

VERTICALNET INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 12, 2004  
Table of Contents

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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2004

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 000-25269

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**VERTICALNET, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<b>Pennsylvania</b> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	<b>23-2815834</b> (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
<b>400 CHESTER FIELD PARKWAY</b>  <b>MALVERN, PENNSYLVANIA</b> (Address of principal executive offices)	<b>19355</b> (Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (610) 240-0600**

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

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date:

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock as of November 4, 2004 was 33,950,610.

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**Table of Contents**

VERTICALNET, INC.

FORM 10-Q

For the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Part I. <u>FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	1
Item 2. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	16
Item 3. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	31
Item 4. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	31
<b>Part II. <u>OTHER INFORMATION</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	32
Item 2. <u>Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u>	33
Item 3. <u>Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u>	33
Item 4. <u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	33
Item 5. <u>Other Information</u>	33
Item 6. <u>Exhibits</u>	34
<b><u>SIGNATURES</u></b>	35

**Table of Contents****PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****VERTICALNET, INC.****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	September 30,	December 31,
	2004	2003
	<u>(Unaudited)</u>	
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,683	\$ 4,408
Accounts receivable, net	6,918	2,457
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	741	520
	<u>13,342</u>	<u>7,385</u>
Total current assets	13,342	7,385
Property and equipment, net	1,231	116
Other investments	606	606
Goodwill	16,311	
Other intangible assets, net	6,438	900
Other assets	517	116
	<u>38,445</u>	<u>9,123</u>
Total assets	\$ 38,445	\$ 9,123
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term debt and convertible notes	\$ 259	\$ 757
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	6,282	2,806
Deferred revenues	3,128	992
Other current liabilities		147
	<u>9,669</u>	<u>4,702</u>
Total current liabilities	9,669	4,702
Promissory note, including accrued interest	4,100	
Non-current portion of deferred revenues	249	
Other long-term debt	50	
	<u>14,068</u>	<u>4,702</u>
Total liabilities	14,068	4,702
Commitments and contingencies (see Notes 2, 6, and 7)		
Shareholders' equity:		

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Preferred stock \$.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, none issued at September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003		
Common stock \$.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 34,035,866 shares issued at September 30, 2004 and 19,454,126 shares issued at December 31, 2003	341	195
Additional paid-in capital	1,212,355	1,184,691
Deferred compensation	(1,395)	(405)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(339)	(352)
Accumulated deficit	(1,185,780)	(1,178,903)
	<u>25,182</u>	<u>5,226</u>
Treasury stock at cost, 65,636 shares at September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003	(805)	(805)
Total shareholders' equity	<u>24,377</u>	<u>4,421</u>
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	<u>\$ 38,445</u>	<u>\$ 9,123</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****VERTICALNET, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (UNAUDITED)**

(in thousands, except per share data)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Software and software related	\$ 1,613	\$ 425	\$ 3,426	\$ 1,478
Services	4,638	1,420	13,896	5,975
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>6,251</b>	<b>1,845</b>	<b>17,322</b>	<b>7,453</b>
<b>Cost of revenues:</b>				
Cost of software and software related	568	136	1,098	455
Cost of services	2,730	336	6,681	1,179
Amortization of acquired technology and customer contracts	418	225	1,068	675
<b>Total cost of revenues</b>	<b>3,716</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>8,847</b>	<b>2,309</b>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>1,148</b>	<b>8,475</b>	<b>5,144</b>
<b>Operating expenses:</b>				
Research and development	1,775	887	4,220	2,909
Sales and marketing	1,681	558	4,206	1,806
General and administrative	1,540	1,552	4,375	3,908
Restructuring reversal		(180)		(489)
Stock-based compensation (a)	372	165	1,293	358
Amortization of other intangible assets	366		743	
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>5,734</b>	<b>2,982</b>	<b>14,837</b>	<b>8,492</b>
<b>Operating loss</b>	<b>(3,199)</b>	<b>(1,834)</b>	<b>(6,362)</b>	<b>(3,348)</b>
Interest and other expense, net	197	5,760	515	6,609
<b>Net loss</b>	<b>\$ (3,396)</b>	<b>\$ (7,594)</b>	<b>\$ (6,877)</b>	<b>\$ (9,957)</b>
<b>Basic and diluted loss per common share</b>	<b>\$ (0.11)</b>	<b>\$ (0.46)</b>	<b>\$ (0.26)</b>	<b>\$ (0.69)</b>
<b>Weighted average common shares outstanding:</b>				
Basic and diluted	31,808	16,336	26,953	14,482

(a) For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, stock-based compensation expense, net of the effects of cancellations, is attributable to various expense categories as follows (in thousands):

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	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Cost of revenues	\$ 103	\$ 33	\$ 437	\$ 67
Research and development	48	29	233	30
Sales and marketing	92	18	219	35
General and administrative	129	85	404	226
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 372</b>	<b>\$ 165</b>	<b>\$ 1,293</b>	<b>\$ 358</b>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****VERTICALNET, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (UNAUDITED)**

(in thousands)

	Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,	
	2004	2003
<b>Operating activities:</b>		
Net loss	\$ (6,877)	\$ (9,957)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	2,128	1,119
Stock-based compensation, net of cancellations	1,293	358
Accretion of promissory note and non-cash interest	201	
Inducement expense related to debt conversion		5,707
Non-cash restructuring reversal		(489)
Realized loss (gain) on investments	35	(111)
Loss on disposal of property and equipment		8
Other non-cash items	282	(693)
<i>Change in assets and liabilities, net of effect of acquisitions:</i>		
Accounts receivable	(259)	373
Prepaid expenses and other assets	749	742
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(145)	(3,472)
Deferred revenues	185	73
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(2,408)</b>	<b>(6,342)</b>
<b>Investing activities:</b>		
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(5,090)	
Purchase of short-term investments	(3,000)	
Proceeds from sale of short-term investments	2,980	979
Proceeds from sale of available-for-sale investments	2	
Restricted cash	(311)	1,685
Proceeds from sale of assets		292
Capital expenditures	(102)	(59)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(5,521)</b>	<b>2,897</b>
<b>Financing activities:</b>		
Principal payments on long-term debt and obligations under capital leases	(633)	(71)
Payments to repurchase convertible notes	(728)	(1,289)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock and warrants, net	9,800	936
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and warrants	768	82
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>9,207</b>	<b>(342)</b>
<b>Effect of exchange rate fluctuation on cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>25</b>



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<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	1,275	(3,762)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of period</b>	4,408	7,979
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - end of period</b>	<b>\$ 5,683</b>	<b>\$ 4,217</b>
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information</b>		
Cash paid during the period for interest	\$ 62	\$ 189
<b>Supplemental schedule of non-cash investing and financing activities</b>		
Issuance of common stock as consideration for the Tigris acquisition	\$ 5,740	\$
Assumption of stock option plan as consideration for the Tigris acquisition	2,212	
Issuance of promissory note as consideration for the B2eMarkets acquisition	3,899	
Issuance of common stock as consideration for the B2eMarkets acquisition	6,579	
Issuance of common stock and warrants to repurchase convertible notes		10,815

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****VERTICALNET, INC.****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY**

(in thousands)

	<u>Common Stock</u>		<u>Additional Paid-In Capital</u>	<u>Deferred Compensation</u>	<u>Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss</u>	<u>Accumulated Deficit</u>	<u>Treasury Stock</u>	<u>Total Shareholders Equity</u>
	<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>						
<b>Balance, January 1, 2004</b>	19,454	\$ 195	\$ 1,184,691	\$ (405)	\$ (352)	\$ (1,178,903)	\$ (805)	\$ 4,421
Exercise of stock options	453	5	369					374
Exercise of warrants	360	3	391					394
Issuance of common stock and warrants, net	6,799	68	9,732					9,800
Issuance of common stock as consideration for acquisitions	6,970	70	12,249					12,319
Assumption of stock option plan as consideration for acquisition			2,212					2,212
Reclassification of warrants			428					428
Acceleration of stock options			121					121
Deferred stock-based compensation, net of cancellations			2,162	(2,162)				
Adjustment to unrealized loss on available-for-sale securities					15			15
Amortization of deferred stock-based compensation, net				1,172				1,172
Net loss						(6,877)		(6,877)
Foreign exchange translation adjustment					(2)			(2)
<b>Balance, September 30, 2004 (Unaudited)</b>	<b>34,036</b>	<b>\$ 341</b>	<b>\$ 1,212,355</b>	<b>\$ (1,395)</b>	<b>\$ (339)</b>	<b>\$ (1,185,780)</b>	<b>\$ (805)</b>	<b>\$ 24,377</b>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents**

**VERTICALNET, INC.**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS (UNAUDITED)**

(in thousands)

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>		<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Net loss	\$ (3,396)	\$ (7,594)	\$ (6,877)	\$ (9,957)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(1)	15	(2)	13
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments:				
Reclassification adjustment for realized loss included in net loss			15	
Unrealized gain		14		25
<b>Comprehensive loss</b>	<b>\$ (3,397)</b>	<b>\$ (7,565)</b>	<b>\$ (6,864)</b>	<b>\$ (9,919)</b>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents**

**VERTICALNET, INC.**

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)**

**(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Description of Company***

Verticalnet, Inc., which was incorporated on July 28, 1995 under the laws of Pennsylvania, is referred to throughout this report as Verticalnet, the Company, the registrant, we, us, or through similar expressions.

We are a provider of Supply Management solutions to Global 2000 companies. We provide a full scope of Supply Management software, services, and domain expertise in areas that include: Program Management, Spend Analysis, eSourcing, Contract Management, and Supplier Performance Management. Our solutions provide our clients with the visibility, insight, and control required to identify, realize, and sustain value from supply management initiatives.

Historically, we derived our revenue primarily from the licensing of our software, as well as implementation and development services. As a result of the January 2004 acquisition of Tigris Corp ( Tigris ), we also generate revenues from spend analysis and other supply chain consulting services and as a result of the July 2004 acquisition of B2eMarkets, Inc. ( B2eMarkets ), we anticipate seeing an increase in the proportion of our revenue coming from the licensing of our products and maintenance.

***Basis of Presentation***

Our consolidated financial statements include the accounts of our wholly-owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified for comparability with the current period's financial statement presentation.

During the second quarter of 2004, the Company discovered that it had been accounting for the unrealized losses on certain short-term investments incorrectly. An other-than-temporary impairment charge should have been recorded in 2001. In financial statements prior to the second quarter of 2004, the Company reported these mark to market adjustments as a change in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), a component of shareholders' equity, in the consolidated balance sheet. Due to the immaterial impact on the earlier years, the cumulative net effect of approximately \$0.4 million has been relieved from accumulated other comprehensive loss and charged directly to accumulated deficit in the consolidated balance sheet as of the earliest period presented.

***Use of Estimates***

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The preparation of financial statements in conformity with United States generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Significant estimates include: the allowance for doubtful accounts; the assessment of the recoverability of goodwill and other intangible assets, non-publicly held investments; and litigation accruals.

### *Restricted Cash*

Restricted cash represents certificates of deposit held pursuant to building lease agreements and other financing arrangements. At September 30, 2004, we had approximately \$311,000 of restricted cash classified in non-current other assets on the consolidated balance sheet. There were no restricted cash balances as of December 31, 2003.

### *Business Combinations*

We allocate the purchase price of acquired companies to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values. We engage independent third-party appraisal firms to assist in determining the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed. Such a valuation requires management to make significant estimates and assumptions, especially with respect to intangible assets.

## **Table of Contents**

### ***Intangible Assets and Other Long-Lived Assets***

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, goodwill and intangible assets acquired in a purchase business combination and determined to have an indefinite useful life are not amortized, but instead are tested for impairment annually, or more frequently if certain indicators arise. In addition, SFAS No. 142 also requires that intangible assets with estimable useful lives be amortized over their respective useful lives to their estimated residual values, and reviewed for impairment in accordance with SFAS No. 144, Accounting for Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets.

In accordance with SFAS No. 144, long-lived assets, other than goodwill and non-amortized intangibles, are reviewed for impairment whenever, in management s judgment, conditions indicate a possible loss. Such impairment tests compare estimated undiscounted cash flows to the carrying value of the asset. If an impairment is indicated, the asset is written down to its fair market value based on an estimate of its discounted cash flows.

### ***Revenue Recognition***

#### ***Software and software related***

Software and software related revenues have been principally derived from the licensing of our products, from maintenance and support contracts, and from hosting services. Customers who license our products also generally purchase maintenance contracts which provide software updates and technical support over a stated term, which is usually a twelve-month period. As part of licensing our products a customers may also purchase custom development and implementation services from us, the revenue associated with these services are recognized under Services revenues as described below.

The license agreements for our products do not provide for a right of return other than during the warranty period, and historically product returns have not been significant. We do not recognize revenue for agreements with cancellation rights or refundable fees until such rights to refund or cancellation have expired. Our products are either acquired under a perpetual license model or under a time-based license model.

We recognize revenue related to software arrangements in accordance with Statement of Position ( SOP ) 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition, as amended by SOP 98-9, Modification of SOP 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition, With Respect to Certain Transactions. We recognize revenue when all of the following criteria are met: persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; delivery of the product has occurred; the fee is fixed or determinable; and collectibility is probable. We consider all arrangements with payment terms extending beyond one year to not be fixed or determinable, and revenue under these agreements is recognized as payments become due from the customer. If collectibility is not considered probable, revenue is recognized when the fee is collected.

SOP 97-2, as amended, generally requires revenue earned on software arrangements involving multiple elements to be allocated to each element based on the relative fair values of the elements. Our determination of fair value of each element in multi-element arrangements is based on vendor-specific objective evidence ( VSOE ). We limit our assessment of VSOE for each element to either the price charged when the same element is sold separately or the price established by management, having the relevant authority to do so, for an element not yet sold separately.

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If evidence of fair value for all undelivered elements exists but evidence does not exist for one or more delivered elements, then revenue is recognized using the residual method. Under the residual method, the fair value of the undelivered elements is deferred and the remaining portion of the arrangement fee is recognized as revenue. Revenue allocated to maintenance and support is recognized ratably over the maintenance term and revenue allocated to training and other service elements is recognized as the services are performed. The proportion of revenue recognized upon delivery of the software may vary from quarter to quarter depending upon the relative mix of licensing arrangements, the extent of services that will be required to implement the software, and the availability of VSOE of fair value for all of the undelivered elements.

Software arrangements that include professional services are evaluated to determine whether those services are essential to the functionality of the software elements of the arrangement. When services are not considered essential, the revenue allocable to the professional services is recognized as the services are performed. If we provide professional services that are considered essential to the functionality of the software products, both the software product revenue and professional service revenue are recognized in accordance with the provisions of SOP 81-1, Accounting for Performance of Construction-Type and Certain Production-Type Contracts. To date, most of our professional services have been considered essential to the functionality of the software and therefore, the majority of our contracts that involved licenses and professional services were recognized on a percentage of completion basis.

Hosted term-based licenses, where the customer does not have the contractual right to take possession of the software, are accounted for in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force ( EITF ) Issue No. 00-03, Application of AICPA Statement of Position 97-2 to

**Table of Contents**

Arrangements That Include the Right to Use Software Stored on Another Entity's Hardware. Revenues related to such arrangements are recognized on a monthly basis over the term of the contract. Amounts that have been invoiced are recorded in accounts receivable and in deferred revenue or revenue, depending on whether the revenue recognition criteria have been met.

Arrangements that include professional services sold with hosted term-based licenses and support offerings are evaluated under EITF Issue No. 00-21, Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables, and the Securities and Exchange Commission's Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 104, Revenue Recognition. To the extent the professional services have value to the customer on a stand-alone basis and there is objective and reliable evidence of fair value of the undelivered elements, the consideration from the revenue arrangement is allocated among the separate elements based upon their relative fair values and consulting revenues are recognized as the services are rendered. The hosted term-based license, as well as any professional services that do not meet the above criteria, are recognized ratably over the term of the agreement. The Company's arrangements do not contain general rights of return.

**Services**

Consulting contracts with fixed-priced arrangements are recognized using the percentage-of-completion method. Percentage-of-completion accounting involves calculating the percentage of services provided during the period compared to the total estimated services to be provided over the duration of the contract. This method is followed where reasonably dependable estimates of the revenues and costs applicable to various elements of a contract can be made. Estimates of total contract revenues and costs are continuously monitored during the term of the contract, and recorded revenues and costs are subject to revision as the contract progresses. Such revisions may result in increases or decreases to revenues and results of operations and are reflected in the consolidated financial statements in the period in which they are first identified.

Consulting services with fees based on time and materials or cost-plus are recognized in accordance with SAB No. 104 as the services are performed (as measured by time incurred) and amounts earned. We consider amounts to be earned once evidence of an arrangement has been obtained, services are delivered, fees are fixed or determinable, and collectibility is reasonably assured. In such contracts, our efforts, measured by time incurred, typically is reflective of progress against the contractual milestones or output measure, which is the contractual earnings pattern. Contingent or incentive revenues relating to consulting contracts are recognized when the contingency is satisfied and we conclude the amounts are earned.

**Revenue and Credit Concentration**

As of and for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, revenues and amounts due from our largest customers were as follows (in thousands):

Customer	2004			2003		
	Accounts receivable	% of total		Accounts receivable	% of total	
	balance (a)	Revenues	revenues	balance (a)	Revenues	revenues
A	\$ 918	\$ 5,575	32.2%	\$ 670	\$ 4,566	61.3%
B	1,158	3,943	22.8%			



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<b>C</b>	720	1,168	6.7%			
<b>D</b>	231	813	4.7%	214	1,015	13.6%
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 3,027</u>	<u>\$ 11,499</u>	<u>66.4%</u>	<u>\$ 884</u>	<u>\$ 5,581</u>	<u>74.9%</u>

\_\_\_\_\_

(a) Represents both billed and unbilled amounts

**Table of Contents**

Revenues from the same customers for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, were as follows (in thousands):

Customer	2004		2003	
	% of total		% of total	
	Revenues	revenues	Revenues	revenues
A	\$ 1,155	18.5%	\$ 975	52.8%
B	1,342	21.5%		
C	357	5.7%		
D	431	6.9%	425	23.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,285</b>	<b>52.6%</b>	<b>\$ 1,400</b>	<b>75.8%</b>

**Stock Options**

Stock-based employee compensation is recognized using the intrinsic value method in accordance with Accounting Principles Board ( APB ) Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and related interpretations. Under the intrinsic value method, compensation expense is recorded on the date of grant only if the current market price of the stock exceeded the exercise price. For disclosure purposes, pro forma net loss and loss per common share data are provided in accordance with SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, as if the fair value method had been applied. The following table illustrates the effect on our net loss and loss per common share if the Company had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 (in thousands, except for per share data):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Net loss:				
As reported	\$ (3,396)	\$ (7,594)	\$ (6,877)	\$ (9,957)
Add: Stock-based employee compensation included in reported net loss	372	165	1,293	358
Deduct: Stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair-value-based method for all awards	(692)	(3,835)	(1,792)	(12,867)
Pro forma	<b>\$ (3,716)</b>	<b>\$ (11,264)</b>	<b>\$ (7,376)</b>	<b>\$ (22,466)</b>
Basic and diluted loss per common share:				
As reported	\$ (0.11)	\$ (0.46)	\$ (0.26)	\$ (0.69)
Pro forma	\$ (0.12)	\$ (0.69)	\$ (0.27)	\$ (1.55)

**Computation of Historical Loss Per Common Share**

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Basic loss per share is computed using the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted loss per share is computed using the weighted average number of common and dilutive common equivalent shares outstanding during the period, including incremental common shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options and warrants (using the treasury stock method) and the conversion of our previously outstanding 5 1/4% convertible subordinated debentures (using the if-converted method). Common equivalent shares are excluded from the calculation if their effect is anti-dilutive.

During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, the diluted loss per common share calculation was the same as the basic loss per common share calculation as all potentially dilutive securities were anti-dilutive. As a result, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003, potentially dilutive common shares of 10,690,473 and 4,896,887, respectively, were excluded from the computation of diluted loss per common share. In addition, 355,209 common shares previously held in escrow in connection with the acquisition of Tigris were only included in the loss per share calculation subsequent to their release date of April 30, 2004 and 247,939 common shares that were previously held in escrow in connection with the acquisition of Atlas Commerce, Inc. ( Atlas Commerce ) in 2001 are only included in the loss per share calculation subsequent to their release date of March 31, 2003.

Although currently not included in our weighted average shares outstanding calculation, any shares that may be issued related to the promissory note issued in connection with the B2eMarkets Acquisition (see Note 3) will have an impact on future calculations.

## **Table of Contents**

### **(2) Liquidity**

In January 2004, we completed a \$7.7 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 3,798,592 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,218,209 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$3.72 per share. The Company received approximately \$7.0 million in net proceeds from this transaction.

In February 2004, holders of 320,000 warrants exercised their warrants to purchase common shares at \$1.20 per share. The Company received approximately \$345,000 in net proceeds from the exercise of these warrants.

In April 2004, holders of 40,000 warrants exercised their warrants to purchase common shares at \$1.35 per share. The Company received approximately \$49,000 in net proceeds from the exercise of these warrants.

In August 2004, we completed a \$3.0 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 3,000,000 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,200,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$1.25 per share. The Company received approximately \$2.8 million in net proceeds from this transaction.

We believe that our current level of liquid assets will be sufficient to finance our capital requirements and anticipated operating losses through at least the next twelve months. However, to the extent that the current levels of liquid assets prove to be insufficient, we may need to further reduce our operating costs or obtain additional debt or equity financing. Additionally, if the capital markets present attractive opportunities, we may raise cash through the sale of debt or equity. We can provide no assurance that we will be successful in obtaining any required or desired financing either on acceptable terms or at all.

### **(3) Acquisitions**

#### ***B2e Markets, Inc.***

On July 19, 2004, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of Verticalnet merged with B2eMarkets, a privately-held provider of Strategic Sourcing software solutions. B2eMarkets' results have been included in the Company's results since July 19, 2004.

We acquired B2eMarkets because our Board of Directors and management believed that the acquisition would give Verticalnet the scale and a compelling combination of best of breed applications, comprehensive services, and deep domain expertise to meet the evolving and increasingly sophisticated demands of Global 2000 companies. In addition, our Board of Directors and management believed that the acquisition would provide our customers and prospects access to a complete set of solutions to take their supply management initiatives to the next level.

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Pursuant to the merger agreement, the shareholders of B2eMarkets received, in exchange for tendering their shares, a combination of stock and a promissory note.

The aggregate purchase price of the B2eMarkets acquisition was \$12.9 million, including transaction costs of approximately \$2.4 million, which primarily consisted of fees paid for investment banking and professional services. The consideration included the issuance of 5,100,000 shares of common stock, valued on the date of closing at approximately \$6.6 million, and a promissory note in the principal amount of \$5.9 million, which was valued at \$3.9 million on the date of closing. The promissory note is being accreted using an effective interest rate of 12.2% annum. The value of the Verticalnet stock issued to the B2eMarket shareholders was based on \$1.29 per share, which was the average of the closing price of the Company's common stock over a five day period that included the two days prior, the day of, and two days subsequent to the signing of the merger agreement. The note accrues interest at the rate of 8% per annum, with half of the principal amount due and payable on July 16, 2007 and the remaining half due and payable on July 16, 2008. The interest expense is being recorded as a non-cash item on our statement of cash flows since the accrued interest will not be paid in cash if the note is converted. The note is convertible into 2,949,204 shares of Verticalnet common stock, subject to approval by Verticalnet's shareholders. If the conversion feature of the note is approved by Verticalnet's shareholders, then either Verticalnet or the noteholders can require the conversion of the note into Verticalnet common stock.

In accordance with SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations, the Company allocated the purchase price to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and the liabilities assumed, based on their estimated fair values. The excess purchase price over the fair values was recorded as goodwill. The fair value assigned to intangible assets acquired was based on a valuation performed by an independent third-party valuation firm. The total purchase price was allocated as follows (in thousands):

Current assets	\$ 1,611
Property and equipment	280
Other assets	19
Goodwill	11,389
Intangible assets	3,780
	<hr/>
Total assets acquired	17,079
Current liabilities	(4,171)
	<hr/>
Total purchase price	\$ 12,908
	<hr/>

**Table of Contents**

None of the goodwill will be deductible for tax purposes.

The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net tangible assets acquired was approximately \$15.2 million, which was allocated to non-compete agreements, customer contracts, customer relationships, acquired technology, and goodwill in the amounts of \$40,000, \$610,000, \$1.5 million, \$1.6 million, and \$11.4 million, respectively. The amortization of the customer contracts and customer relationships intangible assets are based on an attrition analysis and the non-compete agreements and acquired technology intangible assets are being amortized on a straight line basis. The following are the estimated amortization percentages by year:

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
Non-compete agreements	100.0%					
Customer contracts	66.7%	33.3%				
Customer relationships	4.0%	21.0%	30.0%	21.0%	15.0%	9.0%
Acquired technology	33.3%	33.3%	33.4%			

**Tigris**

On January 30, 2004, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of Verticalnet merged with and into Tigris, a privately-held strategic sourcing and supply chain consulting firm based in New York City. Tigris results have been included in the Company's results since January 31, 2004.

We acquired Tigris because our Board of Directors and management believed that the acquisition would enhance our capability to deliver sourcing and supply chain services to the enterprise customer market by enhancing our spend analysis, software, and strategic sourcing domain expertise plus we added additional technology tools in the area of bid optimization and advanced sourcing tools.

Pursuant to the merger agreement, the sole shareholder of Tigris received, in exchange for tendering his shares, a combination of cash and stock. In addition, fully vested options to purchase Tigris common stock held by Tigris employees were exchanged for options to purchase Verticalnet common stock at a rate of 0.338 Verticalnet shares per Tigris share.

The aggregate purchase price of the Tigris acquisition was approximately \$12.1 million, including transaction costs of approximately \$300,000, which primarily consisted of fees paid for professional services. The consideration included \$3.5 million in cash, 1,870,450 shares of our common stock valued on the date of closing at approximately \$5.7 million (355,029 shares were held in escrow until they were released to Tigris shareholder on April 30, 2004), issuance of employee options to purchase 751,670 shares of our common stock valued as of the date of acquisition at \$2.2 million and assumed debt of approximately \$346,000. The value of the Verticalnet stock issued to the sole Tigris shareholder was based on \$3.07, which was the average of the closing price of the Company's common stock over a five day period that included the two days prior, the day of, and two days subsequent to the signing of the merger agreement. The fair value of the Company's stock-based awards to employees was estimated using a Black-Scholes option pricing model. The fair value of the stock-based awards to employees was estimated assuming no expected dividends and the following ranges of weighted-average assumptions:

Expected life (in years)	4 - 10 years
Expected volatility	138.02%

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Risk free interest rate 3.17% - 4.16%

In accordance with SFAS No. 141, the Company allocated the purchase price to the tangible and intangible assets acquired and the liabilities assumed, based on their estimated fair values. The excess purchase price over the fair values was recorded as goodwill. The fair value assigned to intangible assets acquired was based on a valuation performed by an independent third-party valuation firm. The total purchase price was allocated as follows (in thousands):

Current assets	\$ 3,380
Property and equipment	1,048
Goodwill	4,922
Intangible assets	3,570
	<hr/>
Total assets acquired	12,920
Current liabilities, less assumed debt	(826)
	<hr/>
Total purchase price	\$ 12,094
	<hr/>

**Table of Contents**

None of the goodwill will be deductible for tax purposes.

The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net tangible assets acquired was approximately \$8.5 million, which was allocated to customer contracts and relationships, a strategic relationship, a non-compete agreement, and goodwill in the amounts of \$1.8 million, \$1.5 million, \$200,000, and \$4.9 million, respectively. The amortization of the customer contracts and relationships and strategic relationship intangible assets are based on an attrition analysis and the non-compete intangible asset is being amortized on a straight line basis. The following are the estimated amortization percentages by year:

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>
Customer contracts and relationships	47.3%	37.6%	15.1%		
Strategic relationship	31.1%	24.3%	19.9%	13.9%	10.8%
Non-compete agreement	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%

*Unaudited Pro Forma Information*

The unaudited financial information in the table below summarizes the combined results of operations of Verticalnet, B2eMarkets, and Tigris, on a pro forma basis, as though the companies had been combined as of the beginning of each period presented. This pro forma financial information is presented for informational purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the results of operations that would have been achieved had the acquisitions taken place at the beginning of each period presented. The unaudited pro forma information for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 combines the historical results for Verticalnet for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, the historical results for B2eMarkets for the six months ended June 30, 2004 and the historical results for Tigris for the period January 1 through January 30, 2004. The unaudited pro forma information for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 combines the historical results for Verticalnet, B2eMarkets, and Tigris for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003. The following pro forma information is in thousands, except per share amounts.

	<b>Three months ended</b>	<b>Nine months ended</b>	
	<b>September 30,</b>	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Revenue	\$ 7,025	\$ 22,187	\$ 20,607
Net loss	\$ (8,823)	\$ (10,461)	\$ (17,950)
Loss per share	\$ (0.38)	\$ (0.34)	\$ (0.84)
Weighted average shares outstanding			
Basic and diluted	23,306	30,875	21,334

The unaudited pro forma information reflects the following adjustments (in thousands):

<b>Three months ended</b>	<b>Nine months ended</b>
<b>September 30,</b>	<b>September 30,</b>



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	2003	2004	2003
Base rent adjustment	\$ (119)	\$ (40)	\$ (356)
Amortization of other intangibles	\$ 611	\$ 671	\$ 1,832
Adjustment to executive salary	\$ (21)	\$ 4	\$ (62)
Accrued interest expense on promissory note	\$ 121	\$ 259	\$ 359
Accretion on carrying value of promissory note	\$ 129	\$ 276	\$ 376
Additional weighted average shares outstanding	6,970	3,922	6,852

**Table of Contents****(4) Detail of Certain Balance Sheet Accounts**

Accounts receivable, net consists of the following balances (in thousands):

	September 30,	December 31,
	2004	2003
Accounts receivable, trade	\$ 6,414	\$ 1,910
Unbilled accounts receivable	362	23
Retainage	114	505
Other receivables	62	19
	<u>6,952</u>	<u>2,457</u>
Less: allowance for doubtful accounts	(34)	
	<u>\$ 6,918</u>	<u>\$ 2,457</u>

Property and equipment consists of the following balances (in thousands):

	September 30,	December 31,
	2004	2003
Software	\$ 1,604	\$ 1,386
Computer equipment	1,277	933
Office equipment and furniture	132	86
Leasehold improvements	919	102
	<u>3,932</u>	<u>2,507</u>
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(2,701)	(2,391)
	<u>\$ 1,231</u>	<u>\$ 116</u>

**(5) Goodwill and Other Intangibles**

We adopted SFAS No. 142 effective January 1, 2002. Under SFAS No. 142, goodwill is no longer amortized but is reviewed for impairment annually, or more frequently if certain indicators arise. In addition, SFAS No. 142 requires reassessment of the useful lives of previously recognized intangible assets.

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The goodwill balance consists of \$4.9 million from the Tigris acquisition, which occurred in January 2004 and \$11.4 million from the B2eMarkets acquisition which occurred in July 2004.

The following table reflects the components of amortizable intangible assets as of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003 (in thousands). Additions during the nine months ended September 30, 2004 relate to the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions.

	<b>Gross Carrying</b>	<b>Accumulated</b>
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amortization</b>
<b>September 30, 2004</b>		
Acquired technology	\$ 3,574	\$ 1,874
Customer contracts and relationships	6,235	1,702
Non-compete agreements	240	35
	\$ 10,049	\$ 3,611
<b>December 31, 2003</b>		
Acquired technology	\$ 1,925	\$ 1,283
Customer contracts	775	517
	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,800

**Table of Contents****(6) Commitments and Contingencies**

The following table outlines future minimum lease payments under our capital and operating leases as of September 30, 2004 (in thousands):

	<u>Lease Obligations</u>		
	<u>Capital (b)</u>	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>2004 (a)</b>	\$ 16	\$ 298	\$ 314
<b>2005</b>	54	935	989
<b>2006</b>	30	795	825
<b>2007</b>		515	515
<b>2008</b>		413	413
<b>Thereafter</b>		580	580
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>\$ 3,536</u>	<u>\$ 3,636</u>

(a) Reflects amounts payable over the last three months of 2004

(b) Capital lease balances exclude future interest obligations.

These future minimum lease payments include all facility leases for which we are contractually committed to make payments as of September 30, 2004.

During 2003, we amended our lease with our primary landlord. The amended agreement provided for occupancy of our main facility in Malvern, Pennsylvania until May 2003, with options to continue the lease on a quarterly basis. We have exercised options to continue the lease up to at least February 28, 2005. The Company is considering moving its corporate headquarters and entering into a longer term lease arrangement with a different landlord.

The Company licenses software to its customers under written agreements. Each agreement contains the relevant terms of the contractual arrangement with the customers, and generally includes provisions for indemnifying the customers against losses, expenses, and liabilities from damages that may be awarded against the customer in the event the software is found to infringe upon certain intellectual property rights of a third party. The agreement generally limits the scope of and remedies for such indemnification obligations in a variety of industry-standard respects. The Company has not identified any losses that are probable under these provisions and, accordingly, no liability related to these indemnification provisions has been recorded.

**(7) Litigation**

On June 12, 2001, a class action lawsuit was filed against us and several of our officers and directors in U.S. Federal Court for the Southern District of New York in an action captioned CJA Acquisition, Inc. v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-5241 (the "CJA Action"). Also named as defendants were four underwriters involved in the issuance and initial public offering of our common stock in February 1999 - Lehman Brothers

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Inc., Hambrecht & Quist LLC, Volpe Brown Whelan & Company LLC, and WIT Capital Corporation. The complaint in the CJA Action alleges violations of Sections 11 and 15 of the Securities Act of 1933 (the Securities Act ) and Section 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act ) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated there under, based on, among other things, claims that the four underwriters awarded material portions of the initial shares to certain favored customers in exchange for excessive commissions. The plaintiff also asserts that the underwriters engaged in a practice known as laddering, whereby the clients or customers agreed that in exchange for IPO shares they would purchase additional shares at progressively higher prices after the IPO. With respect to Verticalnet, the complaint alleges that the Company and its officers and directors failed to disclose in the prospectus and the registration statement the existence of these purported excessive commissions and laddering agreements. After the CJA Action was filed, several copycat complaints were filed in U.S. Federal Court for the Southern District of New York. Those complaints, whose allegations mirror those found in the CJA Action, include Ezra Charitable Trust v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-5350; Kofsky v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-5628; Reeberg v. Verticalnet, C.A. No. 01-CV-5730; Lee v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-7385; Hoang v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-6864; Morris v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-9459, and Murphy v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-8084. None of the complaints state the amount of any damages being sought, but do ask the court to award rescissory damages. All of the foregoing suits were amended and consolidated into a single complaint that was filed with the U.S. Federal Court on April 19, 2002. This amended complaint contains additional factual allegations concerning the events discussed in the original complaints, and asserts that, in addition to Sections 11 and 15 of the Securities Act, the Company and our officers and directors also violated Sections 10(b), 20(a), and Rule 10b-5 of the Exchange Act in connection with the IPO. In addition to this amended and consolidated complaint, the plaintiffs in this lawsuit and in the hundreds of other similar suits filed against other companies in connection with IPOs that occurred in the late 1990s have filed master allegations that primarily focus on the conduct of the underwriters of the IPOs, including our IPO. On October 9, 2002, the U.S. Federal Court for the Southern District of New York entered an order dismissing, without prejudice, the claims against the individual Verticalnet officers and directors who had been named as defendants in the various complaints. In February 2003, the District Court

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**Table of Contents**

entered an Order denying a Motion made by the defendants to dismiss the actions in their entirety, but granting the Motion as to certain of the claims against some defendants. However, the District Court did not dismiss any claims against Verticalnet. On or about June 5, 2003, Verticalnet's counsel, with the approval of the Company's directors, executed a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Verticalnet with respect to a proposed settlement of the plaintiff's claims against Verticalnet. This proposed resolution of the litigation has been publicly announced (although not yet formally accepted by the plaintiffs) and widely reported in the press. The proposed settlement, if approved by the District Court, would result in, among other things, the dismissal of all claims against Verticalnet, its officers and directors. Under the present terms of the proposed settlement described above, Verticalnet would also assign its claims against the underwriters to the plaintiffs in the consolidated actions.

In July 2000, we entered into an Opportunity Grant Program Contract with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development ( PaDCED ) whereby we received a grant in the amount of \$1.0 million from the Commonwealth. The grant was conditioned upon, among other things, the creation of 1,000 full time jobs and that we would operate in our former Horsham facility for at least five years. In July 2000, Atlas Commerce entered into an Opportunity Grant Program Contract with the PaDCED whereby Atlas Commerce received a grant in the amount of \$400,000 from the Commonwealth, which amount was increased to \$600,000 in June 2001. The grant was conditioned upon, among other things, the creation of 250 full time jobs and that Atlas Commerce would operate in its Malvern facility for at least five years. Both contracts contain a provision that requires repayment of the grant amount in the event the conditions are not met.

In November 2002, the PaDCED requested that we repay the entire grant amount of \$1.0 million for the July 2000 grant to Verticalnet. The Company responded to the PaDCED that it believes it had substantially complied with the conditions. In September 2003, the PaDCED filed a Complaint-Civil Action in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas, although the Complaint has not yet been served upon us. The Complaint seeks to recover the total amount of the grant to Verticalnet. We would prefer to amicably resolve the matter. We believe that we have adequately reserved for the anticipated liability and foresee no material impact on our financial results or condition.

On September 30, 2004, the Company was served with a complaint filed against the Company and several of its former officers and directors in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in an action captioned Jodek Charitable Trust, R.A., Individually and as Assignee of Zvi Schreiber, LLC et. al. v. Vertical Net Inc., et. al., C.A. No. 04-4455. The complaint alleges that, in connection with the issuance of the Company's stock to the plaintiffs as part of the Company's acquisition of Tradeum, Inc. in March 2000, the plaintiffs were damaged by the defendants' delays in registering the stock, updating the registration of the stock, releasing the stock from lock-ups and releasing the stock from escrows. Plaintiffs claim they sustained damages in excess of \$65.0 million as a result of the decrease in the stock price during the alleged delays. The Company disputes the allegations raised in the complaint and intends to vigorously defend itself.

We are also a party to various litigations and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate resolutions with respect to all of the above actions will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, or results of operations.

**(8) Capital Stock**

In August 2003, we completed a \$1.1 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 1,140,000 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 456,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$1.20 per share, which were valued at \$485,000. The Company received approximately \$936,000 in net proceeds from this transaction. As the warrants originally included a requirement for net cash settlement if the Company was unable to register the shares to be issued upon exercise of the warrants, these warrants were required to be recorded as a liability until such time as the registration requirements expired. Verticalnet subsequently signed Waiver Letter Agreements with certain warrant holders, which resulted in those warrants being modified to provide for a cashless exercise in the event of a Non-Registration Event, as defined in the warrants, and the elimination of the net cash settlement provision. In addition, certain penalty provisions were modified

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to provide that the warrant holders would receive no liquidated damages in the event of a Non-Registration Event. Upon the elimination of the net cash settlement provision, the fair value of the modified warrants (\$346,000) were reclassified from other current liabilities to additional paid-in capital. Upon the exercise of the remaining warrants in February 2004, the fair value of these warrants (\$428,000) was reclassified from other current liabilities to additional paid-in capital.

In January 2004, we completed a \$7.7 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 3,798,592 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,218,209 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$3.72 per share. The Company received approximately \$7.0 million in net proceeds from this transaction.

In August 2004, we completed a \$3.0 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 3,000,000 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,200,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$1.25 per share. The Company received approximately \$2.8 million in net proceeds from this transaction.

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**Table of Contents**

**Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

**CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

*The information in this report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements contained in this report that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed forward-looking statements. Words such as may, might, will, would, should, could, project, estimate, pro forma, predict, potential, strategy, anticipate, plan to, expect and words of similar expression (including the negative of any of the foregoing) are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Additionally, forward-looking statements in this report include statements relating to the design, development, and implementation of our products; the strategies underlying our business objectives; the benefits to our customers and their trading partners of our products; our liquidity and capital resources; and the impact of our acquisitions and investments on our business, financial condition, and operating results.*

*Our forward-looking statements are not meant to predict future events or circumstances and may not be realized because they are based upon current expectations that involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results and the timing of certain events may differ materially from those currently expected as a result of these risks and uncertainties. Factors that may cause or contribute to a difference between the expected or desired results and actual results include, but are not limited to, the availability of and terms of equity and debt financing to fund our business; our reliance on the development of our enterprise software business; our ability to continue to remain listed on the Nasdaq SmallCap Market; competition in our target markets; economic conditions in general and in our specific target markets; our ability to use and protect our intellectual property; and our ability to attract and retain qualified personnel, as well as the risks discussed in the section of this report entitled *Factors Affecting our Business Condition*. Given these uncertainties, investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. We disclaim any obligation to update these factors or to announce publicly the results of any revisions to any of the forward-looking statements contained in this report to reflect future events or developments.*

**Company Overview**

We are a provider of Supply Management solutions to Global 2000 companies. We provide a full scope of Supply Management software, services, and domain expertise in areas that include: Program Management, Spend Analysis, eSourcing, Contract Management, and Supplier Performance Management. Our solutions provide our clients with the visibility, insight, and control required to identify, realize, and sustain value from supply management initiatives.

Verticalnet's software customers license our software via a perpetual license or time-based license. Our software is licensed by module, with our customers selecting from modules that include: Spend Manager, Program Manager, Negotiation Manager, Contract Manager, and Performance Manager. Verticalnet employs technical consultants to provide project management and training during software implementation. In addition to traditional software installation and ASP hosting, Verticalnet offers the majority of its software products in an On-Demand delivery model. On-Demand delivery enables our customers to pay a single annual fee that includes software license, maintenance, application hosting, customer/community support and training. The Company believes that its On-Demand delivery model mitigates the software implementation costs for its customers, and reduces the obstacles to a successful supply management initiative.

In addition to implementation services, our consultants provide customers with supply management business process consulting, primarily in the areas of Spend Analysis and Advanced Sourcing. Our customers typically pay for professional services at an hourly rate for the time it takes us to complete the project. Most professional services engagements also include short-term licenses of Verticalnet technology required to complete the engagement. Examples of such technology include our Advanced Bid Collection and Bid Analysis Optimization software.



In addition to our packaged applications and implementation services, Verticalnet offers custom software development for customers that desire to build additional supply management capabilities. Verticalnet's Solution Center works with clients to define custom development requirements and build out the required functionality. Verticalnet offers a flexible software platform that enables rapid, cost effective custom development for customers with advanced, complex requirements. Our Solution Center approach allows Verticalnet to complete customization projects more quickly and cost effectively than internal IT organizations or traditional custom development firms.

Historically, we derived our revenue primarily from the licensing of our software, as well as implementation and development services. As a result of the January 2004 acquisition of Tigris Corp ( Tigris ), we also generate revenues from spend analysis and other supply chain consulting services and as a result of the July 2004 acquisition of B2eMarkets, Inc. ( B2eMarkets ), we anticipate seeing an increase in the proportion of our revenue coming from the licensing of our products and maintenance.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Acquisitions**

#### ***B2eMarkets, Inc.***

On July 19, 2004, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of Verticalnet merged with B2eMarkets, a privately-held provider of Strategic Sourcing software solutions. The aggregate purchase price of the B2eMarkets acquisition was \$12.9 million, including transaction costs of approximately \$2.4 million, which primarily consisted of fees paid for investment banking, legal, and professional services. The consideration included the issuance of 5,100,000 shares of common stock, valued on the date of closing at approximately \$6.6 million, and a promissory note in the principal amount of \$5.9 million, which was valued at \$3.9 million on the date of closing. The value of the Verticalnet stock issued to the B2eMarket shareholders was based on \$1.29 per share, which was the average of the closing price of the Company's common stock over a five day period that included the two days prior, the day of, and two days subsequent to the signing of the merger agreement. The note accrues interest at the rate of 8% per annum, with half of the principal amount due and payable on July 16, 2007 and the remaining half due and payable on July 16, 2008. The note is convertible into 2,949,204 shares of Verticalnet common stock, subject to approval by Verticalnet's shareholders. If the conversion feature of the note is approved by Verticalnet's shareholders, then either Verticalnet or the noteholders can require the conversion of the note into Verticalnet common stock.

#### ***Tigris Corp.***

In January 2004, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of Verticalnet merged with and into Tigris, a privately-held strategic sourcing and supply chain consultancy based in New York City. The acquisition brings together Verticalnet's Spend Analysis and Supply Management software with Tigris' extensive spend analysis and strategic sourcing expertise. The aggregate purchase price was approximately \$12.1 million, including transaction costs of approximately \$300,000. The consideration included \$3.5 million in cash, 1,870,450 shares of our common stock valued at approximately \$5.7 million, issuance of employee options to purchase 751,670 shares of our common stock valued at \$2.2 million and assumed debt of approximately \$346,000.

**Table of Contents****RESULTS OF CONTINUING OPERATIONS FOR THE THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED****SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 AND 2003**

The following table sets forth statement of operations data expressed as a percentage of total revenue for the periods indicated:

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>		<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Software and software related	25.8%	23.0%	19.8%	19.8%
Services	74.2%	77.0%	80.2%	80.2%
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Cost of revenues</b>				
Cost of software and software related	9.1%	7.4%	6.3%	6.1%
Cost of services	43.7%	18.2%	38.6%	15.8%
Amortization of acquired technology and customer contracts	6.7%	12.2%	6.2%	9.1%
<b>Total cost of revenues</b>	<b>59.5%</b>	<b>37.8%</b>	<b>51.1%</b>	<b>31.0%</b>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>40.5%</b>	<b>62.2%</b>	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>69.0%</b>
<b>Operating expenses:</b>				
Research and development	28.4%	48.1%	24.4%	39.0%
Sales and marketing	26.9%	30.2%	24.3%	24.2%
General and administrative	24.6%	84.1%	25.3%	52.4%
Restructuring reversal		(9.8)%		(6.6)%
Stock-based compensation (a)	6.0%	8.9%	7.5%	4.8%
Amortization of other intangible assets	5.9%		4.3%	
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>91.8%</b>	<b>161.5%</b>	<b>85.8%</b>	<b>113.8%</b>
<b>Operating loss</b>	<b>(51.3)%</b>	<b>(99.3)%</b>	<b>(36.9)%</b>	<b>(44.8)%</b>
Interest and other expense, net	3.2%	312.2%	3.0%	88.7%
<b>Net loss</b>	<b>(54.5)%</b>	<b>(411.5)%</b>	<b>(39.9)%</b>	<b>(133.5)%</b>

**EMPLOYEE HEADCOUNT BY CLASSIFICATION**

September 30,

	2004			2003		
	Employees	Dedicated Offshore Consultants	Total	Employees	Dedicated Offshore Consultants	Total
Cost of revenues	65		65	14		14
Research and development	43	36	79	22		22
Sales and marketing	27		27	8		8
General and administrative	18		18	10		10
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>54</b>		<b>54</b>

**Table of Contents****REVENUES**

	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	September 30,		Difference		September 30,		Difference	
	2004	2003	\$	%	2004	2003	\$	%
<i>(in thousands)</i>								
Software and software related	\$ 1,613	\$ 425	\$ 1,188	279.5%	\$ 3,426	\$ 1,478	\$ 1,948	131.8%
Services	4,638	1,420	3,218	226.6%	13,896	5,975	7,921	132.6%
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 6,251</b>	<b>\$ 1,845</b>	<b>\$ 4,406</b>	<b>238.8%</b>	<b>\$ 17,322</b>	<b>\$ 7,453</b>	<b>\$ 9,869</b>	<b>132.4%</b>

Software and software related revenues are comprised of software licenses, hosting, and maintenance revenues. Services revenues represent revenue derived from consulting services.

The increase in total revenues for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the corresponding period in 2003 is primarily due to the Tigris acquisition which occurred on January 30, 2004 and the B2eMarkets acquisition, which occurred on July 19, 2004, as well as growth in Verticalnet's historical business.

On a pro forma basis, reflecting the combined results of Verticalnet, B2eMarkets, and Tigris (see note 3 to the consolidated financial statements), revenues for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 decreased approximately \$0.8 million or 11.0%, and increased \$1.6 million or 7.7%, respectively, over the same periods in 2003.

**Revenues and Credit Concentration**

As of and for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, revenues and amounts due from our largest customers were as follows (in thousands):

Customer	2004			2003		
	Accounts receivable	Revenues	% of total revenues	Accounts receivable	Revenues	% of total revenues
	balance (a)			balance (a)		
<b>A</b>	\$ 918	\$ 5,575	32.2%	\$ 670	\$ 4,566	61.3%
<b>B</b>	1,158	3,943	22.8%			
<b>C</b>	720	1,168	6.7%			
<b>D</b>	231	813	4.7%	214	1,015	13.6%

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<b>Total</b>	\$ 3,027	\$ 11,499	66.4%	\$ 884	\$ 5,581	74.9%
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(a) Represents both billed and unbilled amounts

Revenues from the same customers for the three months ended September 30, 2004 and 2003, were as follows (in thousands):

<b>Customer</b>	<b>2004</b>		<b>2003</b>	
		<b>% of total</b>		<b>% of total</b>
	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>revenues</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>revenues</b>
<b>A</b>	\$ 1,155	18.5%	\$ 975	52.8%
<b>B</b>	1,342	21.5%		
<b>C</b>	357	5.7%		
<b>D</b>	431	6.9%	425	23.0%
<b>Total</b>	\$ 3,285	52.6%	\$ 1,400	75.8%

**Table of Contents****COST OF REVENUES**

<i>(in thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	September 30,		Difference		September 30,		Difference	
	2004	2003	\$	%	2004	2003	\$	%
Cost of software and software related	\$ 568	\$ 136	\$ 432	317.6%	\$ 1,098	\$ 455	\$ 643	141.3%
Cost of services	2,730	336	2,394	712.5%	6,681	1,179	5,502	466.7%
Amortization of acquired technology and customer contracts	418	225	193	85.8%	1,068	675	393	58.2%
Total cost of revenues	\$ 3,716	\$ 697	\$ 3,019	433.1%	\$ 8,847	\$ 2,309	\$ 6,538	283.2%

**Cost of software and software related**

The cost of software and software related is comprised primarily of headcount related costs, including the cost of the Company's customer support function, which is provided to customers as part of recurring maintenance fees, and third-party provided hosting services. Also included is the cost of royalties on technology contained in our products that is licensed from third parties. The increase in software and software related costs was primarily related to the acquisition of B2eMarkets, which accounted for an increase of \$468,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. For the three months ended September 30, 2004, the costs were offset by a net decrease of \$36,000 in historical Verticalnet related salary, hosting and facilities costs. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, historical Verticalnet related salary and facilities costs increased by \$134,000 and \$53,000, respectively and were offset by a decrease in hosting costs of \$12,000.

**Cost of services**

The cost of services includes the cost of the Company's consultants who are primarily responsible for the software implementations and configurations, as well as providing other supply chain consulting services. The increase in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 was primarily due to the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions that occurred in 2004. The addition of the Tigris and B2eMarkets businesses represented \$2.4 million and \$5.9 million of the increase for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively. Historical Verticalnet headcount related costs increased by \$362,000 and \$2.0 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. These costs were offset by decreases in third party consulting of \$221,000 and \$823,000 and \$97,000 and \$1.5 million in travel and facilities related costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively.

**Amortization of acquired technology and customer contracts**

Amortization of acquired technology and customer contracts increased as a result of the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions that occurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2004.

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

<i>(in thousands)</i>	Three Months Ended				Nine Months Ended			
	September 30,		Difference		September 30,		Difference	
	2004	2003	\$	%	2004	2003	\$	%
Research and development	\$ 1,775	\$ 887	\$ 888	100.1%	\$ 4,220	\$ 2,909	\$ 1,311	45.1%
Sales and marketing	1,681	558	1,123	201.3%	4,206	1,806	2,400	132.9%
General and administrative	1,540	1,552	(12)	(0.8)%	4,375	3,908	467	11.9%
Restructuring reversal		(180)	180	(100.0)%		(489)	489	(100.0)%
Stock-based compensation	372	165	207	125.5%	1,293	358	935	261.2%
Amortization of other intangible assets	366		366	n/a	743		743	n/a
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,734</b>	<b>\$ 2,982</b>	<b>\$ 2,752</b>	<b>92.3%</b>	<b>\$ 14,837</b>	<b>\$ 8,492</b>	<b>\$ 6,345</b>	<b>74.7%</b>



## **Table of Contents**

### ***Research and Development***

Research and development costs consist primarily of headcount-related costs of the Company's product strategy, development, and testing employees. The increase in research and development costs was primarily the result of the addition of the B2eMarkets business, which represents \$729,000 of the increase for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004. As a result of the increase in demand for our product and services we have expanded the use of our offshore development provider. The Company's offshore development initiative started during the first quarter of 2004, whereby a significant portion of our product development operations were shifted to India. Although, off-shore development costs represented \$168,000 and \$640,000 of the increase in research and development costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, as compared to the same periods in 2003, respectively, the cost to hire and maintain the same number of employees on-shore would have resulted in a much larger increase in headcount related costs. In addition, third-party consulting (other than off-shore development) and infrastructure costs increased \$140,000 and \$425,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively. These costs were offset by a decrease in headcount related costs of \$149,000 and \$483,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, as compared to the same periods in 2003, respectively.

As of September 30, 2004, the Company had a total of 79 people dedicated to development, which includes 36 dedicated offshore developers, compared to 22 total development headcount as of September 30, 2003.

### ***Sales and Marketing***

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of headcount related costs, as well as incentive compensation for sales and marketing employees, and related travel expenses. Sales and marketing expense increased \$1.1 million and \$2.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 compared to the same periods in 2003, respectively. The increase in sales and marketing expenses was primarily a result of the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions, which represented \$1.2 million and \$ 2.4 million of the increase for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 as compared to the same periods in 2003, respectively. These costs were partially offset by a decrease in historical Verticalnet selling and marketing related expenses of \$37,000 and \$17,000 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, respectively, as compared to the same periods in 2003.

### ***General and Administrative***

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of headcount related costs for our executive, administrative, finance, legal, and human resources personnel. General and administrative expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 increased compared to the same period in 2003 primarily due to the reversal of accruals in the prior period relating to the cancellation of certain capital and operating leases of approximately \$653,000. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions resulted in overall general and administrative costs increasing by approximately \$560,000 and \$856,000, respectively. For the nine months ended September 30, 2004, these costs were partially offset by decreases in depreciation expense, which decreased by \$259,000, a decrease in other general and administrative expenses, including professional services and insurance, of approximately \$624,000, and a decrease of approximately \$159,000 in office equipment leasing costs, which is a result of the renegotiation of our lease liabilities during 2003.

For the three months ended September 30, 2004, general and administrative expenses increased by approximately \$12,000 over the same period in 2003. The increase that was due to the addition of the Tigris and B2eMarkets businesses was offset by a decrease in headcount related and other general and administrative expenses, including professional services and insurance, of approximately \$573,000.

***Restructuring Reversal***

Restructuring reversal for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2003 primarily reflects the net adjustment to the restructuring accrual for our former San Francisco operating lease.

***Amortization Expenses***

The increase in stock-based compensation expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004 as compared to the same periods in 2003 was a result of the continued amortization of costs related to options granted under the Company's 2003 bonus plan, which awarded discounted stock options to the Company's employees in lieu of cash compensation, as well as the amortization of restricted stock awarded to Tigris employees.

The increase in amortization of other intangible assets was due to the amortization of intangible assets resulting from the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions.

**Table of Contents*****INTEREST AND OTHER EXPENSE, NET***

Interest and other expense, net was comprised of the following (in thousands):

	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
Warrant - mark-to-market adjustment	\$	\$	\$ 281	\$
Interest expense, net	197	53	200	1,031
Cost of inducement		5,707		5,707
(Gain) loss on asset disposal			(2)	9
Transaction (gain) loss			1	(25)
Realized loss (gain) on investment			35	(113)
<b>Interest and other expense, net</b>	<b>\$ 197</b>	<b>\$ 5,760</b>	<b>\$ 515</b>	<b>\$ 6,609</b>

In February 2004, holders of 320,000 warrants exercised their warrants to purchase common shares at \$1.20 per share. The Company received approximately \$345,000 in net proceeds from the exercise of these warrants. During the three months ended March 31, 2004, the Company recorded a \$281,000 non-cash charge to earnings as a result of the mark-to-market adjustments relating to the fair value of the warrant liability up to the time of exercise. Upon the exercise of the warrants, the fair value of the warrants (\$428,000) was reclassified from other current liabilities to additional paid-in capital.

Interest expense decreased significantly for the nine months ended September 30, 2004, as compared to the same period in 2003, due to the repurchase of \$6.4 million of our 5¼% convertible subordinated debentures, which occurred in the third quarter of 2003. In connection with the repurchase, the Company recorded a charge to operations of \$5.7 million representing the inducement for conversion of the convertible notes in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 84, Induced Conversion of Convertible Debt.

Interest expense increased for the three months ended September 30, 2004, as compared to the same period in 2003, due to the promissory note issued as part of the B2eMarkets acquisition. Net interest expense for the three months ended September 30, 2004 includes accrued interest and note accretion of \$201,000 related to the promissory note.

**Table of Contents****LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

The following table highlights key financial measurements of the Company:

	September 30,	December 31,
	2004	2003
<i>(in thousands, except ratios)</i>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,683	\$ 4,408
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 6,918	\$ 2,457
Working capital	\$ 3,673	\$ 2,683
Current ratio	1.38	1.57
Total debt, including current portion	\$ 4,409	\$ 757
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
<b>For the nine months ended September 30:</b>		
Cash flow activities:		
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (2,408)	\$ (6,342)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(5,521)	2,897
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	9,207	(342)

Historically, the Company has funded itself through the sale of equity and debt instruments, as well as revenues generated from the licensing of its software products and the sale of consulting services.

***Operating activities***

During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, net cash used in operating activities was \$2.4 million, which consisted of the net loss of \$6.9 million offset by depreciation and amortization and other non-cash related charges of \$3.9 million, as well as changes in current assets and current liabilities, net of the effect of the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions, of \$530,000.

The improvement in net cash used in operating activities was primarily due to the Company amending the lease agreement with its primary landlord, the buy-out of certain operating leases in the prior year, the timing of payments to vendors, and the reduction in the net loss excluding non-cash items. This was partially offset by the timing of invoicing to and receipts from customers. Payments applied against the restructuring accrual represented \$3.0 million of the net change in accounts payable and accrued expenses during the nine months ended September 30, 2003. The net loss excluding non-cash items decreased to \$2.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 from \$4.1 million during the same period in 2003, due to the acquisitions of Tigris and B2eMarkets, as well as the continued growth of the historical Verticalnet business.

As a result of the B2eMarkets acquisition (see note 3 to the consolidated financial statements), we have seen and expect to see a short term affect on our operating cash flows. We believe that the B2eMarkets transaction will be dilutive to cash flow from operations for the next two to three quarters. We expect that a significant portion of the decrease in operating cash flows to be a result of one-time expenditures such as the reduction of assumed vendor payables and severance costs, as well as integration costs. In the long term, we believe the acquisition will help us

achieve increased software and software related revenues, reduced customer concentration, and improved visibility. We believe that the short term increase in cash used by operations will be more than offset by the growth opportunities for the combined business.

*Investing activities*

During the nine months ended September 30, 2004, net cash used in investing activities was \$5.5 million and primarily consisted of \$5.1 million related to the Tigris and B2eMarkets acquisitions, net of cash acquired, an increase of \$311,000 in restricted cash as a result of a lease acquired through the Tigris acquisition, and approximately \$102,000 in capital expenditures.

Part of our growth strategy is to pursue strategic acquisitions of businesses. We have made acquisitions in the past, and intend to make acquisitions in the future. Historically, we have financed our acquisitions with cash on hand, including proceeds from our private placements, and shares of our common stock. We expect to finance any future acquisitions with proceeds from cash generated by operations, additional sales or issuances of shares of our common stock or debt instruments, or a combination of the foregoing.

As a result of the B2eMarkets acquisition (see note 3 to the consolidated financial statements), over the next two quarters cash used in investing activities will be affected by payments related to transaction costs incurred during the B2eMarkets acquisition of approximately \$2.4 million. During the three months ended September 30, 2004, we paid approximately \$1.6 million of these transaction costs.

## **Table of Contents**

### ***Financing activities***

Net cash provided by financing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2004 of \$9.2 million consisted of \$9.8 million of net proceeds from the issuance of common stock and warrants, \$394,000 of proceeds from warrant exercises and \$374,000 of proceeds from the exercise of stock options, offset by \$633,000 of principal payments on long-term debt and capital lease obligations, as well as \$728,000 paid for the settlement of convertible notes.

In January 2004, we completed a \$7.7 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 3,798,592 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,218,209 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$3.72 per share. The Company received approximately \$7.0 million in net proceeds from this transaction.

In February 2004, 320,000 warrants from the August 2003 private placement were exercised at \$1.20 per share. The Company received \$345,000 in net proceeds from the exercise of these warrants.

In April 2004, 40,000 warrants from the October 2003 private placement were exercised at \$1.35 per share. The Company received \$49,000 in net proceeds from the exercise of these warrants.

In August 2004, we completed a \$3.0 million private placement of our common stock. The Company issued 3,000,000 shares of common stock along with warrants to purchase 1,200,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$1.25 per share. The Company received approximately \$2.8 million in net proceeds from this transaction.

We believe that our level of liquid assets as of September 30, 2004 will be sufficient to finance our capital requirements and anticipated operating losses through at least the next twelve months. However, to the extent that the current level of liquid assets proves to be insufficient, we may need to further reduce our operating costs or obtain additional debt or equity financing. Additionally, we may, if the capital markets present attractive opportunities, raise cash through the sale of debt or equity. We can provide no assurance that we will be successful in obtaining any required or desired financing either on acceptable terms or at all.

### **Contractual Commitments**

The following table outlines future contractual commitments as of September 30, 2004.

#### ***Expected Cash Payments by Period***

*(in thousands)*

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	2004 (a)	2005	2006	2007	2008	Due after 2008	Total
Promissory note (b)	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2,963	\$ 2,963	\$	\$ 5,926
Operating leases	298	935	795	515	413	580	3,536
Capital leases (c)	16	54	30				100
Purchase obligations	55	182					237
Other obligations (d)	204						204
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 573</b>	<b>\$ 1,171</b>	<b>\$ 825</b>	<b>\$ 3,478</b>	<b>\$ 3,376</b>	<b>\$ 580</b>	<b>\$ 10,003</b>

- (a) Reflects amounts payable over the last three months of 2004.  
 (b) See note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.  
 (c) Capital lease balances exclude future interest obligations.  
 (d) Represents insurance policies financed for 2004.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not participate in transactions that generate relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as special purpose entities ( SPEs ) or variable interest entities ( VIEs ), which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other limited purposes. As of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, we were not involved with any unconsolidated SPEs or VIEs and we had no derivatives.

**Table of Contents**

**FACTORS AFFECTING OUR BUSINESS CONDITION**

*We may require additional capital for our operations and obligations, and, as a result, we are exploring alternatives to preserve and enhance value.*

Although, based on our most recent projections, we believe our current level of liquid assets and the expected cash flows from contractual revenue arrangements will be sufficient to finance our capital requirements and anticipated operating losses through at least the next twelve months, any projection of future long-term cash needs and cash flows are inherently subject to uncertainty. There is no assurance that our resources will be sufficient for anticipated or unanticipated working capital and capital expenditure requirements during this period. We may need, or find it advantageous, to raise additional funds in the future to fund our growth, pursue sales and licensing opportunities, develop new or enhanced products and services, respond to competitive pressures, or acquire complementary businesses, technologies, or services.

If we are ultimately unable, for any reason, to receive cash payments expected from our customers, our business, financial condition, and results of operations will be materially and adversely affected.

*We may not generate an operating profit.*

As of September 30, 2004, our accumulated deficit was approximately \$1.2 billion. We may never again generate an operating profit or, even if we do become profitable from operations at some point, we may be unable to sustain that profitability.

*We generate most of our revenues and accounts receivable from two customers.*

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2004, two customers accounted for \$2.5 million or 40% and \$9.5 million or 55% of our total revenues, respectively. Any termination of our professional services by either of these customers could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, and financial conditions.

As of September 30, 2004, these two customers accounted for \$2.1 million of our accounts receivable balance. Although we have had a successful collection history with these two customers, and do not foresee any collection issues, there can be no assurance that we will be able to collect these outstanding balances.

*We have contractual obligations to provide consulting services over many periods.*

We maintain a professional services and consulting workforce to fulfill contracts that we enter into with our customers that may extend to multiple periods. Our profitability is largely a function of performing against customer contractual arrangements within the estimated costs to perform these obligations. If we exceed these estimated costs, our profitability under these contracts may be negatively impacted. In addition, if



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we are not able to obtain sufficient work to keep all of our professionals on revenue generating projects, our business, financial condition, and results of operations may be adversely affected.

*If we fail to meet client expectations in the performance of our services, our business could suffer.*

Our failure to meet client expectations in the performance of our services, including the quality, cost, and timeliness of our services, may adversely affect our ability to attract and retain clients. If a client is not satisfied with our services, we will generally spend additional human and other resources at our own expense to ensure client satisfaction. Such expenditures will typically result in a lower margin on such engagements and could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

*We may be unable to maintain our listing on the Nasdaq Stock Market, which could cause our stock price to fall and decrease the liquidity of our common stock.*

Our common stock is currently listed on the Nasdaq SmallCap Market. A continued listing on the Nasdaq SmallCap Market requires us to meet certain qualitative standards, including maintaining a certain number of independent Board members and independent Audit Committee members, and certain quantitative standards, including that we maintain \$2.5 million in shareholders' equity and that the closing price of our common stock not be less than \$1.00 per share for 30 consecutive trading days. Our stock closed above \$1.00 on November 11, 2004.

We expect to remain in compliance with Nasdaq's listing qualifications for continued listing of our stock. However, there can be no assurance that we will continue to be able to meet all qualitative and quantitative listing qualifications in the future. In the event the Company does not meet such listing qualifications, the Company's common stock could be subject to delisting from the Nasdaq SmallCap Market.

**Table of Contents**

*If our stock is delisted from the Nasdaq Stock Market or our share price declines significantly, then our stock may be deemed to be penny stock.*

If our common stock is considered penny stock, it would be subject to rules that impose additional sales practices on broker-dealers who sell our securities. Because of these additional obligations, some brokers may be unwilling to effect transactions in our stock. This could have an adverse effect on the liquidity of our common stock and the ability of investors to sell the common stock. For example, broker-dealers must make a special suitability determination for the purchaser and have received the purchaser's written consent to the transaction prior to sale. Also, a disclosure schedule must be prepared prior to any transaction involving a penny stock and disclosure is required about sales commissions payable to both the broker-dealer and the registered representative and current quotations for the securities. Monthly statements are required to be sent disclosing recent price information for the penny stock held in the account and information on the limited market in penny stock.

*If our stock is delisted from the Nasdaq Stock Market, we may be unable to license our products and sell our services to prospective or existing customers.*

If our stock is delisted, our prospective and existing customers may lose confidence that we can continue as a viable business to provide support necessary to further develop our solutions and provide ongoing maintenance and consulting services. Prospective and existing customers could consider alternative solutions or significantly reduce the value they are willing to pay for our solutions to compensate for the potential added risk to their business. If our stock is delisted, our ability to meet our revenue goals could be adversely impacted, resulting in deterioration of the financial condition of our business.

*Our success depends on our ability to retain key management and experienced software personnel, whom we may not be able to retain.*

We believe that the success of the Company depends on the continued employment of our senior management team and on maintaining a highly trained staff. If one or more members of our senior management team were unable or unwilling to continue in their present positions, the success of the Company could be materially adversely affected. If we are unable to retain our personnel, it could limit our ability to service our customers and design and develop products, which could reduce our attractiveness to potential customers, investors, or acquirers.

*We may not be able to hire or retain enough additional personnel to meet our hiring needs.*

Our success also depends on having highly trained professional services and development personnel. We may need to hire additional personnel if our business grows. A shortage in the number of trained consultants and developers could limit our ability to implement our software if we are able to license software to new customers or if our present customers ask us to perform more services for them. Competition for personnel, particularly for employees with technical expertise, could be strong. Our business, financial condition, and operating results will be materially adversely affected if we cannot hire and retain suitable personnel.

*Fluctuations in our quarterly operating results may cause our stock price to decline.*

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Our quarterly operating results are difficult to forecast and could vary significantly. If our operating results in a future quarter or quarters do not meet the expectations of securities analysts or investors, the price of our common stock may fall. Our quarterly operating results will be substantially dependent on software licenses and professional services booked and delivered in that quarter. Any delay in the recognition of revenue for any of our license transactions or professional services could cause significant variations in our quarterly operating results and could cause our revenues to fall significantly short of anticipated levels. We also expect that our quarterly operating results will fluctuate significantly due to other factors, many of which are beyond our control, including:

anticipated lengthy sales cycle for our products;

the size and timing of individual license transactions;

intense and increased competition in our target markets;

our ability to develop, introduce, and bring to market new products and services, or enhancements to our existing products and services, on a timely basis; and

risks associated with past acquisitions.

***If we are able to grow our business, we may not be able to manage the growth successfully.***

If we are able to grow our business, such growth could place a significant strain on our resources and systems. To manage our growth, we must implement systems and train and manage our employees. In addition, we may not be able to limit our exposure to non-creditworthy customers.

## **Table of Contents**

*We may seek to acquire another business or raise additional capital, which could dilute the ownership of our existing shareholders.*

We may seek to grow our business by acquiring another business. In addition, we may seek to raise additional capital. We may be required to incur debt or issue equity securities to pay for acquisitions or to raise additional capital, which may be dilutive to our existing shareholders.

*New versions and releases of our products may contain errors or defects.*

Our enterprise software products may contain undetected errors or failures when first introduced or as new versions are released. This may result in loss of, or delay in, market acceptance of our products. Errors in new releases and new products after their introduction could result in delays in release, lost revenues, and customer frustration during the period required to correct these errors. We may in the future discover errors and defects in new releases or new products after they are shipped or released.

*We utilize third-party software that we incorporate into and include with our products and solutions, and impaired relations with these third-parties, defects in third-party software, or their inability or failure to enhance their software over time could have a material adverse effect on our operating performance and financial condition.*

We incorporate and include third-party software into and with our products and solutions. We are likely to incorporate and include additional third-party software into and with our products and solutions as we expand our product offerings. If our relations with any of these third-party software providers become impaired, and if we are unable to obtain or develop a replacement for the software, our business could be harmed. Our products may be impacted if errors occur in the third-party software that we utilize. It may be more difficult for us to correct any defects in third-party software because the software is not within our control. Accordingly, our business could be adversely affected in the event of any errors in this software. There can be no assurance that these third parties will continue to invest the appropriate levels of resources in their products and services to maintain and enhance the capabilities of their software.

*We have begun to shift a significant portion of our product development operations to India, which poses significant risks.*

Since September 2003, an unrelated third-party has provided us with software development services in Bangalore, India. We have continued to increase the proportion of our product development work being performed by contractors in India in order to take advantage of cost efficiencies associated with India's lower wage scale. However, we may not achieve the cost savings and other benefits we anticipate from this program and we may not be able to find sufficient numbers of developers with the necessary skill sets in India to meet our needs. We have a heightened risk exposure to changes in the economic, security, and political conditions of India. Economic and political instability, military actions, and other unforeseen occurrences in India could impair our ability to develop and introduce new software applications and functionality in a timely manner, which could put our products at a competitive disadvantage whereby we lose existing customers and fail to attract new customers.

*Our target markets are evolving and characterized by rapid technological change, which we may not be able to keep pace with.*

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The markets for our products and services are evolving and characterized by rapid technological change, changing customer needs, evolving industry standards, and frequent new product and service announcements. The introduction of products employing new technologies and emerging industry standards could render our existing products or services obsolete or unmarketable. If we are unable to respond to these developments successfully or do not respond in a cost-effective way, our business, financial condition, and operating results will suffer. To be successful, we must continually improve and enhance the responsiveness, services, and features of our enterprise software products and introduce and deliver new product and service offerings and new releases of existing products. We may fail to improve or enhance our software products or introduce and deliver new releases or new offerings on a timely and cost-effective basis or at all. If we experience delays in the future with respect to our software products, or if our improvements, enhancements, offerings, or releases to these products do not achieve market acceptance, we could experience a delay or loss of revenues and customer dissatisfaction. Our success will also depend in part on our ability to acquire or license third-party technologies that are useful in our business, which we may not be able to do.

*We may ultimately be unable to compete in the markets for the products and services we offer.*

The markets for our enterprise software products and services are intensely competitive, which may result in low or negative profit margins and difficulty in achieving market share, either of which could seriously harm our business. We expect the intensity of competition to increase. Our enterprise software products and services face competition from software companies whose products or services compete with a particular aspect of the solution we provide, as well as several major enterprise software developers and consulting firms. Many of our competitors have longer operating histories, greater brand recognition, and greater financial, technical, marketing, and other resources than we do, and may have well-established relationships with our existing and prospective customers. This may place us at a disadvantage in responding to our competitors pricing strategies, technological advances, advertising

**Table of Contents**

campaigns, strategic partnerships, and other initiatives. Our competitors may also develop products or services that are superior to or have greater market acceptance than ours. If we are unable to compete successfully against our competitors, our business, financial condition, and operating results would be negatively impacted.

*We have had decreases in the fair value, and in some cases a complete loss, of our equity investments.*

As of September 30, 2004 and December 31, 2003, we held cost method investments with a carrying value of \$606,000. We may never realize any return on our equity interests that we continue to hold, and we may suffer a complete loss of these interests, which could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and operating results.

*If we do not develop the Verticalnet brand in the supply management solution industry, our revenues might not increase.*

We must establish and continuously strengthen the awareness of the Verticalnet brand in the supply management solution industry. If our brand awareness as a maker of supply management solution software does not develop, or if developed, is not sustained as a respected brand, it could decrease the attractiveness of our products and services to potential customers, which could result in decreased revenues.

*We may not be able to protect our proprietary rights and may infringe the proprietary rights of others.*

Proprietary rights are important to our success and to our competitive position. We may be unable to register, maintain, and protect our proprietary rights adequately or to prevent others from claiming violations of their proprietary rights. Although we file copyright registrations for the source code underlying our software, enforcement of our rights might be too difficult and costly for us to pursue effectively. We have filed patent applications for the proprietary technology underlying our software, but our ability to fully protect this technology is contingent upon the ultimate issuance of the corresponding patents. Effective patent, copyright, and trade secret protection of our software may be unavailable or limited in certain countries.

*Several lawsuits have been brought against us and the outcome of these lawsuits is uncertain.*

Several lawsuits have been brought against us and the underwriters of our stock in our initial public offering. These lawsuits allege, among other things, that the underwriters engaged in sales practices that had the effect of inflating our stock price, and that our prospectus for that offering was materially misleading because it did not disclose these sales practices. In addition, a lawsuit has been brought against us and several of our former officers and directors alleging, among other things, that we failed to properly register certain Verticalnet stock delivered pursuant to an acquisition in 2000. We intend to vigorously defend ourselves against these lawsuits. No assurance can be given as to the outcome of these lawsuits.

*Shares eligible for future sale by our current or future shareholders may cause our stock price to decline.*

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If our shareholders or option and warrant holders sell substantial amounts of our common stock in the public market, including shares issued in completed or future acquisitions or upon the exercise of outstanding options and warrants, then the market price of our common stock could fall. As of September 30, 2004, the holders of 2,476,192 shares of common stock and warrants to purchase 62,703 shares of common stock have demand and/or piggyback registration rights. The exercise of such rights could adversely affect the market price of our common stock. We also have filed a shelf registration statement to facilitate our acquisition strategy, as well as registration statements to register shares of common stock under our stock option and employee stock purchase plans. Shares issued pursuant to existing or future shelf registration statements, upon exercise of stock options and warrants, and in connection with our employee stock purchase plan will be eligible for resale in the public market without restriction.

*Anti-takeover provisions and our right to issue preferred stock could make a third-party acquisition of us difficult.*

Verticalnet is a Pennsylvania corporation. Anti-takeover provisions of Pennsylvania law could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us, even if such change in control would be beneficial to our shareholders. Our articles of incorporation provide that our board of directors may issue preferred stock without shareholder approval. In addition, our bylaws provide for a classified board, with each board member serving a staggered three-year term. The issuance of preferred stock and the existence of a classified board could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire us.

*Our common stock price is likely to remain highly volatile.*

The market for stocks of technology companies has been highly volatile since our initial public offering in 1999. Throughout this period, the market price of our common stock has reached extreme highs and lows, and our daily trading volume has been, and will likely continue to be, highly volatile. Investors may not be able to resell their shares of our common stock following periods of price or trading volume volatility because of the market's adverse reaction to such volatility. Factors that could cause volatility in our stock price and trading volume, in some cases regardless of our operating performance, include, among other things:

general economic conditions, including suppressed demand for technology products and services;

**Table of Contents**

actual or anticipated variations in quarterly operating results;

announcements of technological innovations;

new products or services;

changes in the market valuations of other software or technology companies;

failure to meet analysts' or investors' expectations;

announcements by us or our competitors of significant acquisitions, strategic partnerships, or joint ventures;

our cash position and cash commitments;

our prospects for enterprise software sales and new customers; and

additions or departures of key personnel.

*Acquisitions may disrupt or otherwise have a negative impact on our business.*

We have made, and plan to continue to make, investments in complementary companies, technologies, and assets. Future and past acquisitions are subject to the following risks:

acquisitions may cause a disruption in our ongoing business, distract our management and other resources, and make it difficult to maintain our standards, controls, and procedures;

we may acquire companies in markets in which we have little experience;

we may not be able to successfully integrate the services, products, and personnel of any acquisition into our operations;

we may be required to incur debt or issue equity securities, which may be dilutive to existing shareholders, to pay for the acquisitions;

we may be exposed to unknown or undisclosed liabilities; and

our acquisitions may not result in any return on our investment and we may lose our entire investment.

*Interruptions or delays in service from our third-party Web hosting facility could impair the delivery of our service and harm our business.*



We provide our service through computer hardware that is currently located in a third-party Web hosting facility operated by ServerVault, Inc. in Dulles, Virginia. We do not control the operation of this facility, and it may be subject to damage or interruption from floods, fires, power loss, telecommunications failures, and similar events. It may also be subject to break-ins, sabotage, intentional acts of vandalism, and similar misconduct. Despite precautions taken at the facility, the occurrence of a natural disaster, a decision to close the facility without adequate notice or other unanticipated problems at the facility could result in lengthy interruptions in our service. In addition, the failure by the ServerVault facility to provide our required data communications capacity could result in interruptions in our service.

***If our security measures are breached and unauthorized access is obtained to a customer's data, our on-demand applications may be perceived as not being secure and customers may curtail or stop using our service.***

Our on-demand supply management application model involves the storage, analysis, and transmission of customers' proprietary information, and security breaches could expose us to a risk of loss or corruption of this information, litigation, and possible liability. If our security measures are breached as a result of third-party action, employee error, malfeasance or otherwise, and, as a result, an unauthorized party obtains access to one or more of our customers' data, our reputation could be damaged, our business may suffer, and we could incur significant liability. Because techniques used to obtain unauthorized access or to sabotage computer systems change frequently and generally are not recognized until launched against a target, we may be unable to anticipate these techniques or to implement adequate preventative measures. While we are not aware of any such breach, if an actual or perceived breach of our security occurs, the perception by existing or potential customers of the effectiveness of our security measures could be harmed and we could lose sales and customers.

***If the third party software we use to support and enable our applications is subject to intrusion or corruption by third parties, our applications could become unstable or unavailable to our customers.***

We use third party software to support or enable our applications which may be subject to intrusion or corruption by third parties, which may render our on-demand applications unstable or unavailable to our customers. While we are not aware of any such intrusion, if an actual or perceived intrusion or corruption of our applications or third party software which we use to support or enable our applications occurs, and our applications become unstable or unavailable, the perception by existing or potential customers of our applications could be harmed and we could lose sales and customers.

## **Table of Contents**

*If our on-demand application model is not widely accepted, our operating results will be harmed.*

We expect to derive a portion of our revenue from subscriptions to our on-demand applications. As a result, widespread acceptance of our on-demand supply management applications is critical to our future success. Factors that may affect market acceptance of our on-demand applications include:

potential reluctance by enterprises to migrate to an on-demand application model;

the price and performance of our on-demand applications;

the level of customization we can offer;

the availability, performance and price of competing products and services; and

potential reluctance by enterprises to trust third parties to store and manage their internal data.

Many of these factors are beyond our control. The inability of our on-demand applications model to achieve widespread market acceptance would harm our business.

*Because we will recognize revenue from our on-demand applications over the term of the agreement, downturns or upturns in sales may not be immediately reflected in our operating results.*

We will recognize our revenue from customers with hosted term-based licenses monthly over the terms of their agreements, which are typically 12 to 24 months, although terms can range from one to 60 months. As a result, a portion of the revenue we report in each quarter will be deferred revenue from agreements entered into during previous quarters. Consequently, a decline in new or renewed agreements in any one quarter will not necessarily be fully reflected in the revenue in that quarter and will negatively affect our revenue in future quarters. In addition, we may be unable to adjust our cost structure to reflect these reduced revenues. Accordingly, the effect of significant downturns in sales and market acceptance of our service may not be fully reflected in our results of operations until future periods. Our on-demand application model will also make it difficult for us to rapidly increase our revenue through additional sales in any period, as revenue from new customers must be recognized over the applicable agreement term.

*We do not have an adequate history with our on-demand application model to predict the rate of customer renewals and the impact these renewals will have on our revenue or operating results.*

Our customers have no obligation to renew their agreements for our service after the expiration of their initial contract period and some customers have elected not to do so. In addition, our customers may not renew unless we offer lower prices or agree to reduce the number of users. We have limited historical data with respect to rates of customer renewals, so we cannot accurately predict customer renewal rates. Our customers' renewal rates may decline or fluctuate as a result of a number of factors, including their dissatisfaction with our applications or the customers' ability to continue their operations and spending levels. If our customers do not renew their agreements for our on-demand supply

management applications, our revenue may decline and our business will suffer.

Our future success also depends in part on our ability to sell additional features or functions of our applications, additional applications, or additional services to our current customers. This may require increasingly sophisticated and costly sales efforts that are targeted at our customers' senior management. If these efforts are not successful, our business may suffer.

*Any failure to adequately expand our direct sales force will impede our growth.*

We expect to be substantially dependent on our direct sales force to obtain new customers, particularly large enterprise customers, and to manage our customer base. We believe that there is significant competition for direct sales personnel with the advanced sales skills and technical knowledge we need. Our ability to achieve significant growth in revenue in the future will depend, in large part, on our success in recruiting, training, and retaining sufficient direct sales personnel. New hires require significant training and may, in some cases, take more than a year before they achieve full productivity. Our recent hires and planned hires may not become as productive as we would like, and we may be unable to hire sufficient numbers of qualified individuals in the future in the markets where we do business. If we are unable to hire and develop sufficient numbers of productive sales personnel, sales of our products and services will suffer.

## **Table of Contents**

### **Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

Our exposure to market risk related changes in interest rates relates primarily to our cash and cash equivalents. We have invested in instruments that meet high quality credit standards, in compliance with our investment policy. The policy also limits the amount of credit exposure we may have to any one issue, issuer, or type of investment. As of September 30, 2004, our portfolio of investments included \$5.7 million in cash and cash equivalents. Due to the nature of our investment portfolio, we believe that a sudden change in interest rates would not have a material effect on the value of the portfolio since in most cases the average yield on our investments is less than 1% at September 30, 2004. The impact on our future interest income and future changes in investment yields will depend largely on the gross amount of our investment portfolio.

We have invested in equity instruments of privately held companies for business and strategic purposes. These investments are included in other investments and are accounted for under the cost method when ownership is less than 20% and we do not have the ability to exercise significant influence over operations. As of September 30, 2004, we hold cost method equity investments with a carrying value of \$606,000. For these investments in privately held companies, our policy is to regularly review the assumptions underlying the operating performance and cash flow forecasts in assessing the recoverability of the carrying values. We identify and record impairment losses when events and circumstances indicate that such assets might be impaired.

At September 30, 2004, we had an outstanding Promissory note with a principal amount of \$5.9 million and a carrying value of \$4.1 million, including note accretion and capitalized interest. The note accrues interest at the rate of 8% per annum, with half of the principal amount due and payable on July 16, 2007 and the remaining half due and payable on July 16, 2008. The note effective accretion rate is 12.2% annum. The note is convertible into 2,949,204 shares of Verticalnet common stock, subject to approval by Verticalnet's shareholders. If the conversion feature of the note is approved by Verticalnet's shareholders, then either Verticalnet or the noteholders can require the conversion of the note into Verticalnet common stock.

We held no derivatives as of September 30, 2004.

### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

*(a) Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures.* Our management, under the supervision and with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based on that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report have been designed and are functioning effectively to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed by us in reports filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchanges Commission's rules and forms. We believe that a controls system, no matter how well designed and operated, cannot provide absolute assurance that the objectives of the controls system are met, and no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within a company have been detected.

*(b) Changes in internal controls.* The evaluation referred to in paragraph (a) of this Item did not identify any changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2004 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.



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**Table of Contents****PART II. OTHER INFORMATION****ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

On June 12, 2001, a class action lawsuit was filed against us and several of our officers and directors in U.S. Federal Court for the Southern District of New York in an action captioned CJA Acquisition, Inc. v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-5241 (the CJA Action ). Also named as defendants were four underwriters involved in the issuance and initial public offering of our common stock in February 1999 Lehman Brothers Inc., Hambrecht & Quist LLC, Volpe Brown Whelan & Company LLC, and WIT Capital Corporation. The complaint in the CJA Action alleges violations of Sections 11 and 15 of the Securities Act of 1933 (the Securities Act ) and Section 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act ) and Rule 10b-5 promulgated there under, based on, among other things, claims that the four underwriters awarded material portions of the initial shares to certain favored customers in exchange for excessive commissions. The plaintiff also asserts that the underwriters engaged in a practice known as laddering, whereby the clients or customers agreed that in exchange for IPO shares they would purchase additional shares at progressively higher prices after the IPO. With respect to Verticalnet, the complaint alleges that the Company and its officers and directors failed to disclose in the prospectus and the registration statement the existence of these purported excessive commissions and laddering agreements. After the CJA Action was filed, several copycat complaints were filed in U.S. Federal Court for the Southern District of New York. Those complaints, whose allegations mirror those found in the CJA Action, include Ezra Charitable Trust v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-5350; Kofsky v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-5628; Reeberg v. Verticalnet, C.A. No. 01-CV-5730; Lee v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-7385; Hoang v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-6864; Morris v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-9459, and Murphy v. Verticalnet, et al., C.A. No. 01-CV-8084. None of the complaints state the amount of any damages being sought, but do ask the court to award rescissory damages. All of the foregoing suits were amended and consolidated into a single complaint that was filed with the U.S. Federal Court on April 19, 2002. This amended complaint contains additional factual allegations concerning the events discussed in the original complaints, and asserts that, in addition to Sections 11 and 15 of the Securities Act, the Company and our officers and directors also violated Sections 10(b), 20(a), and Rule 10b-5 of the Exchange Act in connection with the IPO. In addition to this amended and consolidated complaint, the plaintiffs in this lawsuit and in the hundreds of other similar suits filed against other companies in connection with IPOs that occurred in the late 1990s have filed master allegations that primarily focus on the conduct of the underwriters of the IPOs, including our IPO. On October 9, 2002, the U.S. Federal Court for the Southern District of New York entered an order dismissing, without prejudice, the claims against the individual Verticalnet officers and directors who had been named as defendants in the various complaints. In February 2003, the District Court entered an Order denying a Motion made by the defendants to dismiss the actions in their entirety, but granting the Motion as to certain of the claims against some defendants. However, the District Court did not dismiss any claims against Verticalnet. On or about June 5, 2003, Verticalnet's counsel, with the approval of the Company's directors, executed a Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Verticalnet with respect to a proposed settlement of the plaintiff's claims against Verticalnet. This proposed resolution of the litigation has been publicly announced (although not yet formally accepted by the plaintiffs) and widely reported in the press. The proposed settlement, if approved by the District Court, would result in, among other things, the dismissal of all claims against Verticalnet, its officers and directors. Under the present terms of the proposed settlement described above, Verticalnet would also assign its claims against the underwriters to the plaintiffs in the consolidated actions.

In July 2000, we entered into an Opportunity Grant Program Contract with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development ( PaDCED ) whereby we received a grant in the amount of \$1.0 million from the Commonwealth. The grant was conditioned upon, among other things, the creation of 1,000 full time jobs and that we would operate in our former Horsham facility for at least five years. In July 2000, Atlas Commerce entered into an Opportunity Grant Program Contract with the PaDCED whereby Atlas Commerce received a grant in the amount of \$400,000 from the Commonwealth, which amount was increased to \$600,000 in June 2001. The grant was conditioned upon, among other things, the creation of 250 full time jobs and that Atlas Commerce would operate in its Malvern facility for at least five years. Both contracts contain a provision that requires repayment of the grant amount in the event the conditions are not met.

In November 2002, the PaDCED requested that we repay the entire grant amount of \$1.0 million for the July 2000 grant to Verticalnet. The Company responded to the PaDCED that it believes it had substantially complied with the conditions. In September 2003, the PaDCED filed a Complaint-Civil Action in the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas, although the Complaint has not yet been served upon us. The Complaint seeks to recover the total amount of the grant to Verticalnet. We would prefer to amicably resolve the matter. We believe that we have adequately reserved for the anticipated liability and foresee no material impact on our financial results or condition.

On September 30, 2004, the Company was served with a complaint filed against the Company and several of its former officers and directors in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in an action captioned Jodek Charitable Trust, R.A., Individually and as Assignee of Zvi Schreiber, LLC et. al. v. Vertical Net Inc., et. al., C.A. No. 04-4455. The complaint alleges that, in connection with the issuance of the Company's stock to the plaintiffs as part of the Company's acquisition of Tradeum, Inc. in March 2000, the plaintiffs were damaged by the defendants' delays in registering the stock, updating the registration of the stock, releasing the stock from lock-ups, and releasing the stock from escrows. Plaintiffs claim they sustained damages in excess of \$65.0 million as a result of the decrease in the stock price during the alleged delays. The Company disputes the allegations raised in the complaint and intends to vigorously defend itself.

**Table of Contents**

We are also a party to various litigations and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate resolutions with respect to all of the above actions will not have a material adverse effect on our financial position, liquidity, or results of operations.

**ITEM 2. UNREGISTERD SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

(a) During the quarter ended September 30, 2004, we issued the following unregistered securities pursuant to the following transaction:

In August 2004, we completed the sale of 3,000,000 shares of our common stock to various institutional investors for an aggregate offering price of \$3.0 million along with warrants to purchase 1,200,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$1.25 per share. We received approximately \$2.8 million in net proceeds from this transaction. The Shemano Group acted as placement agent in the private placement and received a commission of \$180,000 and warrants to purchase 75,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$1.25 per share. The shares of common stock and warrants were sold to a limited number of accredited investors in reliance on the exemption from registration provided by Rule 506 promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933.

The transaction was privately negotiated and did not include any general solicitation or advertising. Each purchaser represented that it was acquiring the shares without a view to a distribution and was afforded the opportunity to review all publicly filed documents and to ask questions and receive answers from our officers.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

**ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

(a) None.

(b) None.

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

No matters were submitted to a vote of security holders during the quarter ended September 30, 2004.



**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

**Table of Contents**

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Form 10-Q:

**Exhibit**

<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
31.1	Certification of the Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *
31.2	Certification of the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *
32.1	Certification by the Chief Executive Officer Relating to a Periodic Report Containing Financial Statements, dated November 12, 2004.
32.2	Certification by the Chief Financial Officer Relating to a Periodic Report Containing Financial Statements, dated November 12, 2004.

\* Filed herewith.  
Furnished herewith.

