordance with, and should not be considered in isolation of, or as an alternative to, measurements required by GAAP. In addition, these non-GAAP measures are not based on any comprehensive set of accounting rules or principles. As non-GAAP measures, Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income have limitations in that they do not reflect all of the amounts associated with our results of operations as determined in accordance with GAAP. In particular:

- Net Insurance Service Revenues and Net Service Revenues are reduced by the insurance costs that we pay to the insurance carriers;
- Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect interest expense, or the cash requirements necessary to service interest or principal payments on our debt;
- Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect the amounts we paid in taxes or other components of our tax provision;
- Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect our cash expenditures or future requirements for capital expenditures or contractual commitments;
- Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income do not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, our working capital needs;
- Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income do not reflect the expenses we incurred in connection with the registered offering of our common stock;
- Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income do not reflect the non-cash component of employee compensation;
- Although depreciation and amortization of intangible assets are non-cash charges, the assets being depreciated and amortized often will have to be replaced in the future, and Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect any cash requirements for such replacements; and
- Other companies in our industry may calculate Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income differently than we do, limiting the usefulness of these items as a comparative measure.

Because of these limitations, you should consider Net Insurance Service Revenues, Net Service Revenues, Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income alongside other financial performance measures, including total revenues, net income (loss) and our financial results presented in accordance with GAAP.

The table below sets forth a reconciliation of GAAP insurance service revenues to Net Insurance Service Revenues:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands)				
Insurance service revenues	\$1,851,457	\$1,371,903	\$870,828	\$727,111	\$766,695
Less: insurance costs	1,686,315	1,226,585	750,025	651,094	713,653
Net Insurance Service Revenues	\$165,142	\$145,318	\$120,803	\$76,017	\$53,042

The table below sets forth a reconciliation of GAAP total revenues to Net Service Revenues:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010

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(in thousands)

Total revenues	\$2,193,531	\$1,644,275	\$1,019,061	\$840,390	\$906,190
Less: insurance costs	1,686,315	1,226,585	750,025	651,094	713,653
Net Service Revenues	\$507,216	\$417,690	\$269,036	\$189,296	\$192,537

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The table below sets forth a reconciliation of GAAP net income (loss) to Adjusted EBITDA:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands)				
Net income (loss)	\$15,497	\$13,147	\$31,832	\$14,762	\$(8,827)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	17,579	7,937	20,344	5,421	(875)
Stock-based compensation	10,960	6,113	4,360	4,825	5,053
Interest expense and bank fees	54,193	45,724	9,709	751	4,444
Depreciation	13,843	11,737	11,676	9,201	12,042
Amortization of intangible assets	52,302	51,369	17,441	12,388	17,960
Secondary offering costs	945	—	—	—	—
Adjusted EBITDA	\$165,319	\$136,027	\$95,362	\$47,348	\$29,797

The table below sets forth a reconciliation of GAAP net income (loss) to Adjusted Net Income:

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	(in thousands)				
Net income (loss)	\$15,497	\$13,147	\$31,832	\$14,762	\$(8,827)
Effective income tax rate adjustment	4,514	—	—	—	—
Stock-based compensation	10,960	6,113	4,360	4,825	5,053
Amortization of intangible assets	52,302	51,369	17,441	12,388	17,960
Non-cash interest expense	21,880	13,577	3,768	375	1,855
Debt prepayment premium	3,800	—	—	—	—
Secondary offering costs	945	—	—	—	—
Income tax impact of pre-tax adjustments at effective tax rate	(35,506)	(26,750)	(9,970)	(4,724)	(2,243)
Adjusted Net Income	\$74,392	\$57,456	\$47,431	\$27,626	\$13,798

Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND  
RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

You should read the following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this report. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. When reviewing the discussion below, you should keep in mind the substantial risks and uncertainties that characterize our business. In particular, we encourage you to review the risks and uncertainties described in the section titled "Risk Factors" included under Part I, Item 1A above. These risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in forward-looking statements contained in this report or implied by past results and trends.

Overview

TriNet is a leading provider of a comprehensive human resources solution for small to medium-sized businesses, or SMBs. We enhance business productivity by enabling our clients to outsource their HR function to one strategic partner and allowing them to focus on operating and growing their core businesses. Our HR solution includes services such as payroll processing, human capital consulting, employment law compliance and employee benefits, including health insurance, retirement plans and workers compensation insurance. Our services are delivered by our expert team of HR professionals and enabled by our proprietary, cloud-based technology platform, which allows our clients and their employees to efficiently conduct their HR transactions anytime and anywhere. We believe we are a leader in the industry due to our size, our presence in the United States and Canada and the number of clients and employees that we serve.

We utilize a co-employment model pursuant to which both we and our clients become employers of our clients' employees, which we refer to as worksite employees, or WSEs. This model affords us a close and embedded relationship with our clients and their employees. Under the co-employment model, employment-related liabilities are contractually allocated between us and our clients. We assume responsibility for, and manage the risks associated with, each clients' employee payroll obligations, including the liability for payment of salaries and wages to each client employee, the payment of payroll taxes and, at the client's option, responsibility for providing group health, welfare, workers compensation and retirement benefits to such individuals. Unlike a payroll service provider, we issue each WSE a payroll check drawn on our bank accounts and contract with insurance carriers to provide health and workers compensation insurance to WSEs under TriNet's name.

We serve thousands of clients in specific industry vertical markets, including technology, life sciences, property management, professional services, banking and financial services, retail, manufacturing and hospitality services, as well as non-profit entities. As of December 31, 2014, we served over 10,000 clients in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada and co-employed approximately 288,000 WSEs. In 2014, we processed over \$25 billion in payroll and payroll tax payments for our clients.

Our total revenues consist of professional service revenues and insurance service revenues. For 2014 and 2013, 16% and 17% of our total revenues, respectively, consisted of professional service revenues, and 84% and 83% of our total revenues, respectively, consisted of insurance service revenues. We earn professional service revenues by processing HR transactions, such as payroll and employment tax withholding, and providing labor and benefit law compliance services, on behalf of our clients. We earn insurance service revenues by providing risk-based, third-party plans to our clients, primarily employee health benefit plans and workers compensation insurance.

For professional service revenues, we recognize as revenues the fees we earn for processing HR transactions, which fees do not include the payroll that is paid to us by the client and paid out to WSEs or remitted as taxes. We recognize

as insurance service revenues all insurance-related billings and administrative fees collected from clients and withheld from WSEs for risk-based insurance plans provided through third-party insurance carriers, primarily employee health insurance and workers compensation insurance. We in turn pay premiums to third-party insurance carriers for these insurance benefits, as well as reimburse them for claim payments within our insurance deductible layer. These premiums and reimbursements are classified as insurance costs on our statements of operations. To augment our financial information prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, we use internally a non-GAAP financial measure, Net Insurance Service Revenues, which consists of insurance service revenues less insurance costs. We also use a measure of total non-GAAP revenue, or Net Service Revenues, which is the sum of professional service revenues and Net Insurance Service Revenues. For 2014 and 2013, 67% and 65% of our Net Service Revenues, respectively, consisted of professional service revenues and 33% and 35% of our Net Service Revenues, respectively, consisted of Net Insurance Service Revenues.

We sell our services primarily through our direct sales force, which consists of sales representatives who focus on serving clients in specific industry vertical markets. For 2014, 2013 and 2012, our sales and marketing expenses were \$140.0 million, \$109.2 million and \$59.9 million, respectively, or 6%, 7% and 6% of our total revenues and 28%, 26% and 22% of our Net Service Revenues, respectively.

We have made significant investments in our proprietary, cloud-based technology platform, including implementing client information and management software to provide our clients with enhanced features and functionality with which to conduct their HR transactions, manage their employees and analyze employee benefits data. For 2014, 2013 and 2012, our systems development and programming costs were \$26.1 million, \$19.9 million and \$16.7 million, or 1%, 1% and 2% of our total revenues and 5%, 5% and 6% of our Net Service Revenues, respectively.

### Strategic Acquisitions

We operate in a highly fragmented industry and have completed numerous strategic acquisitions over the course of the past decade. We intend to continue to pursue strategic acquisitions that will enable us to add new clients and employees to our existing business and offer our clients and their employees more comprehensive and attractive services. Our recent acquisitions are listed below:

- In July 2013, we acquired Ambrose Employer Group, LLC, which we refer to as Ambrose, a New York-based company that provides premium HR services primarily to WSEs in the financial services industry in the New York area. Through our acquisition of Ambrose, we acquired approximately 13,000 WSEs, approximately 1,000 clients and 12 sales representatives.
- In October 2012, we acquired South Carolina-based SOI Holdings, Inc., which we refer to as SOI, which expanded our presence in the property management and food services industry vertical markets. Through our acquisition of SOI, we acquired approximately 66,000 WSEs, approximately 1,500 clients and 92 sales representatives.
- In May 2012, we acquired Los Angeles-based technology company App7, Inc., which does business under the name of, and which we refer to as, ExpenseCloud, which enabled us to enhance our technology platform with additional expense management capabilities.
- In April 2012, we acquired Oklahoma-based 210 Park Avenue Holding, Inc., which does business under the name of, and which we refer to as, Accord, through which we expanded our presence in the hospitality and manufacturing industry vertical markets. Through our acquisition of Accord, we acquired approximately 14,000 WSEs, approximately 500 clients and 8 sales representatives.
- In June 2009, we acquired Florida-based Gevity HR Inc., which we refer to as Gevity, which has provided us with insurance and risk-management expertise and a national presence through its East Coast processing facility. Through our acquisition of Gevity, we acquired approximately 92,000 WSEs and approximately 6,000 clients. Following our acquisition of Gevity, we elected to change the pricing terms with certain of Gevity's clients, terminate Gevity's relationships with certain of its clients, significantly restructure Gevity's and our combined sales forces and migrate all of Gevity's WSEs to our technology platform. As a result of these actions, our revenues fell short of our expectations in 2010 and declined in 2011, and we incurred restructuring charges of \$2.4 million, \$5.9 million and \$6.2 million in the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Our operations could be adversely impacted if our strategic acquisitions are not integrated effectively. Because many of the companies we have acquired were focused on specific industries, our acquisitions have allowed us to expand our vertical service offerings into areas such as financial services, property management and food services, hospitality and manufacturing in which we did not previously have a significant presence. In addition, we have acquired sales representatives with experience in these vertical markets. Our acquisitions have provided us with additional clients and WSEs to allow us to continue to leverage our operations over a larger client base. These acquisitions have resulted in increased revenues and costs, as described below in our results of operations. We expect to continue to pursue strategic acquisitions.

## Key Operating Metrics

We regularly review certain key operating metrics to evaluate growth trends, measure our performance and make strategic decisions. Our key operating metrics at December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012, were as follows:

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
<b>Key Operating Metrics:</b>			
Net Insurance Service Revenues (in thousands)	\$ 165,142	\$ 145,318	\$ 120,803
Net Service Revenues (in thousands)	\$ 507,216	\$ 417,690	\$ 269,036
Total WSEs	288,312	231,203	174,311
Total Sales Representatives	385	300	224

## Total WSEs

We define Total WSEs at the end of a given fiscal period as the total number of WSEs paid in the last calendar month of the fiscal period. We believe that comparing our Total WSEs at the end of a fiscal period to that of prior periods is an indicator of our success in growing our business, both organically and through the integration of acquired businesses, and retaining clients, and that our Total WSEs paid in the last calendar month of the fiscal period is a leading indicator of our anticipated revenues for future fiscal periods.

## Total Sales Representatives

Our direct sales force consists of sales representatives who focus on serving clients in specific industry vertical markets. We define Total Sales Representatives at the end of a given fiscal period as the total number of our direct sales force employees at that date. We believe that comparing our Total Sales Representatives at the end of a fiscal period to our Total Sales Representatives at the end of a prior fiscal period is an indicator of our success in growing our business, and that our Total Sales Representatives at the end of recent fiscal periods is a key indicator of our ability to increase our revenues in the following fiscal periods.

## Net Insurance Service Revenues and Net Service Revenues

We define Net Insurance Service Revenues as insurance service revenues less insurance costs. We define Net Service Revenues as the sum of professional service revenues and Net Insurance Service Revenues. Our total revenues on a GAAP basis represent the total amount invoiced by us to our clients, net of direct pass-through costs such as payroll and payroll tax payments, for the services we provide to our clients. Our insurance costs include the premiums we pay to insurance carriers for the health and workers compensation insurance coverage provided to our clients and WSEs and the reimbursements we pay to the insurance carriers for claim payments within our insurance deductible layer. We act principally as the service provider to add value in the execution and procurement of these services to our clients. Net Insurance Service Revenues is the primary indicator of our ability to source, add value and offer benefit services to WSEs through third-party insurance carriers, and is considered by management to be a key performance measure. We believe that Net Service Revenues is also a key performance measure as it provides a useful measure of total revenues for the two main components of our revenues calculated on a consistent basis. In addition, management believes measuring operating costs as a function of Net Service Revenues provides a useful metric, as we believe it enables better evaluation of the performance of our business.

## Impact of Health Care Reform

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, which we refer to collectively as the Act, entail sweeping health care reforms with staggered effective dates from 2010 through 2018, and many provisions of the Act require the issuance of additional guidance from the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health and Human Services, the IRS and U.S. states. A number of key provisions of the Act have begun to take effect over the last year, including the establishment of state and federally insurance exchanges, insurance market reforms, “pay or play” penalties on applicable large employers and the imposition and assessment of excise taxes on the health insurance industry and reinsurance taxes on insurers and third-party administrators. Collectively, these items have the potential to significantly change the insurance marketplace for employers and how employers offer or provide insurance to employees.

We are not yet able to determine the impacts to our business, and to our clients, resulting from the Act. In future periods, the Act may result in increased costs to us and our clients and could affect our ability to attract and retain clients. Additionally, we may be limited or delayed in our ability to increase service fees to offset any associated potential increased costs resulting from compliance with the Act. Furthermore, the uncertainty surrounding the terms and application of the Act may delay or inhibit the decisions of potential clients to outsource their HR needs. As a result, these changes could have a negative impact on our operating results.

## Seasonality and Insurance Variability

Historically, we have experienced our highest monthly addition of WSEs, as well as our highest monthly levels of client attrition, in the month of January, primarily because clients that change their payroll service providers tend to do so at the beginning of a calendar year. In addition, we experience higher levels of client attrition in connection with renewals of the health insurance we provide for our WSEs, in the event that such renewals result in increased premiums that we pass on to our clients. We have also historically experienced higher insurance claim volumes in the second and third quarters of a fiscal year than in the first and fourth quarters of a fiscal year, as WSEs typically access their health care providers more often in the second and third quarters of a fiscal year, which has negatively impacted our insurance costs in these quarters. We have also experienced variability on a quarterly basis in the level of our insurance claims based on the unpredictable nature of large claims. These historical trends may change, and other seasonal trends and variability may develop that make it more difficult for us to manage our business.

## Basis of Presentation and Key Components of Our Results of Operations

### Total Revenues

Our total revenues consist of professional service revenues and insurance service revenues.

We earn professional service revenues by processing HR transactions, such as payroll and employment tax withholding, payment to WSEs, and labor and benefit law compliance, on behalf of our clients. Our clients pay us these fees based on either a fixed fee per WSE per month or per transaction, or a percentage of the WSE's payroll cost, pursuant to written professional services agreements that are generally cancelable by us or our clients upon 30 days' prior written notice. We also earn professional service revenues by providing strategic HR services to our clients, such as talent acquisition, performance management and time and expense reporting services. Our clients pay us professional service fees for these services based on separate written agreements.

We earn insurance service revenues by providing risk-based, third-party plans to our clients, primarily employee health benefit plans and workers compensation insurance. Insurance service revenues consist of insurance-related billings and administrative fees. We recognize as insurance service revenues insurance-related billings and administrative fees collected from clients and withheld from WSEs for risk-based insurance plans provided through third-party insurance carriers, primarily employee health insurance and workers compensation insurance. We in turn pay premiums to third-party insurance carriers for these insurance benefits, as well as reimburse them for claim payments within our insurance deductible layer. These premiums and reimbursements are classified as insurance costs on our statements of operations.

Our clients pay us administrative fees, typically based on a percentage of insurance-related amounts, collected from clients and withheld from WSEs, primarily in exchange for our administration of employee health benefit plans.

### Insurance Costs

Insurance costs include the premiums we pay to the insurance carriers for the health and workers compensation insurance coverage provided to the clients and WSEs and the reimbursements we pay to the insurance carriers for claim payments made for our WSEs within the insurance deductible layer.

Our insurance costs are, in part, a function of the type and terms of agreements that we enter into with the insurance carriers that provide fully-insured coverage for our WSEs. Approximately 41% of our 2014 health insurance premiums were for policies with respect to which our carriers set the premiums and for which we were not responsible for any deductible. Our future premiums under these, or ensuing, policies will be influenced by the WSE claims activity in prior periods. The remainder of the health insurance policies and all of the workers compensation insurance policies that we provide to our clients are policies with respect to which we agree to reimburse our carriers for any

claims that they pay within our deductible layer. Under these policies, WSEs file claims with the carriers, which are responsible for paying the claims up to the maximum coverage under the policies. The carriers then seek reimbursement from us up to our deductible per incident for workers compensation claims, or up to a cap for health insurance claims in accordance with the terms of the underlying health insurance policies. In no event are we liable to pay the claims directly to WSEs. As we evaluate the claims experience for each fiscal period, we adjust, as we deem necessary, our workers compensation and health benefits reserves, and this in turn has a corresponding impact on our insurance costs. As a result, our insurance costs fluctuate, significantly at times, from period to period depending on the number and severity of the claims incurred by our WSEs. We expect our insurance costs to continue to increase in absolute dollars for the foreseeable future due to expected growth in WSEs.

### Cost of Providing Services

Cost of providing services consists primarily of costs incurred by us associated with direct customer support, such as payroll and benefits processing, professional HR consultants, employee liability insurance and costs associated with defending clients in employment-related legal claims, benefits and risk management, postage and shipping expenses and consulting expenses. We expect our cost of providing services to continue to increase in absolute dollars on an annual basis for the foreseeable future due to expected growth in WSEs, partially offset by improved efficiencies, although these expenses may fluctuate as a percentage of our total revenues from period to period depending on the timing of these expenses.

### Sales and Marketing Expenses

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of salaries, commissions and related variable compensation expenses, commission payments to partners and the cost of marketing programs. Marketing programs consist of advertising, lead generation, marketing events, corporate communications, brand building and product marketing activities, as well as various incentivized partnership and referral programs. We expect our sales and marketing expenses to continue to increase, both in absolute dollars and as a percentage of our total revenues on an annual basis, for the foreseeable future as we expand our sales force and our other sales and marketing efforts to build our brand, although these expenses may fluctuate as a percentage of our total revenues from period to period depending on the timing of those expenses.

### General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of compensation-related expenses, legal and other professional services fees and other general corporate expenses. We expect our general and administrative expenses to continue to increase in absolute dollars for the foreseeable future due to increases in our legal and financial compliance costs in connection with being a newly public company, although these expenses may fluctuate as a percentage of our total revenues from period to period depending on the timing of those expenses.

### Systems Development and Programming Costs

Systems development and programming costs consist primarily of compensation-related expenses for our employees and contractors dedicated to systems development and programming, as well as fees that we pay to third-party consulting firms. We expect our systems development and programming costs to continue to increase modestly in absolute dollars for the foreseeable future as we continue to invest in and improve our technology platform. However, over time, we expect our systems development and programming costs to remain relatively consistent as a percentage of our total revenues on an annual basis, although these costs may fluctuate as a percentage of our total revenues from period to period depending on when we incur those costs.

### Amortization of Intangible Assets

Amortization of intangible assets represents costs associated with an acquired company's developed technologies, client lists, trade names and contractual agreements. We amortize these intangibles over their respective estimated useful lives using either the straight-line method or the accelerated method.

### Depreciation

Depreciation consists primarily of amortization of the cost of software and furniture, fixtures and equipment.

### Other Income (Expense)

Other income (expense) consists primarily of interest expense under our credit facility and capital leases, debt issuance cost amortization, and a prepayment premium.

#### Provision for Income Taxes

We are subject to taxation in the United States and Canada. We conduct our business primarily in the United States, and all of our clients are U.S. employers. However, we provide services with respect to certain of our clients' employees in Canada. The percentage of our total revenues attributable to WSEs in Canada was less than 1% for each of 2014 and 2013. Our effective tax rate differs from the statutory rate primarily due to state taxes, tax credits, non-deductible charges and changes in uncertain tax positions. We make estimates and judgments about our future taxable income based on assumptions that are consistent with our plans and estimates. Should the actual amounts differ from our estimates, the amount of our valuation allowance could be materially affected.

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Income taxes are computed using the asset and liability method, under which deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amount expected to be realized. Changes in valuation allowances are reflected as a component of provision for income taxes.

Results of Operations

The following tables set forth our results of operations for the periods presented and as a percentage of our total revenues and Net Service Revenues for those periods. Period-to-period comparisons of our financial results are not necessarily indicative of financial results to be achieved in future periods.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
	(in thousands)		
<b>Consolidated Statement of Operations:</b>			
Professional service revenues	\$342,074	\$272,372	\$148,233
Insurance service revenues	1,851,457	1,371,903	870,828
Total revenues	2,193,531	1,644,275	1,019,061
<b>Costs and operating expenses:</b>			
Insurance costs	1,686,315	1,226,585	750,025
<b>Cost of providing services (exclusive of depreciation and</b>			
amortization of intangible assets) <sup>(1)</sup>	134,256	106,661	63,563
Sales and marketing <sup>(1)</sup>	139,997	109,183	59,931
General and administrative <sup>(1)</sup>	53,926	52,455	37,879
Systems development and programming costs <sup>(1)</sup>	26,101	19,948	16,718
Amortization of intangible assets	52,302	51,369	17,441
Depreciation	13,843	11,737	11,676
Total costs and operating expenses	2,106,740	1,577,938	957,233
Operating income	86,791	66,337	61,828
<b>Other income (expense):</b>			
Interest expense and bank fees	(54,193 )	(45,724 )	(9,709 )
Other, net	478	471	57
Income before provision for income taxes	33,076	21,084	52,176
Provision for income taxes	17,579	7,937	20,344
Net income	\$15,497	\$13,147	\$31,832

(1)Includes stock-based compensation expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31,  
2014 2013 2012  
(in thousands)

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Cost of providing services	\$2,658	\$1,193	\$516
Sales and marketing	2,755	1,284	500
General and administrative	4,517	3,220	3,144
Systems development and programming costs	1,030	416	200
Total stock-based compensation expense	\$10,960	\$6,113	\$4,360

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	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Percentage of total revenues:			
Professional service revenues	16 %	17 %	15 %
Insurance service revenues	84 %	83 %	85 %
Total revenues	100 %	100 %	100 %
Costs and operating expenses:			
Insurance costs	77 %	75 %	74 %
Cost of providing services (exclusive of depreciation and amortization of intangible assets)			
amortization of intangible assets)	6 %	6 %	6 %
Sales and marketing	6 %	7 %	6 %
General and administrative	2 %	3 %	4 %
Systems development and programming costs	1 %	1 %	2 %
Amortization of intangible assets	2 %	3 %	2 %
Depreciation	1 %	1 %	1 %
Total costs and operating expenses	96 %	96 %	94 %
Operating income	4 %	4 %	6 %
Other income (expense):			
Interest expense and bank fees	(2 %)	(3 %)	(1 %)
Other, net	0 %	0 %	0 %
Income before provision for income taxes	2 %	1 %	5 %
Provision for income taxes	1 %	0 %	2 %
Net income	1 %	1 %	3 %

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2014	2013	2012
Percentage of Net Service Revenues:			
Professional service revenues	67 %	65 %	55 %
Net Insurance Service Revenues	33 %	35 %	45 %
Net Service Revenues	100 %	100 %	100 %
Other operating expenses:			
Cost of providing services (exclusive of depreciation and amortization of intangible assets)			
amortization of intangible assets)	26 %	26 %	24 %
Sales and marketing	28 %	26 %	22 %
General and administrative	11 %	13 %	14 %
Systems development and programming costs	5 %	5 %	6 %
Amortization of intangible assets	10 %	12 %	6 %
Depreciation	3 %	3 %	4 %
Total other operating expenses	83 %	84 %	77 %
Operating income	17 %	16 %	23 %
Other income (expense):			
Interest expense and bank fees	(11 %)	(11 %)	(4 %)
Other, net	0 %	0 %	0 %
Income before provision for income taxes	7 %	5 %	19 %
Provision for income taxes	3 %	2 %	8 %
Net income	3 %	3 %	12 %



Years Ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012

Total Revenues and Key Operating Metrics

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
(in thousands, except percentages)							
Professional service revenues	\$342,074	\$272,372	\$148,233	\$69,702	26%	\$124,139	84%
Insurance service revenues	1,851,457	1,371,903	870,828	479,554	35%	501,075	58%
Total revenues	\$2,193,531	\$1,644,275	\$1,019,061	\$549,256	33%	\$625,214	61%

  

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
(in thousands, except percentages)							
Key operating metrics:							
Total WSEs	288,312	231,203	174,311	57,109	25%	56,892	33%
Total Sales Representatives	385	300	224	85	28%	76	34%

Total revenues for 2014 increased \$549.3 million, or 33%, compared to 2013. Professional service revenues and insurance service revenues represented 16% and 84%, respectively, of total revenues for 2014, compared to 17% and 83%, respectively, of total revenues for 2013. The increase in total revenues was attributable to the significant growth of our Total WSEs and revenues from our acquisition of Ambrose Employer Group, LLC, or Ambrose, in the third quarter of 2013, as further described below.

Professional service revenues for 2014 increased \$69.7 million, or 26%, compared to 2013. The increase was mainly attributable to our increase in Total WSEs and our acquisition of Ambrose in third quarter of 2013, which contributed \$15.4 million of professional service revenues during the first half of 2014.

Our insurance service revenues for 2014 increased \$479.6 million, or 35%, compared to 2013. The increase was primarily due to our increase in Total WSEs. Additionally, our acquisition of Ambrose contributed \$130.4 million of insurance service revenues during the first half of 2014.

Total WSEs at December 31, 2014 increased by approximately 57,000, or 25%, compared to Total WSEs at December 31, 2013. Our Total Sales Representatives increased from 300 at December 31, 2013 to 385 at December 31, 2014.

Total revenues for 2013 increased by \$625.2 million, or 61%, compared to 2012. Professional service revenues for 2013 increased by \$124.1 million, or 84%, compared to 2012. Of this amount, \$88.1 million was attributable to our acquisitions of SOI, Ambrose and Accord. The remaining growth was primarily due to a 22% increase in Total WSEs (excluding WSEs added as a result of our acquisitions of Accord, SOI and Ambrose) and a 7% increase in average professional service revenues per WSE other than those acquired from Accord, SOI and Ambrose.

Insurance service revenues for 2013 increased by \$501.1 million, or 58%, compared to 2012 primarily due to \$316.5 million from our acquisitions of SOI, Ambrose and Accord, an increase in Total WSEs other than those

acquired from Accord, SOI and Ambrose, and a 2% increase in average insurance service revenues per WSE other than those acquired from Accord, SOI and Ambrose.

Total WSEs at December, 2013 increased by approximately 57,000, or 33%, compared to Total WSEs at December 31, 2012, with approximately 13,000 of such increase due to the Ambrose acquisition. The remaining growth in Total WSEs was primarily driven by a net increase in total clients other than those acquired from Ambrose. Our Total Sales Representatives increased from 224 at December 31, 2012 to 300 at December, 2013, 12 of which we acquired from Ambrose.

Insurance Costs

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31, 2014	2013	2012	2014 vs. 2013 \$	%	2013 vs. 2012 \$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Insurance costs	\$1,686,315	\$1,226,585	\$750,025	\$459,730	37%	\$476,560	64%

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Insurance costs for 2014 increased \$459.7 million, or 37%, compared to 2013, \$118.6 million of which was due to our acquisition of Ambrose. The remaining increase resulted from an increase in Total WSEs other than those acquired from Ambrose and a 3% increase in average insurance costs per WSE other than those acquired from Ambrose.

Insurance costs for 2013 increased \$476.6 million, or 64%, compared to 2012, primarily due to \$311.0 million from our acquisitions of Accord, SOI and Ambrose. The remaining increase resulted from an increase in Total WSEs other than those acquired from Ambrose and a 2% increase in average insurance costs per WSE other than those acquired from Ambrose.

Net Insurance Service Revenues and Net Service Revenues

	Year Ended December 31,			Change 2014 vs. 2013		Change 2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Insurance service revenues	\$1,851,457	\$1,371,903	\$870,828	\$479,554	35%	\$501,075	58%
Less: Insurance costs	1,686,315	1,226,585	750,025	459,730	37%	476,560	64%
Net Insurance Service Revenues	\$165,142	\$145,318	\$120,803	\$19,824	14%	\$24,515	20%

	Year Ended December 31,			Change 2014 vs. 2013		Change 2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Total revenues	\$2,193,531	\$1,644,275	\$1,019,061	\$549,256	33%	\$625,214	61%
Less: insurance costs	1,686,315	1,226,585	750,025	459,730	37%	476,560	64%
Net Service Revenues	\$507,216	\$417,690	\$269,036	\$89,526	21%	\$148,654	55%

For the reasons set forth above with respect to total revenues, our Net Insurance Service Revenues for 2014 increased by \$19.8 million, or 14%, as compared to 2013, and our Net Service Revenues for 2014 increased by \$89.5 million, or 21%, as compared to 2013.

Also for the reasons set forth above with respect to total revenues, our Net Insurance Service Revenues for 2013 increased by \$24.5 million, or 20%, as compared to 2012, and our Net Service Revenues for 2013 increased by \$148.7 million, or 55%, as compared to 2012.

Other Operating Expenses

	Year Ended December 31,			Change 2014 vs. 2013		Change 2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Cost of providing services	\$134,256	\$106,661	\$63,563	\$27,595	26%	\$43,098	68%
Sales and marketing	139,997	109,183	59,931	30,814	28%	49,252	82%
General and administrative	53,926	52,455	37,879	1,471	3%	14,576	38%
System development and programming	26,101	19,948	16,718	6,153	31%	3,230	19%

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costs							
Amortization of intangible assets	52,302	51,369	17,441	933	2%	33,928	195%
Depreciation	13,843	11,737	11,676	2,106	18%	61	1%
Total other operating expenses	\$420,425	\$351,353	\$207,208	\$69,072	20%	\$144,145	70%

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## Cost of Providing Services

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Compensation-related costs	\$97,423	\$75,941	\$44,629	\$21,482	28%	\$31,312	70%
Facilities	7,149	5,615	3,941	1,534	27%	1,674	42%
Information technology and communication	8,948	8,482	4,720	466	5%	3,762	80%
Other expenses	20,736	16,623	10,273	4,113	25%	6,350	62%
Total cost of providing services	\$134,256	\$106,661	\$63,563	\$27,595	26%	\$43,098	68%

Cost of providing services for 2014 increased by \$27.6 million, or 26%, compared to 2013, primarily due to an increase in compensation-related costs. Compensation-related costs increased by \$21.5 million, or 28%, due to increased headcount, including \$4.0 million from our acquisition of Ambrose and a \$1.5 million increase in stock-based compensation not related to Ambrose. Facilities-related costs increased by \$1.5 million, or 27%, due to the growth of our business. Other expenses increased \$4.1 million, or 25%, mainly due to increased consulting costs incurred to enhance our product offering. Cost of providing services as a percentage of total revenues and Net Service Revenues remained unchanged at 6% of total revenues and 26% of Net Service Revenues for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Cost of providing services for 2013 increased by \$43.1 million, or 68%, compared to 2012, primarily due to our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose. Compensation-related costs increased by \$31.3 million due to increased headcount, including \$21.1 million from our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose. Facilities-related costs increased by \$1.7 million due to our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose, partly offset by a reduction in expense associated with a renegotiation of certain lease terms. The remainder of the increase was due to an increase in WSEs other than those that we acquired from SOI and Ambrose.

## Sales and Marketing

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Compensation-related costs	\$96,903	\$73,901	\$39,740	\$23,002	31%	\$34,161	86%
Marketing and advertising	19,667	15,863	8,894	3,804	24%	6,969	78%
Facilities	3,832	3,155	2,066	677	21%	1,089	53%
Other expenses	19,595	16,264	9,231	3,331	20%	7,033	76%
Total sales and marketing	\$139,997	\$109,183	\$59,931	\$30,814	28%	\$49,252	82%

Sales and marketing expenses for 2014 increased by \$30.8 million, or 28%, compared to 2013. Of this increase, \$23.0 million was due to compensation-related costs, including \$2.9 million from our acquisition of Ambrose and \$18.3 million from our growth in direct sales channels, primarily the addition of new sales representatives, as well as a \$1.5

million increase in stock based compensation. Marketing and advertising expenses increased \$3.8 million, or 24%, primarily due to our acquisition of Ambrose and as a result of our effort to focus on market verticals and penetration. Other expenses increased \$3.3 million, or 20%, primarily due to increased sales travel, meeting and conference activities, as well as other expenses associated with recruiting efforts and information technology. Sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of total revenues decreased to 6% for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared to 7% for the year ended December 31, 2013. As a percentage of Net Service Revenues, sales and marketing expenses increased to 28% for the year ended December 31, 2014 compared to 26% for the year ended December 31, 2013.

Sales and marketing expenses for 2013 increased by \$49.3 million, or 82%, compared to 2012. Of this increase, \$34.2 million was attributable to compensation-related costs, \$19.1 million of which was attributable to increased headcount mainly from our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose, and \$15.0 million of which was attributable to growth in our direct sales channel, primarily the addition of new sales representatives. The remaining increase in sales and marketing expenses was partially attributable to marketing and advertising expenses, which increased by \$7.0 million, or 78%, largely due to our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose. In addition, facilities-related expenses increased by \$1.1 million, or 53%, primarily due to our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose, and partly offset by reduction in expense associated with a renegotiation of certain lease terms. Other expenses increased by \$7.0 million, or 76%, primarily due to increased sales travel, meeting and conference activities, as well as increased expenses associated with recruiting efforts and information technology spending to support the growth of our sales organization.

## General and Administrative

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs.		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Compensation-related costs	\$32,697	\$31,934	\$23,384	\$763	2%	\$8,550	37%
Legal and professional fees	6,969	6,910	4,904	59	1%	2,006	41%
Other expenses	14,260	13,611	9,591	649	5%	4,020	42%
Total general and administrative	\$53,926	\$52,455	\$37,879	\$1,471	3%	\$14,576	38%

General and administrative expenses for 2014, increased by \$1.5 million, or 3%, compared to 2013. Of these expenses, compensation-related costs increased \$0.8 million compared to 2013. General and administrative expenses decreased to 2% of total revenues, or 11% of Net Service Revenues, for the year ended December 31, 2014, from 3% of total revenues, or 13% of Net Service Revenues, in the same period of the prior year as a result of efficiencies realized subsequent to our acquisitions.

General and administrative expenses for 2013 increased by \$14.6 million, or 38%, compared to 2012, primarily due to increased headcount resulting from our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose and increased legal, professional services and other corporate expenses resulting from these acquisitions and related integration efforts.

## Systems Development and Programming

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Compensation-related costs	\$20,766	\$15,493	\$12,427	\$5,273	34%	\$3,066	25%
Other expenses	5,335	4,455	4,291	880	20%	164	4%
Total systems development and programming costs	\$26,101	\$19,948	\$16,718	\$6,153	31%	\$3,230	19%

Systems development and programming costs for 2014 increased by \$6.2 million, or 31%, compared to 2013. The increase was mainly due to an increase in compensation-related costs resulting from the increase in headcount to support and enhance our technology product delivery. Despite these increases, systems development and programming costs remained unchanged at 1% of total revenues, or 5% of Net Service Revenues, for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

Systems development and programming costs for 2013 increased by \$3.2 million, or 19%, compared to 2012. Of this increase, \$1.5 million was attributable to increased headcount from our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose. The remaining increase was due to a \$1.6 million increase in compensation-related costs resulting from the increase in headcount other than those we acquired from SOI and Ambrose to support and enhance our technology product delivery.

## Amortization of Intangible Assets and Depreciation

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Amortization of intangible assets	\$52,302	\$51,369	\$17,441	\$933	2%	\$33,928	195%
Depreciation	\$13,843	\$11,737	\$11,676	\$2,106	18%	\$61	1%

In 2014, amortization of intangible assets expense increased by \$0.9 million, or 2%, primarily attributable to our acquisition of Ambrose in the third quarter of 2013, offset by expiration of useful lives of certain customer lists and non-compete agreements related to our previous acquisitions. Depreciation expense increased by \$2.1 million, or 18%, compared to 2013, primarily attributable to depreciation from our acquisition of Ambrose.

Amortization of intangible assets for 2013 increased by \$33.9 million, or 195%, compared to 2012. Such increase was primarily attributable to our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose. Depreciation expense for 2013 increased by \$0.1 million, or 1%, compared to 2012, primarily attributable to depreciation from our acquisitions of SOI and Ambrose, partially offset by accelerated depreciation recorded in 2012.

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We accelerated depreciation expenses of \$0.9 million, \$0.8 million and \$2.8 million in the years ended December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, respectively, due to significant changes in the extent and manner in which certain assets were expected to be used.

Other Income (Expense)

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Interest expense and bank fees	\$(54,193)	\$(45,724)	\$(9,709)	\$(8,469)	19%	\$(36,015)	371%
Other, net	\$478	\$471	\$57	\$7	1%	\$414	726%

Other income (expense) was primarily the result of interest expense under our credit facilities. In October 2012 we amended and restated our secured credit facility to provide for total borrowings of \$350.0 million, and in April 2013 we amended our credit facility to provide for total borrowings of \$500.0 million. In August 2013, we entered into two new senior secured credit facilities for total borrowings of \$820.0 million to pay off our previous credit facility and pay a special dividend. At that time we recorded a charge of \$11.4 million with respect to unamortized loan fees from the previous credit facility. Interest expense increased correspondingly with the increased indebtedness. In March 2014, we repaid \$216.6 million of these facilities from our IPO proceeds. Interest expense increased for the year ended December 31, 2014 due to a \$5.0 million charge related to the acceleration of loan fee amortization due to our refinancing activities, and a \$3.8 million prepayment premium related to our partial repayment of the credit facilities during the year.

Provision for Income Taxes

	Year Ended			Change		Change	
	December 31,			2014 vs. 2013		2013 vs. 2012	
	2014	2013	2012	\$	%	\$	%
	(in thousands, except percentages)						
Provision for income taxes	\$17,579	\$7,937	\$20,344	\$9,642	121%	\$(12,407)	(61%)
Effective tax rates	53.2 %	37.6 %	39.0 %				

Our provision for income taxes for 2014 increased by \$9.6 million compared to 2013 primarily due to the increase in our pre-tax income and our effective tax rate increased from 37.6% for 2013 to 53.2% in 2014, primarily due to non-deductible stock-based compensation, and the revaluation of deferred taxes, based on regulatory state tax law changes enacted during the first quarter ended March 31, 2014. Of the \$9.6 million increase, \$2.6 million in discrete tax expense representing 7.8% of pretax income is attributed to the revaluation of deferred taxes due to a state law change. The remainder of the increase is primarily due to a release of uncertain tax positions recognized for the first quarter ended March 31, 2013.

Our provision for income taxes for 2013 decreased by \$12.4 million compared to 2012 primarily due to the decrease in our pre-tax income. Our effective tax rate decreased from 39.0% for 2012 to 37.6% for 2013, primarily due to a release of uncertain tax positions as a result of statute expirations and a retroactive law change in 2013, allowing for recognition of certain tax credits.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our principal source of liquidity for operations is derived from cash provided by operating activities. We rely on cash provided by operating activities to meet our short-term liquidity requirements, which primarily relate to the payment of corporate payroll and other operating costs, and capital expenditures. Our credit facilities have been used to fund acquisitions and dividends, and we have not relied on these facilities to provide liquidity for our operations. Our cash flow related to WSE payroll and benefits is generally matched by advance collection from our clients. To minimize the credit risk associated with remitting the payroll and associated taxes and benefits costs, we predominately require clients to prefund the payroll and related payroll taxes and benefits costs. To the extent this does not occur, our results of operations and cash flow may be negatively impacted.

WSE-related liabilities can fluctuate significantly due to various factors, including the day of the week on which a client payroll period ends, the existence of holidays at or immediately following a client payroll period-end and various federal and state compliance calendars. We report the advance collection from our clients as payroll funds collected within WSE-related assets on our balance sheet. Our cash and cash equivalents reported on our balance sheet represent our corporate cash available to meet corporate liquidity requirements, capital spending and expansion plans, potential acquisitions, debt service requirements and other corporate operating cash needs.

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The following table shows our capital resources for the stated periods:

	As of	
	December 31,	
	2014	2013
	(in thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 134,341	\$ 94,356
Working capital:		
Corporate working capital	50,996	60,248