

MICROFINANCIAL INC  
Form 10-K  
April 13, 2006

**Table of Contents**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
Form 10-K**

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

**For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005**

**or**

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

**Commission file no. 1-14771  
MicroFinancial Incorporated**

*(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)*

**Massachusetts**

*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**10M Commerce Way,  
Woburn, MA**

*(Address of Principal Executive Offices)*

**04-2962824**

*(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)*

**01801**

*(zip code)*

**Registrant's telephone number, Including Area Code:  
(781) 994-4800**

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

**Title of Each Class**

**Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered**

Common Shares, \$0.01 par value per share

American Stock Exchange

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

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

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large Accelerated Filer  Accelerated Filer  Non-Accelerated Filer

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the registrant's voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2005, the last day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was approximately \$43,092,000, computed by reference to the closing price of such stock as of such date.

As of March 1, 2006, 13,785,273 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Registrant's proxy statement to be filed pursuant to Regulation 14A within 120 days after the Registrant's fiscal year end of December 31, 2005, are incorporated by reference in Part III hereof.

---

## Table of Contents

Description	Page Number
PART I	
<u>Item 1.</u> <u>Business</u>	2
<u>Item 1A.</u> <u>Risk Factors</u>	7
<u>Item 2.</u> <u>Properties</u>	7
<u>Item 3.</u> <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	7
<u>Item 4.</u> <u>Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders</u>	9
PART II	
<u>Item 5.</u> <u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	9
<u>Item 6.</u> <u>Selected Financial Data</u>	10
<u>Item 7.</u> <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Including Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)</u>	13
<u>Item 7A.</u> <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk</u>	32
<u>Item 8.</u> <u>Financial Statements and Supplementary Data</u>	32
<u>Item 9.</u> <u>Changes In and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	32
<u>Item 9A.</u> <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	32
<u>Item 9B.</u> <u>Other Information</u>	33
PART III	
<u>Item 10.</u> <u>Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant</u>	33
<u>Item 11.</u> <u>Executive Compensation</u>	33
<u>Item 12.</u> <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	33
<u>Item 13.</u> <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions</u>	33
<u>Item 14.</u> <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	33
PART IV	
<u>Item 15.</u> <u>Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules</u>	34
<u>SIGNATURES</u>	37
<u>EX-21.1 Subsidiaries of the Registrant</u>	
<u>EX-23.1 Consent of Vitale, Caturano &amp; Company, Ltd.</u>	
<u>EX-23.2 Consent of Deloitte &amp; Touche LLP</u>	
<u>EX-31.1 Section 302 Certification CEO</u>	
<u>EX-31.2 Section 302 Certification of CFO</u>	
<u>EX-32.1 Section 906 Certification of CEO</u>	
<u>EX-32.2 Section 906 Certification of CFO</u>	

**Table of Contents****PART I****Item 1. Business****General**

MicroFinancial Incorporated ( MicroFinancial or the Company ) was formed as a Massachusetts corporation on January 27, 1987. The Company operates primarily through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Leasecomm Corporation and TimePayment Corp. LLC. TimePayment is a specialized commercial finance company that leases and rents microticket equipment and provides other financing services in amounts generally ranging from \$500 to \$15,000 with an average lease term of approximately 44 months. Leasecomm historically financed contracts with an average amount financed of approximately \$1,900 while the average amount financed by TimePayment is approximately \$6,900. Leasecomm Corporation started originating leases in January 1986, while TimePayment Corp. LLC started originating leases in July 2004. The Company has used proprietary software in developing a sophisticated, risk-adjusted pricing model and in automating its credit approval and collection systems, including a fully-automated, Internet-based application, credit scoring and approval process.

The Company provides financing to lessees which may have few other sources of credit. The Company primarily leases and rents low-priced commercial equipment, which is used by these lessees in their daily operations. The Company does not market its services directly to lessees, but sources leasing transactions through a nationwide network of independent sales organizations and other dealer-based origination networks ( dealers ).

The majority of the Company s portfolio is currently for authorization systems for point-of-sale, card-based payments by, for example, debit, credit and charge cards ( POS authorization systems ). POS authorization systems require the use of a POS terminal capable of reading a cardholder s account information from the card s magnetic strip and combining this information with the amount of the sale entered via a POS terminal keypad, or POS software used on a personal computer to process a sale. The terminal electronically transmits this information over a communications network to a computer data center and then displays the returned authorization or verification response on the POS terminal.

Historically, the Company has depended heavily on external financing to fund new leases and contracts. In September 2002, the Company s then-existing credit facility failed to renew. Renewal of the credit facility required 100% participation from the nine lenders, and one of the lenders chose not to renew. As a result, in October 2002, the Company was forced to suspend virtually all new contract originations until a source of funding was obtained or at such time that the senior credit facility had been paid in full. In June 2004, MicroFinancial secured a \$10.0 million credit facility, comprised of a one-year \$8.0 million line of credit and a \$2.0 million three-year subordinated note that enabled the Company to resume microticket contract originations. In conjunction with raising new capital, the Company also formed a new wholly owned operating subsidiary, TimePayment Corp. LLC. On September 29, 2004, MicroFinancial secured a three-year, \$30.0 million, senior secured revolving line of credit from CIT Commercial Services, a unit of CIT Group. This line of credit replaced the previous one year, \$8 million line of credit obtained in June 2004 under more favorable terms and conditions. In addition, it retired the existing outstanding debt with the former bank group. In the near term, the Company expects to finance the business with the cash on hand and its line of credit with CIT.

**Leasing, Servicing and Financing Programs**

The Company originates leases for products that typically have limited distribution channels and high selling costs. The Company facilitates sales of such products by allowing dealers to make them available to their customers for a small monthly lease payment rather than a higher initial purchase price. The Company primarily leases and rents low-priced commercial equipment to small merchants. The majority of the Company s portfolio is currently for POS authorization systems; however, the Company also leases a wide variety of other equipment including advertising and display equipment, coffee machines, paging systems, water coolers and restaurant equipment. In addition, the Company also acquires service contracts and

**Table of Contents**

contracts in certain other financing markets. The Company opportunistically seeks to enter various other financing markets.

The Company's consumer financings include acquiring service contracts from dealers that primarily provide residential security monitoring services, as well as consumer leases for a wide range of consumer products.

Prior to the suspension of new contract originations in October 2002, the Company originated leases, contracts and loans in all 50 states of the United States and its territories. Since resuming the origination of contracts in June 2004 the Company has originated contracts in over 40 states, and going forward expects to resume originating leases in all 50 states of the United States and its territories. The Company continues to service leases, contracts and loans in all 50 states of the United States and its territories. As of both December 31, 2004 and 2005, leases in California, Florida, Texas, Massachusetts and New York accounted for approximately 40% of the Company's portfolio. Only California accounted for more than 10% of the total portfolio as of December 31, 2004 and 2005 at approximately 14%. None of the remaining states other than those listed above accounted for more than 4% of such total.

**Terms of Equipment Leases**

Substantially all equipment leases originated or acquired by the Company are non-cancelable. In a typical lease transaction, the Company originates leases referred to it by the dealer and buys the underlying equipment from the referring dealer upon the funding of an approved application. Leases are structured with limited recourse to the dealer, with risk of loss in the event of default by the lessee residing with the Company in most cases. The Company performs all processing, billing and collection functions under its leases.

During the term of a typical lease, the Company is scheduled to receive payments sufficient, in the aggregate, to cover the Company's borrowing costs and the costs of the underlying equipment, and to provide the Company with an appropriate profit. Throughout the term of the lease, the Company charges late fees, prepayment penalties, loss and damage waiver fees and other service fees, when applicable. Initial terms of the leases in the Company's portfolio generally range from 12 to 48 months, with an average initial term of 44 months as of December 31, 2005.

The terms and conditions of all of the Company's leases are substantially similar. In most cases, the contracts require lessees to: (i) maintain, service and operate the equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's and government-mandated procedures; (ii) insure the equipment against property and casualty loss; (iii) pay all taxes associated with the equipment; and (iv) make all scheduled contract payments regardless of the performance of the equipment. The Company's standard lease forms provide that in the event of a default by the lessee, the Company can require payment of liquidated damages and can seize and remove the equipment for subsequent sale, refinancing or other disposal at its discretion. Any additions, modifications or upgrades to the equipment, regardless of the source of payment, are automatically incorporated into, and deemed a part of, the equipment financed.

The Company seeks to protect itself from credit exposure relating to dealers by entering into limited recourse agreements with its dealers, under which the dealer agrees to reimburse the Company for defaulted contracts under certain circumstances, primarily upon evidence of dealer errors or misrepresentations in originating a lease or contract.

**Residual Interests in Underlying Equipment**

The Company typically owns a residual interest in the equipment covered by a lease. The value of such interest is estimated at inception of the lease based upon the Company's estimate of the fair value of the asset. At the end of the lease term, the lessee has the option to buy the equipment at a price quoted by the Company, return the equipment or continue to rent the equipment on a month-to-month basis. If the equipment is returned, the Company may either sell the equipment, or place it into its used equipment rental or leasing program.

**Table of Contents**

**Service Contracts**

In a typical transaction for the acquisition of service contracts, a homeowner will purchase a security system and simultaneously sign a contract with the dealer for the monitoring of that system for a monthly fee. The dealer will then sell the right to payment under that contract to the Company for a multiple of the monthly payments. The Company contracts with third party monitoring stations, which perform the monitoring service. The Company performs all processing, billing and collection functions under these contracts.

**Dealers**

The Company provides financing to obligors under microticket leases, contracts and loans through a network of independent dealers. Historically, the Company has had over 1,000 different dealers originating leases, contracts and loans. When the Company suspended nearly all of its new contract originations in October 2002, the number of dealers it utilized for the limited number of contracts it was able to originate declined substantially. As the Company has begun to originate more contracts following the establishment of its line of credit with CIT in September 2004, the Company has begun to expand the number of dealers in its network, though it may take time to re-establish its relationships. One dealer accounted for approximately 56.14%, 9.94% and 0.34% of all originations during the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. Two other dealers accounted for approximately 23.38% and 10.79% of all originations during the year ended December 31, 2003. During the year ended December 31, 2004 the Company's top four dealers accounted for 65.09% of all of the leases originated at 21.84%, 16.83%, 15.71%, and 10.71%, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2005 the Company's top three dealers accounted for 47.29% of all of the leases originated at 26.61%, 10.64% and 10.04%, respectively. No other dealer accounted for more than 10% of the Company's origination volume during the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

The Company does not sign exclusive agreements with its dealers. Dealers interact with merchants directly and typically market not only POS authorization systems, but also financing through the Company and ancillary POS processing services.

**Use of Technology**

The Company's business is operationally intensive, due in part to the small average amount financed. Accordingly, technology and automated processes are critical in keeping servicing costs to a minimum while providing quality customer service.

The Company has developed TimePaymentDirect<sup>tm</sup>, an Internet-based application processing, credit approval and dealer information tool. Using TimePaymentDirect<sup>tm</sup>, a dealer can input an application directly to the Company via the Internet and obtain almost instantaneous approval automatically over the Internet through the Company's computer system, all without any contact with any employee of the Company. The Company also offers Instalease<sup>R</sup>, a program that allows a dealer to submit applications by telephone, telecopy or e-mail to a Company representative, receive approval, and complete a sale from a lessee's location. By assisting the dealers in providing timely, convenient and competitive financing for their equipment or service contracts and offering dealers a variety of value-added services, the Company simultaneously promotes equipment and service contract sales and the utilization of the Company as the finance provider, thus differentiating the Company from its competitors.

The Company has used its proprietary software to develop a multidimensional credit-scoring model which generates pricing of its leases, contracts and loans commensurate with the risk assumed. This software does not produce a binary yes or no decision, but rather, determines the price at which the lease, contract or loan might be profitably underwritten. The Company uses credit scoring in most, but not all, of its extensions of credit.

**Table of Contents****Underwriting**

The nature of the Company's business requires that the underwriting process perform two levels of review: the first focused on the ultimate end-user of the equipment or service and the second focused on the dealer. The approval process begins with the submission by telephone, facsimile or electronic transmission of a credit application by the dealer. Upon submission, the Company, either manually, or through TimePaymentDirect™ conducts its own independent credit investigation of the lessee through its proprietary database and recognized commercial credit reporting agencies such as Dun & Bradstreet, Experian and Equifax. The Company's software evaluates this information on a two-dimensional scale, examining both credit depth (how much information exists on an applicant) and credit quality (credit performance, including past payment history). The Company is thus able to analyze both the quality and amount of credit history available with respect to both obligors and dealers and to assess the credit risk. The Company uses this information to underwrite a broad range of credit risks and provide financing in situations when its competitors may be unwilling to provide such financing. The credit-scoring model is complex and automatically adjusts for different transactions. In situations where the amount financed is over \$7,500, the Company may go beyond its own data base and recognized commercial credit reporting agencies to obtain information from less readily available sources such as banks. In certain instances, the Company will require the lessee to provide verification of employment and salary.

The second aspect of the credit decision involves an assessment of the originating dealer. Dealers undergo both an initial screening process and ongoing evaluation, including an examination of dealer portfolio credit quality and performance, lessee complaints, cases of fraud or misrepresentation, aging studies, number of applications and conversion rates for applications. This ongoing assessment enables the Company to manage its dealer relationships, including ending relationships with poorly performing dealers.

Upon credit approval, the Company requires receipt of signed lease documentation on the Company's standard, or other pre-approved, lease form before funding. Once the equipment is shipped and installed, the dealer invoices the Company, and thereafter, the Company verifies that the lessee has received and accepted the equipment. Upon the completion of a satisfactory verification with the lessee, the lease is forwarded to the Company's funding and documentation department for payment to the dealer and the establishment of the accounting and billing procedures for the transaction.

**Bulk and Portfolio Acquisitions**

In addition to originating leases through its dealer relationships, the Company, from time to time, has purchased lease portfolios from dealers. While certain of these leases, at inception would not have met the Company's underwriting standards, the Company often will purchase the leases once the lessee demonstrates a payment history. The Company will only acquire these smaller lease portfolios in situations where the company selling the portfolio will continue to act as a dealer following the acquisition. The Company has also completed the acquisition of six large POS authorization system lease and rental portfolios: two in 1996, one in 1998, one in 1999, one in 2000 and the acquisition of the rental and lease portfolio of Resource Leasing in 2001.

**Servicing and Collections**

The Company performs all servicing functions on its leases, contracts and loans through its automated servicing and collection system. Servicing responsibilities generally include billing, processing payments, remitting payments to dealers, paying taxes and insurance, and performing collection and liquidation functions.

The Company's automated lease administration system handles application tracking, invoicing, payment processing, automated collection queuing, portfolio evaluation and report writing. The system is linked with bank accounts for payment processing and provides for direct withdrawal of lease, contract and loan payments. The Company monitors delinquent accounts using its automated collection process. The Company uses several computerized processes in its customer service and collection efforts, including the generation of daily priority call lists and scrolling for daily delinquent account servicing, generation and mailing of delinquency

**Table of Contents**

letters, and routing of incoming customer service calls to appropriate employees with instant computerized access to account details. The Company's collection efforts include one or more of the following: sending collection letters, making collection calls, reporting delinquent accounts to credit reporting agencies, and litigating delinquent accounts when necessary and obtaining and enforcing judgments.

**Competition**

The microticket leasing and financing industry is highly competitive. The Company competes for customers with a number of national, regional and local banks and finance companies. The Company's competitors also include equipment manufacturers that lease or finance the sale of their own products. While the market for microticket financing has traditionally been fragmented, the Company could also be faced with competition from small- or large-ticket leasing companies that could use their expertise in those markets to enter and compete in the microticket financing market. The Company's competitors include larger, more established companies, some of which may possess substantially greater financial, marketing and operational resources than the Company, including a lower cost of funds and access to capital markets and other funding sources, which may be unavailable to the Company.

**Employees**

As of December 31, 2005, the Company had 87 full-time employees, of whom, 13 were engaged in sales and underwriting activities and dealer service, 41 were engaged in servicing and collection activities, and 33 were engaged in general administrative activities. Management believes that its relationship with its employees is good. No employees of the Company are members of a collective bargaining unit in connection with their employment by the Company.

**Executive Officers**

<b>Name and Age of Executive Officers</b>	<b>Title</b>
Richard F. Latour, 52	Director, President, Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer, Secretary and Clerk
James R. Jackson, Jr., 44	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Steven J. LaCreta, 46	Vice President, Lessee Relations and Legal
Stephen J. Constantino, 40	Vice President, Human Resources
Thomas Herlihy, 47	Vice President, Sales and Marketing, of TimePayment Corp. LLC

**Backgrounds of Executive Officers**

Richard F. Latour has served as President, Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer, Clerk and Secretary of the Company since October 2002 and as President, Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer, Clerk and Secretary, as well as a director of the Corporation, since February 2002. From 1995 to January 2002, he served as Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, Clerk and Secretary. From 1986 to 1995 Mr. Latour served as Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Latour was Vice President of Finance for eleven years with Trak Incorporated, an international manufacturer and distributor of consumer goods, where he was responsible for all financial and operational functions. Mr. Latour earned a B.S. in accounting from Bentley College in Waltham, Massachusetts.

James R. Jackson Jr. has served as Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company since April 2002. Prior to joining the Company, from 1999 to 2001, Mr. Jackson was Vice President of Finance for Deutsche Financial Services Technology Leasing Group. From 1992 to 1999, Mr. Jackson held positions as Manager of Pricing and Structured Finance and Manager of Business Planning with AT&T Capital Corporation.

**Table of Contents**

Steven J. LaCreta has served as Vice President, Lessee Relations and Legal since May 2005. From May 2000 to May 2005, Mr. LaCreta served as Vice President, Lessee Relations. From November 1996 to May 2000, Mr. LaCreta served as Director of Lessee Relations of the Company. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. LaCreta was a Leasing Collection Manager with Bayer Corporation.

Stephen J. Constantino has served as Vice President, Human Resources since May 2000. From 1994 to May 2000, Mr. Constantino served as Director of Human Resources of the Company. From 1992 to 1994, Mr. Constantino served as the Controller of the Company. From 1991 to 1992, Mr. Constantino served as the Accounting Manager of the Company. From 1989 to 1991, Mr. Constantino served as a Senior Accountant of the Company. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Constantino was a Senior Accountant with Child World, Inc.

Thomas Herlihy has served as Vice President, Sales and Marketing, of our operating subsidiary, TimePayment Corp. LLC since May 2005. From 2004 to March 2005, Mr. Herlihy served as General Manager of US Express Leasing and from 2000 to 2003, Mr. Herlihy served as Executive Vice President of ABB Business Finance. From 1989 to 2000, Mr. Herlihy served as Senior Vice President of AT&T Capital and its successor companies. In 1980, Mr. Herlihy co-founded Eaton Financial Corporation. Eaton Financial Corporation was sold to AT&T Capital in 1989.

**Availability of Information**

The Company maintains an Internet website at <http://www.microfinancial.com>. The Company's annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to such reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as well as Section 16 reports on Form 3, 4, or 5, are available free of charge on this site as soon as is reasonably practicable after the Company files or furnishes these reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Company's Guidelines on Corporate Governance, its Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and the charters for the Audit Committee, Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and Compensation and Benefits Committee of the Company's Board of Directors are also available on its internet site. The Guidelines, Code of Ethics and charters are also available in print to any shareholder upon request. Requests for such documents should be directed to Richard F. Latour, Chief Executive Officer, at 10M Commerce Way, Woburn, Massachusetts 01801. The Company's Internet site and the information contained therein or connected thereto are not incorporated by reference into this Form 10-K. The Company's filings with the SEC are also available on the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

**Item 1A. Risk Factors**

For a discussion of the material risks that the Company faces relating to its business, its financial performance and its industry, as well as other risks that an investor in its common stock may face, see "Risk Factors" under Item 7 Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

**Item 2. Properties**

At December 31, 2005, the Company's corporate headquarters and operations center occupied approximately 24,400 square feet of office space at 10M Commerce Way, Woburn, Massachusetts 01801. The lease for this space expires on December 31, 2010.

**Item 3. Legal Proceedings**

Management believes, after consultation with counsel, that the allegations against the Company included in the lawsuits described below are subject to substantial legal defenses, and the Company is vigorously defending each of the allegations. The Company also is subject to claims and suits arising in the ordinary course of business. At this time, it is not possible to estimate the ultimate loss or gain, if any, related to these

**Table of Contents**

lawsuits, nor if any such loss will have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

A. In October 2002, the Company was served with a Complaint in an action in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York filed by approximately 170 present and former lessees asserting individual claims. (As amended, the action now includes approximately 210 plaintiffs.) The Complaint contains claims for violation of RICO (18 U.S.C. § 1964), fraud, unfair and deceptive acts and practices, unlawful franchise offerings, and intentional infliction of mental anguish. The claims purportedly arise from Leasecomm's dealer relationships with Themeware, E-Commerce Exchange, Cardservice International, Inc., and Online Exchange for the leasing of websites and virtual terminals. The Complaint asserts that the Company is responsible for the conduct of its dealers in trade shows, infomercials and web page advertisements, seminars, direct mail, telemarketing, all which are alleged to constitute unfair and deceptive acts and practices. The Complaint seeks restitution, compensatory and treble damages, and injunctive relief. The Company filed a Motion to Dismiss the Complaint on January 31, 2003. By decision dated September 30, 2003, the court dismissed the complaint with leave to file an amended complaint. An Amended Complaint was filed in November 2003. The Company filed a Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint, which was denied by the United States District Court in September 2004. The Company has filed an answer to the Amended Complaint denying the Plaintiffs' allegations and asserting counterclaims. On January 18, 2005, Plaintiffs filed a Second Amended Complaint, which added five individual Plaintiffs and dropped one of Plaintiffs' claims. The Company has filed an Answer to the Second Amended Complaint, denying the Plaintiffs' allegations and asserting counterclaims against a majority of the Plaintiffs for breach of contract and unjust enrichment. The case is now in discovery. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, the Company cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect.

B. In March 2003, a purported class action was filed in Superior Court in Massachusetts against Leasecomm and one of its dealers. The class, sought to be certified is a nationwide class (excluding certain residents of the State of Texas) who signed identical or substantially similar lease agreements with Leasecomm covering the same product. After the Company had filed a motion to dismiss, but before the motion to dismiss was heard by the Court, plaintiffs filed an Amended Complaint. The Amended Complaint asserted claims against the Company for declaratory relief, absence of consideration, unconscionability, and violation of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 93A, Section 11. The Company filed a motion to dismiss the Amended Complaint which was allowed in March 2004. In May 2004, a purported class action on behalf of the same named plaintiffs and asserting the same claims was filed in Cambridge District Court. The Company has filed a Motion to Dismiss the Complaint, which was heard in August 2004, and denied by the District Court. On September 16, 2004, the Company filed an Answer and Counterclaims to the Amended Complaint denying the plaintiffs' allegations. On March 2, 2005, the plaintiffs filed a motion for leave to file an Amended Complaint which the Court allowed. The Amended Complaint added a claim for usury against the Company. The Company filed an Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Counterclaims to the Amended Complaint denying the plaintiffs' allegations and the parties are currently engaged in discovery. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, the Company cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect.

C. In October 2003, the Company was served with a purported class action complaint which was filed in United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts alleging violations of the federal securities laws. The purported class would consist of all persons who purchased Company securities between February 5, 1999 and October 30, 2002. The Complaint asserts that during this period the Company made a series of materially false or misleading statements about the Company's business, prospects and operations, including with respect to certain lease provisions, the Company's course of dealings with its vendor/dealers, and the Company's reserves for credit losses. In April 2004, an Amended Class Action Complaint was filed which added additional defendants and expanded upon the prior allegations with respect to the Company. The Company has filed a Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint, which is awaiting decision by the Court. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, the Company cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect.

**Table of Contents****Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders**

No matters were submitted to a vote of the security holders of the Company during the fourth quarter of its fiscal year ended December 31, 2005.

**PART II****Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity and Related Stockholder Matters****(a) Market Information**

The Company's common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the Common Stock), is currently listed on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol MFI. The Company's Common Stock was previously listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol MFI through the close of business on January 16, 2006.

	2004				2005			
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Stock Price								
High	3.45	3.39	4.08	5.00	5.00	4.77	4.74	4.20
Low	2.58	2.55	3.14	3.40	3.61	2.76	3.54	3.10

**(b) Holders**

At March 17, 2006, there were approximately 42 stockholders of record of the common stock. However, many holders' shares are listed under their brokerage firms' names. The Company estimates the number of beneficial shareholders to be approximately 700.

**(c) Dividends**

During the fourth quarter of 2002, the Board of Directors suspended the future payment of dividends to comply with the Company's then-existing banking agreements. The Company paid no dividends for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2004, respectively.

During 2005, the Company's Board of Directors announced a resumption of dividend payments with a cash dividend of \$0.05 per share payable to shareholders of record on February 9, 2005. Additionally, the Company's Board of Directors announced a dividend of \$0.05 per share payable to shareholders of record on each of April 29, 2005, July 27, 2005, October 27, 2005 and December 28, 2005, and a special dividend of \$0.25 per share payable to shareholders of record on January 31, 2006. Future dividend payments are subject to ongoing quarterly review and evaluation by the Board of Directors. The decision as to the amount and timing of future dividends paid by the Company, if any, will be made at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors in light of the financial condition, capital requirements, earnings and prospects of the Company and any restrictions under the Company's credit facilities or subordinated debt agreements, as well as other factors the Board of Directors may deem relevant, and there can be no assurance as to the amount and timing of payment of future dividends.

**(d) Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities**

Not applicable.

**(e) Use of Proceeds from Registered Securities**

Not applicable.

**Table of Contents****Item 6. Selected Financial Data**

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial and operating data for the Company and its subsidiaries for the periods and at the dates indicated. The selected consolidated financial data were derived from the financial statements and accounting records of the Company. The data presented below should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements, related notes and other financial information included herein.

	<b>Years Ended December 31,</b>				
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<b>(Dollars in thousands, except per share data)</b>				
<b>Income Statement Data:</b>					
<b>Revenues</b>					
Income on financing leases and loans	\$ 70,932	\$ 53,012	\$ 30,904	\$ 11,970	\$ 4,140
Rental income	37,664	37,154	34,302	31,009	25,359
Income on service contracts	8,665	9,734	8,593	5,897	3,467
Other income(1)	36,830	26,922	17,775	11,491	6,318
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>154,091</b>	<b>126,822</b>	<b>91,574</b>	<b>60,367</b>	<b>39,284</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Selling, general and administrative	44,899	45,535	33,856	26,821	20,884
Provision for credit losses	54,092	88,948(2)	59,758	47,918	10,468
Depreciation and amortization	14,378	18,385	16,592	14,010	9,497
Interest	14,301	10,787	7,515	2,283	1,148
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>127,670</b>	<b>163,655</b>	<b>117,721</b>	<b>91,032</b>	<b>41,997</b>
Income (loss) before provision (benefit) for income taxes	26,421	(36,833)	(26,147)	(30,665)	(2,713)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	10,104	(14,735)	(10,460)	(20,449)(3)	(1,053)
<b>Net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 16,317</b>	<b>\$ (22,098)</b>	<b>\$ (15,687)</b>	<b>\$ (10,216)</b>	<b>\$ (1,660)</b>
<b>Net income (loss) per common share</b>					
Basic(4)	\$ 1.28	\$ (1.72)	\$ (1.20)	\$ (0.77)	\$ (0.12)
Diluted(5)	1.26	(1.72)	(1.20)	(0.77)	(0.12)
Dividends per common share	0.20	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.50

**Table of Contents**

	<b>December 31,</b>				
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<b>(Dollars in thousands)</b>				
<b>Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 146	\$ 5,494	\$ 6,533	\$ 9,709	\$ 32,926
Restricted cash	20,499	18,516	2,376		
Gross investment in leases and loans(6)	438,723	367,173	194,898	69,181	33,004
Unearned income	(104,538)	(67,574)	(23,729)	(6,313)	(3,658)
Allowance for credit losses	(45,026)	(69,294)	(43,011)	(14,963)	(8,714)
Investment in service contracts, net	14,126	14,463	8,844	4,777	1,626
Investment in rental contracts, net	10,348	5,633	3,758	1,785	3,025
Total assets	361,728	295,085	156,414	71,270	65,188
Notes payable	203,053	168,927	58,843	34	161
Subordinated notes payable	3,262	3,262	3,262	4,589	2,602
Total liabilities	251,172	208,482	85,148	9,177	10,501
Total stockholders equity	110,556	86,603	71,266	62,093	54,687

	<b>December 31,</b>				
	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<b>(Dollars in thousands, except statistical data)</b>				
<b>Other Data:</b>					
<b>Operating Data:</b>					
Value of leases and loans originated(7)	\$ 155,308	\$ 111,829	\$ 3,429	\$ 920	\$ 7,296
Value of service contracts acquired(8)	6,658	6,773			
Value of rental contracts originated	12,379	677	157	77	1,731
Dealer fundings(9)	111,100	74,000	1,600	668	6,369
Average yield on leases and loans(10)	38.1%	36.9%	32.5%	30.1%	30.6%
<b>Cash Flows From (Used In):</b>					
Operating activities	\$ 122,280	\$ 120,628	\$ 98,052	\$ 58,793	\$ 35,242
Investing activities	(116,860)	(80,141)	(2,839)	(912)	(6,992)
Financing activities	(10,104)	(35,139)	(94,174)	(54,705)	(5,033)
Total	(4,684)	5,348	1,039	3,176	23,217
<b>Selected Ratios:</b>					
Return on average assets	4.63%	(6.73)%	(6.95)%	(8.98)%	(2.43)%
Return on average stockholders equity	15.80	(22.42)	(19.87)	(15.32)	(2.84)
Operating margin(11)	52.25	41.09	36.70	28.58	19.74
<b>Credit Quality Statistics:</b>					
Net charge-offs	\$ 51,408(12)	\$ 65,081	\$ 86,041	\$ 75,967	\$ 16,717

Net charge-offs as a percentage of average gross investment(13)	11.20%	15.60%	29.40%	54.71%	30.79%
Provision for credit losses as a percentage of average gross investment(14)	11.78	21.32	20.42	34.51	19.28
Allowance for credit losses as a percentage of gross investment(15)	9.94	18.16	21.11	20.23	25.16

**Table of Contents**

- (1) Includes loss and damage waiver fees, service fees, interest income, and equipment sales revenue.
- (2) The provision for 2002 includes an additional provision of \$35.0 million to reserve against certain dealer receivables as well as delinquent portfolio assets. In the past, dealer receivables had been offset, in some instances, against the funding of new contracts. While the Company had suspended the funding of new deals, management felt that the collection of these receivables would be more difficult. Although the Company continued to pursue collections on these accounts, management believed that the cost associated with the legal enforcement would outweigh the benefits realized.
- (3) During 2004 the Company recorded an income tax benefit of \$7.9 million that resulted from a reduction in the Company's estimate of certain tax liabilities that had been included in accrued income taxes on the Company's balance sheet.
- (4) Net income (loss) per common share (basic) is calculated based on weighted-average common shares outstanding of 12,789,605, 12,821,946, 13,043,744, 13,182,833 and 13,567,640 for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively.
- (5) Net income per common share (diluted) is calculated based on weighted-average common shares outstanding on a diluted basis of 12,945,243, 12,821,946, 13,043,744, 13,182,833 and 13,567,640 for the years ended December 31, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively.
- (6) Consists of receivables due in installments, estimated residual value, and loans receivable.
- (7) Represents the amount paid to dealers upon funding of leases and loans, plus the associated unearned income.
- (8) Represents the amount paid to dealers upon the acquisition of service contracts, including both non-cancelable service contracts and month-to-month service contracts.
- (9) Represents the amount paid to dealers upon funding of leases, contracts and loans.
- (10) Represents the aggregate of the implied interest rate on each lease and loan originated during the period weighted by the amount funded at origination for each such lease and loan.
- (11) Represents income before provision (benefit) for income taxes and provision for credit losses as a percentage of total revenues.
- (12) In 1999 the Company included a special provision of \$12.7 million in net charge-offs for a loan made to one company, collateralized by approximately 3,500 microticket consumer contracts, and guaranteed by, among other security, an insurance performance bond. MicroFinancial has obtained judgments against the company and the insurance company in the amounts of \$23.0 million and \$14.0 million, respectively. Charge-offs against the special reserve were \$6.4 and \$7.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 2001, respectively.
- (13) Represents net charge-offs as a percentage of average gross investment in leases and loans and investment in service contracts.
- (14) Represents provision for credit losses as a percentage of average gross investment in leases and loans and investment in service contracts.

- (15) Represents allowance for credit losses as a percentage of gross investment in leases and loans and investment in service contracts.

**Table of Contents**

**Item 7. *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Including Selected Quarterly Financial Data (Unaudited)***

The following discussion includes forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995). When used in this discussion, the words may, will, expect, intend, anticipate, estimate, continue, plan and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company, or industry results, to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including, among other things, those associated with:

our dependence on point of sale authorization systems, expansion into new markets and the development of a sizeable dealer base;

our significant capital requirements;

our ability or inability to obtain the financing we need in order to continue originating new contracts;

the risks of defaults on our leases;

possible adverse consequences associated with our collection policy;

the effect of higher interest rates on our portfolio;

increasing competition;

increased governmental regulation of the rates and methods we use in financing and collecting our leases and loans;

acquiring other portfolios or companies;

dependence on key personnel;

adverse results in litigation and regulatory matters, or promulgation of new or enhanced legislation or regulations; and

general economic and business conditions.

The risk factors above and those under Risk Factors beginning on page 26, as well as any other cautionary language included herein, provide examples of risks, uncertainties and events that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations we described in our forward-looking statements. Many of these factors are significantly beyond our control. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to disseminate any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained herein to reflect any change in the Company's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based. In light of these risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking information contained herein will in fact transpire.

**Overview**

The Company is a specialized commercial finance company that provides microticket equipment leasing and other financing services in amounts generally ranging from \$500 to \$15,000, and an average lease term of 44 months. Leasecomm historically financed contracts with an average amount financed of approximately \$1,900 while the

average amount financed by TimePayment is approximately \$6,900. The Company's current portfolio consists of point-of-sale (POS) authorization systems and other small business equipment leased or rented to small commercial enterprises.

The Company derives the majority of its revenues from leases originated and held by the Company, payments on service contracts, rental payments, and fee income. Historically, the Company has funded the majority of leases, contracts and loans through its revolving-credit and term loan facilities (the Credit Facilities) and on-balance sheet securitizations, and to a lesser extent, its subordinated debt program

**Table of Contents**

( Subordinated Debt ) and internally generated funds. Between October 2002 and September 2004, an interruption in the Company's financing sources had a significant impact on its ability to fund new contracts. As of September 30, 2002, the Company's then-existing credit facility failed to renew and the Company began paying down the balance of the debt. At December 31, 2002, the Company was in default of certain of its debt covenants in its credit facility and securitization agreements. These covenants required the Company to maintain certain ratios of fixed charges to consolidated earnings, a minimum consolidated tangible net worth and compliance with a borrowing base. In April 2003, the Company entered into a long-term agreement with its lenders. This long-term agreement waived the defaults described above, and in consideration for the waiver, required the outstanding balance of the loan to be repaid over a term of 22 months beginning in April 2003 at an interest rate of prime plus 2.0%. The Company also received a waiver for the covenant violations in connection with the securitization agreement and amended the securitization agreement to conform its covenants to the covenants in the senior credit facility. In October 2002, the Company was forced to suspend virtually all new contract originations until a new source of financing could be obtained or until such time as the credit facility had been paid in full.

In June 2004, MicroFinancial secured a \$10.0 million credit facility, comprised of a one-year \$8.0 million line of credit and a \$2.0 million three-year subordinated note that enabled the Company to resume microticket contract originations. In conjunction with raising new capital, the Company also formed a new wholly owned operating subsidiary, TimePayment Corp. LLC. On September 29, 2004, MicroFinancial secured a three-year, \$30.0 million, senior secured revolving line of credit from CIT Commercial Services, a unit of CIT Group. This line of credit replaced the previous one year, \$8 million line of credit obtained in June 2004 under more favorable terms and conditions. In addition, it retired the existing outstanding debt with the former bank group. The new financing has enabled the Company to resume origination of contracts. During the year ended December 31, 2005, the Company began to actively increase its industry presence with a more focused and targeted sales and marketing effort. The Company continues to invest capital to build an infrastructure to support new sales and marketing initiatives, and has brought in new sales and marketing management to spearhead the effort.

In a typical lease transaction, the Company originates leases through its network of independent dealers. Upon approval of a lease application by the Company and verification that the lessee has both received the equipment and signed the lease, the Company pays the dealer the cost of the equipment, plus the dealer's profit margin. In a typical transaction for the acquisition of service contracts, a homeowner purchases a security system and simultaneously signs a contract with the dealer for the monitoring of that system for a monthly fee. Upon credit approval of the monitoring application and verification with the homeowner that the system is installed, the Company purchases from the dealer the right to the payment stream under that monitoring contract at a negotiated multiple of the monthly payments.

Substantially all leases originated or acquired by the Company are non-cancelable. During the term of the lease, the Company is scheduled to receive payments sufficient, in the aggregate, to cover the Company's borrowing costs and the costs of the underlying equipment, and to provide the Company with an appropriate profit. The Company enhances the profitability of its leases, contracts and loans by charging late fees, prepayment penalties, loss and damage waiver fees and other service fees, when applicable. Collection fees are imposed based on the Company's estimate of the costs of collection. The Company may only impose late fees on the first four months of late payments and is prohibited from imposing compound late fees or from assessing late fees as a percentage of the total outstanding late payments including outstanding late fees. The loss and damage waiver fees are charged if a customer fails to provide proof of insurance and are reasonably related to the cost of replacing the lost or damaged equipment or product. The initial non-cancelable term of the lease is equal to or less than the equipment's estimated economic life and often provides the Company with additional revenues based on the residual value of the equipment financed at the end of the initial term of the lease. Initial terms of the leases in the Company's portfolio generally range from 12 to 48 months, with an average initial term of 44 months as of December 31, 2005.

**Table of Contents*****Critical Accounting Policies***

In response to the SEC's release No. 33-8040, "Cautionary Advice regarding Disclosure About Critical Accounting Policies," management identified the most critical accounting principles upon which our financial status depends. The Company determined the critical principles by considering accounting policies that involve the most complex or subjective decisions or assessments. The Company identified its most critical accounting policies to be those related to revenue recognition, maintaining the allowance for credit losses, determining provisions for income taxes and accounting for share-based compensation. These accounting policies are discussed below as well as within the notes to the consolidated financial statements.

***Revenue Recognition***

The Company's lease contracts are accounted for as financing leases. At origination, the Company records the gross lease receivable, the estimated residual value of the leased equipment, initial direct costs incurred and the unearned lease income. Unearned lease income is the amount by which the gross lease receivable plus the estimated residual value exceeds the cost of the equipment. Unearned lease income and initial direct costs incurred are amortized over the related lease term using the interest method. Amortization of unearned lease income and initial direct costs is suspended if, in the opinion of management, full payment of the contractual amount due under the lease agreement is doubtful. In conjunction with the origination of leases, the Company may retain a residual interest in the underlying equipment upon termination of the lease. The value of such interest is estimated at inception of the lease and evaluated periodically for impairment. At the end of the lease term, the lessee has the option to buy the equipment at a price quoted by the Company, return the equipment or continue to rent the equipment on a month-to-month basis. If the lessee continues to rent the equipment, the Company records an investment in the rental contract at its estimated residual value. Rental revenue and depreciation are recognized based on the methodology described below. Other revenues such as loss and damage waiver fees, and service fees relating to the leases, contracts and loans are recognized as they are earned.

The Company's investments in cancelable service contracts are recorded at cost and amortized over the expected life of the service period. Income on service contracts from monthly billings is recognized as the related services are provided. The Company periodically evaluates whether events or circumstances have occurred that may affect the estimated useful life or recoverability of the investment in service contracts. The Company's investment in rental contracts is either recorded at estimated residual value and depreciated using the straight-line method over a period of 12 months or at the acquisition cost and depreciated using the straight line method over a period of 36 months. Rental income from monthly billings is recognized as the customer continues to rent the equipment. The Company periodically evaluates whether events or circumstances have occurred that may affect the estimated useful life or recoverability of the investment in rental contracts. Loans are reported at their outstanding principal balance. Interest income on loans is recognized as it is earned.

***Allowance for Credit Losses***

The Company maintains an allowance for credit losses on its investment in leases, service contracts, rental contracts and loans at an amount that it believes is sufficient to provide adequate protection against losses in its portfolio. Given the nature of the "microticket" market and the individual size of each transaction, the business does not warrant the creation of a formal credit review committee to review individual transactions. Rather, we developed a sophisticated, risk-adjusted pricing model and have automated the credit scoring, approval and collection processes. We believe that with the proper risk-adjusted pricing model, we can grant credit to a wide range of applicants provided we have priced appropriately for the associated risk inherent in the transaction. As a result of approving a wide range of credits, we experience a relatively high level of delinquency and write-offs in our portfolio. During periods where we are making credit decisions and funding new transactions, it is important for us to periodically review the credit scoring and approval process to ensure that the automated system is making appropriate credit decisions. Given the nature of the "microticket" market and the individual size of each transaction, the business does not warrant evaluating transactions individually for the purpose of developing and determining the adequacy of the allowance for credit losses.

**Table of Contents**

Contracts in our portfolio are not re-graded subsequent to the initial extension of credit nor is the reserve allocated to specific contracts. Rather, we view the impaired contracts to have common characteristics and maintain a general allowance against our entire portfolio utilizing historical statistics for recovery and timing of recovery as the basis for the amount.

The Company has adopted a consistent, systematic procedure for establishing and maintaining an appropriate reserve for credit losses for the microticket transactions. Management reviews, on a static pool basis, the collection experience on various months' originations. In addition management also reviews, on a static pool basis, the recoveries made on written off accounts. The results of these static pool analyses reflect the Company's actual collection experience given the fact that the Company obtains additional recourse in many instances in the form of personal guaranties from the borrowers, as well as, in some instances, limited recourse from the dealer. In addition, management considers current delinquency statistics, current economic conditions, and other relevant factors. The combination of historical experience and the review of current factors provide the basis for the analysis to determine the adequacy of the reserves. The Company takes charge-offs against its receivables when such receivables are 360 days past due and no contact has been made with the lessee for 12 months. Historically, the typical monthly payment under the Company's leases has been between \$30 and \$50 per month. As a result of these small monthly payments, the Company's experience is that lessees will pay past due amounts later in the process because of the small amount necessary to bring an account current (at 360 days past due, a lessee may only owe lease payments of between \$360 and \$600).

*Income taxes*

Significant management judgment is required in determining the provision for income taxes, deferred tax assets and liabilities and any necessary valuation allowance recorded against net deferred tax assets. The process involves summarizing temporary differences resulting from the different treatment of items, for example, leases, for tax and accounting purposes. In addition, the calculation of the Company's tax liabilities involves dealing with estimates in the application of complex tax regulations in a multitude of jurisdictions. Differences between the basis of assets and liabilities result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are recorded on the balance sheet. Management must then assess the likelihood that deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income or tax carry-back availability and to the extent management believes recovery is more likely than not, no valuation allowance is deemed necessary.

The Company is currently undergoing an audit of its 1997 through 2003 tax years. As part of the audit, the Internal Revenue Service Agent has proposed several adjustments to the annual tax returns, which if final, would require the Company to pay the IRS an amount between \$8.0 and \$10.0 million. Such payments would be offset by an adjustment to the deferred tax asset such that the amount would likely be recoverable in future periods. The Company has several defenses to these adjustments and has filed a formal response under the appeals process challenging these adjustments. The Company can give no assurance that it will be successful in any appeal procedure.

*Share-Based Compensation*

As of January 1, 2005, the Company adopted SFAS 123(R), which requires the measurement of compensation cost for all outstanding unvested share-based awards at fair value and recognition of compensation over the service period for awards expected to vest. The estimation of stock awards that will ultimately vest requires judgment, and to the extent actual results differ from our estimates, such amounts will be recorded as a cumulative adjustment in the period estimates are revised. Actual results may differ substantially from these estimates. The Company estimates the fair value of stock options using a Black-Scholes valuation model, consistent with the provisions of SFAS 123(R), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 and the Company's prior period pro forma disclosures of net earnings, including stock-based compensation (determined under a fair value method as prescribed by SFAS 123). Key input assumptions used to estimate the fair value of stock options include the grant price of the award, the expected option term, volatility of the Company's stock, the risk-free interest rate and the Company's dividend yield. Estimates of fair value are not intended to predict actual future events or the value

**Table of Contents**

ultimately realized by employees who receive equity awards, and subsequent events are not indicative of the reasonableness of the original estimates of fair value made by the Company under SFAS 123(R).

**Results of Operations***Revenue*

	2003	Change	2004	Change	2005
<b>(In thousands)</b>					
Income on financing leases and loans	\$ 30,904	(61.3)%	\$ 11,970	(65.4)%	\$ 4,140
Rental income	34,302	(9.6)%	31,009	(18.2)%	25,359
Income on service contracts	8,593	(31.4)%	5,897	(41.2)%	3,467
Service fees and other	17,775	(35.4)%	11,491	(45.0)%	6,318
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>\$ 91,574</b>	<b>(34.1)%</b>	<b>\$ 60,367</b>	<b>(34.9)%</b>	<b>\$ 39,284</b>

The Company's lease contracts are accounted for as financing leases. At origination, the Company records the gross lease receivable, the estimated residual value of the leased equipment, initial direct costs incurred and the unearned lease income. Unearned lease income is the amount by which the gross lease receivable plus the estimated residual value exceeds the cost of the equipment. Unearned lease income and initial direct costs incurred are amortized over the related lease term using the interest method. Other revenues such as loss and damage waiver fees, service fees relating to the leases, contracts and loans, and rental revenues are recognized as they are earned.

Total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2005, were \$39.3 million, a decrease of \$21.1 million, or 34.9%, from the year ended December 31, 2004, due primarily to decreases of \$7.8 million, or 65.4%, in income on financing leases and loans and \$5.2 million, or 45.0%, in service fee and other income. In addition, rental revenue decreased \$5.7 million or 18.2% and income on service contracts decreased \$2.4 million, or 41.2%, as compared to such amounts in the prior year. The decrease in income on financing leases and loans was due to the decreased number of leases originated primarily resulting from the Company's decision during the third quarter of 2002 to suspend the funding of new contracts. The decrease in fee income and other income is the result of decreased fees from the lessees related to the collection and legal process employed by the Company. The decrease in rental and service contract income is a result of the decreased number of lessees that have continued to rent their equipment beyond their original lease term, and decreased originations in rental and service contracts. Revenues are expected to continue to decline until such time as new originations begin to outpace the rate of attrition of contracts in the existing portfolio.

Total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2004 were \$60.4 million, a decrease of \$31.2 million, or 34.1%, from the year ended December 31, 2003. The decline in revenue was due to decreases of \$18.9 million, or 61.3%, in income on financing leases and loans and \$6.3 million, or 35.4%, in service fee and other income. In addition, rental revenue decreased \$3.3 million or 9.6% and income on service contracts decreased \$2.7 million, or 31.4%, as compared to such amounts in the previous year's period. The overall decrease in revenue can be attributed to the decrease in the overall size of the Company's portfolio of leases, rentals and service contracts. The shrinking portfolio is a direct result of the Company's decision during the third quarter of 2002 to cease funding new originations as a result of its lenders not renewing the revolving credit facility in September 2002.

*Selling, General and Administrative*

	2003	Change	2004	Change	2005
<b>(In thousands)</b>					
Selling, general and administrative	\$ 33,856	(20.8)%	\$ 26,821	(22.1)%	\$ 20,884
As a percent of revenue	37.0%		44.4%		53.2%

The Company's selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses include costs of maintaining corporate functions including accounting, finance, collections, legal, human resources, sales and underwriting,

**Table of Contents**

and information systems. SG&A expenses also include commissions, service fees and other marketing costs associated with the Company's portfolio of leases and rental contracts. SG&A expenses decreased by \$5.9 million, or 22.1%, for the year ended December 31, 2005, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2004. The decrease was primarily driven by a reduction in debt closing expenses and bank charges of \$1.4 million, a decrease of \$1.8 million in collection related expenses, a decrease of \$554,000 in cost of goods sold, a decrease of \$649,000 in insurance expense and a decrease of \$738,000 in sales programs and inventory services expenses. Also included in the expense reduction was a credit of approximately \$700,000 relating to the favorable settlement of a disputed liability related to a previous acquisition. Despite a reduction in headcount from 103 at December 31, 2004 to 87 at December 31, 2005, personnel-related expenses increased by \$183,000 as cost reductions achieved were offset by \$1.0 million in non-cash compensation expense related to the adoption of SFAS 123(R). The expense reductions were achieved as a result of the decrease in the overall size of our portfolio of leases, rentals and service contracts and as a result of management's continuing attempt to align the Company's infrastructure with existing business conditions.

SG&A expenses decreased by \$7.0 million, or 20.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease was primarily driven by a reduction in personnel-related expenses of approximately \$2.8 million, as management reduced headcount from 136 to 103, and decreases of \$1.6 million in sales programs, \$1.1 million in legal services, and \$1.0 million in rent expense. The expense reductions were part of management's efforts to align the Company's infrastructure with current business conditions.

*Provision for Credit Losses*

	<b>2003</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>				
Provision for credit losses	\$ 59,758	(19.8)%	\$ 47,918	(78.2)%	\$ 10,468
As a percent of revenue	65.3%		79.4%		26.6%

The Company maintains an allowance for credit losses on its investment in leases, service contracts, rental contracts and loans at an amount that it believes is sufficient to provide adequate protection against losses in its portfolio. The Company's provision for credit losses decreased by \$37.5 million, or 78.2%, for the year ended December 31, 2005, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2004, while net charge-offs decreased 78.0% to \$16.7 million. The provision was based on the Company's historical policy of providing a provision for credit losses based upon dealer funding and revenue recognized in the period, as well as taking into account actual and expected losses in the portfolio as a whole and the relationship of the allowance to the net investment in leases, service contracts, rental contracts and loans.

The Company's provision for credit losses decreased by \$11.8 million, or 19.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2003, while net charge-offs decreased 11.7% to \$76.0 million.

*Depreciation and Amortization*

	<b>2003</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<b>(In thousands)</b>				
Depreciation - fixed assets	\$ 1,445	(44.6)%	\$ 801	(48.8)%	\$ 410
Depreciation and amortization - rentals	9,528	(4.1)%	9,142	(35.1)%	5,936
Depreciation and amortization - contracts	5,619	(27.6)%	4,067	(22.5)%	3,151
Total depreciation and amortization	\$ 16,592	(15.6)%	\$ 14,010	(32.2)%	\$ 9,497
As a percent of revenue	18.1%		23.2%		24.2%

Depreciation and amortization expense consists primarily of the depreciation taken against fixed assets and rental equipment, and the amortization of the Company's investment in service contracts. The Company's investment in fixed assets is recorded at cost and amortized over the expected life of the service period of the asset. The Company's accounting policy for recording and depreciating rental equipment under operating

**Table of Contents**

leases depends upon the source of the rental contract. Certain rental contracts are originated as a result of the renewal provisions of the lease agreement whereby at the end of lease term, the customer may elect to continue to rent the leased equipment on a month-to-month basis. These contracts are recorded at their residual value and depreciated over a term of 12 months. This term represents our estimated life of a previously leased piece of equipment and is based upon our historical experience. In the event the contract terminates prior to the end of the 12 month period, the remaining net book value is expensed as an impairment charge.

The Company also offers a financial product where the customer may acquire a new piece of equipment and sign a rental agreement, which allows the customer, assuming the contract is current and no event of default exists, to terminate the contract at any time by returning the equipment and providing the company with 30 days notice. These contracts are recorded at acquisition cost and depreciated over an average contract life of 36 months. This term is an estimate based upon our historical experience. In the event that the contract terminates prior to the end of the 36 month period, the remaining net book value is expensed as an impairment charge.

Service contracts are recorded at cost and amortized over their estimated life of 84 months. In a typical service contract acquisition, a homeowner will purchase a home security system and simultaneously sign a contract with the security dealer for the monitoring of that system for a monthly fee. The security dealer will then sell the rights to that monthly payment to the Company. We perform all of the processing, billing, collection and administrative work on these transactions. The estimated life of 84 months for service contracts is based upon the standard expected life of such contracts in the security monitoring industry and has also proven to be accurate based upon historical performance of our monitoring portfolios. In the event the contract terminates prior to the end of the 84 month term, the remaining net book value is expensed as an impairment charge.

For the year ended December 31, 2005 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2004, depreciation and amortization related to rental contracts decreased by \$3.2 million, or 35.1% and depreciation and amortization related to service contracts decreased by \$916,000, or 22.5%. The decrease in depreciation and amortization can be attributed to the decrease in the overall size of the Company's portfolio of leases, rentals and service contracts. Depreciation related to the Company's property and equipment decreased by \$391,000, or 48.8%, for the year ended December 31, 2005, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2004.

Depreciation and amortization related to rental contracts decreased by \$386,000, or 4.1% and depreciation and amortization related to service contracts decreased by \$1.6 million, or 27.6%, for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2003. Depreciation related to the Company's property and equipment decreased by \$644,000, or 44.6%, for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2003.

*Interest Expense*

	2003	Change	2004	Change	2005
	<b>(In thousands)</b>				
Interest	\$ 7,515	(69.6)%	\$ 2,283	(49.7)%	\$ 1,148
As a percent of revenue	8.2%		3.8%		2.9%

The Company pays interest on outstanding borrowings under the senior credit facility, subordinated debt and the on balance sheet securitizations. Interest expense decreased by \$1.1 million, or 49.7%, for the year ended December 31, 2005, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2004. This decrease resulted primarily from the Company's decreased level of borrowings. At December 31, 2005, the Company had notes payable of \$161,000 and subordinated debt of \$2.6 million, compared to \$4.6 million in debt at December 31, 2004.

Interest expense decreased by \$5.2 million, or 69.6%, for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2003. This decrease resulted primarily from the Company's decreased level of

**Table of Contents**

borrowings. At December 31, 2004, the Company had notes payable of \$34,000 and \$4.6 million of subordinated debt, compared to \$62.1 million in debt at December 31, 2003.

*Benefit for Income Taxes*

	2003	Change	2004	Change	2005
	(In thousands)				
Benefit for income taxes	\$ (10,460)	95.5%	\$ (20,449)	(94.9)%	\$ (1,053)
As a percent of revenue	11.4%		33.9%		2.7%

The process for determining the provision for income taxes, deferred tax assets and liabilities and any necessary valuation allowance recorded against net deferred tax assets, involves summarizing temporary differences resulting from the different treatment of items, for example, leases, for tax and accounting purposes. These differences result in deferred tax assets and liabilities, which are recorded on the balance sheet. Management must then assess the likelihood that deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income or tax carry-back availability and to the extent management believes recovery is more likely than not, no valuation allowance is deemed necessary. Benefit for income taxes decreased by \$19.4 million, or 94.9%, for the year ended December 31, 2005, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2004. This decrease resulted primarily from a corresponding decrease in the Company's loss before benefit for income taxes and the prior year \$7.9 million reduction in tax liabilities.

Benefit for income taxes increased by \$10.0 million, or 95.5%, for the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2003. This increase resulted primarily from a \$7.9 million reduction in the Company's estimate of certain tax liabilities that had been included in income taxes payable on the balance sheet.

The Company is currently undergoing an audit of its 1997 through 2002 tax years. As part of the audit, the Internal Revenue Service Agent has proposed several adjustments to the annual tax returns, which if final, would require the Company to pay the IRS an amount between \$8.0 and \$10.0 million. Such payments would be offset by an adjustment to the deferred tax asset such that the amount would likely be recoverable in future periods. The Company has several defenses to these adjustments and has filed a formal response under the appeals process challenging these adjustments. The Company can give no assurance that it will be successful in any appeal procedure.

*Other Operating Data*

Dealer fundings were \$6.4 million during the year ended December 31, 2005, an increase of \$5.7 million, or 853.4%, compared to the year ended December 31, 2004. This increase is a result of the Company resuming new contract originations in July 2004 and its continuing efforts to increase originations during 2005 through business development efforts that include increasing the size of the vendor base and sourcing a larger number of applications from those vendors. The Company funded these new contracts using cash provided by operating activities. Receivables due in installments, estimated residual values, loans receivable, investment in service contracts, and investment in rental equipment also decreased from \$85.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 to \$45.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, representing a decrease of \$39.4 million, or 46.4%. Unearned income decreased by \$2.7 million, or 42.1%, from \$6.3 million at December 31, 2004 to \$3.7 million at December 31, 2005. This decrease was primarily due to continued amortization of existing leases partially offset by the unearned income on the \$6.4 million of new lease originations in 2005. Net cash provided by operating activities decreased by \$23.6 million, or 40.1%, to \$35.2 million during the year ended December 31, 2005, from the year ended December 31, 2004, because of the decrease in the size of the Company's overall portfolio.

Dealer fundings were \$668,000 during the year ended December 31, 2004, a decrease of \$932,000, or 58.3%, compared to the year ended December 31, 2003. During the first nine months of 2003, the Company was able to fund a very limited number of contracts using its own free cash flow. The amount and timing of the originations was restricted by the Company's then existing banking agreements. Dealer fundings then ceased completely until the Company resumed new contract originations in July 2004 in light of its new financing



**Table of Contents**

arrangements in June and September 2004. Receivables due in installments, estimated residual values, loans receivable, investment in service contracts, and investment in rental equipment also decreased from \$218.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$85.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, representing a decrease of \$133.3 million, or 61.1%. Unearned income decreased by \$17.4 million, or 73.4%, from \$23.7 million at December 31, 2003 to \$6.3 million at December 31, 2004. This decrease was primarily due to continued amortization and a lack of new lease originations in 2004. Net cash provided by operating activities decreased by \$39.3 million, or 40.1%, to \$58.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2004, from the year ended December 31, 2003, because of the decrease in the size of the Company's overall portfolio.

**Selected Quarterly Data**

The following is a summary of the unaudited quarterly results of operations of the Company for 2004 and 2005. This quarterly information is unaudited, prepared on the same basis as the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and, in the opinion of our management, reflects all necessary adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring accruals, necessary for a fair presentation of the information for the periods presented. The quarterly operating results are not necessarily indicative of future results of operations, and you should read them in conjunction with the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes thereto included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	2004				2005			
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
<b>Revenues:</b>								
Income on leases and loans	\$ 4,167	\$ 3,235	\$ 2,560	\$ 2,008	\$ 1,508	\$ 1,103	\$ 832	\$ 698
Income on service contracts, rentals and fees	13,841	12,547	11,665	10,344	9,353	9,067	8,537	8,186
Total revenues	18,008	15,782	14,225	12,352	10,861	10,170	9,369	8,884
<b>Expenses:</b>								
Selling, general and administrative	7,280	6,845	7,235	5,461	6,348	5,889	4,461	4,185
Provision for credit losses	13,408	14,181	10,295	10,034	5,810	1,484	1,576	1,598
Depreciation and amortization	4,294	3,936	3,161	2,619	2,484	2,465	2,465	2,083
Interest	846	611	559	267	205	578	203	162
Total expenses	25,828	25,573	21,250	18,381	14,847	10,416	8,705	8,028
Income (loss) before provision (benefit) for income taxes	(7,820)	(9,791)	(7,025)	(6,029)	(3,986)	(246)	664	856
Provision (benefit) for income taxes(1)	(3,128)	(3,917)	(2,810)	(10,594)	(1,322)	(20)	310	(21)
Net income (loss)	\$ (4,692)	\$ (5,874)	\$ (4,215)	\$ 4,565	\$ (2,664)	\$ (226)	\$ 354	\$ 877

Net income (loss) per common share basic	(0.36)	(0.45)	(0.32)	0.35	(0.20)	(0.02)	0.03	0.06
Net income (loss) per common share diluted	(0.36)	(0.45)	(0.32)	0.33	(0.20)	(0.02)	0.03	0.06
Dividends declared per common share					0.10		0.10	0.30
Dividends paid per common share					0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05

- (1) In the fourth quarter of 2004, the benefit for income taxes includes a benefit of \$7.9 million that resulted from a reduction in the Company's estimate of certain tax liabilities that had been included in income taxes payable on the Company's balance sheet.

**Table of Contents****Exposure to Credit Losses**

The following table sets forth certain information as of December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005 with respect to delinquent leases, service contracts and loans. The percentages in the table below represent the aggregate on such date of the actual amounts not paid on each invoice by the number of days past due, rather than the entire balance of a delinquent receivable, over the cumulative amount billed at such date from the date of origination on all leases, service contracts, and loans in the Company's portfolio. For example, if a receivable is 90 days past due, the portion of the receivable that is over 30 days past due will be placed in the 31-60 days past due category, the portion of the receivable which is over 60 days past due will be placed in the 61-90 days past due category and the portion of the receivable which is over 90 days past due will be placed in the over 90 days past due category. The Company historically used this methodology of calculating its delinquencies because of its experience that lessees who miss a payment do not necessarily default on the entire lease. Accordingly, the Company includes only the amount past due rather than the entire lease receivable in each category.

	As of December 31,					
	2003		2004		2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)					
Cumulative amounts billed	\$ 478,791		\$ 303,695		\$ 220,796	
31-60 days past due	\$ 5,446	1.1%	\$ 1,858	0.6%	\$ 991	0.4%
61-90 days past due	3,995	0.8%	1,818	0.6%	997	0.5%
Over 90 days past due	85,883	17.9%	29,673	9.8%	16,101	7.3%
Total past due	\$ 95,324	19.8%	\$ 33,349	11.0%	\$ 18,089	8.2%

Alternatively, the amounts in the table below represent the balance of delinquent receivables on an exposure basis for all leases, rental contracts, and service contracts in the Company's portfolio as of December 31, 2005. An exposure basis aging classifies the entire receivable based on the invoice that is the most delinquent. For example, in the case of a rental or service contract, if a receivable is 90 days past due, all amounts billed and unpaid are placed in the over 90 days past due category. In the case of lease receivables, where the minimum contractual obligation of the lessee is booked as a receivable at the inception of the lease, if a receivable is 90 days past due, the entire receivable, including all amounts billed and unpaid as well as the minimum contractual obligation yet to be billed, will be placed in the over 90 days past due category.

	December 31, 2004		December 31, 2005	
	(Dollars in thousands)			
Current	\$ 19,945	33.4%	\$ 8,486	29.1%
31-60 days past due	1,079	1.8%	637	2.2%
61-90 days past due	987	1.7%	601	2.1%
Over 90 days past due	37,668	63.1%	19,415	66.6%
Gross receivables due in installments	\$ 59,679	100.0%	\$ 29,139	100.0%

**Liquidity and Capital Resources***General*

The Company's lease and finance business is capital-intensive and requires access to substantial short-term and long-term credit to fund new lease originations. Since inception, the Company has funded its operations primarily through borrowings under its credit facilities, its on-balance sheet securitizations, the issuance of subordinated debt and an initial public offering completed in February 1999. The Company will continue to require significant additional capital to maintain and expand its volume of leases and contracts funded, as well as to fund any future acquisitions of leasing companies or portfolios. In the near term, the Company expects to finance the business utilizing its cash on hand and its line of credit. Additionally, the Company's uses of cash include the payment of interest expenses, repayment of borrowings under its credit

**Table of Contents**

facilities and securitizations, payment of selling, general and administrative expenses, income taxes and capital expenditures.

For the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2004, the Company's primary source of liquidity was cash provided by operating activities due to the unavailability of a credit facility between October 2002 and June 2004. See

Overview above. The Company generated cash flow from operations of \$35.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, \$58.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, and \$98.1 million for year ended December 31, 2003.

The Company used net cash in investing activities of \$7.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, \$912,000 for the year ended December 31, 2004 and \$2.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. Investing activities primarily relate to the origination of new leases and contracts as well as capital expenditures.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$5.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, \$54.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, and \$94.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. Financing activities include net borrowings and repayments on our various financing sources. The Company repaid \$70.3 million of debt in the year ended December 31, 2004 and \$110.1 million of debt in the year ended December 31, 2003. In addition, we repaid debt of \$1.9 million and paid dividends of \$2.7 million in the year ended December 31, 2005.

The Company believes that cash flows from its existing portfolio and available borrowings on the existing credit facility will be sufficient to support the Company's operations and lease origination activity for the foreseeable future.

*Borrowings*

The Company utilizes its credit facilities to fund the origination and acquisition of leases that satisfy the eligibility requirements established pursuant to each facility.

Borrowings outstanding under the Company's revolving credit facilities and long-term debt consist of the following:

	As of December 31, 2004		As of December 31, 2005		Unused	Maximum
	Amounts Outstanding	Interest Rate	Amounts Outstanding	Interest Rate	Capacity	Facility Amount
	(Dollars in thousands)					
Revolving credit facility(1)	\$ 34	6.75%	\$ 161	8.75%	\$ 29,839	\$ 30,000
Subordinated notes(2)	5,152	7.75%-13.0%	2,602	8.00%-12.5%		
	\$ 5,186		\$ 2,763		\$ 29,839	\$ 30,000

(1) The unused capacity is subject to lease eligibility and the borrowing base formula

(2) Subordinated notes are generally one-time fundings, without any ability for the Company to draw down additional amounts.

On September 29, 2004, the Company entered into a three-year senior secured revolving line of credit with CIT Commercial Services, a unit of CIT Group (CIT), whereby it may borrow a maximum of \$30.0 million based upon qualified lease receivables. Outstanding borrowings with respect to the revolving line of credit bear interest based at Prime plus 1.5% for Prime Rate Loans, or the prevailing rate per annum as offered in the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 4.0% for LIBOR Loans. If the LIBOR Loans are not renewed upon their maturity they automatically convert into Prime Rate Loans. The prime rates at December 31, 2004 and 2005 were 5.25% and 7.25%,

respectively. The 90-day LIBOR rates at December 31, 2004 and 2005 were 2.56% and 4.53%, respectively. As of December 31, 2005, based on lease eligibility and the borrowing base formula, the Company had \$7.0 million in excess availability on the CIT line of credit.

**Table of Contents**

Prior to obtaining the \$30.0 million secured line of credit discussed above, the Company had borrowings outstanding under a \$192.0 million senior credit facility with a group of financial institutions, which had failed to renew as of September 30, 2002. While cash flows from its portfolio and other fees had been sufficient to repay amounts borrowed under the senior credit facility, securitizations and subordinated debt, in October 2002, the Company was forced to suspend virtually all new contract originations until a new source of liquidity was obtained or until such time as the senior credit facility was paid in full. At December 31, 2002, the Company was in default of certain of its debt covenants in its senior credit facility. These covenants required that the Company maintain certain ratios of fixed charges to consolidated earnings, a minimum consolidated tangible net worth, and compliance with a borrowing base. On April 14, 2003, the Company entered into a long-term agreement with its lenders in which the lenders waived the defaults described above and the Company agreed to repay the outstanding balance of the loan over a term of 22 months beginning in April 2003 at an interest rate of prime plus 2.0%. As of December 31, 2004, the loan under the senior credit facility had been fully repaid.

The Company, through its wholly owned subsidiaries, periodically finances its lease and service contracts, together with unguaranteed residuals, through securitizations using special purpose entities. The assets of such special purpose entities and cash collateral or other accounts created in connection with the financings in which they participate are not available to pay creditors of Leasecomm Corporation, TimePayment Corp, LLC, MicroFinancial Incorporated, or other affiliates. However, the special purpose entities are required to be consolidated in the financial statements of the Company under generally accepted accounting principles. As a result, such assets and the related liability remain on the balance sheet and do not receive gain on sale treatment. The amounts borrowed under the securitization were fully repaid as of December 31, 2004.

*Financial Covenants*

The Company's secured revolving line of credit with CIT has financial covenants that it must comply with in order to obtain funding through the facility and to avoid an event of default. Some of the critical financial covenants under the CIT line of credit as of December 31, 2004 and 2005 include:

Consolidated tangible capital funds not less than \$42.5 million

Allowance for credit losses of at least 9.0% of gross lease installments

Maximum leverage ratio of not more than 3:1

As of December 31, 2004 and 2005, management believes that the Company was in compliance with all covenants in its borrowing relationships.

**Contractual Obligations, Commercial Commitments and Contingencies**

The Company has entered into various agreements, such as long term debt agreements, capital lease agreements and operating lease agreements that require future payments be made. Long-term debt agreements include all debt outstanding under the securitization, subordinated notes, demand notes and other notes payable.

**Table of Contents**

At December 31, 2005, the repayment schedules for outstanding borrowings on the revolving credit facility, long-term debt, minimum lease payments under non-cancelable operating leases and future minimum lease payments under capital leases were as follows (in thousands):

For the Year Ended December 31,	Revolving Credit Facility(1)	Long-Term Debt	Operating Leases	Capital Leases	Total
2006	\$ 161	\$ 2,602	\$ 237	\$	\$ 3,000
2007			237		237
2008			237		237
2009			237		237
2010			237		237
Thereafter					
	\$ 161	\$ 2,602	\$ 1,185	\$	\$ 3,948

- (1) The Company's obligation to repay the revolving credit facility in the current year is subject to lease collateral availability and the borrowing base formula. The credit facility expires on September 29, 2007.

***Commitments***

The Company accepts lease applications on daily basis and as a result has a pipeline of applications that have been approved, where a lease has not been originated. The Company's commitment to lend, however, does not become binding until all of the steps in the lease origination process have been completed, including but not limited to the receipt of a complete and accurate lease document and all required supporting information and successful verification with the lessee. Since the Company funds on the same day a lease is successfully verified, at any given time, the Company has no firm outstanding commitments to lend.

***Contingencies***

The Company is currently undergoing an audit of its 1997 through 2003 tax years. As part of the audit, the Internal Revenue Service Agent has proposed several adjustments to the annual tax returns, which if final, would require the Company to pay the IRS an amount between \$8.0 and \$10.0 million. Such payments would be offset by an adjustment to the deferred tax asset such that the amount would likely be recoverable in future periods. The Company has several defenses to these adjustments and has filed a formal response under the appeals process challenging these adjustments. The Company can give no assurance that it will be successful in any appeal procedure.

***Market Risk and Financial Instruments***

The following discussion about the Company's risk management activities includes forward-looking statements that involve risk and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. This analysis presents the hypothetical loss in earnings, cash flows, and fair value of the financial instruments held by the Company at December 31, 2005, that are sensitive to changes in interest rates. In the normal course of operations, the Company also faces risks that are either non-financial or non-quantifiable. Such risks principally include credit risk, and legal risk, and are not represented in the analysis that follows.

The implicit yield to the Company on all of its leases, contracts and loans is on a fixed interest rate basis due to the leases, contracts and loans having scheduled payments that are fixed at the time of origination of the lease. When the Company originates or acquires leases, contracts and loans it bases its pricing in part on the spread it expects to achieve between the implicit yield rate to the Company on each lease and the effective interest cost it will pay when it finances such leases, contracts and loans through its credit facility. Increases in interest rates during the term of each lease, contract or loan could narrow or eliminate the spread, or result in a



**Table of Contents**

negative spread. The Company has adopted a policy designed to protect itself against interest rate volatility during the term of each lease, contract or loan.

Given the relatively short average life of the Company's leases, contracts and loans, the Company's goal is to maintain a blend of fixed and variable interest rate obligations. Currently, given the restrictions imposed by the Company's senior lender on the Company's ability to prepay its fixed rate debt, the Company is limited in its ability to manage the blend of fixed and variable rate interest obligations. As of December 31, 2005, the Company's outstanding fixed-rate indebtedness outstanding under the Company's subordinated debt represented 94.2% of the Company's total outstanding indebtedness of \$2.8 million.

The Company's credit facility bears interest at rates which fluctuate with changes in the prime rate or the 90-day LIBOR. The Company's interest expense on its credit facility and the fair value of its fixed rate debt are sensitive to changes in market interest rates. The effect of a 10% adverse change in market interest rates, sustained for one year, on the Company's interest expense and the fair value of its fixed rate debt would be immaterial.

The Company maintains an investment portfolio in accordance with its Investment Policy Guidelines. The primary objectives of the investment guidelines are to preserve capital, maintain sufficient liquidity to meet our operating needs, and to maximize return. The Company minimizes investment risk by limiting the amount invested in any single issuance and by focusing on conservative investment choices with short terms and high credit quality standards. The Company does not use derivative financial instruments nor does it invest for speculative trading purposes.

**Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

See Note B of the notes to the consolidated financial statements included herein for a discussion of the impact of the adoption of SFAS No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*, effective January 1, 2005.

**Risk Factors**

Set forth below and elsewhere in this report and in other documents we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission are risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results contemplated by the forward-looking statements contained in this report and other periodic statements we make.

*We depend on external financing to fund new leases and contracts, and adequate financing may not be available to us in amounts, together with our cash flow, sufficient both to originate new leases and to service our debt.*

Our lease and finance business is capital-intensive and requires access to substantial short-term and long-term credit to fund new leases, contracts and loans. We will continue to require significant additional capital to maintain and expand our volume of leases, contracts and loans funded, as well as to fund any future acquisitions of leasing companies or portfolios.

In addition, until recently we were required to pay down our existing debt under our former credit facility according to an agreed schedule. As of September 30, 2002, our credit facility failed to renew and consequently, we were forced to suspend substantially all new origination activity in October 2002. At December 31, 2002, we were in default of certain of our debt covenants in our then-existing credit facility. These covenants required that we maintain a certain ratio of fixed charges to consolidated earnings, a minimum consolidated tangible net worth, and compliance with a borrowing base. On April 14, 2003, we entered into a long-term agreement with our former lenders which waived the defaults described above, and in consideration for this waiver, required the outstanding balance of the loan to be repaid over a term of 22 months beginning in April 2003.

In June 2004, we secured a \$10.0 million credit facility, comprised of a one-year \$8.0 million line of credit and a \$2.0 million three-year subordinated note that enabled us to resume microticket contract originations. In conjunction with raising new capital, we formed a wholly owned operating subsidiary, TimePayment

**Table of Contents**

Corp. LLC. On September 29, 2004, we secured a three-year, \$30.0 million, senior secured revolving line of credit from CIT Commercial Services, a unit of CIT Group. This line of credit replaced the previous one year, \$8.0 million line of credit obtained in June 2004 under more favorable terms and conditions, including, but not limited to, pricing at prime plus 1.5% or LIBOR plus 4%. In addition, it retired the remaining outstanding debt with our former lenders.

Our uses of cash include the origination and acquisition of leases, contracts and loans, payment of interest expenses, repayment of borrowings under our credit facilities, subordinated debt and securitizations, payment of selling, general and administrative expenses, income taxes and capital expenditures.

Any default or other interruption of our external funding could have a material negative effect on our ability to fund new leases and contracts, and would have an adverse effect on our financial results.

*The delay in new originations caused by our former credit facility's failure to renew in 2002 has decreased the size of our portfolio and may continue to adversely affect our financial performance.*

As a result of the failure of our old credit facility to renew, in October 2002, we were forced to suspend virtually all new contract originations until we obtained a source of funding or the senior credit facility was paid in full. During the first half of 2003, we were able to fund a very limited number of new contracts using our own free cash flow. The amount and timing of the new originations was restricted by both the amount of available cash, and the terms of our banking agreements. For example, total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2004 were \$60.4 million, a decrease of \$31.2 million, or 34.1%, from the year ended December 31, 2003. The decline in revenue was due to decreases of \$18.9 million, or 61.3%, in income on financing leases and loans and \$6.3 million, or 35.4%, in service fee and other income. In addition, rental revenue decreased \$3.3 million or 9.6% and income on service contracts decreased \$2.7 million, or 31.4%, as compared to such amounts in the previous year's period. The overall decrease in revenue can be attributed to the decrease in the overall size of our portfolio of leases, rentals and service contracts. The shrinking portfolio is a direct result of our decision during the third quarter of 2002 to cease funding new originations as a result of our former lenders not renewing the revolving credit facility on September 30, 2002. Our recently signed credit facilities in June and September 2004 have enabled us to resume contract originations. However, our contract originations may be constrained by the amount of financing available and this may have an adverse affect on our revenues. Even if we have the funding to originate new contracts, the absence of new contract origination from the period beginning in the third quarter of 2002 will have an affect on our portfolio and financial performance for some time, since we will not be collecting any payments from leases, contracts and loans that may have originated during that time had there been financing available. As the average age of the outstanding loans in our loan portfolio increased during that period, a greater portion of payments being made on those loans consisted of principal payments, and a lesser portion consisted of interest, which adversely impacts our revenue. This is reflected in our results for 2005, as our income on financing leases and loans decreased by over 65%, even though our dealer funding increased by 853% over 2004. It may take some time before the new contract and loan originations bring our loan portfolio's average age to the point where it was before we suspended new originations.

In addition, after we ceased funding new originations in 2002, we were required to terminate a number of our front end personnel, such as sales personnel, sales support personnel and credit personnel. As we begin to originate new contracts and loans in light of our new credit facilities, we may face challenges in rebuilding those competencies through new hires.

*We are vulnerable to changes in the demand for the types of systems we lease or price reductions in such systems.*

The majority of our leases are currently for authorization systems for point-of-sale (POS), card-based payments by, for example, debit, credit and charge cards. We also lease a wide variety of other equipment including advertising and display equipment, coffee machines, paging systems, water coolers and restaurant equipment. Reduced demand for financing of these types of equipment, in particular POS authorization systems, could adversely affect our lease volume, which in turn could have a material adverse effect on our

**Table of Contents**

business, financial condition and results of operations. Technological advances may lead to a decrease in the price of these types of systems or equipment and a consequent decline in the need for financing of such equipment. In addition, for POS authorization systems, business and technological changes could change the manner in which POS authorization is obtained. These changes could reduce the need for outside financing sources that would reduce our lease financing opportunities and origination volume in such products.

In the event that demand for financing POS authorization systems or other types of equipment that we lease declines, we will need to expand our efforts to provide lease financing for other products. There can be no assurance, however, that we will be able to do so successfully. Because many dealers specialize in particular products, we may not be able to capitalize on our current dealer relationships in the event we shift our business focus to originating leases of other products. Our failure to successfully enter into new relationships with dealers of other products or to extend existing relationships with such dealers in the event of reduced demand for financing of the systems and equipment we currently lease would have a material adverse effect on us.

*Even if we had adequate financing, our expansion strategy may be affected by our limited sources for new originations and our inexperience with lending for new products.*

Our revenue growth since the third quarter of 2002 has been severely affected by the failure of our former credit facility to renew and a lack of new financing prior to June 2004. Even with our new long-term line of credit, our principal growth strategy of expansion into new products and markets may be adversely affected by (i) our inability to re-establish old sources or cultivate new sources of originations and (ii) our inexperience with products with different characteristics from those we currently offer, including the type of obligor and the amount financed.

*New Sources.* A majority of our leases and contracts were historically originated through a network of dealers, which deal exclusively in POS authorization systems. We are currently unable to capitalize on these relationships in originating leases for products other than POS authorization systems. In addition, we have lost contacts with some of our old sources during the time we had suspended new originations. Some of these dealers have found other financing sources during that time. We may face difficulties in re-establishing our relationships with such sources. Our failure to develop additional relationships with dealers of products, which we lease or may seek to lease would hinder our growth strategy.

*New Products.* Our existing portfolio primarily consists of leases to owner-operated or other small commercial enterprises with little business history and limited or challenged personal credit history at the owner level. These leases are characterized by small average monthly payments for equipment with limited residual value at the end of the lease term. Our ability to successfully underwrite new products with different characteristics is highly dependent on our ability (i) to successfully analyze the credit risk associated with the user of such new products so as to appropriately apply our risk-adjusted pricing to such products and (ii) to utilize our proprietary software to efficiently service and collect on our portfolio. We can give no assurance that we will be able to successfully manage these credit risk issues, which could have a material adverse effect on us.

*We experience a significant rate of default under our leases, and a higher than expected default rate would have an adverse effect on our cash flow and earnings.*

The credit characteristics of our lessee base correspond to a high incidence of delinquencies, which in turn may lead to significant levels of defaults. Our receivables which were contractually past due by 31 days or more at December 31, 2004 and 2005 represented \$33.3 million and \$18.1 million, respectively, which represented 11.0% and 8.2%, respectively, of the cumulative amount billed at that date from the date of origination on all leases, service contracts and loans in our portfolio. (Receivables which were over 90 days past due represented 9.8% and 7.3%, respectively, of such cumulative amounts at that date.) The credit profile of our lessees heightens the importance to us of both pricing our leases, loans and contracts for risk assumed, as well as maintaining adequate reserves for losses. Significant defaults by lessees in excess of those we anticipate in setting our prices and reserve levels may adversely affect our cash flow and earnings. Reduced cash flow and earnings could limit our ability to repay debt, obtain financing and effect securitizations, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.



**Table of Contents**

In addition to our usual practice of originating leases through our dealer relationships, from time to time we have purchased lease portfolios from dealers. While certain of these leases at inception would not have met our underwriting standards, we often will purchase the leases once the lessee demonstrates a payment history. We will only acquire these smaller lease portfolios in situations where the company selling the portfolio will continue to act as a dealer following the acquisition. We have also completed the acquisition of six large POS authorization system lease and rental portfolios: two in 1996, one in 1998, one in 1999, one in 2000 and the acquisition of the rental and lease portfolio of Resource Leasing in 2001.

*We may face adverse consequences of litigation, including consequences of using litigation as part of our collection policy.*

Our use of litigation as a means of collection of unpaid receivables exposes us to counterclaims on our suits for collection, to class action lawsuits and to negative publicity surrounding our leasing and collection policies. We have been a defendant in attempted class action suits as well as counterclaims filed by individual obligors in attempts to dispute the enforceability of the lease, contract or loan. Any of this type of litigation may be time consuming and expensive to defend, even if not meritorious, may result in the diversion of management time and attention, and may subject us to significant liability for damages or result in invalidation of our proprietary rights. We believe our collection policies and use of litigation comply fully with all applicable laws. Because of our persistent enforcement of our leases, contracts and loans through the use of litigation, we may have created ill will toward us on the part of certain lessees and other obligors who were defendants in such lawsuits. Our litigation strategy has generated adverse local publicity in certain circumstances. Adverse publicity at a national level could negatively impact public perception of our business and may materially impact the price of our common stock. Any of these factors could adversely affect our business operations and financial results and condition.

In addition to legal proceedings that may arise out of our business activities, we may face other litigation. In October 2003, we were served with a purported class action complaint, which was filed in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts alleging violations of federal securities law. The purported class would consist of all persons who purchased our securities between February 5, 1999 and October 30, 2002. The complaint asserts that during this period we made a series of materially false or misleading statements about our business, prospects and operations, including with respect to certain lease provisions, our course of dealings with our vendor/dealers, and our reserves for credit losses. In April 2004, an amended class action complaint was filed which added additional defendants and expanded upon the prior allegations with respect to us. We filed a motion to dismiss the amended complaint, which is awaiting decision by the court. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, we cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect on us.

*Increased interest rates may make our leases, contracts or loans less profitable.*

Since we generally fund our leases, contracts and loans through our credit facilities or from working capital, our operating margins could be adversely affected by an increase in interest rates. The implicit yield to us on all of our leases, contracts and loans is fixed due to the leases, contracts and loans having scheduled payments that are fixed at the time of origination. When we have in the past originated or acquired leases, contracts and loans, we based our pricing in part on the spread we expect to achieve between the implicit yield rate to us on each lease, contract and loan and the effective interest cost we will pay when we finance such leases, contracts and loans. Increases in interest rates during the term of each lease, contract and loan could narrow or eliminate the spread, or result in a negative spread, to the extent such lease, contract or loan was financed with floating-rate funding. We may undertake to hedge against the risk of interest rate increases, based on the size and interest rate profile of our portfolio. Such hedging activities, however, would limit our ability to participate in the benefits of lower interest rates with respect to the hedged portfolio. In addition, our hedging activities may not protect us from interest rate-related risks in all interest rate environments. Adverse developments resulting from changes in interest rates or hedging transactions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

**Table of Contents**

*An economic downturn may cause an increase in defaults under our leases and lower demand for the commercial equipment we lease.*

Further economic downturn could result in a decline in the demand for some of the types of equipment or services, which we finance, which could lead to additional defaults and to a decline in future originations. An economic downturn may slow the development and continued operation of small commercial businesses, which are the primary market for POS authorization systems and the other commercial equipment leased by us. Such a downturn could also adversely affect our ability to obtain capital to fund lease, contract and loan originations or acquisitions or to complete securitizations. In addition, such a downturn could result in an increase in delinquencies and defaults by our lessees and other obligors beyond the levels forecasted by us, which could have an adverse effect on our cash flow and earnings, as well as on our ability to securitize leases. These results could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Additionally, as of both December 31, 2004 and 2005, leases in California, Florida, Texas, Massachusetts and New York accounted for approximately 40% of our portfolio. Economic conditions in these states may affect the level of collections from, as well as delinquencies and defaults by, these obligors.

*We face intense competition, which could cause us to lower our lease rates, hurt our origination volume and strategic position and adversely affect our financial results.*

The microticket leasing and financing industry is highly competitive. We compete for customers with a number of national, regional and local banks and finance companies. Our competitors also include equipment manufacturers that lease or finance the sale of their own products. While the market for microticket financing has traditionally been fragmented, we could also be faced with competition from small- or large-ticket leasing companies that could use their expertise in those markets to enter and compete in the microticket financing market. Our competitors include larger, more established companies, some of which may possess substantially greater financial, marketing and operational resources than we, including lower cost of funds and access to capital markets and to other funding sources, which may be unavailable to us. If a competitor were to lower lease rates, we could be forced to follow suit or be unable to regain origination volume, either of which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, competitors may seek to replicate the automated processes used by us to monitor dealer performance, evaluate lessee credit information, appropriately apply risk-adjusted pricing, and efficiently service a nationwide portfolio. The development of computer software similar to that developed by us by or for our competitors may jeopardize our strategic position and allow such companies to operate more efficiently than we do.

*Government regulation could restrict our business.*

Our leasing business is not currently subject to extensive federal or state regulation. While we are not aware of any proposed legislation, the enactment of, or a change in the interpretation of, certain federal or state laws affecting our ability to price, originate or collect on receivables (such as the application of usury laws to our leases and contracts) could negatively affect the collection of income on our leases, contracts and loans, as well as the collection of fee income. Any such legislation or change in interpretation, particularly in Massachusetts, whose law governs the majority of our leases, contracts and loans, could have a material adverse effect on our ability to originate leases, contracts and loans at current levels of profitability, which in turn could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 requires companies such as us that are not accelerated filers to comply with more stringent internal control system and monitoring requirements beginning in 2007. Compliance with this new requirement may place an expensive burden and significant time constraint on these companies with limited resources.

**Table of Contents**

*We may face risks in acquiring other portfolios and companies, including risks relating to how we finance any such acquisition or how we are able to assimilate any portfolios or operations we acquire.*

A portion of our growth strategy depends on the consummation of acquisitions of leasing companies or portfolios. Our inability to identify suitable acquisition candidates or portfolios, or to complete acquisitions on favorable terms, could limit our ability to grow our business. Any major acquisition would require a significant portion of our resources. The timing, size and success, if at all, of our acquisition efforts and any associated capital commitments cannot be readily predicted. We may finance future acquisitions by using shares of our common stock, cash or a combination of the two. Any acquisition we make using common stock would result in dilution to existing stockholders. If the common stock does not maintain a sufficient market value, or if potential acquisition candidates are otherwise unwilling to accept common stock as part or all of the consideration for the sale of their businesses, we may be required to utilize more of our cash resources, if available, or to incur additional indebtedness in order to initiate and complete acquisitions. Additional debt, as well as the potential amortization expense related to goodwill and other intangible assets incurred as a result of any such acquisition, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. In addition, certain of our credit facilities and subordinated debt agreements contain covenants that do not permit us to merge or consolidate into or with any other person or entity, issue any shares of our capital stock if, after giving effect to such issuance, certain shareholders cease to own or control specified percentages of our voting capital stock, create or acquire any subsidiaries other than certain permitted special purpose subsidiaries, or implement certain changes to our board of directors. These provisions could prevent us from making an acquisition using shares of our common stock as consideration.

We also may experience difficulties in the assimilation of the operations, services, products and personnel of acquired companies, an inability to sustain or improve the historical revenue levels of acquired companies, the diversion of management's attention from ongoing business operations, and the potential loss of key employees of such acquired companies. Any of the foregoing could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

*If we were to lose key personnel, our operating results may suffer or it may cause a default under our debt facilities.*

Our success depends to a large extent upon the abilities and continued efforts of Richard Latour, President and Chief Executive Officer and James R. Jackson, Jr., Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and our other senior management. We have entered into employment agreements with Mr. Latour and Mr. Jackson, as well as other members of our senior management. The loss of the services of one or more of the key members of our senior management before we are able to attract and retain qualified replacement personnel could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. In addition, under our credit facilities, an event of default would arise if Mr. Latour or Mr. Jackson were to leave their positions as our Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer, respectively, unless a suitable replacement were appointed within 60 days. Our failure to comply with these provisions could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

*Certain provisions of our articles and bylaws may have the effect of discouraging a change in control or acquisition of the company.*

Our restated articles of organization and restated bylaws contain certain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control or unsolicited acquisition proposals that a stockholder might consider favorable, including (i) provisions authorizing the issuance of blank check preferred stock, (ii) providing for a Board of Directors with staggered terms, (iii) requiring super-majority or class voting to effect certain amendments to the articles and bylaws and to approve certain business combinations, (iv) limiting the persons who may call special stockholders' meetings and (v) establishing advance notice requirements for nominations for election to the Board of Directors or for proposing matters that can be acted upon at stockholders' meetings. In addition, certain provisions of Massachusetts law to which we are subject may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control or an unsolicited acquisition proposal.

**Table of Contents**

*Our stock price may be volatile, which could limit our access to the equity markets and could cause you to incur losses on your investment.*

Since 1999, our common stock has been publicly traded. Our stock has closed at prices ranging from a high of \$16.90 in June 2001 to a low of \$0.37 in April 2003. If our revenues do not grow or grow more slowly than we anticipate, or if operating expenditures exceed our expectations or cannot be adjusted accordingly, the market price of our common stock could be materially and adversely affected. In addition, the market price of our common stock has been in the past and could in the future be materially and adversely affected for reasons unrelated to our specific business or results of operations. General market price declines or volatility in the future could adversely affect the price of our common stock. In addition, short-term trading strategies of certain investors can also have a significant effect on the price of specific securities. In addition, the trading price of the common stock may be influenced by a number of factors, including the liquidity of the market for the common stock, investor perceptions of us and the equipment financing industry in general, variations in our quarterly operating results, interest rate fluctuations and general economic and other conditions. Moreover, the stock market recently has experienced significant price and value fluctuations, which have not necessarily been related to corporate operating performance. The volatility of the stock market could adversely affect the market price of the common stock and our ability to raise funds in the public markets.

*There is no assurance that we will continue to pay dividends on our common stock in the future.*

During the fourth quarter of 2002, our Board of Directors suspended the future payment of dividends on our common stock to comply with our banking agreements at the time. We paid no dividends in the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2004, respectively. Subsequent to the end of fiscal year 2004, our Board of Directors announced a resumption of dividend payments with a cash dividend of \$0.05 per share payable to shareholders of record on February 9, 2005. Additionally, our Board of Directors announced a dividend of \$0.05 per share payable to shareholders of record on each of April 29, 2005, July 27, 2005, October 27, 2005 and December 28, 2005, and a special dividend of \$0.25 per share payable to shareholders of record on January 31, 2006. Future dividend payments are subject to ongoing quarterly review and evaluation by our Board of Directors. The decision as to the amount and timing of future dividends we may pay, if any, will be made at the discretion of our Board of Directors in light of our financial condition, capital requirements, earnings and prospects and any restrictions under our credit facilities or subordinated debt agreements, as well as other factors the Board of Directors may deem relevant. We can give no assurance as to the amount and timing of the payment of future dividends.

**Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

See Item 7, Market Risk and Financial Instruments.

**Item 8. Financial Statements and Supplementary Data**

MicroFinancial Incorporated's Financial Statements, together with the related reports of the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firms, appear at pages F-1 through F-26 of this Form 10-K.

**Item 9. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure**

Not applicable.

**Item 9A. Controls and Procedures**

*Disclosure controls and procedures*

As of the end of the period covered by this report, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management, including the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to the Exchange Act Rule 13a-15. Based upon the evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's

**Table of Contents**

disclosure controls and procedures are effective. Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in Company reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.

*Internal controls*

During the fourth quarter of our fiscal year ended December 31, 2005, no changes were made in the Company's internal control over financial reporting that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

**Item 9B. Other Information**

Not applicable.

**PART III**

**Item 10. Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant**

The sections, Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance, Governance of the Corporation and Proposal 1 Election of Directors, included in the Company's proxy statement for its 2006 Special Meeting in Lieu of Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or before April 30, 2006, are hereby incorporated by reference.

**Item 11. Executive Compensation**

The sections, Compensation of Executive Officers and Governance of the Corporation included in the Company's proxy statement for its 2005 Special Meeting in Lieu of Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or before April 30, 2006, are hereby incorporated by reference.

**Item 12. Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters**

The section Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management, included in the Company's proxy statement for its 2006 Special Meeting in Lieu of Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or before April 30, 2006, is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Item 13. Certain Relationships and Related Transactions**

The section Governance of the Corporation included in the Company's proxy statement for its 2006 Special Meeting in Lieu of Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or before April 30, 2006, is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Item 14. Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

The section Proposal 2 Ratification of the Selection of MicroFinancial's Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, included in the Company's proxy statement for its 2006 Special Meeting in Lieu of Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or before April 30, 2006, is hereby incorporated by reference.

**Table of Contents****PART IV****Item 15. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules**

- (a) (1) Financial Statements MicroFinancial Incorporated's Financial Statements, together with the related reports of the Independent Registered Public Accounting Firms, appear at pages F-1 through F-26 of this Form 10-K
- (2) None
- (3) Exhibits Index

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.1	Restated Articles of Organization, as amended. Incorporated by reference to the Exhibit with the same exhibit number in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 1998.
3.2	Bylaws. Incorporated by reference to the Exhibit with the same exhibit number in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 1998.
10.1	Warrant Purchase Agreement dated April 14, 2003 among the Company, Fleet National Bank, as agent, and the other Lenders named therein. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 15, 2003.
10.2	Form of Warrants to purchase Common Stock of the Company issued April 14, 2003, together with schedule of warrant holders. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 15, 2003.
10.3	Co-Sale Agreement dated April 14, 2003 among the Company, Peter R. Bleyleben, Torrence C. Harder, Brian E. Boyle, Richard F. Latour, Alan J. Zakon, and James R. Jackson, Jr., and the Lenders named therein. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 15, 2003.
10.4	Registration Rights Agreement dated April 14, 2003 among the Company and the Lenders named therein. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 15, 2003.
10.5.1	Commercial Lease, dated November 3, 1998, between Cummings Properties Management, Inc. and MicroFinancial Incorporated. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.25 in the Registrant's Amendment No. 2 to Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 11, 1999.
10.5.2	Amendment to Lease #1, dated November 3, 1998, between Cummings Properties Management, Inc. and MicroFinancial Incorporated. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.26 in the Registrant's Amendment No. 2 to Registration Statement on Form S-1

Edgar Filing: MICROFINANCIAL INC - Form 10-K

(Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 11, 1999.

- 10.5.3 Lease Extension for the facility at 10-M Commerce Way, Woburn, MA dated September 16, 2003 among MicroFinancial Incorporated and Cummings Properties, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 14, 2003.
- 10.5.4 Lease Extension #2 for the facility at 10-M Commerce Way, Woburn, MA dated July 15, 2005 among MicroFinancial Incorporated and Cummings Properties, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 12, 2005.
- 10.6\* 1987 Stock Option Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 1998.
- 10.7\* Forms of Grant under 1987 Stock Option Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 in the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 9, 1998.

**Table of Contents**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.8*	1998 Equity Incentive Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 in the Registrant's Amendment No. 2 to Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration Statement No. 333-56639) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 11, 1999.
10.9*	Forms of Restricted Stock Agreement grant under 1998 Equity Incentive Plan. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.27 in the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 30, 2004.
10.10*	Second Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between the Company and Peter R. Bleyleben dated July 15, 2005. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 12, 2005.
10.11*	Employment Agreement between the Company and Richard F. Latour dated June 12, 1998 and amended January 30, 2003. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.14 in the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 15, 2003.
10.12*	Employment Agreement between the Company and James R. Jackson, Jr. dated May 4, 2005. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 12, 2005.
10.13*	Employment Agreement between the Company and Stephen Constantino dated May 4, 2005. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 12, 2005.
10.14*	Employment Agreement between the Company and Steven LaCreta dated May 4, 2005. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 in the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 12, 2005.
10.15	Note Purchase Agreement dated as of June 10, 2004, by and between TimePayment Corp. LLC and Ampac Capital Solutions, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.
10.16	Subordinated Promissory Note dated June 10, 2004, to Ampac Capital Solutions, LLC by TimePayment Corp. LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.
10.17	Subordinated Conditional Guaranty dated June 10, 2004, by MicroFinancial Incorporated in favor of Ampac Capital Solutions, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.
10.18	Warrant Certificate to purchase 100,000 shares of Common Stock, dated June 10, 2004 issued to Acorn Capital Group, LLC by MicroFinancial Incorporated. Incorporated by

Edgar Filing: MICROFINANCIAL INC - Form 10-K

reference to Exhibit 10.9 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.

- 10.19 Warrant Certificate to purchase up to 191,685 shares of Common Stock, dated June 10, 2004 issued to Ampac Capital Solutions, LLC by MicroFinancial Incorporated. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.
- 10.20 Warrant Certificate to purchase up to 110,657 shares of Common Stock, dated June 10, 2004 issued to Ampac Capital Solutions, LLC by MicroFinancial Incorporated. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.
- 10.21 Registration Rights Agreement dated June 10, 2004 by and among MicroFinancial Incorporated, Acorn Capital Group, LLC and Ampac Capital Solutions, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.12 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on June 15, 2004.
- 10.22 Revolving Credit Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and among Leasecomm Corporation and TimePayment Corp. LLC, as Borrowers, MicroFinancial Incorporated, The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Agent, and the other financial institutions from time to time party thereto, as Lenders. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
- 10.23 \$30,000,000 Revolving Credit Note, dated as of September 29, 2004, issued by Leasecomm Corporation and TimePayment Corp. LLC and payable to the order of The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.

**Table of Contents**

<b>Exhibit Number</b>	<b>Description</b>
10.24	Guaranty, dated as of September 29, 2004, by MicroFinancial Incorporated in favor of The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Agent. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.25	Pledge Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and between MicroFinancial Incorporated and The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Secured Party, on behalf of the Lenders. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.26	Security Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and among Leasecomm Corporation, TimePayment Corp. LLC and The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Agent. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.27	Intellectual Property Security Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and among Leasecomm Corporation, TimePayment Corp. LLC and The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Agent. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.28	Revolving Credit Assignment of Leases, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and among Leasecomm Corporation, TimePayment Corp. LLC and The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Agent. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.29	Warrant Purchase Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and between MicroFinancial Incorporated and The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Investor. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.30	Warrant Certificate, dated as of September 29, 2004, for the purchase of 50,000 shares of common stock, issued by MicroFinancial Incorporated in favor of The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.31	Registration Rights Agreement, dated as of September 29, 2004, by and between MicroFinancial Incorporated and The CIT Group/ Commercial Services, Inc., as Holder. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2004.
10.32.1	Warrant Certificate, dated as of September 29, 2004 for the purchase of 75,000 shares of common stock, issued by MicroFinancial Incorporated in favor of Stonebridge Associates, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.11 of the Registrant's Form 10-Q filed on November 15, 2004.

- 10.32.2 Amendment to Warrant Certificate, dated as of September 29, 2004 for the purchase of 75,000 shares of common stock, issued by MicroFinancial Incorporated in favor of Stonebridge Associates, LLC. Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's Form 8-K filed on December 2, 2004.
- 21.1 Subsidiaries of Registrant.
- 23.1 Consent of Vitale, Caturano & Company, Ltd.
- 23.2 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Filed herewith.

\* Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit pursuant to Item 14(c) of this Report.

(b) See (a) (3) above.

(c) None.

**Table of Contents****SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

MicroFinancial Incorporated  
By: /s/ Richard F. Latour

*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
By: /s/ James R. Jackson Jr.

*Vice President and Chief Financial Officer*

Date: April 12, 2006

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>/s/ Peter R. Bleyleben</u> Peter R. Bleyleben	Chairman of the Board of Directors	April 12, 2006
<u>/s/ Richard F. Latour</u> Richard F. Latour	President, Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer, Clerk, Secretary and Director	April 12, 2006
<u>/s/ James R. Jackson Jr.</u> James R. Jackson Jr.	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	April 12, 2006
<u>/s/ Brian E. Boyle</u> Brian E. Boyle	Director	April 12, 2006
<u>/s/ Torrence C. Harder</u> Torrence C. Harder	Director	April 12, 2006
<u>/s/ Fritz Von Mering</u> Fritz Von Mering	Director	April 12, 2006
<u>/s/ Alan J. Zakon</u> Alan J. Zakon	Director	April 12, 2006

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED  
INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

<u>Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firms</u>	F-2
Financial Statements:	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2004 and 2005</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated Statements of Operations for the Years Ended December 31, 2003, 2004, and 2005</u>	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for the Years Ended December 31, 2003, 2004, and 2005</u>	F-6
<u>Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the Years Ended December 31, 2003, 2004, and 2005</u>	F-7
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements</u>	F-8

F-1

---

**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
MicroFinancial Incorporated:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of MicroFinancial Incorporated (the Company) as of December 31, 2004 and 2005, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company was not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2004 and 2005, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As discussed in Note B, the Company adopted SFAS No. 123(R), Share-Based Payment, effective January 1, 2005.

/s/ Vitale, Caturano & Company, Ltd.

Boston, MA

January 27, 2006

**Table of Contents**

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
MicroFinancial, Incorporated  
Woburn, MA

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows of MicroFinancial Incorporated and subsidiaries (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the results of the Company's operations and its cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2003 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

Boston, MA

March 30, 2004

**Table of Contents****MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED  
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<b>(In thousands, except share and per share data)</b>	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,709	\$ 32,926
Net investment in leases and loans:		
Receivables due in installments	59,679	29,139
Estimated residual value	9,502	3,865
Initial direct costs	453	98
Less:		
Advance lease payments and deposits	(25)	(35)
Unearned income	(6,313)	(3,658)
Allowance for credit losses	(14,963)	(8,714)
Net investment in leases and loans	48,333	20,695
Investment in service contracts, net	4,777	1,626
Investment in rental contracts, net	1,785	3,025
Property and equipment, net	754	719
Other assets	2,412	1,315
Deferred income taxes, net	3,500	4,882
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 71,270</b>	<b>\$ 65,188</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
Notes payable	\$ 34	\$ 161
Subordinated notes payable	4,589	2,602
Capitalized lease obligations	41	
Accounts payable	2,474	1,099
Dividends payable		4,114
Other liabilities	2,039	2,094
Income taxes payable		431
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>9,177</b>	<b>10,501</b>
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued at December 31, 2004 and 2005		
Common stock, \$.01 par value; 25,000,000 shares authorized; 13,185,166 and 13,713,899 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively	132	137
Additional paid-in capital	42,826	43,839

Edgar Filing: MICROFINANCIAL INC - Form 10-K

Retained earnings	19,186	10,711
Deferred compensation	(51)	
Total stockholders' equity	62,093	54,687
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 71,270	\$ 65,188

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

F-4

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

**For the Years Ended December 31,**

**2003                      2004                      2005**

**(In thousands, except per-share data)**

<b>Revenues:</b>			
Income on financing leases and loans	\$ 30,904	\$ 11,970	\$ 4,140
Rental income	34,302	31,009	25,359
Income on service contracts	8,593	5,897	3,467
Loss and damage waiver fees	5,525	4,016	2,863
Service fees and other	12,250	7,475	3,455
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>91,574</b>	<b>60,367</b>	<b>39,284</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Selling, general and administrative	33,856	26,821	20,884
Provision for credit losses	59,758	47,918	10,468
Depreciation and amortization	16,592	14,010	9,497
Interest	7,515	2,283	1,148
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>117,721</b>	<b>91,032</b>	<b>41,997</b>
Loss before benefit for income taxes	(26,147)	(30,665)	(2,713)
Benefit for income taxes	(10,460)	(20,449)	(1,053)
Net loss	\$ (15,687)	\$ (10,216)	\$ (1,660)
Net loss per common share basic and diluted	\$ (1.20)	\$ (0.77)	\$ (0.12)
Dividends declared per common share	\$	\$	\$ 0.50

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY**  
**For the Years Ended December 31, 2003, 2004, and 2005**

	Common Stock	Additional		Retained	Treasury Stock		Total	
	Shares	Amount	Paid-In Capital	Earnings	Shares	Amount	Deferred Compensation	Stockholders Equity
(In thousands, except share data)								
Balance at December 31, 2002	13,410,646	\$ 134	\$ 47,723	\$ 45,089	588,700	\$ (6,343)	\$	\$ 86,603
Restricted stock granted			284				(284)	
Restricted stock forfeited			(11)				11	
Amortization of unearned compensation							273	273
Treasury stock issued			(3,828)		(354,470)	3,828		
Warrants issued			77					77
Net loss				(15,687)				(15,687)
Balance at December 31, 2003	13,410,646	134	44,245	29,402	234,230	(2,515)		71,266
Restricted stock granted			79				(79)	
Amortization of unearned compensation	2,500						28	28
Treasury stock issued			(68)		(6,250)	68		
Reclassification of treasury stock	(227,980)	(2)	(2,445)		(227,980)	2,447		
Warrants issued			1,015					1,015
Net loss				(10,216)				(10,216)
Balance at December 31, 2004	13,185,166	132	42,826	19,186			(51)	62,093
Affect of adoption of SFAS No. 123(R)			(51)				51	
Option exercises	432,500	4	(4)					
Warrant exercises	322,938	3	776					779
Restricted stock granted	13,912		63					63
Stock-based compensation			842					842
Amortization of unearned	5,000		15					15

compensation								
Purchase and retirement of stock	(245,617)	(2)	(646)					(648)
Common stock dividends					(6,815)			(6,815)
Tax benefit on stock options			18					18
Net loss					(1,660)			(1,660)
Balance at December 31, 2005	13,713,899	\$ 137	\$ 43,839	\$ 10,711		\$	\$	\$ 54,687

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

For the Years Ended December 31,

2003                      2004                      2005

(In thousands)

Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash received from customers	\$ 136,834	\$ 85,000	\$ 55,231
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(39,359)	(26,274)	(20,052)
Cash (paid) received for income taxes	9,451	2,404	102
Interest paid	(8,987)	(2,364)	(542)
Interest received	113	27	503
Net cash provided by operating activities	98,052	58,793	35,242
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment in lease contracts	(2,260)	(714)	(6,364)
Investment in inventory	(225)	(99)	(14)
Investment in direct costs	(137)		(59)
Investment in fixed assets	(221)	(99)	(555)
Repayment of notes receivable	4		
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,839)	(912)	(6,992)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from secured debt		11,419	262
Repayment of secured debt	(110,054)	(69,978)	(135)
Repayment of short-term demand notes payable	(30)	(250)	
Proceeds from issuance of subordinated debt		2,000	
Repayment of subordinated debt		(110)	(1,771)
Decrease in restricted cash	16,140	2,376	
Repayment of capital leases	(230)	(162)	(41)
Purchase and retirement of stock			(648)
Payment of dividends			(2,700)
Net cash used in financing activities	(94,174)	(54,705)	(5,033)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	1,039	3,176	23,217
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	5,494	6,533	9,709
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 6,533	\$ 9,709	\$ 32,926
Reconciliation of net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Net loss	\$ (15,687)	\$ (10,216)	\$ (1,660)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Amortization of unearned income, net of initial direct costs	(30,904)	(11,970)	(4,140)

Edgar Filing: MICROFINANCIAL INC - Form 10-K

Depreciation and amortization	16,592	14,010	9,497
Provision for credit losses	59,758	47,918	10,468
Recovery of equipment cost and residual value	72,202	39,621	20,769
Stock-based compensation expense			1,088
Amortization of unearned compensation	273	28	15
Non-cash interest expense		194	606
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
Increase (decrease) in income taxes payable	6,389	(7,789)	431
Decrease in income taxes receivable	8,652		
Decrease in deferred income taxes	(16,050)	(11,255)	(1,382)
Decrease (increase) in other assets	(1,207)	736	1,053
Decrease in accounts payable	(653)	(712)	(1,375)
Decrease in accrued liabilities	(1,313)	(1,772)	(128)
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 98,052	\$ 58,793	\$ 35,242
Supplemental disclosure of noncash activities:			
Fair market value of restricted stock issued	\$ 273	\$ 79	\$ 63
Fair market value of warrants issued	\$ 77	\$ 1,015	\$
Warrants exercised by cancellation of debt	\$	\$	\$ 779
Reclassification of treasury stock to additional paid-in capital	\$	\$ 2,447	\$

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(Tables in thousands, except share and per share data)**

**A. Nature of Business**

MicroFinancial Incorporated (the Company) which operates primarily through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Leasecomm Corporation and TimePayment Corp, LLC, is a specialized commercial finance company that primarily leases and rents microticket equipment and provides other financing services in amounts generally ranging from \$500 to \$15,000 and an average lease term of 44 months. Leasecomm historically financed contracts with an average amount financed of approximately \$1,900 while the average amount financed by TimePayment is approximately \$6,900. The Company primarily sources its originations through a network of independent sales organizations and other dealer-based origination networks nationwide. The Company funds its operations through cash provided by operating activities, borrowings under its credit facilities, the issuance of subordinated debt and on balance sheet securitizations.

MicroFinancial incurred net losses of \$15.7 million, \$10.2 million and \$1.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. Net losses incurred by the Company during the third and fourth quarters of 2002 caused the Company to be in default of certain debt covenants in its credit facility and securitization agreements. In addition, as of September 30, 2002, the Company's credit facility failed to renew and consequently, the Company was forced to suspend substantially all new origination activity as of October 11, 2002. MicroFinancial has taken certain steps in an effort to improve its financial position. In June 2004, MicroFinancial secured a \$10.0 million credit facility, comprised of a one-year \$8.0 million line of credit and a \$2.0 million three-year subordinated note that enabled the Company to resume microticket contract originations. In conjunction with raising new capital, the Company also formed a new wholly owned operating subsidiary, TimePayment Corp. LLC. On September 29, 2004, MicroFinancial secured a three-year, \$30.0 million, senior secured revolving line of credit from CIT Commercial Services, a unit of CIT Group. This line of credit replaced the previous one year, \$8 million line of credit obtained in June 2004 under more favorable terms and conditions including, but not limited to, pricing at prime plus 1.5% or LIBOR plus 4%. In addition, management used the proceeds from the line of credit to retire the then existing outstanding debt with the former bank group.

Management has also continued to take steps to reduce overhead, including a reduction in headcount from 203 at December 31, 2002 to 136 at December 31, 2003. During the year ended December 31, 2004, the employee headcount was reduced to 103 and declined to 87 at December 31, 2005 in a continued effort to maintain an infrastructure that is aligned with current business conditions.

**B. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies***Basis of Presentation*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. Intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The Company operates in one principal business segment, the leasing and renting of equipment and other financing services in amounts generally ranging from \$500 to \$15,000.

*Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Significant areas requiring the use of management estimates are revenue recognition, the allowance for credit losses, share-based payments and income taxes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

*Cash and Cash Equivalents*

The Company considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with remaining maturities of less than three months to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents consist principally of overnight investments, repurchase agreements, commercial paper and US Government and Government-sponsored Securities.

*Restricted Cash*

As part of its servicing obligation under the securitization agreements, the Company collects cash receipts for financing contracts that have been pledged to special purpose entities. These collections are segregated into separate accounts for the benefit of the entities to which the related contracts were pledged or sold and are remitted to such entities on a weekly basis. These restrictions expired in 2004 shortly after the MFI Finance Corporation I notes were repaid.

*Leases and Revenue Recognition*

The Company's lease contracts are accounted for as financing leases. At origination, the Company records the gross lease receivable, the unguaranteed residual value of the leased equipment, initial direct costs incurred, and the unearned lease income. Unearned lease income is the amount by which the gross lease receivable plus the estimated residual value exceeds the cost of the equipment. Unearned lease income and initial direct costs incurred are amortized over the related lease term using the effective interest method, which results in a level rate of return on the net investment in leases. Unamortized unearned lease income and initial direct costs are written off if, in the opinion of management, the lease agreement is determined to be impaired.

In conjunction with the origination of leases, the Company may retain a residual interest in the underlying equipment upon termination of the lease. The value of such interest is estimated at inception of the lease and evaluated periodically for impairment. Impairment is recognized when cash flows expected to be realized subsequent to the end of the lease are expected to be less than the residual value recorded. Other revenues, such as loss and damage waiver and service fees relating to the leases, contracts, and loans and rental revenues are recognized as they are earned.

*Allowance for Credit Losses*

The Company maintains an allowance for credit losses on its investment in leases, service contracts, rental contracts and loans at an amount that it believes is sufficient to provide adequate protection against losses in its portfolio. Given the nature of the microticket market and the individual size of each transaction, the business does not warrant the creation of a formal credit review committee to review individual transactions. Rather, the Company developed a sophisticated, risk-adjusted pricing model and has automated the credit scoring, approval and collection processes. The Company believes that with the proper risk-adjusted pricing model, it can grant credit to a wide range of applicants provided it has priced appropriately for the associated risk inherent in the transaction. As a result of approving a wide range of credits, the Company experiences a relatively high level of delinquency and write-offs in its portfolio. During periods where the Company is making credit decisions and funding new transactions, the Company periodically reviews the credit scoring and approval process to ensure that the automated system is making appropriate credit decisions. Given the nature of the microticket market and the individual size of each transaction, the business does not warrant evaluating transactions individually for the purpose of developing and determining the adequacy of the allowance for credit losses. Contracts in the portfolio are not re-graded subsequent to the initial extension of credit, nor is the reserve allocated to specific contracts. Rather, since the impaired contracts have common characteristics, the Company maintains a general allowance against the entire portfolio utilizing historical statistics for recovery and timing of recovery as the basis for the amount.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The Company has adopted a consistent, systematic procedure for establishing and maintaining an appropriate reserve for credit losses for the microticket transactions. Management reviews, on a static pool basis, the collection experience on various months' originations. In addition management also reviews, on a static pool basis, the recoveries made on accounts written off. The results of these static pool analyses reflect the Company's actual collection experience given the fact that the Company obtains additional recourse in many instances in the form of personal guaranties from the borrowers, as well as, in some instances, limited recourse from the dealer. In addition, management considers current delinquency statistics, current economic conditions, and other relevant factors. The combination of historical experience and the review of current factors provide the basis for the analysis to determine the adequacy of the reserves. The Company takes charge-offs against its receivables when such receivables are 360 days past due and no contact has been made with the lessee for 12 months. However, collection efforts continue and the Company recognizes recoveries in future periods when cash is received.

*Investment in Service Contracts*

The Company's investments in cancelable service contracts are recorded at cost and amortized over the expected life of the service period, which is seven years. Income on service contracts is recognized monthly as the related services are provided.

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, investment in service contracts consisted of the following:

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Gross investment in service contracts	\$ 9,968	\$ 5,302
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(5,191)	(3,676)
Investment in service contracts, net	\$ 4,777	\$ 1,626

Amortization expense on service contracts totaled \$5,619,000, \$4,067,000 and \$3,151,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. The Company periodically evaluates whether events or circumstances have occurred that may affect the estimated useful life or recoverability of the investment in service contracts.

*Investment in Rental Contracts*

The Company's investments in rental contracts are either recorded at estimated residual value for converted leases and depreciated using the straight-line method over a period of twelve months or at the acquisition cost and depreciated using the straight line method over a period of three years. Rental equipment consists of low-priced commercial equipment, including point-of-sale authorization systems and a wide variety of other equipment which all have similar characteristics.

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, investment in rental contracts consisted of the following:

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Gross investment in rental contracts	\$ 11,061	\$ 11,258
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(9,276)	(8,233)

Investment in rental contracts, net	\$ 1,785	\$ 3,025
-------------------------------------	----------	----------

Depreciation expense on rental contracts totaled \$9,528,000, \$9,142,000 and \$5,936,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. The Company periodically evaluates whether events

F-10

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

or circumstances have occurred that may affect the estimated useful life or recoverability of the investment in rental contracts.

During the third quarter of 2005, the Company sold Transaction Enabling Systems, a limited liability company that was acquired by Leasecomm Corporation in January of 2001. The sale consisted of approximately 1,100 rental contracts each with monthly payments of \$25. The sale allowed the Company to reverse a previously disputed liability of approximately \$776,000, which was recorded as a reduction of selling, general and administrative expenses.

In January 2006, a dealer elected to repurchase \$1,620,000 of rental contracts with a net book value of \$1,303,000. The Company recorded a net gain on the sale of approximately \$200,000 in January 2006.

*Property and Equipment*

Office furniture, equipment and capital leases are recorded at cost and depreciated using the straight-line method over a period of three to five years. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the life of the lease or the asset. Upon retirement or other disposition, the cost and related accumulated depreciation of the assets are removed from the accounts and the resulting gain or loss is reflected in income.

*Fair Value of Financial Instruments*

For financial instruments including cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, net investment in leases and loans, accounts payable, and other liabilities, the Company believes that the carrying amount approximates fair value.

*Debt Issue Costs*

Debt issuance costs incurred in securing credit facility financing are capitalized and subsequently amortized over the term of the credit facility.

*Income Taxes*

Deferred income taxes are determined under the asset/liability method. Differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities are measured using the currently enacted tax rates expected to be in effect when these differences reverse. Deferred tax expense is the result of changes in the liability for deferred taxes. The principal differences between assets and liabilities for financial statement and tax return purposes are the treatment of leased assets, accumulated depreciation and provisions for credit losses. The deferred tax liability is reduced by loss carry-forwards and alternative minimum tax credits available to reduce future income taxes. In addition, Management must assess the likelihood that deferred tax assets will be recovered from future taxable income or tax carry-back availability and determine the need for a valuation allowance.

*Reclassification of Prior Year Balances*

Certain reclassifications have been made to prior years consolidated financial statements to conform to the current year's presentation.

*Net Income (Loss) Per Common Share*

Basic net income (loss) per common share is computed based on the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net income (loss) per common share gives effect to all potentially dilutive common shares outstanding during the period. The computation of diluted net income (loss) per share does not assume the issuance of common shares that have an antidilutive effect on net income

Table of Contents

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

(loss) per common share. All stock options, common stock warrants, and unvested restricted stock were excluded from the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005 because their inclusion would have had an antidilutive effect on net income (loss) per share. At December 31, 2003, 1,675,000 options and 268,199 warrants were excluded from the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share. At December 31, 2004, 1,675,000 options, 663,035 warrants, and 16,250 unvested shares of restricted stock were excluded from the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share because their effect was antidilutive. At December 31, 2005, 1,242,500 options, 335,957 warrants, and 11,250 unvested shares of restricted stock were excluded from the computation of diluted net income (loss) per share because their effect was antidilutive.

	<b>For the Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Net loss	\$ (15,687)	\$ (10,216)	\$ (1,660)
Shares used in computation:			
Weighted-average common shares outstanding used in the computation of net loss per common share	13,043,744	13,182,833	13,567,640
Dilutive effect of common stock options			
Shares used in computation of net loss per common share assuming dilution	13,043,744	13,182,833	13,567,640
Net loss per common share basic and diluted	\$ (1.20)	\$ (0.77)	\$ (0.12)

*Stock-Based Employee Compensation*

All stock options issued to directors and employees have an exercise price not less than the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant. In accordance with accounting for such options utilizing the intrinsic-value method, there is no related compensation expense recorded in the Company's financial statements through December 31, 2004. Prior to 2005, the Company followed the disclosure-only requirements of SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*. SFAS No. 123 requires that compensation under a fair value method be determined and disclosed in a pro forma effect on earnings and earnings per share. Prior to 2005, the Company accounted for stock-based employee compensation plans under the recognition and measurement principles of APB Opinion No. 25, *Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees*, and related Interpretations. The amortization of unearned compensation expense relating to restricted stock awards is reflected in net income (loss). Prior to 2005, no other stock-based employee compensation cost was reflected in net income (loss), as either all options granted under those plans had an exercise price equal to the market value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant or options granted that result in variable compensation costs had an exercise price greater than the fair market value of the underlying common stock on December 31, 2003 and 2004, respectively.

Effective January 1, 2005, the Company adopted the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123(R), *Share-Based Payment*. SFAS 123(R) requires companies to recognize the compensation cost related to share-based payment transactions with employees in the financial statements. The compensation cost is measured based upon the fair value of the instrument issued. Share-based compensation transactions with employees covered within SFAS 123(R) include share options, restricted share plans, performance-based awards, share appreciation rights, and employee share purchase plans. Under the modified prospective method of adoption selected by the Company, compensation cost was recognized during the year



**Table of Contents****MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

ended December 31, 2005 for stock options. The modified prospective application transition method requires the application of this standard to:

All new awards issued after the effective date;

All modifications, repurchases or cancellations of existing awards after the effective date; and

Unvested awards at the effective date.

For unvested awards, the compensation cost related to the remaining requisite service that was not rendered upon the adoption date was determined by the compensation cost calculated for either recognition or pro forma disclosures under SFAS 123. Results for prior years have not been restated. The following table illustrates the effect on net income (loss) and income (loss) per share as if the Company had applied the fair value based method to all outstanding and unvested awards in prior years.

	<b>For the Years Ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
Net loss, as reported	\$ (15,687)	\$ (10,216)
Add: Stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported net loss	273	28
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects	(1,065)	(877)
Pro forma net income (loss)	\$ (16,479)	\$ (11,065)
Net income (loss) per share:		
As reported Basic and Diluted	\$ (1.20)	\$ (0.77)
Pro forma Basic and Diluted	\$ (1.26)	\$ (0.84)

There were no options granted during the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2005. The fair value of option grants is estimated on the date of grant utilizing the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions.

	<b>2003</b>
Risk-free interest rate	3.34%
Expected dividend yield	0.00%
Expected life	7 years
Volatility	76.00%

The weighted-average fair value at the date of grant for options granted during 2003 approximated \$0.62 per option.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**C. Net Investment in Leases**

At December 31, 2005, future minimum payments on the Company's lease receivables are as follows:

**For the Year Ended December 31,**

2006	\$ 24,325
2007	2,352
2008	1,589
2009	682
2010	191
Thereafter	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 29,139</b>

At December 31, 2005, the weighted-average remaining life of leases in the Company's lease portfolio is approximately 12 months and the implicit rate of interest is approximately 28.1%.

The Company's business is characterized by a high incidence of delinquencies that in turn may lead to significant levels of defaults. The Company evaluates the collectability of leases originated and loans based on the level of recourse provided, if any, delinquency statistics, historical loss experience, current economic conditions and other relevant factors. The Company provides an allowance for credit losses for leases which are considered impaired.

The Company takes charge-offs against its receivables when such receivables are 360 days past due and no contact has been made with the lessee for 12 months.

The following table sets forth the Company's allowance for credit losses as of December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005 and the related provisions, charge-offs and recoveries for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Balance of allowance for credit losses at December 31, 2002	\$ 69,294
Provision for leases and loans credit losses	59,758
Charge-offs	\$ (93,153)
Recoveries	7,112
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(86,041)
Balance of allowance for credit losses at December 31, 2003	43,011
Provision for leases and loans credit losses	47,918
Charge-offs	(81,763)
Recoveries	5,797
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(75,966)
Balance of allowance for credit losses at December 31, 2004	14,963
Provision for leases and loans credit losses	10,468
Charge-offs	(22,806)
Recoveries	6,089
Charge-offs, net of recoveries	(16,717)

Balance of allowance for credit losses at December 31, 2005 \$ 8,714

F-14

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

In conjunction with the origination of leases, the Company may retain a residual interest in the underlying equipment upon termination of the lease. The value of such interests is estimated at inception of the lease and evaluated periodically for impairment. The following table sets forth the changes in estimated residual value as a result of new originations, and lease terminations for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Balance of estimated residual value at December 31, 2002	\$ 30,754
New originations	186
Lease terminations	(11,830)
Balance of estimated residual value at December 31, 2003	19,110
New originations	92
Lease terminations	(9,700)
Balance of estimated residual value at December 31, 2004	9,502
New originations	710
Lease terminations	(6,347)
Balance of estimated residual value at December 31, 2005	\$ 3,865

New originations represent the residual value added to the Company's estimated residual value upon origination of new leases. Lease terminations represent the residual value deducted from the Company's estimated residual value upon the termination of a lease (i) that is bought out during or at the end of the lease term; (ii) upon expiration of the original lease term when the lease converts to an extended rental contract or (iii) that has been charged off by the Company.

**D. Property and Equipment**

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, property and equipment consisted of the following:

	<b>December 31,</b>	
	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Inventory	\$ 261	\$ 132
Computer Equipment	5,521	5,190
Office Equipment	1,115	1,184
Leasehold improvements	112	349
	7,009	6,855
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	6,255	6,136
Total	\$ 754	\$ 719

Depreciation expense associated with property and equipment totaled \$1,445,000, \$801,000 and \$410,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. Total depreciation and amortization expense for property and equipment, service contracts and rental contracts was \$16,592,000, \$14,010,000 and \$9,497,000 for the

years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, computer equipment includes \$972,000 and \$695,000 under capital leases. Accumulated amortization related to capital leases amounted to \$915,000 and \$695,000 in 2004 and 2005, respectively.

F-15

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**E. Notes Payable and Subordinated Debt***Notes Payable*

The Company had borrowings outstanding under its respective credit facilities, securitization, and long-term debt agreements with the following terms:

	Interest Rate	December 31, 2004	December 31, 2005
Credit facility CIT	Prime + 1.5%	\$ 34	\$ 161
Subordinated notes	7.75%-13.0%	5,152	2,602
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,186</b>	<b>2,763</b>
Less debt discount		(563)	
		<b>\$ 4,623</b>	<b>\$ 2,763</b>

On September 29, 2004, the Company entered into a three-year senior secured revolving line of credit with CIT Commercial Services, a unit of CIT Group ( CIT ), whereby it may borrow a maximum of \$30.0 million based upon qualified lease receivables. Outstanding borrowings with respect to the revolving line of credit bear interest based at Prime plus 1.5% for Prime Rate Loans, or the prevailing rate per annum as offered in the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 4.0% for LIBOR Loans. If the LIBOR Loans are not renewed upon their maturity they automatically convert into prime rate loans. The prime rate at December 31, 2004 and 2005 was 5.25% and 7.25%, respectively. The 90-day LIBOR rate at December 31, 2004 and 2005 was 2.56% and 4.53%, respectively. As of December 31, 2004 and 2005, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the CIT credit facility.

In connection with the issuance of the above line of credit, the Company issued warrants to CIT to purchase an aggregate of 50,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$0.825 per share and expiring on June 10, 2007. The fair market value of the warrants, as determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, was accounted for as additional paid-in capital and debt issue costs. The resulting debt issue cost of \$139,000 is being amortized to interest expense under the effective interest method. Non-cash interest expense was \$14,000 and \$43,000 for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

Also in connection with the issuance of the above line of credit, the Company issued warrants to purchase an aggregate of 75,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$3.704 per share and expiring on June 10, 2007. The warrants were issued to the financial advisor the Company engaged to secure the CIT line of credit. The fair market value of the warrants, as determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, was accounted for as additional paid in capital and debt issue costs. The resulting debt issue cost of \$131,000 is being amortized over the life of the commitment. Non-cash debt issue expense was \$10,000 and \$39,000 for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

Borrowings on the above senior secured revolving line of credit were used to pay off the Company's existing lending syndicate in full, and replaced the \$8.0 million line of credit secured in June 2004, both of which are discussed further below. Outstanding borrowings are collateralized by eligible lease contracts pledged specifically to CIT. In addition, the Company granted CIT a security interest in all assets of the Company to further collateralize the outstanding borrowings.

Prior to obtaining the \$30.0 million secured line of credit discussed above, the Company had borrowings outstanding under a \$192.0 million senior credit facility with a group of financial institutions (the lending syndicate), which had failed to renew as of September 30, 2002. While cash flows from its portfolio and other fees had been

sufficient to repay amounts borrowed under the senior credit facility, securitizations and  
F-16

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

subordinated debt, in October 2002, the Company was forced to suspend virtually all new contract originations until a new source of liquidity was obtained or until such time as the senior credit facility was paid in full.

At December 31, 2002, the Company was in default of certain of its debt covenants in its senior credit facility. The covenants that were in default with respect to the senior credit facility required that the Company maintain a fixed charge ratio in an amount not less than 130% of consolidated earnings, a consolidated tangible net worth minimum of \$77.5 million plus 50% of net income quarterly beginning with September 30, 2000, and compliance with the borrowing base. On April 14, 2003, the Company entered into a long-term agreement with its lenders. This long-term agreement waived the defaults described above, and in consideration for this waiver, required the outstanding balance of the loan to be repaid over a term of 22 months beginning in April 2003 at an interest rate of prime plus 2.0%. As of September 30, 2004, the loan under the senior credit facility had been fully repaid.

Also, on April 14, 2003, the Company issued warrants to purchase an aggregate of 268,199 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$.825 per share. The warrants were issued to the nine lenders in the Company's lending syndicate in connection with the waiver of defaults and an extension of the Company's term loan. Due to the anti-dilutive rights contained in the warrant agreement, on June 10, 2004, an additional 2,207 warrants were issued to the nine lenders in the Company's lending syndicate and all of the warrants were re-priced to \$.815 per share. This was a result of the issuance of warrants in connection with the \$10.0 million credit facility discussed below. The warrants held by the nine lenders in the Company's lending syndicate became 50% exercisable as of June 30, 2004. Since all of the Company's obligations to the lenders were paid in full prior to September 30, 2004, the remaining 50% of the warrants were automatically canceled pursuant to the terms of the agreement. During the year ended December 31, 2005, the cashless exercise of 24,736 warrants resulted in the issuance of 20,596 shares. Unless the remaining warrants are exercised, they will expire on September 30, 2014. The fair market value of the warrants, as determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, was accounted for as additional paid in capital. The resulting cost of the warrants was \$77,000, which is being amortized to interest expense under the interest method. As of December 31, 2004, because the debt had been repaid in full, the entire \$77,000 had been accreted to interest expense. The resulting effective interest rate on the senior credit facility was prime plus 2.09%.

On June 10, 2004, the Company, through its new subsidiary, TimePayment Corp LLC entered into a one year revolving line of credit whereby it could borrow a maximum of \$8.0 million based upon qualified lease receivables. According to the agreement, outstanding borrowings bear interest at 15.6%. Upon the closing of the \$30.0 million senior secured revolving line of credit with CIT, the \$8.0 million line of credit was terminated by the Company.

In connection with the issuance of the above \$8.0 million line of credit, the Company issued warrants to purchase an aggregate of 100,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$6.00 per share and expiring on June 10, 2007. The fair market value of the warrants, as determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, was accounted for as additional paid in capital and discount on notes payable. The resulting discount of \$117,000 was being amortized to interest expense under the interest method. Since the \$8.0 million line of credit was canceled as of September 29, 2004, as of December 31, 2004, the entire discount had been accreted to interest expense.

*Subordinated Notes Payable*

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, the Company had subordinated debt outstanding amounting to \$4,589,000 (\$5,152,000 net of a discount of \$563,000) and \$2,602,000, respectively. This debt is subordinated in the rights to the Company's assets to notes payable to the primary lenders as described above. Outstanding borrowings bear interest ranging from 8% to 13.0% for fixed rate financing and prime plus 3% to 4% for variable rate financing. These notes have maturity dates ranging from March 2006 to November 2006.

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

In June 2004, TimePayment Corp LLC secured a commitment for a three year subordinated note for \$2.0 million, simultaneously with the closing of the \$8.0 million credit line discussed above. According to the agreement, outstanding borrowings bear interest at 13.0%. In connection with the issuance, the Company issued warrants to purchase 110,657 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$2.00 per share and 191,685 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$2.91 per share, both expiring on June 10, 2007. The fair market value of the warrants, as determined using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model, was accounted for as additional paid in capital and discount on subordinated notes payable. The resulting discount of \$628,000 was being amortized to interest expense under the interest method. Non-cash interest expense was \$65,000 and \$563,000 for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

In May 2005, the lender elected to exercise the warrants that had been issued in connection with the \$2.0 million subordinated note. The lender exercised 110,657 warrants at \$2.00 per share and 191,685 warrants at \$2.91 per share. The lender paid the exercise price by cancelling \$779,117 of the outstanding subordinated note. As of December 31, 2005, this note was fully repaid.

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, subordinated notes payable included \$652,000 due to stockholders, officers and directors. Interest paid to stockholders, officers and directors under such notes, at rates ranging between 8% and 12%, amounted to \$83,000, \$78,000 and \$78,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

*Repayment Schedule*

At December 31, 2005, the repayment schedule for outstanding notes and subordinated notes is as follows:

<b>For the Year Ended December 31,</b>	<b>Revolving Credit Facility(1)</b>	<b>Long-Term Debt</b>	<b>Total</b>
2006	\$ 161	\$ 2,602	\$ 2,763
2007			
2008			
2009			
2010			
Thereafter			
	\$ 161	\$ 2,602	\$ 2,763

(1) The Company's obligation to repay the revolving credit facility in the current year is subject to lease collateral availability and the borrowing base formula. The credit facility expires on September 29, 2007.

It is estimated that the carrying amount of the Company's borrowings under its variable rate revolving credit agreement approximates its fair value. The fair value of the Company's long-term fixed rate borrowings is estimated using discounted cash flow analysis, based on the Company's current incremental borrowing rates for similar types of borrowing arrangements. At December 31, 2004 and 2005, the aggregate carrying value of the Company's fixed rate borrowings was approximately \$5,152,000 and \$2,602,000 respectively, with an estimated fair value of approximately \$5,127,000 and \$2,596,000, respectively.

**F. Preferred Stock**

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, the Company had authorized 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.01 of which no shares were issued and outstanding.



**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**G. Stockholders Equity***Common Stock*

The Company had 25,000,000 authorized shares of common stock with a par value of \$.01 per share of which 13,185,166 and 13,713,899 shares were issued and outstanding at December 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

*Treasury Stock*

The Company had 227,980 shares of common stock held in treasury, at cost, as of July 1, 2004. Effective July 1, 2004, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts adopted a legislative act that resulted in the elimination of treasury stock. In accordance with this change in the law the Company has retroactively reclassified shareholders equity to reflect the retirement of treasury stock. Accordingly, during the year ended December 31, 2004, common stock and additional paid-in capital were reduced by \$2,000 and \$2,445,000, respectively.

*Stock Options and Restricted Stock*

In 1987, the Company adopted its 1987 Stock Option Plan (the Plan) which provided for the issuance of qualified or nonqualified options to purchase shares of the Company's common stock. In 1997, the Company's Board of Directors approved an amendment to the Plan, as a result of the June 16, 1997 stock split. Pursuant to this amendment, the aggregate number of shares issued could not exceed 1,220,000 and the exercise price of any outstanding options issued pursuant to the Plan would be reduced by a factor of ten and the number of outstanding options issued pursuant to the Plan would be increased by a factor of ten. The Company adopted the 1998 Equity Incentive Plan (the 1998 Plan) on July 9, 1998. The 1998 Plan permits the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors to make various long-term incentive awards, generally equity-based, to eligible persons. The Company reserved 4,120,380 shares of its common stock for issuance pursuant to the 1998 Plan. Qualified stock options, which are intended to qualify as incentive stock options under the Internal Revenue Code, may be issued to employees at an exercise price per share not less than the fair value of the common stock at the date granted as determined by the Board of Directors. Nonqualified stock options may be issued to officers, employees and directors of the Company as well as consultants and agents of the Company at an exercise price per share not less than fifty percent of the fair value of the common stock at the date of grant as determined by the Board. The vesting periods and expiration dates of the grants are determined by the Board of Directors. The option period may not exceed ten years. Upon exercise of an option or grant of restricted stock, the Company issues new shares of common stock.

On February 7, 2003, the Company offered non-director employees and executives who had been granted stock options in the past the opportunity to cancel any of the original option agreements in exchange for a grant of restricted stock. All option awards subject to the offer were converted to restricted stock. In connection with this offer, on February 12, 2003, 1,325,000 options converted to 319,854 shares of restricted common stock. In addition, on March 17, 2003, one non-employee director was granted 50,000 shares of restricted stock. The restricted stock vested 20% upon grant, and 5% on the first day of each quarter after the grant date, with accelerated vesting if the price of the Company's common stock exceeds certain thresholds during the vesting period. As of December 31, 2003, 15,384 shares had been canceled, 354,470 shares were fully vested, and \$273,000 had been amortized from unearned compensation to compensation expense, such that no further compensation expense will be recorded related to these shares.

On February 4, 2004, one non-employee director was granted 25,000 shares of restricted stock with a fair value of \$3.17 per share. The restricted stock vested 20% upon grant, and vests 5% on the first day of each quarter after the grant date. As vesting occurs, compensation expense is recognized and deferred compensa-

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

tion on the balance sheet is reduced. During the year ended December 31, 2004, 8,750 shares vested and \$28,000 was amortized from unearned compensation to compensation expense. On adoption of SFAS 123(R), the Company reclassified the balance of deferred compensation to additional paid-in capital. During the year ended December 31, 2005, 5,000 shares vested and \$15,000 was amortized to compensation expense.

On July 14, 2005, the non-employee directors were granted a total of 13,912 shares of restricted stock with a fair value of \$4.50 per share in accordance with the Company's director compensation policy. The restricted shares were fully vested on the date of issuance.

The following summarizes stock option activity for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 (no activity) and 2005:

	Shares	Price Per Share	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at December 31, 2002	2,995,000	\$1.585 to \$13.544	\$ 7.849
Converted to restricted stock	(1,325,000)	\$1.585 to \$13.10	\$ 7.727
Canceled	(195,000)	\$1.585 to \$12.313	\$ 7.618
Granted	200,000	\$ 0.86	\$ 0.860
Outstanding at December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2004	1,675,000	\$0.86 to \$13.544	\$ 7.139
Exercised	(432,500)	\$0.86 to \$ 1.585	\$ 1.250
Outstanding at December 31, 2005	1,242,500	\$1.585 to \$13.544	\$ 9.189

The options vest over five years based solely on service and are exercisable only after they become vested. At December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, 843,000, 1,178,000 and 1,090,500, respectively, of the outstanding options were fully vested. The total intrinsic value of all options exercised during the year ended December 31, 2005 was \$1,554,000.

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively, 1,675,000 and 1,242,500 shares of common stock were reserved for common stock option exercises. At December 31, 2005, 1,763,952 shares of common stock were reserved for future grants.

Information relating to stock options at December 31, 2005, summarized by exercise price, is as follows:

Exercise Price	Outstanding			Exercisable		
	Shares	Weighted-Average Life (Years)	Intrinsic Value	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Shares	Intrinsic Value
\$12.3125	359,391	3.16	\$	\$ 12.3125	359,391	\$
\$13.5440	40,609	3.16	\$	\$ 13.5440	40,609	\$
\$9.7813	350,000	4.15	\$	\$ 9.7813	350,000	\$
\$13.1000	90,000	5.14	\$	\$ 13.1000	72,000	\$

Edgar Filing: MICROFINANCIAL INC - Form 10-K

\$6.7000	235,000	6.16		\$ 6.7000	141,000	
\$1.5850	167,500	6.91	394,000	\$ 1.5850	127,500	300,000
	1,242,500	5.26	\$ 394,000	\$ 9.6180	1,090,500	\$ 300,000

In March 2005, the Company's Board of Directors elected to allow for the immediate vesting of all of the President and CEO's in the money options. This resulted in the accelerated vesting for 70,000 options with an exercise price of \$1.585 and 80,000 options with an exercise price of \$0.86. As a result of that acceleration, which was permitted under the terms of the 1998 Plan, the Company recognized additional compensation expense of \$566,000 for the year ended December 31, 2005. In addition, the Company's Board of Directors

**Table of Contents****MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

elect to allow the cashless exercise of options exercised during the year ended December 31, 2005. As a result of the circumstances of the exercises, all awards made under the 1998 Plan have been classified as share-based liability awards. During the year ended December 31, 2005, the total share based employee compensation cost recognized for stock options was \$1,025,000 and the Company recognized a related income tax benefit of approximately \$291,000.

In accordance with SFAS 123(R), for share-based liability awards, the Company must recognize compensation cost equal to the greater of (a) the grant date fair value or (b) the fair value of the modified liability when it is settled. As of December 31, 2005, a minimum of \$164,000 of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested awards is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of one year. In addition, the Company will also recognize any additional incremental compensation cost as it is incurred. For the year ended December 31, 2005, the Company recognized an additional \$53,000 in compensation expense due to the change in the fair value of the share-based liability awards outstanding.

The Company estimates the fair value of stock options using a Black-Scholes valuation model, consistent with the provisions of SFAS 123(R), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 107 and the company's prior period pro forma disclosures of net earnings, including stock-based compensation (determined under a fair value method as prescribed by SFAS 123). Key input assumptions used to estimate the fair value of stock options include the grant price of the award, the expected option term (contractual term), volatility of the company's stock, the risk-free interest rate and the Company's dividend yield.

There were no options granted during the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2005. The fair values as of December 31, 2005, of the remaining unvested options, all classified as liability instruments per SFAS 123(R), were estimated using the following key input assumptions at December 31, 2005:

Original grant date	11/25/2002	2/28/2002	2/20/2001	2/24/2000	2/25/1999	2/25/1999
Exercise price	\$1.59	\$6.70	\$13.10	\$9.78	\$13.54	\$12.31
Expected life (years)	3.50	3.50	3.00	2.50	2.00	2.00
Annualized volatility	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%
Dividend yield	5.13%	5.13%	5.13%	5.13%	5.13%	5.13%
Risk-free interest rate	4.05%	4.05%	3.91%	3.91%	3.82%	3.82%

The expected life represents the average period of time that the options are expected to be outstanding given consideration to vesting schedules; annualized volatility is based on historical volatilities of the Company's common stock; dividend yield represents the current dividend yield expressed as a constant percentage of the stock price and the risk free rate is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect on the measurement date for periods corresponding to the expected life of the option. At each subsequent reporting date, the Company is required to remeasure the fair value of its share-based liability awards.

*Common Stock Reserved*

The Company had reserved shares of common stock at December 31, 2005 as follows:

Warrants	335,957
Stock options	1,242,500
Restricted stock grants	11,250
Reserved for future grants	1,763,952
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,353,659</b>



**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**H. Income Taxes**

The provision (benefit) for income taxes consists of the following:

	<b>For the Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Current:</b>			
Federal	\$ 4,683	\$ (8,045)	\$ 168
State	907	(1,149)	161
	5,590	(9,194)	329
<b>Deferred:</b>			
Federal	(13,510)	(12,098)	(978)
State	(2,540)	843	(404)
	(16,050)	(11,255)	(1,382)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ (10,460)</b>	<b>\$ (20,449)</b>	<b>\$ (1,053)</b>

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, the components of the net deferred tax liability and asset were as follows:

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>Deferred tax assets:</b>		
Allowance for credit losses	\$ 5,338	\$ 2,781
Accrued expenses		101
Depreciation and amortization	3,567	2,100
Alternative minimum tax credit	1,384	1,551
Federal NOL carryforward	4,903	2,453
State NOL and other state attributes	2,588	3,764
State valuation allowance	(2,339)	(3,576)
<b>Total deferred tax assets</b>	<b>15,442</b>	<b>9,174</b>
<b>Deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Lease receivable and unearned income	(7,960)	(2,991)
Residual value	(3,801)	(1,262)
Initial direct cost	(181)	(39)
<b>Total deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>(11,942)</b>	<b>(4,292)</b>
<b>Net deferred tax asset</b>	<b>\$ 3,500</b>	<b>\$ 4,882</b>

At December 31, 2005, the Company has a Federal loss carry-forward of approximately \$7.0 million which may be used to offset future income. This loss carry-forward is available for use against future Federal income until expiration in 2025. In addition, at December 31, 2005, the Company has State net operating loss carry-forwards of \$45.6 million which may be used to offset future income. Such State NOL s have restrictions and expire in approximately two to twenty years. The Company has recorded a valuation allowance against certain State deferred tax assets as it is unlikely that these deferred tax assets will be fully realized.

F-22

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

The following is reconciliation between the effective income tax rate and the applicable statutory federal income tax rate:

	<b>For the Years Ended December 31,</b>		
	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Federal statutory rate	(35.00)%	(35.00)%	(35.00)%
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	(4.91)%	(5.60)%	(4.13)%
State valuation allowance	%	7.63%	(6.90)%
Nondeductible expenses and other	(0.09)%	(33.71)%	7.22%
<b>Effective income tax rate</b>	<b>(40.00)%</b>	<b>(66.68)%</b>	<b>(38.81)%</b>

The calculation of the Company's tax liabilities involves dealing with estimates in the application of complex tax regulations in a multitude of jurisdictions. The Company records liabilities for estimated tax obligations for federal and state purposes. For the year ended December 31, 2004, the nondeductible expenses and other rate of (33.71%) includes the benefit of \$7.9 million that resulted from a reduction in the Company's estimate of certain tax liabilities that had been included in income taxes payable on the Company's balance sheet. For the year ended December 31, 2005, the nondeductible expenses and other rate of 7.22% reflects certain non-deductible stock-based compensation.

The Company is currently undergoing an audit of its 1997 through 2003 tax years. As part of the audit, the Internal Revenue Service Agent has proposed several adjustments to the annual tax returns, which if final, would require the Company to pay the IRS an amount between \$8.0 and \$10.0 million. Such payments would be offset by an adjustment to the deferred tax asset such that the amount would likely be recoverable in future periods. The Company has several defenses to these adjustments and has filed a formal response under the appeals process challenging these adjustments. The Company can give no assurance that it will be successful in any appeal procedure.

**I. Commitments and Contingencies***Operating Leases*

The Company's lease for its facility in Woburn, Massachusetts expires in 2010. In 2003, the Company vacated its facilities in Waltham, Massachusetts, Newark, California and Herndon, Virginia and negotiated early terminations of the outstanding leases. At December 31, 2005, future minimum lease payments under non-cancelable operating leases are as follows:

**For the Years Ended December 31,**

2006	\$ 237
2007	237
2008	237
2009	237
2010	237
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,185</b>

Rental expense under operating leases totaled \$1,620,000, \$631,000 and \$668,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

F-23

---

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

*Legal Matters*

Management believes, after consultation with counsel, that the allegations against the Company included in the lawsuits described below are subject to substantial legal defenses, and the Company is vigorously defending each of the allegations. The Company also is subject to claims and suits arising in the ordinary course of business. At this time, it is not possible to estimate the ultimate loss or gain, if any, related to these lawsuits, nor if any such loss will have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations or financial position.

A. In October 2002, the Company was served with a Complaint in an action in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York filed by approximately 170 present and former lessees asserting individual claims. (As amended, the action now includes approximately 210 plaintiffs.) The Complaint contains claims for violation of RICO (18 U.S.C. § 1964), fraud, unfair and deceptive acts and practices, unlawful franchise offerings, and intentional infliction of mental anguish. The claims purportedly arise from Leasecomm's dealer relationships with Themeware, E-Commerce Exchange, Cardservice International, Inc., and Online Exchange for the leasing of websites and virtual terminals. The Complaint asserts that the Company is responsible for the conduct of its dealers in trade shows, infomercials and web page advertisements, seminars, direct mail, telemarketing, all which are alleged to constitute unfair and deceptive acts and practices. The Complaint seeks restitution, compensatory and treble damages, and injunctive relief. The Company filed a Motion to Dismiss the Complaint on January 31, 2003. By decision dated September 30, 2003, the court dismissed the complaint with leave to file an amended complaint. An Amended Complaint was filed in November 2003. The Company filed a Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint, which was denied by the United States District Court in September 2004. The Company has filed an answer to the Amended Complaint denying the Plaintiffs' allegations and asserting counterclaims. On January 18, 2005, Plaintiffs filed a Second Amended Complaint, which added five individual Plaintiffs and dropped one of the Plaintiffs' claims. The Company has filed an Answer to the Second Amended Complaint, denying the Plaintiffs' allegations and asserting counterclaims against a majority of the Plaintiffs for breach of contract and unjust enrichment. The case is now in discovery. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, the Company cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect.

B. In March 2003, a purported class action was filed in Superior Court in Massachusetts against Leasecomm and one of its dealers. The class, sought to be certified is a nationwide class (excluding certain residents of the State of Texas) who signed identical or substantially similar lease agreements with Leasecomm covering the same product. After the Company had filed a motion to dismiss, but before the motion to dismiss was heard by the Court, plaintiffs filed an Amended Complaint. The Amended Complaint asserted claims against the Company for declaratory relief, absence of consideration, unconscionability, and violation of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 93A, Section 11. The Company filed a motion to dismiss the Amended Complaint, which was allowed in March 2004. In May 2004, a purported class action on behalf of the same named plaintiffs and asserting the same claims was filed in Cambridge District Court. The Company has filed a Motion to Dismiss the Complaint, which was heard in August 2004, and denied by the District Court. On September 16, 2004, the Company filed an Answer and Counterclaims to the Amended Complaint denying the plaintiffs' allegations. On March 2, 2005, the plaintiffs filed a motion for leave to file an Amended Complaint which the Court allowed. The Amended Complaint added a claim for usury against the Company. The Company filed an Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Counterclaims to the Amended Complaint denying the plaintiffs' allegations and the parties are currently engaged in discovery. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, the Company cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect.

C. In October 2003, the Company was served with a purported class action complaint which was filed in United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts alleging violations of the federal securities laws. The purported class would consist of all persons who purchased Company securities between February 5, 1999

**Table of Contents****MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED****NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

and October 30, 2002. The Complaint asserts that during this period the Company made a series of materially false or misleading statements about the Company's business, prospects and operations, including with respect to certain lease provisions, the Company's course of dealings with its vendor/dealers, and the Company's reserves for credit losses. In April 2004, an Amended Class Action Complaint was filed which added additional defendants and expanded upon the prior allegations with respect to the Company. The Company has filed a Motion to Dismiss the Amended Complaint, which is awaiting decision by the Court. Because of the uncertainties inherent in litigation, the Company cannot predict whether the outcome will have a material adverse effect.

*Indemnities*

In the normal course of its business, the Company has entered into agreements that include indemnities in favor of third parties, such as engagement letters with advisors and consultants, outsourcing agreements, underwriting and agency agreements, information technology agreements, distribution agreements and service agreements. The foregoing agreements generally do not contain any limits on the Company's liability and therefore, it is not possible to estimate the Company's potential liability under these indemnities.

The Company has entered into agreements relating to the acquisition of assets, each of which contains indemnities in favor of third parties that are customary to such commercial transactions. It is not possible to estimate the Company's potential liability for these indemnities due to the nature of these indemnities.

In certain cases, the Company has recourse against third parties with respect to the foresaid indemnities and the Company also maintains insurance policies that may provide coverage against certain of these claims.

**J. Employee Benefit Plan:**

The Company has a defined contribution plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code to provide retirement and profit sharing benefits covering substantially all full-time employees. Employees are eligible to contribute up to 100% of their gross salary until they reach the maximum annual contribution amount allowed under the Internal Revenue Code. The Company will contribute \$0.50 for every \$1.00 contributed by an employee up to 3% of the employee's salary. Vesting in the Company contributions is over a five-year period based upon 20% per year. The Company's contributions to the defined contribution plan were \$110,500, \$0 and \$53,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. In 2004 the Company was able to settle its obligation fully by offsetting the match against the forfeiture account.

**K. Concentrations of Credit Risk:**

The Company's financial instruments that are exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of lease and loan receivables and cash and cash equivalent balances. To reduce the risk to the Company, credit policies are in place for approving leases and loans, and lease pools are monitored by management. In addition, cash and cash equivalents are maintained with several high-quality financial institutions.

One dealer accounted for approximately 56.14%, 9.94% and 0.34% of all originations during the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively. Two other dealers accounted for approximately 23.38% and 10.79% of all originations during the year ended December 31, 2003. During the year ended December 31, 2004 the Company's top four dealers accounted for 65.09% of all of the leases originated during the year at 21.84%, 16.83%, 15.71%, and 10.71%, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2005 the Company's top three dealers accounted for 47.29% of all of the leases originated during the year at 26.61%, 10.64%, and 10.04%, respectively. No other dealer accounted for more than 10% of the Company's origination volume during the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Prior to the suspension of new contract originations in October 2002, the Company originated leases, contracts and loans in all 50 states of the United States and its territories. Since resuming the origination of

**Table of Contents**

**MICROFINANCIAL INCORPORATED**

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

contracts in June 2004 the Company has originated contracts in over 40 states, but expects to resume originating leases in all 50 states of the United States and its territories. The Company continues to service leases, contracts and loans in all 50 states of the United States and its territories. As of both December 31, 2004 and 2005, leases in California, Florida, Texas, Massachusetts and New York accounted for approximately 40% of the Company's portfolio. Only California accounted for more than 10% of the total portfolio as of December 31, 2004 and 2005 at approximately 14%. None of the remaining states accounted for more than 4% of such total.

The majority of the Company's leases are currently for authorization systems for point-of-sale, card-based payments by, for example, debit, credit and charge cards ( POS authorization systems ). POS authorization systems require the use of a POS terminal capable of reading a cardholder's account information from the card's magnetic strip and combining this information with the amount of the sale entered via a POS terminal keypad, or POS software used on a personal computer to process a sale. The terminal electronically transmits this information over a communications network to a computer data center and then displays the returned authorization or verification response on the POS terminal.

**L. Related-Party Transactions:**

Other notes payable included \$250,000 due to stockholders of the Company at December 31, 2003. Interest paid to stockholders under such notes was not material for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2004. These notes were fully repaid as of December 31, 2004.

At December 31, 2004 and 2005, subordinated notes payable included \$652,000 due to stockholders, officers and directors. Interest paid to stockholders, officers and directors under such notes, at rates ranging between 8% and 12%, amounted to \$83,000, \$78,000 and \$78,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005, respectively.

F-26