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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended June 30, 2009

OR

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

Commission File Number 001-32502

Warner Music Group Corp.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

13-4271875
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

75 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10019
(Address of principal executive offices)

(212) 275-2000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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 whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

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

As of August 4, 2009, the number of shares of the Registrant's common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, outstanding was 154,596,051.

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.

INDEX

	<u>Page</u>
Part I. Financial Information	
Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited)	3
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of June 30, 2009 and September 30, 2008	3
Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Three and Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008	4
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009 and 2008	5
Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Deficit for the Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009	6
Notes to Consolidated Interim Financial Statements	7
Supplementary Information—Consolidating Financial Statements	18
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	26
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	50
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	51
Part II. Other Information	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	53
Item 1A. Risk Factors	53
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	63
Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities	63
Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders	63
Item 5. Other Information	63
Item 6. Exhibits	63
Signatures	65

[Table of Contents](#)

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

Warner Music Group Corp.
Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited)

	June 30, 2009	September 30, 2008
	(in millions)	
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and equivalents	\$ 345	\$ 411
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$129 and \$159	398	538
Inventories	50	57
Royalty advances expected to be recouped within one year	172	174
Deferred tax assets	30	30
Other current assets	54	38
Total current assets	1,049	1,248
Royalty advances expected to be recouped after one year	210	212
Investments	19	155
Property, plant and equipment, net	98	117
Goodwill	1,094	1,085
Intangible assets subject to amortization, net	1,353	1,539
Intangible assets not subject to amortization	100	100
Other assets	66	70
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,989</u>	<u>\$ 4,526</u>
Liabilities and Shareholders' Deficit		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 170	\$ 219
Accrued royalties	1,192	1,189
Taxes and other withholdings	12	16
Current portion of long-term debt	—	17
Deferred income	109	117
Other current liabilities	246	313
Total current liabilities	1,729	1,871
Long-term debt	1,935	2,242
Deferred tax liabilities	235	237
Other noncurrent liabilities	232	262
Total liabilities	<u>4,131</u>	<u>4,612</u>
Commitments and Contingencies (See Note 12)		
Shareholders' deficit:		
Common stock (\$0.001 par value; 500,000,000 shares authorized; 154,596,051 and 154,012,885 shares issued and outstanding)	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	598	590
Accumulated deficit	(768)	(686)
Accumulated other comprehensive income, net	28	10
Total shareholders' deficit	<u>(142)</u>	<u>(86)</u>
Total liabilities and shareholders' deficit	<u>\$ 3,989</u>	<u>\$ 4,526</u>

See accompanying notes.

Warner Music Group Corp.
Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended June 30,		Nine Months Ended June 30,	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
	(in millions, except per share data)			
Revenues	\$ 769	\$ 848	\$ 2,315	\$ 2,637
Costs and expenses:				
Cost of revenues	(431)	(441)	(1,254)	(1,399)
Selling, general and administrative expenses (a)	(258)	(300)	(811)	(935)
Other income, net	—	—	—	3
Amortization of intangible assets	(55)	(56)	(169)	(165)
Total costs and expenses	(744)	(797)	(2,234)	(2,496)
Operating income from continuing operations	25	51	81	141
Interest expense, net	(61)	(43)	(146)	(138)
Minority interest (expense) income	(1)	(2)	6	(4)
Gain on sale of equity investment	—	—	36	—
Gain on foreign exchange transaction	—	—	9	—
Impairment of cost-method investments	—	—	(29)	—
Impairment of equity investment	—	—	(10)	—
Other income (expense), net	4	(2)	1	(4)
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(33)	4	(52)	(5)
Income tax expense	(4)	(13)	(30)	(36)
Loss from continuing operations	(37)	(9)	(82)	(41)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes	—	—	—	(21)
Net loss	<u>\$ (37)</u>	<u>\$ (9)</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ (62)</u>
Net loss per common share:				
Basic earnings per share:				
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (0.25)	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.55)	\$ (0.28)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.14)
Net loss	<u>\$ (0.25)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>	<u>\$ (0.55)</u>	<u>\$ (0.42)</u>
Diluted earnings per share:				
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (0.25)	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.55)	\$ (0.28)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.14)
Net loss	<u>\$ (0.25)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>	<u>\$ (0.55)</u>	<u>\$ (0.42)</u>
Weighted average common shares:				
Basic	149.5	148.9	149.4	148.0
Diluted	149.5	148.9	149.4	148.0
(a) Includes depreciation expense of:	\$ (10)	\$ (9)	\$ (27)	\$ (35)

See accompanying notes.

Warner Music Group Corp.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008
	(in millions)	
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net loss	\$ (82)	\$ (62)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes	—	21
Loss from continuing operations	(82)	(41)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	196	200
Deferred taxes	—	(5)
Gain on sale of equity investment	(36)	—
Gain on foreign exchange transaction	(9)	—
Gain on sale of building	(3)	—
Impairment of equity investment	10	—
Impairment of cost-method investments	29	—
Non-cash interest expense	50	35
Non-cash stock-based compensation expense	8	7
Minority interest (income) expense	(6)	4
Other non-cash items	—	(1)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	129	93
Inventories	5	4
Royalty advances	(16)	(29)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(55)	(59)
Other balance sheet changes	(22)	(23)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>198</u>	<u>185</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Repayments by (loans to) third parties	3	(3)
Investments and acquisitions of businesses	(14)	(122)
Acquisition of publishing rights	(8)	(21)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	124	24
Proceeds from sale of building	8	—
Capital expenditures	(15)	(26)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>98</u>	<u>(148)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
Debt repayments (See Note 10)	(1,379)	(13)
Proceeds from issuance of Senior Discount Notes (See Note 10)	1,059	—
Deferred financing costs paid (See Note 10)	(23)	—
Dividends paid	—	(42)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(343)</u>	<u>(55)</u>
Effect of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash	(19)	23
Net (decrease) increase in cash and equivalents	(66)	5
Cash and equivalents at beginning of period	411	333
Cash and equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 345</u>	<u>\$ 338</u>

See accompanying notes.

Warner Music Group Corp.**Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Deficit (Unaudited)**

	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Additional Paid-in Capital</u>	<u>Accumulated Deficit</u>	<u>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income</u>	<u>Total Shareholders' Deficit</u>
			(in millions, except	number of common shares)		
Balance at September 30, 2008	154,012,885	\$0.001	\$ 590	\$ (686)	\$ 10	\$ (86)
Comprehensive loss:						
Net loss	—	—	—	(82)	—	(82)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	7	7
Deferred gains on derivative financial instruments	—	—	—	—	11	11
Total comprehensive loss						(64)
Issuance of common stock upon exercise of options and issuance of shares of restricted common stock	<u>583,166</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>8</u>
Balance at June 30, 2009	<u>154,596,051</u>	<u>\$0.001</u>	<u>\$ 598</u>	<u>\$ (768)</u>	<u>\$ 28</u>	<u>\$ (142)</u>

See accompanying notes.

Warner Music Group Corp.

Notes to Consolidated Interim Financial Statements (Unaudited)

1. Description of Business

Warner Music Group Corp. (the “Company” or “Parent”) was formed by a private equity consortium of investors (the “Investor Group”) on November 21, 2003. The Company is the direct parent of WMG Holdings Corp. (“Holdings”), which is the direct parent of WMG Acquisition Corp. (“Acquisition Corp.”). Acquisition Corp. is one of the world’s major music-based content companies and the successor to substantially all of the interests of the recorded music and music publishing businesses of Time Warner Inc. (“Time Warner”). Effective March 1, 2004, Acquisition Corp. acquired such interests from Time Warner for approximately \$2.6 billion (the “Acquisition”). The original Investor Group included affiliates of Thomas H. Lee Partners (“THL”), affiliates of Bain Capital Investors, LLC (“Bain”), affiliates of Providence Equity Partners, Inc. (“Providence”) and Music Capital Partners, L.P. (“Music Capital”). Music Capital’s partnership agreement required that the Music Capital partnership dissolve and commence winding up by the second anniversary of the Company’s May 2005 initial public offering. As a result, on May 7, 2007, Music Capital made a pro rata distribution of all shares of common stock of the Company held by it to its partners. The shares held by Music Capital had been subject to a stockholders agreement among Music Capital, THL, Bain and Providence and certain other parties. As a result of the distribution, the shares distributed by Music Capital ceased to be subject to the voting and other provisions of the stockholders agreement and Music Capital was no longer part of the Investor Group subject to the stockholders agreement.

The Company classifies its business interests into two fundamental operations: Recorded Music and Music Publishing. A brief description of these operations is presented below.

Recorded Music Operations

The Company’s Recorded Music business primarily consists of the discovery and development of artists and the related marketing, distribution and licensing of recorded music produced by such artists. In addition to the more traditional methods of discovering and developing artists, following the Acquisition the Company established Independent Label Group (“ILG”) to discover artists earlier in the process and at lower cost by leveraging the Company’s independent distribution network.

The Company is also diversifying its revenues beyond its traditional businesses by entering into expanded-rights agreements with recording artists in order to partner with artists in other areas of their careers. Under these agreements, the Company provides services to and participates in artists’ activities outside the traditional recorded music business. The Company is building artist services capabilities and platforms for exploiting a broader set of music-related rights to participate across the artist brands it helps create. In developing the Company’s artist services business, the Company has both built and expanded in-house capabilities and expertise and has acquired a number of existing artist services companies involved in artist management, merchandising, strategic marketing and brand management, ticketing, concert promotion, fan clubs, original programming and video entertainment, including operations in the U.S., U.K., Japan, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, China and Finland. The Company believes that entering into expanded-rights agreements and enhancing its artist services capabilities will permit it to diversify revenue streams to better capitalize on the growth areas of the music industry and permit it to build stronger, long-term relationships with artists and more effectively connect artists and fans.

In the U.S., Recorded Music operations are conducted principally through the Company’s major record labels—Warner Bros. Records and The Atlantic Records Group. The Company’s Recorded Music operations also include Rhino Entertainment (“Rhino”), a division that specializes in marketing the Company’s music catalog through compilations and reissues of previously released music and video titles, as well as in the licensing of recordings to and from third parties for various uses, including film and television soundtracks. Rhino has also become the Company’s primary licensing division focused on acquiring broader licensing rights from certain catalog artists. For example, we have an exclusive license with The Grateful Dead to manage the band’s intellectual property and in November 2007 acquired a 50% interest in Frank Sinatra Enterprises, an entity that administers licenses for use of Frank Sinatra’s name and likeness and manages all aspects of his music, film and stage content. The Company also conducts its Recorded Music operations through a collection of additional record labels, including, among others, Asylum, Bad Boy, Cordless, East West, Elektra, Nonesuch, Reprise, Roadrunner, Rykodisc, Sire and Word.

Outside the U.S., Recorded Music activities are conducted in more than 50 countries, primarily through Warner Music International (“WMI”) and its various subsidiaries, affiliates and non-affiliated licensees. WMI engages in the same activities as the Company’s U.S. labels: discovering and signing artists and distributing, marketing and selling their recorded music. In most cases, WMI also markets and distributes the records of those artists for whom the Company’s domestic record labels have international rights. In certain smaller countries, WMI licenses to unaffiliated third-party record labels the right to distribute its records. Recorded Music activities in Canada, the U.K. and Latin America are conducted through Warner Music’s Americas and the U.K. operations. The Company’s international artist services operations also include a network of concert promoters through which WMI provides resources to coordinate tours.

[Table of Contents](#)

Recorded Music distribution operations include WEA Corp., which markets and sells music and DVD products to retailers and wholesale distributors in the U.S.; ADA, which distributes the products of independent labels to retail and wholesale distributors in the U.S.; various distribution centers and ventures operated internationally; an 80% interest in Word Entertainment, which specializes in the distribution of music products in the Christian retail marketplace and ADA Global, which provides distribution services to independent labels outside of the U.S. through a network of affiliated and non-affiliated distributors. In April 2009, the operations of Ryko Distribution were merged with ADA. The Company acquired Ryko Distribution in 2006 as part of its acquisition of other Ryko assets including the Rykodisc label.

The Company plays an integral role in virtually all aspects of the music value chain from discovering and developing talent to producing albums and promoting artists and their products. After an artist has entered into a contract with one of the Company's record labels, a master recording of the artist's music is created. The recording is then replicated for sale to consumers primarily in the CD and digital formats. In the U.S., WEA Corp., ADA and Word market, sell and deliver product, either directly or through sub-distributors and wholesalers, to record stores, mass merchants and other retailers. The Company's recorded music products are also sold in physical form to online physical retailers such as Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com and bestbuy.com and in digital form to online digital retailers like Apple's iTunes and mobile full-track download stores such as those operated by Verizon or Sprint. In the case of expanded-rights deals where we acquire broader rights in a recording artist's career, we provide more comprehensive career support and actively develop new opportunities for an artist through touring, fan clubs, merchandising and sponsorships, among other areas. We believe expanded-rights deals create a better partnership with our artists which allows the Company to work together more closely with them to create and sustain artistic and commercial success.

The Company has integrated the sale of digital content into all aspects of its Recorded Music and Music Publishing businesses including A&R, marketing, promotion and distribution. The Company's new media executives work closely with A&R departments to make sure that while a record is being made, digital assets are also created with all of our distribution channels in mind, including subscription services, social networking sites, online portals and music-centered destinations. The Company also works side by side with its mobile and online partners to test new concepts. The Company believes existing and new digital businesses will be a significant source of growth for the next several years and will provide new opportunities to monetize its assets and create new revenue streams. As a music-based content company, the Company has assets that go beyond its recorded music and music publishing catalogs, such as its music video library, which it has begun to monetize through digital channels. The proportion of digital revenues attributed to each distribution channel varies by region and since digital music is in the relatively early stages of growth, proportions may change as the rollout of new technologies continues. As an owner of musical content, the Company believes it is well positioned to take advantage of growth in digital distribution and emerging technologies to maximize the value of its assets.

Music Publishing Operations

Where recorded music is focused on exploiting a particular recording of a song, music publishing is an intellectual property business focused on the exploitation of the song itself. In return for promoting, placing, marketing and administering the creative output of a songwriter, or engaging in those activities for other rights holders, our Music Publishing business garners a share of the revenues generated from use of the song.

Our Music Publishing operations include Warner/Chappell, our global Music Publishing company headquartered in New York with operations in over 50 countries through various subsidiaries, affiliates and non-affiliated licensees. We own or control rights to more than one million musical compositions, including numerous pop hits, American standards, folk songs and motion picture and theatrical compositions. Assembled over decades, our award-winning catalog includes over 65,000 songwriters and composers and a diverse range of genres including pop, rock, jazz, country, R&B, hip-hop, rap, reggae, Latin, folk, blues, symphonic, soul, Broadway, techno, alternative, gospel and other Christian music. Warner/Chappell also administers the music and soundtracks of several third-party television and film producers and studios, including Lucasfilm, Ltd., Hallmark Entertainment, Disney Music Publishing and HBO. In 2007, we entered the production music library business with the acquisition of Non-Stop Music. Production music is a complementary alternative to licensing standards and contemporary hits for television, film and advertising producers.

2. Basis of Presentation

Interim Financial Statements

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. ("U.S. GAAP") for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the three and nine month periods ended June 30, 2009 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009.

[Table of Contents](#)

The consolidated balance sheet at September 30, 2008 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but does not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements.

For further information, refer to the consolidated financial statements and footnotes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008 (File No. 001-32502).

Basis of Consolidation

The accompanying financial statements present the consolidated accounts of all entities in which the Company has a controlling voting interest and/or variable interest entities required to be consolidated in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Significant inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated. Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior fiscal years' consolidated financial statements to conform with the current fiscal year presentation.

The Company maintains a 52-53 week fiscal year ending on the Friday nearest to each reporting date. As such, all references to June 30, 2009 and 2008 relate to the three- and nine-month periods ended June 26, 2009 and June 27, 2008, respectively. For convenience purposes, the Company continues to date its financial statements as of June 30.

New Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 157, "*Fair Value Measurements*" ("FAS 157"). FAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value under U.S. GAAP and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. FAS 157 is effective for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company adopted the provisions of FAS 157 as of October 1, 2008. The impact of adopting SFAS No. 157 effective October 1, 2008 was not material to our financial statements. Refer to Note 16.

In February 2007, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 159, "*The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities*", ("FAS 159")—including an Amendment of SFAS 115, which permits but does not require the Company to measure financial instruments and certain other items at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses on items for which the fair value option has been elected are reported in earnings. This statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007. The Company adopted the provisions of FAS 159 as of October 1, 2008. Upon initial adoption, Statement 159 provides entities with a one-time chance to elect the fair value option for existing eligible items. The Company has elected not to apply the fair value option to the eligible items.

In December 2007, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 141(R), "*Business Combinations*" ("FAS 141R"). FAS 141R changes the accounting for business combinations in several areas including contingent consideration, acquisition-related costs, restructuring costs and deferred income taxes. Acquisition costs will generally be expensed as incurred. Restructuring costs associated with a business combination will generally be expensed subsequent to the acquisition date. Changes in deferred tax asset valuation allowances and uncertain tax positions after the acquisition date will generally impact income tax expense. FAS 141R is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008 on a prospective basis. The Company will adopt FAS 141R beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010. This standard will change the Company's accounting treatment for business combinations on a prospective basis.

In December 2007, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 160, "*Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements—an amendment of ARB No. 51*" ("FAS 160"). FAS No. 160 requires the recognition of a noncontrolling (minority) interest as a component of equity in the consolidated financial statements as opposed to as a liability or mezzanine equity. FAS 160 also changes the computation of net income of a consolidated group such that earnings attributed to the noncontrolling interest will no longer be deducted in determining net income. Instead, it must be separately presented on the face of the consolidated income statement. FASB requires that FAS 160 and FAS 141R be adopted concurrently and thus, FAS 160 is also effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. The Company will adopt the provisions of this statement beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2010. This standard will change the Company's accounting treatment of business combinations with noncontrolling interests on a prospective basis, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements, which will be adopted on a retrospective basis.

[Table of Contents](#)

3. Comprehensive Loss

Comprehensive loss consists of net loss and other gains and losses affecting equity that, under U.S. GAAP, are excluded from net loss. For the Company, the components of other comprehensive loss primarily consist of foreign currency translation gains and losses and deferred gains and losses on financial instruments designated as hedges under FASB Statement No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative and Hedging Activities", which include interest-rate swaps and foreign exchange contracts, as well as changes to the minimum pension liability. The following summary sets forth the components of comprehensive loss, net of related taxes (in millions):

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2009	Three Months Ended June 30, 2008	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008
Net loss	\$ (37)	\$ (9)	\$ (82)	\$ (62)
Foreign currency translation (losses) gains (a)	(5)	(1)	7	17
Derivative financial instruments gains (losses)	7	11	11	(9)
Comprehensive loss	<u>\$ (35)</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>	<u>\$ (64)</u>	<u>\$ (54)</u>

(a) The foreign currency translation adjustments are not adjusted for income taxes as they relate to permanent investments in international subsidiaries.

4. Net Loss Per Common Share

The Company computes net loss per common share in accordance with FASB Statement No. 128, "Earnings per Share" ("FAS 128"). Under the provisions of FAS 128, basic net loss per common share is computed by dividing the net loss applicable to common shares after preferred dividend requirements, if any, by the weighted average of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net loss per common share adjusts basic net loss per common share for the effects of stock options, warrants and other potentially dilutive financial instruments, only in the periods in which such effect is dilutive. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net loss per common share (in millions, except per share amounts):

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2009	Three Months Ended June 30, 2008	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008
Numerator:				
Basic and diluted net loss per common share:				
Net loss	<u>\$ (37)</u>	<u>\$ (9)</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ (62)</u>
Denominator:				
Weighted average common shares outstanding for basic calculation (a)	<u>149.5</u>	<u>148.9</u>	<u>149.4</u>	<u>148.0</u>
Weighted average common outstanding shares for diluted calculation	<u>149.5</u>	<u>148.9</u>	<u>149.4</u>	<u>148.0</u>
Net loss per common share—basic	<u>\$ (0.25)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>	<u>\$ (0.55)</u>	<u>\$ (0.42)</u>
Net loss per common share—diluted	<u>\$ (0.25)</u>	<u>\$ (0.06)</u>	<u>\$ (0.55)</u>	<u>\$ (0.42)</u>

(a) The denominator excludes the effect of unvested common shares subject to repurchase or cancellation.

[Table of Contents](#)

As a result of the Company's net loss for the three and nine months ended June 30, 2009, the effect of the assumed exercise of any outstanding stock options and the assumed vesting of shares of restricted shares would have been anti-dilutive and accordingly, the following share amounts were excluded from the calculation of diluted net loss per share (in millions):

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2009	Three Months Ended June 30, 2008	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008
Stock options	1.7	2.0	0.9	2.0
Restricted stock	0.2	2.0	0.3	1.0

During the quarter ended June 30, 2009, there was no restricted stock purchased by or awarded to certain employees of the Company that vested.

5. Significant Acquisitions and Dispositions

Acquisition of Interest in Frank Sinatra Estate

The Company acquired a 50% interest in Frank Sinatra Enterprises, LLC ("FSE") on November 19, 2007 for \$50 million. FSE is a limited liability company established to administer licenses for use of Frank Sinatra's name and likeness and manage all aspects of his music, film and stage content. The transaction was accounted for under the purchase method of accounting, based on the provisions of FASB Interpretation No. 46 (R), "*Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities*" and the results of operations of FSE have been included in the Company's results of operations from the date of the acquisition. The purchase price has been allocated to the underlying net assets acquired in proportion to the estimated fair value, principally recorded music catalog of \$66 million, trademarks of \$20 million and goodwill of \$14 million.

Discontinued Operations

During fiscal 2008, the Company shut down the operations of Bulldog Entertainment ("Bulldog"), an entertainment services company, which was recorded in our Recorded Music operations. As a result of this triggering event, the Company performed an impairment test and determined that an \$18 million impairment charge was necessary to adjust the assets to fair market value, based on the discounted value of future cash flows. The Company shut down this operation in January 2008 and recorded an additional \$3 million in shut down costs during the three months ended March 31, 2008. Bulldog's results are reported as discontinued operations in the consolidated statement of operations.

6. Investments

The Company's investments consist of the following (in millions):

	June 30, 2009 (unaudited)	September 30, 2008 (unaudited)
Cost-method investments	\$ 13	\$ 43
Equity-method investments	6	112
	<u>\$ 19</u>	<u>\$ 155</u>

During the three months ended March 31, 2009, the Company determined that its cost-method investments in digital venture capital companies were impaired largely due to the current economic environment and changing business conditions from the time of the initial investment. In accordance with FAS 157, the Company used Level 3 inputs to determine the fair value of these investments, which include management's estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing these assets. As a result, the Company recorded charges of \$29 million, including \$16 million to write off its investment in imeem, inc. ("imeem") and \$11 million to write down its investment in lala media, inc ("lala") to its estimated fair value.

During the three months ended December 31, 2008, the Company chose not to continue its participation in Equatrax, L.P. (formerly known as Royalty Services, L.P.) and Equatrax, LLC (formerly known as Royalty Services, LLC), which were formed in 2004 to develop an outsourced royalty platform. As a result, the Company wrote off the remaining \$10 million related to its investment in the joint venture.

On October 22, 2008, the Company entered into an agreement to sell its remaining equity stake in Front Line Management to Ticketmaster for \$123 million in cash. The transaction closed on October 29, 2008 and the Company recorded a gain on the sale of its equity investment of \$36 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009.

[Table of Contents](#)

7. Inventories

Inventories consist of the following (in millions):

	June 30, 2009 (unaudited)	September 30, 2008 (unaudited)
Compact discs and other music-related products	\$ 48	\$ 55
Published sheet music and song books	2	2
	<u>\$ 50</u>	<u>\$ 57</u>

8. Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill

The following analysis details the changes in goodwill for each reportable segment during the nine months ended June 30, 2009 (in millions):

	Recorded Music	Music Publishing	Total
Balance at September 30, 2008 (unaudited)	\$ 494	\$ 591	\$ 1,085
Acquisitions	9	—	9
Balance at June 30, 2009 (unaudited)	<u>\$ 503</u>	<u>\$ 591</u>	<u>\$ 1,094</u>

The acquisition of goodwill primarily relates to purchase accounting adjustments recorded during the nine months ended June 30, 2009 for a few small acquisitions.

Other Intangible Assets

Other intangible assets consist of the following (in millions):

	September 30, 2008 (unaudited)	Acquisitions	Other (a)	June 30, 2009 (unaudited)
Intangible assets subject to amortization:				
Recorded music catalog	\$ 1,384	1	(9)	\$ 1,376
Music publishing copyrights	948	8	(20)	936
Artist contracts	76	4	(1)	79
Trademarks	31	—	—	31
Other intangible assets	8	—	—	8
	<u>2,447</u>			<u>2,430</u>
Accumulated amortization	(908)			(1,077)
Total net intangible assets subject to amortization	1,539			1,353
Intangible assets not subject to amortization:				
Trademarks and brands	100			100
Total net other intangible assets	<u>\$ 1,639</u>			<u>\$ 1,453</u>

(a) Other represents foreign currency translation adjustments.

9. Restructuring Costs

Acquisition-Related Restructuring Costs

In connection with the Acquisition that was effective as of March 1, 2004, the Company reviewed its operations and implemented several plans to restructure its operations. As part of these restructuring plans, the Company recorded a restructuring liability during 2004, which included costs to exit and consolidate certain activities of the Company, costs to exit certain leased facilities and operations such as international distribution operations, costs to terminate employees and costs to terminate certain artist, songwriter, co-publisher and other contracts. Such liabilities were recognized as part of the cost of the Acquisition. As of June 30, 2009, the Company had approximately \$13 million of liabilities outstanding primarily related to long-term lease obligations for vacated facilities, which are expected to be settled by 2019 and \$98 million of liabilities outstanding primarily related to revaluations of artist and other contracts.

10. Debt

On May 28, 2009, Acquisition Corp. issued \$1.1 billion aggregate principal amount of 9.50% Senior Secured Notes due 2016 (the “Senior Secured Notes”), pursuant to an indenture, dated as of May 28, 2009 (the “Indenture”), among Acquisition Corp., the guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee. The Senior Secured Notes were issued at 96.289% of their face value, for total net proceeds of \$1.059 billion, with an effective interest rate of 10.25%. The original issue discount (“OID”) was \$41 million. The OID is equal to the difference between the stated principal amount and the issue price. The OID will be amortized over the term of the notes using the effective interest rate method and reported as non-cash interest expense. Financing fees of \$24 million related to the Senior Secured Notes were deferred and are being amortized over the term of the notes.

The Senior Secured Notes mature on June 15, 2016. Interest on the Senior Secured Notes accrues at a rate of 9.50% per annum and is payable, commencing on December 15, 2009, semi-annually in arrears on June 15 and December 15 of each year to the holders of record on the immediately preceding June 1 and December 1. Interest on the Senior Secured Notes is computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

The Senior Secured Notes are senior secured obligations of Acquisition Corp. that rank senior in right of payment to Acquisition Corp.’s subordinated indebtedness, including its senior subordinated notes. The obligations under the Senior Secured Notes are fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a senior secured basis by each of Acquisition Corp.’s existing direct or indirect wholly owned domestic subsidiaries and any such subsidiaries that guarantee other indebtedness of Acquisition Corp. in the future. The Senior Secured Notes are not guaranteed by Holdings. All obligations under the Senior Secured Notes and the guarantees of those obligations are secured by first-priority liens, subject to permitted liens, in the assets of Holdings, Acquisition Corp., and the guarantors, which consist of the shares of Acquisition Corp., Acquisition Corp.’s assets and the assets of the guarantors, except for certain excluded assets.

At any time prior to June 15, 2012, Acquisition Corp., at its option, may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of the Senior Secured Notes at a redemption price of 109.50% of the principal amount of the Senior Secured Notes redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest provided that after such redemption at least 50% of the originally issued Senior Secured Notes remain outstanding. Prior to June 15, 2013, Acquisition Corp. may redeem some or all of the Senior Secured Notes at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus a make whole premium, as defined in the Indenture. The Senior Secured Notes are also redeemable in whole or in part, at Acquisition Corp.’s option, at any time on or after June 15, 2013 for the following redemption prices, plus accrued and unpaid interest:

<u>Twelve month period beginning June 15,</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
2013	104.750%
2014	102.375%
2015 and thereafter	100.000%

Upon the consummation and closing of a Major Music/Media Transaction, as defined in the Indenture, at any time prior to June 15, 2013, the Senior Secured Notes may be redeemed in whole or in part, at Acquisition Corp.’s option, at a redemption price of 104.75% plus accrued and unpaid interest. In the event of a change in control, as defined in the Indenture, each holder of the Senior Secured Notes may require Acquisition Corp. to repurchase some or all of the respective Senior Secured Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% plus accrued and unpaid interest.

The Indenture contains a number of covenants that, among other things, limit (subject to certain exceptions), the ability of Acquisition Corp. and most of its subsidiaries to (i) incur additional debt or issue certain preferred shares; (ii) pay dividends on or make distributions in respect of its capital stock or make other restricted payments (as defined in the Indenture); (iii) make certain investments; (iv) sell certain assets; (v) create liens on certain debt; (vi) consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets; (vii) sell or otherwise dispose of its Music Publishing business; (viii) enter into certain transactions with affiliates; and (ix) designate its subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries.

Acquisition Corp. used the net proceeds from the Senior Secured Notes offering, plus approximately \$335 million in existing cash, to repay in full all amounts due under its existing senior secured credit facility and pay related fees and expenses. In connection with the repayment, Acquisition Corp. terminated its revolving facility. Included in interest expense for the three and nine months ended June 30, 2009 was \$18 million of previously unamortized deferred financing fees related to the senior secured credit facility. Such amounts were recognized as a result of the repayment of the senior secured credit facility. There were no premiums or penalties incurred by Acquisition Corp. in connection with the termination of the senior secured credit facility.

Table of Contents

The Company's long-term debt consists of (in millions):

	June 30, 2009 <u>(unaudited)</u>	September 30, 2008 <u>(unaudited)</u>
9.50% Senior Secured Notes due 2016—Acquisition Corp.(a)	\$ 1,059	\$ —
Senior secured credit facility—Acquisition Corp (b)	—	1,379
7.375% U.S. dollar-denominated Senior Subordinated Notes due 2014—Acquisition Corp.	465	465
8.125% Sterling-denominated Senior Subordinated Notes due 2014—Acquisition Corp. (c)	164	184
9.5% Senior Discount Notes due 2014—Holdings (d)	247	231
Total debt	1,935	2,259
Less current portion	—	(17)
Total long-term debt	<u>\$ 1,935</u>	<u>\$ 2,242</u>

- (a) 9.50% Senior Secured Notes due 2016; face amount of \$1.1 billion less unamortized discount of \$41 million.
- (b) All outstanding amounts were repaid in full as part of the refinancing transaction described above.
- (c) Change represents the impact of foreign currency exchange rates on the carrying value of the Sterling-denominated notes.
- (d) Change represents the accrual of interest on the discount notes in the form of an increase in the accreted value of the discount notes.

Restricted Net Assets

The Company is a holding company that conducts substantially all of its business operations through its subsidiary, Acquisition Corp. and its subsidiaries. Accordingly, the ability of the Company to obtain funds from its subsidiaries is restricted by the indenture for the Senior Secured Notes, the indenture for the 7.375% U.S. dollar-denominated Senior Subordinated Notes due 2014 and the 8.125% Sterling-denominated Senior Subordinated Notes due 2014 issued by Acquisition Corp. (collectively, the "Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes") and the indenture for the 9.5% Senior Discount Notes due 2014 issued by Holdings (the "Holdings Discount Notes").

Fair Value of Debt

Based on the level of interest rates prevailing at June 30, 2009, the carrying value of the Company's fixed-rate debt exceeded the fair value by approximately \$150 million. Unrealized gains or losses on debt do not result in the realization or expenditure of cash and generally are not recognized for financial reporting purposes unless the debt is retired prior to its maturity.

11. Stock-based Compensation

The following table represents the expense recorded by the Company with respect to its stock-based awards for the three and nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 (in millions):

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2009	Three Months Ended June 30, 2008	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008
Recorded Music	\$ 2	\$ 2	\$ 5	\$ 4
Music Publishing	—	—	—	—
Corporate expenses	1	1	3	3
Total	<u>\$ 3</u>	<u>\$ 3</u>	<u>\$ 8</u>	<u>\$ 7</u>

During the nine months ended June 30, 2009, the Company awarded 554,700 shares of restricted stock and 2,120,000 stock options to its employees.

12. Commitments and Contingencies

Pricing of Digital Music Downloads

On December 20, 2005 and February 3, 2006, the Attorney General of the State of New York served the Company with requests for information in connection with an industry-wide investigation as to whether the practices of industry participants concerning the pricing of digital music downloads violate Section 1 of the Sherman Act, New York State General Business Law §§ 340 et seq., New York Executive Law §63(12), and related statutes. On February 28, 2006, the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice served the Company with a request for information in the form of a Civil Investigative Demand as to whether its activities relating to the pricing of digitally downloaded music violate Section 1 of the Sherman Act. Both investigations have now been closed.

[Table of Contents](#)

Subsequent to the announcements of the above governmental investigations, more than thirty putative class action lawsuits concerning the pricing of digital music downloads were filed and were later consolidated for pre-trial proceedings in the Southern District of New York. The consolidated amended complaint, filed on April 13, 2007, alleges conspiracy among record companies to delay the release of their content for digital distribution, inflate their pricing of CDs and fix prices for digital downloads. The complaint seeks unspecified compensatory, statutory and treble damages. All defendants, including the Company, filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated amended complaint on July 30, 2007. This motion was granted on October 9, 2008. Plaintiffs appealed the decision. The Second Circuit has scheduled oral argument for September 26, 2009. The Company intends to defend against these lawsuits vigorously, but is unable to predict the outcome of these suits. Any litigation the Company may become involved in as a result of the inquiries of the Attorney General and Department of Justice, regardless of the merits of the claim, could be costly and divert the time and resources of management.

In addition to the matter discussed above, the Company is involved in other litigation arising in the normal course of business. Management does not believe that any legal proceedings pending against the Company will have, individually, or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on its business. However, the Company cannot predict with certainty the outcome of any litigation or the potential for future litigation. Regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on the Company, including its brand value, because of defense costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

13. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company uses derivative financial instruments, primarily (1) foreign currency forward exchange contracts (“FX Contracts”) for the purpose of managing foreign currency exchange risk by reducing the effects of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and (2) interest rate swap transactions (the “Interest Rate Swaps”) for the purpose of managing interest rate risk by offsetting the effects of certain floating interest rates associated with the company’s indebtedness.

The Company enters into FX Contracts primarily to hedge its royalty payments and balance sheet items denominated in foreign currency. The Company applies hedge accounting to FX Contracts for cash flows related to royalty payments. The Company records these FX Contracts in the consolidated balance sheet at fair value and changes in fair value are recognized in Other Comprehensive Income (“OCI”) for unrealized items and recognized in earnings for realized items. The Company elects to not apply hedge accounting to foreign currency exposures related to balance sheet items. The Company records these FX Contracts in the consolidated balance sheet at fair value and changes in fair value are immediately recognized in earnings. Fair value is determined by using observable market transactions of spot and forward rates (i.e., Level 2 inputs). Refer to Note 16.

Netting provisions are provided for in existing International Swap and Derivative Association Inc. (“ISDA”) agreements in situations where the Company executes multiple contracts with the same counterparty. As a result, net assets or liabilities resulting from foreign exchange derivatives subject to these netting agreements are classified within other current assets or other current liabilities in the Company’s balance sheet. The Company monitors its positions with, and the credit quality of, the financial institutions that are party to any of its financial transactions.

During the nine months ended June 30, 2009, the Company did not enter into any additional Interest Rate Swaps to hedge the variability of its expected future cash interest payments. As of June 30, 2009, the Company did not have any Interest Rate Swaps outstanding and approximately \$8 million of losses previously recorded in OCI have been recognized in the statement of operations. However, the Company entered into additional foreign exchange contracts to hedge its foreign currency royalty payments for the fiscal year 2009.

14. Segment Information

As discussed more fully in Note 1, based on the nature of its products and services, the Company classifies its business interests into two fundamental operations: recorded music and music publishing. Information as to each of these operations is set forth below. The Company evaluates performance based on several factors, of which the primary financial measure is operating income (loss) before non-cash depreciation of tangible assets, non-cash amortization of intangible assets and non-cash impairment charges to reduce the carrying value of goodwill and intangible assets (“OIBDA”). The Company has supplemented its analysis of OIBDA results by segment with an analysis of operating income (loss) by segment.

The accounting policies of the Company’s business segments are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008. The Company accounts for intersegment sales at fair value as if the sales were to third parties. While intercompany transactions are treated like third-party transactions to determine segment performance, the revenues (and corresponding expenses recognized by the segment that is counterparty to the transaction) are eliminated in consolidation, therefore, do not themselves impact the consolidated results. Segment information consists of the following (in millions):

<u>Three Months Ended</u>	<u>Recorded music</u>	<u>Music publishing</u>	<u>Corporate expenses and eliminations</u>	<u>Total</u>
June 30, 2009				
Revenues	\$ 629	\$ 147	\$ (7)	\$ 769
OIBDA	86	27	(23)	90
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(6)	(1)	(3)	(10)
Amortization of intangible assets	(40)	(16)	1	(55)
Operating income (loss)	<u>\$ 40</u>	<u>\$ 10</u>	<u>\$ (25)</u>	<u>\$ 25</u>
June 30, 2008				
Revenues	\$ 686	\$ 168	\$ (6)	\$ 848
OIBDA	110	33	(27)	116
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(5)	(1)	(3)	(9)
Amortization of intangible assets	(39)	(17)	—	(56)
Operating income (loss)	<u>\$ 66</u>	<u>\$ 15</u>	<u>\$ (30)</u>	<u>\$ 51</u>
<u>Nine Months Ended</u>	<u>Recorded music</u>	<u>Music publishing</u>	<u>Corporate expenses and eliminations</u>	<u>Total</u>
June 30, 2009				
Revenues	\$ 1,915	\$ 416	\$ (16)	\$2,315
OIBDA	240	102	(65)	277
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(16)	(3)	(8)	(27)
Amortization of intangible assets	(121)	(48)	—	(169)
Operating income (loss)	<u>\$ 103</u>	<u>\$ 51</u>	<u>\$ (73)</u>	<u>\$ 81</u>
June 30, 2008				
Revenues	\$ 2,188	\$ 467	\$ (18)	\$2,637
OIBDA	316	108	(83)	341
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	(24)	(3)	(8)	(35)
Amortization of intangible assets	(115)	(50)	—	(165)
Operating income (loss)	<u>\$ 177</u>	<u>\$ 55</u>	<u>\$ (91)</u>	<u>\$ 141</u>

15. Additional Financial Information

Cash Interest and Taxes

The Company made interest payments of approximately \$109 million and \$127 million during the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The Company paid approximately \$46 million and \$58 million of income and withholding taxes in the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The Company received \$9 million of income tax refunds in the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008.

[Table of Contents](#)

16. Fair Value Measurements

FAS 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received upon sale of an asset or paid upon transfer of a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date and in the principal or most advantageous market for that asset or liability. The fair value should be calculated based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, not on assumptions specific to the entity.

In addition to defining fair value, FAS 157 expands the disclosure requirements around fair value and establishes a fair value hierarchy for valuation inputs. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs into three levels based on the extent to which inputs used in measuring fair value are observable in the market. Each fair value measurement is reported in one of the three levels which is determined by the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. These levels are:

- Level 1 – inputs are based upon unadjusted quoted prices for identical instruments traded in active markets.
- Level 2 – inputs are based upon quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active, and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant assumptions are observable in the market or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.
- Level 3 – inputs are generally unobservable and typically reflect management’s estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. The fair values are therefore determined using model-based techniques that include option pricing models, discounted cash flow models, and similar techniques.

In accordance with the fair value hierarchy, described above, the following table shows the fair value of the Company’s financial instruments that are required to be measured at fair value as of June 30, 2009. Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments primarily represent the balances below and the gains and losses on these financial instruments are included as other expenses in the statement of operations. Derivatives designated as hedging instruments are not material to our financial statements.

	Fair Value Measurements as of June 30, 2009			
	(Level 1)	(Level 2)	(Level 3)	Total
<i>Other Current Assets:</i>				
Foreign Currency Forward Exchange Contracts (a)	—	6	—	6
<i>Other Current Liabilities:</i>				
Foreign Currency Forward Exchange Contracts (a)	—	(12)	—	(12)
<i>Other Non Current Liabilities:</i>				
Foreign Currency Forward Exchange Contracts (a)	—	(3)	—	(3)
Total	<u>—</u>	<u>\$ (9)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>\$ (9)</u>

(a) The fair value of the foreign currency forward exchange contracts is based on dealer quotes of market forward rates and reflects the amount that the Company would receive or pay at their maturity dates for contracts involving the same currencies and maturity dates.

The majority of the Company’s non-financial instruments, which include goodwill, intangible assets, inventories, and property, plant, and equipment, are not required to be carried at fair value on a recurring basis. These assets are evaluated for impairment if certain triggering events occur. If such evaluation indicates that an impairment exists, the asset is written down to its fair value. In addition, an impairment analysis is performed at least annually for goodwill and indefinite lived intangible assets.

17. Subsequent Events

The Company has performed a review of all subsequent events up to and including the date of issuance of our financial statements, August 6, 2009, and has deemed that no additional disclosures are necessary.

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.

**Supplementary Information
Consolidating Financial Statements**

The Company is the direct parent of Holdings, which is the direct parent of Acquisition Corp.

Holdings has issued and outstanding the Holdings Discount Notes. The Holdings Discount Notes are guaranteed by the Company. These guarantees are full, unconditional, joint and several. The following consolidating financial statements are presented for the information of the holders of the Holdings Discount Notes and present the results of operations, financial position and cash flows of (i) the Company, which is the guarantor of the Holdings Discount Notes, (ii) Holdings, which is the issuer of the Holdings Discount Notes, (iii) the subsidiaries of Holdings (Acquisition Corp. is the only direct subsidiary of Holdings) and (iv) the eliminations necessary to arrive at the information for the Company on a consolidated basis. Investments in consolidated subsidiaries are presented under the equity method of accounting.

The Company and Holdings are holding companies that conduct substantially all their business operations through Acquisition Corp. Accordingly, the ability of the Company to obtain funds from its subsidiaries is restricted by the indenture for the Senior Secured Notes, the indenture for the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and the indenture for the Holdings Discount Notes.

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.
Supplementary Information
Consolidating Balance Sheet (unaudited)
June 30, 2009

	<u>Warner Music Group Corp.</u>	<u>WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)</u>	<u>WMG Acquisition Corp.</u> (in millions)	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated</u>
Assets:					
Current assets:					
Cash and equivalents	\$ 98	\$ —	\$ 247	\$ —	\$ 345
Accounts receivable, net	—	—	398	—	398
Inventories	—	—	50	—	50
Royalty advances expected to be recouped within one year	—	—	172	—	172
Deferred tax assets	—	—	30	—	30
Other current assets	—	—	54	—	54
Total current assets	98	—	951	—	1,049
Royalty advances expected to be recouped after one year	—	—	210	—	210
Investments in and advances (from) to consolidated subsidiaries	(241)	3	—	238	—
Investments	—	—	19	—	19
Property, plant and equipment, net	—	—	98	—	98
Goodwill	—	—	1,094	—	1,094
Intangible assets subject to amortization, net	—	—	1,353	—	1,353
Intangible assets not subject to amortization	—	—	100	—	100
Other assets	(2)	3	65	—	66
Total assets	\$ (145)	\$ 6	\$ 3,890	\$ 238	\$ 3,989
Liabilities and Shareholders' (Deficit) Equity:					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 170	\$ —	\$ 170
Accrued royalties	—	—	1,192	—	1,192
Taxes and other withholdings	2	—	10	—	12
Deferred income	—	—	109	—	109
Other current liabilities	—	—	246	—	246
Total current liabilities	2	—	1,727	—	1,729
Long-term debt	—	247	1,688	—	1,935
Deferred tax liabilities, net	—	—	235	—	235
Other noncurrent liabilities	(5)	—	237	—	232
Total liabilities	(3)	247	3,887	—	4,131
Shareholders' (deficit) equity	(142)	(241)	3	238	(142)
Total liabilities and shareholders' (deficit) equity	\$ (145)	\$ 6	\$ 3,890	\$ 238	\$ 3,989

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.
Supplementary Information
Consolidating Balance Sheet (unaudited)
September 30, 2008

	<u>Warner Music Group Corp.</u>	<u>WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)</u>	<u>WMG Acquisition Corp.</u> (in millions)	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated</u>
Assets:					
Current assets:					
Cash and equivalents	\$ 98	\$ —	\$ 313	\$ —	\$ 411
Accounts receivable, net	—	—	538	—	538
Inventories	—	—	57	—	57
Royalty advances expected to be recouped within one year	—	—	174	—	174
Deferred tax assets	—	—	30	—	30
Other current assets	—	—	38	—	38
Total current assets	98	—	1,150	—	1,248
Royalty advances expected to be recouped after one year	—	—	212	—	212
Investments in and advances (from) to consolidated subsidiaries	(185)	43	—	142	—
Investments	—	—	155	—	155
Property, plant and equipment, net	—	—	117	—	117
Goodwill	—	—	1,085	—	1,085
Intangible assets subject to amortization, net	—	—	1,539	—	1,539
Intangible assets not subject to amortization	—	—	100	—	100
Other assets	—	3	67	—	70
Total assets	\$ (87)	\$ 46	\$ 4,425	\$ 142	\$ 4,526
Liabilities and Shareholders' (Deficit) Equity:					
Current liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 219	\$ —	\$ 219
Accrued royalties	—	—	1,189	—	1,189
Taxes and other withholdings	2	—	14	—	16
Current portion of long-term debt	—	—	17	—	17
Deferred income	—	—	117	—	117
Other current liabilities	1	—	312	—	313
Total current liabilities	3	—	1,868	—	1,871
Long-term debt	—	231	2,011	—	2,242
Deferred tax liabilities, net	—	—	237	—	237
Other noncurrent liabilities	(4)	—	266	—	262
Total liabilities	(1)	231	4,382	—	4,612
Shareholders' (deficit) equity	(86)	(185)	43	142	(86)
Total liabilities and shareholders' (deficit) equity	\$ (87)	\$ 46	\$ 4,425	\$ 142	\$ 4,526

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.
**Supplementary Information
Consolidating Statements of Operations (unaudited)**

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2009				
	Warner Music Group Corp.	WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)	WMG Acquisition Corp. (in millions)	Eliminations	Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 769	\$ —	\$ 769
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenues	—	—	(431)	—	(431)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	—	—	(258)	—	(258)
Other income	—	—	—	—	—
Amortization of intangible assets	—	—	(55)	—	(55)
Total costs and expenses	—	—	(744)	—	(744)
Operating income	—	—	25	—	25
Interest expense, net	—	(5)	(56)	—	(61)
Minority interest expense	—	—	(1)	—	(1)
Other (expense) income, net	(37)	(32)	4	69	4
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(37)	(37)	(28)	69	(33)
Income tax expense	—	—	(4)	—	(4)
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(37)	(37)	(32)	69	(37)
Loss from discontinuing operations	—	—	—	—	—
Net (loss) income	<u>\$ (37)</u>	<u>\$ (37)</u>	<u>\$ (32)</u>	<u>\$ 69</u>	<u>\$ (37)</u>

	Three Months Ended June 30, 2008				
	Warner Music Group Corp.	WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)	WMG Acquisition Corp. (in millions)	Eliminations	Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 848	\$ —	\$ 848
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenues	—	—	(441)	—	(441)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	—	—	(300)	—	(300)
Other income	—	—	—	—	—
Amortization of intangible assets	—	—	(56)	—	(56)
Total costs and expenses	—	—	(797)	—	(797)
Operating income	—	—	51	—	51
Interest expense, net	—	(5)	(38)	—	(43)
Minority interest expense	—	—	(2)	—	(2)
Other (expense) income, net	(9)	(4)	(2)	13	(2)
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(9)	(9)	9	13	4
Income tax expense	—	—	(13)	—	(13)
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(9)	(9)	(4)	13	(9)
Loss from discontinuing operations	—	—	—	—	—
Net (loss) income	<u>\$ (9)</u>	<u>\$ (9)</u>	<u>\$ (4)</u>	<u>\$ 13</u>	<u>\$ (9)</u>

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.
**Consolidating Statements of Operations (unaudited)
Supplementary Information**

	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009				
	Warner Music Group Corp.	WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)	WMG Acquisition Corp. (in millions)	Eliminations	Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,315	\$ —	\$ 2,315
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenues	—	—	(1,254)	—	(1,254)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	—	—	(811)	—	(811)
Other income	—	—	—	—	—
Amortization of intangible assets	—	—	(169)	—	(169)
Total costs and expenses	—	—	(2,234)	—	(2,234)
Operating income	—	—	81	—	81
Interest expense, net	—	(16)	(130)	—	(146)
Minority interest income	—	—	6	—	6
Gain on sale of equity investment	—	—	36	—	36
Gain on foreign exchange transaction	—	—	9	—	9
Impairment of cost investments	—	—	(29)	—	(29)
Impairment of equity investment	—	—	(10)	—	(10)
Other (expense) income, net	(82)	(66)	1	148	1
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(82)	(82)	(36)	148	(52)
Income tax expense	—	—	(30)	—	(30)
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(82)	(82)	(66)	148	(82)
Loss from discontinuing operations	—	—	—	—	—
Net (loss) income	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ (66)</u>	<u>\$ 148</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>

[Table of Contents](#)

	Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008				
	Warner Music Group Corp.	WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)	WMG Acquisition Corp. (in millions)	Eliminations	Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated
Revenues	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,637	\$ —	\$ 2,637
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenues	—	—	(1,399)	—	(1,399)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	—	—	(935)	—	(935)
Other income	—	—	3	—	3
Amortization of intangible assets	—	—	(165)	—	(165)
Total costs and expenses	—	—	(2,496)	—	(2,496)
Operating income	—	—	141	—	141
Interest expense, net	—	(15)	(123)	—	(138)
Minority interest expense	—	—	(4)	—	(4)
Gain on sale of equity investment	—	—	—	—	—
Gain on foreign exchange transaction	—	—	—	—	—
Impairment of equity investment	—	—	—	—	—
Other (expense) income, net	(62)	(47)	(4)	109	(4)
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(62)	(62)	10	109	(5)
Income tax expense	—	—	(36)	—	(36)
Net (loss) income from continuing operations	(62)	(62)	(26)	109	(41)
Loss from discontinuing operations	—	—	(21)	—	(21)
Net (loss) income	<u>\$ (62)</u>	<u>\$ (62)</u>	<u>\$ (47)</u>	<u>\$ 109</u>	<u>\$ (62)</u>

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.
**Supplementary Information
Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows (unaudited)
For The Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009**

	<u>Warner Music Group Corp.</u>	<u>WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)</u>	<u>WMG Acquisition Corp.</u> (in millions)	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net (loss) income	\$ (82)	\$ (82)	\$ (66)	\$ 148	\$ (82)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	—	—	—
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(82)	(82)	(66)	148	(82)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation and amortization	—	—	196	—	196
Deferred taxes	—	—	—	—	—
Gain on sale of equity investment	—	—	(36)	—	(36)
Gain on foreign exchange transaction	—	—	(9)	—	(9)
Gain on sale of building	—	—	(3)	—	(3)
Impairment of equity investment	—	—	10	—	10
Impairment of cost-method investments	—	—	29	—	29
Non-cash interest expense	—	16	34	—	50
Non-cash, stock-based compensation expense	—	—	8	—	8
Minority interest income	—	—	(6)	—	(6)
Other non-cash items	82	66	—	(148)	—
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:					
Accounts receivable	—	—	129	—	129
Inventories	—	—	5	—	5
Royalty advances	—	—	(16)	—	(16)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	—	—	(55)	—	(55)
Other balance sheet changes	—	—	(22)	—	(22)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	—	—	198	—	198
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Repayment of loans by third parties	—	—	3	—	3
Investments and acquisitions of businesses	—	—	(14)	—	(14)
Acquisition of publishing rights	—	—	(8)	—	(8)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	—	—	124	—	124
Proceeds from sale of building	—	—	8	—	8
Capital expenditures	—	—	(15)	—	(15)
Net cash provided by investing activities	—	—	98	—	98
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Debt repayments	—	—	(1,379)	—	(1,379)
Proceeds from issuance of Senior Discount Notes	—	—	1,059	—	1,059
Deferred Financing costs paid	—	—	(23)	—	(23)
Net cash used in financing activities	—	—	(343)	—	(343)
Effect of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash	—	—	(19)	—	(19)
Net (decrease) in cash and equivalents	—	—	(66)	—	(66)
Cash and equivalents at beginning of period	98	—	313	—	411
Cash and equivalents at end of period	\$ 98	\$ —	\$ 247	\$ —	\$ 345

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.
**Supplementary Information
Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows (unaudited)
For The Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008**

	<u>Warner Music Group Corp.</u>	<u>WMG Holdings Corp. (issuer)</u>	<u>WMG Acquisition Corp.</u> (in millions)	<u>Eliminations</u>	<u>Warner Music Group Corp. Consolidated</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net (loss) income	\$ (62)	\$ (62)	\$ (47)	\$ 109	\$ (62)
Loss from discontinued operations	—	—	21	—	21
(Loss) income from continuing operations	(62)	(62)	(26)	109	(41)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:					
Depreciation and amortization	—	—	200	—	200
Deferred taxes	—	—	(5)	—	(5)
Gain on sale of equity investment	—	—	—	—	—
Gain on sale of foreign exchange transaction	—	—	—	—	—
Impairment of equity investment	—	—	—	—	—
Non-cash interest expense	—	15	20	—	35
Non-cash stock compensation expense	—	—	7	—	7
Minority interest expense	—	—	4	—	4
Other non-cash items	62	47	(1)	(109)	(1)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:					
Accounts receivable	—	—	93	—	93
Inventories	—	—	4	—	4
Royalty advances	—	—	(29)	—	(29)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	—	—	(59)	—	(59)
Other balance sheet changes	(9)	—	(14)	—	(23)
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(9)	—	194	—	185
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Loans to third parties	—	—	(3)	—	(3)
Investments and acquisitions of businesses	—	—	(122)	—	(122)
Acquisition of publishing rights	—	—	(21)	—	(21)
Proceeds from the sale of investments	—	—	24	—	24
Capital expenditures	—	—	(26)	—	(26)
Net cash used in investing activities	—	—	(148)	—	(148)
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Debt repayments	—	—	(13)	—	(13)
(Decrease) increase in intercompany	7	—	(7)	—	—
Dividends paid	(42)	(68)	(68)	136	(42)
Return of capital received	68	68	—	(136)	—
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	33	—	(88)	—	(55)
Effect of foreign currency exchange rate changes on cash	—	—	23	—	23
Net increase (decrease) in cash and equivalents	24	—	(19)	—	5
Cash and equivalents at beginning of period	74	—	259	—	333
Cash and equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 98</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 240</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 338</u>

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

You should read the following discussion of our results of operations and financial condition with the unaudited interim financial statements included elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2009 (the "Quarterly Report"). This discussion contains forward-looking statements and involves numerous risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements.

We maintain an Internet site at www.wmg.com. We use our website as a channel of distribution for material company information. Financial and other material information regarding Warner Music Group is routinely posted on and accessible at <http://investors.wmg.com>. In addition, you may automatically receive email alerts and other information about Warner Music Group by enrolling your email by visiting the "email alerts" section at <http://investors.wmg.com>. We make available on our website free of charge our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K as soon as practicable after we electronically file such reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). Our website and the information posted on it or connected to it shall not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into this communication.

This Quarterly Report includes "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this Quarterly Report, including, without limitation, statements regarding our future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected costs, cost savings, industry trends and plans and objectives of management for future operations, are forward-looking statements. In addition, forward-looking statements generally can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "expect," "intend," "estimate," "anticipate," "believe" or "continue" or the negative thereof or variations thereon or similar terminology. Such statements include, among others, statements regarding our ability to develop talent and attract future talent, our ability to reduce future capital expenditures, our ability to monetize our music content, including through new distribution channels and formats to capitalize on the growth areas of the music industry, our ability to effectively deploy our capital, the development of digital music and the effect of digital distribution channels on our business, including whether we will be able to achieve higher margins from digital sales, the success of strategic actions we are taking to accelerate our transformation as we redefine our role in the music industry, our success in limiting piracy, our ability to compete in the highly competitive markets in which we operate, the growth of the music industry and the effect of our and the music industry's efforts to combat piracy on the industry, our intention to pay quarterly dividends, our ability to fund our future capital needs and the effect of litigation on us. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are reasonable, we can give no assurance that such expectations will prove to have been correct.

There are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements contained in this Quarterly Report. Additionally, important factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this Quarterly Report. As stated elsewhere in this Quarterly Report, such risks, uncertainties and other important factors include, among others:

- the impact of our substantial leverage on our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, on our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and on our ability to meet our obligations under our indebtedness;
- the continued decline in the global recorded music industry and the rate of overall decline in the recorded music industry;
- current uncertainty in global economic conditions could adversely affect our prospects and our results of operations;
- our ability to continue to identify, sign and retain desirable talent at manageable costs;
- the threat posed to our business by piracy of music by means of home CD-R activity, peer-to-peer file-sharing and sideloading of unauthorized content;
- the significant threat posed to our business and the music industry by organized industrial piracy;
- the popular demand for particular recording artists and/or songwriters and albums and the timely completion of albums by major recording artists and/or songwriters;
- the diversity and quality of our portfolio of songwriters;
- the diversity and quality of our album releases;
- significant fluctuations in our results of operations and cash flows due to the nature of our business;
- our involvement in intellectual property litigation;
- the possible downward pressure on our pricing and profit margins;
- the seasonal and cyclical nature of recorded music sales;
- our ability to continue to enforce our intellectual property rights in digital environments;
- the ability to develop successful business models applicable to a digital environment and to enter into expanded-rights agreements with recording artists in order to broaden our revenue streams in growing segments of the music business;
- the impact of heightened and intensive competition in the recorded music and music publishing businesses and our inability to execute our business strategy;
- risks associated with our non-U.S. operations, including limited legal protections of our intellectual property rights and restrictions on the repatriation of capital;
- the impact of legitimate digital music distribution or the introduction of other new music distribution formats;

[Table of Contents](#)

- the reliance on a limited number of online music stores and their ability to significantly influence the pricing structure for online music stores;
- the impact of rate regulations on our Recorded Music and Music Publishing businesses;
- the impact of rates on other income streams that may be set by arbitration proceedings on our business;
- the impact an impairment in the carrying value of goodwill or other intangible and long-lived assets could have on our operating results and shareholders' equity;
- risks associated with the fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates;
- our ability and the ability of our joint venture partners to operate our existing joint ventures satisfactorily;
- the enactment of legislation limiting the terms by which an individual can be bound under a "personal services" contract;
- potential loss of catalog if it is determined that recording artists have a right to recapture recordings under the U.S. Copyright Act;
- changes in law and government regulations;
- trends that affect the end uses of our musical compositions (which include uses in broadcast radio and television, film and advertising businesses);
- the growth of other products that compete for the disposable income of consumers;
- risks inherent in relying on one supplier for manufacturing, packaging and distribution services in North America and Europe;
- risks inherent in our acquiring or investing in other businesses including our ability to successfully manage new businesses that we may acquire as we diversify revenue streams within the music industry;
- the fact that we have engaged in substantial restructuring activities in the past, and may need to implement further restructurings in the future and our restructuring efforts may not be successful;
- the fact that we are outsourcing certain back office functions, such as IT infrastructure and development, which will make us more dependent upon third parties;
- the possibility that our owners' interests will conflict with ours or yours;
- failure to attract and retain key personnel; and
- the effects associated with the formation of Live Nation Entertainment.

There may be other factors not presently known to us or which we currently consider to be immaterial that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf apply only as of the date of this Quarterly Report and are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements included in this Quarterly Report. We disclaim any duty to publicly update or revise forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

INTRODUCTION

Warner Music Group Corp. was formed by the Investor Group on November 21, 2003. The Company is the direct parent of Holdings, which is the direct parent of Acquisition Corp. Acquisition Corp. is one of the world's major music companies and the successor to substantially all of the interests of the recorded music and music publishing businesses of Time Warner. Effective March 1, 2004, Acquisition Corp. acquired such interests from Time Warner for approximately \$2.6 billion. The original Investor Group included THL, Bain, Providence and Music Capital. Music Capital's partnership agreement required that the Music Capital partnership dissolve and commence winding up by the second anniversary of the Company's May 2005 initial public offering. As a result, on May 7, 2008, Music Capital made a pro rata distribution of all shares of common stock of the Company held by it to its partners. The shares held by Music Capital had been subject to a stockholders agreement among Music Capital, THL, Bain and Providence and certain other parties. As a result of the distribution, the shares distributed by Music Capital ceased to be subject to the voting and other provisions of the stockholders agreement and Music Capital was no longer part of the Investor Group subject to the stockholders agreement.

The Company and Holdings are holding companies that conduct substantially all of their business operations through their subsidiaries. The terms "we," "us," "our," "ours," and the "Company" refer collectively to Warner Music Group Corp. and its consolidated subsidiaries, except where otherwise indicated.

Management's discussion and analysis of results of operations and financial condition ("MD&A") is provided as a supplement to the unaudited financial statements and footnotes included elsewhere herein to help provide an understanding of our financial condition, changes in financial condition and results of our operations. MD&A is organized as follows:

- *Overview.* This section provides a general description of our business, as well as recent developments that we believe are important in understanding our results of operations and financial condition and in anticipating future trends.
- *Results of operations.* This section provides an analysis of our results of operations for the three and nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008. This analysis is presented on both a consolidated and segment basis.
- *Financial condition and liquidity.* This section provides an analysis of our cash flows for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, as well as a discussion of our financial condition and liquidity as of June 30, 2009. The discussion of our financial condition and liquidity includes a summary of our key debt compliance measures under our debt agreements.

Use of OIBDA

We evaluate our operating performance based on several factors, including our primary financial measure of operating income (loss) before non-cash depreciation of tangible assets, non-cash amortization of intangible assets and non-cash impairment charges to reduce the carrying value of goodwill and intangible assets (which we refer to as "OIBDA"). We consider OIBDA to be an important indicator of the operational strengths and performance of our businesses, including the ability to provide cash flows to service debt. However, a limitation of the use of OIBDA as a performance measure is that it does not reflect the periodic costs of certain capitalized tangible and intangible assets used in generating revenues in our businesses. Accordingly, OIBDA should be considered in addition to, not as a substitute for, operating income, net income (loss) and other measures of financial performance reported in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). In addition, our definition of OIBDA may differ from similarly titled measures used by other companies. A reconciliation of consolidated historical OIBDA to operating income and net income (loss) is provided in our "Results of Operations."

Use of Constant Currency

As exchange rates are an important factor in understanding period to period comparisons, we believe the presentation of results on a constant-currency basis in addition to reported results helps improve the ability to understand our operating results and evaluate our performance in comparison to prior periods. Constant-currency information compares results between periods as if exchange rates had remained constant period-over-period. We use results on a constant-currency basis as one measure to evaluate our performance. We calculate constant-currency by calculating prior-year results using current year foreign currency exchange rates. We generally refer to such amounts calculated on a constant-currency basis as "excluding the impact of foreign currency exchange rates." These results should be considered in addition to, not as a substitute for, results reported in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Results on a constant-currency basis, as we present them, may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies and are not a measure of performance presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

OVERVIEW

We are one of the world's major music content companies. We classify our business interests into two fundamental operations: Recorded Music and Music Publishing. A brief description of each of those operations is presented below.

Recorded Music Operations

Our Recorded Music business primarily consists of the discovery and development of artists and the related marketing, distribution and licensing of recorded music produced by such artists. In addition to the more traditional methods of discovering and developing artists, following the Acquisition we established ILG to discover artists earlier in the process and at a lower cost by leveraging our independent distribution network.

We are also diversifying our revenues beyond our traditional businesses by entering into expanded-rights agreements with recording artists in order to partner with artists in other areas of their careers. Under these agreements, we provide services to and participates in artists' activities outside the traditional recorded music business. We are building artist services capabilities and platforms for exploiting a broader set of music-related rights to participate across the artist brands it helps create. In developing our artist services business, we have both built and expanded in-house capabilities and expertise and have acquired a number of existing artist services companies involved in artist management, merchandising, strategic marketing and brand management, ticketing, concert promotion, fan clubs, original programming and video entertainment, including operations in the U.S., U.K., Japan, Germany, Italy, France, Spain, China and Finland. We believe that entering into expanded-rights agreements and enhancing our artist services capabilities will permit us to diversify revenue streams to better capitalize on the growth areas of the music industry and permit us to build stronger, long-term relationships with artists and more effectively connect artists and fans.

In the U.S., our Recorded Music operations are conducted principally through our major record labels—Warner Bros. Records and The Atlantic Records Group. Our Recorded Music operations also include Rhino, a division that specializes in marketing our music catalog through compilations and reissues of previously released music and video titles, as well as in the licensing of recordings to and from third parties for various uses, including film and television soundtracks. Rhino has also become our primary licensing division focused on acquiring broader licensing rights from certain catalog artists. For example, we have an exclusive license with The Grateful Dead to manage the band's intellectual property and in November 2007 acquired a 50% interest in Frank Sinatra Enterprises, an entity that administers licenses for use of Frank Sinatra's name and likeness and manages all aspects of his music, film and stage content. The Company also conducts its Recorded Music operations through a collection of additional record labels, including, among others, Asylum, Bad Boy, Cordless, East West, Elektra, Nonesuch, Reprise, Roadrunner, Rykodisc, Sire and Word.

Outside the U.S., our Recorded Music activities are conducted in more than 50 countries primarily through WMI and its various subsidiaries, affiliates and non-affiliated licensees. WMI engages in the same activities as our U.S. labels: discovering and signing artists and distributing, marketing and selling their recorded music. In most cases, WMI also markets and distributes the records of those artists for whom our domestic record labels have international rights. In certain smaller countries, WMI licenses to unaffiliated third-party record labels the right to distribute its records. Recorded Music activities in Canada, the U.K. and Latin America are conducted through Warner Music's Americas and the U.K. operations. The Company's international artist services operations also include a network of concert promoters through which WMI provides resources to coordinate tours.

Our Recorded Music distribution operations include WEA Corp, which markets and sells music and DVD products to retailers and wholesale distributors in the U.S.; ADA, which distributes the products of independent labels to retail and wholesale distributors in the U.S.; various distribution centers and ventures operated internationally; an 80% interest in Word Entertainment, which specializes in the distribution of music products in the Christian retail marketplace and ADA Global, which provides distribution services outside of the U.S. through a network of affiliated and non-affiliated distributors. In April 2009, the operations of Ryko Distribution were merged with ADA. The Company acquired Ryko Distribution in 2006 as part of its acquisition of other Ryko assets including the Rykodisc label.

The Company plays an integral role in virtually all aspects of the music value chain from discovering and developing talent to producing albums and promoting artists and their products. After an artist has entered into a contract with one of the Company's record labels, a master recording of the artist's music is created. The recording is then replicated for sale to consumers primarily in the CD and digital formats. In the U.S., WEA Corp., ADA and Word market, sell and deliver product, either directly or through sub-distributors and wholesalers, to record stores, mass merchants and other retailers. The Company's recorded music products are also sold in physical form to online physical retailers such as Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com and bestbuy.com and in digital form to online digital retailers like Apple's iTunes and mobile full-track download stores such as those operated by Verizon or Sprint. In the case of expanded-rights deals where we acquire broader rights in a recording artist's career, we may provide more comprehensive career support and actively develop new opportunities for an artist through touring, fan clubs, merchandising and

[Table of Contents](#)

sponsorships, among other areas. We believe expanded-rights deals create a better partnership with our artists which allows the Company to work together more closely with them to create and sustain artistic and commercial success.

The Company has integrated the sale of digital content into all aspects of its Recorded Music and Music Publishing businesses including A&R, marketing, promotion and distribution. The Company's new media executives work closely with A&R departments to make sure that while a record is being made, digital assets are also created with all of our distribution channels in mind, including subscription services, social networking sites, online portals and music-centered destinations. The Company also works side by side with its mobile and online partners to test new concepts. The Company believes existing and new digital businesses will be a significant source of growth for the next several years and will provide new opportunities to monetize its assets and create new revenue streams. As a music-based content company, the Company has assets that go beyond its recorded music and music publishing catalogs, such as its music video library, which it has begun to monetize through digital channels. The proportion of digital revenues attributed to each distribution channel varies by region and since digital music is in the relatively early stages of growth, proportions may change as the roll out of new technologies continues. As an owner of musical content, the Company believes it is well positioned to take advantage of growth in digital distribution and emerging technologies to maximize the value of its assets.

Recorded Music revenues are derived from three main sources:

- *Physical and other*: the rightsholder receives revenues with respect to sales of physical products such as CDs and DVDs. We are also diversifying our revenues beyond sales of physical products and receive other revenues from our artist services business and our participation in expanded rights associated with our artists and other artists, including sponsorship, fan club, websites, merchandising, touring, ticketing and artist and brand management;
- *Digital*: the rightsholder receives revenues with respect to online and mobile downloads, mobile ringtones and online and mobile streaming; and
- *Licensing*: the rightsholder receives royalties or fees for the right to use the sound recording in combination with visual images such as in films or television programs, television commercials and videogames.

The principal costs associated with our Recorded Music operations are as follows:

- *Royalty costs and artist and repertoire costs*—the costs associated with (i) paying royalties to artists, producers, songwriters, other copyright holders and trade unions, (ii) signing and developing artists, (iii) creating master recordings in the studio and (iv) creating artwork for album covers and liner notes;
- *Product costs*—the costs to manufacture, package and distribute product to wholesale and retail distribution outlets as well as those principal costs related to expanded rights;
- *Selling and marketing costs*—the costs associated with the promotion and marketing of artists and recorded music products, including costs to produce music videos for promotional purposes and artist tour support; and
- *General and administrative costs*—the costs associated with general overhead and other administrative costs.

Music Publishing Operations

Where recorded music is focused on exploiting a particular recording of a song, music publishing is an intellectual property business focused on the exploitation of the song itself. In return for promoting, placing, marketing and administering the creative output of a songwriter, or engaging in those activities for other rights holders, our Music Publishing business garners a share of the revenues generated from use of the song.

Our Music Publishing operations include Warner/Chappell, our global Music Publishing company headquartered in New York with operations in over 50 countries through various subsidiaries, affiliates and non-affiliated licensees. We own or control rights to more than one million musical compositions, including numerous pop hits, American standards, folk songs and motion picture and theatrical compositions. Assembled over decades, our award-winning catalog includes over 65,000 songwriters and composers and a diverse range of genres including pop, rock, jazz, country, R&B, hip-hop, rap, reggae, Latin, folk, blues, symphonic, soul, Broadway, techno, alternative, gospel and other Christian music. Warner/Chappell also administers the music and soundtracks of several third-party television and film producers and studios, including Lucasfilm, Ltd., Hallmark Entertainment, Disney Music Publishing and HBO. In 2007, we entered the production music library business with the acquisition of Non-Stop Music. Production music is a complementary alternative to licensing standards and contemporary hits for television, film and advertising producers.

[Table of Contents](#)

Publishing revenues are derived from five main sources:

- *Mechanical*: the licensor receives royalties with respect to compositions embodied in recordings sold in any physical format or configuration (e.g., CDs and DVDs);
- *Performance*: the licensor receives royalties if the composition is performed publicly through broadcast of music on television, radio, cable and satellite, live performance at a concert or other venue (e.g., arena concerts, nightclubs), online and wireless streaming and performance of music in staged theatrical productions;
- *Synchronization*: the licensor receives royalties or fees for the right to use the composition in combination with visual images such as in films or television programs, television commercials and videogames as well as from other uses such as in toys or novelty items and merchandise;
- *Digital*: the licensor receives royalties or fees with respect to online and mobile downloads, mobile ringtones and online and mobile streaming; and
- *Other*: the licensor receives royalties for other uses such as in sheet music.

The principal costs associated with our Music Publishing operations are as follows:

- *Artist and repertoire costs*—the costs associated with (i) signing and developing songwriters and (ii) paying royalties to songwriters, co-publishers and other copyright holders in connection with income generated from the exploitation of their copyrighted works; and
- *General and administrative costs*—the costs associated with general overhead and other administrative costs.

Factors Affecting Results of Operations and Financial Condition

Market Factors

Since 1999, the recorded music industry has been in transition and the worldwide market has contracted considerably, which has adversely affected our operating results. The industry-wide decline can be attributed to digital piracy, the bankruptcies of record retailers and wholesalers, growing competition for consumer discretionary spending and retail shelf space and the maturation of the CD format, which has slowed the historical growth pattern of recorded music sales. While CD sales still generate most of the recorded music revenues, CD sales continue to decline industry-wide and we expect that trend to continue. While new formats for selling recorded music product have been created, including the legal downloading of digital music online and the distribution of music on mobile devices, significant revenue streams from these new formats are just beginning to emerge and have not yet reached a level where they offset the declines in CD sales. The recorded music industry performance may continue to negatively impact our operating results. In addition, a declining recorded music industry could continue to have an adverse impact on the music publishing business. This is because our Music Publishing business generates a portion of its revenues from mechanical royalties received from the sale of music in physical recorded music formats such as the CD.

Current ongoing uncertainty in global economic conditions poses a risk to the overall economy, which has negatively affected demand for our products and other related matters. The current uncertainty in global economic conditions makes it particularly difficult to predict future product demand and other related matters and makes it more likely that our actual results could differ materially from our expectations. Even in the midst of the global economic slowdown, we remain committed to executing on our strategic initiatives and plan to continue our transformation to adapt to the changing music industry in order to maximize cash flow and profitability. Given this economic slowdown, we continue to be conservative and focus on increasing cash and liquidity. We will monitor current events closely and take advantage of our flexible cost structure to minimize any impact.

Settlements

In September 2006, the major record companies reached a global out-of-court settlement of copyright litigation against the operators of the KaZaA peer-to-peer network. Under the terms of the settlement, the KaZaA defendants agreed to pay compensation to the record companies that brought the action, including us. We recorded approximately \$13 million of other income related to this settlement in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2006. These amounts were recorded net of the estimated amounts payable to our artists in respect of royalties. The cash related to this settlement was received in the first quarter of fiscal 2008. We recorded approximately \$3 million of other income in conjunction with a contingent payment received related to this settlement in fiscal year 2008.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS
Three Months Ended June 30, 2009 Compared with Three Months Ended June 30, 2008
Consolidated Historical Results
Revenues

Our revenues were composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue by Type				
Physical and other	\$ 416	\$ 469	\$ (53)	-11%
Digital	163	156	7	4%
Licensing	50	61	(11)	-18%
Total Recorded Music	629	686	(57)	-8%
Mechanical	43	59	(16)	-27%
Performance	58	69	(11)	-16%
Synchronization	29	25	4	16%
Digital	16	10	6	60%
Other	1	5	(4)	-80%
Total Music Publishing	147	168	(21)	-13%
Intersegment elimination	(7)	(6)	(1)	17%
Total Revenues	\$ 769	\$ 848	\$ (79)	-9%
Revenue by Geographical Location				
U.S. Recorded Music	\$ 284	\$ 319	\$ (35)	-11%
U.S. Publishing	54	58	(4)	-7%
Total U.S.	338	377	(39)	-10%
International Recorded Music	345	367	(22)	-6%
International Publishing	93	110	(17)	-15%
Total International	438	477	(39)	-8%
Intersegment eliminations	(7)	(6)	(1)	17%
Total Revenues	\$ 769	\$ 848	\$ (79)	-9%

Total Revenues

Total revenues decreased by \$79 million, or 9%, to \$769 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$848 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Recorded Music and Music Publishing revenues represented 81% and 19% of total revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2009, respectively, compared to 80% and 20% for the three months ended June 30, 2008, respectively, prior to intersegment eliminations. U.S. and international revenues represented 44% and 56% of total revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total revenues decreased \$16 million, or 2%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

Total digital revenues increased by \$9 million, or 5%, to \$175 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$166 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Total digital revenues represented 23% and 20% of consolidated revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Total digital revenues prior to intersegment elimination for the three months ended June 30, 2009 were comprised of U.S. revenues of \$116 million, or 66% of total digital revenues, and international revenues of \$63 million, or 36% of total digital revenues. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total digital revenues increased by \$17 million, or 11%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

Recorded Music revenues decreased by \$57 million, or 8%, to \$629 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$686 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in Recorded Music revenues primarily reflected our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, general economic pressures and the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry. Licensing revenue decrease of \$11 million was primarily a result of general economic pressures which led to reduced advertising spending. Additionally, the weak global economy and retail environment, particularly in Japan and to a lesser extent Latin America, continued to have an impact on our results. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in concert promotion revenues primarily related to our European concert promotion business and an increase in digital revenues

[Table of Contents](#)

of \$7 million. Digital revenue continued to increase as the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry continues, but the rate of growth in the current-year quarter was negatively impacted by the timing of our release schedule, the timing and success of new product introductions and continued worldwide economic pressures. As digital revenues become a greater percentage of overall revenues, fluctuations in digital revenues between periods is becoming increasingly driven by the timing of releases. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Recorded Music revenues decreased \$10 million, or 2%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

Music Publishing revenues decreased by \$21 million, or 13%, to \$147 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$168 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease was due primarily to declines in mechanical and performance revenues, which reflected recessionary pressures and the effects of the industry-wide decrease in physical sales. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Music Publishing revenues decreased \$7 million, or 5%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

Revenue by Geographical Location

U.S. revenues decreased by \$39 million, or 10%, to \$338 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$377 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008 primarily due to a decrease of \$28 million in physical and other revenues. The overall decline in the U.S. Recorded Music business was the result of our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release, general economic pressures and the transition from physical sales to digital sales.

International revenues decreased by \$39 million, or 8%, to \$438 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$477 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008 due in part to decreases of \$25 million in physical and other revenues and \$7 million in mechanical revenues which were driven by continued contracting demand for physical product by retailers. In addition, the prior-year quarter reflected a strong release schedule in Japan. Offsetting these decreases were \$4 million from increased digital revenues and increased revenues from the company's European concert promotion business.

Cost of revenues

Our cost of revenues is composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Artist and repertoire costs	\$ 265	\$ 298	\$ (33)	-11%
Product costs	149	132	17	13%
Licensing costs	17	11	6	55%
Total cost of revenues	\$ 431	\$ 441	\$ (10)	-2%

Our cost of revenues decreased by \$10 million, or 2%, to \$431 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$441 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, cost of revenues were 56% and 52% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Artist and repertoire costs as a percentage of revenues slightly decreased to 34% for the three months ended June 30, 2009, from 35% for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in artist and repertoire costs was driven by decreased revenues for the current-year quarter as a result of our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, which in turn, resulted in decreased artist and repertoire spending. The decrease as a percentage of revenues reflected the continuing change in mix from the sale of physical products to new forms of digital revenues, partially offset by higher royalty expense related to certain artist profit-sharing agreements.

Product costs increased as a percentage of revenues from 16% in the prior-year quarter to 19% in the current-year quarter. This increase was driven primarily by international production costs associated with our European concert promotions business. This increase was partially offset by a decrease in product costs due primarily to change in mix from the sale of physical products to new forms of digital music.

Licensing costs increased \$6 million, or 55%, to \$17 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$11 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008, and licensing costs represented 34% and 18% of licensing revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The increase was driven primarily by changes in revenue mix.

Table of Contents

Selling, general and administrative expenses

Our selling, general and administrative expenses are composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
General and administrative expense (1)	\$ 128	\$ 145	\$ (17)	-12%
Selling and marketing expense	114	136	(22)	-16%
Distribution expense	16	19	(3)	-16%
Total selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 258	\$ 300	\$ (42)	-14%

(1) Includes depreciation expense of \$10 million and \$9 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009, and 2008, respectively.

Total selling, general and administrative expense decreased by \$42 million, or 14%, to \$258 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$300 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses decreased from 35% in the prior-year quarter to 34% in the current-year quarter.

General and administrative expenses remained flat at 17% as a percentage of revenues for the current-year quarter and prior-year quarter. The dollar decrease in general and administrative expense was primarily the result of our continued cost-management efforts, resulting in decreased IT and consulting costs, and lower compensation expense.

Selling and marketing expense decreased by \$22 million, or 16%, to \$114 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$136 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. This decrease was primarily the result of our efforts to better align selling and marketing expenses with revenues earned. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, selling and marketing expense decreased to 15% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from 16% for the three months ended June 30, 2008.

Distribution expense decreased by \$3 million, or 16%, to \$16 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$19 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. This decrease was primarily the result of decreased sales of physical products.

Reconciliation of Consolidated Historical OIBDA to Operating Income from Continuing Operations and Net Loss

As previously described, we use OIBDA as our primary measure of financial performance. The following table reconciles OIBDA to operating income, and further provides the components from operating income to net loss for purposes of the discussion that follows (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
OIBDA	\$ 90	\$ 116	\$ (26)	-22%
Depreciation expense	(10)	(9)	(1)	11%
Amortization expense	(55)	(56)	1	-2%
Operating income from continuing operations	25	51	(26)	-51%
Interest expense, net	(61)	(43)	(18)	42%
Other income (expense), net	3	(4)	7	—
(Loss) income from continuing operations before income taxes	(33)	4	(37)	—
Income tax expense	(4)	(13)	9	69%
Loss from continuing operations	(37)	(9)	(28)	—
Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes	—	—	—	—
Net loss	\$ (37)	\$ (9)	\$ (28)	—

OIBDA

Our OIBDA decreased by \$26 million to \$90 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$116 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, total OIBDA margin was 12% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to 14% for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The decline in OIBDA is primarily a result of a decline in revenues. Our decreased OIBDA margin was primarily the result of declines in Japan related to the recession and the timing of releases in that territory, partially offset by the effect of the company-wide cost-management efforts.

See "Business Segment Results" presented hereinafter for a discussion of OIBDA by business segment.

[Table of Contents](#)

Depreciation expense

Our depreciation expense increased by \$1 million, or 11%, to \$10 million for three months ended June 30, 2009.

Amortization expense

Amortization expense decreased by \$1 million, or 2%, to \$55 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

Operating income from continuing operations

Our operating income from continuing operations decreased \$26 million, or 51%, to \$25 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$51 million for the prior-year quarter. The decrease in operating income was due to the decline in OIBDA noted above.

Interest expense, net

Our interest expense, net, increased \$18 million, or 42%, to \$61 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$43 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The increase was due to the write-off of \$18 million of previously unamortized deferred financing fees related to the senior secured credit facility, which we repaid in full in the current-year quarter.

See “—Financial Condition and Liquidity” for more information.

Other income (expense), net

The three months ended June 30, 2009 included the gain on the sale of a building. The three months ended June 30, 2008 reflected currency exchange movements associated with inter-company receivables and payables that were short term in nature and realized gains and losses on certain foreign currency hedging activities.

Income tax expense

We provided income tax expense of \$4 million and \$13 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decrease in the income tax expense primarily related to a decrease in income earned by our foreign affiliates compared to the prior-year quarter.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2009, we settled our federal income tax audit with the IRS for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 through September 30, 2006. The IRS has now commenced its audit of the fiscal years ended September 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007. Various tax years are currently under examination by state and local and foreign tax authorities. With respect to open examinations, we do not expect the total reserve for uncertain tax positions to change significantly in the next twelve months.

Loss from continuing operations

Our loss from continuing operations increased by \$28 million, to \$37 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$9 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The increase was the result of a decrease in OIBDA and an increase in interest expense due to the write-off of deferred financing fees as noted above, partially offset by a decrease in income tax expense.

Business Segment Results

Revenues, OIBDA and operating income (loss) by business segment are as follows (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Recorded Music				
Revenues	\$ 629	\$ 686	\$ (57)	-8%
OIBDA	86	110	(24)	-22%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 40	\$ 66	\$ (26)	-39%
Music Publishing				
Revenues	\$ 147	\$ 168	\$ (21)	-13%
OIBDA	27	33	(6)	-18%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 10	\$ 15	\$ (5)	-33%
Corporate expenses and eliminations				
Revenues	\$ (7)	\$ (6)	\$ (1)	17%
OIBDA	(23)	(27)	4	-15%
Operating loss from continuing operations	\$ (25)	\$ (30)	\$ 5	-17%
Total				
Revenues	\$ 769	\$ 848	\$ (79)	-9%
OIBDA	90	116	(26)	-22%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 25	\$ 51	\$ (26)	-51%

[Table of Contents](#)

Recorded Music

Revenues

Recorded Music revenues decreased by \$57 million, or 8%, to \$629 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$686 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in Recorded Music revenues primarily reflected our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, general economic pressures and the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry. Licensing revenue decrease of \$11 million was primarily a result of general economic pressures which led to reduced advertising spending. Additionally, the weak global economy and retail environment, particularly in Japan and to a lesser extent Latin America, continued to have an impact on our results. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in concert promotion revenues, primarily related to our European concert promotion business and an increase in digital revenues of \$7 million. Digital revenue continued to increase as the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry continues but the rate of growth in the current-year quarter was negatively impacted by the timing of our release schedule, the timing and success of new product introductions and continued worldwide economic pressures. As digital revenues become a greater percentage of overall revenues, fluctuations in digital revenues between periods is becoming increasingly driven by the timing of releases. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Recorded Music revenues decreased \$10 million, or 2%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

OIBDA and Operating Income from Continuing Operations

Recorded Music OIBDA was \$86 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$110 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Recorded Music operating income from continuing operations included the following (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
OIBDA	\$ 86	\$ 110	\$ (24)	-22%
Depreciation and amortization	(46)	(44)	(2)	5%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 40	\$ 66	\$ (26)	-39%

Recorded Music OIBDA decreased by \$24 million, or 22%, to \$86 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 compared to \$110 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of Recorded Music revenues, Recorded Music OIBDA was 14% and 16% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decline in OIBDA margin was primarily the result of declines in Japan related to the recession and the timing of releases in that territory, partially offset by the effect of continued company-wide cost-management efforts.

Recorded Music operating income from continuing operations decreased by \$26 million primarily due to the decreases in Recorded Music OIBDA described above.

[Table of Contents](#)

Recorded Music cost of revenues is composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Artist and repertoire costs	\$ 166	\$ 185	\$ (19)	-10%
Product costs	149	132	17	13%
Licensing costs	17	10	7	70%
Total cost of revenues	\$ 332	\$ 327	\$ 5	2%

Cost of revenues

Our Recorded Music cost of revenues increased by \$5 million, or 2%, to \$332 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$327 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, cost of revenues were 53% and 48% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The increase was driven by international production costs associated with our concert promotions business. The increase was partially offset by decreased artist and repertoire spending, which was a result of our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule and continuing change in mix from the sales of physical products to new forms of digital revenues.

Recorded Music selling, general and administrative expenses are composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
General and administrative expense (1)	\$ 89	\$ 103	\$ (14)	-14%
Selling and marketing expense	112	133	(21)	-16%
Distribution expense	16	18	(2)	-11%
Total selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 217	\$ 254	\$ (37)	-15%

(1) Includes depreciation expense of \$6 million and \$5 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Selling, general and administrative expense

Recorded Music selling, general and administrative expense decreased \$37 million, or 15%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009. This decrease was primarily the result of our efforts to better align selling and marketing expenses with revenues earned, the timing of our releases, the effect of continued cost-management efforts, lower compensation expense and decreased distribution expense commensurate with the reduction of physical product sales. Expressed as a percentage of Recorded Music revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses were 34% and 37% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Music Publishing

Revenues

Music Publishing revenues decreased by \$21 million, or 13%, to \$147 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 compared to \$168 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Prior to intersegment eliminations, Music Publishing revenues represented 19% and 20% of consolidated revenues, for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. International Music Publishing revenues were \$93 million and \$110 million, or 63% and 65% of consolidated Music Publishing revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decrease was primarily due to declines in mechanical revenues of \$16 million and performance revenues of \$11 million, which reflected recessionary pressures and the effects of the industry-wide decrease in physical sales. These decreases were partially offset by increased digital and synchronization revenues. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Music Publishing revenues decreased \$7 million, or 5%, for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

[Table of Contents](#)

OIBDA and Operating Income from Continuing Operations

Music Publishing operating income from continuing operations decreased to \$10 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$15 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008. Music Publishing operating income from continuing operations includes the following (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
OIBDA	\$ 27	\$ 33	\$ (6)	-18%
Depreciation and amortization	(17)	(18)	1	-6%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 10	\$ 15	\$ (5)	-33%

Music Publishing OIBDA declined to \$27 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 from \$33 million for the three months ended June 30, 2008, respectively. Expressed as a percentage of Music Publishing revenues, Music Publishing OIBDA was 18% and 20% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decline in margin was due primarily to recessionary pressures and the timing of royalty payments.

Music Publishing cost of revenues is composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Artist and repertoire costs	\$ 107	\$ 121	\$ (14)	-12%
Total cost of revenues	\$ 107	\$ 121	\$ (14)	-12%

Cost of revenues

Music Publishing cost of revenues decreased by \$14 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009. Expressed as a percentage of Music Publishing revenues, cost of revenues were 73% and 72% for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decrease was primarily due to the decline in revenues.

Music Publishing selling, general and administrative expenses are comprised of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Three Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
General and administrative expense (1)	\$ 14	\$ 15	\$ (1)	-7%
Total selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 14	\$ 15	\$ (1)	-7%

(1) Includes depreciation expense of \$1 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Selling, general and administrative expense

Music Publishing selling, general and administrative expense decreased by \$1 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009.

Corporate Expenses and Eliminations

Corporate expenses and eliminations decreased by \$4 million for the three months ended June 30, 2009 primarily as a result of lower compensation expense.

[Table of Contents](#)

Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009 Compared with Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008

Consolidated Historical Results

Revenues

Our revenues were composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Revenue by Type				
Physical and Other	\$ 1,262	\$ 1,576	\$ (314)	-20%
Digital	485	443	42	9%
Licensing	168	169	(1)	-1%
Total Recorded Music	1,915	2,188	(273)	-12%
Mechanical	130	177	(47)	-27%
Performance	166	180	(14)	-8%
Synchronization	76	71	5	7%
Digital	38	28	10	36%
Other	6	11	(5)	-45%
Total Music Publishing	416	467	(51)	-11%
Intersegment elimination	(16)	(18)	2	-11%
Total Revenues	\$ 2,315	\$ 2,637	\$ (322)	-12%
Revenue by Geographical Location				
U.S. Recorded Music	\$ 867	\$ 1,016	\$ (149)	-15%
U.S. Publishing	159	169	(10)	-6%
Total U.S.	1,026	1,185	(159)	-13%
International Recorded Music	1,048	1,172	(124)	-11%
International Publishing	257	298	(41)	-14%
Total International	1,305	1,470	(165)	-11%
Intersegment eliminations	(16)	(18)	2	-11%
Total Revenues	\$ 2,315	\$ 2,637	\$ (322)	-12%

Total Revenues

Total revenues decreased by \$322 million, or 12%, to \$2,315 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$2,637 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Recorded Music and Music Publishing revenues represented 82% and 18% of total revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009, and for the nine months ended June 30, 2008, respectively, prior to intersegment eliminations. U.S. and international revenues represented 44% and 56% of total revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009, respectively, compared to 45% and 55% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008, respectively. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total revenues decreased \$151 million, or 6%, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009.

Total digital revenues increased by \$48 million, or 10%, to \$519 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$471 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Total digital revenues represented 22% and 18% of consolidated revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Total digital revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 were comprised of U.S. revenues of \$340 million, or 65% of total digital revenues, and international revenues of \$183 million, or 35% of total digital revenues. Total digital revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 were comprised of U.S. revenues of \$307 million, or 65% of total digital revenues, and international revenues of \$164 million, or 35% of total digital revenues. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total digital sales increased by \$65 million, or 14%, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009.

Recorded Music revenues decreased by \$273 million, or 12%, to \$1,915 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$2,188 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in Recorded Music revenues primarily reflected our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, general economic pressures and the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in concert promotion revenues, primarily related to our European concert promotion business, and an increase in digital revenues of \$42 million. Digital revenue continued to increase as the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry continues but the rate of growth in the current-year quarter was negatively impacted by the timing of our release schedule, the timing and success of new product introductions and continued worldwide economic pressures. As digital revenues become a greater percentage of overall revenues, fluctuations in digital revenues between periods is becoming increasingly driven by the timing of releases. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Recorded Music revenues decreased \$142 million, or 7%, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009.

[Table of Contents](#)

Music Publishing revenues decreased by \$51 million, or 11%, to \$416 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$467 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease was due to declines in mechanical revenues of \$47 million and performance revenues of \$14 million, which reflected recessionary pressures and the effects of the industry-wide decrease in physical sales. These decreases were partially offset by increased digital and synchronization revenues. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Music Publishing revenues decreased \$13 million, or 3%, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009.

Revenue by Geographical Location

U.S. revenues decreased by \$159 million, or 13%, to \$1,026 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$1,185 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 primarily due to a decrease of \$161 million in sales of physical products and the related mechanical revenues which was a result of our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, general economic pressures and the transition from physical sales to digital sales. This decrease was partially offset by increased digital revenues.

International revenues decreased by \$165 million, or 11%, to \$1,305 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$1,470 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 due to decreases in the sale of physical product and the related mechanical revenues which were driven by our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule as well as the ongoing transition in the recorded music industry characterized by a shift in consumption patterns from sales of physical products to new forms of digital music. Revenue growth in U.K., France and Italy were offset by decreases in Japan and Latin America. These decreases were offset by increases of \$19 million in digital revenues, \$10 million in licensing revenue, and increased revenues from the company's European concert promotion business.

Cost of revenues

Our cost of revenues is composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Artist and repertoire costs	\$ 793	\$ 910	\$ (117)	-13%
Product costs	401	434	(33)	-8%
Licensing costs	60	55	5	9%
Total cost of revenues	\$ 1,254	\$ 1,399	\$ (145)	-10%

Our cost of revenues decreased by \$145 million, or 10%, to \$1,254 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$1,399 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, cost of revenues increased by one percentage point, to 54% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from 53% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008.

Artist and repertoire costs as a percentage of revenues slightly decreased to 34% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009, from 35% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in artist and repertoire costs was driven by decreased revenues for the current fiscal year as a result of our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, which in turn resulted in decreased artist and repertoire spending. The decrease was further impacted by the continuing change in mix from the sale of physical products to new forms of digital revenues. These decreases were partially offset by higher royalty expense related to certain artist profit-sharing agreements.

Product costs increased as a percentage of revenues to 17% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from 16% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. This increase was driven primarily by concert promotion and merchandising costs associated with artist services businesses. The decrease in product costs was due primarily to the change in mix from the sale of physical products to new forms of digital music.

Table of Contents

Licensing costs increased \$5 million, or 9%, to \$60 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$55 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Licensing costs as a percentage of licensing revenues increased to 36% in the current-year quarter from 33% in the prior-year quarter. The increase was driven primarily by changes in revenue mix.

Selling, general and administrative expenses

Our selling, general and administrative expenses are composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
General and administrative expense (1)	\$ 411	\$ 444	\$ (33)	-7%
Selling and marketing expense	352	429	(77)	-18%
Distribution expense	48	62	(14)	-23%
Total selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 811	\$ 935	\$ (124)	-13%

(1) Includes depreciation expense of \$27 million and \$35 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009, and 2008, respectively.

Total selling, general and administrative expense decreased by \$124 million, or 13%, to \$811 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$935 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses remained flat at 35%.

General and administrative expenses decreased by \$33 million, or 7%, to \$411 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$444 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in general and administrative expense was the result of our continued focus on company-wide cost-management efforts and lower compensation expense.

Selling and marketing expense decreased by \$77 million, or 18%, to \$352 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$429 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. This decrease was primarily the result of our effort to better align selling and marketing expenses with revenues earned. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, selling and marketing expense decreased to 15% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from 16% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008.

Distribution expense remained flat at 2% of revenues.

Other income

Other income of \$3 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 related to a contingent payment received related to settlement of copyright litigation against the operators of the KaZaA peer-to-peer network.

Reconciliation of Consolidated Historical OIBDA to Operating Income from Continuing Operations and Net Loss

As previously described, we use OIBDA as our primary measure of financial performance. The following table reconciles OIBDA to operating income from continuing operations, and further provides the components from operating income to net loss for purposes of the discussion that follows (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
OIBDA	\$ 277	\$ 341	\$ (64)	-19%
Depreciation expense	(27)	(35)	8	-23%
Amortization expense	(169)	(165)	(4)	2%
Operating income from continuing operations	81	141	(60)	-43%
Interest expense, net	(146)	(138)	(8)	6%
Minority interest income (expense)	6	(4)	10	—
Gain on sale of equity investment	36	—	36	—
Gain on foreign exchange transaction	9	—	9	—
Impairment of cost-method investments	(29)	—	(29)	—
Impairment of equity investment	(10)	—	(10)	—
Other income (expense), net	1	(4)	5	—

[Table of Contents](#)

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Loss from continuing operations before income taxes	(52)	(5)	(47)	—
Income tax expense	(30)	(36)	6	-17%
Loss from continuing operations	(82)	(41)	(41)	100%
Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes	—	(21)	21	-100%
Net loss	\$ (82)	\$ (62)	\$ (20)	32%

OIBDA

Our OIBDA decreased by \$64 million to \$277 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$341 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of revenues, total OIBDA margin was 12% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to 13% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Our decreased OIBDA margin was primarily the result of negative operating leverage from lower sales on a similar fixed-cost base and declines in Japan related to the recession and the timing of releases in that territory, partially offset by the effect of continued company-wide cost-management efforts.

See “Business Segment Results” presented hereinafter for a discussion of OIBDA by business segment.

Depreciation expense

Our depreciation expense decreased by \$8 million, or 23%, to \$27 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. The decrease was primarily related to the effects of lower capital spending in prior periods as well as lower expenses related to projects that have been fully depreciated.

Amortization expense

Amortization expense increased by \$4 million, or 2%, to \$169 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. The increase was due primarily to newly acquired intangible assets.

Operating income from continuing operations

Our operating income from continuing operations decreased \$60 million, or 43%, to \$81 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$141 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease in operating income was primarily due to the decline in OIBDA noted above.

Interest expense, net

Our interest expense, net, increased \$8 million, or 6%, to \$146 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$138 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The increase was primarily related to the write-off of \$18 million of previously unamortized deferred financing fees related to the senior secured credit facility, which we repaid in full in the current-year quarter. This increase was offset by a decrease in the interest rates on floating rate debt obligations we previously carried.

See “—Financial Condition and Liquidity” for more information.

Minority interest income (expense)

Minority interest increased \$10 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 related primarily to the losses ascribed to minority holders.

Gain on sale of equity investment

During the nine months ended June 30, 2009, we sold our remaining equity stake in Front Line Management to Ticketmaster for \$123 million in cash. As a result of the transaction, we recorded a gain on sale of equity investment of \$36 million.

Gain on foreign exchange transaction

During the nine months ended June 30, 2009, we recorded a \$9 million non-cash gain on a foreign exchange transaction as a result of a settlement of a short-term foreign denominated loan related to the Front Line Management sale.

Impairment of cost-method investments

During the nine months ended June 30, 2009, we determined that our cost-method investments in digital venture capital companies, including imeem and lala, were impaired largely due to the current economic environment and changing business conditions from the time of the initial investment. As a result, we recorded one-time charges of \$29 million, including \$16 million to write off our investment in imeem and \$11 million to write down our investment in lala.

[Table of Contents](#)

Impairment of equity investment

During the nine months ended June 30, 2009, we chose not to continue our participation in Equatrax, L.P. (formerly known as Royalty Services, L.P.) and Equatrax, LLC (formerly known as Royalty Services, LLC), which were formed in 2004 to develop an outsourced royalty platform. As a result, we wrote off the remaining \$10 million related to our investment in the joint venture.

Other income (expense), net

Other income, net for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 included the gain on sale of a building. This gain was partially offset by net hedging losses on foreign exchange contracts, which represented currency exchange movements associated with inter-company receivables and payables that are short term in nature.

Income tax expense

We provided income tax expense of \$30 million and \$36 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decrease in the income tax expense primarily related to a decrease in income earned by our foreign affiliates compared to the prior-year quarter.

During the quarter ended March 31, 2009, we settled our federal income tax audit with the IRS for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2004 through September 30, 2006. The IRS has now commenced its audit of the fiscal years ended September 30, 2008 and September 30, 2007. Various tax years are currently under examination by state and local and foreign tax authorities. With respect to open examinations, we do not expect the total reserve for uncertain tax positions to change significantly in the next twelve months

Loss from continuing operations

Our loss from continuing operations increased by \$41 million, to \$82 million, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$41 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The increase was primarily the result of a decrease in OIBDA as discussed above, the impairment of our cost-method and equity investments, which was partially offset by the change in minority interest, our gain on the sale of our remaining stake in Front Line Management, our gain on a foreign exchange transaction and the decrease in income tax expense.

Loss from discontinued operations, net of taxes

During the nine months ended June 30, 2008, we discontinued our Bulldog operations. In connection with shutting down Bulldog, we incurred a loss of \$21 million representing an impairment of goodwill recorded at the time of the decision to shut down its operations and incurred \$3 million in severance and other costs.

Business Segment Results

Revenues, OIBDA and operating income (loss) from continuing operations by business segment are as follows (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Recorded Music				
Revenues	\$ 1,915	\$ 2,188	\$ (273)	-12%
OIBDA	240	316	(76)	-24%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 103	\$ 177	\$ (74)	-42%
Music Publishing				
Revenues	\$ 416	\$ 467	\$ (51)	-11%
OIBDA	102	108	(6)	-6%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 51	\$ 55	\$ (4)	-7%
Corporate expenses and eliminations				
Revenues	\$ (16)	\$ (18)	\$ 2	-11%
OIBDA	(65)	(83)	18	-22%
Operating loss from continuing operations	\$ (73)	\$ (91)	\$ 18	-20%
Total				
Revenues	\$ 2,315	\$ 2,637	\$ (322)	-12%
OIBDA	277	341	(64)	-19%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 81	\$ 141	\$ (60)	-43%

[Table of Contents](#)

Recorded Music

Revenues

Recorded Music revenues decreased by \$273 million, or 12%, to \$1,915 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$2,188 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Recorded Music revenues represented 82% of consolidated revenues for both the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 prior to intersegment eliminations. U.S. Recorded Music revenues were \$867 million and \$1,016 million, or 45% and 46% of consolidated Recorded Music revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively, prior to intersegment eliminations. International Recorded Music revenues were \$1,048 million and \$1,172 million, or 55% and 54% of consolidated Recorded Music revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

The decrease in Recorded Music revenues primarily reflected our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, general economic pressures and the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry. This decrease was partially offset by an increase in concert promotion revenues, primarily related to our European concert promotion business, and an increase in digital revenues of \$42 million. Digital revenue continued to increase as the transition from physical sales to digital sales in the recorded music industry continues, but the rate of growth in the current-year quarter was negatively impacted by the timing of our release schedule, the timing and success of new product introductions and continued worldwide economic pressures. As digital revenues become a greater percentage of overall revenues, fluctuations in digital revenues between periods is becoming increasingly driven by the timing of releases. Excluding the unfavorable impact of foreign currency exchange rates, total Recorded Music revenues decreased \$142 million, or 7%, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009.

OIBDA and Operating Income from Continuing Operations

Recorded Music OIBDA was \$240 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to \$316 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Recorded Music operating income from continuing operations included the following (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
OIBDA	\$ 240	\$ 316	\$ (76)	-24%
Depreciation and amortization	(137)	(139)	2	-1%
Operating income from continuing operations	<u>\$ 103</u>	<u>\$ 177</u>	<u>\$ (74)</u>	<u>-42%</u>

Recorded Music OIBDA decreased by \$76 million, or 24%, to \$240 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 compared to \$316 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of Recorded Music revenues, Recorded Music OIBDA was 13% and 14% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. Our decreased OIBDA margin was primarily the result of negative operating leverage from lower sales on a fixed-cost base partially offset by the effect of company-wide cost-management efforts.

Recorded Music operating income from continuing operations decreased by \$74 million due primarily to the decrease in OIBDA described above.

Recorded Music cost of revenues is composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Artist and repertoire costs	\$ 541	\$ 615	\$ (74)	-12%
Product costs	401	434	(33)	-8%
Licensing costs	59	55	4	7%
Total cost of revenues	<u>\$ 1,001</u>	<u>\$ 1,104</u>	<u>\$ (103)</u>	<u>-9%</u>

[Table of Contents](#)

Cost of revenues

Our Recorded Music cost of revenues decreased \$103 million, or 9%, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and increased as a percentage of revenues from 50% for the nine months ended June 2008, to 52% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. The decrease in cost of revenues was driven by decreased revenues for the current fiscal year as a result of our fiscal fourth quarter-weighted release schedule, which in turn, resulted in decreased artist and repertoire spending. The decrease was further impacted by the continuing change in mix from sale of physical products to new forms of digital revenues. These decreases were partially offset by higher royalty expense related to certain artist profit-sharing agreements.

Recorded Music selling, general and administrative expenses are composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
General and administrative expense (1)	\$ 295	\$ 317	\$ (22)	-7%
Selling and marketing expense	347	417	(70)	-17%
Distribution expense	48	61	(13)	-21%
Total selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 690	\$ 795	\$ (105)	-13%

(1) Includes depreciation expense of \$16 million and \$24 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Selling, general and administrative expense

Recorded Music selling, general and administrative expense decreased \$105 million, or 13%, to \$690 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. Expressed as a percentage of Recorded Music revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses remained flat at 36% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008. This decrease was primarily driven by our efforts to better align selling and marketing expenses with revenues earned, the timing of our releases, the effect of continued company-wide cost-management efforts, lower compensation expense and decreased distribution expense commensurate with the reduction of physical product sales.

Music Publishing

Revenues

Music Publishing revenues decreased by \$51 million, or 11%, to \$416 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 compared to \$467 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Music Publishing revenues represented 18% of consolidated revenues, for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. U.S. Music Publishing revenues were \$159 million and \$169 million, or 38% and 36% of consolidated Music Publishing revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. International Music Publishing revenues were \$257 million and \$298 million, or 62% and 64% of consolidated Music Publishing revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008.

The decrease in Music Publishing revenues was primarily due to declines in mechanical and performance revenues, which reflected recessionary pressures and the effects of the industry-wide decrease in physical sales. Digital sales represented 9% and 6% of Music Publishing revenues for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

OIBDA and Operating Income from Continuing Operations

Music Publishing operating income from continuing operations decreased to \$51 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$55 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 due primarily to the decline in mechanical and performance revenue, partially offset by increases in digital and synchronization revenues and reduced cost of revenues. Music Publishing operating income from continuing operations includes the following (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
OIBDA	\$ 102	\$ 108	\$ (6)	-6%
Depreciation and amortization	(51)	(53)	2	-4%
Operating income from continuing operations	\$ 51	\$ 55	\$ (4)	7%

[Table of Contents](#)

Music Publishing OIBDA decreased by \$6 million, or 6%, to \$102 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$108 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of Music Publishing revenues, Music Publishing OIBDA was 25% and 23% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively. The decline was due primarily to recessionary pressures and the timing of royalty payments.

Music Publishing cost of revenues is composed of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
Artist and repertoire costs	\$ 271	\$ 315	\$ (44)	-14%
Total cost of revenues	\$ 271	\$ 315	\$ (44)	-14%

Cost of revenues

Music Publishing cost of revenues decreased by \$44 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. Expressed as a percentage of Music Publishing revenues, Music Publishing cost of revenues decreased from 67% for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 to 65% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009. The decrease was related to the decline in revenue and lower spending on unproven artists.

Music Publishing selling, general and administrative expenses are comprised of the following amounts (in millions):

	For the Nine Months Ended June 30,		2009 vs. 2008	
	2009	2008	\$ Change	% Change
General and administrative expense (1)	\$ 46	\$ 47	\$ (1)	2%
Total selling, general and administrative expense	\$ 46	\$ 47	\$ (1)	2%

(1) Includes depreciation expense of \$3 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Selling, general and administrative expense

Music Publishing selling, general and administrative expense decreased \$1 million to \$46 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 from \$47 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. Expressed as a percentage of Music Publishing revenues, Music Publishing selling, general and administrative expense was 11% and 10% for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Corporate Expenses and Eliminations

Corporate expenses and eliminations decreased \$18 million to \$65 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009, compared to \$83 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The decrease was primarily driven by our continued company-wide cost-management efforts, resulting in lower IT and consulting expenses, and lower compensation expense.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND LIQUIDITY

Financial Condition

At June 30, 2009, we had \$1.935 billion of debt, \$345 million of cash and equivalents (net debt of \$1.590 billion, defined as total debt less cash and equivalents and short-term investments) and a \$142 million shareholders' deficit. This compares to \$2.259 billion of debt, \$411 million of cash and equivalents (net debt of \$1.848 billion) and an \$86 million shareholders' deficit at September 30, 2008. Net debt decreased by \$258 million as a result of (i) the full repayment of our senior credit facility of \$1.371 billion, (ii) an \$8 million quarterly principal repayment of our long-term loans under our senior secured credit facility, (iii) a \$20 million impact in foreign exchange rates on our Sterling-denominated Senior Subordinated Notes, offset by (iv) the issuance of \$1.1 billion of Senior Secured Notes with an original issue discount of \$41 million (for net proceeds of \$1.059 billion), (v) a \$16 million increase related to the accretion on our Holdings Discount Notes and (vi) a \$66 million decrease in cash and equivalents as more fully described below.

The \$56 million increase in shareholders' deficit during the nine months ended June 30, 2009 consisted of \$82 million of net loss for the nine months ended June 30, 2009, offset by foreign currency exchange movements of \$7 million, \$8 million of stock compensation and deferred gains on derivative financial instruments of \$11 million.

Cash Flows

The following table summarizes our historical cash flows. The financial data for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and 2008 are unaudited and are derived from our interim financial statements included elsewhere herein. The cash flow is comprised of the following in millions:

	<u>Nine Months Ended June 30, 2009</u> (unaudited)	<u>Nine Months Ended June 30, 2008</u> (unaudited)
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	\$ 198	\$ 185
Investing activities	98	(148)
Financing activities	(343)	(55)

Operating Activities

Cash provided by operations was \$198 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 compared to cash provided by operations of \$185 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The \$13 million increase in cash provided by operations related primarily to the variable timing of our working capital requirements in association with our business cycle, partially offset by a decrease in cash paid for interest and taxes.

Investing Activities

Cash provided by investing activities was \$98 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 as compared to cash used of \$148 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The \$98 million of cash provided by investing activities in the nine months ended June 30, 2009 consisted primarily of proceeds received from the sale of our remaining stake in Front Line Management to Ticketmaster for \$123 million and proceeds from the sale of a building of \$8 million offset by \$15 million in capital expenditures, cash used for acquisitions totaling \$14 million and \$8 million of cash used to acquire music publishing rights. The \$148 million of cash used in investing activities in the nine months ended June 30, 2008 consisted primarily of the investments in FSE for \$50 million, lala and imeem for \$35 million and \$20 million in capital expenditures.

Financing Activities

Cash used in financing activities was \$343 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 compared to \$55 million for the nine months ended June 30, 2008. The \$343 million of cash used in financing activities in the nine months ended June 30, 2009 consisted of the full repayment of the senior credit facility of \$1.371 billion, our normal quarterly repayments of debt of \$8 million and \$23 million of financing fees related to the Senior Secured Notes offset by \$1.059 billion of net proceeds from the issuance of the Senior Secured Notes. The \$55 million of cash used in financing activities in the nine months ended June 30, 2008 consisted of our quarterly repayments of debt and dividend payments.

Liquidity

Our primary sources of liquidity are the cash flows generated from our subsidiaries' operations and available cash and equivalents and short-term investments. These sources of liquidity are needed to fund our debt service requirements, working capital requirements, capital expenditure requirements and any quarterly dividends we may elect to pay. We believe that our existing sources of cash will be sufficient to support our existing operations over the next twelve months.

As of June 30, 2009, our long-term debt consisted of \$1.1 billion aggregate principal amount of Senior Secured Notes less unamortized discount of \$41 million, \$629 million of Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and \$247 million of Holdings Discount Notes. In connection with the refinancing, our senior secured credit facility was repaid in full during the nine months ended June 30, 2009 and both the term loan facility and revolving credit facility contained therein were terminated.

Senior Secured Notes

On May 28, 2009, Acquisition Corp. issued \$1.1 billion aggregate principal amount of 9.50% Senior Secured Notes due 2016 pursuant to an indenture, dated as of May 28, 2009, among Acquisition Corp., the guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as trustee. The Senior Secured Notes were issued at 96.289% of their face value for total net proceeds of \$1.059 billion, with an effective interest rate of 10.25%. The original issue discount (OID) was \$41 million. The OID is equal to the difference between the stated principal amount and the issue price. The OID will be amortized over the term of the notes using the effective interest rate method and reported as non-cash interest expense. Financing fees of \$24 million related to the Senior Secured Notes were deferred and are being amortized over the term of the notes.

The Senior Secured Notes mature on June 15, 2016. Interest on the Senior Secured Notes accrues at a rate of 9.50% per annum and is payable, commencing on December 15, 2009, semi-annually in arrears on June 15 and December 15 of each year to the holders of record on the immediately preceding June 1 and December 1. Interest on the Senior Secured Notes is computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

The Senior Secured Notes are senior secured obligations of Acquisition Corp. that rank senior in right of payment to Acquisition Corp.'s subordinated indebtedness, including its senior subordinated notes. The obligations under the Senior Secured Notes are fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a senior secured basis by each of Acquisition Corp.'s existing direct or indirect wholly owned domestic subsidiaries and any such subsidiaries that guarantee other indebtedness of Acquisition Corp. in the future. The Senior Secured Notes are not guaranteed by Holdings. All obligations under the Senior Secured Notes and the guarantees of those obligations are secured by first-priority liens, subject to permitted liens, in the assets of Holdings, Acquisition Corp., and the guarantors, which consist of the shares of Acquisition Corp., Acquisition Corp.'s assets and the assets of the guarantors, except for certain excluded assets.

At any time prior to June 15, 2012, Acquisition Corp., at its option, may redeem up to 35% of the aggregate principal amount of the Senior Secured Notes at a redemption price of 109.50% of the principal amount of the Senior Secured Notes redeemed, plus accrued and unpaid interest provided that after such redemption at least 50% of the originally issued Senior Secured Notes remain outstanding. Prior to June 15, 2013, Acquisition Corp. may redeem some or all of the Senior Secured Notes at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount plus a make whole premium, as defined in the Indenture. The Senior Secured Notes are also redeemable in whole or in part, at Acquisition Corp.'s option, at any time on or after June 15, 2013 for the following redemption prices, plus accrued and unpaid interest:

<u>Twelve month period beginning June 15,</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
2013	104.750%
2014	102.375%
2015 and thereafter	100.000%

Upon the consummation and closing of a Major Music/Media Transaction, as defined in the Indenture, at any time prior to June 15, 2013, the Senior Secured Notes may be redeemed in whole or in part, at Acquisition Corp.'s option, at a redemption price of 104.75% plus accrued and unpaid interest. In the event of a change in control, as defined in the Indenture, each holder of the Senior Secured Notes may require Acquisition Corp. to repurchase some or all of the respective Senior Secured Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% plus accrued and unpaid interest.

The indenture for the Senior Secured Notes contains a number of covenants that, among other things, limit (subject to certain exceptions), the ability of Acquisition Corp. and most of its subsidiaries to (i) incur additional debt or issue certain preferred shares; (ii) pay dividends on or make distributions in respect of its capital stock or make other restricted payments (as defined in the Indenture); (iii) make certain investments; (iv) sell certain assets; (v) create liens on certain debt; (vi) consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets; (vii) sell or otherwise dispose of its Music Publishing business; (viii) enter into certain transactions with affiliates and (ix) designate its subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries.

[Table of Contents](#)

Acquisition Corp. used the net proceeds from the Senior Secured Notes offering, plus approximately \$335 million in existing cash, to repay in full all amounts due under its existing senior secured credit facility and pay related fees and expenses. In connection with the repayment, Acquisition Corp. terminated its revolving credit facility. Included in interest expense for the three and nine months ended June 30, 2009 is \$18 million of previously unamortized deferred financing fees related to the senior secured credit facility. Such amounts were recognized as a result of the repayment of the senior secured credit facility.

Senior Subordinated Notes of Acquisition Corp.

Acquisition Corp. has outstanding two tranches of senior subordinated notes due 2014: \$465 million principal amount of U.S. dollar-denominated notes and £100 million principal amount of Sterling-denominated notes (collectively, the "Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes"). The Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes mature on April 15, 2014 and bear interest at a fixed rate of 7.375% per annum on the \$465 million dollar notes and 8.125% per annum on the £100 million Sterling-denominated notes.

The indenture governing the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes limits our ability and the ability of our restricted subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness or issue certain preferred shares; to pay dividends on or make other distributions in respect of our capital stock or make other restricted payments; to make certain investments; to sell certain assets; to create liens on certain debt without securing the notes; to consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets; to enter into certain transactions with affiliates and to designate our subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries. Subject to certain exceptions, the indenture governing the notes permits us and our restricted subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness, including secured indebtedness, and to make certain restricted payments and investments.

Holdings Discount Notes

As of June 30, 2009, Holdings had \$247 million of debt represented by the Holdings Discount Notes, net of issuance discounts. The Holdings Discount Notes were issued at a discount and had an initial accreted value of \$630.02 per \$1,000 principal amount at maturity. Prior to December 15, 2009, no cash interest payments accrue. However, interest accrues on the Holdings Discount Notes in the form of an increase in the accreted value of such notes such that the accreted value of the Holdings Discount Notes will equal the principal amount at maturity of \$257 million on December 15, 2009. Thereafter, cash interest on the Holdings Discount Notes is payable semi-annually at a fixed rate of 9.5% per annum with the initial cash interest payment payable on June 15, 2010. The Holdings Discount Notes mature on December 15, 2014.

The indenture governing the Holdings Discount Notes limits its ability and the ability of its restricted subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness or issue certain preferred shares; to pay dividends on or make other distributions in respect of its capital stock or make other restricted payments; to make certain investments; to sell certain assets; to create liens on certain debt without securing the notes; to consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets; to enter into certain transactions with affiliates; and to designate its subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries. Subject to certain exceptions, the indenture governing the notes permits Holdings and its restricted subsidiaries to incur additional indebtedness, including secured indebtedness, and to make certain restricted payments and investments.

Dividends

We discontinued our previous policy of paying a regular quarterly dividend during the second quarter of fiscal year 2008. We currently intend to retain future earnings to build cash on the balance sheet for other purposes, such as investing in our business, particularly in A&R, or assisting with repurchasing or refinancing our indebtedness. Any future determination to pay dividends will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors and will depend on, among other things, our results of operations, cash requirements, financial condition, contractual restrictions and other factors our Board of Directors may deem relevant.

On February 6, 2008, we declared our final quarterly dividend under the now discontinued policy on our outstanding common stock at a rate of \$0.13 per share. The final dividend was paid on February 29, 2008. On December 29, 2006, March 8, 2007, June 5, 2007 and September 4, 2007 we declared dividends on our outstanding common stock at a rate of \$0.13 per share. The dividends were paid on February 16, 2007, April 27, 2007, July 25, 2007 and October 24, 2007, respectively.

Covenant Compliance

The indentures governing the Holdings Discount Notes and the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and Senior Secured Notes contain certain financial covenants, which limit the ability of our restricted subsidiaries as defined in the indentures governing the notes to, among other things, incur additional indebtedness, issue certain preferred shares, pay dividends, make certain investments, sell certain assets, create liens on certain debt, and consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all, or some of, our assets. In order for Acquisition Corp. and Holdings Corp. to incur additional debt or make certain restricted payments using certain exceptions provided for in the indentures governing the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and Senior Secured Notes and the Holdings Discount Notes, the Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio, as defined in such indentures, must exceed a 2.0 to 1.0 ratio. Fixed Charges are defined in such indentures as consolidated interest expense excluding certain non-cash interest expense.

[Table of Contents](#)

The terms of the indentures governing the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and Senior Secured Notes, and the Holdings Discount Notes significantly restrict Acquisition Corp., Holdings and other subsidiaries from paying dividends and otherwise transferring assets to us. For example, the ability of Acquisition Corp. and Holdings to make such payments is governed by a formula based on 50% of each of their consolidated net income (which, as defined in the indentures governing such notes, excludes goodwill impairment charges and any after-tax extraordinary, unusual or nonrecurring gains and losses) accruing from July 1, 2004 and July 1, 2009 under the indentures governing the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and the Holdings Discount Notes, and the Acquisition Corp. Senior Secured Notes, respectively, plus proceeds from equity offerings and capital contributions, among other items. In addition, as a condition to making such payments to us based on such formula, Acquisition Corp. and Holdings must each have an adjusted EBITDA, as defined in the indentures, to interest expense ratio of at least 2.0 to 1.0 after giving effect to any such payments. Notwithstanding such restrictions, the indentures governing the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes, the Holdings Discount Notes and the Acquisition Corp. Senior Secured Notes permit an aggregate of \$45 million, \$75 million, and \$50 million, respectively, of such payments to be made by Acquisition Corp. and Holdings pursuant to the indentures, whether or not there is availability under the formula or the conditions to its use are met. The indenture governing the Senior Secured Notes also permits Acquisition Corp. to make restricted payments not to exceed \$90 million in any fiscal year.

Acquisition Corp. and Holdings may make additional restricted payments using certain other exceptions provided for in the indentures governing the Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and Senior Secured Notes and the Holdings Discount Notes.

Summary

Management believes that future funds generated from our operations and available borrowing capacity will be sufficient to fund our debt service requirements, working capital requirements and capital expenditure requirements for the foreseeable future. However, our ability to continue to fund these items and to reduce debt may be affected by general economic, financial, competitive, legislative and regulatory factors, as well as other industry-specific factors such as the ability to control music piracy and the continued decline of industry-wide CD sales. We or any of our affiliates may also, from time to time depending on market conditions and prices, contractual restrictions, our financial liquidity and other factors, seek to repurchase our Holdings Discount Notes, our Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes or our Senior Secured Notes and/or common stock in open market purchases, privately negotiated purchases or otherwise. The amounts involved in any such transactions, individually or in the aggregate, may be material and may be funded from available cash or from additional borrowings. In addition, we may from time to time, depending on market conditions and prices, contractual restrictions, our financial liquidity and other factors, seek to refinance our Holdings Discount Notes, Acquisition Corp. Senior Subordinated Notes and/or our Senior Secured Notes with existing cash and/or with funds provided from additional borrowings.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

As discussed in Note 18 to our audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008, the Company is exposed to market risk arising from changes in market rates and prices, including movements in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. As of June 30, 2009, other than as described below, there have been no material changes to the Company's exposure to market risk since September 30, 2008.

[Table of Contents](#)

We have transactional exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates relative to the U.S. dollar due to the global scope of our operations. We use foreign exchange contracts, primarily to hedge the risk that unremitted or future royalties and license fees owed to our domestic companies for the sale, or anticipated sale, of U.S.-copyrighted products abroad may be adversely affected by changes in foreign currency exchange rates. We focus on managing the level of exposure to the risk of foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations on our major currencies, which include the Euro, British pound sterling, Japanese yen, Canadian dollar, and Australian dollar. During the three months ended June 30, 2009, the Company entered into additional foreign exchange hedge contracts and, as of June 30, 2009, the Company has outstanding hedge contracts for the sale of \$128 million and the purchase of \$391 million of foreign currencies at fixed rates. During the current-year quarter, certain of our foreign exchange contracts expired and new foreign exchange contracts were renewed with similar features.

The fair value of foreign exchange contracts is subject to changes in foreign currency exchange rates. For the purpose of assessing the specific risks, we use a sensitivity analysis to determine the effects that market risk exposures may have on the fair value of our financial instruments.

We are exposed to foreign currency exchange rate risk with respect to our £100 million principal amount of Sterling-denominated notes that were issued in April 2004. These sterling notes mature on April 15, 2014. As of June 30, 2009, these Sterling-denominated notes had a carrying value of approximately \$164 million. However, a weakening or strengthening of the U.S. dollar compared to the British Pound Sterling would not have an impact on the fair value of these Sterling notes, as these notes are completely hedged as of June 30, 2009. We did not enter into any additional hedges related to this debt subsequent to June 30, 2009.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Certification

The certifications of the principal executive officer and the principal financial officer (or persons performing similar functions) required by Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Certifications”) are filed as exhibits to this report. This section of the report contains the information concerning the evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) (“Disclosure Controls”) and changes to internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) (“Internal Controls”) referred to in the Certifications and this information should be read in conjunction with the Certifications for a more complete understanding of the topics presented.

Introduction

The Securities and Exchange Commission’s rules define “disclosure controls and procedures” as controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by public companies in the reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by public companies in the reports that they file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to a company’s management, including its principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

The Securities and Exchange Commission’s rules define “internal control over financial reporting” as a process designed by, or under the supervision of, a public company’s principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by our board of directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, or U.S. GAAP, including those policies and procedures that: (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company, (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Our management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, does not expect that our Disclosure Controls or Internal Controls will prevent or detect all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Because of the limitations in any and all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within our company have been detected. Further, the design of any control system is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Because of these inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected even when effective Disclosure Controls and Internal Controls are in place.

[Table of Contents](#)

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Based on our management's evaluation (with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer), as of the end of the period covered by this report, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that our Disclosure Controls provided reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act will be recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in SEC rules and forms, including that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There have been no changes, other than as noted below, in our Internal Controls over financial reporting or other factors during the period ended June 30, 2009 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our Internal Controls.

In an effort to make our information technology, or IT, more efficient and increase our IT capabilities and reduce potential disruptions, as well as generate cost savings, we signed a contract during the first quarter of fiscal 2009 with a third-party service provider to outsource a significant portion of our IT functions. We began transitioning work to the service provider in December 2008, and the transition will continue through the following 18 months. In addition, in an effort to make our finance and accounting functions more efficient, as well as generate cost savings, we signed a contract during the third quarter of fiscal 2009 with a third-party service provider to outsource certain finance and accounting functions. We began transitioning work to the service provider in April 2009, and the transition will continue through the following 12 months. The outsourcing arrangements are expected to enhance the cost efficiency of these administrative functions. The outsourcing of these functions will have an immediate effect with regard to the responsibilities for the performance of certain processes and internal controls over financial reporting. We anticipate that internal controls over financial reporting could be further impacted in the future as these outsourced functions benefit from expected innovations and improvements from our service provider.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Pricing of Digital Music Downloads

On December 20, 2005 and February 3, 2006, the Attorney General of the State of New York served the Company with requests for information in connection with an industry-wide investigation as to whether the practices of industry participants concerning the pricing of digital music downloads violate Section 1 of the Sherman Act, New York State General Business Law §§ 340 et seq., New York Executive Law §63(12), and related statutes. On February 28, 2006, the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice served the Company with a request for information in the form of a Civil Investigative Demand as to whether its activities relating to the pricing of digitally downloaded music violate Section 1 of the Sherman Act. Both investigations have now been closed. Subsequent to the announcements of the above governmental investigations, more than thirty putative class action lawsuits concerning the pricing of digital music downloads were filed and were later consolidated for pre-trial proceedings in the Southern District of New York. The consolidated amended complaint, filed on April 13, 2007, alleges conspiracy among record companies to delay the release of their content for digital distribution, inflate their pricing of CDs and fix prices for digital downloads. The complaint seeks unspecified compensatory, statutory and treble damages. All defendants, including the Company, filed a motion to dismiss the consolidated amended complaint on July 30, 2007. This motion was granted on October 9, 2008. Plaintiffs appealed the decision. The Second Circuit has scheduled oral argument for September 26, 2009. The Company intends to defend against these lawsuits vigorously, but is unable to predict the outcome of these suits. Any litigation the Company may become involved in as a result of the inquiries of the Attorney General and Department of Justice, regardless of the merits of the claim, could be costly and divert the time and resources of management.

Other Matters

In addition to the matters discussed above, we are involved in other litigation arising in the normal course of our business. Management does not believe that any legal proceedings pending against us will have, individually, or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on our business. However, we cannot predict with certainty the outcome of any litigation or the potential for future litigation. Regardless of the outcome, litigation can have an adverse impact on us, including our brand value, because of defense costs, diversion of management resources and other factors.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the following risks and other information in this report before making an investment decision with respect to shares of our common stock or any of our other securities. The risks and uncertainties described below may not be the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties that we do not currently know about or that we currently believe are immaterial may also adversely impact our business operations. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations would likely suffer. In such case, the trading price of our common stock or other securities could fall, and you may lose all or part of the money you paid to buy such securities.

Risks Related to our Business

The recorded music industry has been declining and may continue to decline, which may adversely affect our prospects and our results of operations.

The industry began experiencing negative growth rates in 1999 on a global basis and the worldwide recorded music market has contracted considerably. Illegal downloading of music, CD-R piracy, industrial piracy, economic recession, bankruptcies of record wholesalers and retailers, and growing competition for consumer discretionary spending and retail shelf space may all be contributing to a declining recorded music industry. Additionally, the period of growth in recorded music sales driven by the introduction and penetration of the CD format has ended. While CD sales still generate most of the recorded music revenues, CD sales continue to decline industry-wide and we expect that trend to continue. However, new formats for selling recorded music product have been created, including the legal downloading of digital music and the distribution of music on mobile devices, and revenue streams from these new channels are beginning to emerge. These new digital revenue streams are important to offset declines in physical sales and represent the fastest growing area of our business. In addition, we are also taking steps to broaden our revenue mix into growing areas of the music business, including sponsorship, fan clubs, websites, merchandising, touring, ticketing and artist management. As our expansion into these new areas is recent, we cannot determine how our expansion into these new areas will impact our business. Despite the increase in digital sales and expanded-rights revenues, revenues from these sources have yet to completely offset declining physical sales on a worldwide industry basis and it is too soon to determine the impact that sales of music through new channels might have on the industry or when the decline in physical sales might be offset by the increase in digital sales and other expanded-rights revenues. Accordingly, the recorded music industry performance may continue to negatively impact our operating results. While it is believed within the recorded music industry that growth in digital sales will re-establish a growth pattern for recorded music sales, the timing of the recovery cannot be established with accuracy nor can it be determined how

[Table of Contents](#)

these changes will affect individual markets. A declining recorded music industry is likely to lead to reduced levels of revenue and operating income generated by our Recorded Music business. Additionally, a declining recorded music industry is also likely to have a negative impact on our Music Publishing business, which generates a significant portion of its revenues from mechanical royalties, primarily from the sale of music in CD and other recorded music formats.

Current uncertainty in global economic conditions could adversely affect our prospects and our results of operations.

Current uncertainty in global economic conditions poses a risk to the overall economy as consumers and businesses may defer purchases in response to tighter credit and negative financial news, which could negatively affect product demand and other related matters. The current volatility and disruption to the capital and credit markets have reached unprecedented levels and have adversely impacted global economic conditions, resulting in significant recessionary pressures and lower consumer confidence and lower retail sales in general. While the music industry has been relatively resilient in prior financial downturns as its products are low priced relative to other entertainment goods, we cannot predict the impact of these general economic conditions on us or whether this downturn will be different. In addition, although we believe our cash provided by operations will provide us with sufficient liquidity through the current credit crisis, the impact of this crisis on our major customers and suppliers, including those who provide our manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution requirements, cannot be predicted and may be quite severe. The inability of major manufacturers to ship our products could impair our ability to meet delivery date requirements of our customers. A disruption of the ability of our significant customers to access liquidity could cause disruptions or an overall deterioration of their businesses which could lead to reductions in their future orders of our products or the failure on their part to meet their payment obligations to us. Consequently, demand could be different from our expectations due to factors including changes in business and economic conditions, including conditions in the credit market that could affect consumer confidence, customer acceptance of our and competitors' products, and changes in the level of inventory at retailers, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

There may be downward pressure on our pricing and our profit margins and reductions in shelf space.

There are a variety of factors that could cause us to reduce our prices and reduce our profit margins. They are, among others, price competition from the sale of motion pictures in DVD-Video format and videogames, the negotiating leverage of mass merchandisers, big-box retailers and distributors of digital music, the increased costs of doing business with mass merchandisers and big-box retailers as a result of complying with operating procedures that are unique to their needs and any changes in costs associated with new digital formats. In addition, we are currently dependent on a small number of leading online music stores, which allows them to significantly influence the prices we can charge in connection with the distribution of digital music. Over the course of the last decade, U.S. mass-market and other stores' share of U.S. physical music sales has continued to grow. While we cannot predict how future competition will impact music retailers, as the music industry continues to transform it is possible that the share of music sales by mass-market retailers such as Wal-Mart and Target and online music stores such as Apple's iTunes will continue to grow as a result of the decline of specialty music retailers, which could further increase their negotiating leverage. Several large specialty music retailers, including Tower Records and Musicland, have filed for bankruptcy protection. The declining number of specialty music retailers may not only put pressure on profit margins, but could also impact catalog sales as mass-market retailers generally sell top chart albums only, with a limited range of back catalog. Recently, global economic conditions have led to a continued challenging retailer landscape which was most pronounced in the U.K., where EUK, Pinnacle and Zavvi have each gone into administration. See "Risk Factors—We are substantially dependent on a limited number of online music stores, in particular Apple's iTunes Music Store, for the online sale of our music recordings and they are able to significantly influence the pricing structure for online music stores."

Our prospects and financial results may be adversely affected if we fail to identify, sign and retain artists and songwriters and by the existence or absence of superstar releases and by local economic conditions in the countries in which we operate.

We are dependent on identifying, signing and retaining artists with long-term potential, whose debut albums are well received on release, whose subsequent albums are anticipated by consumers and whose music will continue to generate sales as part of our catalog for years to come. The competition among record companies for such talent is intense. Competition among record companies to sell records is also intense and the marketing expenditures necessary to compete have increased as well. We are also dependent on signing and retaining songwriters who will write the hit songs of today and the classics of tomorrow. Our competitive position is dependent on our continuing ability to attract and develop talent whose work can achieve a high degree of public acceptance. Our financial results may be adversely affected if we are unable to identify, sign and retain such artists under terms that are economically attractive to us. Our financial results may also be affected by the existence or absence of superstar artist releases during a particular period. Some music industry observers believe that the number of superstar acts with long-term appeal, both in terms of catalog sales and future releases, has declined in recent years. Additionally, our financial results are generally affected by the worldwide economic and retail environment, as well as the appeal of our Recorded Music catalog and our Music Publishing library.

We may have difficulty addressing the threats to our business associated with home copying and unauthorized downloading.

The combined effect of the decreasing cost of electronic and computer equipment and related technology such as CD burners and the conversion of music into digital formats have made it easier for consumers to create unauthorized copies of our recordings in the form of, for example, "burned" CDs and MP3 files. For example, about 95% of the music downloaded in 2008, or more than 40 billion

files, was illegal and not paid for, according to the IFPI 2009 Digital Music Report. In addition, while growth of music-enabled mobile consumers offers distinct opportunities for music companies such as ours, it also opens the market up to certain risks from behaviors such as “sideloading” of unauthorized content and illegitimate user-created ringtones. A substantial portion of our revenue comes from the sale of audio products that are potentially subject to unauthorized consumer copying and widespread digital dissemination without an economic return to us. The impact of digital piracy on legitimate music sales is hard to quantify but we believe that illegal file-sharing has a substantial negative impact on music sales. We are working to control this problem through further litigation, by lobbying governments for new, stronger copyright protection laws and more stringent enforcement of current laws, through graduated response programs achieved adhered through cooperation with ISPs and legislation being advanced or considered in many countries, through technological measures and by establishing legitimate new media business models. We cannot give any assurances that such measures will be effective. If we fail to obtain appropriate relief through the judicial process or the complete enforcement of judicial decisions issued in our favor (or if judicial decisions are not in our favor), if we are unsuccessful in our efforts to lobby governments to enact and enforce stronger legal penalties for copyright infringement or if we fail to develop effective means of protecting our intellectual property (whether copyrights or other rights such as patents, trademarks and trade secrets) or our entertainment-related products or services, our results of operations, financial position and prospects may suffer.

Organized industrial piracy may lead to decreased sales.

The global organized commercial pirate trade is a significant threat to the music industry. The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) estimates that trade losses due to physical piracy of records and music in 51 key countries/territories around the world with copyright protection and/or enforcement deficiencies totaled \$2.3 billion in 2007. Unauthorized copies and piracy have contributed to the decrease in the volume of legitimate sales and put pressure on the price of legitimate sales. They have had, and may continue to have, an adverse effect on our business.

Our involvement in intellectual property litigation could adversely affect our business.

Our business is highly dependent upon intellectual property, a field that has encountered increasing litigation in recent years. If we are alleged to infringe the intellectual property rights of a third party, any litigation to defend the claim could be costly and would divert the time and resources of management, regardless of the merits of the claim. There can be no assurance that we would prevail in any such litigation. If we were to lose a litigation relating to intellectual property, we could be forced to pay monetary damages and to cease the sale of certain products or the use of certain technology. Any of the foregoing may adversely affect our business.

Due to the nature of our business, our results of operations and cash flows may fluctuate significantly from period to period.

Our net sales, operating income and profitability, like those of other companies in the music business, are largely affected by the number and quality of albums that we release, our release schedule and, more importantly, the consumer demand for these releases. We also make advance payments to recording artists and songwriters, which impact our operating cash flows. The timing of album releases and advance payments is largely based on business and other considerations and is made without regard to the timing of the release of our financial results. We report results of operations quarterly and our results of operations and cash flows in any reporting period may be materially affected by the timing of releases and advance payments, which may result in significant fluctuations from period to period.

Our operating results fluctuate on a seasonal and quarterly basis, and, in the event we do not generate sufficient net sales in our first fiscal quarter and subsequent quarters, we may not be able to meet our debt service and other obligations.

Our business has historically been seasonal. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008, we derived approximately 82% of our revenues from our Recorded Music business. In the recorded music business, purchases have historically been heavily weighted towards the last three months of the calendar year, which represent our first quarter under our September 30 fiscal year. Historically, we have realized approximately 35% of Recorded Music net sales worldwide during the last three months of the calendar year, making those three months (*i.e.*, our first fiscal quarter) material to our full-year performance. Since the emergence of digital sales, we have noted some shift in this seasonality. We realized 27%, 29% and 28% of Recorded Music calendar year net sales during the last three months of calendar 2008, 2007, and 2006, respectively. This sales seasonality affects our operating cash flow from quarter to quarter. We cannot assure you that our Recorded Music net sales for the last three months of any calendar year will continue to be sufficient to meet our obligations or that they will be higher than such net sales for our other quarters. In the event that we do not derive sufficient Recorded Music net sales in the last three months of any calendar year, we may not be able to meet our debt service requirements, working capital requirements, capital expenditure requirements and other obligations. As digital revenues increase as a percentage of our total revenues, this may continue to affect the overall seasonality of our business. For example, sales of MP3 players or gift cards to purchase digital music sold in the holiday season tend to result in sales of digital music in subsequent periods. However, seasonality with respect to the sale of music in new formats, such as digital, is still developing.

We may be unable to compete successfully in the highly competitive markets in which we operate and we may suffer reduced profits as a result.

The industry in which we operate is highly competitive, is based on consumer preferences and is rapidly changing. Additionally, the music industry requires substantial human and capital resources. We compete with other recorded music companies and music publishers to identify and sign new recording artists and songwriters who subsequently achieve long-term success and to renew agreements with established artists and songwriters. In addition, our competitors may from time to time reduce their prices in an effort to expand market share and introduce new services, or improve the quality of their products or services. We may lose business if we are unable to sign successful artists or songwriters or to match the prices or the quality of products and services, offered by our competitors. Our Recorded Music business competes not only with other recorded music companies, but also with the recorded music efforts of live events companies and artists who may choose to distribute their own works. Our Music Publishing business competes not only with other music publishing companies, but also with songwriters who publish their own works. Our Recorded Music business is to a large extent dependent on technological developments, including access to and selection and viability of new technologies, and is subject to potential pressure from competitors as a result of their technological developments. For example, our Recorded Music business may be adversely affected by technological developments that facilitate the piracy of music, such as peer-to-peer file-sharing and CD-R activity, by an inability to enforce our intellectual property rights in digital environments or by a failure to develop a successful business model applicable to a digital environment. The Recorded Music business also faces competition from other forms of entertainment and leisure activities, such as cable and satellite television, pre-recorded films on videocassettes and DVD, the Internet, computers and videogames.

Our business operations in some countries subject us to trends, developments or other events in foreign countries which may affect us adversely.

We are a global company with strong local presences, which have become increasingly important as the popularity of music originating from a country's own language and culture has increased in recent years. Our mix of national and international recording artists and songwriters provides a significant degree of diversification for our music portfolio. However, our creative content does not necessarily enjoy universal appeal. As a result, our results can be affected not only by general industry trends, but also by trends, developments or other events in individual countries, including:

- limited legal protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights;
- restrictions on the repatriation of capital;
- fluctuations in interest and foreign exchange rates;
- differences and unexpected changes in regulatory environment, including environmental, health and safety, local planning, zoning and labor laws, rules and regulations;
- varying tax regimes which could adversely affect our results of operations or cash flows, including regulations relating to transfer pricing and withholding taxes on remittances and other payments by subsidiaries and joint ventures;
- exposure to different legal standards and enforcement mechanisms and the associated cost of compliance;
- difficulties in attracting and retaining qualified management and employees or rationalizing our workforce;
- tariffs, duties, export controls and other trade barriers;
- longer accounts receivable settlement cycles and difficulties in collecting accounts receivable;
- recessionary trends, inflation and instability of the financial markets;
- higher interest rates; and
- political instability.

We may not be able to insure or hedge against these risks, and we may not be able to ensure compliance with all of the applicable regulations without incurring additional costs. Furthermore, financing may not be available in countries with less than investment-grade sovereign credit ratings. As a result, it may be difficult to create or maintain profit-making operations in developing countries.

In addition, our results can be affected by trends, developments and other events in individual countries. There can be no assurance that in the future other country-specific trends, developments or other events will not have such a significant adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition. Unfavorable conditions can depress sales in any given market and prompt promotional or other actions that affect our margins.

Our business may be adversely affected by competitive market conditions and we may not be able to execute our business strategy.

We intend to increase revenues and cash flow through a business strategy which requires us, among other things, to continue to maximize the value of our music assets, to significantly reduce costs to maximize flexibility and adjust to new realities of the market, to continue to act to contain digital piracy, to diversify our revenue streams into growing segments of the music business by entering into expanded-rights deals with recording artists and by operating our artist services businesses and to capitalize on digital distribution and emerging technologies.

[Table of Contents](#)

Each of these initiatives requires sustained management focus, organization and coordination over significant periods of time. Each of these initiatives also requires success in building relationships with third parties and in anticipating and keeping up with technological developments and consumer preferences and may involve the implementation of new business models or distribution platforms. The results of the strategy and the success of our implementation of this strategy will not be known for some time in the future. If we are unable to implement the strategy successfully or properly react to changes in market conditions, our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows could be adversely affected.

Our ability to operate effectively could be impaired if we fail to attract and retain our executive officers.

Our success depends, in part, upon the continuing contributions of our executive officers. Although we have employment agreements with our executive officers, there is no guarantee that they will not leave. The loss of the services of any of our executive officers or the failure to attract other executive officers could have a material adverse effect on our business or our business prospects.

Legitimate channels for digital distribution of our creative content are a recent development, and their impact on our business is unclear and may be adverse.

We have positioned ourselves to take advantage of online and mobile technology as a sales distribution channel and believe that the development of legitimate channels for digital music distribution holds promise for us in the future. Digital revenue streams of all kinds are important to offset continued declining revenues from physical CD sales industry-wide over time. However, legitimate channels for digital distribution are a recent development and we cannot predict their impact on our business. In digital formats, certain costs associated with physical products such as manufacturing, distribution, inventory and return costs do not apply. While there are some digital-specific variable costs and infrastructure investments necessary to produce, market and sell music in digital formats, we believe it is reasonable to expect that we will generally derive a higher contribution margin from digital sales than physical sales. However, we cannot assure you that we will generally continue to achieve higher margins from digital sales. Any legitimate digital distribution channel that does develop may result in lower or less profitable sales for us than comparable physical sales. In addition, the transition to greater sales through digital channels introduces uncertainty regarding the potential impact of the “unbundling” of the album on our business. It remains unclear how consumer behavior will continue to change when customers are faced with more opportunities to purchase only favorite tracks from a given album rather than the entire album. In addition, if piracy continues unabated and legitimate digital distribution channels fail to gain consumer acceptance, our results of operations could be harmed. In addition, as new distribution channels continue to develop we have to implement systems to process royalties on these new revenue streams. If we are not able to successfully expand our processing capability or introduce technology to allow us to determine and pay royalty amounts due in a timely manner, we may experience delays or reduced accuracy as we increase the volume of our digital sales, which could have a negative effect on our relationships with artists and brand identity.

We are substantially dependent on a limited number of online music stores, in particular Apple’s iTunes Music Store, for the online sale of our music recordings and they are able to significantly influence the pricing structure for online music stores.

We derive an increasing portion of our revenues from sales of music through digital distribution channels. We are currently dependent on a small number of leading online music stores that sell consumers digital music. Currently, the largest U.S. online music store, iTunes, charges U.S. consumers prices ranging from \$0.69 to \$0.99 to \$1.29 per single-track download. We have limited ability to increase our wholesale prices to digital service providers for digital downloads as we believe Apple’s iTunes controls more than two-thirds of the legitimate digital music track download business. If iTunes were to adopt a lower pricing model for our music recordings or if there were structural change to other download pricing models, we may receive substantially less per download for our music, which could cause a material reduction in our revenues, unless it is offset by a corresponding increase in the number of downloads. Additionally, Apple’s iTunes and other online music stores at present accept and post for sale all the recordings that we and other distributors deliver to them. However, if online stores in the future decide to limit the types or amount of music they will accept from music content owners like us, our revenues could be significantly reduced.

A significant portion of our Music Publishing revenues is subject to rate regulation either by government entities or by local third-party collection societies throughout the world and rates on other income streams may be set by arbitration proceedings, which may limit our profitability.

Mechanical royalties and performance royalties are the two largest sources of income to our Music Publishing business and mechanical royalties are a significant expense to our Recorded Music business. In the U.S., mechanical rates are set pursuant to an arbitration process under the U.S. Copyright Act unless rates are determined through voluntary industry negotiations and performance rates are set by performing rights societies and subject to challenge by performing rights licensees. Outside the U.S., mechanical and performance rates are typically negotiated on an industry-wide basis. The mechanical and performance rates set pursuant to such processes may adversely affect us by limiting our ability to increase the profitability of our Music Publishing business. If the mechanical rates are set too high it may also adversely affect us by limiting our ability to increase the profitability of our Recorded Music business. In addition, rates our Recorded Music business receives in the U.S. for, among other sources of income and potential income, webcasting and satellite radio are set by an arbitration process under the U.S. Copyright Act unless rates are determined through voluntary industry negotiations. It is important as sales shift from physical to diversified distribution channels that we receive fair value for all of the uses of our intellectual property as our business model now depends upon multiple revenue streams from multiple sources. If the rates for these and those other income sources that are established through legally prescribed rate-setting processes are set too low, it could have a material adverse impact on our Recorded Music business or our business prospects.

An impairment in the carrying value of goodwill or other intangible and long-lived assets could negatively affect our operating results and shareholders' equity.

On June 30, 2009, we had \$1.094 billion of goodwill and \$100 million of indefinite lived intangible assets. Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, or FAS 142, requires that we test these assets for impairment annually (or more frequently should indications of impairment arise) by estimating the fair value of each of our reporting units (calculated using a discounted cash flow method) and comparing that value to the reporting units' carrying value. If the carrying value exceeds the fair value, there is a potential impairment and additional testing must be performed. In performing our annual tests and determining whether indications of impairment exist, we consider numerous factors including actual and projected operating results of each reporting unit, external market factors such as market prices for similar assets, the market capitalization of our stock, and trends in the music industry. We tested our goodwill and other indefinite lived intangible assets for impairment in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008 and concluded that such assets were not impaired. We continue to believe that conclusion is appropriate. However, future events may occur that could adversely affect the estimated fair value of our reporting units. Such events may include, but are not limited to, strategic decisions made in response to changes in economic and competitive conditions and the impact of the economic environment on our operating results. Failure to achieve sufficient levels of cash flow at our reporting units could also result in impairment charges on goodwill and indefinite lived intangible assets. If the value of the acquired goodwill or acquired indefinite lived intangible assets is impaired, our operating results and shareholders' equity could be adversely affected.

We also had \$1.353 billion of definite lived intangible assets at June 30, 2009. Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, or FAS 144, requires companies to review these assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. If similar events occur as enumerated above such that we believe indicators of impairment are present, we would test for recoverability by comparing the carrying value of the asset to the net undiscounted cash flows expected to be generated from the asset. If those net undiscounted cash flows do not exceed the carrying amount, we would perform the next step, which is to determine the fair value of the asset, which could result in an impairment charge. Any impairment charge recorded would negatively affect our operating results and shareholders' equity.

Unfavorable currency exchange rate fluctuations could adversely affect our results of operations.

The reporting currency for our financial statements is the U.S. dollar. We have substantial assets, liabilities, revenues and costs denominated in currencies other than U.S. dollars. To prepare our consolidated financial statements, we must translate those assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses into U.S. dollars at then-applicable exchange rates. Consequently, increases and decreases in the value of the U.S. dollar versus other currencies will affect the amount of these items in our consolidated financial statements, even if their value has not changed in their original currency. These translations could result in significant changes to our results of operations from period to period. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008, approximately 54% of our revenues related to operations in foreign territories. For the three months ended June 30, 2009, approximately 56% of our revenues related to foreign territories. From time to time, we enter into foreign exchange contracts to hedge the risk of unfavorable foreign currency exchange rate movements. As of June 30, 2009, we had partially hedged our material foreign currency exposures related to royalty payments remitted between our foreign affiliates and our U.S. affiliates for the current fiscal year.

We may not have full control and ability to direct the operations we conduct through joint ventures and we do not control minority (equity method) investments.

We currently have interests in a number of joint ventures and may in the future enter into further joint ventures as a means of conducting our business. In addition, we structure certain of our relationships with recording artists and songwriters as joint ventures. We may not be able to fully control the operations and the assets of our joint ventures, and we may not be able to make major decisions or may not be able to take timely actions with respect to our joint ventures unless our joint venture partners agree.

We also have several cost-method equity investments. We have invested in privately held companies, some of which are in the startup or development stages. These investments are inherently risky because the markets for the technologies or products these companies are developing are typically in the early stages and may never materialize. We do not control these investments and could lose some or all of our investment in these entities. During the quarter ended March 31, 2009, we recorded write-offs of certain cost-method investments of \$29 million. As of June 30, 2009 we had \$13 million of cost-method investments remaining on our balance sheet. Our evaluation of investments in private companies is based on the fundamentals of the business, including, among other factors, the nature of their technologies and potential for financial returns.

The enactment of legislation limiting the terms by which an individual can be bound under a “personal services” contract could impair our ability to retain the services of key artists.

California Labor Code Section 2855 (“Section 2855”) limits the duration of time any individual can be bound under a contract for “personal services” to a maximum of seven years. In 1987, Subsection (b) was added, which provides a limited exception to Section 2855 for recording contracts, creating a damages remedy for record companies. Legislation was introduced in New York in April 2009 to create a statute similar to Section 2855 to limit contracts between artists and record companies to a term of seven years which term may be reduced to three years if the artist was not represented in the negotiation and execution of such contracts by qualified counsel experienced with entertainment industry law and practices, potentially affecting the duration of artist contracts. There is no assurance that California will not introduce legislation in the future seeking to repeal Subsection (b). The repeal of Subsection (b) of Section 2855 and/or the passage of legislation similar to Section 2855 by other states could materially affect our results of operations and financial position.

We face a potential loss of catalog if it is determined that recording artists have a right to recapture rights in their recordings under the U.S. Copyright Act.

The U.S. Copyright Act provides authors (or their heirs) a right to terminate licenses or assignments of rights in their copyrighted works. This right does not apply to works that are “works made for hire.” Since the effective date of U.S. copyright liability for sound recordings (February 15, 1972), virtually all of our agreements with recording artists provide that such recording artists render services under an employment-for-hire relationship. A termination right exists under the U.S. Copyright Act for musical compositions that are not “works made for hire.” If any of our commercially available recordings were determined not to be “works made for hire,” then the recording artists (or their heirs) could have the right to terminate the rights they granted to us, generally during a five-year period starting at the end of 35 years from the date of a post-1977 license or assignment (or, in the case of a pre-1978 grant in a pre-1978 recording, generally during a five-year period starting either at the end of 56 years from the date of copyright or on January 1, 1978, whichever is later). A termination of rights could have an adverse effect on our Recorded Music business. From time to time, authors (or their heirs) can terminate our rights in musical compositions. However, we believe the effect of those terminations is already reflected in the financial results of our Music Publishing business.

If we acquire or invest in other businesses, we will face certain risks inherent in such transactions.

We may acquire, make investments in, or enter into strategic alliances or joint ventures with, companies engaged in businesses that are similar or complementary to ours. If we make such acquisitions or investments or enter into strategic alliances, we will face certain risks inherent in such transactions. For example, gaining regulatory approval for significant acquisitions or investments could be a lengthy process and there can be no assurance of a successful outcome and we could increase our leverage in connection with acquisitions or investments. We could face difficulties in managing and integrating newly acquired operations. Additionally, such transactions would divert management resources and may result in the loss of recording artists or songwriters from our rosters. If we invest in companies involved in new businesses or develop our own new business opportunities, we will need to integrate and effectively manage these new businesses before any new line of business can become successful, and as such the progress and success of any new business is uncertain. In addition, investments in new business may result in an increase in capital expenditures to build infrastructure to support our new initiatives. We cannot assure you that if we make any future acquisitions, investments, strategic alliances or joint ventures that they will be completed in a timely manner, that they will be structured or financed in a way that will enhance our credit-worthiness or that they will meet our strategic objectives or otherwise be successful. We also may not be successful in implementing appropriate operational, financial and management systems and controls to achieve the benefits expected to result from these transactions. Failure to effectively manage any of these transactions could result in material increases in costs or reductions in expected revenues, or both. In addition, if any new business in which we invest or which we attempt to develop does not progress as planned, we may not recover the funds and resources we have expended and this could have a negative impact on our businesses or our company as a whole.

We have engaged in substantial restructuring activities in the past, and may need to implement further restructurings in the future and our restructuring efforts may not be successful.

The recorded music industry continues to undergo substantial change. These changes continue to have a substantial impact on our business. See “The recorded music industry has been declining and may continue to decline, which may adversely affect our prospects and our results of operations.” Following the Acquisition, we implemented a broad restructuring plan in order to adapt our cost structure to the changing economics of the music industry. Subsequently, during the second quarter of fiscal 2007, we implemented a realignment plan to more aggressively shift resources from our physical sales channels to efforts focused on digital distribution, emerging technologies and other new revenue streams.

[Table of Contents](#)

We cannot be certain that we will not be required to implement further restructuring activities, make additions or other changes to our management or workforce based on other cost reduction measures or changes in the markets and industry in which we compete. Our inability to restructure our operations based on evolving market conditions could impact our business. Restructuring activities can create unanticipated consequences and negative impacts on the business, and we cannot be sure that any future restructuring efforts will be successful.

We are outsourcing certain functions, including our information technology infrastructure functions, and may outsource other back-office functions, which will make us more dependent upon third parties.

In an effort to make our information technology, or IT, more efficient and increase our IT capabilities and reduce potential disruptions, as well as generate cost savings, we signed a contract during the first quarter of fiscal 2009 with a third-party service provider to outsource a significant portion of our IT infrastructure functions. This outsourcing initiative is a component of our ongoing strategy to monitor our costs and to seek additional cost savings. We expect to incur both transition costs and one-time employee termination costs during fiscal 2009 associated with this outsourcing initiative. As a result, we will be relying on third parties to ensure that our IT needs are sufficiently met. This reliance subjects us to risks arising from the loss of control over IT processes, changes in pricing that may affect our operating results, and potentially, termination of provisions of these services by our supplier. In addition, in an effort to make our finance and accounting functions more efficient, as well as generate cost savings, we signed a contract during the third quarter of fiscal 2009 with a third party service provided to outsource certain finance and accounting functions. A failure of our service providers to perform may have a significant adverse affect on our business. We may outsource other back-office functions in the future, which would increase our reliance on third parties.

We are controlled by entities that may have conflicts of interest with us.

The Investor Group controls a majority of our common stock on a fully diluted basis. In addition, representatives of the Investor Group occupy substantially all of the seats on our Board of Directors and pursuant to a stockholders agreement, will have the right to appoint all of the independent directors to our board. As a result, the Investor Group has the ability to control our policies and operations, including the appointment of management, the entering into of mergers, acquisitions, sales of assets, divestitures and other extraordinary transactions, future issuances of our common stock or other securities, the payments of dividends, if any, on our common stock, the incurrence of debt by us and the amendment of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws. The Investor Group has the ability to prevent any transaction that requires the approval of our Board of Directors or the stockholders regardless of whether or not other members of our Board of Directors or stockholders believe that any such transaction is in their own best interests. For example, the Investor Group could cause us to make acquisitions that increase our indebtedness or to sell revenue-generating assets. Additionally, the Investor Group is in the business of making investments in companies and may from time to time acquire and hold interests in businesses that compete directly or indirectly with us. The Investor Group may also pursue acquisition opportunities that may be complementary to our business, and, as a result, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us. So long as the Investor Group continues to hold a majority of our outstanding common stock, the Investor Group will be entitled to nominate a majority of our Board of Directors, and will have the ability to effectively control the vote in any election of directors. In addition, so long as the Investor Group continues to own a significant amount of our equity, even if such amount is less than 50%, they will continue to be able to strongly influence or effectively control our decisions.

Our reliance on one company for the manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution of our products in North America and Europe could have an adverse impact on our ability to meet our manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution requirements.

Cinram is currently our exclusive supplier of manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution services in North America and most of Europe. Accordingly, our continued ability to meet our manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution requirements in those territories depends largely on Cinram's continued successful operation in accordance with the service level requirements mandated by us in our service agreements. If, for any reason, Cinram were to fail to meet contractually required service levels, we would have difficulty satisfying our commitments to our wholesale and retail customers, which could have an adverse impact on our revenues. Even though our agreements with Cinram give us a right to terminate based upon failure to meet mandated service levels, and there are several capable substitute suppliers, it might be difficult for us to switch to substitute suppliers for any such services, particularly in the short term, and the delay and transition time associated with finding substitute suppliers could itself have an adverse impact on our revenues.

On March 13, 2007, we entered into amendments to our existing manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution arrangements with Cinram for our physical products in North America and most of Europe. Cinram will remain our exclusive supplier of manufacturing, packaging and physical distribution services in North America and most of Europe. The terms of the Cinram agreements remain substantially the same as the terms of the original agreements. We believe that the terms of these agreements, as amended, continue to reflect market rates. The agreements, as amended, now expire on June 30, 2010.

We may be materially and adversely affected by the formation of Live Nation Entertainment.

On February 10, 2009, Live Nation and Ticketmaster Entertainment announced a proposed merger to form Live Nation Entertainment. The Live Nation-Ticketmaster merger has attracted intense scrutiny and is being reviewed by the U.S. Department of Justice, several State Attorneys General (including New York, California, Illinois, Florida and Massachusetts) and the U.K., where it has been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for a more detailed investigation. The merger would combine the world's largest online ticketing, concert promotion and management companies including Front Line Management. The combined entity would control venues, ticketing and ancillary revenues derived from concerts, and in some cases would act as a record label as part of the expanded-rights deals Live Nation has signed with several artists. If this transaction is permitted to close, we cannot predict what impact it might have on us.

Risks Related to our Leverage

Our substantial leverage on a consolidated basis could adversely affect our ability to raise additional capital to fund our operations, limit our ability to react to changes in the economy or our industry and prevent us from meeting our obligations under our indebtedness.

We are highly leveraged. As of June 30, 2009, our total consolidated indebtedness was \$1.935 billion. In addition, as of June 30, 2009, we had an additional \$3 million in letters of credit outstanding.

Our high degree of leverage could have important consequences for you, including:

- making it more difficult for us and our subsidiaries to make payments on indebtedness;
- increasing our vulnerability to general economic and industry conditions;
- requiring a substantial portion of cash flow from operations to be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on indebtedness, therefore reducing our ability to use our cash flow to fund our operations, capital expenditures and future business opportunities;
- limiting our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, product development, debt service requirements, acquisitions and general corporate or other purposes; and
- limiting our ability to adjust to changing market conditions and placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors who are less highly leveraged.

We and our subsidiaries may be able to incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future, subject to the restrictions contained in any future senior secured credit facility and the indentures relating to our outstanding notes. If new indebtedness is added to our current debt levels, the related risks that we and our subsidiaries now face could intensify.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness, and may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness, which may not be successful.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance our debt obligations depends on our financial condition and operating performance, which is subject to prevailing economic and competitive conditions and to certain financial, business and other factors beyond our control. We cannot assure you that we will maintain a level of cash flows from operating activities sufficient to permit us to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations, we may be forced to reduce or delay investments in recording artists and songwriters, capital expenditures or dividends, or to sell assets, seek additional capital or restructure or refinance our indebtedness. These alternative measures may not be successful and may not permit us to meet our scheduled debt service obligations. In the absence of such operating results and resources, we could face substantial liquidity problems and might be required to dispose of material assets or operations to meet our debt service and other obligations. The indentures governing our outstanding notes restrict our ability to dispose of assets and use the proceeds from dispositions. We may not be able to consummate those dispositions or to obtain the proceeds which we could realize from them and these proceeds may not be adequate to meet any debt service obligations then due.

Holdings, our immediate subsidiary, also will be relying on our indirect subsidiary Acquisition Corp. and its subsidiaries to make cash interest payments on its Holdings Discount Notes. If Acquisition Corp. does not dividend funds to Holdings in an amount sufficient to make such payments, Holdings may default under the indenture governing the Holdings Discount Notes, which would result in all such notes becoming due and payable. Because Acquisition Corp.'s existing debt agreements have covenants that limit its ability to make payments to Holdings, Holdings may not have access to funds in an amount sufficient to service its indebtedness.

Our debt agreements contain restrictions that limit our flexibility in operating our business.

The indentures governing our outstanding notes contain various covenants that limit our ability to engage in specified types of transactions. These covenants limit our ability, Holdings' ability and the ability of our restricted subsidiaries to, among other things:

- incur additional indebtedness or issue certain preferred shares;

[Table of Contents](#)

- pay dividends on or make distributions in respect of our common stock or make other restricted payments;
- make certain investments;
- sell certain assets;
- create liens on certain indebtedness without in certain cases securing the applicable indebtedness;
- consolidate, merge, sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of our assets;
- enter into certain transactions with our affiliates; and
- designate our subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries.

All of these restrictions could affect our ability to operate our business or may limit our ability to take advantage of potential business opportunities as they arise.

A reduction in our credit ratings could impact our cost of capital.

Although reductions in our debt ratings may not have an immediate impact on the cost of debt or our liquidity, they may impact the cost of debt and liquidity over the medium term and future access at a reasonable rate to the debt markets may be adversely impacted.

Risks Related to our Common Stock

We are a “controlled company” within the meaning of the New York Stock Exchange rules and, as a result, will qualify for, and intend to rely on, exemptions from certain corporate governance requirements.

The Investor Group controls a majority of our outstanding common stock. As a result, we are a “controlled company” within the meaning of the NYSE corporate governance standards. Under the NYSE rules, a company of which more than 50% of the voting power is held by an individual, a group, or another company is a “controlled company” and may elect not to comply with certain NYSE corporate governance requirements, as applicable, including (1) the requirement that a majority of the Board of Directors consist of independent directors, (2) the requirement that we have a nominating/corporate governance committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities, (3) the requirement that we have a compensation committee that is composed entirely of independent directors with a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities and (4) the requirement that we perform an annual performance evaluation of the nominating/corporate governance committee and compensation committee. We are utilizing and intend to continue to utilize these exemptions while we are a controlled company. As a result, we will not have a majority of independent directors and neither our nominating and corporate governance committee, which also serves as our executive committee, nor our compensation committee will consist entirely of independent directors. While our executive, governance and nominating committee and compensation committee have charters that comply with NYSE requirements, we are not required to maintain those charters. Accordingly, you will not have the same protections afforded to stockholders of companies that are subject to all of the NYSE corporate governance requirements.

Future sales of our shares could depress the market price of our common stock.

The market price of our common stock could decline as a result of sales of a large number of shares of common stock in the market or the perception that such sales could occur. These sales, or the possibility that these sales may occur, also might make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities in the future at a time and at a price that we deem appropriate. As of June 30, 2009 we had approximately 154.6 million shares of common stock outstanding. Approximately 93.3 million shares are held by the Investor Group and are eligible for resale from time to time, subject to contractual and Securities Act restrictions. The Investor Group has the ability to cause us to register the resale of their shares and certain other holders of our common stock, including members of our management and certain other parties that have piggyback registration rights, will be able to participate in such registration. In addition, in 2005, we registered approximately 8.3 million shares of restricted common stock and approximately 8.4 million shares underlying options issued and securities that may be issued in the future pursuant to our benefit plans and arrangements on registration statements on Form S-8. Shares registered on these registration statements on Form S-8 may be sold as provided in the respective registration statements on Form S-8. In April 2008, we registered an additional 16.5 million shares underlying options issued, and securities that might be issued in the future pursuant to our benefit plans and arrangements, on an additional Form S-8.

The market price of our common stock may be volatile, which could cause the value of your investment to decline.

Securities markets worldwide experience significant price and volume fluctuations. This market volatility, as well as general economic, market or potential conditions, could reduce the market price of our common stock in spite of our operating performance. In addition, our operating results could be below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, and in response, the market price of our common stock could decrease significantly. As a result, the market price of our common stock could decline below the price at which you purchase it. You may be unable to resell your shares of our common stock at or above such price. Among the other factors that could affect our stock price are:

- actual or anticipated variations in operating results;

Table of Contents

- changes in dividend policy or our intentions to deploy our capital, including any decisions to repurchase our debt or common stock, or to use existing cash in connection with any refinancing of our debt;
- changes in financial estimates or investment recommendations by research analysts;
- actual or anticipated changes in economic, political or market conditions, such as recessions or international currency fluctuations;
- actual or anticipated changes in the regulatory environment affecting the music industry;
- changes in the retailing environment;
- changes in the market valuations of other content on media companies or diversified media companies that are also engaged in some of the business in which we are engaged that may be deemed our peers; and
- announcements by us or our competitors of significant acquisitions, strategic partnerships, divestitures, joint ventures or other strategic initiatives.

See “Risk Factors—Due to the nature of our business, our results of operations and cash flows may fluctuate significantly from period to period.” In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company’s securities, stockholders have often instituted class action securities litigation against those companies. Such litigation, if instituted, could result in substantial costs and a diversion of management attention and resources, which could significantly harm our profitability and reputation.

Provisions in our Charter and amended and restated bylaws and Delaware law may discourage a takeover attempt.

Provisions contained in our Charter and amended and restated bylaws (“Bylaws”) and Delaware law could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us, even if doing so might be beneficial to our stockholders. Provisions of our Charter and Bylaws impose various procedural and other requirements, which could make it more difficult for shareholders to effect certain corporate actions. For example, our Charter authorizes our Board of Directors to issue up to 100,000,000 preferred shares and determine the rights including vesting rights, preferences, privileges, qualifications, limitations, and restrictions of unissued series of preferred stock, without any vote or action by our shareholders. Thus, our Board of Directors can authorize and issue shares of preferred stock with voting or conversion rights that could adversely affect the voting or other rights of holders of our common stock. These rights may have the effect of delaying or deterring a change of control of our company. These provisions could limit the price that certain investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

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

Item 2 is not applicable and has been omitted.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

Item 3 is not applicable and has been omitted.

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

Item 4 is not applicable and has been omitted.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 5 is not applicable and has been omitted.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

- 3.1 Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Warner Music Group Corp. (1)
- 3.2 Amended and Restated Bylaws of Warner Music Group Corp. (2)
- 4.1 Indenture, dated as of May 28, 2009, among WMG Acquisition Corp., the Guarantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Trustee. (3)
- 4.2 Security Agreement, dated as of May 28, 2009, among WMG Acquisition Corp., WMG Holdings Corp., the Grantors party thereto and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Collateral Agent for the Secured Parties and as Notes Authorized Representative. (3)
- 4.3 Copyright Security Agreement, dated as of May 28, 2009, made by the Grantors listed on the signature pages thereto in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Collateral Agent for the Secured Parties. (3)

Table of Contents

- 4.4 Patent Security Agreement, dated as of May 28, 2009, made by the Grantors listed on the signature pages thereto in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as Collateral Agent for the Secured Parties. (3)
- 10.1 Warner Music Group Corp. Amended and Restated 2005 Omnibus Award Plan*
- 31.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended*
- 31.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and Rule 15d-15(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended*
- 32.1 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**
- 32.2 Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

* Filed herewith.

** This certification will be treated as “accompanying” this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q and not “filed” as part of such report for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended, or otherwise subject the liability of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and this certification will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, except to the extent that the registrant specifically incorporates it by reference.

- (1) Incorporated by reference to Warner Music Group Corp.’s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2005 (File No. 001-32502).
- (2) Incorporated by reference to Warner Music Group Corp.’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on December 23, 2008 (File No. 001-32502).
- (3) Incorporated by reference to Warner Music Group Corp.’s Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 29, 2009 (File No. 001-32502).

SIGNATURES

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

August 6, 2009

WARNER MUSIC GROUP CORP.

By: _____ /s/ EDGAR BRONFMAN, JR.
Name: **Edgar Bronfman, Jr.**
Title: **Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the
Board of Directors (Principal Executive Officer)**

By: _____ /s/ STEVEN MACRI
Name: **Steven Macri**
Title: **Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial
Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)**

**Warner Music Group Corp.
2005 Omnibus Award Plan**

(Amended and Restated Effective February 26, 2008)

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Plan is to provide a means through which the Company and its Affiliates may attract able persons to enter and remain in the employ of the Company and its Affiliates and to provide a means whereby employees, directors and consultants of the Company and its Affiliates can acquire and maintain Common Stock ownership, or be paid incentive compensation measured by reference to the value of Common Stock, thereby strengthening their commitment to the welfare of the Company and its Affiliates and promoting an identity of interest between stockholders and these persons.

So that the appropriate incentive can be provided, the Plan provides for granting Incentive Stock Options, Nonqualified Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, Phantom Stock Awards, Stock Bonuses and Performance Compensation Awards, or any combination of the foregoing.

2. Definitions

The following definitions shall be applicable throughout the Plan.

(a) "Affiliate" means any entity that directly or indirectly is controlled by, controls or is under common control with the Company.

(b) "Award" means, individually or collectively, any Incentive Stock Option, Nonqualified Stock Option, Stock Appreciation Right, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Unit, Phantom Stock Award, Stock Bonus or Performance Compensation Award granted under the Plan.

(c) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company.

(d) "Cause" means the Company or an Affiliate having "cause" to terminate a Participant's employment or service, as defined in any existing employment, consulting or any other agreement between the Participant and the Company or an Affiliate or, in the absence of such an employment, consulting or other agreement, upon (i) the determination by the Committee that the Participant has ceased to perform his duties to the Company, or an Affiliate (other than as a result of his incapacity due to physical or mental illness or injury), which failure amounts to an intentional and extended neglect of his duties to such party, (ii) the Committee's determination that the Participant has engaged or is about to engage in conduct materially injurious to the Company or an Affiliate, (iii) the Participant having been convicted of, or plead guilty or no contest to, a felony or any crime involving as a material element fraud or dishonesty, (iv) the failure of the Participant to follow the lawful instructions of the Board or his

direct superiors or (v) in the case of a Participant who is a non-employee director, the Participant ceasing to be a member of the Board in connection with the Participant engaging in any of the activities described in clauses (i) through (iv) above.

(e) "Change in Control" shall, unless in the case of a particular Award the applicable Award agreement states otherwise or contains a different definition of "Change in Control," have the meaning set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation of the Company.

(f) "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Reference in the Plan to any section of the Code shall be deemed to include any amendments or successor provisions to such section and any regulations under such section.

(g) "Committee" means a committee of at least two people as the Board may appoint to administer the Plan or, if no such committee has been appointed by the Board, the Board. Unless the Board is acting as the Committee or the Board specifically determines otherwise, each member of the Committee shall, at the time he takes any action with respect to an Award under the Plan, be an Eligible Director. However, the fact that a Committee member shall fail to qualify as an Eligible Director shall not invalidate any Award granted by the Committee which Award is otherwise validly granted under the Plan.

(h) "Common Stock" means the common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Company and any stock into which such common stock may be converted or into which it may be exchanged.

(i) "Company" means Warner Music Group Corp. and any successor thereto.

(j) "Date of Grant" means the date on which the granting of an Award is authorized, or such other date as may be specified in such authorization or, if there is no such date, the date indicated on the applicable Award agreement.

(k) "Disability" means, unless in the case of a particular Award the applicable Award agreement states otherwise, the Company or an Affiliate having cause to terminate a Participant's employment or service on account of "disability," as defined in any existing employment, consulting or other similar agreement between the Participant and the Company or an Affiliate or, in the absence of such an employment, consulting or other agreement, a condition entitling the Participant to receive benefits under a long-term disability plan of the Company or an Affiliate or, in the absence of such a plan, the complete and permanent inability by reason of illness or accident to perform the duties of the occupation at which a Participant was employed or served when such disability commenced, as determined by the Committee based upon medical evidence acceptable to it.

(l) “Effective Date” means the date upon which the Pricing Committee of the Board sets the price at which the shares of Common Stock are to be sold to a group of underwriters in the underwritten initial public offering of Common Stock, immediately following the recapitalization of the Common Stock in preparation for such initial public offering.

(m) “Eligible Director” means a person who is (i) a “non-employee director” within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act, or a person meeting any similar requirement under any successor rule or regulation and (ii) an “outside director” within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, and the Treasury Regulations promulgated thereunder; provided, however, that clause (ii) shall apply only with respect to grants of Awards with respect to which the Company’s tax deduction could be limited by Section 162(m) of the Code if such clause did not apply.

(n) “Eligible Person” means any (i) individual regularly employed by the Company or Affiliate who satisfies all of the requirements of Section 6; provided, however, that no such employee covered by a collective bargaining agreement shall be an Eligible Person unless and to the extent that such eligibility is set forth in such collective bargaining agreement or in an agreement or instrument relating thereto; (ii) director of the Company or an Affiliate; or (iii) consultant or advisor to the Company or an Affiliate who may be offered securities pursuant to Form S-8.

(o) “Exchange Act” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(p) “Fair Market Value”, on a given date means (i) if the Stock is listed on a national securities exchange, the closing sales price reported as having occurred on the primary exchange with which the Stock is listed and traded on such date, or, if there is no such sale on that date, then on the last preceding date on which such a sale was reported; (ii) if the Stock is not listed on any national securities exchange but is quoted in the Nasdaq National Market (the “Nasdaq”) on a last sale basis, the last sales price reported on such date, or, if there is no such sale on that date, then on the last preceding date on which a sale was reported; or (iii) if the Stock is not listed on a national securities exchange nor quoted in the Nasdaq on a last sale basis, the amount determined by the Committee to be the fair market value based upon a good faith attempt to value the Stock accurately and computed in accordance with applicable regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

(q) “Good Reason” shall have the meaning, if any, set forth in a Participant’s employment agreement, if any, with the Company or an Affiliate, and shall not apply in respect of any Participant who does not have such an employment agreement.

(r) “Incentive Stock Option” means an Option granted by the Committee to a Participant under the Plan which is designated by the Committee as an incentive stock option as described in Section 422 of the Code and otherwise meets the requirements set forth herein.

(s) "Mature Shares" means shares of Stock owned by a Participant which are not subject to any pledge or other security interest and have such other requirements as the Committee may determine are necessary in order to avoid an accounting earnings charge on account of the use of such shares to pay the Option Price or satisfy a withholding obligation in respect of an Option.

(t) "Negative Discretion" shall mean the discretion authorized by the Plan to be applied by the Committee to eliminate or reduce the size of a Performance Compensation Award in accordance with Section 11(d)(iv) of the Plan; provided, that the exercise of such discretion would not cause the Performance Compensation Award to fail to qualify as "performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code.

(u) "Nonqualified Stock Option" means an Option granted by the Committee to a Participant under the Plan which is not designated by the Committee as an Incentive Stock Option.

(v) "Option" means an Award granted under Section 7 of the Plan.

(w) "Option Period" means the period described in Section 7(c) of the Plan.

(x) "Option Price" means the exercise price for an Option as described in Section 7(a) of the Plan.

(y) "Participant" means an Eligible Person who has been selected by the Committee to participate in the Plan and to receive an Award pursuant to Section 6 of the Plan.

(z) "Parent" means any parent of the Company as defined in Section 424(e) of the Code.

(aa) "Performance Compensation Award" shall mean any Award designated by the Committee as a Performance Compensation Award pursuant to Section 11 of the Plan.

(bb) "Performance Criteria" shall mean the criterion or criteria that the Committee shall select for purposes of establishing the Performance Goal(s) for a Performance Period with respect to any Performance Compensation Award under the Plan. The Performance Criteria that will be used to establish the Performance Goal(s) shall be based on the attainment of specific levels of performance of the Company (or Affiliate, division or operational unit of the Company) and shall be limited to the following:

(i) net earnings or net income (before or after taxes);

- (ii) basic or diluted earnings per share (before or after taxes) or earnings per shares growth;
- (iii) net revenue or net revenue growth;
- (iv) gross profit or gross profit growth;
- (v) net operating profit (before or after taxes) or net operating profit growth;
- (vi) return measures (including, but not limited to, return on assets, capital, invested capital, equity, or sales);
- (vii) cash flow (including, but not limited to, operating cash flow, free cash flow, and cash flow return on capital);
- (viii) earnings before or after taxes, interest, depreciation and/or amortization (EBITDA) or EBITDA growth;
- (ix) operating income before or after depreciation and/or amortization (OIBDA) or OIBDA growth;
- (x) gross or operating margins;
- (xi) productivity ratios;
- (xii) share price (including, but not limited to, growth measures and total stockholder return);
- (xiii) expense targets;
- (xiv) margins;
- (xv) operating efficiency;
- (xvi) objective measures of customer satisfaction;
- (xvii) working capital targets;
- (xviii) measures of economic value added;
- (xix) inventory control; and
- (xx) enterprise value.

Any one or more of the Performance Criterion may be used on an absolute or relative basis to measure the performance of the Company and/or an Affiliate as a whole or any business unit of the Company and/or an Affiliate or any combination thereof, as the Committee may deem appropriate, or any of the above Performance Criteria as

compared to the performance of a group of comparator companies, or published or special index that the Committee, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate, or the Company may select Performance Criterion (xi) above as compared to various stock market indices. The Committee also has the authority to provide for accelerated vesting of any Award based on the achievement of Performance Goals pursuant to the Performance Criteria specified in this paragraph. To the extent required under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee shall, within the first 90 days of a Performance Period (or, if longer or shorter, within the maximum period allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code), define in an objective fashion the manner of calculating the Performance Criteria it selects to use for such Performance Period. In the event that applicable tax and/or securities laws change to permit Committee discretion to alter the governing Performance Criteria without obtaining stockholder approval of such changes, the Committee shall have sole discretion to make such changes without obtaining stockholder approval.

(cc) "Performance Formula" shall mean, for a Performance Period, the one or more objective formulas applied against the relevant Performance Goal to determine, with regard to the Performance Compensation Award of a particular Participant, whether all, some portion but less than all, or none of the Performance Compensation Award has been earned for the Performance Period.

(dd) "Performance Goals" shall mean, for a Performance Period, the one or more goals established by the Committee for the Performance Period based upon the Performance Criteria. The Committee is authorized at any time during the first 90 days of a Performance Period (or, if longer or shorter, within the maximum period allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code), or at any time thereafter to the extent allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code, in its sole and absolute discretion, to adjust or modify the calculation of a Performance Goal for such Performance Period in order to prevent the dilution or enlargement of the rights of Participants based on the following events:

- (i) asset write-downs;
- (ii) litigation or claim judgments or settlements;
- (iii) the effect of changes in tax laws, accounting principles, or other laws or regulatory rules affecting reported results;
- (iv) any reorganization and restructuring programs;
- (v) extraordinary nonrecurring items as described in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 30 (or any successor pronouncement thereto) and/or in management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations appearing in the Company's annual report to stockholders for the applicable year;
- (vi) acquisitions or divestitures;

- (vii) any other specific unusual or nonrecurring events, or objectively determinable category thereof;
- (viii) foreign exchange gains and losses; and
- (ix) a change in the Company's fiscal year.

(ee) "Performance Period" shall mean the one or more periods of time not less than one (1) year in duration, as the Committee may select, over which the attainment of one or more Performance Goals will be measured for the purpose of determining a Participant's right to, and the payment of, a Performance Compensation Award.

(ff) "Phantom Stock Award" shall mean a cash award whose value is determined based on the change in the value of the Company Common Stock from the Effective Date.

(gg) "Plan" means this Warner Music Group Corp. 2005 Omnibus Award Plan.

(hh) "Restricted Period" means, with respect to any Award of Restricted Stock or any Restricted Stock Unit, the period of time determined by the Committee during which such Award is subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 9 or, as applicable, the period of time within which performance is measured for purposes of determining whether an Award has been earned.

(ii) "Restricted Stock Unit" means a hypothetical investment equivalent to one share of Stock granted in connection with an Award made under Section 9.

(jj) "Restricted Stock" means shares of Stock issued or transferred to a Participant subject to forfeiture and the other restrictions set forth in Section 9 of the Plan.

(kk) "Securities Act" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

(ll) "Stock" means the Common Stock or such other authorized shares of stock of the Company as the Committee may from time to time authorize for use under the Plan.

(mm) "Stock Appreciation Right" or "SAR" means an Award granted under Section 8 of the Plan.

(nn) "Stock Bonus" means an Award granted under Section 10 of the Plan.

(oo) "Stock Option Agreement" means any agreement between the Company and a Participant who has been granted an Option pursuant to Section 7 which defines the rights and obligations of the parties thereto.

(pp) "Strike Price" means, (i) in the case of a SAR granted in tandem with an Option, the Option Price of the related Option, or (ii) in the case of a SAR granted independent of an Option, the Fair Market Value on the Date of Grant.

(qq) "Subsidiary" means any subsidiary of the Company as defined in Section 424(f) of the Code.

(rr) "Substitution Award" means an Award that is intended to replace any existing incentive award held by an employee or director of, or consultant or advisor to, an entity acquired by the Company or an Affiliate of the Company. The terms and conditions of any Substitution Award shall be set forth in an Award agreement and shall, except as may be inconsistent with any provision of the Plan, to the extent practicable provide the recipient with benefits (including economic value) substantially similar to those provided to the recipient under the existing award which such Substitution Award is intended to replace.

(ss) "Vested Unit" shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in Section 9(d) of the Plan.

(tt) "Voting Stock" of a person means all classes of capital stock or other interests, including partnership interests, of such person then outstanding and normally entitled, without regard to the occurrence of any contingency, to vote in the election of directors, managers, or trustee thereof.

3. Effective Date, Duration and Shareholder Approval

The Plan is effective as of the Effective Date. No Option shall be treated as an Incentive Stock Option unless the Plan has been approved by the shareholders of the Company in a manner intended to comply with the shareholder approval requirements of Section 422(b)(i) of the Code; provided, that any Option intended to be an Incentive Stock Option shall not fail to be effective solely on account of a failure to obtain such approval, but rather such Option shall be treated as a Nonqualified Stock Option unless and until such approval is obtained.

The expiration date of the Plan, on and after which no Awards may be granted hereunder, shall be the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date; provided, however, that such expiration shall not affect Awards then outstanding, and the terms and conditions of the Plan shall continue to apply to such Awards.

4. Administration

(a) The Committee shall administer the Plan. The majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. The acts of a majority of the members present at any meeting at which a quorum is present or acts approved in writing by a majority of the Committee shall be deemed the acts of the Committee.

(b) Subject to the provisions of the Plan and applicable law, the Committee shall have the power, and in addition to other express powers and authorizations conferred on the Committee by the Plan, to: (i) designate Participants; (ii) determine the type or types of Awards to be granted to a Participant; (iii) determine the number of shares of Stock to be covered by, or with respect to which payments, rights, or other matters are to be calculated in connection with, Awards; (iv) determine the terms and conditions of any Award; (v) determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances Awards may be settled or exercised in cash, shares of Stock, other securities, other Awards or other property, or canceled, forfeited, or suspended and the method or methods by which Awards may be settled, exercised, canceled, forfeited, or suspended; (vi) determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances the delivery of cash, Stock, other securities, other Options, other property and other amounts payable with respect to an Award shall be deferred either automatically or at the election of the holder thereof or of the Committee; (vii) interpret, administer, reconcile any inconsistency, correct any defect and/or supply any omission in the Plan and any instrument or agreement relating to, or Award granted under, the Plan; (viii) establish, amend, suspend, or waive such rules and regulations; (ix) appoint such agents as it shall deem appropriate for the proper administration of the Plan; and (x) make any other determination and take any other action that the Committee deems necessary or desirable for the administration of the Plan.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the committee may delegate to any officer of the Company or any Affiliate the authority to act on behalf of the Committee with respect to any matter, right, obligation, or election which is the responsibility of or which is allocated to the Committee herein, and which may be so delegated as a matter of law, except for grants of Awards to (i) "covered employees" under Code Section 162(m) (other than Awards exempt from the application of Code Section 162(m)) and (ii) persons subject to Section 16 of the 1934 Act.

(d) Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Plan, all designations, determinations, interpretations, and other decisions under or with respect to the Plan or any Award or any documents evidencing Awards granted pursuant to the Plan shall be within the sole discretion of the Committee, may be made at any time and shall be final, conclusive and binding upon all parties, including, without limitation, the Company, any Affiliate, any Participant, any holder or beneficiary of any Award, and any shareholder.

(e) No member of the Committee shall be liable for any action or determination made in good faith with respect to the Plan or any Award hereunder.

5. Grant of Awards; Shares Subject to the Plan

The Committee may, from time to time, grant Awards of Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Units, Phantom Stock Awards, Stock Bonuses and/or Performance Compensation Awards to one or more Eligible Persons; provided, however, that:

(a) Subject to Section 13, the aggregate number of shares of Stock in respect of which Awards may be granted under the Plan is 19,916,133 shares;

(b) Shares of Stock shall be deemed to have been used in settlement of Awards whether or not they are actually delivered or the Fair Market Value equivalent of such shares is paid in cash; provided, however, that shares of Stock delivered (either directly or by means of attestation) in full or partial payment of the Option Price in accordance with Section 7(b) shall be deducted from the number of shares of Stock delivered to the Participant pursuant to such Option for purposes of determining the number of shares of Stock acquired pursuant to the Plan. In accordance with (and without limitation upon) the preceding sentence, if and to the extent an Award under the Plan expires, terminates or is canceled for any reason whatsoever without the Participant having received any benefit therefrom, the shares covered by such Award shall again become available for future Awards under the Plan. For purposes of the foregoing sentence, a Participant shall not be deemed to have received any "benefit" (i) in the case of forfeited Restricted Stock Awards by reason of having enjoyed voting rights and dividend rights prior to the date of forfeiture or (ii) in the case of an Award canceled by reason of a new Award being granted in substitution therefor;

(c) Stock delivered by the Company in settlement of Awards may be authorized and unissued Stock, Stock held in the treasury of the Company, Stock purchased on the open market or by private purchase, or a combination of the foregoing; and

(d) Subject to Section 13, no person may be granted Options or SARs under the Plan during any calendar year with respect to more than 6,000,000 shares of Stock.

6. Eligibility

Participation shall be limited to Eligible Persons who have entered into an Award agreement or who have received written notification from the Committee, or from a person designated by the Committee, that they have been selected to participate in the Plan.

7. Options

The Committee is authorized to grant one or more Incentive Stock Options or Nonqualified Stock Options to any Eligible Person; provided, however, that no Incentive Stock Option shall be granted to any Eligible Person who is not an employee of the Company or a Parent or Subsidiary. Each Option so granted shall be subject to the conditions set forth in this Section 7, or to such other conditions as may be reflected in the applicable Stock Option Agreement.

(a) **Option Price.** The exercise price (“Option Price”) per share of Stock for each Option which is not a Substitution Award shall be set by the Committee at the time of grant but shall not be less than the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Date of Grant.

(b) **Manner of Exercise and Form of Payment.** No shares of Stock shall be delivered pursuant to any exercise of an Option until payment in full of the Option Price therefor is received by the Company. Options which have become exercisable may be exercised by delivery of written notice of exercise to the Committee accompanied by payment of the Option Price. The Option Price shall be payable (i) in cash, check, cash equivalent and/or shares of Stock valued at the Fair Market Value at the time the Option is exercised (including by means of attestation of ownership of a sufficient number of shares of Stock in lieu of actual delivery of such shares to the Company); provided, that such shares of Stock are Mature Shares; (ii) in the discretion of the Committee, either (A) in other property having a fair market value on the date of exercise equal to the Option Price or (B) by delivering to the Committee a copy of irrevocable instructions to a stockbroker to deliver promptly to the Company an amount sufficient to pay the Option Price; or (iii) by such other method as the Committee may allow. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall a Participant be permitted to exercise an Option in a manner which the Committee determines would violate the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, or any other applicable law or the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission or the applicable rules and regulations of any securities exchange or inter dealer quotation system on which the securities of the Company or any Affiliates are listed or traded.

(c) **Vesting, Option Period and Expiration.** Options shall vest and become exercisable in such manner and on such date or dates determined by the Committee and shall expire after such period, not to exceed ten years, as may be determined by the Committee (the “Option Period”); provided, however, that notwithstanding any vesting dates set by the Committee, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, accelerate the exercisability of any Option, which acceleration shall not affect the terms and conditions of such Option other than with respect to exercisability. If an Option is exercisable in installments, such installments or portions thereof which become exercisable shall remain exercisable until the Option expires.

(d) **Stock Option Agreement – Other Terms and Conditions.** Each Option granted under the Plan shall be evidenced by a Stock Option Agreement. Except as specifically provided otherwise in such Stock Option Agreement, each Option granted under the Plan shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

(i) Each Option or portion thereof that is exercisable shall be exercisable for the full amount or for any part thereof.

(ii) Each share of Stock purchased through the exercise of an Option shall be paid for in full at the time of the exercise. Each Option shall cease to be exercisable, as to any share of Stock, when the Participant purchases the share or exercises a related SAR or when the Option expires.

(iii) Subject to Section 12(k), Options shall not be transferable by the Participant except by will or the laws of descent and distribution and shall be exercisable during the Participant's lifetime only by him.

(iv) Each Option shall vest and become exercisable by the Participant in accordance with the vesting schedule established by the Committee and set forth in the Stock Option Agreement.

(v) At the time of any exercise of an Option, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, require a Participant to deliver to the Committee a written representation that the shares of Stock to be acquired upon such exercise are to be acquired for investment and not for resale or with a view to the distribution thereof and any other representation deemed necessary by the Committee to ensure compliance with all applicable federal and state securities laws. Upon such a request by the Committee, delivery of such representation prior to the delivery of any shares issued upon exercise of an Option shall be a condition precedent to the right of the Participant or such other person to purchase any shares. In the event certificates for Stock are delivered under the Plan with respect to which such investment representation has been obtained, the Committee may cause a legend or legends to be placed on such certificates to make appropriate reference to such representation and to restrict transfer in the absence of compliance with applicable federal or state securities laws.

(vi) Each Participant awarded an Incentive Stock Option under the Plan shall notify the Company in writing immediately after the date he or she makes a disqualifying disposition of any Stock acquired pursuant to the exercise of such Incentive Stock Option. A disqualifying disposition is any disposition (including any sale) of such Stock before the later of (A) two years after the Date of Grant of the Incentive Stock Option or (B) one year after the date the Participant acquired the Stock by exercising the Incentive Stock Option. The Company may, if determined by the Committee and in accordance with procedures established by it, retain possession of any Stock acquired pursuant to the exercise of an Incentive Stock Option as agent for the applicable Participant until the end of the period described in the preceding sentence, subject to complying with any instructions from such Participant as to the sale of such Stock.

(e) **Incentive Stock Option Grants to 10% Stockholders.** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 7, if an Incentive Stock Option is granted to a Participant who owns stock representing more than ten percent of the voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or of a Subsidiary or Parent, the Option Period shall not exceed five years from the Date of Grant of such Option and the Option Price shall be at least 110 percent of the Fair Market Value (on the Date of Grant) of the Stock subject to the Option.

(f) **\$100,000 Per Year Limitation for Incentive Stock Options.** To the extent the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined as of the Date of Grant) of Stock for which Incentive Stock Options are exercisable for the first time by any Participant during any calendar year (under all plans of the Company) exceeds \$100,000, such excess Incentive Stock Options shall be treated as Nonqualified Stock Options.

8. Stock Appreciation Rights

Any Option granted under the Plan may include SARs, either at the Date of Grant or, except in the case of an Incentive Stock Option, by subsequent amendment. The Committee also may award SARs to Eligible Persons independent of any Option. A SAR shall be subject to such terms and conditions not inconsistent with the Plan as the Committee shall impose, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) **Vesting, Transferability and Expiration.** A SAR granted in connection with an Option shall become exercisable, be transferable and shall expire according to the same vesting schedule, transferability rules and expiration provisions as the corresponding Option. A SAR granted independent of an Option shall become exercisable, be transferable and shall expire in accordance with a vesting schedule, transferability rules and expiration provisions as established by the Committee and reflected in an Award agreement.

(b) **Automatic Exercise.** If on the last day of the Option Period (or in the case of a SAR independent of an option, the period established by the Committee after which the SAR shall expire), the Fair Market Value exceeds the Strike Price, the Participant has not exercised the SAR or the corresponding Option, and neither the SAR nor the corresponding Option has expired, such SAR shall be deemed to have been exercised by the Participant on such last day and the Company shall make the appropriate payment therefor.

(c) **Payment.** Upon the exercise of a SAR, the Company shall pay to the Participant an amount equal to the number of shares subject to the SAR multiplied by the excess, if any, of the Fair Market Value of one share of Stock on the exercise date over the Strike Price. The Company shall pay such excess in cash or in shares of Stock valued at Fair Market Value.

(d) **Method of Exercise.** A Participant may exercise a SAR at such time or times as may be determined by the Committee at the time of grant by filing an irrevocable written notice with the Committee or its designee, specifying the number of SARs to be exercised and the date on which such SARs were awarded.

(e) **Expiration.** Except as otherwise provided in the case of SARs granted in connection with Options, a SAR shall expire on a date designated by the Committee which is not later than ten years after the Date of Grant of the SAR.

9. Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units

(a) Award of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units.

(i) The Committee shall have the authority (A) to grant Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units to Eligible Persons, (B) to issue or transfer Restricted Stock to Participants, and (C) to establish terms, conditions and restrictions applicable to such Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units, including the Restricted Period, as applicable, which may differ with respect to each grantee, the time or times at which Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units shall be granted or become vested and the number of shares or units to be covered by each grant.

(ii) Each Participant granted Restricted Stock shall execute and deliver to the Company an Award agreement with respect to the Restricted Stock setting forth the restrictions and other terms and conditions applicable to such Restricted Stock. If the Committee determines that the Restricted Stock shall be held by the Company or in escrow rather than delivered to the Participant pending the release of the applicable restrictions, the Committee may require the Participant to additionally execute and deliver to the Company (A) an escrow agreement satisfactory to the Committee, if applicable, and (B) the appropriate blank stock power with respect to the Restricted Stock covered by such agreement. If a Participant shall fail to execute an agreement evidencing an Award of Restricted Stock and, if applicable, an escrow agreement and stock power, the Award shall be null and void. Subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 9(b), the Participant generally shall have the rights and privileges of a stockholder as to such Restricted Stock, including the right to vote such Restricted Stock. At the discretion of the Committee, cash dividends and stock dividends with respect to the Restricted Stock may be either currently paid to the Participant or withheld by the Company for the Participant's account, and interest may be credited on the amount of dividends withheld at a rate and subject to such terms as determined by the Committee. The cash dividends or stock dividends so withheld by the Committee and attributable to any particular share of Restricted Stock (and earnings thereon, if applicable) shall be distributed to the Participant in cash or, at the discretion of the Committee, in shares of Stock having a Fair Market Value equal to the amount of such dividends and earnings, if applicable, upon the release of restrictions on such share and, if such share is forfeited, the Participant shall have no right to such cash dividends, stock dividends or earnings.

(iii) Upon the grant of Restricted Stock, the Committee shall cause a stock certificate registered in the name of the Participant to be issued and, if it so determines, deposited together with the stock powers with an escrow agent designated by the Committee. If an escrow arrangement is used, the Committee may cause the escrow agent to issue to the Participant a receipt evidencing any stock certificate held by it, registered in the name of the Participant.

(iv) The terms and conditions of a grant of Restricted Stock Units shall be reflected in a written Award agreement. No shares of Stock shall be issued at the time a Restricted Stock Unit is granted, and the Company will not be required to set aside a fund for the payment of any such Award. At the discretion of the Committee, each Restricted Stock Unit (representing one share of Stock) may be credited with cash and stock dividends paid by the Company in respect of one share of Stock (“Dividend Equivalents”). At the discretion of the Committee, Dividend Equivalents may be either currently paid to the Participant or withheld by the Company for the Participant’s account, and interest may be credited on the amount of cash Dividend Equivalents withheld at a rate and subject to such terms as determined by the Committee. Dividend Equivalents credited to a Participant’s account and attributable to any particular Restricted Stock Unit (and earnings thereon, if applicable) shall be distributed in cash or, at the discretion of the Committee, in shares of Stock having a Fair Market Value equal to the amount of such Dividend Equivalents and earnings, if applicable, to the Participant upon settlement of such Restricted Stock Unit and, if such Restricted Stock Unit is forfeited, the Participant shall have no right to such Dividend Equivalents.

(b) Restrictions.

(i) Restricted Stock awarded to a Participant shall be subject to the following restrictions until the expiration of the Restricted Period, and to such other terms and conditions as may be set forth in the applicable Award agreement: (A) if an escrow arrangement is used, the Participant shall not be entitled to delivery of the stock certificate; (B) the shares shall be subject to the restrictions on transferability set forth in the Award agreement; (C) the shares shall be subject to forfeiture to the extent provided in Section 9(d) and the applicable Award agreement; and (D) to the extent such shares are forfeited, the stock certificates shall be returned to the Company, and all rights of the Participant to such shares and as a shareholder shall terminate without further obligation on the part of the Company.

(ii) Restricted Stock Units awarded to any Participant shall be subject to (A) forfeiture until the expiration of the Restricted Period, and satisfaction of any applicable Performance Goals during such period, to the extent provided in the applicable Award agreement, and to the extent such Restricted Stock Units are forfeited, all rights of the Participant to such Restricted Stock Units shall terminate without further obligation on the part of the Company and (B) such other terms and conditions as may be set forth in the applicable Award agreement.

(iii) The Committee shall have the authority to remove any or all of the restrictions on the Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units whenever it may determine that, by reason of changes in applicable laws or other changes in circumstances arising after the date of the Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units are granted, such action is appropriate.

(c) **Restricted Period.** The Restricted Period of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units shall commence on the Date of Grant and shall expire from time to time as to that part of the Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units indicated in a schedule established by the Committee in the applicable Award agreement.

(d) **Delivery of Restricted Stock and Settlement of Restricted Stock Units.** Upon the expiration of the Restricted Period with respect to any shares of Restricted Stock, the restrictions set forth in Section 9(b) and the applicable Award agreement shall be of no further force or effect with respect to such shares, except as set forth in the applicable Award agreement. If an escrow arrangement is used, upon such expiration, the Company shall deliver to the Participant, or his beneficiary, without charge, the stock certificate evidencing the shares of Restricted Stock which have not then been forfeited and with respect to which the Restricted Period has expired (to the nearest full share) and any cash dividends or stock dividends credited to the Participant's account with respect to such Restricted Stock and the interest thereon, if any.

Upon the expiration of the Restricted Period with respect to any outstanding Restricted Stock Units, the Company shall deliver to the Participant, or his beneficiary, without charge, one share of Stock for each such outstanding Restricted Stock Unit ("Vested Unit") and cash equal to any Dividend Equivalents credited with respect to each such Vested Unit in accordance with Section 9(a)(iv) hereof and the interest thereon or, at the discretion of the Committee, in shares of Stock having a Fair Market Value equal to such Dividend Equivalents and interest thereon, if any; provided, however, that, if explicitly provided in the applicable Award agreement, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, elect to (i) pay cash or part cash and part Stock in lieu of delivering only shares of Stock for Vested Units or (ii) delay the delivery of Stock (or cash or part Stock and part cash, as the case may be) beyond the expiration of the Restricted Period. If a cash payment is made in lieu of delivering shares of Stock, the amount of such payment shall be equal to the Fair Market Value of the Stock as of the date on which the Restricted Period lapsed with respect to such Vested Unit.

(e) **Stock Restrictions.** Each certificate representing Restricted Stock awarded under the Plan shall bear a legend substantially in the form of the following until the lapse of all restrictions with respect to such Stock as well as any other information the Company deems appropriate:

Transfer of this certificate and the shares represented hereby is restricted pursuant to the terms of the Warner Music Group Corp. 2005 Omnibus Award Plan and a Restricted Stock Purchase and Award Agreement, dated as of _____, between Warner Music Group Corp. and _____. A copy of such Plan and Agreement is on file at the offices of Warner Music Group Corp.

Stop transfer orders shall be entered with the Company's transfer agent and registrar against the transfer of legended securities.

10. Stock Bonus Awards

The Committee may issue unrestricted Stock, or other Awards denominated in Stock, under the Plan to Eligible Persons, alone or in tandem with other Awards, in such amounts and subject to such terms and conditions as the Committee shall from time to time in its sole discretion determine. A Stock Bonus Award under the Plan shall be granted as, or in payment of, a bonus, or to provide incentives or recognize special achievements or contributions.

11. Performance Compensation Awards

(a) **General.** The Committee shall have the authority, at the time of grant of any Award described in Sections 7 through 10 (other than Options and Stock Appreciation Rights granted with an exercise price or grant price, as the case may be, equal to or greater than the Fair Market Value per share of Stock on the date of grant), to designate such Award as a Performance Compensation Award in order to qualify such Award as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m) of the Code. The Committee shall have the authority to grant cash bonuses under the Plan with the intent that such bonuses shall qualify for the exemption from Section 162(m) of the Code provided pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.162-27(f)(1), for the reliance period described in Treasury Regulation Section 1.162-27(f)(2). In addition, the Committee shall have the authority to make an award of a cash bonus to any Participant and designate such Award as a Performance Compensation Award in order to qualify such Award as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m).

(b) **Eligibility.** The Committee will, in its sole discretion, designate which Participants will be eligible to receive Performance Compensation Awards in respect of such Performance Period. However, designation of a Participant eligible to receive an Award hereunder for a Performance Period shall not in any manner entitle the Participant to receive payment in respect of any Performance Compensation Award for such Performance Period. The determination as to whether or not such Participant becomes entitled to payment in respect of any Performance Compensation Award shall be decided solely in accordance with the provisions of this Section 11. Moreover, designation of a Participant eligible to receive an Award hereunder for a particular Performance Period shall not require designation of such Participant eligible to receive an Award hereunder in any subsequent Performance Period and designation of one person as a Participant eligible to receive an Award hereunder shall not require designation of any other person as a Participant eligible to receive an Award hereunder in such period or in any other period.

(c) **Discretion of Committee with Respect to Performance Compensation Awards.** With regard to a particular Performance Period, the Committee shall have full discretion to select the length of such Performance Period (provided any such Performance Period shall be not less than one (1) year in duration), the type(s) of Performance Compensation Awards to be issued, the Performance Criteria that will be used to establish the Performance Goal(s), the kind(s) and/or level(s) of the Performance Goals(s) that is(are) to apply to the Company and the Performance Formula. Within the

first 90 days of a Performance Period (or, if longer or shorter, within the maximum period allowed under Section 162(m) of the Code), the Committee shall, with regard to the Performance Compensation Awards to be issued for such Performance Period, exercise its discretion with respect to each of the matters enumerated in the immediately preceding sentence of this Section 11(c) and record the same in writing.

(d) Payment of Performance Compensation Awards

(i) **Condition to Receipt of Payment.** Unless otherwise provided in the applicable Award agreement, a Participant must be employed by the Company on the last day of a Performance Period to be eligible for payment in respect of a Performance Compensation Award for such Performance Period.

(ii) **Limitation.** A Participant shall be eligible to receive payment in respect of a Performance Compensation Award only to the extent that: (A) the Performance Goals for such period are achieved; and (B) the Performance Formula as applied against such Performance Goals determines that all or some portion of such Participant's Performance Award has been earned for the Performance Period.

(iii) **Certification.** Following the completion of a Performance Period, the Committee shall review and certify in writing whether, and to what extent, the Performance Goals for the Performance Period have been achieved and, if so, calculate and certify in writing that amount of the Performance Compensation Awards earned for the period based upon the Performance Formula. The Committee shall then determine the actual size of each Participant's Performance Compensation Award for the Performance Period and, in so doing, may apply Negative Discretion in accordance with Section 11(d)(iv) hereof, if and when it deems appropriate.

(iv) **Use of Discretion.** In determining the actual size of an individual Performance Award for a Performance Period, the Committee may reduce or eliminate the amount of the Performance Compensation Award earned under the Performance Formula in the Performance Period through the use of Negative Discretion if, in its sole judgment, such reduction or elimination is appropriate. The Committee shall not have the discretion to (a) grant or provide payment in respect of Performance Compensation Awards for a Performance Period if the Performance Goals for such Performance Period have not been attained; or (b) increase a Performance Compensation Award above the maximum amount payable under Section 5(a) or Section 11(d)(vi) of the Plan.

(v) **Timing of Award Payments.** Performance Compensation Awards granted for a Performance Period shall be paid to Participants as soon as administratively practicable following completion of the certifications required by this Section 11.

(vi) **Maximum Award Payable.** Notwithstanding any provision contained in this Plan to the contrary, the maximum Performance Compensation Award payable to any one Participant under the Plan for a Performance Period is 6,000,000 shares of Stock or, in the event such Performance Compensation Award is paid in cash, the equivalent cash value thereof on the first or last day of the Performance Period to which such Award relates, as determined by the Committee. The maximum amount that can be paid in any calendar year to any Participant pursuant to a cash bonus Award described in the last sentence of Section 11(a) shall be \$10,000,000. Furthermore, any Performance Compensation Award that has been deferred shall not (between the date as of which the Award is deferred and the payment date) increase (A) with respect to Performance Compensation Award that is payable in cash, by a measuring factor for each fiscal year greater than a reasonable rate of interest set by the Committee or (B) with respect to a Performance Compensation Award that is payable in shares of Stock, by an amount greater than the appreciation of a share of Stock from the date such Award is deferred to the payment date.

12. General

(a) **Additional Provisions of an Award.** Awards to a Participant under the Plan also may be subject to such other provisions (whether or not applicable to Awards granted to any other Participant) as the Committee determines appropriate, including, without limitation, provisions (in addition to those provisions of Section 9 providing for the payment of dividends with respect to Restricted Stock and Dividend Equivalents with respect to Restricted Stock Units) adding dividend equivalent rights or other protections to Participants in respect of dividends paid on Stock underlying any Award, provisions for the forfeiture of or restrictions on resale or other disposition of shares of Stock acquired under any Award, provisions giving the Company the right to repurchase shares of Stock acquired under any Award in the event the Participant elects to dispose of such shares, provisions allowing the Participant to elect to defer the receipt of payment in respect of Awards for a specified period or until a specified event, and provisions to comply with Federal and state securities laws and Federal and state tax withholding requirements; provided, however, that any such deferral does not result in acceleration of taxability of an Award prior to receipt, or tax penalties, under Section 409A of the Code. Any such provisions shall be reflected in the applicable Award agreement.

(b) **Privileges of Stock Ownership.** Except as otherwise specifically provided in the Plan, no person shall be entitled to the privileges of ownership in respect of shares of Stock which are subject to Awards hereunder until such shares have been issued to that person.

(c) **Government and Other Regulations.** The obligation of the Company to settle Awards in Stock shall be subject to all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, and to such approvals by governmental agencies as may be required. Notwithstanding any terms or conditions of any Award to the contrary, the Company shall be under no obligation to offer to sell or to sell, and shall be prohibited from

offering to sell or selling, any shares of Stock pursuant to an Award unless such shares have been properly registered for sale pursuant to the Securities Act with the Securities and Exchange Commission or unless the Company has received an opinion of counsel, satisfactory to the Company, that such shares may be offered or sold without such registration pursuant to an available exemption therefrom and the terms and conditions of such exemption have been fully complied with. The Company shall be under no obligation to register for sale under the Securities Act any of the shares of Stock to be offered or sold under the Plan. If the shares of Stock offered for sale or sold under the Plan are offered or sold pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act, the Company may restrict the transfer of such shares and may legend the Stock certificates representing such shares in such manner as it deems advisable to ensure the availability of any such exemption.

(d) Tax Withholding.

(i) A Participant may be required to pay to the Company or any Affiliate, and the Company or any Affiliate shall have the right and is hereby authorized to withhold from any shares of Stock or other property deliverable under any Award or from any compensation or other amounts owing to a Participant, the amount (in cash, Stock or other property) of any required income tax withholding and payroll taxes in respect of an Award, its exercise, or any payment or transfer under an Award or under the Plan and to take such other action as may be necessary in the opinion of the Company to satisfy all obligations for the payment of such withholding and taxes.

(ii) Without limiting the generality of clause (i) above, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, permit a Participant to satisfy, in whole or in part, the foregoing withholding liability (but no more than the minimum required withholding liability) by (A) the delivery of Mature Shares owned by the Participant having a Fair Market Value equal to such withholding liability or (B) having the Company withhold from the number of shares of Stock otherwise issuable pursuant to the exercise or settlement of the Award a number of shares with a Fair Market Value equal to such withholding liability.

(e) Claim to Awards and Employment Rights. No employee of the Company or an Affiliate, or other person, shall have any claim or right to be granted an Award under the Plan or, having been selected for the grant of an Award, to be selected for a grant of any other Award. Neither the Plan nor any action taken hereunder shall be construed as giving any Participant any right to be retained in the employ or service of the Company or an Affiliate.

(f) Designation and Change of Beneficiary. Each Participant may file with the Committee a written designation of one or more persons as the beneficiary who shall be entitled to receive the amounts payable with respect to an Award, if any, due under the Plan upon his death. A Participant may, from time to time, revoke or change his beneficiary designation without the consent of any prior beneficiary by filing a new designation with the Committee. The last such designation received by

the Committee shall be controlling; provided, however, that no designation, or change or revocation thereof, shall be effective unless received by the Committee prior to the Participant's death, and in no event shall it be effective as of a date prior to such receipt. If no beneficiary designation is filed by a Participant, the beneficiary shall be deemed to be his or her spouse or, if the Participant is unmarried at the time of death, his or her estate.

(g) **Payments to Persons Other Than Participants.** If the Committee shall find that any person to whom any amount is payable under the Plan is unable to care for his affairs because of illness or accident, or is a minor, or has died, then any payment due to such person or his estate (unless a prior claim therefor has been made by a duly appointed legal representative) may, if the Committee so directs the Company, be paid to his spouse, child, relative, an institution maintaining or having custody of such person, or any other person deemed by the Committee to be a proper recipient on behalf of such person otherwise entitled to payment. Any such payment shall be a complete discharge of the liability of the Committee and the Company therefor.

(h) **No Liability of Committee Members.** No member of the Committee shall be personally liable by reason of any contract or other instrument executed by such member or on his behalf in his capacity as a member of the Committee nor for any mistake of judgment made in good faith, and the Company shall indemnify and hold harmless each member of the Committee and each other employee, officer or director of the Company to whom any duty or power relating to the administration or interpretation of the Plan may be allocated or delegated, against any cost or expense (including counsel fees) or liability (including any sum paid in settlement of a claim) arising out of any act or omission to act in connection with the Plan unless arising out of such person's own fraud or willful bad faith; provided, however, that approval of the Board shall be required for the payment of any amount in settlement of a claim against any such person. The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights of indemnification to which such persons may be entitled under the Company's Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws, as a matter of law, or otherwise, or any power that the Company may have to indemnify them or hold them harmless.

(i) **Governing Law.** The Plan shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Delaware applicable to contracts made and performed wholly within the State of Delaware.

(j) **Funding.** No provision of the Plan shall require the Company, for the purpose of satisfying any obligations under the Plan, to purchase assets or place any assets in a trust or other entity to which contributions are made or otherwise to segregate any assets, nor shall the Company maintain separate bank accounts, books, records or other evidence of the existence of a segregated or separately maintained or administered fund for such purposes. Participants shall have no rights under the Plan other than as unsecured general creditors of the Company, except that insofar as they may have become entitled to payment of additional compensation by performance of services, they shall have the same rights as other employees under general law.

(k) Nontransferability.

(i) Each Award shall be exercisable only by a Participant during the Participant's lifetime, or, if permissible under applicable law, by the Participant's legal guardian or representative. No Award may be assigned, alienated, pledged, attached, sold or otherwise transferred or encumbered by a Participant other than by will or by the laws of descent and distribution and any such purported assignment, alienation, pledge, attachment, sale, transfer or encumbrance shall be void and unenforceable against the Company or an Affiliate; provided that the designation of a beneficiary shall not constitute an assignment, alienation, pledge, attachment, sale, transfer or encumbrance.

(ii) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may, in its sole discretion, permit Awards other than Incentive Stock Options to be transferred by a Participant, without consideration, subject to such rules as the Committee may adopt consistent with any applicable Award agreement to preserve the purposes of the Plan, to:

- (A) any person who is a "family member" of the Participant, as such term is used in the instructions to Form S-8 (collectively, the "Immediate Family Members");
- (B) a trust solely for the benefit of the Participant and his or her Immediate Family Members;
- (C) a partnership or limited liability company whose only partners or shareholders are the Participant and his or her Immediate Family Members; or
- (D) any other transferee as may be approved either (a) by the Board or the Committee in its sole discretion, or (b) as provided in the applicable Award agreement;

(each transferee described in clauses (A), (B), (C) and (D) above is hereinafter referred to as a "Permitted Transferee"); provided that the Participant gives the Committee advance written notice describing the terms and conditions of the proposed transfer and the Committee notifies the Participant in writing that such a transfer would comply with the requirements of the Plan.

(iii) The terms of any Award transferred in accordance with the immediately preceding sentence shall apply to the Permitted Transferee and any reference in the Plan, or in any applicable Award agreement, to a Participant shall be deemed to refer to the Permitted Transferee, except that (A) Permitted Transferees shall not be entitled to transfer any Award, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution; (B) Permitted Transferees shall not be entitled to exercise any transferred Option unless there shall be in effect a registration statement on an appropriate form covering the shares of Stock to be acquired pursuant to the exercise of such Option if the Committee determines, consistent

with any applicable Award agreement, that such a registration statement is necessary or appropriate; (C) the Committee or the Company shall not be required to provide any notice to a Permitted Transferee, whether or not such notice is or would otherwise have been required to be given to the Participant under the Plan or otherwise; and (D) the consequences of the termination of the Participant's employment by, or services to, the Company or an Affiliate under the terms of the Plan and the applicable Award agreement shall continue to be applied with respect to the Participant, including, without limitation, that an Option shall be exercisable by the Permitted Transferee only to the extent, and for the periods, specified in the Plan and the applicable Award agreement.

(l) **Reliance on Reports.** Each member of the Committee and each member of the Board shall be fully justified in acting or failing to act, as the case may be, and shall not be liable for having so acted or failed to act in good faith, in reliance upon any report made by the independent public accountant of the Company and its Affiliates and/or any other information furnished in connection with the Plan by any person or persons other than himself.

(m) **Relationship to Other Benefits.** No payment under the Plan shall be taken into account in determining any benefits under any pension, retirement, profit sharing, group insurance or other benefit plan of the Company except as otherwise specifically provided in such other plan.

(n) **Expenses.** The expenses of administering the Plan shall be borne by the Company and Affiliates.

(o) **Pronouns.** Masculine pronouns and other words of masculine gender shall refer to both men and women.

(p) **Titles and Headings.** The titles and headings of the sections in the Plan are for convenience of reference only, and in the event of any conflict, the text of the Plan, rather than such titles or headings shall control.

(q) **Termination of Employment.** Unless an applicable Award agreement provides otherwise, for purposes of the Plan a person who transfers from employment or service with the Company to employment or service with an Affiliate or vice versa shall not be deemed to have terminated employment or service with the Company or an Affiliate.

(r) **Severability.** If any provision of the Plan or any Award agreement is or becomes or is deemed to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction or as to any person or Award, or would disqualify the Plan or any Award under any law deemed applicable by the Committee, such provision shall be construed or deemed amended to conform to the applicable laws, or if it cannot be construed or deemed amended without, in the determination of the Committee, materially altering the intent of the Plan or the Award, such provision shall be stricken as to such jurisdiction, person or Award and the remainder of the Plan and any such Award shall remain in full force and effect.

(s) **Compliance with Applicable Law.** Notwithstanding any provision in the Plan to the contrary, the Committee reserves the right to add any additional terms or provisions to any Award granted under the Plan that it in its sole discretion deems necessary or advisable in order that such Award (i) complies with the legal requirements of any governmental entity to whose jurisdiction the Award is subject and (ii) does not result in unintended adverse tax consequences to the Company or Participants.

(t) **409A of the Code.** Notwithstanding other provisions of the Plan or any Award agreements thereunder, no Award shall be granted, deferred, accelerated, extended, paid out or modified under this Plan in a manner that would result in the imposition of an additional tax under Section 409A of the Code upon a Participant. In the event that it is reasonably determined by the Committee that, as a result of Section 409A of the Code, payments in respect of any Award under the Plan may not be made at the time contemplated by the terms of the Plan or the relevant Award agreement, as the case may be, without causing the Participant holding such Award to be subject to taxation under Section 409A of the Code, the Company will make such payment on the first day that would not result in the Participant incurring any tax liability under Section 409A of the Code.

13. Changes in Capital Structure

Awards granted under the Plan and any agreements evidencing such Awards, the maximum number of shares of Stock subject to all Awards stated in Section 5(a) and the maximum number of shares of Stock with respect to which any one person may be granted Awards during any period stated in Sections 5(d) or 11(d)(vi) shall be subject to adjustment or substitution, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion, as to the number, price or kind of a share of Stock or other consideration subject to such Awards or as otherwise determined by the Committee to be equitable (i) in the event of changes in the outstanding Stock or in the capital structure of the Company by reason of stock or extraordinary cash dividends, stock splits, reverse stock splits, recapitalization, reorganizations, mergers, consolidations, combinations, exchanges, or other relevant changes in capitalization occurring after the Date of Grant of any such Award or (ii) in the event of any change in applicable laws or any change in circumstances which results in or would result in any substantial dilution or enlargement of the rights granted to, or available for, Participants, or which otherwise warrants equitable adjustment because it interferes with the intended operation of the Plan. Any adjustment in Incentive Stock Options under this Section 13 shall be made only to the extent not constituting a “modification” within the meaning of Section 424(h)(3) of the Code, and any adjustments under this Section 13 shall be made in a manner which does not adversely affect the exemption provided pursuant to Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act. Further, with respect to Awards intended to qualify as “performance-based compensation” under Section 162(m) of the Code, such adjustments or substitutions shall

be made only to the extent that the Committee determines that such adjustments or substitutions may be made without causing the Company to be denied a tax deduction on account of Section 162(m) of the Code. The Company shall give each Participant notice of an adjustment hereunder and, upon notice, such adjustment shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes.

Notwithstanding the above, in the event of any of the following:

A. The Company is merged or consolidated with another corporation or entity and, in connection therewith, consideration is received by shareholders of the Company in a form other than stock or other equity interests of the surviving entity;

B. All or substantially all of the assets of the Company are acquired by another person;

C. The reorganization or liquidation of the Company; or

D. The Company shall enter into a written agreement to undergo an event described in clauses A, B or C above,

then the Committee may, in its discretion and upon at least 10 days advance notice to the affected persons, cancel any outstanding Awards and cause the holders thereof to be paid, in cash or stock, or any combination thereof, the value of such Awards based upon the price per share of Stock received or to be received by other shareholders of the Company in the event. The terms of this Section 13 may be varied by the Committee in any particular Award agreement.

14. Effect of Change in Control

(a) Except to the extent provided in a particular Award agreement:

(i) In the event of a Participant's termination of employment without Cause or voluntary termination for Good Reason, if applicable, in either case following a Change in Control, notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, all Options and SARs awarded to such Participant shall become exercisable with respect to 100 percent of the shares subject to such Option or SAR, and the Restricted Period shall expire with respect to 100 percent of such shares of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units (including a waiver of any applicable Performance Goals).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Committee may, upon a Change in Control and in its sole discretion, make any Options and SARs immediately exercisable, and may cause the Restricted Period to expire with respect to any Shares of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units.

(ii) In the event of a Change in Control, all incomplete Performance Periods in effect on the date the Change in Control occurs shall end on the date of such change, and the Committee shall (A) determine the extent to which Performance Goals with respect to each such Award Period have been met based

upon such audited or unaudited financial information then available as it deems relevant, (B) cause to be paid to each Participant partial or full Awards with respect to Performance Goals for each such Award Period based upon the Committee's determination of the degree of attainment of Performance Goals which Awards may be adjusted, at the discretion of the Committee, to reflect the portion of the Award Period occurring before such Change in Control, and (C) cause all previously deferred Awards to be settled in full as soon as possible, provided, however, that any such payment does not result in acceleration of taxability of an Award prior to receipt, or tax penalties, under Section 409A of the Code.

(b) In addition, in the event of a Change in Control, the Committee may in its discretion and upon at least 10 days' advance notice to the affected persons, cancel any outstanding Awards and pay to the holders thereof, in cash or stock, or any combination thereof, the value of such Awards based upon the price per share of Stock received or to be received by other shareholders of the Company in the event.

(c) The obligations of the Company under the Plan shall be binding upon any successor corporation or organization resulting from the merger, consolidation or other reorganization of the Company, or upon any successor corporation or organization succeeding to substantially all of the assets and business of the Company. The Company agrees that it will make appropriate provisions for the preservation of Participants' rights under the Plan in any agreement or plan which it may enter into or adopt to effect any such merger, consolidation, reorganization or transfer of assets.

15. Nonexclusivity of the Plan

Neither the adoption of this Plan by the Board nor the submission of this Plan to the stockholders of the Company for approval shall be construed as creating any limitations on the power of the Board to adopt such other incentive arrangements as it may deem desirable, including, without limitation, the granting of stock options otherwise than under this Plan, and such arrangements may be either applicable generally or only in specific cases.

16. Amendments and Termination

(a) **Amendment and Termination of the Plan.** The Board may amend, alter, suspend, discontinue, or terminate the Plan or any portion thereof at any time; provided, that no such amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuation or termination shall be made without shareholder approval if such approval is necessary to comply with any tax or regulatory requirement applicable to the Plan (including as necessary to comply with any applicable stock exchange listing requirement or to prevent the Company from being denied a tax deduction on account of Section 162(m) of the Code); and provided, further, that any such amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuance or termination that would materially impair the rights of any Participant or any holder or beneficiary of any Award theretofore granted shall not to that extent be effective without the consent of the affected Participant, holder or beneficiary. The expiration date of the Plan is the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date, as described in Section 3 of the Plan.

(b) **Amendment of Award Agreements.** The Committee may, to the extent consistent with the terms of any applicable Award agreement, waive any conditions or rights under, amend any terms of, or alter, suspend, discontinue, cancel or terminate, any Award theretofore granted or the associated Award agreement, prospectively or retroactively; provided that any such waiver, amendment, alteration, suspension, discontinuance, cancellation or termination that would materially impair the rights of any Participant or any holder or beneficiary of any Award theretofore granted shall not to that extent be effective without the consent of the affected Participant, holder or beneficiary; and provided, further, that, without stockholder approval, (i) no amendment or modification may reduce the Option Price of any Option or the Strike Price of any SAR, (ii) the Committee may not cancel any outstanding Option or SAR and replace it with a new Option or SAR (with a lower Option Price or Strike Price, as the case may be) in a manner which would either (A) be reportable on the Company's proxy statement as Options which have been "repriced" (as such term is used in Item 402 of Regulation S-K promulgated under the Exchange Act), or (B) result in any "repricing" for financial statement reporting purposes and (iii) the Committee may not take any other action which is considered a "repricing" for purposes of the shareholder approval rules of any applicable stock exchange.

(c) Section 162(m) Approval

If so determined by the Committee, (i) the Plan shall be approved by the stockholders of the Company no later than the first meeting of stockholders at which directors are to be elected that occurs after the close of the third calendar year following the calendar year in which the Company's initial public offering occurs, and (ii) the provisions of the Plan regarding Performance Compensation Awards shall be disclosed and reapproved by stockholders of the Company no later than the first stockholder meeting that occurs in the fifth year following the year that stockholders previously approved such provisions following the Company's initial public offering, in each case in order for certain Awards granted after such time to be exempt from the deduction limitations of Section 162(m) of the Code. Nothing in this Section 16(c), however, shall affect the validity of Awards granted after such time if such stockholder approval has not been obtained.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Edgar Bronfman, Jr., Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Warner Music Group Corp., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 of Warner Music Group Corp. (the "Registrant");
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the Registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the Registrant's auditors and the audit committee of Registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: August 6, 2009

/s/ EDGAR BRONFMAN, JR.

**Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of
Directors (Principal Executive Officer)**

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, Steven Macri, Chief Financial Officer of Warner Music Group Corp., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 of Warner Music Group Corp. (the "Registrant");
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the Registrant and have:
 - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the Registrant's most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the Registrant's auditors and the audit committee of Registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Dated: August 6, 2009

/s/ STEVEN MACRI

**Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and
Accounting Officer)**

Certification of the Chief Executive Officer
Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350,
As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Warner Music Group Corp. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Edgar Bronfman, Jr., Chief Executive Officer of the Company certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: August 6, 2009

/s/ EDGAR BRONFMAN, JR.

Edgar Bronfman, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

Certification of the Chief Financial Officer
Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350,
As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

In connection with the Quarterly Report of Warner Music Group Corp. (the "Company") on Form 10-Q for the period ended June 30, 2009 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Steven Macri, Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: August 6, 2009

/s/ STEVEN MACRI

Steven Macri
Chief Financial Officer