FORRESTER RESEARCH INC Form 10-K March 09, 2012 Table of Contents

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# Form 10-K

(Mark One)

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## ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)

OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

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 000-21433

# Forrester Research, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) **60 Acorn Park Drive** 

60 Acorn Park Drive Cambridge, Massachusetts

(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code:

(617) 613-6000

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value Nasdaq Global Select Market Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

04-2797789 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number) 02140 (Zip Code)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes "No p

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes "No b

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 requirement for the past 90 days. Yes b No "

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer " Accelerated filer b Non-accelerated filer " Smaller reporting company "
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes " No b

The aggregate market value of the registrant s common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2011 (based on the closing price as quoted by the Nasdaq National Market as of such date) was approximately \$486,000,000.

As of March 6, 2012, 22,714,000 shares of the registrant s common stock were outstanding.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant s Proxy Statement related to its 2012 Annual Stockholders Meeting to be filed subsequently Part III of this Form 10-K.

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as expects, anticipates, intends, plans, estimates, or similar expressions are intended to identify these forward-looking statements. Reference is made in particular to our statements about possible acquisitions, our plans for international expansion, future dividends, future share repurchases, and the adequacy of our cash, marketable investments and cash flows to satisfy our working capital and capital expenditures. These statements are based on our current plans and expectations and involve risks and uncertainties. Important factors that could cause actual future activities and results of operations to be materially different from those set forth in the forward-looking statements are discussed below under Risk Factors. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise.

#### PART I

## General

Forrester Research, Inc. is an independent research company that provides pragmatic and forward-thinking advice to global leaders in business and technology. Our products and services are targeted to specific roles, including senior management in business strategy, marketing, and information technology principally at \$1 billion-plus (revenue) companies who collaborate with us to accelerate achievement of their business goals.

Research serves as the foundation for all our solutions and consists primarily of annual memberships to our RoleView<sup>TM</sup> syndicated research offerings that provide access to our core research on a wide range of business and technology issues critical to the success of the individuals in the roles we serve. In addition to our RoleView offerings, we also provide a portfolio of products and services that allow our clients to interact directly with analysts and their peers and explore in greater detail the issues and topics covered by RoleView research on a role and client-specific basis.

We were incorporated in Massachusetts on July 7, 1983 and reincorporated in Delaware on February 16, 1996.

Our Internet address is www.forrester.com. We make available free of charge, on or through the investor information section of our website, annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC.

## **Industry Background**

Enterprises and their employees struggle to remain both competitive and cost-efficient in an increasingly complex global business environment. Developing comprehensive and coordinated business strategies is difficult because as the economy and technology change, consumers and businesses adopt new methods of buying and selling, and markets grow increasingly dynamic.

Consequently, companies and the professionals who are in the roles we serve rely on external sources of expertise that provide independent business advice spanning a variety of areas including but not limited to technology, business strategy, and customer behavior. We believe there is a need for objective research that is thematic, prescriptive, and executable, and that provides a comprehensive perspective on the knowledge and skills required to succeed in today's rapidly changing business environment.

#### Forrester s Strategy

Forrester s role-based strategy focuses attention on serving leaders in key roles across its client base. Forrester s role-centric solutions provide clients with more relevant insights, allowing them to make better informed and justified decisions faster.

We seek to maintain and enhance our position as a leading global research and advisory firm and to capitalize on demand for our offerings by:

*Identifying and Defining New Business Models, Technologies, and Markets.* We seek to differentiate ourselves from other research firms by delivering pragmatic and forward-thinking research and analysis on the impact of technology on business models, business practices, and technology infrastructure. We believe that our research methodology and our creative culture allow us to identify and analyze rapid shifts in business and consumer use of technology before these changes appear on the horizons of most users, vendors, and other research firms. Our early identification of these shifts enables us to help our clients capitalize on emerging business models and technologies.

*Leveraging our RoleView Research.* Our business model, technology platform, and research methodologies allow us to sell existing products and to rapidly introduce new products and services without incurring significant incremental costs. We intend to continue to use our business model, technology platform, and research methodologies to both increase sales of our existing RoleView research products and introduce innovative new products. Our other offerings complement, enhance and supplement our RoleView research offerings, and many are designed to address the specific needs and problems of our clients and the professionals in the roles we serve. We also may acquire, through acquisition or license from third parties, new products and services that complement and support our strategy and existing offerings. In May 2011 we acquired Springboard Research, a research and advisory business focusing on Asia and emerging markets headquartered in Singapore with operations in Beijing, China and New Delhi, India.

*Using Targeted, Global Client-Centric Sales Channels.* Our business is organized into three principal global client groups that support our role-based strategy and are closely aligned with our client base: the Business Technology Client Group, the Marketing & Strategy Client Group, and the Technology Industry Client Group. Senior practice leaders within our three principal client groups focus on creating and delivering relevant research and related products and services to the professional roles we serve. We sell our products and services directly through a global sales force with sales personnel focusing on the needs of professionals in the roles we serve. In January 2012 we reorganized our sales force to simplify the sales process. Our sales personnel, formerly focused on selling to professionals in the roles covered by a specific client group, now sell our products and services to all professional roles within the clients they service. Our sales force, managed by a chief sales officer with global sales management responsibility, operates out of various locations in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. We also sell our products and services through independent sales representatives in select international locations.

*Growing Our Client Base Worldwide and Increasing Sales to Existing Clients.* We believe that our products and services can be successfully marketed and sold to new client companies worldwide and to new roles and additional units and divisions within our existing client companies. We believe that within our client base of over 2,600 client companies as of December 31, 2011 there is opportunity both to sell additional products and services to current users as well as to deliver our RoleView research and product portfolio to a greater number of professionals. In addition to our expanded presence in Asia as a result of our acquisition of Springboard Research, we intend to continue to expand our international presence as the growing impact of technology on business innovation creates demand for external sources of objective research.

*Developing and Retaining Outstanding Research Professionals.* The knowledge and experience of our analysts are critical elements of our ability to provide high-quality products and services. We employ outstanding research professionals from varied backgrounds and a wide range of industries. We believe that our culture, which emphasizes client service, courage, collaboration, integrity and quality, helps us to develop and retain high-caliber research professionals. We provide a competitive compensation structure, as well as recognition and rewards for excellent individual and team performance.

## Forrester s Solution

Our broad range of expertise on the impact of technology on business, consumer and customer behavior, and on marketing and strategy enables us to offer our clients the best available and most relevant research and insights on changing business models, best practices, technology investments, business practices, implementation advice, and customer trends. Our solution provides our clients with:

A Unified Set of Services to Help our Clients and to Make their Leaders Successful in their Roles. We offer clients a comprehensive set of products and services to obtain access to the research, data, analysts, and peer insights they need to be successful in their professional roles, including, for example, to:

Assess potential new markets, competitors, products and services, and go-to-market strategies.

Anticipate technology-driven business model shifts.

Understand trends in consumer behavior and how to capitalize on those trends for marketing and sales purposes.

Educate, inform, and align strategic decision-makers in their organizations.

Navigate technology purchase and implementation challenges and optimize technology investments.

Capitalize on emerging technologies.

*Expertise on Emerging Technologies.* We started our business in 1983 and have a long history of, and extensive experience in, identifying trends and providing research and executable advice on the impact of technology on business. Our research analysts have many years of industry experience, are frequent speakers at business and technology conferences, and are often quoted in the media. They enjoy direct access to the leaders and decision-makers within large enterprises and technology vendors. We provide our research analysts with training to ensure that they have the skills to challenge conventional viewpoints and provide prescriptive, executable insight and research to our clients.

## **Products and Services**

We offer our clients a selection of engagement opportunities that are organized for and directed toward the multiple professional roles we cover.

## RoleView<sup>TM</sup> Research

Our primary syndicated research product, RoleView, provides clients with access to our core syndicated research designed to inform their strategic decision-making. Our various RoleView research offerings, including BT (formerly IT) View, M&S View, and TI View, each consists of a library of cross-linked documents that interconnect our reports, data, product rankings, best practices, evaluation tools, and research archives. RoleView research access is provided through role-based websites that facilitate client access to research and tools that are most relevant to their professional roles, including community tools that allow interaction between and among clients and our analysts. Through this access structure, each of our RoleView research offerings addresses the interplay of an individual client's responsibilities and goals, business demands, and organizational and technology capabilities.

Our RoleView research products include The Forrester Wave<sup>TM</sup>. The Forrester Wave provides a detailed analysis of vendors technologies and services based on transparent, fully accessible criteria, and measurement of characteristics weighted by us. The Forrester Wave includes an Excel spreadsheet that allows clients to compare products and get in-depth data and analysis about each one and tools to develop a custom shortlist based on the client s unique requirements. The Forrester Wave is our primary mechanism for evaluating enterprise technologies.

Clients subscribing to our RoleView research products may choose between two membership levels:

*RoleView Member Licenses.* RoleView Member Licenses include access to the written research, as well as Inquiry with analysts, one Event seat, and access to Forrester Teleconferences. Inquiry enables clients to contact our analysts for quick feedback on projects they may have underway, to discuss ideas and models in the research, or for answers to questions about unfolding industry events. Typically,

Inquiry

sessions are 30-minute phone calls, scheduled upon client request, or e-mail responses coordinated through our research specialists. Events bring together executives and other participants for one or multi-day conferences to network with their peers and to hear business leaders discuss the issues and solutions most pertinent to their roles and responsibilities. Forrester Teleconferences are hour-long audio

conferences on selected topics of interest to particular professional roles that typically are held several times a week. They consist of an analyst-led presentation followed by questions from participants. Members may access the analyst Web presentation and participate in the subsequent forum for questions and discussion among all attendees. Teleconferences are also made available for member download.

*RoleView Reader Licenses.* RoleView Reader Licenses provide access to our written research. Both Member and Reader clients receive access to our research specialists, who provide additional information about our research, methodologies, coverage areas, and sources. The research specialists are available to help clients navigate our website, find relevant information, and put clients in contact with the appropriate analyst for inquiries.

#### Forrester<sup>®</sup> Leadership Boards

Our Forrester Leadership Boards are exclusive offerings for executives and other key employees at large companies worldwide. Clients may choose to participate in one or more Forrester Leadership Boards. Memberships are available in the Chief Information Officer (CIO) Group and the Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) Group and in a number of additional technology, marketing, and executive programs and councils addressing issues of interest to the professional roles we cover. In addition to a Member license to access the appropriate RoleView research offering, members of our Forrester Leadership Boards receive access to the following:

Advisors to assist members with individual research-related questions, and topics of specific relevance to the challenges these clients face.

Membership-directed research which includes comprehensive coverage of industry trends and best practices.

Exclusive industry-specific benchmark data.

Peer-to-peer networking through premier event meetings and group audio-conferences, individual member to member conversations, and virtual community activities.

#### Data Products & Services

Our Data products and services focus on consumers and business users attitudes about and behavior toward technology, including ownership, future purchases, and adoption trends. These products incorporate extensive survey research designed and analyzed by our staff. Clients can leverage our data products and services or choose to have us conduct data analysis on their behalf. Our data products and services include:

*Consumer Technographics*<sup>®</sup> *Data & Services.* Consumer Technographics delivers both primary data and quantitative research, based on surveys of over 325,000 households and individuals in North America, Europe, Russia, Asia Pacific, and Latin America. Marketing and strategy professionals rely on our Consumer Technographics data for unique insights into how technology impacts the way consumers select, purchase, use, and communicate about products and services. We combine respondent data sets from our Consumer Technographics surveys into multiple offerings including: Global Technographics, North American Technographics, European Technographics, Russian Technographics, Asia Pacific Technographics, and Latin America Technographics. Additionally, clients have access to a Technographics data specialist to help them use the data effectively to meet their specific business needs.

*Forrester s Forrsight*<sup>AA</sup> *for Business Technology.* Forrester s Forrsights is an ongoing quantitative research program that provides comprehensive, in-depth assessments of what motivates businesses to choose certain technologies and vendors over others. We annually survey more than 30,000 business and technology executives as well as information workers at small, medium and large enterprises in North American, European, and other global markets. Our surveys reveal these firms technology adoption trends, budgets, business organization, decision processes, purchase plans, and brand preferences. In addition, *Forrester s Strategic Planning Forrsights*,

specifically developed for CIOs, leverages over 250,000 surveys directed at specific job functions and titles across industries, firm sizes and geographies

to provide insights and benchmarks to assist CIOs with developing strategic visions, business plans, and technology roadmaps and in measuring business outcomes. Forrester s Forrsights clients also have access to a dedicated data advisor to assist in utilizing appropriate data to achieve desired outcomes.

*Forrester s Tech Marketing Navigator* (formerly Strategic Oxyge<sup>TM</sup>) offering is a decision support tool that measures and reports on the current information consumption patterns of key influencers for large technology purchases. We annually survey more than 25,000 business and technology executives and consumers in North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Latin America. Technology marketing professionals rely on Forrester Tech Marketing Navigator to make a wide range of key decisions around content, messaging, sequencing of activities, specific media that need to work globally and locally, and demand-generation choices. The Forrester Tech Marketing Navigator offering includes access to an online decision tool and a data advisor.

## Forrester Consulting

Our research-based advisory and project consulting services leverage our RoleView research offerings and our data products and services to deliver focused insights and recommendations to assist clients in developing and executing technology and business strategy, informing critical decisions and reducing business risk, and making large technology investments. For example, we help technology professionals with vendor selection, compare best practices, analyze whether outsourcing is advisable, and validate technology infrastructure; marketing and strategy professionals with consumer product strategy, direct marketing technology investments, eBusiness strategy, and interactive marketing strategy, including Web 2.0; and technology industry professionals with market and competitive assessments, go-to-market strategy, custom market research, and product development.

Our consulting services include website reviews that provide targeted, action-oriented assessments of clients websites, extranets, or intranets. Feedback is based on a comprehensive examination of the clients website and web strategies as well as reviews and comparisons with competitors websites, other channels and industry benchmarks.

## Forrester Events

We host multiple events in various locations in North America, Europe and Asia throughout the year. Events build upon our research and data products and services to bring together executives and other participants serving or interested in the particular professional role(s) on which an event focuses. Event participants come together to network with their peers, meet with Forrester analysts, and to hear business leaders discuss business and technology issues of interest or significance to the professional roles in attendance and the impact of technology on the professionals and their businesses.

#### Sales and Marketing

Our business is organized into three principal global client groups that support our role-based strategy and closely align with our client base: the Business Technology (formerly Information Technology) Client Group, the Marketing & Strategy Client Group, and the Technology Industry Client Group. In addition, our Events operations support all three client groups. We sell our products and services through our direct sales force in various locations in North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. As discussed above, we reorganized our sales force in January 2012. Our direct sales resources now operate through four principal customer-focused segments: Premier, focused on coordinated account management for selling to our largest clients; Major, focused on selling to large revenue clients, generally those with greater than \$1 billion of annual revenues; Emerging, focused on selling to currently using our products and services. We also sell our products and services through independent sales representatives in select international locations managed by our global markets group, which also focuses on selling to all existing and prospective clients in the Asia Pacific region. We employed 438 salespersons as of December 31, 2011, an increase of 16% from 378 as of December 31, 2010. We also sell certain of our research products directly online through our website.

For information on our operating segments and our international operations, see Note 11 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

Our marketing activities are designed to increase awareness of the Forrester brand and further our reputation as a leader in role-based business and technology research. We actively promote brand awareness via our website, Forrester Events, extensive worldwide press relations, and direct mail campaigns. We also employ an integrated direct marketing strategy that uses Internet, mail, and telephone channels for identifying and attracting high-quality sales leads. We encourage our analysts to increase our visibility by having their research ideas selectively distributed through various Internet, print, and television outlets. In addition, we support an active social media strategy whereby our analysts blog regularly with respect to the roles they serve. Other activities, including Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, and similar tools interconnect and cross-promote the analysts blogs and research content.

As of December 31, 2011, our research was delivered to more than 2,600 client companies. No single client company accounted for more than 2% of our 2011 revenues.

#### **Pricing and Contracts**

We report our revenue from client contracts in two categories of revenue: (1) research services and (2) advisory services and other. We classify revenue from subscriptions to our RoleView Research, Forrester Leadership Boards and Data Products and Services as research services revenue. We classify revenue from Forrester Consulting and Forrester Events as advisory services and other revenue.

Contract pricing for annual memberships for research only is principally a function of the number of licensed users at the client. Pricing of contracts for research and advisory services is a function of the number of licensed users, and the amount and type of advisory services. We track the agreement value of contracts to purchase research and advisory services as a significant business indicator. We calculate agreement value as the total revenues recognizable from all research and advisory service contracts in force at a given time (but not including advisory-only contracts), without regard to how much revenue has already been recognized. Agreement value increased 9% to \$221.1 million at December 31, 2011 from \$202.7 million at December 31, 2010.

#### **Research Analysts and Methodology**

We employ a structured methodology in our research that enables us to identify and analyze technology trends, markets, and audiences and ensures consistent research quality and recommendations across all coverage areas. We seek to provide relevant research that will contribute to the success of our clients in their professional roles.

We ascertain the issues important to our clients and technology users through thousands of interactions and surveys with vendors and business, marketing, and technology professionals, and accordingly, the majority of our research is focused on the issues our clients face each day. We use the following primary research inputs:

Confidential interviews with early adopters and mainstream users of new technologies.

In-depth interviews with technology vendors and suppliers of related services.

Ongoing briefings with vendors to review current positions and future directions.

Continuous dialogue with our clients to identify technology issues in the marketplace.

Our Consumer Technographics and Forrester s Forrsights research combines our qualitative research methodology with traditional survey research methodologies such as correlation, frequency distribution, cross-tabulation, and multivariate statistics to produce research reports, quantitative survey data, and data briefs. Third-party data vendors are frequently used for data collection and tabulation.

The Forrester Wave combines in-depth product test results and user interviews with market and strategic analysis to score attributes of emerging technologies. We then apply this research and strategic analysis to determine the weighting of each attribute and create interactive spreadsheets, databases, and reports.

Collaboration among analysts is an integral part of our process, leading to higher-quality research and a unified perspective. All RoleView research begins either with a client or vendor catalyst or with discussion sessions among analysts to generate ideas for research. Analysts test ideas throughout the research process at both informal and regularly scheduled research meetings and using social media technologies. Our reports are consistent in format, and we require our analysts to write in a structure that combines graphics with easy-to-read text to deliver concise, decisive, relevant, and objective research to our clients.

## Competition

We believe that the principal competitive factors in our industry include the following:

Quality of research and analysis and related services.

The ability to offer products and services that meet the changing needs of organizations and executives for research and analysis.

Customer service.

Independent analysis and opinions.

Timely delivery of information.

The ability to leverage new technologies.

#### Price.

We believe that we compete favorably with respect to each of these factors. We believe that our role-based strategy, including the diversity of roles we support and the ways in which we support them, as well as our focus on emerging technologies are significant competitive advantages. Additionally, we believe that in addition to our role-based strategy, our research methodology, easy-to-read formats, and portfolio of complementary product offerings distinguish us from our competitors.

We compete principally in the market for research and advisory services and their application for client success, with an emphasis on the impact of technology on our clients business models and customer markets. Our principal direct competitors include other providers of similar services, such as Gartner, as well as providers of peer networking services and Internet and digital media measurement services. In addition, our indirect competitors include the internal planning and marketing staffs of our current and prospective clients, as well as other information providers such as electronic and print publishing companies, survey-based general market research firms, and general business consulting firms. Our indirect competitors could choose to compete directly against us in the future. In addition, there are relatively few barriers to entry into our market, and new competitors could readily seek to compete against us in one or more market segments addressed by our research. Increased competition could adversely affect our operating results through pricing pressure and loss of market share. There can be no assurance that we will be able to continue to compete successfully against existing or new competitors.

#### Employees

As of December 31, 2011, we employed a total of 1,208 persons, including 450 research staff and 438 sales personnel.

Our culture emphasizes certain key values including client service, courage, collaboration, integrity and quality that we believe are critical to our future growth. We promote these values through training and frequent recognition for achievement. We encourage teamwork and promote and recognize individuals who foster these values. New employees participate in a three-day training process that focuses on our role-based strategy, our products and services, corporate culture, values and goals.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

We are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual future activities and results of operations to be materially different from those set forth in forward-looking statements made by us. These risks and uncertainties include:

A Decline in Renewals for Our Membership-Based Research Services. Our success depends in large part upon retaining (on both a client company and dollar basis) and enriching existing memberships for our research products and services. Future declines in client retention, dollar retention, and enrichment could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

*Our Business may be Adversely Affected by the Economic Environment.* Our business is in part dependent on technology spending and is impacted by economic conditions. The economic environment may materially and adversely affect demand for our products and services. If conditions in the United States and global economy were to lead to a decrease in technology spending, or in demand for our research and advisory services, this could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

*Our International Operations Expose Us to a Variety of Operational Risks which Could Negatively Impact Our Results of Operations.* We have clients in over 60 countries and approximately 30% of our revenue comes from international sales. Our operating results are subject to the risks inherent in international business activities, including challenges in staffing and managing foreign operations, changes in regulatory requirements, compliance with numerous foreign laws and regulations, differences between U.S. and foreign tax rates and laws, fluctuations in currency exchange rates, difficulty of enforcing client agreements, collecting accounts receivable, and protecting intellectual property rights in international jurisdictions. Furthermore, we rely on local independent sales representatives in some international locations. If any of these arrangements are terminated by our representatives or us, we may not be able to replace the arrangement on beneficial terms or on a timely basis, or clients of the local sales representative may not want to continue to do business with us or our new representative.

Ability to Develop and Offer New Products and Services. Our future success will depend in part on our ability to offer new products and services. These new products and services must successfully gain market acceptance by anticipating and identifying changes in client requirements and changes in the technology industry and by addressing specific industry and business organization sectors. The process of internally researching, developing, launching and gaining client acceptance of a new product or service, or assimilating and marketing an acquired product or service, is risky and costly. We may not be able to introduce new, or assimilate acquired, products or services successfully. Our failure to do so would adversely affect our ability to maintain a competitive position in our market and continue to grow our business.

*Loss of Key Management.* Our future success will depend in large part upon the continued services of a number of our key management employees. The loss of any one of them, in particular George F. Colony, our founder, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, could adversely affect our business.

*The Ability to Attract and Retain Qualified Professional Staff.* Our future success will depend in large measure upon the continued contributions of our senior management team, research analysts, and experienced sales and marketing personnel. Thus, our future operating results will be largely dependent upon our ability to retain the services of these individuals and to attract additional professionals from a limited pool of qualified candidates. We experience competition in hiring and retaining professionals from developers of Internet and emerging-technology products, other research firms, management consulting firms, print and electronic publishing companies and financial services companies, many of which have substantially greater ability, either through cash or equity, to attract and compensate professionals. If we lose professionals or are unable to attract new talent, we will not be able to maintain our position in the market or grow our business.

*Failure to Anticipate and Respond to Market Trends.* Our success depends in part upon our ability to anticipate rapidly changing technologies and market trends and to adapt our research to meet the changing information needs of our clients. The technology and commerce sectors that we analyze undergo frequent and often dramatic changes. The environment of rapid and continuous change presents significant challenges to our ability to provide our clients with current and timely analysis, strategies and advice on issues of importance to them. Meeting these challenges requires the commitment of substantial resources. Any failure to continue to provide insightful and timely analysis of developments, technologies, and trends in a manner that meets market needs could have an adverse effect on our market position and results of operations.

We may be subject to network disruptions or security breaches that could damage our reputation and harm our business and operating results. We may be subject to network disruptions or security breaches caused by computer viruses, illegal break-ins or hacking, sabotage, acts of vandalism by third parties or terrorism. Our security measures or those of our third party service providers may not detect or prevent such security breaches. Any such compromise of our information security could result in the unauthorized publication of our confidential

business or proprietary information, cause an interruption in our operations, result in the unauthorized release of customer or employee data, result in a violation of privacy or other laws, expose us to a risk of litigation or damage our reputation, which could harm our business and operating results.

*Competition.* We compete in the market for research products and services with other independent providers of similar services. We may also face increased competition from Internet-based research firms. Some of our competitors have substantially greater financial, information-gathering, and marketing resources than we do. In addition, our indirect competitors include the internal planning and marketing staffs of our current and prospective clients, as well as other information providers such as electronic and print publishing companies, survey-based general market research firms and general business consulting firms. Our indirect competitors may choose to compete directly against us in the future. In addition, there are relatively few barriers to entry into our market, and new competitors could readily seek to compete against us in one or more market segments addressed by our products and services. Increased competition could adversely affect our operating results through pricing pressure and loss of market share.

*Fluctuations in Our Operating Results.* Our revenues and earnings may fluctuate from quarter to quarter based on a variety of factors, many of which are beyond our control, and which may affect our stock price. These factors include, but are not limited to:

Trends in technology spending in the marketplace and general economic conditions.

The timing and size of new and renewal memberships for our research services from clients.

The utilization of our advisory services by our clients.

The timing of revenue-generating events sponsored by us.

The introduction and marketing of new products and services by us and our competitors.

The hiring and training of new analysts and sales personnel.

Changes in demand for our research and advisory services.

## Fluctuations in currency exchange rates.

As a result, our operating results in future quarters may be below the expectations of securities analysts and investors, which could have an adverse effect on the market price for our common stock. Factors such as announcements of new products, services, offices, acquisitions or strategic alliances by us, our competitors, or in the research and professional services industries generally, may have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock. The market price for our common stock may also be affected by movements in prices of stocks in general.

We May Realize Losses on Our Investments or Be Unable to Liquidate These Investments at Desired Times and in Desired Amounts. At December 31, 2011, we had approximately \$9.6 million of long-term marketable investments in municipal notes with an auction reset feature. In February 2008, auctions had begun to fail for these securities and have continued to fail, which means that the parties wishing to sell securities in the normal auction process could not. Based on current market conditions, it is likely that auction failures will continue and as a result, our ability to liquidate our investment and fully recover the carrying value of our investment in the near term may be limited or may not exist.

#### Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

We have not received written comments from the Securities and Exchange Commission that remain unresolved.

#### Item 2. Properties

In August 2011, we moved into a new corporate headquarters building, comprised of approximately 190,000 square feet of office space in Cambridge, Massachusetts, substantially all of which is currently occupied by the Company. This facility accommodates research, marketing, sales, technology, and operations personnel. The lease term of this facility expires February 28, 2027.

We also rent office space in San Francisco, New York City, Dallas, McLean, Virginia, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London and Paris. In 2011, we entered into a new lease for approximately 15,600 square feet in San Francisco, with a 63-month term that commenced April 1, 2011. Our New York lease is for approximately

15,200 square feet, with an initial term of ten years until December 31, 2020. The London lease is for approximately 17,800 square feet, with a term of eleven years until September 24, 2021. We also lease office space on a relatively short-term basis in various other locations in North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

We believe that our existing facilities are adequate for our current needs and that additional facilities are available for lease to meet future needs.

## Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are not currently a party to any material legal proceedings.

## PART II

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

Our common stock is listed on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol FORR. In December 2010 we paid a one-time special cash dividend of \$3.00 per share to holders of shares of our common stock. We did not declare or pay any dividends during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. In February 2012 our Board of Directors declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.14 per share payable on March 21, 2012 to shareholders of record as of March 7, 2012. We intend to begin paying regular quarterly cash dividends; however, the actual declaration of any such future dividends, and the establishment of the per share amount and payment dates for any such future dividends are subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

As of March 6, 2012 there were approximately 41 stockholders of record of our common stock. On March 6, 2012 the closing price of our common stock was \$32.00 per share.

The following table represents the ranges of high and low sale prices of our common stock for the years ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010:

	20	2011		10
	High	Low	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 38.75	\$ 28.72	\$ 32.17	\$ 23.65
Second Quarter	\$ 40.00	\$ 32.68	\$ 33.21	\$ 29.10
Third Quarter	\$ 34.40	\$ 29.15	\$ 34.20	\$ 28.63
Fourth Quarter	\$ 39.77	\$ 30.75	\$ 36.31	\$ 31.82

Through 2011, our Board of Directors authorized an aggregate \$260.0 million to purchase common stock under our stock repurchase program (first announced in 2002), including \$60.0 million authorized in 2010. During the quarter ended December 31, 2011 we did not purchase any shares of our common stock under the stock repurchase program. As of December 31, 2011 we had repurchased approximately 8.2 million shares of common stock at an aggregate cost of \$181.0 million.

The following graph contains the cumulative stockholder return on our common stock during the period from December 31, 2006 through December 31, 2011 with the cumulative return during the same period for the Nasdaq Stock Market (U.S. Companies) and the Russell 2000, and assumes that the dividends, if any, were reinvested.

## Item 6. Selected Consolidated Financial Data

The selected financial data presented below is derived from our consolidated financial statements and should be read in connection with those statements.

	Years Ended December 31,				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
		(In thousand	ls, except per sha	re amounts)	
Consolidated Statement of Income Data					
Research services	\$ 191,648	\$ 168,508	\$157,726	\$ 155,339	\$131,163
Advisory services and other	91,968	82,218	75,626	85,536	80,893
Total revenue	283,616	250,726	233,352	240,875	212,056
Operating income	36,997	30,750	32,420	37,964	22,651
Other income and gains (losses) on investments, net	1,648	3,550	1,315	6,846	7,353
Net income	\$ 23,010	\$ 20,507	\$ 18,866	\$ 29,215	\$ 18,943
Basic income per common share	\$ 1.02	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.83	\$ 1.27	\$ 0.82
Diluted income per common share	\$ 0.99	\$ 0.89	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.24	\$ 0.80
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	22,666	22,478	22,645	23,062	23,074
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	23,164	23,063	22,884	23,585	23,729

	As of December 31,				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
			(In thousands)		
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data					
Cash, cash equivalents and marketable investments	\$ 227,603	\$216,034	\$ 259,792	\$ 259,929	\$ 248,974
Working capital	158,098	146,140	190,667	166,001	209,527
Total assets	487,578	450,477	470,196	454,951	426,357
Deferred revenue	147,887	131,521	117,888	113,844	111,418
Total liabilities	196,843	178,570	158,251	151,454	151,341
Cash dividends declared		68,414			

The following items impact the comparability of our consolidated data:

Cash dividends declared in 2010 represent a special dividend of \$3.00 per common share declared and paid in the fourth quarter of 2010.

The 2009 operating income amount includes a \$5.4 million reorganization charge for facility consolidations and a reduction-in-force of approximately 50 employees. See Note 10 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

The results of JupiterResearch, LLC, and its parent company, JUPR Holdings, Inc. ( JupiterResearch ) are included in our consolidated results beginning July 31, 2008, the date of acquisition.

The 2008 other income amount includes a net foreign exchange loss of approximately \$1.6 million (\$1.2 million after tax) resulting primarily from the remeasurement of certain intercompany payables and receivables. Of the net \$1.6 million loss, approximately \$1.9 million related to periods prior to 2008.

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

## Table of Contents

## Overview

We derive revenues from memberships to our research products and services, performing advisory services and consulting projects, and hosting events. We offer contracts for our research products that are typically

renewable annually and payable in advance. Research revenues are recognized as revenue ratably over the term of the contract. Accordingly, a substantial portion of our billings are initially recorded as deferred revenue. Clients purchase advisory services independently and/or to supplement their memberships to our research. Billings attributable to advisory services and consulting projects are initially recorded as deferred revenue. Advisory service revenues are recognized when the customer receives the agreed upon deliverable. Consulting project revenues, which generally are short-term in nature and based upon fixed-fee agreements, are recognized as the services are provided. Event billings are also initially recorded as deferred revenue and are recognized as revenue upon completion of each event.

Our primary operating expenses consist of cost of services and fulfillment, selling and marketing expenses and general and administrative expenses. Cost of services and fulfillment represents the costs associated with the production and delivery of our products and services, including salaries, bonuses, employee benefits and stock-based compensation expense for research personnel and all associated editorial, travel, and support services. Selling and marketing expenses include salaries, sales commissions, bonuses, employee benefits, stock-based compensation expense, travel expenses, promotional costs and other costs incurred in marketing and selling our products and services. General and administrative expenses include the costs of the technology, operations, finance, and human resources groups and our other administrative functions, including salaries, bonuses, employee benefits, and stock-based compensation expense. Overhead costs such as facilities are allocated to these categories according to the number of employees in each group.

Deferred revenue, agreement value, client retention, dollar retention and enrichment are metrics we believe are important to understanding our business. We believe that the amount of deferred revenue, along with the agreement value of contracts to purchase research and advisory services, provide a significant measure of our business activity. We define these metrics as follows:

Deferred revenue billings in advance of revenue recognition as of the measurement date.

*Agreement value* the total revenues recognizable from all research and advisory service contracts in force at a given time (but not including advisory-only contracts), without regard to how much revenue has already been recognized. No single client accounted for more than 2% of agreement value at December 31, 2011.

*Client retention* the percentage of client companies with memberships expiring during the most recent twelve-month period that renewed one or more of those memberships during that same period.

*Dollar retention* the percentage of the dollar value of all client membership contracts renewed during the most recent twelve-month period to the total dollar value of all client membership contracts that expired during the period.

*Enrichment* the percentage of the dollar value of client membership contracts renewed during the most recent twelve-month period to the dollar value of the corresponding expiring contracts.

Client retention, dollar retention, and enrichment are not necessarily indicative of the rate of future retention of our revenue base. A summary of our key metrics is as follows (dollars in millions):

	As o Decemb		Absolute Increase	Percentage Increase
	2011	2010	(Decrease)	(Decrease)
Deferred revenue	\$ 147.9	\$ 131.5	\$ 16.4	12%
Agreement value	\$ 221.1	\$ 202.7	\$ 18.4	9%
Client retention	80%	80%		
Dollar retention	90%	91%	(1)	(1%)
Enrichment	101%	104%	(3)	(3%)
Number of clients	2,683	2,575	108	4%

		As of December 31,		Percentage Increase
	2010	2009	(Decrease)	(Decrease)
Deferred revenue	\$ 131.5	\$117.9	\$ 13.6	12%
Agreement value	\$ 202.7	\$ 194.8	\$ 7.9	4%
Client retention	80%	74%	6	8%
Dollar retention	91%	86%	5	6%
Enrichment	104%	96%	8	8%
Number of clients	2,575	2,519	56	2%

Deferred revenue and agreement value have increased consistently on an annual basis during 2010 and 2011 due to increased demand for our products and services as the economy has improved during those periods and as we have increased the number of sales personnel during both 2010 and 2011. The increase in agreement value during 2010 was partially offset by a change in the calculation to exclude agreement value in excess of the first year for multiple year contracts signed in 2009 and beyond, which reduced the growth rate in 2010 by approximately 6%.

Client retention, dollar retention, enrichment, and the number of clients have all increased from 2009 levels, which is consistent with an improved economic environment, and our retention metrics are near historic highs at December 31, 2011.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Management s discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our policies and estimates, including but not limited to, those related to our revenue recognition, stock-based compensation, non-marketable investments, goodwill and intangible assets, income taxes, and valuation and impairment of marketable investments. Management bases its estimates on historical experience, data available at the time the estimates are made and various assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

We consider the following accounting policies to be those that require the most subjective judgment or that involve uncertainty that could have a material impact on our financial statements. If actual results differ significantly from management s estimates and projections, there could be a material effect on our financial statements. This is not a comprehensive list of all of our accounting policies. In many cases, the accounting treatment of a particular transaction is specifically dictated by GAAP, with no need for management s judgment

in its application. There are also areas in which management s judgment in selecting any available alternative would not produce a materially different result. For a discussion of our other accounting policies, see Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements beginning on page F-7.

*Revenue Recognition*. Effective January 1, 2011 we adopted Update No. 2009-13, *Multiple-Deliverable Revenue Arrangements a consensus of the FASB Emerging Issues Task Force* (ASU 2009-13). ASU 2009-13 updates the previous multiple-element revenue arrangements guidance. The revised guidance primarily provides three significant changes: 1) it eliminates the need for objective and reliable evidence of the fair value for the undelivered element in order for a delivered item to be treated as a separate unit of accounting; 2) it eliminates the residual method to allocate the arrangement consideration; and 3) it modifies the fair value requirements of EITF Issue 00-21 by providing best estimate of selling price in addition to vendor specific objective evidence and vendor objective evidence for determining the selling price of a deliverable. The adoption of ASU 2009-13 did not have a material impact on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

We generate revenues from licensing memberships to our research (including our data products), performing advisory services and consulting projects and hosting events. We execute contracts that govern the terms and conditions of each arrangement. Revenues are recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the fee is fixed or determinable, services have been provided to the customer, and collectability is reasonably assured. Our contracts may include either a single product or service or a combination of multiple products and services. Revenues from contracts that contain multiple products or services are allocated among the separate units of accounting based on their relative selling prices; however, the amount recognized is limited to the amount that is not contingent on future performance conditions. For example, when a discount off of list price is provided in a multiple element contract, the discount is applied ratably to the research and data products only (which commence delivery on the first day of the contract), as the undelivered products and services based upon an analysis of standalone sales of these products and services during the year. Research service revenues are recognized ratably over the term of the contract. Advisory service revenues are recognized as the services are provided. Reimbursed out-of-pocket expenses are recorded as advisory services revenue. Event revenues are recognized upon completion of the event.

Annual subscriptions to our RoleView research include access to all or a designated portion of our research, and depending on the type of license, membership in one or more of our Forrester leadership boards, unlimited phone or email analyst inquiry, unlimited participation in Forrester Teleconferences, and the right to attend one event. Contracts for RoleView research entered into prior to the adoption of ASU 2009-13 on January 1, 2011, were accounted for as one unit of accounting and recognized ratably as research services revenue over the membership period. Contracts for RoleView research entered into or significantly modified after January 1, 2011 are accounted for as two units of accounting: 1) the event ticket and 2) the remaining research services that are delivered throughout the contract period based on the new guidance that permits alternative methods of determining selling prices as it relates to the components that we do not sell on a standalone basis, such as research services in our case. Arrangement consideration is allocated to each element based upon its relative selling price, which is determined based on standalone sales of event tickets and the estimated selling price of the remaining research services. Annual subscriptions to our data products include access to designated survey data products and access to a data specialist, which are delivered throughout the year, and are accounted for as one unit of accounting and recognized ratably as research services revenue over the membership period. We offer our clients a service guarantee, which gives our clients the right to cancel their contracts prior to the end of the contract term and receive a refund for unused products or services. Furthermore, our revenue recognition determines the timing of commission expenses, as commissions are earned during the month a contract is booked and are deferred and recognized as expense as the related revenue is recognized. We evaluate the recoverability of deferred commissions at each balance sheet date.

*Stock-Based Compensation.* Stock-based compensation is recognized as an expense based upon the fair value of the award at the time of grant. The determination of the fair value of stock-based compensation

requires significant judgment and the use of estimates, particularly surrounding assumptions such as stock price volatility, expected option lives and forfeiture rates. These estimates involve inherent uncertainties and the application of management judgment. As a result, if circumstances change and we use different assumptions, our stock-based compensation expense could be materially different in the future.

Expected volatility is based, in part, on the historical volatility of our common stock as well as management s expectations of future volatility over the expected term of the awards granted. The development of an expected life assumption involves projecting employee exercise behaviors (expected period between stock option vesting dates and stock option exercise dates). We are also required to estimate future forfeitures of stock-based awards for recognition of compensation expense. We will record additional expense if the actual forfeitures are lower than estimated and will record a recovery of prior recognized expense if the actual forfeitures are higher than estimated. In addition, for our performance-vested restricted stock units, we make estimates of the performance outcome at each period end in order to estimate the actual number of shares that will be earned. The actual expense recognized over the vesting period will only be for those awards that vest. If our actual forfeiture rate or performance outcomes are materially different from our estimates, or if our estimates of forfeitures or performance outcomes are modified in a future period, the actual stock-based compensation expense could be significantly different from what we have recorded in the current period. For example, during 2011 we modified our estimates of the performance outcome for RSUs issued during 2009 and 2010 that resulted in a credit of \$0.9 million being recorded in 2011 related to expense recognized in prior periods related to these RSUs.

*Non-Marketable Investments*. We hold minority interests in technology-related investment funds with a book value of \$7.9 million at December 31, 2011. These investment funds are not publicly traded, and, therefore, because no established market for these securities exists, the estimate of the fair value of our investments requires significant judgment. Investments that are accounted for using the cost method are valued at cost unless an other-than-temporary impairment in their value occurs. For investments that are accounted for using the equity method, we record our share of the investee s operating results each period. We review the fair value of our investments on a regular basis to evaluate whether an other-than-temporary impairment in the investment has occurred. We record impairment charges when we believe that an investment has experienced a decline in value that is other-than-temporary. Future adverse changes in market conditions or poor operating results of underlying investments could result in losses or an inability to recover the carrying value of the investments that may not be reflected in an investment s current carrying value, thereby possibly requiring an impairment charge in the future.

Goodwill, Intangible Assets and Other Long-Lived Assets. As of December 31, 2011, we had \$81.9 million of goodwill and intangible assets with finite lives recorded on our Consolidated Balance Sheet. Goodwill is required to be measured for impairment at least annually or whenever events indicate that there may be an impairment. In order to determine if an impairment exists, we compare each of our reporting unit s carrying value to the reporting unit s fair value. Determining the reporting unit s fair value requires us to make estimates of market conditions and operational performance. Absent an event that indicates a specific impairment may exist, we have selected November 30 as the date to perform the annual goodwill impairment test. We completed the annual goodwill impairment testing as of November 30, 2011 and concluded that the fair values of each of our reporting units substantially exceeded their respective carrying values. Future events could cause us to conclude that impairment indicators exist and that goodwill associated with our acquired businesses is impaired. Any resulting impairment loss could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations.
 Intangible assets with finite lives consist of acquired customer relationships, technology, research content, and trademarks, and are valued according to the future cash flows they are estimated to produce. These assigned values are amortized on a basis which best matches the periods in which the economic benefits are expected to be realized. Tangible assets with finite lives consist of property and equipment, which are depreciated and amortized over their estimated useful lives. We continually evaluate whether events or circumstances have occurred that indicate that the estimated remaining useful lives. We continually evaluate whether events or circumstances have occurred that indicate that the estimated remaining useful lives.

17

of these assets may be impaired. To compute whether intangible assets have been impaired, the estimated undiscounted future cash flows

for the estimated remaining useful life of the assets are compared to the carrying value. To the extent that the future cash flows are less than the carrying value, the assets are written down to their estimated fair value.

*Income Taxes.* We recognize deferred tax assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates for the effect of temporary differences between book and tax bases of assets and liabilities as well as operating loss carryforwards (from acquisitions). Such amounts are adjusted as appropriate to reflect changes in the tax rates expected to be in effect when the temporary differences reverse. We record a valuation allowance to reduce our deferred taxes to an amount we believe is more likely than not to be realized. We consider future taxable income and prudent and feasible tax planning strategies in assessing the need for a valuation allowance.

As a global company, we use significant judgment to calculate and provide for income taxes in each of the tax jurisdictions in which we operate. In the ordinary course of our business, there are transactions and calculations undertaken whose ultimate tax outcome cannot be certain. Some of these uncertainties arise as a consequence of transfer pricing for transactions with our subsidiaries and potential challenges to nexus and credit estimates. We estimate our exposure to unfavorable outcomes related to these uncertainties and record a liability based on the probability for such outcomes in accordance with current accounting guidelines.

Although we believe our estimates are reasonable, no assurance can be given that the final tax outcome will not be different from what is reflected in our historical income tax provisions, returns, and accruals. Such differences, or changes in estimates relating to potential differences, could have a material impact on our income tax provision and operating results in the period in which such a determination is made.

*Valuation and Impairment of Marketable Investments.* Our investment portfolio may at any time contain investments in U.S. Treasury and U.S. government agency securities, taxable and/or tax exempt municipal notes (some of which may have an auction reset feature), corporate notes and bonds, commercial paper and money market funds. The assessment of the fair value of certain of the debt securities (e.g. those containing an auction reset feature) can be difficult and subjective due in part to limited trading activity of certain of these debt instruments.

In accordance with the accounting standard for fair value measurements, we have classified our marketable investments as Level 1, 2 or 3 within the fair value hierarchy. Fair values determined by Level 1 inputs utilize quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Fair values determined by Level 2 inputs utilize data points that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets, quoted prices in markets that are not active or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets. Fair values determined by Level 3 inputs utilize unobservable data points.

As of December 31, 2011, we held municipal bonds with a fair value of \$9.6 million (\$11.0 million at par value) with an auction reset feature (auction rate securities or ARS). The fair value of the ARS was determined by utilizing a discounted cash flow approach, which is considered a Level 3 valuation. The assumptions used in preparing the discounted cash flow model include estimates, based on data available at December 31, 2011, of interest rates, timing and amount of cash flows, credit and liquidity premiums, and expected holding periods of the ARS. The assumptions used in valuing the ARS are volatile and subject to change as the underlying sources of these assumptions and market conditions change, which may lead us in the future to record additional losses for these securities. We classified these ARS as available-for-sale securities and determined that the losses were not considered other-than-temporary and were not due to credit losses. Accordingly, changes in the market value of the ARS have been recorded in other comprehensive loss in the Consolidated Balance Sheets for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. If market conditions deteriorate further, we may be required to record unrealized losses in other comprehensive loss or impairment charges within the Consolidated Statements of Income. We may not be able to liquidate these investments unless the issuer calls the security, a successful auction occurs, a buyer is found outside of the auction process, or the security matures.

At December 31, 2011, we held \$138.0 million of marketable investments that were valued using Level 2 inputs. Level 2 investments are initially valued at the transaction price and subsequently valued, at the end of each reporting period, by our investment managers utilizing third party pricing services, which consists of one price per instrument. We do not obtain pricing or quotes from brokers directly and historically we have not adjusted prices obtained from our investment managers for our non-ARS portfolio. We verify the pricing information obtained from our investment managers by obtaining an understanding of the pricing methodology and inputs utilized by the pricing services to value our particular investments, as well as an understanding of the controls and procedures utilized by our investment managers to both ensure the accurate recording and to validate the pricing of our investments obtained from the pricing services on an annual basis.

Our marketable investments consist solely of high credit quality corporate and municipal bonds with a weighted average credit rating AA and do not include difficult to value features. The majority of our marketable investments are in large corporate notes.

We conduct periodic reviews to identify and evaluate each investment that has an unrealized loss, in accordance with the meaning of other-than-temporary impairment and its application to certain investments, as required under current accounting standards. An unrealized loss exists when the current fair value of an individual security is less than its amortized cost basis. Unrealized losses on available-for-sale securities that are determined to be temporary, and not related to credit loss, are recorded, net of tax, in accumulated other comprehensive loss.

For available-for-sale debt securities with unrealized losses, management performs an analysis to assess whether we intend to sell or whether we would more likely than not be required to sell the security before the expected recovery of the amortized cost basis. Where we intend to sell a security, or may be required to do so, the security s decline in fair value would be deemed to be other-than-temporary and the full amount of the unrealized loss would be recorded within gains (losses) on investments, net in the Consolidated Statements of Income. Regardless of our intent to sell a security. Credit losses are identified where we do not expect to receive cash flows sufficient to recover the amortized cost basis of a security and are recorded within gains (losses) on investments, net in the Consolidated Statements of security and are recorded within gains (losses) on investments, net in the Consolidated Statements of security and are recorded within gains (losses) on investments, net in the Consolidated Statements of a security and are recorded within gains (losses) on investments, net in the Consolidated Statements of security and are recorded within gains (losses) on investments, net in the Consolidated Statements of Income.

## Results of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009

The following table sets forth our Consolidated Statements of Income as a percentage of total revenues for the years noted.

		Years Ended December 31,	••••
Revenues:	2011	2010	2009
Research services	67.6%	67.2%	67.6%
Advisory services and other	32.4	32.8	32.4
Advisory services and other	52.4	52.0	52.4
Total revenues	100.0	100.0	100.0
Operating expenses:			
Cost of services and fulfillment	36.5	37.5	37.6
Selling and marketing	35.8	33.8	31.1
General and administrative	11.8	13.6	12.2
Depreciation	1.9	1.4	1.9
Amortization of intangible assets	0.9	1.4	1.0
Reorganization costs	0.1		2.3
Income from operations	13.0	12.3	13.9
Other income, net	0.2	0.5	1.0
Gains (losses) on investments, net	0.4	0.9	(0.4)
Income before income taxes	13.6	13.7	14.5
Income tax provision	5.5	5.5	6.4
	0.0	5.5	0.1
Net income	8.1%	8.2%	8.1%

#### 2011 compared to 2010

#### Revenues

	2011 (dollars in mil	2010 llions)	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Revenues	\$ 283.6	\$ 250.7	\$ 32.9	13%
Revenues from research services	\$ 191.6	\$ 168.5	\$ 23.1	14%
Revenues from advisory services and other	\$ 92.0	\$ 82.2	\$ 9.8	12%
Revenues attributable to customers outside of the U.S.	\$ 85.2	\$ 70.7	\$ 14.5	21%
Percentage of revenue attributable to customers outside of				
the U.S.	30%	28%	2	7%
Number of clients (at end of period)	2,683	2,575	108	4%
Number of events	15	14	1	7%

The increase in total revenues in 2011 is principally the result of increased demand for our products and services and the acquisition of Springboard Research in May 2011, which accounted for approximately 1% of revenue growth. The effects of foreign exchange resulted in an approximate 1% increase in total revenues during 2011. Revenue growth in 2011 was driven by a 20% increase in the marketing and strategy client group, a 14% increase in the technology industry client group (approximately 2% due to Springboard Research), and a 7% increase in the business technology client group. Overall revenue growth was due in part to the growth in the

economy and an increase in the number of sales personnel in 2011. Revenue growth outside of the U.S. outpaced the growth in the U.S., due in part to faster growth in the Asia Pacific region. Including the effect of foreign exchange, revenue earned outside of the U.S. increased by 2% as a percent of total revenues in 2011. We count co-located events, which enable our clients to attend multiple events with one event ticket, as a single event in the table above.

## Cost of Services and Fulfillment

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Cost of services and fulfillment (dollars in millions)	\$ 103.6	\$ 94.1	\$ 9.5	10%
Cost of services and fulfillment as a percentage of total				
revenues	36.5%	37.5%	(1.0)	(3%)
Number of research and fulfillment employees (at end of				
period)	543	474	69	15%

The increase in cost of services and fulfillment in dollars during 2011 is primarily the result of increased compensation and benefits principally due to an increase in research and fulfillment employees, increased facility costs, and increased travel and entertainment expense due in part to an all-employee meeting in the first quarter of 2011. These increases were partially offset by a reduction of approximately \$3.9 million of incentive compensation earned with respect to the third and fourth quarters of 2011. Facility costs recorded in costs of services and fulfillment increased approximately \$2.9 million during 2011 primarily due to us incurring lease costs for both our new corporate headquarters and our previous headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts and also due to a higher level of costs for our new corporate headquarters. We recognized approximately eight months of lease costs in 2011 for our new headquarters during the construction period as we had access to the facility for construction purposes prior to our occupancy at the end of August 2011. Our lease at our prior headquarters expired on September 30, 2011. The decrease in cost of services and fulfillment as a percentage of total revenues during 2011 compared to the prior year is primarily due to the reduction in the amount of incentive bonus earned with respect to the current year.

## Selling and Marketing

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Selling and marketing expenses (dollars in millions)	\$ 101.5	\$ 84.7	\$ 16.8	20%
Selling and marketing expenses as a percentage of total				
revenues	35.8%	33.8%	2.0	6%
Selling and marketing employees (at end of period)	487	430	57	13%

The increase in selling and marketing expenses in dollars and as a percentage of total revenues during 2011 is primarily due to an increase in compensation and benefits costs resulting from an increase in the number of selling and marketing employees and an increase in sales commissions. Increased sales of our syndicated research services products are generally recognized over a twelve-month period, which typically results in an increase in selling and marketing expense as a percentage of revenue during periods of sales force expansion. The increase is also attributable to increased travel and entertainment expense and increased facility costs. Facility costs recorded in selling and marketing increased approximately \$2.1 million during 2011 primarily due to us incurring duplicate lease costs as described above under cost of services and fulfillment . In the first quarter of 2012, we realigned our sales force to simplify the selling process to our customers and to increase the productivity of our sales organization. The realignment resulted in the elimination of approximately 11 sales and marketing positions in the first quarter of 2012.

#### General and Administrative

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
General and administrative expenses (dollars in millions)	\$ 33.3	\$ 34.0	\$ (0.7)	(2%)
General and administrative expenses as a percentage of total				
revenues	11.8%	13.6%	(1.8)	(13%)
General and administrative employees (at end of period)	178	174	4	2%

The decrease in general and administrative expense in dollars and as percent of total revenue during 2011 is primarily due a reduction of approximately \$1.6 million of incentive compensation earned with respect to the third and fourth quarters of 2011, the capitalization of approximately \$1.6 million of internal information technology salary costs in 2011 for the build of our new client-facing website that was launched in 2012, and a decrease of approximately \$0.6 million in stock compensation expense. These decreases were partially offset by an increase in facility costs, an increase in compensation and benefits costs resulting from an increase in the number of general and administrative employees and salary increases during 2011, and acquisition and integration costs for Springboard Research of approximately \$0.7 million. Facility costs recorded in general and administrative expense increased approximately \$0.8 million during 2011 primarily due to us incurring duplicate lease costs as described above under cost of services and fulfillment.

#### Depreciation

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Depreciation expense (dollars in millions)	\$ 5.4	\$ 3.6	\$ 1.8	48%
Depreciation expense as a percentage of total revenues	1.9%	1.4%	0.5	36%

The increase in depreciation expense during 2011 is primarily due to the initiation of depreciation for our new corporate headquarters in August 2011. We expect depreciation expense in future periods to increase from the current period level due to our new corporate headquarters and the launch of our website and other customer facing technologies in 2012.

#### Amortization of Intangible Assets

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
mortization expense (dollars in millions)	\$ 2.6	\$ 3.6	\$ (1.0)	(29%)
Amortization expense as a percentage of total revenues	0.9%	1.4%	(0.5)	(36%)

The decrease in amortization expense during 2011 is primarily due to certain intangible assets from the acquisition of Strategic Oxygen in December 2009 becoming fully amortized in the first quarter of 2011, partially offset by an increase in amortization from the acquisition of Springboard Research in May 2011.

#### **Reorganization Costs**

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Reorganization costs (dollars in millions)	\$ 0.4	\$	\$ 0.4	N/A
Reorganization costs as a percentage of total revenues	0.1%		0.1	N/A

In the first quarter of 2012 we realigned our sales force to simplify the selling process to our customers and to increase the productivity of our sales force. The reorganization costs incurred in 2011 consist of severance and related benefits for three employees located outside of the U.S. based on statutory termination benefits in their country of employment and the fact that termination was considered probable at December 31, 2011. We expect to incur approximately \$1.3 million to \$1.5 million of additional costs in the first half of 2012 for severance and related costs for the termination of approximately 17 additional employees related to the sales realignment and other related cost reduction initiatives.

#### Other Income, Net

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Other income, net (dollars in millions)	\$ 0.6	\$ 1.2	\$ (0.6)	(50%)
Other income, net as a percentage of total revenues	0.2%	0.5%	(0.3)	(60%)

The decrease in other income, net during 2011 is primarily due to lower interest income from lower returns on our investments.

#### Gains (Losses) on Investments, Net

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Gains (losses) on investments, net (dollars in millions)	\$ 1.0	\$ 2.3	\$ (1.3)	(56%)
Gains (losses) on investments, net as a percentage of total				
revenues	0.4%	0.9%	(0.5)	(56%)

Gains (losses) on investments primarily represent our share of equity method investment gains and losses from our technology-related investment funds. The decrease in gains during 2011 is primarily due to a smaller increase in the valuations of certain assets within the funds in 2011 as compared to 2010.

#### **Provision for Income Taxes**

	2011	2010	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Provision for income taxes (dollars in millions)	\$ 15.6	\$ 13.8	\$ 1.8	13%
Effective tax rate	40.5%	40.2%	0.3	1%

The effective tax rate has remained relatively consistent from 2010 to 2011.

#### 2010 compared to 2009

#### Revenues

	2010 (dollars ir	2009 n millions)	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Revenues	\$ 250.7	\$ 233.4	\$ 17.3	7%
Revenues from research services	\$ 168.5	\$ 157.7	\$ 10.8	7%
Revenues from advisory services and other	\$ 82.2	\$ 75.6	\$ 6.6	9%
Revenues attributable to customers outside of the U.S.	\$ 70.7	\$ 69.3	\$ 1.4	2%

Percentage of revenue attributable to customers outside of				
the U.S.	28%	30%	(2)	(7%)
Number of clients (at end of period)	2,575	2,519	56	2%
Number of events	14	14		

The increase in total revenues in 2010 is principally the result of increased demand for our products and services and the acquisition of Strategic Oxygen in December 2009, which accounted for approximately 1.9% of revenue growth. The effects of foreign exchange resulted in an approximate 1% decrease in total revenues during 2010. Revenue growth in 2010 was driven by a 12% increase in the technology industry client group (approximately 6.7% due to Strategic Oxygen), a 12% increase in the marketing and strategy client group and a 16% increase for events. Revenue in the business technology client group was essentially flat for the year. Overall revenue growth was due in part to the improvement in the economy and an increase in the number of sales personnel in 2010. Revenue growth in the U.S. outpaced the growth in Europe, due in part to a stronger economy in the U.S. relative to Europe, resulting in a decrease of 2% in the percentage of revenue earned outside of the U.S. We count co-located events, which enable our clients to attend multiple events with one event ticket, as a single event in the table above.

## Cost of Services and Fulfillment

	2010	2009	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Cost of services and fulfillment (dollars in millions)	\$ 94.1	\$ 87.9	\$ 6.2	7%
Cost of services and fulfillment as a percentage of total				
revenues	37.5%	37.6%	(0.1)	
Number of research and fulfillment employees (at end of				
period)	474	435	39	9%

The increase in the dollar amount of cost of services and fulfillment during 2010 is primarily the result of increased compensation and benefit costs resulting from an increase in the number of employees and an increase in incentive compensation, increased travel-related costs and costs resulting from the acquisition of Strategic Oxygen in December 2009. This increase was partially offset by stock-based compensation expense in 2009 from the accelerated vesting of performance-based stock options.

## Selling and Marketing

	2010	2009	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Selling and marketing expenses (dollars in millions)	\$ 84.7	\$ 72.5	\$ 12.2	17%
Selling and marketing expenses as a percentage of total				
revenues	33.8%	31.1%	2.7	9%
Selling and marketing employees (at end of period)	430	364	66	18%

The increase in selling and marketing expenses in dollars and as a percentage of total revenues during 2010 is primarily due to an increase in compensation and benefit costs resulting from an increase in the number of selling and marketing employees and an increase in sales commissions and bonuses. The increase is also attributable to increased travel-related costs. Increased sales of our syndicated research services products are generally recognized over a twelve-month period, which typically results in an increase in selling and marketing expense as a percentage of revenue during periods of sales force expansion.

## General and Administrative

	2010	2009	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
General and administrative expenses (dollars in millions)	\$ 34.0	\$ 28.5	\$ 5.5	19%
General and administrative expenses as a percentage				
of total revenues	13.6%	12.2%	1.4	11%
General and administrative employees (at end of period)	174	148	26	18%

The increase in general and administrative expenses in dollars and as a percentage of total revenues during 2010 is primarily due to an increase in compensation and benefits costs resulting from an increase in the number of general and administrative employees to support our growth plan, and to an increase in bonuses. The increase is also attributable to increased investments in customer facing technology.

#### Depreciation

			Absolute Increase	Percentage Increase
	2010	2009	(Decrease)	(Decrease)
Depreciation expense (dollars in millions)	\$ 3.6	\$ 4.4	\$ (0.8)	(17%)
Depreciation expense as a percentage of total revenues	1.4%	1.9%	(0.5)	(26%)

The decrease in depreciation expense during 2010 is primarily due to lower amortization of leasehold improvements due to facility consolidations in 2009.

#### Amortization of Intangible Assets

	2010	2009	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Amortization expense (dollars in millions)	\$ 3.6	\$ 2.3	\$ 1.3	58%
Amortization expense as a percentage of total revenues	1.4%	1.0%	0.4	40%

The increase in amortization expense during 2010 is primarily due to the amortization of intangible assets from the acquisition of Strategic Oxygen in December 2009.

#### **Reorganization Costs**

	2010	2009	Absolute Increase (Decrease)	Percentage Increase (Decrease)
Reorganization costs (dollars in millions)	\$	\$ 5.4	\$ (5.4)	(100%)
Reorganization costs as a percentage of total revenues		2.3%	(2.3)	(100%)

Reorganization costs in 2009 consist of \$3.1 million incurred in the first quarter of 2009 primarily for severance and related benefit costs in connection with the termination of approximately 50 positions and approximately \$2.3 million incurred in the fourth quarter of 2009 for costs related to facility consolidations primarily in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

#### Other Income, Net

			Absolute	Percentage
	2010	2009	Increase (Decrease)	Increase (Decrease)
Other income, net (dollars in millions)	\$ 1.2	\$ 2.3	\$ (1.1)	