

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/
Form 10-Q
May 17, 2004

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2004.

OR

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

Commission File Number: 027455

AirGate PCS, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

58-2422929
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

Harris Tower, 233 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 1700,
Atlanta, Georgia
(Address of principal executive offices)

30303
(Zip code)

(404) 525-7272
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities and 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

11,815,284 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value, were outstanding as of May 12, 2004.

AIRGATE PCS, INC.
FORM 10-Q FOR THE QUARTER ENDED
MARCH 31, 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1.	Financial Statements.....	3
	Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at March 31, 2004 (unaudited) and September 30, 2003.....	3
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months and six months ended	

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

	March 31, 2004 and 2003 (unaudited).....	4
	Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 (unaudited).....	5
	Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited).....	6
Item 2.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.....	16
Item 3.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.....	34
Item 4.	Controls and Procedures.....	35
PART II	OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1.	Legal Proceedings.....	37
Item 2.	Changes in Securities and Use of Proceeds.....	37
Item 3.	Defaults Upon Senior Securities.....	37
Item 4.	Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.....	37
Item 5.	Other Information.....	38
Item 6.	Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K.....	38

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Item 1. -- Financial Statements

AIRGATE PCS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	March 31, 2004	Septem 2

	(unaudited)	
	(Dollars in thousands, exc and per share amount	
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 48,593	
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$3,861 and \$4,635	24,477	
Receivable from Sprint	11,957	
Inventories	3,469	
Prepaid expenses	5,699	
Other current assets	316	
	-----	-----
Total current assets	94,511	
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$153,645 and \$129,986	161,772	
Financing costs	3,182	
Direct subscriber activation costs	2,662	
Other assets	1,017	
	-----	-----
Total assets	\$ 263,144	
	=====	=====
Liabilities and Stockholders' Deficit		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,247	
Accrued expense	13,970	

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Payable to Sprint	48,761	
Deferred revenue	8,621	
Current maturities of long-term debt	17,113	
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	90,712	
Deferred subscriber activation fee revenue	4,585	
Other long-term liabilities	2,148	
Long-term debt, excluding current maturities	257,237	
Investment in iPCS	-	
	-----	-----
Total liabilities	354,682	
Commitments and contingencies	-	
Stockholders' deficit:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued and outstanding	-	
Common stock, \$.01 par value; 30,000,000 shares authorized; 11,761,951 and 5,192,238 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2004 and September 30, 2003	118	
Additional paid-in-capital	1,046,193	
Unearned stock compensation	(37)	
Accumulated deficit	(1,137,812)	
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' deficit	(91,538)	
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	\$ 263,144	
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

3

AIRGATE PCS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Si
	2004	2003	
	-----		-----
	(Dollars in thousands, except share)		
Revenue:			
Service revenue	61,656	\$ 60,163	
Roaming revenue	13,498	13,895	
Equipment revenue	2,882	2,691	
	-----	-----	
Total revenue	78,036	76,749	
Operating Expense:			
Cost of service and roaming (exclusive of depreciation and amortization as shown separately below)	39,422	40,747	

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Cost of equipment	7,202	3,455
Selling and marketing expense	11,916	11,384
General and administrative expense	6,337	5,844
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	11,892	11,625
Loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment	(3)	220
	-----	-----
Total operating expense	76,766	73,275
	-----	-----
Operating income (loss)	1,270	3,474
Interest income	165	25
Interest expense	(11,311)	(10,197)
	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations before income tax	(9,876)	(6,698)
Income tax	-	-
	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations	(9,876)	(6,698)
Discontinued Operations:		
Loss from discontinued operations	-	(14,324)
Gain on disposal of discontinued operations net of \$0 income tax expense	-	-
	-----	-----
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	-	(14,324)
	-----	-----
Net income (loss)	\$ (9,876)	\$ (21,022)
	=====	=====
Basic and diluted weighted-average number of shares outstanding	8,152,162	5,185,887
Basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share:		
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (1.21)	\$ (1.29)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	-	(2.76)
	-----	-----
Net income (loss)	\$ (1.21)	\$ (4.05)
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

4

AIRGATE PCS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(unaudited)

	Six Mon
	Mar

	2004

	(Dollars in
Cash flows from operating activities:	
Net income (loss)	\$ 163,129

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Gain on disposal of discontinued operations	(184,115)
Loss from discontinued operations	-
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	23,659
Amortization of financing costs into interest expense	629
Provision for doubtful accounts	(718)
Interest expense associated with accretion of discounts	14,366
Non-cash stock compensation	302
Loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment	(5)
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
Accounts receivable	3,235
Receivable from Sprint	3,852
Inventories	(1,337)
Prepaid expenses, other current and non-current assets	(2,528)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses and other long-term liabilities	(3,654)
Payable to Sprint	3,692
Deferred revenue	767
Net cash provided by operating activities	21,274
Cash flows from investing activities:	
Purchases of property and equipment	(7,361)
Net cash used in investing activities	(7,361)
Cash flows from financing activities:	
Borrowings under credit facility	-
Repayments of credit facility	(13,761)
Financing cost on credit facility	(884)
Equity issue costs	(4,758)
Stock issued to employee stock purchase plan	-
Proceeds from stock option exercises	5
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(19,398)
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(5,485)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	54,078
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 48,593
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:	
Interest paid	\$ 3,777
Supplemental disclosure for non-cash investing activities:	
Capitalized interest	71
Supplemental disclosure of non-cash financing activities for debt recapitalization:	
Net carrying value of Old Notes	(264,888)
Unamortized financing cost of Old Notes	3,755
Issuance of New Notes	159,035
Carrying value difference on New Notes	(24,686)
Common stock issued in exchange for Old Notes	126,784

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

AIRGATE PCS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
March 31, 2004
(unaudited)

(1) Business, Basis of Presentation and Liquidity

(a) Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of AirGate PCS, Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") are presented in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and do not include all of the disclosures normally required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. In the opinion of management, these statements reflect all adjustments, including recurring adjustments, which are necessary for a fair presentation of the condensed consolidated financial statements for the interim periods. The condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K/A, Amendment No. 2 to 10-K/A and in Form 8-K for Discontinued Operations and to reflect the 1-for-5 reverse stock split (collectively, the "Annual Report") for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003, which are filed with the SEC and may be accessed via EDGAR on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The results of operations for the quarter and six months ended March 31, 2004 are not necessarily indicative of the results that can be expected for the entire fiscal year ending September 30, 2004. Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation. Management of the Company has made a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reporting of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent liabilities at the dates of the consolidated balance sheets and revenues and expenses during the reporting periods to prepare these condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Actual results could differ from those estimates. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

AirGate PCS, Inc. and its restricted subsidiaries were created for the purpose of providing wireless Personal Communication Services ("PCS"). The Company is a network partner of Sprint with the right to market and provide Sprint PCS products and services using the Sprint brand name in a defined territory. The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of AirGate PCS, Inc. and its wholly-owned restricted subsidiaries, AGW Leasing Company, Inc., AirGate Service Company, Inc. and AirGate Network Services, LLC for all periods presented.

On November 30, 2001, the Company acquired iPCS, Inc. and its subsidiaries ("iPCS") in a merger. The transaction was accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. Although iPCS's growth rates initially met or exceeded expectations, the slowdown in growth in the wireless industry, increased competition, iPCS' dependence on Sprint and the reimposition and increase of the deposit for sub-prime credit customers, all contributed to slower growth subsequent to acquisition. In addition, iPCS' slow growth was compounded because it was earlier in its life cycle when growth slowed, it had approximately one-third fewer subscribers than the Company, and it had a less complete network than the Company.

On February 23, 2003, iPCS filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia for the purpose of effecting a court administered reorganization. Subsequent to February 23, 2003, the Company no longer consolidated the accounts and results of operations of

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

iPCS, and the accounts of iPCS were recorded as an investment using the cost method of accounting.

In connection with the issuance of common stock in the Company's Recapitalization Plan (described below), the Company had an ownership change for tax purposes. In order to avoid the ownership change of iPCS that would have resulted from the Company's ownership change, on October 17, 2003, the Company irrevocably transferred all of its shares of iPCS common stock to a trust for the benefit of the Company's shareholders of record as of the date of transfer. On October 17, 2003, the iPCS investment (\$184.1 million credit balance carrying amount) was eliminated and recorded as a non-monetary gain on disposition of discontinuing operations. The Company's condensed consolidated financial statements reflect the results of iPCS as discontinued operations.

(b) Liquidity, Financial Restructuring and Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. The financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of asset carrying amounts or the amount and classification of liabilities that might result should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern. In connection with their audit of the Company's fiscal 2003 consolidated financial statements, KPMG LLP the Company's independent auditors, included an explanatory paragraph regarding the Company's ability to continue as a going concern in their audit opinion.

The PCS market is characterized by significant risks as a result of rapid changes in technology, intense competition and the costs associated with the build-out, on-going operations and growth of a PCS network. The Company's

6

operations are dependent upon Sprint's ability to perform its obligations under the agreements between the Company and Sprint (see Note 3) under which the Company has agreed to construct and manage its Sprint PCS network (the "Sprint Agreements"). The Company's ability to attract and maintain a subscriber base of sufficient size and credit quality is critical to achieving sufficient positive cash flow. Significant changes in technology, increased competition, or adverse economic conditions could impair the Company's ability to achieve sufficient positive cash flow.

As shown in the condensed consolidated financial statements, the Company has generated significant losses from continuing operations since inception and has an accumulated deficit of \$1.1 billion and stockholders' deficit of \$91.5 million at March 31, 2004. For the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company's loss from continuing operations amounted to \$21.0 million. As of March 31, 2004, the Company had working capital of \$3.8 million and cash and cash equivalents of \$48.6 million, and no remaining availability under its credit facility. As a result, the Company is completely dependent on available cash and operating cash flow to pay debt service and meet its other capital needs. If such sources are not sufficient, alternative funding sources may not be available.

In addition to its capital needs to fund operating losses, the Company has invested large amounts to build-out its networks and for other capital assets. Since inception, the Company has invested over \$300 million to purchase property and equipment.

A number of factors, including slower subscriber growth, increased competition and churn and our dependence on Sprint and Sprint's changes to various programs

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

and fees have had an adverse affect on the Company's business and led the Company to revise its business strategy and take actions to cut costs during fiscal year 2003. These actions included the following:

- o Restructuring the Company's organization and eliminating more than 150 positions;
- o Reducing capital expenditures;
- o Reducing spending for sales and marketing activities; and
- o Reducing per minute network operating costs by more closely managing connectivity costs.

Despite these measures and certain amendments to its credit facility, the Company's compliance with the financial covenants under its credit facility was not assured and the Company's ability to generate sufficient cash flow to meet its financial covenants and payment obligations in 2005 and beyond was substantially uncertain. In addition, there was substantial risk that the Company would not have had sufficient liquidity to meet its cash interest obligations under the Old Notes (defined below) in 2006. As a result, the Company engaged in a financial restructuring (the "Recapitalization Plan") which closed on February 13, 2004 and settled on February 20, 2004. See Note 10 to the condensed consolidated financial statements. As a result, the Company believes that it will be able to meet its liquidity needs for the next 12 months.

(2) Significant New Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2003, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 150, "Accounting for Certain Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Liabilities and Equity," which became effective at the beginning of the first interim period beginning after June 15, 2003. However, certain aspects of SFAS 150 have been deferred. SFAS No. 150 establishes standards for the Company's classification of liabilities in the financial statements that have characteristics of both liabilities and equity. The implementation of SFAS 150 is not anticipated to have a significant impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

In 2003, the FASB issued Interpretation No. 46R, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," an interpretation of Accounting Research Bulletin ("ARB") No. 51. This interpretation addresses the consolidation by business enterprises of variable interest entities as defined in the interpretation. This interpretation applies immediately to variable interests entities created or acquired after January 31, 2003 and to special purpose entities for the quarter ended after December 15, 2003. The Interpretation is generally effective for interim periods ending after March 15, 2004 for all variable interests entities created or acquired prior to January 31, 2003. We do not have any variable interest entity arrangements.

In November 2002, the Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") of the FASB reached a consensus on EITF No. 00-21, "Accounting for Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Element Deliverables." The EITF guidance addresses how to account for arrangements that may involve multiple revenue-generating activities, i.e., the delivery or performance of multiple products, services, and/or rights to use assets. In applying this guidance, separate contracts with the same party, entered into at or near the same time, will be presumed to be a package, and the consideration will be measured and allocated to the separate units based on their relative fair values. This consensus guidance is applicable to agreements entered into for quarters beginning after June 15, 2003. The Company adopted this EITF on July 1, 2003. The adoption of EITF 00-21 did not have a material impact on our results of operations, financial position or cash flows.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

(3) Sprint Agreements

Under the Sprint Agreements, Sprint is obligated to provide the Company significant support services such as billing, collections, long distance, customer care, network operations support, inventory logistics support, use of Sprint brand names, national advertising, national distribution and product development. Additionally, the Company derives substantial roaming revenue and

7

expenses when Sprint's and Sprint's network partners' wireless subscribers incur minutes of use in the Company's territory and when the Company's subscribers incur minutes of use in Sprint's and other Sprint network partners' PCS territories. These transactions are recorded in roaming revenue, cost of service and roaming, cost of equipment, and selling and marketing expense captions in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. Cost of service and roaming transactions include the 8% affiliation fee, long distance charges, roaming expense and costs of services such as billing, collections, customer service and pass-through expenses. Cost of equipment transactions relate to inventory purchased by the Company from Sprint under the Sprint Agreements. Selling and marketing transactions relate to subsidized costs on handsets and commissions paid by the Company under Sprint's national distribution programs. Amounts recorded relating to the Sprint Agreements for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in th	
Amounts included in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations:		
Roaming revenue	\$ 12,905	\$ 13,032
Cost of service and roaming:		
Roaming	\$ 10,500	\$ 10,861
Customer service	8,465	11,150
Affiliation fee	4,685	4,708
Long distance	3,407	3,259
Other	694	514
Total cost of service and roaming	\$ 27,751	\$ 30,492
 Purchased inventory	 \$ 8,087	 \$ 2,695
 Selling and marketing	 \$ 2,629	 \$ 2,716
	As of	
	March 31, 2004	September 30, 2003

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

(Dollars in thousands)

Receivable from Sprint	\$ 11,957	\$ 15,809
Payable to Sprint	\$ 48,761	\$ 45,069

Because approximately 96% of our revenue is collected by Sprint and 66% of cost of service and roaming in our financial statements for the six months ended March 31, 2004, are derived from fees and charges by (or through) Sprint, we have a variety of settlement issues and other contract disputes open and outstanding from time to time. Currently, this includes, but is not limited to, the following items, all of which, for accounting purposes, have been reserved or otherwise provided for:

- o In fiscal year 2002, Sprint PCS asserted it has the right to recoup up to \$3.9 million in long-distance access revenues previously paid by Sprint PCS to AirGate, for which Sprint PCS has invoiced \$1.2 million. We have disputed these amounts.
- o Sprint invoiced the Company and we have accrued approximately \$0.4 million for fiscal year 2002 and \$1.0 million for fiscal year 2003, respectively to reimburse Sprint for certain 3G related development expenses. For the six months ended March 31, 2004, Sprint invoiced the Company and we have accrued approximately \$1.4 million. We are disputing Sprint's right to charge 3G fees in 2002 and beyond.
- o Sprint invoiced the Company and we have accrued for software maintenance fees of approximately \$1.7 million and \$1.3 million for each of the fiscal years 2002 and 2003, respectively. For the six months ended March 31, 2004, Sprint invoiced the Company and we have accrued approximately \$1.0 million. We are disputing Sprint's right to charge software maintenance fees.
- o Sprint invoiced the Company and we have accrued \$1.2 million for fiscal year 2003 and \$2.5 million for the six months ended March 31, 2004 for the cost of IT projects completed by Sprint. We are disputing Sprint's right to collect these fees.

8

The payable to Sprint includes disputed amounts (including, but not limited to amounts disclosed above) for which Sprint has invoiced the Company of approximately \$12.4 million. The invoiced amount does not include \$2.7 million which has accrued for long-distance access revenues claimed but not invoiced by Sprint, or other fees not yet invoiced relating to disputed 3G, software maintenance and information technology that Sprint would assert have accrued.

We intend to vigorously contest these charges and to closely examine all fees and charges imposed by Sprint. In addition to these disputes, we have other outstanding issues with Sprint which could result in set-offs to the items described above or in payments due from Sprint. For example, we believe Sprint has failed to calculate, pay and report on collected revenues in accordance with our Sprint Agreements which, together with other cash remittance issues, has resulted in a shortfall in cash payments to the Company. Sprint also has unilaterally reduced the reciprocal roaming rate charged among Sprint and its network partners, in a manner which we believe is a breach of our Sprint agreements.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

During the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company recorded \$2.4 million in credits from Sprint as a reduction of cost of service, consisting of a \$1.2 million credit resulting from Sprint's decision to discontinue their billing system conversion and a special cash settlement of the bad debt profile for certain subscribers, which resulted in a credit of \$1.2 million. Sprint had previously billed and passed on to us their development costs related to the billing system conversion as part of the IT service bureau fee we were charged. This credit positively affects the six months ended March 31, 2004 results; however, it is a non-cash item that was previously disputed and not paid. The settlement for the bad debt profile for certain subscribers represents a special settlement resulting from the improvement in actual bad debt experience as compared to the estimated bad debt expense (bad debt profile) for the periods April 2000 through December 2003.

Sprint estimates monthly service charges at the beginning of each calendar year. At the end of each year, Sprint calculates the actual costs to provide these services for its network partners and requires a final settlement for the calendar year against the charges actually paid. If the costs to provide these services are less than the amounts paid by Sprint's network partners, Sprint issues a credit for these amounts. If the costs to provide the services are more than the amounts paid by Sprint's network partners, Sprint charges the network partners for these amounts. During the quarters ended December 31, 2003 and 2002 the Company received a credit from Sprint for \$2.6 million and \$1.3 million related to the calendar years 2003 and 2002, respectively, which were recorded as a reduction to cost of service. The calendar year 2003 service bureau fee credit included \$0.9 million in previously disputed unpaid amounts; therefore \$1.7 million of cash proceeds from Sprint were accrued during the quarter ended December 31, 2003 and received during the quarter ended March 31, 2004.

The Sprint Agreements require the Company to maintain certain minimum network performance standards and to meet other performance requirements. The Company was in compliance in all material respects with these requirements as of March 31, 2004.

(4) Litigation

In May 2002, putative class action complaints were filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia against AirGate PCS, Inc., Thomas M. Dougherty, Barbara L. Blackford, Alan B. Catherall, Credit Suisse First Boston, Lehman Brothers, UBS Warburg LLC, William Blair & Company, Thomas Wiesel Partners LLC and TD Securities. The complaints do not specify an amount or range of damages that the plaintiffs are seeking. The complaints seek class certification and allege that the prospectus used in connection with the secondary offering of the Company's common stock by certain former iPCS shareholders on December 18, 2001 contained materially false and misleading statements and omitted material information necessary to make the statements in the prospectus not false and misleading. The alleged omissions included (i) failure to disclose that in order to complete an effective integration of iPCS, drastic changes would have to be made to the Company's distribution channels, (ii) failure to disclose that the sales force in the acquired iPCS markets would require extensive restructuring and (iii) failure to disclose that the "churn" or "turnover" rate for subscribers would increase as a result of an increase in the amount of sub-prime credit quality subscribers the Company added from its merger with iPCS. On July 15, 2002, certain plaintiffs and their counsel filed a motion seeking appointment as lead plaintiffs and lead counsel. Subsequently, the court denied this motion without prejudice, and two of the plaintiffs and their counsel filed a renewed motion seeking appointment as lead plaintiffs and lead counsel. On September 12, 2003, the court again denied the motion without prejudice and on December 2, 2003, certain plaintiffs and their counsel filed a modified renewed motion.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

On December 11, 2003, Stuart Tinney, an AirGate shareholder, filed suit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware against Genesco Communications, Inc., Cambridge Telecom, Inc., The Blackstone Group, Trust Company of the West, Cass Communications Management, Inc., Technology Group, LLC, Montrose Mutual PCS, Inc., Gridley Enterprises, Inc., Timothy M. Yager, Peter G. Peterson and Stephen A. Schwarzman (collectively, the "Defendants"). The lawsuit alleges that the Defendants, as either officers, directors or 10% shareholders of the Company, purchased and sold the Company's securities within a six-month period ended December 15, 2001 and profited from these transactions in violation of Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act. The lawsuit seeks disgorgement of these "short swing" profits and payment of the profits to the Company, which is named as a nominal defendant in the lawsuit for its failure to directly take action against the Defendants.

While there is no pending litigation with Sprint, we have a variety of disputes with Sprint, which are described in Note 3.

9

We are also subject to a variety of other claims and suits that arise from time to time in the ordinary course of business.

While management currently believes that resolving all of these matters, individually or in the aggregate, will not have a material adverse impact on our liquidity, financial condition or results of operations, the litigation and other claims noted above are subject to inherent uncertainties and management's view may change in the future. If an unfavorable outcome were to occur, there exists the possibility of a material adverse impact on our liquidity, financial condition and results of operations for the period in which the effect becomes reasonably estimable.

(5) Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carry forwards. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates applied to expected taxable income for the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred income tax assets and liabilities for a change in tax rates is recognized as income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is provided for deferred income tax assets based upon the Company's assessment of whether it is more likely than not that the deferred income tax assets will be realized. No such amounts were realized in the quarters and six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, nor will amounts be realized in the future unless management believes the recoverability of deferred tax assets is more likely than not. The non-monetary gain on the disposition of discontinued operations recorded during the quarter ended December 31, 2003 did not impact the Company's net operating loss carryforwards as the disposition resulted in a non-deductible loss for tax purposes. As a result of the Company's restructuring, the Company's existing net operating losses ("NOLs") will be subject to annual limitations as required by Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The Company estimates that it had NOLs of approximately \$290 million through the date of restructuring. The Company estimates that the annual limitation associated with these NOLs is approximately \$4.5 million. Thus, should the Company generate taxable income in excess of the annual limit, it would be exposed to a liability for current income taxes.

(6) Discontinued Operations

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

On October 17, 2003, the Company irrevocably transferred all of its shares of iPCS common stock to a trust for the benefit of the Company's shareholders of record on the date of the transfer. On that date, the iPCS investment (\$184.1 million credit balance carrying amount) was eliminated and recorded as a gain on disposal of discontinued operations. The results for iPCS for all periods presented are shown as discontinued operations. Subsequent to February 23, 2003, the Company accounted for iPCS under the cost method. Therefore, excluding the gain on disposal of \$184.1 million recorded October 17, 2003, there were no losses from discontinued operations for the quarter and six months ended March 31, 2004. The following reflects the loss from discontinued operations of iPCS for the quarter and six months ended March 31, 2003 (dollars in thousands):

	For the Quarter Ended March 31, ----- 2003 -----	For the Six Months Ended March 31, ----- 2003 -----
Revenue	\$ 27,829	\$ 79,364
Cost of revenue	21,197	63,200
Selling and marketing	4,312	16,418
General and administrative	3,550	6,881
Depreciation and amortization	7,718	20,989
	-----	-----
Operating expense	36,777	107,488
	-----	-----
Operating loss	(8,948)	(28,124)
Interest expense, net	(5,376)	(14,447)
	-----	-----
Loss from discontinued operations	\$ (14,324)	\$ (42,571)
	=====	=====

(7) Condensed Consolidating Financial Statements

AirGate Leasing Company, Inc. ("AGW") is a wholly-owned restricted subsidiary of AirGate. AGW has fully and unconditionally guaranteed the New Notes (see Note 10), Old Notes and the credit facility. AGW was formed to hold the real estate interests for the Company's PCS network and retail operations. AGW also was a registrant under the Company's registration statement declared effective by the SEC on September 27, 1999.

10

AirGate Network Services LLC ("ANS") is a wholly-owned restricted subsidiary of the Company. ANS has fully and unconditionally guaranteed the New Notes, Old Notes and the credit facility. ANS was formed to provide construction management services for the Company's PCS network.

AirGate Service Company, Inc. ("Service Co") is a wholly-owned restricted subsidiary of the Company. Service Co has fully and unconditionally guaranteed the New Notes, Old Notes and the credit facility. Service Co was formed to provide management services to the Company and iPCS.

The following shows the unaudited condensed consolidating financial statements for the Company and its guarantor subsidiaries, as listed above, as of March 31, 2004 and September 30, 2003 and for the three months and six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 (dollars in thousands):

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheets
As of March 31, 2004

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 48,605	\$ (12)	\$
Other current assets	106,935	529	(61,5
Total current assets	155,540	517	(61,5
Property and equipment, net	129,449	32,323	
Other noncurrent assets	6,861	-	
Total assets	\$ 291,850	\$ 32,840	\$ (61,5
Current liabilities	\$ 91,016	\$ 61,242	\$ (61,5
Intercompany	(118,644)	118,644	
Long-term debt	257,237	-	
Other long-term liabilities	6,733	-	
Investment in subsidiaries	147,046	-	(147,0
Total liabilities	383,388	179,886	(208,5
Stockholders' deficit	(91,538)	(147,046)	147,0
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	\$ 291,850	\$ 32,840	\$ (61,5

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Balance Sheets
As of September 30, 2003

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eliminations
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 54,078	\$ -	\$
Other current assets	108,136	529	(61,4
Total current assets	162,214	529	(61,4
Property and equipment, net	141,129	36,941	
Other noncurrent assets	11,581	-	
Total assets	\$ 314,924	\$ 37,470	\$ (61,4
Current liabilities	\$ 89,036	\$ 61,189	\$ (61,4
Intercompany	(108,890)	108,890	
Long-term debt	386,509	-	
Other long-term liabilities	8,542	-	
Investment in subsidiaries	316,724	-	(132,6
Total liabilities	691,921	170,079	(194,0

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Stockholders deficit	(376,997)	(132,609)	132,609
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	\$ 314,924	\$ 37,470	\$ (61,470)

11

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Statement of Operations
For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2004

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eli
Revenue	\$ 78,036	\$ -	
Cost of revenue	42,426	4,198	
Selling and marketing	11,347	569	
General and administrative	6,180	157	
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	9,508	2,384	
Gain on disposal of property and equipment	(3)	-	
Total operating expense	69,458	7,308	
Operating income (loss)	8,578	(7,308)	
Loss in subsidiaries	(7,267)	-	
Interest income	165	-	
Interest expense	(11,352)	41	
Loss from continuing operations before income tax	(9,876)	(7,267)	
Income tax	-	-	
Loss from continuing operations	(9,876)	(7,267)	
Income from discontinued operations	-	-	
Net loss	\$ (9,876)	\$ (7,267)	

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Statement of Operations
For the Quarter Ended March 31, 2003

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eli
Revenue	\$ 76,749	\$ -	

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Cost of revenue	39,598	4,604
Selling and marketing	10,195	1,189
General and administrative	5,335	509
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	9,272	2,353
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	220	-
	-----	-----
Total operating expense	64,620	8,655
	-----	-----
Operating income (loss)	12,129	(8,655)
Loss in subsidiaries	(8,616)	-
Interest income	(14)	39
Interest expense	(10,197)	-
	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations before income tax	(6,698)	(8,616)
Income tax	-	-
	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations	(6,698)	(8,616)
Loss from discontinued operations	(14,324)	-
	-----	-----
Net loss	\$ (21,022)	\$ (8,616)
	=====	=====

12

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Statement of Operations
For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2004

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Eli
	-----	-----	-----
Revenue	\$ 159,539	\$ -	
Cost of revenue	87,300	8,399	
Selling and marketing	24,984	1,079	
General and administrative	12,527	277	
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	18,906	4,753	
Gain on disposal of property and equipment	(5)	-	
	-----	-----	
Total operating expense	143,712	14,508	
	-----	-----	
Operating income (loss)	15,827	(14,508)	
Loss in subsidiaries	(14,437)	-	
Interest income	322	-	
Interest expense	(22,698)	71	
	-----	-----	
Loss from continuing operations before			

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

income tax	(20,986)	(14,437)
Income tax	-	-
	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations	(20,986)	(14,437)
Income from discontinued operations	184,115	-
	-----	-----
Net income (loss)	\$ 163,129	\$ (14,437)
	=====	=====

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Statement of Operations
For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2003

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Elimi
	-----	-----	-----
Revenue	\$ 158,614	\$ -	
Cost of revenue	93,535	8,937	
Selling and marketing	26,256	1,947	
General and administrative	8,797	1,239	
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	18,448	4,796	
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	418	-	
	-----	-----	-----
Total operating expense	147,454	16,919	
	-----	-----	-----
Operating income (loss)	11,160	(16,919)	
Loss in subsidiaries	(16,766)	-	
Interest income	(128)	153	
Interest expense	(20,391)	-	
	-----	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations before income tax	(26,125)	(16,766)	
Income tax	-	-	
	-----	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations	(26,125)	(16,766)	
Loss from discontinued operations	(42,571)	-	
	-----	-----	-----
Net loss	\$ (68,696)	\$ (16,766)	
	=====	=====	=====

13

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows
For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2004

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Elimi
	-----	-----	-----

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Operating activities, net	\$ 21,151	\$ 123
Investing activities, net	(7,226)	(135)
Financing activities, net	(19,398)	-
	-----	-----
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(5,473)	(12)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	54,078	-
	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 48,605	\$ (12)
	=====	=====

Unaudited Condensed Consolidating Statement of Cash Flows
For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2003

	AirGate PCS, Inc.	AirGate Guarantor Subsidiaries	Elim
	-----	-----	-----
Operating activities, net	\$ 15,101	\$ 526	
Investing activities, net	(6,000)	(654)	
Financing activities, net	7,045	-	
	-----	-----	-----
Change in cash and cash equivalents	16,146	(128)	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	4,769	118	
	-----	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 20,915	\$ (10)	
	=====	=====	=====

(8) Basic and Diluted Earnings (Loss) Per Share

Basic earnings (loss) per share is computed by dividing net income (loss) by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Common stock equivalent securities of 24,106, 11,465, 24,133, and 9,191 for the quarters and six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 respectively, have been excluded from the computation of dilutive earnings (loss) per share for the periods because the Company has a loss from continuing operations and their effect would have been antidilutive. All share and per share amounts have been restated to give retroactive effect to the 1-for-5 reverse stock split.

(9) Stock-based Compensation Plans

We have elected to continue to account for our stock-based compensation plans under APB Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees", and disclose pro forma effects of the plans on a net income (loss) and earnings (loss) per share basis as provided by SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation." Consistent with the provisions of SFAS No. 123, had compensation expense for these plans been determined based on the fair value at the grant date during the three months and six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, the pro forma net income (loss) and earnings (loss) per share would have been as

follows:

14

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in thousands, except	
Net income (loss), as reported	\$ (9,876)	\$ (21,022)
Add: stock based compensation expense included in determination of net income (loss)	197	177
Less: stock based compensation expense determined under the fair value based method	(1,398)	(2,426)
Pro forma, net income (loss)	\$ (11,077)	\$ (23,271)
Basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share:		
As reported	\$ (1.21)	\$ (4.05)
Pro forma	\$ (1.36)	\$ (4.49)

(10) Recapitalization Plan

The Recapitalization Plan included the following public and private exchange offers and consent solicitations:

- o The Company offered to exchange all of the outstanding 13.5% senior subordinated discount notes due 2009 (the "Old Notes") for (i) newly issued shares of common stock representing 56% of the shares of common stock to be issued and outstanding immediately after the Recapitalization Plan and (ii) \$160.0 million aggregate principal amount of newly issued 9 3/8% senior subordinated notes due 2009 (the "New Notes");
- o The consent solicitations requested the consents of holders of the Old Notes to remove substantially all of the restrictive covenants in the indenture governing the Old Notes, release collateral that secured the Company's obligations thereunder and waive any defaults or events of default that occur in connection with the restructuring;
- o The Company also solicited acceptances from holders of the Old Notes of a prepackaged plan of reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (the "Prepackaged Plan"). The Prepackaged Plan would have effected the same transactions as the Recapitalization Plan, only under the governance of a bankruptcy court.

In addition, the Company held a Special Meeting of Shareholders ("Special Meeting") on February 12, 2004 at which its shareholders:

- o Approved the issuance in the restructuring of an additional 56% of the Company's common stock immediately after the restructuring;

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

- o Approved the amendment and restatement of the Company's certificate of incorporation to implement a 1-for-5 reverse stock split; and
- o Approved the amendment and restatement of the 2002 AirGate PCS, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan to increase the number of shares available and reserved for issuance thereunder, and to make certain other changes, and approved the grant of certain performance-vested restricted stock units and stock options to certain executives of the Company.

On the same date, the exchange offers expired, and the Company accepted \$298,205,000 of Old Notes (or 99.4% of the Old Notes outstanding) that were validly tendered and not withdrawn in the exchange offers. Under the offers, each holder of the Company's Old Notes received, for each \$1,000 of aggregate principal amount due at maturity tendered, 22.0277 shares of the Company's post reverse stock split common stock, \$533.33 in principal amount of the Company's New Notes and cash resulting from the elimination of any fractional shares and fractional notes.

On February 13, 2004, the Company effected the 1-for-5 reverse stock split and shareholders received one share of common stock, and cash resulting from the elimination of any fractional shares, in exchange for each five shares of common stock then outstanding. Unless otherwise indicated, all share and per share amounts have been restated to give retroactive effect to this 1-for-5 reverse stock split.

On February 17, 2004, our stock began trading on a post split basis. We settled the exchange offers on February 20, 2004.

Debt Restructuring

The following summarizes the accounting related to certain key provisions of the Recapitalization Plan as it relates to the condensed consolidated financial statements as of and for the six months ended March 31, 2004.

The Old Notes with a net carrying value of \$264.8 million and related unamortized financing costs of \$3.8 million as of February 13, 2004 were exchanged for New Notes with a principal balance of \$159.0 million and 6,568,706

15

shares of common stock as adjusted for the 1-for-5 reverse stock split, valued at \$126.8 million as of February 13, 2004, based upon a closing common stock market price of \$19.30 on that date.

The financial restructuring was accounted for as a troubled debt restructuring in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 15 "Accounting by Debtors and Creditors for Troubled Debt Restructurings" and EITF 02-4, "Determining Whether a Debtors Modification or Exchange of Debt is within the scope of FASB statement No. 15." Based on the terms of the Recapitalization Plan, no gain on the transaction was recognized since total future cash payments, including interest, exceeded the remaining carrying amount of the Old Notes after reducing the Old Notes by the fair value of the common stock. The difference of approximately \$24.7 million between the principal value of the New Notes and the carrying value of the Old Notes will be amortized as interest expense over the term of the New Notes under the interest method. The New Notes have a stated rate of 9.375% with interest due July and January of each year, beginning July 1, 2004. As of March 31, 2004, the carrying value of the New Notes was approximately \$135.1 million, with an effective interest rate of approximately 13.3%.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Transaction costs of \$3.0 million and \$3.1 million were incurred during the year ended September 30, 2003 and during the six months ended March 31, 2004, respectively, to raise capital related to the debt and were expensed as incurred. Transaction costs of \$4.8 million, incurred to raise capital, related to the equity were recorded as an offset to additional paid in capital.

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

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations ("MD&A") contains "forward-looking statements." These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about us, our future performance, our liquidity, the wireless industry, our beliefs and management's assumptions. In addition, other written and oral statements that constitute forward-looking statements may be made by us or on our behalf. Such forward-looking statements include statements regarding expected financial results and other planned events, including but not limited to, anticipated liquidity, churn rates, ARPU and CPGA (all as defined below in "Non-GAAP Financial Measures and Key Operating Metrics"), roaming rates, EBITDA (as defined below in "Non-GAAP Financial Measures and Key Operating Metrics"), and capital expenditures. Words such as "anticipate," "assume," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "plan," "seek," "project," "target," "goal," variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Therefore, actual future events or results may differ materially from these statements. These risks and uncertainties include:

- o our dependence on the success of Sprint's wireless business;
- o the competitiveness and impact of Sprint's pricing plans and PCS products and services and introduction of pricing plans and programs that may adversely affect our business;
- o intense competition in the wireless market and the unsettled nature of the wireless market;
- o the potential to experience a continued high rate of subscriber turnover;
- o the ability of Sprint (directly or through third parties) to provide back office billing, subscriber care and other services and the quality and costs of such services or, alternatively, our ability to outsource all or a portion of these services at acceptable costs and the quality of such services;
- o subscriber credit quality;
- o the ability to successfully leverage 3G products and services;
- o inaccuracies in financial information provided by Sprint;
- o new charges and fees, or increased charges and fees, imposed by Sprint;
- o the impact and outcome of disputes with Sprint;
- o our ability to predict future customer growth, as well as other key operating metrics;
- o the impact of spending cuts on network quality, customer retention and customer growth;

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

- o rates of penetration in the wireless industry;
- o our significant level of indebtedness and debt covenant requirements;
- o the impact and outcome of legal proceedings between other Sprint network partners and Sprint;
- o the potential need for additional sources of capital and liquidity;
- o risks related to our ability to compete with larger, more established businesses;
- o anticipated future losses;
- o rapid technological and market change;
- o an adequate supply of subscriber equipment;
- o declines in growth of wireless subscribers;

16

- o the effect of wireless local number portability; and
- o the volatility of the market price of our common stock.

These forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements should, therefore, be considered in light of various important factors, including those set forth in the Company's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003 and elsewhere in this report. Moreover, we caution you not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date they were made. Except as required under Federal Securities laws and the rule and regulations of the SEC, we do not undertake any obligation to publicly release any revisions to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. All subsequent forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements contained in or referred to in this report.

For a further listing and description of such risks and uncertainties, see the Company's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003 and other reports filed by us with the SEC.

You should read this discussion in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes contained in our Annual Report for the year ended September 30, 2003.

Overview

AirGate PCS, Inc. and its subsidiaries and predecessors were formed for the purpose of becoming a leading regional provider of wireless Personal Communication Services, or "PCS." We are a network partner of Sprint PCS, which is a group of wholly-owned subsidiaries of Sprint Corporation (a diversified telecommunications service provider), that operate and manage Sprint's PCS products and services.

Sprint operates a 100% digital PCS wireless network in the United States and holds the licenses to provide PCS nationwide using a single frequency band and a

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

single technology. Sprint, directly and indirectly through network partners such as us, provides wireless services in more than 4,000 cities and communities across the country. Sprint directly operates its PCS network in major metropolitan markets throughout the United States. Sprint has also entered into independent agreements with various network partners, such as us, under which the network partners have agreed to construct and manage PCS networks in smaller metropolitan areas and along major highways.

As of March 31, 2004, the Company had 367,807 subscribers and total network coverage of approximately 6.1 million residents, representing approximately 82% of the residents in its territory.

iPCS, Inc.

On November 30, 2001, we acquired iPCS in a merger. In light of consolidation in the wireless communications industry in general and among Sprint PCS network partners in particular, we believed that the merger represented a strategic opportunity to significantly expand the size and scope of our operations, attain access to attractive markets, and provide greater operational efficiencies and growth potential than we would have had on our own. The transaction was accounted for under the purchase method of accounting.

Although iPCS's growth rates initially met or exceeded expectations, the slowdown in growth in the wireless industry, increased competition, iPCS' dependence on Sprint and the reimposition and increase of the deposit for sub-prime credit customers, all contributed to slower growth subsequent to acquisition. In addition, iPCS' slow growth was compounded because it was earlier in its life cycle when growth slowed, it had approximately one-third fewer subscribers than the Company, and it had a less complete network than the Company.

On February 23, 2003, iPCS filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia for the purpose of effecting a court administered reorganization. Subsequent to February 23, 2003, the Company no longer consolidated the accounts and results of operations of iPCS, and the accounts of iPCS were recorded as an investment using the cost method of accounting.

In connection with the issuance of common stock in the Company's Recapitalization Plan (as described in Note 10 to our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements), the Company had an ownership change for tax purposes. Such ownership change would also have caused an ownership change of iPCS, which could have had a detrimental effect on the use of certain net operating losses of iPCS. In order to avoid the ownership change of iPCS that would have resulted from the Company's ownership change, on October 17, 2003, the Company irrevocably transferred all of its shares of iPCS common stock to a trust for the benefit of the Company's shareholders of record as of the date of transfer. On October 17, 2003, the iPCS investment (\$184.1 million credit balance carrying amount) was eliminated and recorded as a non-monetary gain on disposition of discontinuing operations. The results for iPCS for all periods presented are shown as discontinued operations. The results for AirGate only are shown as continuing operations.

The following description of the Company's business is limited to AirGate alone, and does not reflect the business of iPCS.

Critical Accounting Policies

The Company relies on the use of estimates and makes assumptions that impact its

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

financial condition and results. These estimates and assumptions are based on historical results and trends as well as the Company's forecasts as to how these might change in the future. While we believe that the estimates we use are reasonable, actual results could differ from those estimates. The Company's most critical accounting policies that may materially impact the Company's results of operations include:

Revenue Recognition

The Company recognizes revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, services have been rendered or products have been delivered, the price to the buyer is fixed and determinable, and collectibility is reasonably assured. Effective July 1, 2003 the Company adopted EITF No. 00-21, "Accounting for Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Element Deliverables." The EITF guidance addresses how to account for arrangements that may involve multiple revenue-generating activities, i.e., the delivery or performance of multiple products, services, and/or rights to use assets. In applying this guidance, separate contracts with the same party, entered into at or near the same time, will be presumed to be a bundled transaction, and the consideration will be measured and allocated to the separate units based on their relative fair values. The consensus guidance is applicable to agreements entered into for quarters beginning after June 15, 2003. The adoption of EITF 00-21 has resulted in substantially all of the activation fee revenue generated from Company-owned retail stores and associated costs being recognized at the time the related wireless handset is sold. Upon adoption of EITF 00-21, previously deferred revenues and costs will continue to be amortized over the remaining estimated life of a subscriber, not to exceed 30 months. Revenue and costs for activations at other retail locations will continue to be deferred and amortized over their estimated lives.

The Company recognizes service revenue from its subscribers as they use the service. The Company provides a reduction of recorded revenue for billing adjustments and credits, and estimated uncollectible late payment fees and early cancellation fees. The Company also reduces recorded revenue for rebates and discounts given to subscribers on wireless handset sales in accordance with EITF No. 01-9 "Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products)." For industry competitive reasons, the Company sells wireless handsets at a loss. The Company participates in the Sprint national and regional distribution programs in which national retailers such as Radio Shack and Best Buy sell Sprint PCS products and services. In order to facilitate the sale of Sprint PCS products and services, national retailers purchase wireless handsets from Sprint for resale and receive compensation from Sprint for Sprint PCS products and services sold. For industry competitive reasons, Sprint subsidizes the price of these handsets by selling the handsets at a price below cost. Under the Company's Sprint Agreements, when a national retailer sells a handset purchased from Sprint to a subscriber in the Company's territory, the Company is obligated to reimburse Sprint for the handset subsidy. The Company does not receive any revenue from the sale of handsets and accessories by such national retailers. The Company classifies these handset subsidy charges as a selling and marketing expense for a new subscriber handset sale and classifies these subsidies as a cost of service and roaming for a handset upgrade to an existing subscriber.

The Company records equipment revenue from the sale of handsets to subscribers in its retail stores upon delivery in accordance with EITF 00-21. The Company does not record equipment revenue on handsets and accessories purchased from national third-party retailers such as Radio Shack and Best Buy or directly from Sprint by subscribers in its territory.

Sprint is entitled to retain 8% of collected service revenue from subscribers based in the Company's markets and from non-Sprint subscribers who roam onto the Company's network. The amount of affiliation fees retained by Sprint is recorded

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

as cost of service and roaming. Revenue derived from the sale of handsets and accessories by the Company and from certain roaming services are not subject to the 8% affiliation fee from Sprint.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Estimates are used in determining the allowance for doubtful accounts and are based on historical collection and write-off experience, current trends, credit policies, accounts receivable by aging category and current trends in the credit quality of its subscriber base. In determining these estimates, the Company compares historical write-offs in relation to the estimated period in which the subscriber was originally billed. The Company also looks at the historical and projected average length of time that elapses between the original billing date and the date of write-off in determining the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts by aging category. From this information, the Company provides specific amounts to the aging categories. The Company provides an allowance for substantially all receivables over 90 days old.

Using historical information, the Company provides a reduction in revenues for certain billing adjustments and credits, late payment fees and early cancellation fees that it anticipates will not be collected. The reserves for billing adjustments and credits, late payment fees and early cancellation fees are included in the allowance for doubtful accounts balance. If the allowance for doubtful accounts is not adequate, it could have a material adverse affect on the Company's liquidity, financial position and results of operations.

18

First Payment Default Subscribers

Prior to March 2003, the Company estimated the percentage of new subscribers that would never pay a bill and reserved for the related percentage of monthly revenue through a reduction in revenues. In 2002, the Company reinstated the deposit requirement for sub-prime credit customers, and then increased the deposit amounts in February 2003. These changes to our credit policy were sufficient to mitigate the collection risk and resulted in improvements in the credit quality of our subscriber base. Accordingly, in March 2003 the Company ceased recording this reserve, which resulted in the addition of 4,187 net subscriber additions.

The Company continually evaluates its credit policy and evaluates the impact the subscriber base will have on the business and raises or lowers credit standards periodically, as allowed by Sprint. On April 6, 2004, the Company reduced or eliminated the deposit requirement for a segment of potential subscribers in selected market areas. The Company will continue to review our customer performance and modify our credit policy to meet short-term and long-term business objectives and monitor the impact of sub-prime customers on our allowance for doubtful accounts.

Valuation and Recoverability of Long-Lived Assets

Long-lived assets such as property and equipment represent approximately 61% of the Company's total assets as of March 31, 2004. Property and equipment are stated at original cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of 15 years for the 1 tower which we own, 3 to 5 years for computer equipment, 5 years for furniture, fixtures and office equipment and 5 to 7 years for network assets (other than towers). The Company reviews long-lived assets for impairment in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets."

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

We review our long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If the total of the expected undiscounted future cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the asset, a loss, if any, is recognized for the difference between the fair value and the carrying value of the asset. Impairment analysis is based on our current business and technology strategy, our views of growth rates for the business, anticipated future economic and regulatory conditions and expected technological availability. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell the asset.

Significant New Accounting Pronouncements

See Note 2 to the condensed consolidated financial statements for a description of significant new accounting pronouncements and their impact on the Company.

Results of Operations

Revenues

We derive our revenue from the following sources:

Service. We sell wireless personal communications services. The various types of service revenue associated with wireless communications services include monthly recurring access and feature charges and monthly non-recurring charges for local, wireless long distance and roaming airtime usage in excess of the subscribed usage plan.

Roaming. The Company receives roaming revenue at a per-minute rate from Sprint and other Sprint PCS network partners when Sprint's or its network partner's PCS subscribers from outside of the Company's territory use the Company's network. The Company pays the same reciprocal roaming rate when subscribers from its territories use the network of Sprint or its other PCS network partners. The Company also receives non-Sprint roaming revenue when subscribers of other wireless service providers who have roaming agreements with Sprint roam on the Company's network.

Equipment. We sell wireless personal communications handsets and accessories that are used by our subscribers in connection with our wireless services. Equipment revenue is derived from the sale of handsets and accessories from Company owned stores, net of sales incentives, rebates and an allowance for returns. The Company's handset return policy allows subscribers to return their handsets for a full refund within 14 days of activation. When handsets are returned to the Company, the Company may be able to reissue the handsets to subscribers at little additional cost. When handsets are returned to Sprint for refurbishing, the Company receives a credit from Sprint.

19

	For the Quarters Ended March 31,			
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease) \$	Increase (Decrease) %
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Service revenue	\$ 61,656	\$ 60,163	\$ 1,493	2.5%
Roaming revenue	13,498	13,895	(397)	(2.9%)
Equipment revenue	2,882	2,691	191	7.1%

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Total	----- \$ 78,036 =====	----- \$ 76,749 =====	----- \$ 1,287 =====	1.7%
-------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	----------------------------	------

For the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the quarter ended March 31, 2003:

Service Revenue

The increase in service revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 over the same quarter of the previous year reflects a higher average number of subscribers using our network, relatively consistent average revenue per subscriber, higher monthly recurring revenue and feature charges and increased data revenue, partially offset by higher credits and lower revenue from "minutes over plan," or airtime usage in excess of the subscribed usage plans. In late calendar year 2002, Sprint implemented a new PCS to PCS product offering under which subscribers receive unlimited quantities of minutes for little or no additional cost for any calls made from one Sprint PCS subscriber to another ("PCS to PCS"). Pursuant to our Sprint Agreements, we are required to support this program in our territory. The number of minutes-over-plan charged to subscribers for plan overages used and associated revenues decreased while the number of minutes used for PCS to PCS calls has increased significantly.

Roaming Revenue

The decrease in roaming revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 over the same quarter of the previous year is attributable primarily to the lower reciprocal roaming rate charged among Sprint and its PCS network partners, partially offset by increased volume in inbound roaming traffic. The reciprocal roaming rate between Sprint and the Company declined from \$0.058 per minute of use to \$0.041 in calendar years 2003 and 2004, respectively. The Company believes that these reductions are in violation of our agreements with Sprint. The Company's roaming revenue from Sprint and its PCS network partners was \$12.9 million and \$13.0 million or 96% and 94% of total roaming revenue for the quarters ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Equipment Revenue

Equipment revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 increased over the same quarter of the previous year, primarily due to increased handset sales of \$5.0 million or 168% prior to rebates and promotion costs, offset by a \$4.8 million increase in handset rebates and promotions. The increase in handset sales is comprised of a \$2.5 million increase in sales of new or upgraded handsets to existing subscribers, a \$2.3 million increase in sales to new subscribers and a \$0.2 million increase in accessory sales.

Cost of Service and Roaming

Cost of service and roaming principally consists of costs to support the Company's subscriber base including:

- o Cost of roaming;
- o Network operating costs (including salaries, cell site lease payments, fees related to the connection of the Company's switches to the cell sites that they support, inter-connect fees and other expenses related to network operations);
- o Bad debt expense related to estimated uncollectible accounts receivable;

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

- o Wireless handset subsidies on existing subscriber upgrades through national third-party retailers; and
- o Other cost of service, which includes:
 - o Back office services provided by Sprint such as customer care, billing and activation;
 - o The 8% of collected service revenue representing the Sprint affiliation fee; and

20

- o Long distance expense relating to inbound roaming revenue and the Company's own subscriber's long distance usage and roaming expense when subscribers from the Company's territory place calls on Sprint's or its network partners' networks.

	For the Quarters En	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Cost of roaming	\$ 11,022	\$ 11,468
Network operating costs	15,416	13,971
Bad debt expense	(1,122)	(32)
Wireless handset subsidies	298	1,770
Other cost of service	13,808	13,570
	-----	-----
Total cost of service and roaming	\$ 39,422	\$ 40,747
	=====	=====

Cost of Roaming

Cost of roaming decreased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year as a result of the decrease in the reciprocal roaming rate charged among Sprint and its network partners, partially offset by increased volume. The reciprocal roaming rate between Sprint and the Company declined from \$0.058 per minute of use to \$0.041 in calendar years 2003 and 2004, respectively. The Company believes that these reductions are in violation of our agreements with Sprint. The Company's cost of roaming attributable to Sprint and its network partners was 95% of the total cost of roaming for each of the quarters ended March 31, 2004 and 2003.

Network Operating Costs

Network operating costs increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year as a result of increased network costs related to increased network usage of approximately 36%, including higher long distance costs and increased interconnect charges.

Bad Debt Expense

Bad debt expense decreased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

same quarter of the previous year. During the quarter ended March 31, 2004, the Company recorded a \$1.2 million special settlement received from Sprint resulting from a change in the bad debt profile for certain subscribers. In addition, we believe the improvements in the credit quality and payment profile of our subscriber base since we re-imposed deposits for sub-prime credit subscribers in early 2002 and the subsequent increases in February 2003 resulted in significant improvements in accounts receivable write-off experience, increased collections, and the associated decrease in bad debt expense for the quarter.

Wireless Handset Subsidies

Despite an increase in the number of subscribers making handset upgrade purchases, wireless handset subsidies on existing subscriber upgrades sold through national third-party retailers decreased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year as a result of reduced subsidies per handset paid to national third-party retailers. Subsidies paid to national third-party retailers decreased as a result of increased handset rebates and promotions offered directly to our customers through the national third party channels. Handset rebates and promotions sold through the national third party channels offered directly to our customers are included in selling and marketing expense.

Other Cost of Service

Other cost of service increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year as a result of higher customer loyalty retention costs, offset by a rate reduction in the fees paid to Sprint for back office services provided.

21

Cost of Equipment, Other Operating Expenses and Interest

	For the Quarters En	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Cost of equipment	\$ 7,202	\$ 3,455
Selling and marketing expense	11,916	11,384
General and administrative expense	6,337	5,844
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	11,892	11,625
Loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment	(3)	220
Interest income	165	25
Interest expense	(11,311)	(10,197)

Cost of Equipment

We purchase handsets and accessories to resell to our subscribers for use in connection with our services. To remain competitive in the marketplace, we subsidize the price of the handset sales; therefore the cost of handsets is higher than the retail price to the subscriber. Cost of equipment increased for

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year primarily as a result of increased retail upgrade sales for handsets to existing subscribers, partially offset by decreased subscriber gross additions.

Selling and Marketing Expense

Selling and marketing expense includes retail store costs such as salaries and rent, promotion, advertising and commission costs, and handset subsidies for new activations on units sold by national third-party retailers and Sprint sales channels for which the Company does not record revenue. Under the Company's agreements with Sprint, when a national retailer or other Sprint distribution channel sells a handset purchased from Sprint to a subscriber from the Company's territory, the Company is obligated to reimburse Sprint for the handset subsidy and related selling costs that Sprint originally incurred. Selling and marketing expenses increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year reflecting increased advertising and promotion expense, offset by staff reductions and store closings implemented in early fiscal 2003.

General and Administrative Expense

General and administrative expense increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year, as a result of higher salaries and other employee costs of \$0.9 million, offset by a net decrease in outside consulting services of \$0.4 million. The higher salaries and other employee costs are the result of fully absorbing corporate overhead costs previously shared with iPCS.

Depreciation and Amortization of Property and Equipment

The Company capitalizes network development costs incurred to ready its network for use and costs for leasehold improvements to our retail stores and office space. Depreciation of these costs begins when the equipment is ready for its intended use and is amortized over the estimated useful life of the asset. Depreciation expense increased slightly for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter of the previous year primarily as a result of additional network assets placed in service in the later part of fiscal year 2003. The Company purchased \$5.8 million of property and equipment in the quarter ended March 31, 2004, compared to property and equipment purchases of \$1.0 million in the quarter ended March 31, 2003.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 to \$11.3 million compared to \$10.2 million for the same quarter of the previous year as a result of interest accruing on the New Notes beginning January 1, 2004 in conjunction with accreted interest on the Old Notes until acceptance of the exchange offers on February 12, 2004. This increase was partially offset by a decline in interest rates and reduced borrowings on the credit facility. The Company had outstanding credit facility borrowings of \$137.7 million at a weighted average interest rate of 4.96% at March 31, 2004, compared to \$143.5 million at a weighted average interest rate of 5.37% at March 31, 2003.

Under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, the difference in the carrying value of the Old Notes and aggregate principal and interest payments of the New Notes was recognized as a \$24.7 million discount to the stated value of the New Notes, which is amortized to interest expense over the term of the New Notes. For the quarter ended March 31, 2004, total interest on the New Notes was \$4.5 million, which reflects future cash payments of interest of \$3.8 million and

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

\$0.7 million resulting from amortization of the discount on the New Notes. We believe our interest expense for the quarter ended June 30, 2004 will not exceed \$8.0 million.

Income Tax

No income tax benefit was recorded for the quarters ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, as it was more likely than not that the income tax benefit would not be realized.

Loss from Continuing Operations

For the quarter ended March 31, 2004, loss from continuing operations increased to \$9.9 million compared to \$6.7 million for the same quarter of the previous year. The increase is the result of higher cost of equipment, selling and marketing expense, increased spending associated with the Recapitalization Plan of \$0.8 million and higher interest expense of \$1.1 million, partially offset by the \$1.2 million special settlement received from Sprint related to an improved bad debt expense profile related to certain customers.

Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations

Discontinued operations reflect a loss from iPCS of \$14.3 million during the quarter ended March 31, 2003.

For the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the six months ended March 31, 2003:

	For the Six Months	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Service revenue	\$ 123,829	\$ 120,096
Roaming revenue	29,981	32,805
Equipment revenue	5,729	5,713
	\$ 159,539	\$ 158,614
	\$ 159,539	\$ 158,614

Service Revenue

The increase in service revenue for the six months ended March 31, 2004 over the same period of the previous year reflects a higher average number of subscribers using our network, relatively consistent average revenue per subscriber, higher monthly recurring revenue and feature charges and increased data revenue, partially offset by higher credits and lower revenue from "minutes over plan," or airtime usage in excess of the subscribed usage plans. In late calendar year 2002, Sprint implemented the new PCS to PCS product offering described above. Pursuant to our Sprint Agreements, we are required to support this program in our territory. The number of minutes-over-plan charged to subscribers for plan overages used and associated revenues decreased while the number of minutes used for PCS to PCS calls has increased significantly.

Roaming Revenue

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

The decrease in roaming revenue for the six months ended March 31, 2004 over the same period of the previous year is attributable primarily to the lower reciprocal roaming rate charged among Sprint and its PCS network partners, partially offset by increased volume in inbound roaming traffic. For the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company's roaming revenue from Sprint and its PCS network partners was \$28.7 million, or approximately 96% of the roaming revenue, compared to \$31.0 million or approximately 95% for the six months ended March 31, 2003.

Equipment Revenue

Equipment revenue for the six months ended March 31, 2004 increased slightly over the same period of the previous year, primarily due to increased handset sales of \$6.3 million or 68% prior to rebates and promotion costs, offset by a \$6.3 million increase in handset rebates and promotions and a decrease in gross additions from our retail and local distributor channels. The increase in handset sales is comprised of a \$4.4 million increase in sales of new or upgraded handsets to existing subscribers and a \$1.9 million increase in sales to new subscribers.

23

Cost of Service and Roaming

	For the Six Months	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Cost of roaming	\$ 24,736	\$ 27,135
Network operating costs	31,158	28,846
Bad debt expense	(718)	2,155
Wireless handset subsidies	996	3,353
Other cost of service	25,739	30,681
	\$ 81,911	\$ 92,170

Cost of Roaming

Cost of roaming decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year as a result of the decrease in the reciprocal roaming rate charged among Sprint and its network partners partially offset by higher volumes. Cost of roaming of \$23.8 million and \$25.7 million or 96% and 95% of the total cost of roaming was attributable to Sprint and its network partners for the six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

Network Operating Costs

Network operating costs increased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year as a result of increased network costs related to increased network usage of approximately 33%, including higher long distance cost and increased interconnect charges.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Bad Debt Expense

Bad debt expense decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year. During the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company recorded a \$1.2 million special settlement received from Sprint resulting from a change in the bad debt profile for certain subscribers. In addition, we believe the improvements in the credit quality and payment profile of our subscriber base since we re-imposed deposits for sub-prime credit subscribers in early 2002 and the subsequent increases in February 2003 resulted in significant improvements in accounts receivable write-off experience, increased collections, and the associated decrease in bad debt expense for the six months ended March 31, 2004.

Wireless Handset Subsidies

Despite an increase in the number of subscribers making handset upgrade purchases, wireless handset subsidies on existing subscriber upgrades sold through national third-party retailers decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year as a result of reduced subsidies paid per handset to national third-party retailers. Subsidies paid to national third-party retailers decreased as a result of increased handset rebates and promotions offered directly to our customers through the national third party channel. Handset rebates and promotions sold through the national third party channels offered directly to our customers are included in selling and marketing expense.

Other Cost of Service

Other cost of service decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year. The decrease was attributable to lower service bureau costs and fees paid to Sprint, a \$2.6 million special settlement from Sprint for service bureau fees charged for calendar year 2003 and a \$1.2 million special settlement resulting from Sprint's decision to discontinue their billing system conversion in 2004.

24

Cost of Equipment, Other Operating Expenses and Interest

	For the Six Months	
	2004	2003
	(Dollars in thousands)	
Cost of equipment	\$ 13,788	\$ 10,302
Selling and marketing expense	26,063	28,203
General and administrative expense	12,804	10,036
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	23,659	23,244
Loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment	(5)	418
Interest income	322	25
Interest expense	(22,627)	(20,391)

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Cost of Equipment

Cost of equipment increased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year primarily as a result of increased retail upgrade sales of handsets to existing subscribers, offset by decreased subscriber gross additions.

Selling and Marketing Expense

Selling and marketing expense decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year reflecting the effect of reduced advertising and promotion expense and staff reductions and store closings implemented in early fiscal 2003, partially offset by increased rebates for handset upgrade costs through national third parties.

General and Administrative Expense

General and administrative expense increased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year, as a result of an increase in outside consulting services of \$1.7 million and higher salaries and other employee costs of \$1.1 million. The higher salaries and other employee costs are the result of fully absorbing corporate overhead costs previously shared with iPCS.

Depreciation and Amortization of Property and Equipment

Depreciation expense increased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year primarily as a result of additional network assets placed in service in the later part of fiscal year 2003. The Company purchased \$7.4 million of property and equipment in the six months ended March 31, 2004, compared to property and equipment purchases of \$6.7 million in the six months ended March 31, 2003.

Interest Expense

Interest expense increased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period of the previous year as a result of interest accruing on the New Notes beginning January 1, 2004 in conjunction with accreted interest on the Old Notes until acceptance of the exchange offers on February 12, 2004. This increase was partially offset by a decline in interest rates and reduced borrowings on the credit facility. The Company had outstanding credit facility borrowings of \$137.7 million at a weighted average interest rate of 4.96% at March 31, 2004, compared to \$143.5 million at a weighted average interest rate of 5.37% at March 31, 2003.

Income Tax

No income tax benefit on continuing operations was recorded for the six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 as it was more likely than not that the income tax benefit would not be realized.

Loss from Continuing Operations

For the six months ended March 31, 2004, loss from continuing operations improved to \$21.0 million compared to \$26.1 million for the same period of the previous year. The improvement is the result of lower cost of service and selling and marketing expense, offset by increased spending associated with the Recapitalization Plan of \$3.1 million, increased interest expense of \$2.2 million and higher cost of equipment.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Income (Loss) from Discontinued Operations

Discontinued operations is comprised of a \$184.1 million non-monetary gain from the elimination of the investment in iPCS for the six months ended March 31, 2004 and a loss from the discontinued operations of iPCS of \$42.6 million during the six months ended March 31, 2003.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures and Key Operating Metrics

We use certain operating and financial measures that are not calculated in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or GAAP. A non-GAAP financial measure is defined as a numerical measure of a company's financial performance that (i) excludes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of excluding amounts, that are included in the comparable measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP in the statement of income or statement of cash flows; or (ii) includes amounts, or is subject to adjustments that have the effect of including amounts, that are excluded from the comparable measure so calculated and presented.

Terms such as subscriber net additions, average revenue per user ("ARPU"), churn, and cost per gross addition ("CPGA") are important operating metrics used in the wireless telecommunications industry. These metrics are important to compare us to other wireless service providers. ARPU and CPGA assist management in budgeting and CPGA also assists management in quantifying the incremental costs to acquire a new subscriber. Except for churn and net subscriber additions, we have included a reconciliation of these metrics to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. Churn and subscriber net additions are operating statistics with no comparable GAAP financial measure. ARPU and CPGA are supplements to GAAP financial information and should not be considered an alternative to, or more meaningful than, revenues, expenses, loss from continuing operations, or net income (loss) as determined in accordance with GAAP.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or "EBITDA," is a performance metric we use and which is used by other companies. Management believes that EBITDA is a useful adjunct to loss from continuing operations and other measurements under GAAP because it is a meaningful measure of a company's performance, as interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization can vary significantly between companies due in part to differences in accounting policies, tax strategies, levels of indebtedness, capital purchasing practices and interest rates. EBITDA also assists management in evaluating operating performance and is sometimes used to evaluate performance for executive compensation. We have included below a presentation of the GAAP financial measure most directly comparable to EBITDA, which is loss from continuing operations, as well as a reconciliation of EBITDA to loss from continuing operations. EBITDA is a supplement to GAAP financial information and should not be considered an alternative to, or more meaningful than, net income (loss), loss from continuing operations, or operating income (loss) as determined in accordance with GAAP. EBITDA has distinct limitations as compared to GAAP information such as net income (loss), loss from continuing operations, or operating income (loss). By excluding interest and income taxes for example, it may not be apparent that both represent a reduction in cash available to the Company. Likewise, depreciation and amortization, while non-cash items, represent generally the decreases in the value of assets that produce revenue for the Company.

ARPU, churn, CPGA, and EBITDA as used by the Company may not be comparable to a similarly titled measure of another company.

The following terms used in this report have the following meanings:

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

- o "ARPU" summarizes the average monthly service revenue per user, excluding roaming revenue. The Company excludes roaming revenue from its ARPU calculation because this revenue is generated from customers of Sprint and other carriers that use our network and not directly from our subscribers. ARPU is computed by dividing average monthly service revenue for the period by the average number of subscribers for the period.
- o "Churn" is the average monthly rate of subscriber turnover that both voluntarily and involuntarily discontinued service during the period, expressed as a percentage of the average number of subscribers for the period. Churn is computed by dividing the number of subscribers that discontinued service during the period, net of 30-day returns, by the average subscribers for the period.
- o "CPGA" summarizes the average cost to acquire new subscribers during the period. CPGA is computed by adding the income statement components of selling and marketing expense (including commissions and upgrade costs), cost of equipment and activation costs (which are included as a component of cost of service and roaming) and reducing that amount by the equipment revenue recorded. That net amount is then divided by the total new subscribers acquired during the period.
- o "EBITDA" means earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization.

26

The tables, which follow present and reconcile non-GAAP financial measures and key operating metrics for the Company for the quarters and six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003.

For the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the quarter ended March 31, 2003:

The table below sets forth key operating metrics for the Company for the quarters ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 (dollars in thousands, except unit and per unit data):

	For the Quarters Ended March 31,		
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)
Total subscribers, end of period	367,807	358,564	9,243
Subscriber gross additions	41,741	43,003	(1,262)
Subscriber net additions	7,909	5,755	2,154
Churn	2.92%	3.30%	(0.38%)
ARPU	\$ 56.48	\$ 56.38	\$ 0.10
CPGA	\$ 409	\$ 302	\$ 107
EBITDA	\$ 13,162	\$ 15,099	\$ (1,937)

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

The reconciliation of ARPU to service revenue, as determined in accordance with GAAP, is as follows (dollars in thousands, except per unit data):

	For the Quarters Ended March 31,		
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)
Average Revenue Per User (ARPU):			
Service revenue	\$ 61,656	\$ 60,163	\$ 1,493
Average subscribers	363,853	355,687	8,166
ARPU	\$ 56.48	\$ 56.38	\$ 0.10

The reconciliation of CPGA to selling and marketing expense, as determined in accordance with GAAP, is calculated as follows (dollars in thousands, except per unit data):

27

	For the Quarters Ended March 31,			
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)	Incre (Decre
Cost Per Gross Addition (CPGA):				
Selling and marketing expense	\$ 11,916	\$ 11,384	\$ 532	
Plus: activation costs	838	843	(5)	
Plus: cost of equipment	7,202	3,455	3,747	1
Less: equipment revenue	(2,882)	(2,691)	(191)	
Total acquisition costs	\$ 17,074	\$ 12,991	\$ 4,083	
Gross additions	41,741	43,003	(1,262)	
CPGA	\$ 409	\$ 302	\$ 107	

The reconciliation of EBITDA to our reported loss from continued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, is as follows (dollars in thousands):

For the Quarters Ended March 31

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)
	-----	-----	-----
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (9,876)	\$ (6,698)	\$ (3,178)
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	11,892	11,625	267
Interest income	(165)	(25)	(140)
Interest expense	11,311	10,197	1,114
	-----	-----	-----
EBITDA	\$ 13,162	\$ 15,099	\$ (1,937)
	=====	=====	=====

Subscriber Gross Additions

Subscriber gross additions decreased slightly for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter in 2003. This decrease is due to the increase in the deposit for sub-prime customers and Sprint's loss of certain national third-party distribution channels.

Subscriber Net Additions

Subscriber net additions increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004, compared to the same quarter in 2003. The increase is due to improved subscriber churn, partially offset by a reduction in subscriber gross additions.

Average Revenue Per User

ARPU increased slightly for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter for 2003 primarily as a result of an increase in subscriber monthly recurring charges and higher data revenue offset by a reduction in revenue from customers using minutes in excess of their subscriber usage plans and higher customer credits.

Churn

Churn improved for the quarter ended March 31, 2004, compared to the same quarter for 2003. The Company has focused on improving the credit quality of the subscriber base. We believe this improvement in credit quality may have resulted in the reduction in churn for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period in 2003.

28

Cost per Gross Addition

CPGA increased for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same quarter in 2003. The increase reflects increased costs for marketing, selling, advertising, handset sales incentives, handset upgrade costs through our retail and national third party channels and rebates that were spread over a lower number of gross additions.

EBITDA

EBITDA for the quarter ended March 31, 2004 decreased from the same quarter in 2003. This decrease is a result of higher equipment costs, and selling, marketing, and advertising costs and \$0.8 million in Restructuring Costs, offset by slightly higher revenues, lower cost of service and roaming and a special

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Sprint settlement of \$1.2 million recorded related to the improvement in certain customers bad debt profiles.

For the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the six months ended March 31, 2003:

The table below sets forth key operating metrics for the Company for the six months ended March 31, 2004 and 2003 (dollars in thousands, except unit and per unit data):

	For the Six Months Ended March 31,			
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)	Increase (Decrease)
Total subscribers, end of period	367,807	358,564	9,243	
Subscriber gross additions	77,342	98,624	(21,282)	(2)
Subscriber net additions	8,347	19,425	(11,078)	(5)
Churn	2.99%	3.53%	(0.54%)	
ARPU	\$ 56.76	\$ 57.38	\$ (0.62)	(
CPGA	\$ 463	\$ 354	\$ 109	3
EBITDA	\$ 24,978	\$ 17,485	\$ 7,493	4

The reconciliation of ARPU to service revenue, as determined in accordance with GAAP, is as follows (dollars in thousands, except per unit data):

	For the Six Months Ended March 31,		
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)
	(Dollars in thousands)		
Average Revenue Per User (ARPU):			
Service revenue	\$ 123,829	\$ 120,096	\$ 3,733
Average subscribers	363,634	348,852	14,728
ARPU	56.76	57.38	(0.62)

The reconciliation of CPGA to selling and marketing expense, as determined in accordance with GAAP, is calculated as follows (dollars in thousands, except per unit data):

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

	For the Six Months Ended March 31,			
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)	Increase (Decrease)
Cost Per Gross Addition (CPGA):				
Selling and marketing expense	\$ 26,063	\$ 28,203	\$ (2,140)	(1)
Plus: activation costs	1,718	2,111	(393)	(1)
Plus: cost of equipment	13,788	10,302	3,486	3
Less: equipment revenue	(5,729)	(5,713)	(16)	(1)
Total acquisition costs	\$ 35,840	\$ 34,903	\$ 937	
Gross additions	77,342	98,624	(21,282)	(2)
CPGA	\$ 463	\$ 354	\$ 109	3

The reconciliation of EBITDA to our reported loss from continued operations, as determined in accordance with GAAP, is as follows (dollars in thousands):

	For the Six Months Ended March 31,			
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)	Increase (Decrease)
Loss from continuing operations	\$ (20,986)	\$ (26,125)	\$ 5,139	
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	23,659	23,244	415	
Interest income	(322)	(25)	(297)	
Interest expense	22,627	20,391	2,236	
EBITDA	\$ 24,978	\$ 17,485	\$ 7,493	

Subscriber Gross Additions

Subscriber gross additions decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period in 2003. This decrease is due to the increase in the deposit for sub-prime credit customers, the loss of distribution from closing retail stores, and Sprint's loss of certain national third-party distribution channels.

Subscriber Net Additions

Subscriber net additions decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004, compared to the same period in 2003. This decrease is due to the reduction in subscriber gross additions, partially offset by the reduced subscriber churn rate.

Average Revenue Per User

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

ARPU decreased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period for 2003 primarily as a result of a reduction in revenue from customers using minutes in excess of their subscriber usage plans and higher customer credits, offset by an increase in subscriber monthly recurring charges.

Churn

Churn improved for the six months ended March 31, 2004, compared to the same period for 2003. The Company has focused on improving the credit quality of the subscriber base. We believe this improvement in credit quality may have resulted in the reduction in churn for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period in 2003.

Cost per Gross Addition

CPGA increased for the six months ended March 31, 2004 compared to the same period in 2003. The increase reflects increased costs for marketing, selling, advertising, handset sales incentives, handset upgrade costs through our retail and national third party channels and rebates that were spread over a lower number of gross additions.

30

EBITDA

EBITDA for the six months ended March 31, 2004 increased from the same period in 2003. This increase is a result of an increase in revenues and decreased spending in cost of services and selling and marketing, and a special Sprint settlement of \$1.2 million recorded for the change in certain customer bad debt profiles and a \$1.2 million special settlement resulting from Sprint's decision to discontinue their billing system conversion, offset by \$3.1 million in Restructuring Costs.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of March 31, 2004, the Company had \$48.6 million in cash and cash equivalents compared to \$54.1 million in cash and cash equivalents at September 30, 2003. The Company's working capital for March 31, 2004 was \$3.8 million, compared to working capital of \$12.5 million at September 30, 2003. The decrease in the Company's cash position of \$5.5 million is attributable to the following (dollars in thousands):

		For the Six Months Ended March 31, 2004
Operating Activities		
Cash received from Sprint	\$	128,184
Cash paid to Sprint		(36,822)
Cash paid to vendors and employees		(65,559)
Credit facility interest payments		(4,529)
		21,274
Investing Activities		
Capital expenditures		(7,361)
Financing Activities		

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Credit facility principal payments	(13,761)
Other financing costs	(5,637)

	(19,398)

	\$ (5,485)
	=====

	For the Six Months Ended March 31		
	2004	2003	Increase (Decrease)

	(Dollars in thousands)		
	-----	-----	-----
Cash provided by operating activities	\$ 21,274	\$ 15,627	\$ 5,647
Cash used in investing activities	(7,361)	(6,654)	(707)
Cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(19,398)	7,045	(26,443)
	-----	-----	-----
Net (decrease) increase	\$ (5,485)	\$ 16,018	\$ (21,503)
	=====	=====	=====

Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities

The \$21.3 million of cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended March 31, 2004 was the result of the Company's \$163.1 million net income offset by non-cash items including gain on discontinued operations, depreciation, amortization of note discounts, financing costs, provision for doubtful accounts, non-cash stock compensation and loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment totaling \$145.8 million. These non-cash items were partially offset by favorable changes in other operating assets and liabilities of \$4.0 million. The \$15.6 million of cash provided by operating activities for the six months ended March 31, 2003 was the result of the Company's \$68.7 million net loss offset by non-cash items including loss on discontinued operations, depreciation, amortization of note discounts, financing costs, provision for doubtful accounts and non-cash stock option compensation, loss (gain) on disposal of property and equipment totaling \$85.3 million. These non-cash items were partially offset by a decrease in other operating assets and liabilities of \$1.0 million.

31

Net Cash Used in Investing Activities

The \$7.4 million of cash used in investing activities for the six months ended March 31, 2004 represents purchases of property and equipment. Purchases of property and equipment for the six months ended March 31, 2004 related to expansion of switch capacity and improvements in service quality. For the six months ended March 31, 2003, cash used in investing activities was \$6.7 million for purchases of property and equipment.

Net Cash (Used In) Provided by Financing Activities

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

The \$19.4 million in cash used in financing activities during the six months ended March 31, 2004, consisted of \$13.8 million for principal payments associated with the credit facility and \$4.8 million in debt restructuring costs which were capitalized to paid in capital, and \$0.9 million in fees capitalized related to amending the credit facility. The \$7.0 million of cash provided by financing activities during the six months ended March 31, 2003 consisted of \$8.0 million borrowed under the credit facility, offset by \$1.0 million of principal payments associated with the credit facility.

Liquidity, Financial Restructuring and Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the normal course of business. The financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of asset carrying amounts or the amount and classification of liabilities that might result should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern.

As shown in the condensed consolidated financial statements, the Company has generated significant net losses since inception and has an accumulated deficit of \$1.1 billion and stockholders' deficit of \$91.5 million at March 31, 2004. For the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company's loss from continuing operations amounted to \$21.0 million. In addition to its capital needs to fund operating losses, the Company has invested large amounts to build-out its networks and for other capital assets. Since inception, the Company has invested over \$300 million to purchase property and equipment. As of March 31, 2004, the Company had working capital of \$3.8 million and cash and cash equivalents of \$48.6 million, and no remaining availability under its credit facility. As a result, the Company is completely dependent on available cash and operating cash flow to pay debt service and meet its other capital needs. If such sources are not sufficient, alternative funding sources may not be available.

Due to the factors described in the Company's Annual Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2003, management made changes to the assumptions underlying its long-range business plan. These factors included slower subscriber growth, increased competition and churn and our dependence on Sprint and Sprint's changes to various programs and fees. These factors led the Company to revise its business strategy and take actions to cut costs during 2003. These actions included the following:

- o Restructuring the Company's organization and eliminating more than 150 positions;
- o Reducing capital expenditures;
- o Reducing spending for sales and marketing activities; and
- o Reducing per minute network operating costs by more closely managing connectivity costs.

These actions improved operating cash flow, however, under the Company's business plan during 2003, our compliance with the financial covenants under our credit facility was not assured and the Company's ability to generate sufficient cash flow to meet its financial covenants and payment obligations in 2005 and beyond was substantially uncertain. There was substantial risk that under its business plan, the Company would not have sufficient liquidity to meet its cash interest obligations under the Old Notes in 2006. As a result, the Company initiated the Recapitalization Plan. In light of these circumstances and the possibility of the Prepackaged Plan, in connection with their audit of our 2003 financial statements, KPMG LLP, the Company's independent auditors, included an explanatory paragraph regarding the Company's ability to continue as a going concern in their audit opinion. Such explanatory paragraph would have resulted

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

in a default under our credit facility; however, the Company obtained an amendment of its credit facility to permit this explanatory paragraph and prevent a default. The completion of the Recapitalization Plan improved the Company's capital structure and reduced the required payments under the Company's Old Notes and we believe we will have sufficient cash and cash equivalents and cash flow from operations to satisfy the Company's liquidity needs for at least the next twelve months.

Pursuant to the Recapitalization Plan, all but 0.6% of the 13.5% Old Notes maturing in 2009 were replaced by the 9 3/8% New Notes maturing in 2009. As a result, after 2004, the financial restructuring provides estimated cumulative cash savings of \$255 million through 2009, by reducing our principal payment by \$139.2 million and annual cash interest payment by \$25.5 million per year after 2004.

Over time, Sprint has increased fees charged to the Company and other network partners and has added fees that were not anticipated when the agreements with Sprint were entered into. Sprint also sought to collect money from us that we believe is not authorized under the agreements. In addition, Sprint has imposed additional programs, requirements and conditions that have adversely affected our financial performance. If these increases, additional charges and changes

32

continue, our operating results, liquidity and capital resources could be adversely affected. As of March 31, 2004, we have disputed approximately \$12.4 million in invoiced charges and \$2.7 million claimed by Sprint but not invoiced for such increases and additional charges, which have not been fully resolved. While we believe that we have adequately reserved for these disputed amounts, if they are resolved in favor of Sprint and against the Company, the payment of this amount of money could adversely affect our liquidity and capital resources. The resolution of all disputes in favor of Sprint and payment of disputed amounts would reduce our cash position by approximately \$15.1 million.

Capital Resources

As of March 31, 2004, the Company had \$48.6 million of cash and cash equivalents. The Company has no further borrowing available under the credit facility.

Contractual Obligations

The Company is obligated to make future payments under various contracts it has entered into, including amounts pursuant to the credit facility, the Old Notes, New Notes and non-cancelable operating lease agreements for office space, cell sites, vehicles and office equipment. Expected future minimum contractual cash obligations for the next five years and in the aggregate at September 30, 2003, giving effect to changes made as a result of the Recapitalization Plan, are as follows (dollars in thousands):

	Payments Due By Period for Years Ending				
	Total	2004	2005	2006	2007
Credit facility, principal (1)	\$ 151,475	\$ 20,275	\$ 21,200	\$ 30,107	\$ 39,893
Credit facility, interest (2)	24,188	7,460	6,779	5,327	3,622
Old Notes, principal	1,795	-	-	-	-

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

Old Notes, interest (3)	1,212	-	242	242	
New Notes, principal	159,035	-	-	-	
New Notes, interest (4)	84,487	14,909	14,909	14,909	14,
Operating leases (5)	60,262	18,899	14,396	9,485	6,
	\$ 482,454	\$ 61,543	\$ 57,526	\$ 60,070	\$ 65,
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

- (1) Total repayments are based upon borrowings outstanding as of September 30, 2003.
- (2) Interest rate is assumed to be 5.5%. As of March 31, 2004, the weighted-average interest rate on the credit facility was 4.96%. Due to a \$10.0 million pre-payment made on February 20, 2004, offset by subsequent credits, projected interest decreased approximately \$0.5 million in FY 2004.
- (3) Interest rate on Old Notes is 13.5% with payments starting in 2005.
- (4) Interest rate on New Notes is 9.375% with payments starting in June 2004.
- (5) Operating leases do not include payments due under renewals to the original lease term.

On August 16, 1999, the Company entered into a \$153.5 million senior credit facility. The credit facility provides for (i) a \$13.5 million senior secured term loan ("Tranche I Term Loan") which matures on June 6, 2007 and (ii) a \$140.0 million senior secured term loan ("Tranche II Term Loan") which matures on September 30, 2008. Under the Credit Agreement, the Company makes quarterly payments which began on December 31, 2002 for Tranche I and March 31, 2004 for Tranche II. The quarterly payments are predetermined based upon a percentage of the aggregate balance and consist of (i) eight payments of 3.75%, (ii) four payments of 5%, (iii) six payments of 7.143% and (iv) a final payment of 7.142%. No amounts remain available for borrowing under the credit facility. The credit facility is secured by all the assets of the Company and its restricted subsidiaries. The interest rate for the credit facility is determined on a margin above either the prime lending rate in the United States or the London Interbank Offer Rate.

The credit facility contains ongoing financial covenants, including reaching covered population targets, maximum annual spending on capital expenditures, attaining minimum subscriber revenues, and maintaining certain leverage and other ratios such as debt to total capitalization, debt to EBITDA (as defined in the credit facility agreement, "Bank EBITDA") and Bank EBITDA to fixed charges. The credit facility restricts the ability of the Company and its restricted subsidiaries to: create liens; incur indebtedness; make certain payments, including payments of dividends and distributions in respect of capital stock; consolidate, merge and sell assets and engage in certain transactions with affiliates. As of March 31, 2004, the Company was in compliance in all material respects with covenants contained in the credit facility.

The Company entered into an amendment to the credit facility on November 30, 2003. Certain changes were effective for periods ended December 31, 2003 and are used in determining compliance with financial covenants for periods ended December 31, 2003 and thereafter. These changes include (i) changes to the definition of Bank EBITDA to provide that, among other things, in determining Bank EBITDA, certain additional items will be added back to our consolidated net income or loss (to the extent deducted in determining such income or loss), including any charges incurred in connection with the restructuring, up to \$2.0 million per year to pursue claims against, or dispute claims by, Sprint and up to \$5.0 million in start-up costs in connection with any outsourcing of billing and customer care services; (ii) calculating the ratio of total debt to Bank EBITDA and senior secured debt to Bank EBITDA based on the four most recent fiscal quarters, rather than the last two quarters annualized and (iii) deleting

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

the minimum subscriber covenant. In addition, the amendment provides for a

33

waiver, effective September 30, 2003, of the requirement that the Company obtain an opinion from its independent auditors with respect to the financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2003 that does not contain a going concern or other similar qualification. Other changes include: (i) revising the threshold requirements for minimum revenues and most of the ratios that we are required to maintain; (ii) providing the ability to incur certain other limited indebtedness and related liens; (iii) providing the ability to make certain investments and form subsidiaries under limited circumstances that are not subject to certain restrictive covenants contained in the credit facility or required to guarantee the credit facility and (iv) permitting us to repurchase, at a discount, the Old Notes or the New Notes from our cash on hand in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$25 million in value of those notes, provided that we at the same time incur an equal amount of permitted subordinated indebtedness.

The amendment will not affect any of the other provisions of the credit facility, including those which restrict the Company's ability to merge, consolidate or sell substantially all of its assets. In connection with the amendment, the Company prepaid \$10.0 million in principal under the credit facility, which will be credited pro rata against principal payments otherwise due in fiscal years 2004 and 2005 in the amount of \$7.5 million and \$2.5 million, respectively. The amendment did not otherwise affect the Company's obligation to pay interest, premium, if any, or any other of the principal on the credit facility, when due.

On February 20, 2004, the Company issued approximately \$159.0 million in aggregate principal amount of new senior subordinated secured notes that mature on September 1, 2009 in exchange for Old Notes in an aggregate principal amount of \$298.5 million. The New Notes bear interest at the rate of 9 3/8% per year, accruing from January 1, 2004, which is payable each January 1 and July 1, beginning on July 1, 2004. The Company may redeem some or all of the New Notes at any time on or after January 1, 2006 at specified redemption prices.

The New Notes are subordinated to up to \$175.0 million of the Company's senior debt under its credit facility and are fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a senior subordinated basis by the Company's subsidiaries that guarantee the Company's obligations under the credit facility. In addition, the New Notes are secured by a second-priority lien, subject to certain exceptions and permitted liens, on all the collateral that secures the Company's and its guarantor subsidiaries' obligations under the Company's credit facility. If the Company undergoes a change of control (as defined in the indenture that governs the New Notes), then it must make an offer to repurchase the New Notes at 101% of the principal amount of the notes then outstanding.

The New Notes contain covenants, subject to certain exceptions, that prohibit the Company's ability to, among other things, incur more debt; create liens; repurchase stock and make certain investments; pay dividends, make loans or transfer property or assets; enter into sale and leaseback transactions, transfer or dispose of substantially all of the Company's assets; or engage in transactions with affiliates. Some exceptions to the restrictions on the Company's ability to incur more debt include: up to \$175 million of indebtedness under the Company's credit facility; up to \$5 million of capital lease obligations; and up to \$50 million of additional general indebtedness. As of March 31, 2004, the Company was in compliance in all material respects with covenants contained in the note indenture.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

The Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements and has not entered into any transactions involving unconsolidated, limited purpose variable interest entities or commodity contracts.

As of March 31, 2004, two major credit rating agencies rate the Company's unsecured debt. The ratings were as follows:

Type of facility	S&P	Moody's
-----	---	-----
New Notes	CCC-	Caal
Credit Facility	CCC+	B2

Related Party Transactions

See Note 3 to the condensed consolidated financial statements for a description of transactions with Sprint.

Item 3. Quantitative And Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk

In the normal course of business, the Company's operations are exposed to interest rate risk on its credit facilities and any future financing requirements. The Company's fixed rate debt consists primarily of the carrying value of the New Notes (\$135.1 million including discounts of \$23.9 million at March 31, 2004) and the remaining accreted carrying value of the Old Notes (\$1.7 million at March 31, 2004). The Company's variable rate debt consists of borrowings made under the credit facility (\$137.7 million outstanding at March 31, 2004). As of March 31, 2004, the weighted average interest rate under the credit facility was 4.96%. Our primary interest rate risk exposures relate to (i) the interest rate on long-term borrowings; (ii) our ability to refinance the New Notes at maturity at market rates; and (iii) the impact of interest rate movements on our ability to meet interest expense requirements and financial covenants under our debt instruments.

34

The following table presents the estimated future balances of outstanding long-term debt projected at the end of each period and future required annual principal payments for each period then ended associated with the New Notes, Old Notes (net of original issue discount) and credit facility based on projected levels of long-term indebtedness (dollars in thousands):

	Years Ending September 30,				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
New Notes	\$ 159,035	\$ 159,035	\$ 159,035	\$ 159,035	\$ 159,035
Fixed interest rate	9.375%	9.375%	9.375%	9.375%	9.375%
Principal payments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Credit facility	\$ 131,200	\$ 110,000	\$ 79,893	\$ 40,000	\$ -
Variable interest rate (1)	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%
Principal payments	\$ 20,275	\$ 21,200	\$ 30,107	\$ 39,893	\$ 40,000
Old Notes	\$ 1,778	\$ 1,779	\$ 1,781	\$ 1,784	\$ 1,788
Fixed interest rate	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%	13.5%
Principal payments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

(1) The interest rate on the credit facility equals the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") +3.75%. LIBOR is assumed to equal 1.75% for all periods presented. A 1% increase (decrease) in the variable interest rate would result in a \$0.8 million increase (decrease) in the related interest expense on an average annual basis (based upon borrowings outstanding as of March 31, 2004).

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in our Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Controller (our principal financial officer), as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

As of the end of the period covered by this report, March 31, 2004 (the "Evaluation Date"), we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Controller (our principal financial officer), of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures. Based upon this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Controller concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the Evaluation Date.

Because of our reliance on Sprint for financial information, we depend on Sprint to design adequate internal controls with respect to the processes established to provide this data and information to the Company and Sprint's other network partners. As part of this control process, Sprint engages its independent auditors to perform a periodic evaluation of these controls and to provide a "Report on Controls Placed in Operation and Tests of Operating Effectiveness for Affiliates" under guidance provided in Statement of Auditing Standards No. 70 ("Type II SAS 70 reports"). The Type II SAS 70 report is provided to us annually and covers our entire fiscal year.

In addition, at least annually, we review the prior year's Type II SAS 70 report in light of events that have occurred during the year. We also provide comments to Sprint and its independent auditors regarding issues and information the report should address that may not have been addressed in the prior year's report.

As was reported in our Form 10-K for our fiscal year ended September 30, 2003 and our Form 10-Q for our fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2003, we had a reportable condition in our internal controls related to an accounts receivable issue with Sprint. This reportable condition resulted from our reliance on Sprint for financial information, including information relating to our revenues and accounts receivable, which underlies a substantial portion of our periodic financial statements and other financial disclosure.

During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2002, it became apparent that discrepancies between various accounts receivable reports provided by Sprint had become significant. To address these issues, we conducted a lengthy inquiry into the causes of the discrepancies. Among other things, we had numerous discussions and meetings with Sprint's accounting staff, requested and received additional and more detailed reports and demanded reconciliations with our records.

In connection with our review of the accounts receivable issue at September 30, 2002 for purposes of finalizing our financial statements, we reclassified

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

approximately \$10.0 million of AirGate subscriber accounts receivable for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2002 to a receivable from Sprint. We provided an allowance to reflect the receivable at its net realizable value, which we collected from Sprint subsequent to September 30, 2002.

At September 30, 2002, we and our independent auditors believed that the accounts receivable issue resulted from a reportable condition in our internal controls. Notwithstanding this reportable condition, we concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2002.

As previously disclosed, the reportable condition continued during our fiscal year ended September 30, 2003 because most of the procedures implemented to address the condition were not in place until the end of the fiscal year. However, we reported in our Form 10-K for the 2003 fiscal year that, as a result of the improved processes and procedures designed to address the reportable condition, the Company believed no reportable condition existed by the end of fiscal year September 30, 2003, but our independent auditors have not made that finding. During fiscal 2004, we have continued to perform the enhanced internal controls procedures adopted to address this reportable condition.

To avoid this reportable condition in the future, the Company will need to continue the processes we have implemented as previously disclosed in prior filings and continue to obtain or perform the following:

- o Obtain from Sprint access to a detailed listing of subscriber receivables at the account level on a quarterly basis and validate its integrity. Sprint provided this same level of detail at September 30, 2003, December 31, 2003, February 29, 2004 and March 31, 2004, and the Company validated the report's integrity at each date. As of February 29, 2004, Sprint agreed to provide the detailed listing of subscriber receivables at the account level on a monthly basis.
- o Perform a full reconciliation of the subscriber receivables detail to the general ledger balance, including a complete understanding of all reconciling items. During the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company performed a full reconciliation of the subscriber receivables detail on a monthly basis.
- o Perform a rollforward of the accounts receivable information to be provided by Sprint and compare these amounts to our general ledger accounts. During the six months ended March 31, 2004, the Company performed a rollforward of the accounts receivable information provided by Sprint on a monthly basis and reconciled it to the Company's accounts receivable general ledger accounts.

Standing alone, the Company does not believe that the following issue raises a material change in internal controls. However, because of the Company's unique relationship with Sprint, we plan to disclose all changes in internal controls with respect to financial information provided by Sprint which involves an item in excess of \$1,000,000 and on a select basis, those changes with respect to financial information below this threshold.

As was reported in our Form 10-Q for the first quarter of fiscal 2004, in January 2004, we were informed by Sprint of a table mapping error related to 3G data settlements, which resulted in a \$0.6 million reduction of roaming revenue. Sprint's data settlement system erroneously linked IP addresses of 3G subscribers to the wrong owners. Sprint identified the source of the problem and solicited input from the affiliates to devise a system of detective controls to ensure that this error would not go undetected beyond a single billing cycle in the future. The following procedures were put in place during January 2004, to

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

ensure that future modifications to the table mapping are validated by Sprint and audited and verified by the affiliates on a timely basis:

- o Sprint now performs a quarterly review between Sprint and the Company's Engineering and Settlement Departments to validate the 3G data assignment tables used for affiliate settlements for accuracy and completeness. This review was performed during the quarter ended March 31, 2004 and we were able to validate the tables.
- o The Company's Settlement and Engineering Departments have added a process to validate the accuracy and completeness of its 3G data IP address assignments. For the quarter ended March 31, 2004, we validated the accuracy and completeness of these assignments.

In preparation for the requirements imposed under Section 404 of the Sarbanes Oxley Act of 2002, we retained an outside accounting firm to assist us in documenting processes, identifying gaps and improving our internal control processes, including our processes to verify data provided by Sprint. Beginning January 2004, the outside accounting firm we retained began documenting processes and identifying gaps in our internal controls with the Company's management. During the quarter ended March 31, 2004, there were no changes to internal control over financial reporting that have had, or are reasonably likely to have, a material effect on our internal control over financial reporting.

In light of the additional procedures adopted as described above and in our prior periodic filings, we believe that the improvements made to our system of internal control over financial reporting were appropriate and responsive to the internal control over financial reporting reportable condition identified at September 30, 2002 and 2003. We have continued to monitor the operation of our improved internal control over financial reporting with respect to our Sprint relationship, and have concluded that, as of March 31, 2004, such internal control over financial reporting were effective.

36

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

See Note 4 to the condensed consolidated financial statements in this document.

Item 2. Changes in Securities and Use of Proceeds

In connection with the Recapitalization Plan described elsewhere in this Report, the Company obtained consents of holders of 99.4% of the outstanding Old Notes to:

- o amend the Indenture governing the Old Notes to eliminate substantially all of the restrictive covenants contained in the Old Notes Indenture, and release all collateral securing the Company's obligations under the Old Notes Indenture; and
- o the waiver of any defaults and events of default under the Old Notes Indenture that may have occurred in connection with the Recapitalization Plan.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

On February 20, 2004, the Company entered into a Supplemental Indenture regarding the Old Notes. Among other things, the Supplemental Indenture deleted the provisions of the Old Notes Indenture that relate to:

- o the Company's ability to incur indebtedness;
- o the Company's ability to make restricted payments;
- o the Company's ability to make permitted investments;
- o the Company's ability to issue and sell capital stock of subsidiaries;
- o the Company's ability to enter into transactions with affiliates;
- o the Company's ability to enter into sale and leaseback transactions;
- o the Company's ability to create liens;
- o the Company's ability to declare and pay dividends;
- o the Company's and its subsidiaries' business activities;
- o other payment restrictions affecting subsidiaries; and
- o most events of default.

The foregoing summary of the Supplemental Indenture is qualified in its entirety to the actual terms of the document, which is filed with the SEC on Form 8-K on February 26, 2004.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None

Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

See Note 10 to the condensed consolidated financial statements in this document.

The proposals submitted to the shareholders at the Special Meeting received the following votes:

Proposal	For	Against
Approve the issuance in the restructuring of up to 56% of the Company's issued and outstanding common stock immediately after the restructuring	15,489,917	89,282
Approve the amendment and restatement of the Company's certificate of incorporation to implement a 1-for-5 reverse stock split	15,356,304	220,897

Approve the amendment and restatement of the 2002 AirGate PCS, Inc. Long Term Incentive Plan to increase the number of shares available and reserved for issuance thereunder, to make certain other changes, and to approve the grant of certain

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

performance-vested restricted stock units and stock options to certain executives of the Company	14,799,856	531,440
--	------------	---------

37

The consent proposals submitted to the holders of the Old Notes received the following votes:

Proposal -----	For ---	Against -----
Removal of substantially all of the restrictive covenants in the indenture governing the Old Notes, release collateral that secured the Company's obligations thereunder and waive any defaults or events of default that occur in connection with the restructuring	298,204,000	950,000
Acceptance from holders of the Old Notes of the Prepackaged Plan	259,359,200	950,000

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

(a) Exhibits

- 1) Exhibit 10.1 Employment Separation Agreement dated March 23, 2004 by and between AirGate and William H. Seippel.
- 2) Exhibit 31.1 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification
- 3) Exhibit 31.2 Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certification
- 4) Exhibit 32.1 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350
- 5) Exhibit 32.2 Certification Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

The following Current Reports on Form 8-K were filed by the Company during the quarter ended March 31, 2004:

On January 15, 2004, AirGate filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Items 5 and 7 relating to a press release issued on January 14, 2004 announcing that it had commenced an exchange offer to exchange newly-issued shares of its common stock and newly-issued secured notes for its outstanding discount notes.

On February 2, 2004, AirGate filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Item 12 relating to a press release announcing its financial and operating results for the first quarter of fiscal 2004.

Edgar Filing: AIRGATE PCS INC /DE/ - Form 10-Q

On February 12, 2004, AirGate filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Items 5 and 7 relating to issued a press release announcing that its shareholders, at a special meeting, had approved the company's recapitalization plan, that the previously-announced exchange offers had expired, and that the company had accepted all validly tendered and not withdrawn discount notes.

On February 17, 2004, AirGate filed a Current Report on Form 8-K under Item 9 relating to a press release announcing its financial and operating results for its first fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2003.

On February 20, 2004, AirGate filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission under Item 5 and 7 relating to the incorporation by reference of the consolidated balance sheets of AirGate PCS, Inc. and subsidiaries as of September 30, 2003 and 2002, and the consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' deficit and cash flow for each of the years in the three-year period ended September 30, 2003. These financial statements reflect a subsequent event for iPCS, Inc. becoming a discontinued operation. In addition, the financial statements also reflect a 1-for-5 reverse stock split of the outstanding shares of our capital stock effected on February 13, 2004.

On February 26, 2004, AirGate filed the following documents with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Form 8-K under Items 5 and 7 : (i) Third Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 20, 2004, by and among AirGate PCS, Inc., AGW Leasing Company, Inc., AirGate Network Services, LLC, AirGate Service Company, Inc., and Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, and (ii) Indenture for 9-3/8% senior subordinated secured notes due 2009, dated as of February 20, 2004, by and among AirGate PCS, Inc., AGW Leasing Company, Inc., AirGate Network Services, LLC, AirGate Service Company, Inc., and The Bank of New York.

On March 23, 2004, AirGate filed a Current Report on Form 8-K with the Securities and Exchange Commission under Item 5 relating to a press release issued announcing that William H. Seippel, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, has resigned from the Company to pursue other interests.

38

SIGNATURES

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

AIRGATE PCS, INC.

By: /s/ Louis E. Martinez

Louis E. Martinez

Title: Corporate Controller

(Duly Authorized Officer, Principal Financial
and Chief Accounting Officer)

Date: May 14, 2004

39