

Searchmedia Holdings Ltd
Form 20-F
May 15, 2012
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the transition period from _____ **to** _____

OR

SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Date of event requiring this shell company report _____

Commission file number: 0001-33800

SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Cayman Islands

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

K-Wah Center #38-03,

1010 Middle Huaihai Road, Shanghai, China, 200031

(Address of principal executive offices)

Wilfred Chow

Chief Financial Officer

K-Wah Center #38-03,

1010 Middle Huaihai Road, Shanghai, China, 200031

Tel: +86-21-5401-0959

Fax: 86-21-3461-5667

Email: smhl@searchmediaholdings.com

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of the Company Contact Person)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Ordinary Shares, \$0.0001 Par Value	NYSE MKT
Warrants	NYSE MKT

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

21,687,497 Ordinary Shares

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

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes No

Note: Checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those Sections.

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer Non-Accelerated Filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

U.S. GAAP International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board
Other

If Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow. Item 17 Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

(APPLICABLE ONLY TO ISSUERS INVOLVED IN BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDING DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has filed all documents and reports required to be filed by Section 12, 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 subsequent to the distribution of securities under a plan confirmed by a court. Yes No

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	1
<u>PART I</u>	4
Item 1 <u>Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers</u>	4
Item 2 <u>Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable</u>	4
Item 3 <u>Key Information</u>	4
Item 4 <u>Information on the Company</u>	29
Item 4A <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	49
Item 5 <u>Operating and Financial Review and Prospects</u>	49
Item 6 <u>Directors, Senior Management and Employees</u>	66
Item 7 <u>Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions</u>	74
Item 8 <u>Financial Information</u>	78
Item 9 <u>The Offer and Listing</u>	80
Item 10 <u>Additional Information</u>	81
Item 11 <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	88
Item 12 <u>Description of Securities Other than Equity Securities</u>	88
<u>PART II</u>	89
Item 13 <u>Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies</u>	89
Item 14 <u>Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds</u>	89
Item 15 <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	89
Item 16 <u>[Reserved]</u>	91
Item 16A <u>Audit Committee Financial Expert</u>	91
Item 16B <u>Code of Ethics</u>	91
Item 16C <u>Principal Accountant Fees and Services</u>	91
Item 16D <u>Exemptions from the Listing Standards for Audit Committees</u>	92
Item 16E <u>Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers</u>	92
Item 16F <u>Change in Registrant's Certifying Accountant</u>	93
Item 16G <u>Corporate Governance</u>	93
Item 16H <u>Mine Safety Disclosure</u>	93
<u>PART III</u>	93
Item 17 <u>Financial Statements</u>	93
Item 18 <u>Financial Statements</u>	93
Item 19 <u>Exhibits</u>	94
<u>EX-8.1</u>	
<u>EX-12.1</u>	
<u>EX-12.2</u>	
<u>EX-13.1</u>	
<u>EX-13.2</u>	

Table of Contents

NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 20-F contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (PSLRA), Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the Exchange Act), about our expectations, beliefs, or intentions regarding our business, financial condition, results of operations, strategies, or prospects. You can identify forward-looking statements by the fact that these statements do not relate strictly to historical or current matters. Rather, forward-looking statements relate to anticipated or expected events, activities, trends, or results as of the date they are made. Because forward-looking statements relate to matters that have not yet occurred, these statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from any future results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Many factors could cause our actual activities or results to differ materially from the activities and results anticipated in forward-looking statements. These factors include those contained in Part I, Item 3 Key Information D. Risk Factors of this Annual Report on Form 20-F. We do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements. We intend that all forward-looking statements be subject to the safe harbor provisions of PSLRA. These forward-looking statements are only predictions and reflect our views as of the date they are made with respect to future events and financial performance. The risks, uncertainties and other factors that our stockholders and prospective investors should consider include the following:

There is substantial doubt as to our ability to continue as a going concern, which could adversely affect our ability to meet our ongoing financing needs as well as to obtain third party financing.

We may not have sufficient liquidity to pay earn-out payments when they come due, which could materially and adversely affect our operations.

We have a history of significant operating losses and our future revenue and operating profitability are uncertain.

We have identified material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting and we have had to restate our historical financial statements.

We are subject to a government inquiry in the United States.

Deterioration of economic conditions and a resulting decrease in demand for advertising services would materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and limit our growth prospects.

A business strategy of making acquisitions subjects us to all of the risks inherent in identifying, acquiring and operating newly acquired businesses.

Future charges due to possible impairments of acquired assets may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

We face significant competition for advertising spending from operators of new and traditional advertising networks. If we cannot successfully compete, our results of operations would be materially and adversely affected.

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

If we fail to develop and maintain relationships with site owners, managers and sublessors that provide us access to desirable locations and network platforms, our growth potential and our business could be harmed.

Failures to obtain site owners' consents or objections from site owners to the installations of our media products could lead to termination of our contracts or installations, which would harm our results of operations.

Table of Contents

The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may have potential conflicts of interest with us.

If we are unable to obtain or retain desirable placement locations for our advertising poster frames and outdoor billboards on commercially advantageous terms, our operating margins and earnings could decrease and our results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Our business depends substantially on the continuing efforts of our executive officers, senior management, and other key employees, and our business may be severely disrupted if we lose their services.

If we are unable to adapt to changing advertising trends of advertisers and consumers, we will not be able to compete effectively and we will be unable to increase or maintain our revenues, which may materially and adversely affect our business prospects and revenues.

Our growth could suffer if we fail to expand our media networks to include new media offerings, media platforms or enter into new markets.

If site managers or owners shut down our displays for site maintenance or other reasons, our business could be adversely affected.

Unauthorized use of our intellectual property by third parties, and the expenses incurred in protecting our intellectual property rights, may adversely affect our business.

We rely on the proper operation and maintenance of our computer system. Any malfunction, capacity constraint or operation interruption for any extended period may have an adverse impact on our business.

If the custodians or authorized users of our controlling non-tangible assets, including corporate chops and seals fail to fulfill their responsibilities, or misappropriate or misuse these assets, our business and operations could be materially and adversely affected.

We have no business liability, disruption or litigation insurance, and we could incur substantial costs if our business is disrupted due to natural disasters, litigation or other business interruptions.

Our operating results are difficult to predict and may fluctuate from period to period.

If the PRC government determines that the contractual arrangements that establish the structure for operating our China business do not comply with applicable PRC laws and regulations, we could be subject to severe penalties.

We rely on contractual arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders for our China operations, which may not be as effective in providing operational control as would be the case through ownership of a controlling equity interest in such operating entities.

Adverse changes in economic and political policies of the PRC government could have a material adverse effect on the overall economic growth of China, which could adversely affect our business.

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

If advertising registration certificates are not obtained for advertisements on our outdoor billboard or rapid transit networks, we may be subject to fines.

Our outdoor billboards, light boxes and neon signs are subject to municipal zoning requirements, governmental approvals and administrative controls. If we are required to tear down our billboards, light boxes or neon signs as a result of these requirements, approvals or controls, our operations could be materially and adversely affected.

If we were deemed a resident enterprise by PRC tax authorities, we could be subject to tax on our global income and our non-PRC shareholders could be subject to certain PRC taxes.

Table of Contents

Uncertainties with respect to the PRC legal system could adversely affect us.

We may be subject to, and may expend significant resources in defending against, government actions and civil suits based on the content and services we provide through our network.

Governmental control of currency conversion may materially and adversely affect the value of your investment. Substantial limitations may be imposed on the removal of funds from the PRC to the Company, or the infusion of funds by us to our subsidiaries and affiliates located in the PRC.

PRC regulation of loans and direct investment by offshore holding companies to PRC entities may prevent us from making loans or capital contributions to our PRC operating subsidiaries.

Fluctuation in the value of the Renminbi may have a material adverse effect on your investment.

Any health epidemics and other outbreaks, or war, acts of terrorism and other man-made or natural disasters could severely disrupt our business operations.

We are a Cayman Islands company and, because the rights of shareholders under Cayman Islands law differ from those under U.S. law, you may have fewer protections as a shareholder.

As a foreign private issuer, we will be exempt from certain SEC requirements that provide stockholders with protections and information that must be made available to stockholders of U.S. public companies.

Because we do not intend to pay dividends on our ordinary shares for the foreseeable future, stockholders will benefit from an investment in our ordinary shares only if those shares appreciate in value.

Voting control by executive officers, directors and other affiliates of the company may limit your ability to influence the outcome of director elections and other matters requiring shareholder approval.

The NYSE MKT may delist our securities from quotation on its exchange, which could limit investors' ability to make transactions in our securities and subject us to additional trading restrictions.

A significant number of shares are eligible for future sale by our stockholders and the sale of those shares could adversely affect the stock price.

There is a risk that we could be treated as a U.S. domestic corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes after the Business Combination, which could result in significantly greater U.S. federal income tax liability to us.

There is a risk that we will be classified as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, which could result in adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. holders of ordinary shares or warrants of SearchMedia.

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

If you acquire (directly, indirectly, or constructively) 10% or more of our shares, you may be subject to taxation under the controlled foreign corporation, or CFC rules.

We may choose to redeem our outstanding warrants at a time that is disadvantageous to the warrant holders, preventing such holders from realizing the potential economic value of their warrants.

Our warrant holders may not be able to exercise their warrants, which may significantly reduce their economic value and create liability for us.

Unless otherwise indicated or required by the context, all references in this Annual Report on Form 20-F to we, us, our, SearchMedia Holdings, or the Company refer to SearchMedia Holdings Limited and its consolidated subsidiaries, and all references to SearchMedia International refer to SearchMedia International Limited and its consolidated subsidiaries before completion of the Business Combination on October 30, 2009 (as defined below).

Table of Contents

PART I

Item 1 Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers

Not applicable.

Item 2 Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable

Not applicable.

Item 3 Key Information

A. Selected Financial Data

This annual report on Form 20-F contains the consolidated statements of operations data for our company for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 and the selected consolidated balance sheet data for our company as of December 31, 2010 and 2011 have been derived from our audited financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

The consolidated statements of operations data for our company for the years ended December 31, 2007 have been omitted from the Selected Financial Data per the instructions to Item 3 of Form 20-F. As previously disclosed in the Explanatory Note to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 filed on November 1, 2010, the historical financial statements of SearchMedia International for the years ended December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2008 were restated as a result of the analysis of our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2009. After we completed the business combination pursuant to which we (1) redomiciled from Delaware to the Cayman Islands, as a Cayman Islands exempt company and (2) completed the acquisition of Search Media International, resulting in Search Media International becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of SearchMedia Holdings (the Business Combination) and in connection with our preparation of the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, we identified accounting irregularities and potential financial and operational improprieties, relating to transactions and financial reporting matters that occurred under the management of SearchMedia International before the Business Combination, which were not previously identified as a result of material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting. These material weaknesses related to, among other things: (i) recording of various erroneous transactions by certain employees; (ii) recording of certain assets and other accounting irregularities related to acquisitions; (iii) diligence and approval of questionable transactions; and (iv) confirmation of payments related to acquisitions.

We have restated the consolidated financial statements of SearchMedia International Limited as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, but we omitted the consolidated Selected Financial Information for the years ended December 31, 2007 to avoid undue reliance on SearchMedia International Limited financial information for this period.

You should read the selected consolidated financial data in conjunction with those financial statements and the accompanying notes and Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects.

Table of Contents

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared and presented in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Our historical results do not necessarily indicate our results expected for any future periods.

	2008	For the Years Ended December 31		2011
		2009	2010	
		(Amounts in thousands, except share data)		
Selected consolidated statement of operations data				
Net revenues	\$ 41,685	\$ 37,741	\$ 48,967	\$ 55,571
Cost of revenues	(30,624)	(28,059)	(36,454)	(45,788)
Gross profit	11,061	9,682	12,513	9,783
Operating expenses:				
Loss on impairment of goodwill	(13,953)	(15,749)	(39,411)	(27,927)
Loss on impairment of intangible assets				(2,723)
Gain on termination of VIEs				9,551
Change of fair value of acquisition consideration payable				10,681
Gain from extinguishment of acquisition consideration payable				4,340
Loss on abandonment of lease	(46)	(550)	(1,256)	
Loss on impairment of fixed assets	(2,135)			
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(2,121)	(15)	(4)	
Sales and marketing	(6,117)	(3,384)	(4,462)	(6,722)
General and administrative	(13,135)	(13,832)	(12,203)	(10,221)
Loss from operations	(26,446)	(23,848)	(44,823)	(13,238)
Other income/(expense)				
Interest income	131	11	24	34
Interest expense	(2,717)	(1,962)	(45)	(89)
Decrease in fair value of liability warrant		824		
Gain/(loss) on extinguishment of notes	(4,400)	6,669		
Foreign currency transaction loss, net	(167)	(24)	(7)	(4)
Other income/ (expense), net			(368)	(79)
Total other income/ (expense)	(7,153)	5,518	(396)	(138)
Loss before income taxes	(33,599)	(18,330)	(45,219)	(13,376)
Provision for income taxes	(1,481)	(4,319)	(1,420)	(83)
Net loss	\$ (35,080)	\$ (22,649)	\$ (46,639)	\$ (13,459)
Net loss from operations per share:				
Basic and diluted	\$ (16.17)	\$ (4.44)	\$ (2.24)	\$ (0.64)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding Basic and diluted	2,169,269	5,100,465	20,796,789	20,994,015

Table of Contents

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
	(In thousands)	
Selected consolidated balance sheet data		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,554	\$ 4,630
Accounts receivable, net	18,065	15,822
Goodwill	45,955	16,926
Total assets	86,871	50,449
Acquisition consideration payable	39,195	23,238
Total liabilities	86,408	63,902
Net assets	463	(13,453)
Total equity	463	(13,453)

B. Capitalization and Indebtedness

Not applicable.

C. Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

D. Risk Factors**Risk Related to Our Business and Operations**

There is substantial doubt as to our ability to continue as a going concern, which could adversely affect our ability to meet our ongoing financing needs as well as to obtain third party financing.

As indicated in the report on our financial statements issued by our auditors, Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP, there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. As of December 31, 2011 our current liabilities exceeded our current assets by \$31.0 million and our net shareholders' equity was a deficit of \$13.5 million. Our cash and cash equivalent as of December 31, 2011 was \$4.6 million. We cannot assure you that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations in the future to service our debts and make necessary capital expenditures, in which case we may (i) seek additional financing, (ii) dispose of certain assets or (iii) seek to refinance some or all of our debts. We are also taking a number of other actions to address the issue, including amendment of earn-out agreements which satisfies such payment obligations with shares instead of cash, seeking funding from existing shareholders and adopting other cost-saving strategies. We cannot assure you that any of the alternatives above can be implemented on satisfactory terms, if at all. The inclusion of the substantial doubt language in the audit report about our ability to continue as a going concern could affect our ability to obtain financing from third parties or could result in increased costs of such financing.

Table of Contents

We may not have sufficient liquidity to pay earn-out payments when they come due, which could materially and adversely affect our operations.

We are obligated to pay earn-out payments in connection with our acquisitions of a number of advertising businesses. As of December 31, 2011, the amount of our earn-outs payable within one year was \$23.2 million, of which \$16.8 million is payable in cash. Based on the current cash position and forecast for the remainder of the payment period, we believe that we would not have sufficient capital to pay the required cash earn-out payments over the next twelve months.

In April 2012, our board of directors approved and authorized a capped pool of 7 million ordinary shares to be issued to certain ex-owners of the subsidiaries (Integration Program) for the purpose of converting and eliminating the outstanding earn-out liabilities. On May 2, 2012, the Company divested Zhejiang Continental Advertising Co. Ltd. (Zhejiang Continental) back to its previous owners and eliminated the related earn-out liability of \$8.2 million in exchange for the issuance of 1 million ordinary shares of the Company. Through the divestiture of Zhejiang Continental, the Company has materially reduced its outstanding cash earn-out liabilities to \$8.6 million. The Company is renegotiating payment terms with the remaining acquired subsidiaries and the goal is to eliminate all cash earn-out liabilities through the Integration Program. If the imbalance between earn-outs payable and our current cash position cannot be remedied through renegotiation of the terms of such earn-outs with the acquired companies or if we are unable to raise the required proceeds on reasonable terms, our operations are likely to be adversely and materially impacted. If the earn-out obligations of the remaining acquired subsidiaries are not extinguished pursuant to our Integration Program, our ability to raise additional capital may be jeopardized. Furthermore, our business strategy to pursue organic growth and the viability of new concessions and other projects is dependent upon our ability to raise new funding.

We have a history of significant operating losses and our future revenue and operating profitability are uncertain.

We recorded a net loss of \$13.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 and we ended the year with an accumulated deficit of \$13.5 million. In addition, we recorded a net loss of approximately \$46.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. Loss from operations reduced from \$44.8 million in 2010 to \$13.2 million in 2011. The greater net loss in 2010 was due to impairment charges which were non-cash. We may continue to incur operating losses for the foreseeable future, and such losses may be substantial. We will need to increase revenue in order to generate sustainable operating profit. Given our history of operating losses, we cannot be certain that we will be able to achieve operating profitability on an annual basis. Our failure to achieve profitability could adversely affect the trading price of our ordinary shares and our ability to raise additional capital.

We have identified material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting and we have had to restate our historical financial statements.

In August 2010, we announced that we would restate the financial statements of SearchMedia International as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, to, among other things, correct an overstatement of revenue of \$47.0 million in 2008. We restated our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008, which was filed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, filed with the SEC on November 1, 2010.

Table of Contents

After the Business Combination and in connection with our preparation of the Annual Report on Form 10-K filed November 1, 2010, we identified accounting irregularities and potential financial and operational improprieties, relating to transactions and financial reporting matters that occurred under the management of SearchMedia International before the Business Combination, which were not previously identified as a result of material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting. These material weaknesses relate to, among other things: (i) recording of various erroneous transactions by certain employees; (ii) recording of certain assets and other accounting irregularities related to acquisitions; (iii) diligence and approval of questionable transactions; and (iv) confirmation of payments related to acquisitions.

We have implemented and we plan to further implement steps to address these material weaknesses and improve our internal control over financial reporting. However, the implementation of these measures may not fully address these control weaknesses, and to date these control weaknesses have not been remediated in full. If we fail to implement and maintain the adequate internal control procedures in a timely manner, we may not be able to conclude that we have effective internal control over financial reporting. Furthermore, we cannot be certain we will effectively remediate our control weaknesses or that restatements will not occur in the future. The preparation and filing of restatements could create a significant strain on our internal resources and cause delays in our filing of annual financial results, increase our financial accounting and related costs, and divert management's attention from the operation of our business.

We were subject to a government inquiry in the United States.

We and certain of our current and former directors and executive officers were defendants in a federal securities class action in the United States. The amended complaint alleged that the defendants violated Sections 10(b), 14(a) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rules 10b-5 and 14a-9 thereunder by making false and misleading statements regarding our acquisition of SearchMedia International and by overstating SearchMedia International's financial results during the period April 1, 2009 through August 20, 2010 (Proposed Class Period). The claims asserted against us and our current and former directors and executive officers were dismissed with prejudice in April 2012 after we reached a court-approved, class-wide settlement with the plaintiffs. The order dismissing those claims is subject to certain appeal rights. The claims asserted against the remaining defendants, who were not part of the settlement, were dismissed by the court without prejudice and could be refiled by the plaintiffs.

In addition, we have been notified that the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Los Angeles Regional Office, is conducting a formal investigation regarding the issues that are the subject of our restatement of financial results announced on August 20, 2010. We are cooperating fully with the SEC during this investigation process. We cannot predict the cost or potential liabilities associated with responding to the SEC investigation or any related investigations or litigation that may arise from the matters under inquiry.

We have notified our insurance carriers of the SEC investigation. One carrier, which issued a directors' and officers' liability policy that applies to part of the Proposed Class Period, has informed the Company that it formed the view that its policy does not provide coverage for the SEC investigation. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that our insurance carriers will cover all or part of the defense costs, or any liabilities that may arise from the SEC investigation or any related litigation that may arise from the matters under inquiry. Litigation and regulatory actions or proceedings can be time consuming and expensive, and could divert management time and attention from our business, which could have a material adverse effect on our

Table of Contents

revenues and results of operations. We also may be subject to claims for indemnification related to these matters, and we cannot predict the impact that indemnification claims may have on our business or financial results. Finally, we cannot provide any assurance that the final outcome of the SEC investigation or any related litigation that may arise will not have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, or financial condition.

Deterioration of economic conditions and a resulting decrease in demand for advertising services would materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and limit our growth prospects.

Demand for our advertising services, and the resulting advertising spending by our clients on our network, is affected significantly by prevailing economic conditions. The current economic downturns in global markets have impacted, and are expected to further impact, materially and adversely, the advertising spending of our existing and potential multinational clients and, as the crisis spreads to China, the advertising spending of our existing and potential domestic clients. With a severe decline in economic conditions, clients who would normally spend on a broad range of traditional and new media may curtail their overall spending or concentrate their advertising spending on one medium. As we derive most of our revenues from our billboard and in-elevator advertising networks, a decrease in demand for advertising media in general and for our advertising media or advertising networks in particular would materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and limit our growth prospects. In addition, our clients who are adversely affected by the worsened economic conditions may delay paying the advertising fees to us, which would adversely affect our liquidity and results of operations.

A business strategy of making acquisitions subjects us to all of the risks inherent in identifying, acquiring and operating newly acquired businesses.

Our growth strategy includes acquiring new businesses to complement and expand our existing operations. In the future, we may continue to make acquisitions of, or investments in, businesses that we believe could complement or expand our current business or offer growth opportunities. We may experience difficulties in identifying potential acquisition candidates that complement our current business at appropriate prices, or at all. Many of our competitors may also compete with us for acquisition candidates, which can increase the price of acquisitions and reduce the number of available acquisition candidates. Therefore, we cannot assure you that our acquisition strategy will be successful and we may expend significant management time and resources in analyzing and negotiating acquisitions or investments that are not consummated. Furthermore, the ongoing process of integrating acquired businesses is distracting, time consuming, expensive, and requires continuous optimization and allocation of resources. To that end, we have implemented a subsidiary integration program. The subsidiary integration program may not be successful and we may be unable to fully integrate the subsidiaries. If we are unsuccessful in integrating the subsidiaries, it could affect our financial controls and the timely reporting requirements over our subsidiaries. Additionally, if we use stock as consideration, this would have a dilutive effect on existing stockholders. If we use cash, this would reduce our liquidity and impact our financial flexibility. We may seek debt financing for particular acquisitions, which may not be available on commercially reasonable terms, or at all. We face all the risks associated with a business acquisition strategy, including, but not limited to:

the potential disruption of our existing businesses, including the diversion of management attention and the redeployment of resources;

entering new markets or industries in which we have limited prior experience;

failure to identify in due diligence key issues specific to the businesses we seek to acquire or the industries or other environments in which they operate, or, failure to protect against contingent liabilities arising from those issues;

Table of Contents

unforeseen or hidden liabilities;

difficulties in integrating, aligning and coordinating organizations which will likely be geographically separated and may involve diverse business operations and corporate cultures;

difficulties in integrating and retaining key management, sales, research and development, production and other personnel;

potential loss of key employees, clients or distribution partners of the acquired businesses;

difficulties in incorporating the acquired business into our organization;

the potential loss of customers, distributors or suppliers;

adverse effects on our existing business relationships with our advertisers;

difficulties in integrating or expanding information technology systems and other business processes to accommodate the acquired businesses;

risks associated with integrating financial reporting and internal control systems;

the potential for future impairments of goodwill if the acquired business does not perform as expected;

the inability to obtain necessary government approvals for the acquisition, if any; and

successfully operating the acquired business.

If we cannot overcome these challenges, we may not realize actual benefits from past and future acquisitions, which will impair our overall business results. If we complete an investment or acquisition, we may not realize the anticipated benefits from the transaction.

Future charges due to possible impairments of acquired assets may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

A portion of our assets is comprised of goodwill and other intangible assets, which may be subject to future impairment that would result in financial statement write-offs. Goodwill and other intangible assets represent approximately 33.6% of our total assets at December 31, 2011. If there is a material change in our business operations or prospects, the value of the intangible assets we have acquired or may acquire in the future could decrease significantly. On an ongoing basis and at least annually, we will evaluate, partially based on discounted expected future cash flows, whether the carrying value of such intangible assets may no longer be recoverable, in which case a charge to earnings may be necessary. Any future determination requiring the write-off of a significant portion of unamortized intangible assets, although not requiring any additional cash outlay, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and stock price.

We face significant competition for advertising spending from operators of new and traditional advertising networks. If we cannot successfully compete, our results of operations would be materially and adversely affected.

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

We face competition for general advertising spending from operators of many other forms of advertising networks, such as television, print media, Internet and other types of out-of-home advertising.

Our success depends on the continuing and increased interest of advertising clients and agencies in in-elevator, outdoor billboard, and transit advertising as components of their advertising strategies. Advertisers may elect not to use our services if they believe that the viewing public is not receptive to advertising platforms we offer or that these platforms do not provide sufficient value as effective advertising mediums. If we cannot successfully compete for advertising spending against traditional, Internet and other types of out-of-home advertising, we will be unable to generate sufficient revenues and cash flows to operate our business, and our results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Table of Contents

For in-elevator and billboard advertising spending, we face competition from different players across different platforms and in different cities where we operate. For our in-elevator advertising platform, we compete primarily against large regional operators and other nationwide operators some of which have substantially more financial resources than we have. For our billboard advertising platform, we compete against mostly local or regional outdoor billboard owners and operators, as the outdoor billboard market in China is largely fragmented. For our transit advertising platform, we compete against other seasoned operators. We compete for advertising spending on these platforms generally on the basis of network coverage, service quality and brand name. If we cannot compete successfully for advertising spending on these platforms, our market share and our results of operations would suffer.

If we fail to develop and maintain relationships with site owners, managers and sublessors that provide us access to desirable locations and network platforms, our growth potential and our business could be harmed.

Our ability to generate revenues from advertising sales depends largely on our ability to provide a large network of our media products across media platforms at desirable locations. The effectiveness of our network also depends on the cooperation of site owners and managers to allow us to install the desired types of frames at the desired spots on their properties and, for in-elevator advertising, to keep the elevators in operation and accessible to the viewing public. To address these needs, we must develop and maintain business relationships with site managers and owners and, for a portion of our network, sublessors that consist primarily of advertising companies. Since the ownership of residential and office buildings are fragmented, maintaining these relationships requires considerable operational resources in terms of contract management and site development and maintenance personnel. If we fail to devote the necessary resources to maintaining these relationships or if we fail to perform our obligations under the existing leases, these lessors and sublessors may terminate their leases with us or not renew them upon expiration. In some cases, we have not maintained good relations and some of our leases have been terminated or may be terminated in the future. As there is a limited supply of billboards at desirable locations and a limited number of subway stations, the termination of a significant number of the leases for billboards and light boxes at subway stations could harm our multi-platform growth and operation strategies and our business and prospects could suffer as a result.

Failures to obtain site owners' consents or objections from site owners to the installations of our media products could lead to termination of our contracts or installations, which would harm our results of operations.

Article 7 of the Interpretation of the Supreme People's Court on Several Issues Concerning the Specific Application of Law in the Trial of Disputes over Partitioned Ownership of Building Areas provides: *Any commercial use of public areas or facilities of residential properties shall belong to the scope of other material matters stipulated in Article 76 -1-7 of Property Law.* Article 76-1-7 of Property Law provides: *other material matters concerning owners' co-ownership and co-management rights shall be conducted only with the prior consent of owners whose proprietary property area is over 50% of whole property area of the residential quarter and percentage is over 50%.* In accordance with these requirements, we take all reasonable efforts to execute display agreements with site owners or owner committees before installing our media products. However, when we cannot locate all site owners or an owner committee has not been established, we execute display agreements with site managers. We have obtained proper consents from site owners or owner committees for approximately 83% of our operations in terms of cost of sales and site manager consents for the remaining approximately 17% of our operations. Furthermore, in the past three years, we have not had an agreement terminated or lost a site due to an objection for lack of consent, nor have we received any written objection from or been sued by any site owner or owner committee due to lack of consent.

Table of Contents

The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may have potential conflicts of interest with us.

Before December 23, 2011, the Company was subject to risk relating to its variable interest entity structure, which structure was terminated on such date. One of the risks related to potential conflicts of interest the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may have with us. The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai are also the founders and shareholders of the Company. Conflicts of interests between their dual roles as shareholders of both Jingli Shanghai and the Company may arise. We cannot assure you that when conflicts of interest arise, any or all of these individuals will act in the best interests of the Company or that any conflict of interest will be resolved in our favor. In addition, these individuals may breach or cause Jingli Shanghai to breach or refuse to renew the existing contractual arrangements that allow us to effectively control Jingli Shanghai and receive economic benefits from it. If we cannot resolve any conflicts of interest or disputes between us and the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai, we would have to rely on legal proceedings, the outcome of which is uncertain and could be disruptive to our business. We have terminated these contractual arrangements effective December 23, 2011 and our risk under this risk factor has been eliminated starting from December 23, 2011.

If we are unable to obtain or retain desirable placement locations for our advertising poster frames and outdoor billboards on commercially advantageous terms, our operating margins and earnings could decrease and our results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Our cost of revenues consists primarily of operating lease cost of advertising space for displaying advertisements, depreciation of advertisement display equipment, amortization of intangible assets relating to lease agreements and direct staff and material costs associated with production and installation of advertisement content. Our operating lease cost represents a significant portion of our cost of revenues. In 2010 and 2011, our operating lease cost accounted for 91.4% and 95.7%, respectively, of our cost of revenues and 64.3% and 78.9% respectively, of our total revenues. In the future, we may need to pay higher amounts in order to renew existing leases, obtain new and desirable locations, or secure exclusivity and other favorable terms. If we are unable to secure commercially advantageous terms or pass increased location costs onto our advertising clients through rate increases, our operating margins and earnings could decrease and our results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Our business depends substantially on the continuing efforts of our executive officers, senior management and other key employees, and our business may be severely disrupted if we lose their services.

Our future success depends heavily on the continued services of our executive officers, senior management and other key employees, their industry expertise, their experience in business operations and sales and marketing, and their working relationships with our advertising clients as well as the site owners, property developers, property management companies, homeowner associations and relevant government authorities that affect the site contracts with us.

We do not have a long history of working with some of these executive officers, senior management and key employees. If one or more of our senior executives were unable or unwilling to continue in their present positions, we might not be able to replace them easily or at all. If any of our senior executives join a competitor or forms a competing company, we may lose clients, site contracts, key professionals and staff members.

Table of Contents

We have entered into an employment agreement with each of our executive officers, which agreement contains non-competition provisions. However, if a dispute arises between us and our executive officers, there is no assurance that any of these agreements could be enforced, or to what extent they could be enforced, in China, in light of the uncertainties with China's legal system.

Furthermore, some of the former equity owners of the acquired entities, which we refer to as the "ex-owners", and other employees are important to the collection of long outstanding account receivables. We will continue to require the full and timely cooperation from these individuals in our collection efforts. Any disagreements or disputes with such individuals may cause delays in the collection period or even impact our ability to collect such funds.

Additionally, there are other receivables that we are continuing to attempt to collect that are related to ex-owners and employees. These other receivables include withdrawals and related party transactions that were prevalent at the subsidiary level. Although we are working to collect these funds, these receivables may affect the cash flow of the Company.

If we are unable to adapt to changing advertising trends of advertisers and consumers, we will not be able to compete effectively and we will be unable to increase or maintain our revenues, which may materially and adversely affect our business prospects and revenues.

The competitive market for out-of-home advertising requires us to continuously identify new advertising trends of advertisers and consumers. In response to these new advertising trends, we may need to quickly develop and adopt new formats, features and enhancements for our advertising network and/or cost-effectively expand into additional advertising media and platforms beyond in-elevator, billboards, and transit platform advertising. We may be required to incur, but may not have the financial resources necessary to fund, development and acquisition costs in order to keep pace with new advertising trends. If we fail to identify or respond adequately to these changing advertising trends, demand for our advertising network and services may decrease and we may not be able to compete effectively or attract advertising clients, which would have a material and adverse effect on our business prospects and revenues.

Our growth could suffer if we fail to expand our media networks to include new media offerings, media platforms or enter into new markets.

Currently, our network primarily consists of in-elevator, outdoor billboard and transit advertising. Our growth strategy includes broadening our service offerings and possibly entering into new advertising markets. It is difficult to predict whether consumers and advertising clients will accept our entry into new media markets or accept the new media products or platforms we may offer. It is also difficult to predict whether we will be able to generate sufficient revenues to offset the costs of entering into these new markets or introducing these new products or new media platforms. We may also have limited or no prior experience working with these new products, platforms or markets. If we fail to expand our media network to include new media products, platforms or markets, our growth could suffer as a result.

Table of Contents

If site managers or owners shut down our displays for site maintenance or other reasons, our business could be adversely affected.

Under certain site leasing contracts we entered into with site managers or owners, site managers or owners have the right to shut down our displays with prior written notice if they need to inspect or maintain the sites where we have installed advertising displays, or for other reasons such as facility reconstruction. However, under our contracts with our advertising clients, if these displays are shut down for an extended period of time, we are required to substitute these suspended displays with alternative displays. If we cannot reach an agreement with our clients on the alternative displays, we could be required to refund the advertising fees paid by these clients. If a substantial number of our displays are shut down by site managers within a short time period, we may not be able to locate alternative display locations and may incur substantial remedial costs. Our relationships with our advertising clients could also suffer and our financial results could be adversely affected.

Unauthorized use of our intellectual property by third parties, and the expenses incurred in protecting our intellectual property rights, may adversely affect our business.

The validity, enforceability, and scope of protection available under intellectual property laws with respect to trademark and trade secrets in China are uncertain and still evolving. Implementation and enforcement of PRC intellectual property-related laws have historically been deficient and ineffective. Accordingly, protection of intellectual property rights in China may not be as effective as in the United States or other western countries. One example of a protective measure regarding intellectual property, pre-litigation injunction relief, is still evolving in China and this protective measure needs more detailed guidance on implementation. Furthermore, policing unauthorized use of proprietary technology is difficult and expensive, and we may need to resort to litigation to enforce or defend our intellectual property or to determine the enforceability, scope and validity of our proprietary rights or those of others. Any such litigation or an adverse determination in any such litigation, could result in significant costs to the Company and a diversion of resources and management attention.

We rely on the proper operation and maintenance of our computer system. Any malfunction, capacity constraint or operation interruption for any extended period may have an adverse impact on our business.

Table of Contents

The satisfactory performance, stability, and security of our computer system and our network infrastructure are critical to our reputation and our ability to attract and retain advertisers. Our information system provides a database of information regarding advertising records and various other facets of the business to assist management and to help ensure effective communication among various departments and offices of our Company. Accordingly, any failure to maintain the satisfactory performance, stability, security and availability of our computer system may cause significant harm to our reputation and to our advertisers' interest in advertising their products. Any server interruptions, break-downs or system failures, including failures which may be attributable to events within or outside our control, could reduce the attractiveness and availability of our product offerings. Our computer systems are also susceptible to damage from computer viruses, fires, floods, earthquakes, power losses, telecommunication failures, computer hacking, and similar events. We do not maintain insurance policies covering losses relating to our network systems or other assets. As a result, any capacity constraints or operation interruptions for any extended period may have a materially adverse impact on our revenues and results of operations.

If the custodians or authorized users of our controlling non-tangible assets, including corporate chops and seals fail to fulfill their responsibilities, or misappropriate or misuse these assets, our business and operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Under PRC law, legal documents for corporate transactions, including contracts such as the leases and sales contracts that our business relies on, are executed using the chops or seal of the signing entity or with the signature of a legal representative whose designation is registered and filed with Administration of Industry and Commerce, or AIC.

Although we usually utilize chops to enter into contracts, the registered legal representatives of each of our PRC operating subsidiaries have the apparent authority to enter into contracts on behalf of such entities without chops. All designated legal representatives of our PRC subsidiaries are members of our senior management team who owe us fiduciary duties. Accordingly, there is a risk that the registered legal representatives of each of our PRC operating subsidiaries could abuse their authority, for example, by binding the Company with contracts against the Company's interest or intentions which could result in economic harm or damages as a result of any contractual obligations, or resulting disputes, that might arise. If the party contracting with the Company did not act in good faith under such circumstances, then we could incur costs to nullify such contracts.

We rely on the Company seals, financial chops and business licenses of our PRC entities for entering into contracts, conducting banking business, or taking official corporate action of any sort including registering any change to the composition of the board of directors or management with the relevant PRC authorities. In order to maintain the physical security of our chops, seals and business licenses and other controlling intangible assets, we generally store these items in secured locations accessible only by the authorized personnel in the local legal and finance departments. Although we monitor such authorized personnel in the local legal and finance departments, there is no assurance such procedures may be able to prevent all instances of abuse or negligence. Accordingly, if any of our authorized personnel in the local legal and finance departments obtain and misuse or misappropriate our corporate chops, seals, business licenses or other controlling intangible assets, we could incur economic damage and disruption to our operations that may necessitate corporate or legal action. Such corporate or legal action could involve significant time and resources to resolve while distracting management from our operations. In particular, during any period were we lose effective control of the corporate activities as a result of such misuse or misappropriation, the business activities of the affected entity could be disrupted and we could lose the economic benefits of that aspect of our business which may negatively impact our business and reputation.

Table of Contents

We have no business liability, disruption or litigation insurance, and we could incur substantial costs if our business is disrupted due to natural disasters, litigation or other business interruptions.

The insurance industry in China is still at an early stage of development. Insurance companies in China offer limited business insurance products and do not, to our knowledge, offer business liability insurance. While business disruption insurance is available to a limited extent in China, we have determined that the risks of disruption, cost of such insurance and the difficulties associated with acquiring such insurance on commercially reasonable terms make it impractical for us to have such insurance. As a result, we do not have any business liability or disruption coverage for our operations in China. All industries are subject to legal claims. As a public company, we are particularly susceptible to securities and derivative lawsuits. These claims may be costly to defend and divert the attention of our management and our resources in general. Defense and settlement costs can be substantial, even with respect to claims that have no merit. Due to the inherent uncertainty of the litigation process, the resolution of any particular legal claim or proceeding could have a material effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Any business disruption or litigation may result in our incurring substantial costs and the diversion of resources.

Our operating results are difficult to predict and may fluctuate from period to period.

Our operating results are difficult to predict and may fluctuate from period to period. Factors that are likely to cause our operating results to fluctuate include:

our ability to maintain and increase sales to existing advertising clients, attract new advertising clients and satisfy our clients' demands;

the frequency of our clients' advertisements on our network;

remaining competitive with the pricing strategies of our competitors;

effects of strategic alliances, potential acquisitions and other business combinations, and our ability to successfully and timely integrate alliances or acquired businesses into our business;

changes in government regulations in relation to the advertising industry;

lower advertising spending immediately following a major holiday season in China; and

economic and geopolitical conditions in China and elsewhere.

Many of the factors discussed above are beyond our control, making our results difficult to predict from period to period. Although we did not experience significant seasonality in our business, except for generally lower sales in periods immediately following major holiday seasons historically, you should not rely on our operating results for prior periods as an indication of our future results. If our revenues for a particular period are lower than expected, we may be unable to reduce our operating expenses for that period by a corresponding amount, which would harm our operating results for that period relative to our operating results from other periods.

Table of Contents

Risks Relating to Doing Business in the People's Republic of China

If the PRC government determines that the contractual arrangements that established the structure for operating our China business do not comply with applicable PRC laws and regulations, we could be subject to severe penalties.

Before December 23, 2011, the Company was subject to risk relating to its variable interest entity structure. One of the risks related to potential consequences if the PRC government determined that the contractual arrangements that established the Company's operational control of its China operations did not comply with the applicable PRC laws and regulations. Applicable PRC laws and regulations currently require any foreign entities that invest in the advertising services industry in China to have at least three years of direct operations in the advertising industry outside of China. We are a Cayman Islands corporation and a foreign legal person under Chinese laws. Before we acquired 100% of the equity interests of Ad-Icon in 2008, we had not directly operated an advertising business outside of China and thus could not qualify for the requirement of minimum three years experience outside China under PRC regulations. Accordingly, our subsidiary, Jieli Consulting, is currently ineligible to apply for the required business license for providing advertising services in China. Therefore, we entered into contractual arrangements with our consolidated variable interest entity in China, Jingli Shanghai. Jingli Shanghai was owned by two PRC citizens, Ms. Qinying Liu and Ms. Le Yang, and held the requisite business license to provide advertising services in China. Jingli Shanghai and its subsidiaries directly operate a portion of our advertising network, enter into display placement agreements and sell advertising spaces to our clients with respect to certain of our operating subsidiaries. In 2010, Ad-Icon Shanghai, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ad-Icon, acquired some of Jingli Shanghai's subsidiaries and operates the advertising business through such subsidiaries. Before the remaining subsidiaries of Jingli Shanghai are acquired by Ad-Icon Shanghai and termination to the variable interest entities structure on December 23, 2011, we were expected to continue to be dependent on Jingli Shanghai and its subsidiaries to operate a portion of our advertising business. We did not have any equity interest in Jingli Shanghai but received the economic benefits and assume the economic risks of it through various contractual arrangements and certain corporate governance and shareholder rights arrangements. In addition, we entered into agreements with Jingli Shanghai and each of the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai which allow us to exert control over Jingli Shanghai.

If we, Jieli Consulting, Jieli Network, Jingli Shanghai or any of our future PRC subsidiaries are found to be in violation of any existing or future PRC laws or regulations, or fail to obtain or maintain any of the required permits or approvals, the relevant PRC regulatory authorities, including the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, or SAIC, which regulates advertising companies, would have broad discretion in dealing with such violations, including:

revoking the business and operating licenses of Jingli Shanghai or our PRC subsidiary and other affiliated entities, if any;

discontinuing or restricting the operations of any transactions among our PRC subsidiary, Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders;

imposing fines, confiscating the income of Jingli Shanghai or our income, or imposing other requirements with which we or our PRC subsidiary and affiliated entities may not be able to comply;

requiring us or our PRC subsidiary and affiliated entities to restructure our ownership structure or operations; or

restricting or prohibiting our use of the proceeds of the Business Combination to finance our business and operations in China. The imposition of any of these penalties may result in a material and adverse effect on the Company's ability to conduct the Company's business.

Table of Contents

We have terminated these contractual arrangements effective December 23, 2011 and our risk of the imposition of any of these penalties has been eliminated starting from December 23, 2011.

We rely on contractual arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders for our China operations, which may not be as effective in providing operational control as would be the case through ownership of a controlling equity interest in such operating entities.

Before December 23, 2011, the Company was subject to risk relating to its variable interest entity structure, which structure was terminated on such date. One of the risks related to the Company's reliance on contractual arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders for operational control of its China operations. In April 2008, we acquired 100% of the equity interest in Ad-Icon, a Hong Kong company, which operates an outdoor billboard advertising business. In December 2009, Ad-Icon established Ad-Icon Shanghai in China. In 2010, Ad-Icon Shanghai acquired most of the subsidiaries of Jingli Shanghai, but as of the date of filing of the Annual Report on Form 20-F, Ad-Icon Shanghai has not acquired all remaining subsidiaries of Jingli Shanghai. We have relied and expect to continue to rely on contractual arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders to operate a portion of our business in China before we complete the acquisition of all subsidiaries of Jingli Shanghai. For a description of these contractual arrangements, see Information on the Company Organizational Structure Contractual Arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its Shareholders in this Annual Report on Form 20-F. These contractual arrangements include an equity pledge agreement, under which the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai pledged their equity interests in Jingli Shanghai to Jieli Consulting. Such pledge was duly created by recording the pledge on Jingli Shanghai's register of shareholders in accordance with the PRC Collateral Law. According to the PRC Property Rights Law, effective as of October 1, 2007, the pledge needs to be registered with the relevant local branch of the Shanghai Administration of Industry and Commerce. Jingli Shanghai successfully registered the pledge with the Shanghai Administration of Industry and Commerce Chongming Sub-bureau on February 2, 2009. These contractual arrangements may not be as effective as ownership of a controlling equity interest would be in providing us with control over Jingli Shanghai. Under the current contractual arrangements, as a legal matter, if Jingli Shanghai or any of its shareholders fail to perform their respective obligations under these contractual arrangements, we may have to incur substantial costs and resources to enforce such arrangements, and rely on legal remedies under PRC law, including seeking specific performance or injunctive relief, and claiming damages, which may not be effective. For example, if the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai were to refuse to transfer their equity interests in Jingli Shanghai to us or our designee when we exercise the call option pursuant to these contractual arrangements, or if they were otherwise to act in bad faith towards us, we may have to take legal action to compel them to perform their contractual obligations. In addition, we may not be able to renew these contracts with Jingli Shanghai and/or its shareholders.

In addition, if Jingli Shanghai or all or part of its assets become subject to liens or rights of third-party creditors, we may be unable to continue some or all of our business activities, which could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. If Jingli Shanghai undergoes a voluntary or involuntary liquidation proceeding, its shareholders or unrelated third-party creditors may claim rights to some or all of these assets, thereby hindering our ability to operate our business, which could materially and adversely affect our business and our ability to generate revenue.

All of these contractual arrangements are governed by PRC law and provide for the resolution of disputes through arbitration in the PRC. The legal environment in the PRC is not as developed as in other jurisdictions, such as the United States. As a result, uncertainties in the PRC legal system could limit our ability to enforce these contractual arrangements. In the event we are unable to enforce these contractual arrangements, we may not be able to exert effective control over our affiliated entity, and our ability to conduct our business may be materially and negatively affected.

Table of Contents

We have terminated these contractual arrangements effective December 23, 2011 and our risk under this risk factor has been eliminated starting from December 23, 2011.

Adverse changes in economic and political policies of the PRC government could have a material adverse effect on the overall economic growth of China, which could adversely affect our business.

Substantially all of our business operations are conducted in China. Accordingly, our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects are subject to a significant degree to economic, political and legal developments in China. China's economy differs from the economies of developed countries in many respects, including with respect to the amount of government involvement, level of development, growth rate, control of foreign exchange and allocation of resources. While the PRC economy has experienced significant growth in the past 20 years, growth has been uneven across different regions and among various economic sectors of China. The PRC government has implemented various measures to encourage economic development and guide the allocation of resources. While some of these measures may benefit the overall PRC economy, they may also have a negative effect on us. For example, our business, financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected by changes in tax regulations or the government's control over capital investments and foreign currencies. As the PRC economy is increasingly linked to the global economy, it is affected in various respects by downturns and recessions of major economies around the world, such as the recent financial and economic crises. Although the PRC government has in recent years implemented measures emphasizing the utilization of market forces for economic reform, the PRC government continues to exercise significant control over economic growth in China through the allocation of resources, controlling payment of foreign currency-denominated obligations, setting monetary policy and imposing policies that impact particular industries or companies in different ways. Any adverse change in the economic conditions or government policies in China could have a material adverse effect on the overall economic growth and the level of investments and expenditures in China, which in turn could lead to a reduction in demand for our services and products and consequently have a material adverse effect on our business and prospects. The various economic and policy measures enacted by the PRC government to forestall economic downturns or shore up the PRC economy may not succeed and our business could be negatively affected as a result.

If advertising registration certificates are not obtained for advertisements on our outdoor billboard or rapid transit networks, we may be subject to fines.

On May 22, 2006, the SAIC amended the Provisions on the Registration Administration of Outdoor Advertisements, or the new outdoor advertisement provisions. Pursuant to the new outdoor advertisement provisions, advertisements placed on posters, digital displays, light boxes, neon lights via outdoor premises, space, facilities, as well as those placed in rapid transit stations are treated as outdoor advertisements and must be registered in accordance with the local SAIC by advertising distributors and advertising registration certificates must be obtained. After review and examination, if an application complies with the requirements, the local SAIC will issue an Outdoor Advertising Registration Certificate for such advertisement. The content, format, specifications, periods and locations of dissemination of the outdoor advertisement must be submitted for filing with the local SAIC.

Table of Contents

We require advertisers to apply for and obtain the registration certificates for their advertisements. If an advertiser displays an advertisement without the requisite registration, the relevant local SAICs may require us to disgorge advertising revenues and may impose fines up to RMB30,000 (approximately USD 4,800) on us.

Our outdoor billboards, light boxes and neon signs are subject to municipal zoning requirements, governmental approvals and administrative controls. If we are required to tear down our billboards, light boxes or neon signs as a result of these requirements, approvals or controls, our operations could be materially and adversely affected.

Our billboards, light boxes and neon signs are subject to local regulations which may impose detailed requirements regarding municipal zoning requirements and governmental approvals. Each outdoor placement and installation may require a license with specific terms of use. If we, or our lessors or sublessors, violate the terms of the license for the relevant placement and installation for a billboard, light box or neon sign, we could be required to tear it down. We may also be required to tear it down as result of changes of municipal zoning requirements or actions taken by local authorities for city beautification, clean-up or other purposes. If we lose a significant number of billboards, light boxes and/or neon signs as a result, our business operations would be materially and adversely impacted. Moreover, if we are unable to perform our advertising contracts as a result of these losses, we may incur remedial costs and our relationships with our advertising clients and financial results could be harmed as a result.

If we were deemed a resident enterprise by PRC tax authorities, we could be subject to tax on our global income and our non-PRC shareholders could be subject to certain PRC taxes.

Under the New PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law effective January 1, 2008, or the EIT law, an enterprise established outside of the PRC with de facto management bodies within the PRC is considered a resident enterprise and will be subject to the EIT at the rate of 25% on its global income. The implementing rules of the EIT law define de facto management as substantial and overall management and control over the production and operations, personnel, accounting, and properties of the enterprise.

If we were to be considered a resident enterprise by the PRC tax authorities, our global income would be subject to tax under the EIT law at the rate of 25% and, to the extent we were to generate a substantial amount of income outside of the PRC in the future, we would be subject to additional taxes. In addition, if we were to be considered a resident enterprise, the dividends we pay to our non-PRC enterprise shareholders would be subject to withholding tax and our non-PRC enterprise shareholders would be subject to a 10% income tax on any gains they would realize from the transfer of their shares, if such income were sourced from within the PRC.

As of the date of this Annual Report on Form 20-F, no final interpretations on the implementation of the resident enterprise designation are available for companies such as ours. Moreover, any such designation, when made by PRC tax authorities, will be determined based on the facts and circumstances of individual cases. As a result, we cannot currently determine the likelihood of the Company being designated a resident enterprise.

Table of Contents

Uncertainties with respect to the PRC legal system could adversely affect us.

We conduct our business primarily through our subsidiaries in China. Our operations in China are governed by PRC laws and regulations. Our subsidiaries are generally subject to laws and regulations applicable to foreign investments in China and, in particular, laws and regulations applicable to wholly foreign-owned enterprises. The PRC legal system is based on statutes. Prior court decisions may be cited for reference but have limited precedential value.

Since 1979, PRC legislation and regulations have significantly enhanced the protections afforded various forms of foreign investments in China. However, China has not developed a fully integrated legal system and recently enacted laws and regulations may not sufficiently cover all aspects of economic activities in China. In particular, because these laws and regulations are relatively new, and because of the limited volume of published decisions and their nonbinding nature, the interpretation and enforcement of these laws and regulations involve uncertainties. In addition, the PRC legal system is based in part on government policies and internal rules (some of which are not published on a timely basis or at all) that may have a retroactive effect. As a result, we may not be aware of our violation of these policies and rules until sometime after a violation. In addition, any litigation in China may be protracted and result in substantial costs and diversion of resources and management attention.

We may be subject to, and may expend significant resources in defending against, government actions and civil suits based on the content and services we provide through our network.

As an operator of an advertising medium, we are obligated under PRC law to monitor the advertising content displayed on our network for compliance with applicable law. Although the advertisements displayed on our network may have been previously displayed over public media, we may be required to separately and independently vet these advertisements for content compliance before displaying them on our networks. In addition, for advertising content related to certain types of products and services, such as alcohol, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and medical procedures, we are required to confirm that the advertisers have obtained requisite government approvals including the advertiser's operating qualifications, proof of quality inspection of the advertised products, government pre-approval of the contents of the advertisement and filings with the local authorities. Previously, we did not strictly abide by these requirements. Any failure to strictly abide by applicable requirements regarding content, pre-approval, or proper filings could result in fines up to RMB30,000 (approximately USD4,800), confiscation of advertising earnings, orders to cease dissemination of the advertisements and orders to publish an advertisement correcting the misleading information.

We have remedied this noncompliance and have, among other things, employed qualified advertising inspectors who are trained to review advertising content for compliance with relevant PRC laws and regulations. In the past three years, we have not received notification from the PRC government for our failure to strictly abide by the requirements regarding content and confirmation that the advertisers obtained the requisite government pre-approval for the content of the advertisement and filings with the local authorities. Also, we have not received any indication that we may be potentially penalized for any previous instances of noncompliance. However, there can be no assurances that we will not be penalized for our past noncompliance or that each advertisement provided by an advertising client is in compliance with relevant PRC advertising laws and regulations or that the supporting documentation and government approvals provided by our advertising clients are accurate and complete.

Table of Contents

Moreover, civil claims may be filed against us for fraud, defamation, subversion, negligence, copyright or trademark infringement or other violations due to the nature and content of the information displayed on our network. If consumers find the content displayed on our network to be offensive, site managers and owners may seek to hold us responsible for any consumer claims against them or may terminate their relationships with us.

In addition, if the security of our content management system is breached and unauthorized images or text are displayed on our network, viewers or the PRC government may find these images or text to be offensive, which may subject us to civil liability or government censure, and harm our reputation. If our viewers do not believe our content is reliable and accurate, our business model may become less appealing to them and our advertising clients may be less willing to place advertisements on our network. Government censure, investigation or any other government action, or any civil suits against us could divert management time and resources and could have a material and adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Governmental control of currency conversion may materially and adversely affect the value of your investment. Substantial limitations may be imposed on the removal of funds from the PRC to the Company, or the infusion of funds by us to our subsidiaries located in the PRC.

The PRC government imposes controls on the convertibility of the RMB into foreign currencies and, in certain cases, the remittance of currency out of China. We receive substantially all of our revenues in RMB. Under our current corporate structure, our income is primarily derived from dividend payments from our PRC subsidiaries.

Shortages in the availability of foreign currency may restrict the ability of our PRC subsidiaries to remit sufficient foreign currency to pay dividends or other payments to us, or otherwise satisfy their foreign currency denominated obligations. Under existing PRC foreign exchange regulations, payments of current account items, including profit distributions, interest payments and expenditures from trade-related transactions, can be made in foreign currencies without prior approval from the PRC State Administration of Foreign Exchange, or SAFE, by complying with certain procedural requirements. However, approval from appropriate government authorities is required where RMB is to be converted into foreign currency and remitted out of China to pay capital expenses such as the repayment of loans denominated in foreign currencies. The PRC government may also at its discretion restrict access in the future to foreign currencies for current account transactions. If the foreign exchange control system prevents us from obtaining sufficient foreign currency to satisfy our currency demands, we may not be able to pay dividends in foreign currencies to our parent, the Company. As dividends from Chinese operations will be the primary source of revenue production for us, failure to be able to receive such dividends could materially and adversely impact the value of your Company shares and could make it impossible for us to meet our cash flow requirements.

On August 29, 2008, SAFE, promulgated the Circular on the Relevant Operating Issues Concerning the Improvement of the Administration of the Payment and Settlement of Foreign Currency Capital of Foreign-Invested Enterprises, or SAFE Circular 142, a notice regulating the conversion by a foreign-invested company of foreign currency into RMB by restricting how the convert a RMB may be used. When applying for the conversion of foreign exchange in "capital account", such as foreign exchange received from capital contribution or loans, into RMB, the company is required, except for small amount conversions not exceeding US\$50,000 for daily expenses, to submit to the bank the relevant documents supporting such conversion, such as the business contracts, related RMB payment notice, and documents evidencing the use of funds

Table of Contents

previously converted from foreign exchange in its capital account. Further, SAFE Circular 142 requires that RMB converted from the foreign currency denominated registered capital of a foreign-invested company may only be used for purposes within the company's business scope approved and registered with the local SAIC authority, and may not be used for equity investments within the PRC unless specifically provided for otherwise in its business scope. In addition, SAFE strengthened its oversight of the flow and use of RMB funds converted from the foreign currency denominated registered capital of a foreign-invested company. The use of such RMB may not be changed without approval from SAFE, and may not in any case be used to repay RMB loans if the proceeds of such loans have not yet been used. Violations of SAFE Circular 142 may result in severe penalties, including substantial fines as set forth in the Foreign Exchange Administration Regulations. As a result, SAFE Circular 142 may significantly limit our ability to effectively convert our US dollar infusion of funds from our off-shore company into RMB to be used by our subsidiaries located in the PRC.

PRC regulation of loans and direct investment by offshore holding companies to PRC entities may prevent us from making loans or capital contributions to our PRC operating subsidiaries.

As an offshore holding company of our PRC operating subsidiaries, any loans by us to our PRC subsidiaries are subject to PRC regulations and approvals. For example, loans by us to our wholly-owned subsidiaries in China, each of which is a foreign-invested enterprise, to finance the activities cannot exceed statutory limits and must be registered with SAFE, or its local counterpart.

We may also decide to finance our wholly-owned subsidiaries by means of capital contributions. These capital contributions must be approved by the PRC Ministry of Commerce or its local counterpart. There can be no assurances that we will be able to obtain these government registrations or approvals on a timely basis, if at all, with respect to future loans or capital contributions by us to our subsidiaries. If we fail to receive such registrations or approvals, our ability to capitalize our PRC operations may be negatively affected, which could adversely and materially affect our liquidity and our ability to fund and expand our business.

Fluctuation in the value of the Renminbi may have a material adverse effect on your investment.

The value of the Renminbi against the U.S. dollar, Euro and other currencies is affected by, among other things, changes in China's political and economic conditions and China's foreign exchange policies. On July 21, 2005, the PRC government changed its decade-old policy of pegging the value of the Renminbi to the U.S. dollar. Under the new policy, the Renminbi was permitted to fluctuate within a narrow and managed band against a basket of foreign currencies. As a result of this policy change, Chinese RMB appreciated approximately 1.0%, 3.1% and 5.1% against the U.S. dollar in 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively. It is possible that the Chinese government will adopt a more flexible currency policy, which could result in more significant fluctuations of Chinese RMB against the U.S. dollar.

Substantially all of our revenues and costs are denominated in Renminbi, and a significant portion of our financial assets are also denominated in Renminbi. Thus, a resumption of the appreciation of the Renminbi against the U.S. dollar would, for instance, further increase our costs in U.S. dollar terms. In addition, as we may rely on dividends and other distributions paid to us by our subsidiaries in China, any significant depreciation of the Renminbi against the U.S. dollar may have a material adverse effect on our revenues and financial condition. In addition, to the extent that we need to convert U.S. dollars into Renminbi for our operations, appreciation of the Renminbi against the U.S. dollar would have an adverse effect on the

Table of Contents

Renminbi amount we receive from the conversion. Conversely, if we decide to convert our Renminbi into U.S. dollars for the purpose of making payments for dividends on our preferred or ordinary shares or for other business purposes, appreciation of the U.S. dollar against the Renminbi would have a negative effect on the U.S. dollar amount available to us. Any fluctuation of the exchange rate between the Renminbi and the U.S. dollar could also result in foreign current translation losses for financial reporting purposes.

Any health epidemics and other outbreaks, or war, acts of terrorism and other man-made or natural disasters could severely disrupt our business operations.

Our business could be materially and adversely affected by the outbreak of avian influenza, H1N1 Flu, severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, or another epidemic. In recent years, there have been reports on the occurrences of avian influenza and H1N1 Flu in various parts of China, including a few confirmed human cases and deaths. Any prolonged recurrence of avian influenza, H1N1 Flu, SARS or other adverse public health developments in China could require the temporary closure of our offices or prevent our staff from traveling to our clients' offices to sell our services or provide on site services. Such closures could severely disrupt our business operations and adversely affect our results of operations.

Our operations are vulnerable to interruption and damage from natural and other types of disasters, including snowstorms, earthquakes, fire, floods, environmental accidents, power loss, communications failures and similar events. If any disaster were to occur in the future, our ability to operate our business could be materially impaired.

We are a Cayman Islands company and, because the rights of shareholders under Cayman Islands law differ from those under U.S. law, you may have fewer protections as a shareholder.

The company's conduct of its corporate affairs will be governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Company is subject at all times to the Companies Law (2010 Revision) of the Cayman Islands. The rights of shareholders to take action against the directors, the rights of minority shareholders and the fiduciary duties of the directors under Cayman Islands law are governed by the Companies Law (2010 Revision) and/or common law principles derived from cases in the Cayman Islands and in the courts of England (English case law is not binding but is considered persuasive in the courts of the Cayman Islands). The rights of shareholders and the fiduciary duties of directors under Cayman Islands law differ from those established under statutes or judicial precedent in some jurisdictions in the United States. Additionally, the removal of a director from our board of directors, even for cause, may in certain circumstances require the approval of our shareholders. Also, the Cayman Islands has a less developed body of securities law compared to the United States and less developed or judicially interpreted bodies of corporate law compared to many U.S. states, including Delaware.

As a foreign private issuer, we will be exempt from certain SEC requirements that provide stockholders with protections and information that must be made available to stockholders of U.S. public companies.

On June 30, 2010, we became a foreign private issuer, which reduces the reporting requirements under the Exchange Act, resulting in fewer costs associated with financial and reporting compliance. For example, as a foreign private issuer we will be exempt from certain provisions applicable to U.S. public companies, including:

the rules requiring the filing with the SEC of quarterly reports on Form 10-Q or current reports on Form 8-K;

Table of Contents

the sections of the Exchange Act regulating the solicitation of proxies, consents or authorizations with respect to a security registered under the Exchange Act;

provisions of Regulation FD aimed at preventing issuers from making selective disclosures of material non-public information; and

the sections of the Exchange Act requiring insiders to file public reports of their stock ownership and trading activities and establishing insider liability for profits realized from any short swing trading transactions, or a purchase and sale, or a sale and purchase, of the issuer's equity securities within less than six months.

As a foreign private issuer, we filed an annual report on Form 20-F for fiscal year 2010 on June 30, 2011. We filed this annual report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2011 on or before May 15, 2012, as permitted under Rule 12b-25, and will file an annual report on Form 20-F within four months of each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2012, and reports on Form 6-K relating to certain material events promptly after we publicly announces these events. However, because of the foregoing filing exemptions, our shareholders will not be afforded the same protections or information generally available to investors holding shares in public companies organized in the United States.

Because we do not intend to pay dividends on our ordinary shares for the foreseeable future, stockholders will benefit from an investment in our ordinary shares only if those shares appreciate in value.

We currently intend to retain all future earnings, if any, for use in the operations and expansion of the business. As a result, we do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Any future determination as to the declaration and payment of cash dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on factors our board of directors deem relevant, including, among others, our results of operations, financial condition and cash requirements, business prospects, the terms of our credit facilities, if any, and any other financing arrangements. Accordingly, realization of a gain on stockholders' investments will depend on the appreciation of the price of our ordinary shares, and there is no guarantee that our ordinary shares will appreciate in value.

Voting control by executive officers, directors and other affiliates of the company may limit your ability to influence the outcome of director elections and other matters requiring shareholder approval.

The executive officers, directors and other affiliates of the Company beneficially own approximately 48% of our voting shares as of May 8, 2012. These shareholders can control substantially all matters requiring approval by our shareholders, including the election of directors and the approval of other business transactions. This concentration of ownership could have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of the Company or discouraging a potential acquirer from attempting to obtain control of the Company, which in turn could have a material adverse effect on the market price of ordinary shares or prevent our shareholders from realizing a premium over the market price for their ordinary shares.

The NYSE MKT may delist our securities from quotation on its exchange, which could limit investors' ability to make transactions in our securities and subject us to additional trading restrictions.

If the NYSE MKT delists our securities from trading on its exchange, we could face significant material adverse consequences, including:

a limited availability of market quotations for our securities;

a reduced liquidity with respect to our securities;

Table of Contents

a determination that our common stock is a penny stock which will require brokers trading in our common stock to adhere to more stringent rules, possibly resulting in a reduced level of trading activity in the secondary trading market for our common stock;

a limited amount of news and analyst coverage for the company; and

a decreased ability to issue additional securities or obtain additional financing in the future.

On April 8, 2011, we received notice of noncompliance with Section 704 of the NYSE MKT Company Guide (the "Company Guide"), which required us to hold our stockholders annual meeting during 2010 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009. The NYSE MKT notified us on May 5, 2011 that it accepted our plan dated April 6, 2011 and granted us an extension until October 4, 2011 to regain compliance with continued listing standards. We were subject to periodic review by the NYSE MKT Staff during its extension period. On September 13, 2011, we held our 2011 annual general meeting of shareholders, which also served as our 2010 annual general meeting of shareholders. The NYSE MKT notified us on September 20, 2011 that we have resolved the annual meeting deficiency referenced in the prior NYSE MKT letter.

On July 15, 2011, the NYSE MKT notified us that we were not in compliance with (1) Section 1003(a)(i) of the Company Guide because we reported stockholders' equity of less than \$2,000,000 as of December 31, 2010 and losses from continuing operations and net losses in two of our three most recent fiscal years ended December 31, 2010, (2) Section 1003(a)(ii) of the Company Guide because we reported stockholders' equity of less than \$4,000,000 as of December 31, 2010 and losses from continuing operations and net losses in three of our four most recent fiscal years ended December 31, 2010 and (3) Section 1003(a)(iv) of the Company Guide because, in the opinion of the NYSE MKT, our losses and existing financial resources, brought into question whether we will be able to continue operations and/or meet our obligations as they mature.

On October 6, 2011, the NYSE MKT notified us that our plan to regain compliance had been accepted and that our listing would continue to be subject to the Company demonstrating compliance with the financial impairment standard in Section 1003(a)(iv) by January 17, 2012, and the minimum stockholders' equity requirements in Sections 1003(a)(i) and 1003(a)(ii) by January 15, 2013. Based on the information we provided to the NYSE MKT, the NYSE MKT in a letter dated March 7, 2012, notified us that we had made significant progress towards regaining compliance with Sections 1003(a)(iv), 1003(a)(i) and 1003(a)(ii) of the Company Guide and that we must demonstrate that we had regained compliance with the financial impairment standard included in Section 1003(a)(iv) of the Company Guide by May 21, 2012 and the stockholders' equity standards included in Sections 1003(a)(i) and 1003(a)(ii) by January 15, 2013.

Our shareholders' deficit as at December 31, 2011 was \$13.5 million. Upon completion of the divestiture of Zhejiang Continental and elimination of Haiya's earn-out liabilities in May 2012, our earn-out payable was reduced by \$11.2 million which also significantly reduced our shareholders' deficit. The Company continues to renegotiate with ex-owners of subsidiaries to convert the remaining earn-out liabilities of \$12.0 million into the Company's common shares under the Integration Program. The Company expects the Integration Program will be substantially completed by the end of the second quarter of 2012. The Company also expects the Convertible Note holders to convert their Notes during 2012 and that will increase our shareholders' equity by another \$3.0 million. The Company expects to regain compliance with the NYSE MKT's minimum stockholders' equity requirement standard by January 15, 2013.

We are also required to provide the NYSE MKT with updates in conjunction with the initiatives of our compliance plan as appropriate or upon request but no later than at each quarter completion with our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission and that any additional shares we issue during the plan periods will require approval of the management committee of the NYSE Regulation.

A significant number of shares are eligible for future sale by our stockholders and the sale of those shares could adversely affect the stock price.

Table of Contents

A significant number of our outstanding shares of common stock became eligible for resale beginning October 30, 2010, as a result of the expiration of lock up provisions on resale. If our stockholders whose shares are eligible for resale sell or attempt to sell their stock in the public market, the trading price of our common stock could decline.

There is a risk that we could be treated as a U.S. domestic corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes after the Business Combination, which could result in significantly greater U.S. federal income tax liability to us.

Section 7874(b) of the Code generally provides that a corporation organized outside the United States which acquires, directly or indirectly, pursuant to a plan or series of related transactions substantially all of the assets of a corporation organized in the United States will be treated as a domestic corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if shareholders of the acquired corporation, by reason of owning shares of the acquired corporation, own at least 80% (of either the voting power or the value) of the stock of the acquiring corporation after the acquisition. If Section 7874(b) were to apply to the conversion, then we, as the surviving entity, would be subject to U.S. federal income tax on its worldwide taxable income following the Business Combination as if we were a domestic corporation.

Although Section 7874(b) should not apply to treat us as a domestic corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes because the Business Combination should be treated as part of the same transaction and, therefore, this 80% threshold was not reached, due to the absence of full guidance on how the rules of Section 7874(b) will apply to the transactions contemplated by the Business Combination, this result is not entirely free from doubt. As a result, stockholders and warrant holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors on this issue. We intend to take the position that we are a foreign corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The immediately following two risk factors assume that we will be treated as a foreign corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

There is a risk that we will be classified as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, which could result in adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. holders of ordinary shares or warrants of SearchMedia.

We will be treated as a PFIC for any taxable year in which either (1) at least 75% of its gross income (looking through certain corporate subsidiaries) is passive income or (2) at least 50% of the average value of its assets (looking through certain corporate subsidiaries) produce, or are held for the production of, passive income. Passive income generally includes dividends, interest, rents, royalties, and gains from the disposition of passive assets. If we were a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. holder held our ordinary shares or warrants, the U.S. holder may be subject to increased U.S. federal income tax liability and may be subject to additional reporting requirements.

Based on the expected composition of the assets and income of the Company and our subsidiaries after the Business Combination, it is not anticipated that we will be treated as a PFIC following the Business Combination. The actual PFIC status of the Company for any taxable year, however, will not be determinable until the conclusion of our taxable year, and accordingly there can be no assurance as to the status of the Company as a PFIC for the current taxable year or any future taxable year. U.S. holders of our securities are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible application of the PFIC rules.

Table of Contents

If you acquire (directly, indirectly, or constructively) 10% or more of our shares, you may be subject to taxation under the controlled foreign corporation, or CFC rules.

Each 10% U.S. Shareholder of a foreign corporation that is a CFC for an uninterrupted period of 30 days or more during a taxable year, and that owns shares in the CFC directly or indirectly through foreign entities on the last day of the CFC's taxable year, must include in its gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes its pro rata share of the CFC's subpart F income, even if the subpart F income is not distributed. In addition, if a person that is or was a 10% U.S. Shareholder of a CFC during the 5-year period ending on the date on which such person sells or exchanges shares of stock of such corporation recognizes gain such a sale or such person as a dividend to the extent of earnings and profits of the corporation attributable to such stock that were accumulated while such person held the stock while the corporation was a CFC. After 2010, dividends may be taxed at higher rates than long-term capital gains. A foreign corporation is considered a CFC if 10% U.S. Shareholders own more than 50% of the total combined voting power of all classes of voting stock of the foreign corporation, or the total value of all stock of the corporation. A 10% U.S. Shareholder is a U.S. person, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, that owns at least 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote of the foreign corporation. For purposes of determining whether a corporation is a CFC, and therefore whether the more-than-50% and 10% ownership tests have been satisfied, shares owned includes shares owned directly or indirectly through foreign entities or shares considered owned under constructive ownership rules. The attribution rules are complicated and depend on the particular facts relating to each investor. U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible application of the CFC rules.

Risks Relating to Our Stockholders and Warrant holders

We may choose to redeem our outstanding warrants at a time that is disadvantageous to the warrant holders, preventing such holders from realizing the potential economic value of their warrants.

Subject to there being a current prospectus under the Securities Act, we may redeem all of the currently outstanding warrants at any time after they become exercisable at a price of \$0.01 per warrant, upon a minimum of 30 days prior written notice of redemption, if and only if, the last sale price of our ordinary shares equals or exceeds \$11.50 per share for any 20 trading days within a 30-trading-day period ending three business days before we send the notice of redemption. Calling all of such warrants for redemption could force the warrant holders to:

exercise the warrants and pay the exercise price for such warrants at a time when it may be disadvantageous for the holders to do so;

sell the warrants at the then-current market price when they might otherwise wish to hold the warrants; or

accept the nominal redemption price which, at the time the warrants are called for redemption, is likely to be substantially less than the market value of the warrants.

Our warrant holders may not be able to exercise their warrants, which may significantly reduce their economic value and create liability for us.

Holders of our warrants will be able to receive shares upon the exercise of the warrants as long as:

Our current registration statement on Form F-3 or a similar registration statement under the Securities Act relating to the ordinary shares underlying the warrants remains effective; and

Table of Contents

such shares are qualified for sale or exempt from qualification under the applicable securities laws of the states in which the various holders of warrants reside.

A registration statement on Form F-3 covering the shares underlying the warrants was declared effective as of September 27, 2011. Some states may not permit us to register the shares issuable upon exercise of our warrants for sale. The value of the warrants will be greatly reduced if the registration statement on Form F-3 covering the shares issuable upon the exercise of the warrants does not remain effective or if the securities are not qualified, or exempt from qualification, in the states in which the holders of warrants reside. We have agreed to qualify for sale the common stock underlying our warrants in each state in which the units issued in the Ideation initial public offering were initially offered. However we did not agree to qualify such securities in any other state.

Holders of warrants who reside in jurisdictions in which the shares underlying the warrants are not qualified and in which there is no exemption will be unable to exercise their warrants and would either have to sell their warrants in the open market or allow them to expire unexercised, which could result in the filing of claims against and other losses for us. The Company has extended the expiration dates of certain existing warrants from between November 2012 to December 2013.

Item 4 Information on the Company

A. History and Development of the Company

History and Development

SearchMedia Holdings legal name is SearchMedia Holdings Limited. We are a Cayman Islands exempted company. Our predecessor, Ideation Acquisition Corp., was incorporated on June 1, 2007. SearchMedia operates under The Companies Law (2010 Revision) of the Cayman Islands. Our principal executive offices are located at K-Wah Center #38-03, 1010 Middle Huaihai Road, Shanghai, China, 200031 and our telephone number is 86-2154010959. Our Internet website address is www.searchmediaholdings.com. The Internet website address provided in this Annual Report on Form 20-F is not intended to function as a hyperlink and information obtained at the address is not and should not be considered part of this Annual Report on Form 20-F and is not incorporated by reference in this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

In October 2009, we acquired SearchMedia International pursuant to a share exchange agreement by and among our predecessor, Ideation Acquisition Corp., a Delaware corporation (Ideation), ID Arizona Corp., an Arizona corporation and wholly owned subsidiary of Ideation (ID Arizona), SearchMedia International, and certain shareholders and warrant holders of SearchMedia International. The share exchange agreement provided for two primary transactions: (1) the redomestication of our predecessor, Ideation, a Delaware corporation, to a Cayman Islands exempted company and (2) the acquisition of SearchMedia International.

Table of Contents

On October 30, 2009, we completed the redomestication, which resulted in holders of securities of Ideation holding securities in SearchMedia Holdings. Immediately after the redomestication, we completed the acquisition of SearchMedia International. We refer to the redomestication and acquisition of SearchMedia International together as the Business Combination. As a result of the Business Combination, SearchMedia International became a wholly owned subsidiary of SearchMedia Holdings, and SearchMedia International security holders became security holders of SearchMedia Holdings.

Prior to January 1, 2008, SearchMedia International incorporated Jieli Investment Management Consulting (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. (Jieli Consulting), which in turn entered into contractual agreements with the owners of Jingli Shanghai. The arrangement was to facilitate foreign investors to invest in SearchMedia International as the then PRC laws did not allow direct foreign investment or ownership in advertising companies in the PRC.

In 2008, Jingli, the VIE, acquired 100% or the equity interests of the following subsidiaries:

Name of entity	Place of incorporation
Shanghai Jincheng Advertising Co., Ltd. (Jincheng)	PRC
Shaanxi Xinshichuang Advertising Planning Co., Ltd. (Xinshichuang)	PRC
Beijing Wanshuizhiyuan Advertising Co., Ltd. (Wanshuizhiyuan)	PRC
Shenyang Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. (Shenyang Jingli)	PRC
Qingdao Kaixiang Advertising Co., Ltd. (Kaixiang)	PRC
Shanghai Haiya Advertising Co., Ltd. (Haiya)	PRC
Tianjin Shengshitongda Advertising Creativity Co., Ltd. (Shengshitongda)	PRC
Shanghai Botang Advertising Co., Ltd. (Botang)	PRC
Ad-Icon Company Limited (HK Ad-Icon)	HKSAR
Changsha Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. (Changsha Jingli)	PRC
Wenzhou Rigao Advertising Co., Ltd. (Wenzhou Rigao)	PRC
Wuxi Ruizhong Advertising Co., Ltd. (Wuxi Ruizhong)	PRC

On December 11, 2009, HK Ad-Icon established Ad-Icon Advertising (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. (Ad-Icon Shanghai), a wholly-owned subsidiary in China, which is permitted to operate advertising businesses in China. In 2010, Ad-Icon Shanghai, acquired 100% of the equity interests in Zhejiang Continental. Furthermore, 100% of the equity interests in Botang, Wanshuizhiyuan, Kaixiang, Wuxi Ruizhong and Shenyang Jingli acquired by Jingli Shanghai have been transferred to Ad-Icon Shanghai during 2010 and 2011.

Effective December 23, 2011, the VIE, Jingli Shanghai, and its subsidiaries including Jincheng, Xinshichuang, Haiya, Shengshitongda, Changsha Jingli and Wenzhou Rigao have all ceased their respective advertisement business so that the VIE structure is no longer required or in place. The Company terminated the VIE's arrangements and ceased to consolidate the financial results of the VIE and its subsidiaries effective December 23, 2011. On May 2, 2012, the Company divested 100% of the equity interests in Zhejiang Continental back to its original selling shareholders.

Table of Contents**B. Business Overview****Business Overview**

We are a multi-platform media company operating primarily in the out-of-home advertising industry. Out-of-home advertising typically refers to advertising media in public places, such as billboards, in-elevator displays, street furniture and transit area displays. Our core outdoor billboard and in-elevator platforms are complemented by our transit advertising platform, which together enables us to provide multi-platform, one-stop shop services for our local, national and international clients.

Targeting the rapidly growing number of urban and increasingly affluent consumers in China, we deploy our advertising network across the following select media platforms:

Outdoor billboard platform. As of December 31, 2011, we operate a network of about 750 high-impact billboards in 15 cities, including Beijing, Hong Kong, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenyang, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Chongqing and Chengdu. Our billboards are mostly large format billboards deployed in commercial centers and other desirable areas with heavy vehicle or foot traffic.

In-elevator platform. As of December 31, 2011, we operate a network of about 150,000 printed and digital poster frames delivered targeted advertising messages inside elevators to captive audiences in high-rise residential and office buildings in over 50 major cities in China. Only approximately 30,000 frames were managed upon concession contracts signed directly with media owners. In the first quarter of 2012, we downsized our operations and currently we primarily resell in-elevator media assets mostly owned by other business partners.

Transit advertising platform. As of December 31, 2011, we acted as an agency for a bus advertising network of 5,000 buses in Beijing. Our multi-platform offerings are cross-marketed by a sales force located in 16 offices across China. Our advertising clients are from industries ranging from telecommunications, insurance and banking, to automobile, real estate, electronics and fast moving consumer goods.

We expect to expand our own concessions and revenue through acquisitions and organic expansion, and capitalize on the growth opportunities in China's out-of-home advertising and other emerging media markets. For the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, we had revenue of \$37.7 million, \$49.0 million and \$55.6 million and a net loss of \$22.6 million, \$46.6 million and \$13.5 million respectively. At the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, we had total assets of \$86.9 million and \$50.4 million, respectively.

Our shareholders' deficit as at December 31, 2011 was \$13.5 million. Upon completion of the divestiture of Zhejiang Continental and elimination of Haiya's earn-out liabilities in May 2012, our earn-out payable was reduced by \$11.2 million which also significantly reduced our shareholders' deficit. The Company continues to renegotiate with ex-owners of subsidiaries to convert the remaining earn-out liabilities of \$12.0 million into the Company's common shares under the Integration Program. The Company expects the Integration Program will be substantially completed by the end of the second quarter of 2012. The Company also expects the Convertible Note holders to convert their Notes during 2012 and that will increase our shareholders' equity by another \$3.0 million. The Company expects to regain compliance with the NYSE MKT's minimum stockholders' equity requirement standard by January 15, 2013.

Our Business

The following table sets forth a breakdown of our total revenues by category for the periods indicated:

	For the years ended December, 31		
	2009	2010	2011
	(In thousands)		
In-elevator networks	7,025	9,117	8,278
Outdoor billboards	28,854	35,762	39,697
Transits	1,862	4,088	7,596
Total net revenue	37,741	48,967	55,571

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

SearchMedia Holdings Limited is a holding company and, through its subsidiaries (collectively the Group), is principally engaged in the provision of advertising services in the out-of-home advertising industry. The Group's advertising service revenues generated from customers outside the PRC is less than 10% of the Group's total consolidated revenues and the Group's total long-lived tangible assets located outside the PRC is less than 10% of the Group's total consolidated long-lived tangible assets. Consequently no geographic information is presented.

Table of Contents

Advertising Network

We are one of the largest operators of integrated outdoor billboard and in-elevator advertising networks in China. We have coverage of over 50 cities, including larger cities such as Hong Kong, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Beijing, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. As of December 31, 2011 our advertising network included high-impact billboards, neon signs and light boxes, poster frames located in commercial and residential buildings, and an agency for transit advertising.

Media Products

Our core outdoor billboard and in-elevator portfolios are complemented by our transit advertising platform, which together create an attractive multi-platform, one-stop shop service for our local, national and international advertising clients.

Outdoor Billboard Platform

As of December 31, 2011, we operate a network of about 750 high-impact billboards in 15 cities, including Beijing, Hong Kong, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenyang, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Chongqing and Chengdu. Our billboards are mostly large format billboards, banners, light boxes and other outdoor postings deployed in commercial centers and other desirable areas with heavy vehicle and/or foot traffic. Our goal is optimize our billboard portfolio in locations that are desirable for our advertisers while maximizing the profitability of our concession leases.

Our target audiences for these advertisements are mid- to high-income shoppers, pedestrians and car-driving consumers. We believe our billboard advertisements effectively increase our advertising clients' brand awareness. We intend to continue to bid for high-profile projects that will bring positive media exposure, leading to greater market acceptance and brand recognition for our company. Management plans to continue to build our nationwide portfolio of traditional outdoor billboard properties through organic expansion and strategic acquisitions.

In-Elevator Platform

Our in-elevator poster frames are located primarily on the inside of elevators of modern high-rise buildings and reach a network of over 50 cities in China, including Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. Two to three poster frames are typically installed in each elevator. The in-elevator platform is characterized by its low cost structure and targets the affluent urban population that is highly desired by advertisers. As of December 31, 2011, our elevator advertising network consisted of about 150,000 poster frames, of which, approximately 30,000 frames were managed upon concession contracts signed by us directly with media owners. In the first quarter of 2012, we downsized our operations and currently we primarily resell in-elevator media assets mostly owned by other business partners.

Our business partners are independent local poster frame media operators at multiple second tier and third tier cities. We do not have ownership interests with these business partners and we have no related party relationships with them. When our clients establish multi-city advertising campaigns through the Company, we resell our business partners' in-elevator media assets as an agent. Since our business partners are located in cities where we do not own media assets, we have no material conflict of interest or competing interest resulting from selling our business partners' in-elevator media assets as an agent. As of the first quarter of 2012, the Company has executed approximately 100 cooperative agreements with our business partners. The terms of these agreements range from one month to one year, such that the agreements have various expiration points

Table of Contents

during the year. Under these agreements, neither party can terminate unilaterally unless there is a breach of contract. The cooperative agreements typically do not include provisions for automatic renewal. However, the Company retains the right of first refusal after the expiration of these cooperative agreements. We continue to renew cooperative agreements as we deem appropriate. The in-elevator advertising platform allows us to target captive audiences comprised of middle- and high-end businesses and consumer groups.

Poster frames may take two forms:

Printed Poster Frames. These are frames for posting paper posters advertisements with a visual size of 540mm by 390mm

Digital poster frames. These poster frames are LCD screens with memory card slots that allow the screens to change images at regular intervals. Our digital poster frames change images in loops, with typically six images within each 60-second loop. The visual size of the screens is typically 405mm by 305mm.

We sell advertising space on our poster frame network on a per display basis. For each frame that is upgraded from printed poster frame to digital frame, up to six multiple digital images can now be displayed inside each physical frame and we increase our available advertising inventory and opportunities for revenue.

Recently, we scaled down some of our operations and closed four unprofitable offices under our subsidiary Ad-Icon Shanghai that were involved in the elevator business. We will continue to serve those markets by relying on our other subsidiaries to represent us in the cities affected by the closings. This strategic decision will reduce the overlap in resources and also minimize overhead expenses. As a result of our strategic decision to close these offices, we have reduced the number of media screens from our current portfolio by 20,000 screens. As a result of the office closings, we were able to subsequently downsize the sales & marketing and assets development team to reduce overhead expenses and to improve our operating margins.

Transit Advertising Platform

We represent a network of approximately 5,000 buses for bus-body advertising in Beijing. This advertising consists of large format sticker advertising.

Advertising Clients

We are able to support a large and diverse base of local, national and international advertisers with coverage of over 50 cities and a broad range of media offerings. These advertising clients are from diverse industries ranging from telecommunications, insurance and banking, to automobiles, real estate, electronics and fast-moving consumer goods.

We enter into most of our advertising contracts with advertising agencies. We also enter into a portion of advertising contracts with direct clients. Our top five advertising clients in aggregate accounted for approximately 29.1% of our advertising service revenues for the year ended December 31, 2011.

A typical advertising contract specifies the duration, site location, types and number of advertising placements, price and payment terms with our advertising clients. Before placing an advertisement, we typically review the advertisement content to be displayed, the relevant approvals for displaying the content, the registered trademark of the client and other materials required by applicable laws.

Table of Contents

Generally, our minimum advertising period is 7 days. The contract terms generally range from one to three months for elevator advertisements, six months to 24 months for billboards, one to three months for subway advertisements and one to six months for bus advertisements. In general, we base our listed price on a number of factors, including locations, quantity of displays, scale, types of audience, nature of communities and duration of clients' advertising campaigns. We increase our listed prices from time to time to reflect changes in market prices.

Relationships with Site Managers and Owners

We lease spaces in office and residential buildings, subway stations and other high traffic commercial areas to install poster frames, billboards, neon signs and light boxes. Establishing and maintaining long-term relationships with site managers and owners are critical aspects of our business.

We lease billboard locations from managers of commercial centers and other desirable areas of heavy vehicle or foot traffic, such as outside walls of commercial buildings, bus stops and main roads. The term of a location leasing contract is generally one to five years. We are responsible for periodic monitoring, maintenance and repair of frames. Under most of the leasing contracts, we are granted a right of first refusal with respect to renewals. The rental terms and fees under our location leasing contracts vary considerably depending on the city, location, and number of billboards that may be installed.

We lease elevators in high traffic high-rise buildings from property developers, property management companies or homeowner associations. We target both high-rise residential buildings and office buildings. The term of an elevator leasing contract is generally one to three years. The rental terms and fees under our elevator leasing contracts vary considerably depending on the city, location and size of the building and number of flat-panel poster frames that may be installed. Upon entering into a leasing contract, we can install the pre-agreed poster frames in the elevator area usually in three days. We are responsible for periodic maintenance and repair of elevator poster frames. Under a typical lease agreement, a lessor is not allowed to move, remove, damage or hide from view our poster frames, and is required to inform us immediately in the event of any damage to our poster frames. The rental terms and fees under our elevator leasing contracts vary considerably depending on the city, location and size of the building and number of flat-panel poster frames that may be installed.

Sales

As of December 31, 2011, our sales efforts were spearheaded by a team of approximately 90 advertising sales personnel in 12 cities. Our sales personnel generally have prior sales experience in China's advertising industry and, once hired, receive training to gain a deeper understanding of the out-of-home advertising market, our advertising network, our competitive strengths and the value propositions we offer our advertising clients. We also provide our sales personnel with current data that measures the effectiveness of our advertising network and case studies of successful campaigns conducted on our network. Our sales personnel typically earn commissions on sales, in addition to base salaries.

Table of Contents

We supplement our sales efforts by providing value-added advisory services to some of our clients, especially small-size local clients. Each sale starts with a thorough understanding of a client's advertising needs that leads to tailored solutions that optimize advertising spending on our network. In these services, we assess the client's media needs and budgets, assist in allocating media resources across the various media platforms and assist with the creative process in the design and placement of the poster frames.

Competitive Advantages

We believe we enjoy the following advantages over our competitors:

Nationwide coverage and leading market share. With a nationwide coverage of over 50 cities throughout China and Hong Kong, we are one of the largest operators of out-of-home advertising media networks in China. We believe our market share and experience have enabled us to build a strong brand and reputation in the industry and have allowed us to attract a highly diversified advertising base of national and international clients, in addition to a broad client list of local advertisers. We believe our growing nationwide coverage, our market share and diversified, effective advertising media platforms will continue to help us expand our client base and media portfolio, create significant barriers to entry in existing markets and provide added leverage in our quest to expand to new geographic and advertising markets.

Extensive advertising network across multiple media platforms. We believe our extensive advertising network across multiple media platforms allows us to act as a one-stop shop for advertising clients that seek nationwide distribution of advertising content across multiple advertising channels, including outdoor billboards, elevators, and transits. The site-specific billboards and frames in our large portfolio further combine nationwide marketing with the benefit of precision targeting of audiences. These attributes allow us to accommodate clients that desire to scale and optimize their advertising solutions based on their advertising budgets, targeted audiences and nature of marketing. Additionally, we believe that many of our clients are often using in-elevator advertising for promotional purposes, as opposed to only brand awareness, which is a core strategy for these advertisers regardless of the economic climate. We believe the appeal of our scalable, targeted and effective advertising solutions will continue to attract new and recurring clients.

Scalable revenue model. Each of our media platforms can be characterized by a low cost structure and low level of capital expenditures required for expansion, which we expect will allow us to cost-efficiently expand and scale our operations in response to market conditions and new opportunities. We believe our expansion opportunities, both geographic and in new advertising markets, can be further characterized by low incremental cost and high marginal profit, as we continue to leverage our existing resources.

Competition

As a multi-platform media company with a coverage of over 50 cities in China and Hong Kong, we compete with different players across our platforms and cities of operation. We compete for advertising clients generally on the basis of network coverage, service quality, technology, media offerings, services and brand name. We have built our competitive position primarily on our nationwide coverage, leading market share, and our ability to offer broad geographic coverage, diverse media platforms and quality services.

Table of Contents

Outdoor billboard platform. As the outdoor billboard market in China is largely fragmented with no clear nationwide leader, we compete primarily with other local or regional outdoor billboard owners and operators. We also compete with operators of other forms of outdoor media, including digital outdoor displays and street furniture advertising.

In-elevator platform. We compete primarily with other nationwide operators of in-elevator poster frame advertising. We may face competition in individual cities from local and regional players and new entrants into the local and regional market from time to time.

Transit platform. We compete with other operators of bus-body advertising.

We also compete for the advertising budget of advertisers with other operators of out-of-home advertising and operators of other advertising media including television, radio, newspapers, magazines and the Internet.

Although we do not experience significant seasonality in our business, advertising spending is affected by holidays and one-time events. Advertising spending for outdoor media typically decreases during the Chinese New Year, which occurs in the first calendar quarter of each year, and increases in the last calendar quarter.

Intellectual Property

Our brand, trade secrets and other intellectual property rights contribute to our competitive advantage in the outdoor advertising market in China. To protect our intellectual property, we rely on a combination of trademark law, trade secret protection and restriction on disclosure laws in China as well as imposing procedural and contractual confidentiality and invention assignment obligations on our employees, consultants and others.

While we cannot assure you that our efforts will deter others from misappropriating our intellectual properties, we will continue to create and protect our intellectual property rights in order to maintain our competitive position.

Regulatory Matters

We operate our business in China under a legal regime consisting of the State Council, which is the highest authority of the executive branch of the National People's Congress, and several ministries and agencies under its authority including the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, or SAIC, which regulates the advertising industry.

PRC Advertising Law was promulgated in 1994. In addition, the State Council, SAIC and other ministries and agencies have issued regulations that regulate our business as discussed below.

Restrictions on Foreign Ownership in the Advertising Industry

The principal regulations governing foreign investment in the advertising industry in China include:

Administrative Regulations on Foreign-Invested Advertising Enterprises (2008); and

Table of Contents

Notice on the Relevant Issues regarding Establishing Foreign-Invested Advertising Enterprises by Foreign Investors through Equity Acquisitions (2006)

Under the Administrative Regulations on Foreign-Invested Advertising Enterprises, there are no longer any maximum foreign shareholding percentage restrictions that were previously applicable to foreign-invested advertising enterprises. However, foreign investors are required to have at least three years of prior experience operating an advertising business outside of China as their main business before they may receive approval to directly own a 100% interest in an advertising company in China. Foreign investors with at least two years of prior experience operating an advertising business outside of China as their main business are allowed to establish a joint venture with domestic advertising enterprises to operate an advertising business in China.

Regulation of Advertising Services

The SAIC is the government agency responsible for regulating advertising activities in China. Regulations governing advertising business mainly include:

Advertisement Law of the People's Republic of China (1994)

Administrative Regulations for Advertising (1987)

Implementation Rules for the Administrative Regulations for Advertising (2004)

According to the regulations listed above, companies that engage in advertising activities must obtain from the SAIC or its local branches a business license which specifically includes operating an advertising business within its business scope. An enterprise engaging in an advertising business as specified in its business scope does not need to apply for an advertising operation license, provided that such enterprise is not a radio station, television station, newspaper or magazine publisher or any other entity as specified in the laws or administrative regulations. Enterprises conducting advertising activities without such a license may be subject to penalties, including fines, confiscation of advertising income and orders to cease advertising operations. The business license of an advertising company is valid for the duration of its existence, unless the license is suspended or revoked due to a violation of any relevant law or regulation.

The PRC advertising laws and regulations set forth certain content requirements for advertisements in China including, among other things, prohibitions on false or misleading content, superlative wording, socially destabilizing content or content involving obscenities, superstition, violence, discrimination or infringement of the public interest. Advertisers, advertising operators and advertising publishers are required by PRC advertising laws and regulations to ensure that the content of the advertisements they prepare or distribute is true and in full compliance with the applicable law. Violations of these regulations may result in penalties, including fines, confiscation of advertising income, orders to cease dissemination of the advertisements and orders to publish an advertisement correcting the misleading information. In circumstances involving serious violations, the SAIC or its local branches may revoke the violators' licenses or permits for their advertising business operations.

Table of Contents

Business License for Advertising Companies

According to the regulations listed above, companies that engage in advertising activities must obtain from the SAIC or its local branches a business license which specifically includes operating an advertising business within its business scope. An enterprise engaging in an advertising business as specified in its business scope does not need to apply for an advertising operation license, provided that such enterprise is not a radio station, television station, newspaper or magazine publisher or any other entity as specified in the laws or administrative regulations. Enterprises conducting advertising activities without such a license may be subject to penalties, including fines, confiscation of advertising income and orders to cease advertising operations. The business license of an advertising company is valid for the duration of its existence, unless the license is suspended or revoked due to a violation of any relevant law or regulation.

Advertising Content

The PRC advertising laws and regulations set forth certain content requirements for advertisements in China including, among other things, prohibitions on false or misleading content, superlative wording, socially destabilizing content or content involving obscenities, superstition, violence, discrimination or infringement of the public interest. Advertisers, advertising operators and advertising publishers are required by PRC advertising laws and regulations to ensure that the content of the advertisements they prepare or distribute is true and in full compliance with the applicable law. Violations of these regulations may result in penalties, including fines, confiscation of advertising income, orders to cease dissemination of the advertisements and orders to publish an advertisement correcting the misleading information. In circumstances involving serious violations, the SAIC or its local branches may revoke the violators' licenses or permits for their advertising business operations.

Outdoor Advertising

The Advertising Law stipulates that the exhibition and display of outdoor advertisements must not:

utilize traffic safety facilities or traffic signs;

impede the use of public facilities, traffic safety facilities or traffic signs;

obstruct commercial or public activities or create an eyesore in urban areas;

be placed in restrictive areas near government offices, cultural landmarks or historical or scenic sites; or

be placed in areas prohibited by the local governments from having outdoor advertisements.

In addition to PRC Advertising Law, the SAIC promulgated the Outdoor Advertising Registration Administrative Regulations on December 8, 1995, as amended on December 3, 1998 and May 22, 2006, respectively, which govern the outdoor advertising industry in China.

Outdoor advertisements in China must be registered with the local SAIC before dissemination. The advertising distributors are required to submit a registration application form and other supporting documents for registration. If the application complies with the requirements, the local SAIC will issue an Outdoor Advertising Registration Certificate for such advertisement. The content, format, specifications, periods and locations of dissemination of the outdoor advertisement must be submitted for filing with the local SAIC and shall not be changed without approval. Outdoor advertising facilities must be safely installed and should be maintained on a regular basis to ensure safety and neatness. Advertising content must be true and lawful and not contain any misleading statements.

Table of Contents

Local authorities have also issued detailed regulations on operation of outdoor advertising that may prohibit outdoor advertisements in certain areas or through certain facilities or may require that concession rights be obtained through a bidding process for public spaces. In cities where we base our operations, including Shanghai, Beijing, Qingdao, Hangzhou, and Shenyang, the placement and installation of outdoor advertising facilities are subject to municipal zoning requirements and governmental approvals. Each outdoor advertising facility requires a license for placement and installation with specific terms of use for a certain number of year.

Regulations on Dividend Distribution

The principal regulations governing dividend distributions of wholly foreign-owned companies include:

The Company Law of the PRC (1993), as amended in 2005;

Wholly Foreign-Owned Enterprise Law (1986), as amended in 2000; and

Wholly Foreign-Owned Enterprise Law Implementing Rules (1990), as amended in 2001.

Under these regulations, wholly foreign-owned companies in the PRC may pay dividends only out of their accumulated profits as determined in accordance with PRC accounting standards. In addition, a wholly foreign-owned company is required to set aside at least 10% of its after-tax profit based on PRC accounting standards each year to its reserve fund until the accumulated amount of such fund reaches 50% of its registered capital. At the discretion of a wholly foreign-owned company, it may allocate a portion of its after-tax profits, based on PRC accounting standards, to its staff welfare and bonus fund. The reserve fund and staff welfare and bonus fund are not distributable as cash dividends. Under the relevant PRC law, no net assets other than the accumulated after-tax profits can be distributed as dividends.

Regulations on Trademarks

The PRC Trademark Law (amended in 2001) and the PRC Trademark Implementing Regulations provide the basic legal framework for the regulation of trademarks in China, and the SAIC is responsible for the registration and administration of trademarks throughout the country. The PRC has adopted a first-to-file principle with respect to trademarks.

Under PRC Trademark Law of China, the required process for successful registration of a trademark consists of the following steps:

- (1) The Company would determine whether there is an identical or similar trademark in the advertisement industry in the Chinese trademark data system.
- (2) The Company would submit the trademark application documents to the Chinese trademark authority.
- (3) If the trademark application documents are accepted, the Chinese trademark authority would issue a notice on pre-approval of the trademark and would make a public announcement of the pre-approval of the trademark.
- (4) Although anyone can make an objection within three months after public announcement of the trademark pre-approval, if no objection has been initiated by the expiration of that three month period, the Chinese trademark authority will issue a trademark certificate to the applicant and will make a public announcement of the trademark certificate.

Table of Contents

With regard to the SearchMedia trademark registration, the Company completed step (1) of the process by the end of 2010. However, after further review, the Company does not consider the SearchMedia trademark essential to our advertising agency business, hence we have suspended the trademark application.

SAFE Regulations on Offshore Investment by PRC Residents and Employee Stock Options

On October 21, 2005, the SAFE issued a regulation entitled Circular on several issues concerning foreign exchange regulation of corporate finance and roundtrip investments by PRC residents through special purpose companies incorporated overseas, or Circular No. 75, which became effective as of November 1, 2005.

According to Circular No. 75:

prior to establishing or assuming control of an offshore company for the purpose of financing that offshore company with assets or equity interests in an onshore enterprise in the PRC, each PRC resident, whether a natural or legal person, must complete the overseas investment foreign exchange registration procedures with the relevant local SAFE branch;

an amendment to the registration with the local SAFE branch is required to be filed by any PRC resident that directly or indirectly holds interests in that offshore company upon either (1) the injection of equity interests or assets of an onshore enterprise to the offshore company, or (2) the completion of any overseas fund raising by such offshore company; and

an amendment to the registration with the local SAFE branch is also required to be filed by such PRC resident when there is any material change involving a change in the capital of the offshore company, such as (1) an increase or decrease in its capital, (2) a transfer or swap of shares, (3) a merger or division, (4) a long term equity or debt investment, or (5) the creation of any security interests over the relevant assets located in China.

Moreover, Circular No. 75 applies retroactively. As a result, PRC residents who have established or acquired control of offshore companies that have made onshore investments in the PRC before issuance of Circular No. 75 are required to complete the relevant overseas investment foreign exchange registration procedures by March 31, 2006. Failure to comply with the foreign exchange registration procedures may result in restrictions being imposed on the foreign exchange activities of the relevant onshore company, including the payment of dividends and other distributions to its offshore parent or affiliate and the capital inflow from the offshore entity, and may also subject relevant PRC residents and onshore company to penalties under PRC foreign exchange administration regulations.

On January 5, 2007, the SAFE issued the Implementing Rules of the Administrative Measures for Individual Foreign Exchange, or the Individual Foreign Exchange Rule, which, among other things, specifies approval requirements for a PRC citizen's participation in the employee stock holding plans or stock option plans of an overseas publicly-listed company. On March 28, 2007, the SAFE issued the Processing Guidance on Foreign Exchange Administration of Domestic Individuals Participating in Employee Stock Holding Plan or Stock Option Plan of Overseas Listed Company, or the Stock Option Rule.

According to the Stock Option Rule, if a PRC domestic individual participates in any employee stock holding plan or stock option plan of an overseas listed company, a PRC domestic agent or the PRC subsidiary of such overseas listed company must, among others things, file, on behalf of such individual, an application with the SAFE to obtain approval for an annual

Table of Contents

allowance with respect to the purchase of foreign exchange in connection with stock purchase or stock option exercise as PRC domestic individuals may not directly use overseas funds to purchase stocks or exercise stock options. Such PRC individuals' foreign exchange income received from the sale of stocks and dividends distributed by the overseas listed company and any other income shall be fully remitted into a collective foreign currency account in PRC opened and managed by the PRC subsidiary of the overseas listed company or the PRC agent before distributing them to such individuals.

On February 15, 2012, SAFE promulgated the Notice regarding Foreign Exchange Administration for Domestic Individuals Participating in Employee Stock Option Plan of Overseas-Listed Companies, or Stock Option Notice, which substitutes the Stock Option Rule promulgated by SAFE on March 28, 2007. Under the Stock Option Notice, the domestic individuals as defined under the Foreign Exchange Administration Regulations who are granted stock options or other incentive alternatives by an overseas publicly listed company are required, through a PRC agent or PRC subsidiary of such overseas publicly listed company, to register with SAFE and complete certain other procedures.

Our PRC citizen employees who may be granted stock options, restricted share awards of the Company, or PRC optionees, will be subject to the Stock Option Rule. If we or our PRC optionees fail to comply with the Individual Foreign Exchange Rule and the Stock Option Rule, we and/or our PRC optionees may be subject to fines and other legal sanctions and we may be prevented from granting additional options or other awards of the Company to our PRC employees.

In addition, the General Administration of Taxation has issued certain circulars concerning employee stock options. Pursuant to these circulars, our employees working in China who exercise stock options will be subject to PRC individual income tax. Our PRC subsidiaries have obligations to file documents related to employee stock options with relevant tax authorities and withhold individual income taxes of those employees who exercise their stock options. If our employees fail to pay and we fail to withhold their income taxes, we may face sanctions imposed by tax authorities or any other PRC government authorities.

Regulation on Overseas Listing

In August 2006, six PRC regulatory agencies promulgated the Rules on Acquisition of Domestic Enterprises by Foreign Investors, or the M&A Rules, regulating the mergers and acquisitions of domestic enterprises by foreign investors. The M&A Rules became effective in September 2006, and was amended on June 22, 2009, and the rules, among other things, purport to require that an offshore special purpose vehicle, or SPV, formed for listing purposes and controlled directly or indirectly by PRC companies or individuals shall obtain the approval of the CSRC prior to the listing and trading of such SPV's securities on an overseas stock exchange, especially in the event that the SPV acquires shares of or equity interests in the PRC companies in exchange for the shares of offshore companies. On September 21, 2006, the CSRC issued a clarification that sets forth the criteria and process for obtaining any required approval from the CSRC.

There is still uncertainty as to how the new regulations will be interpreted or implemented or whether prior approval from CSRC is required under the new regulations for the listing and trading of our shares on NYSE MKT. The regulation also establishes more complex procedures for acquisitions conducted by foreign investors that could make it more difficult for SearchMedia to grow through acquisitions.

Table of Contents

Regulations on Taxation

On March 16, 2007, the National People's Congress, the PRC legislature, passed the new *Enterprise Income Tax Law*, or the new EIT Law which became effective on January 1, 2008. On December 6, 2007, the State Council approved and promulgated the *Implementation Rules of PRC Enterprise Income Tax Law*, which took effect simultaneously with the new EIT Law.

The new EIT Law applies a uniform 25% Enterprise Income Tax rate to both foreign-invested enterprises and domestic enterprises and eliminates many of the preferential tax policies afforded to foreign investors. Furthermore, dividends out of earnings paid by a foreign-invested enterprise to a non-resident shareholder are subject to a withholding tax of 10%, which may be reduced under any applicable bi-lateral tax treaty between the PRC and the jurisdiction where the non-resident shareholder resides. Under the new EIT Law and Implementation Rules, an enterprise registered under the laws of a jurisdiction outside the PRC may be deemed a PRC tax resident if its place of effective management is in the PRC, and an enterprise's place of effective management may be deemed to be in the PRC if the PRC is the location of its de facto management bodies, which are defined as the bodies that have substantial and overall management and control over such aspects as the operations, personnel, accounting, and properties of the enterprise. See Risk Factors Risk Related to Doing Business in the People's Republic of China If we were deemed a resident enterprise by PRC tax authorities, we could be subject to tax on our global income and our non-PRC shareholders could be subject to certain PRC taxes.

Pursuant to the *Arrangement between Mainland of the PRC and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income* signed on August 21, 2006, a company incorporated in Hong Kong will be subject to withholding income tax at a rate of 5% on dividends it receives from its PRC subsidiaries if it is deemed the beneficial owner by PRC tax authorities and holds a 25% or more equity interest in that particular PRC subsidiary at the time of the distribution, or at a rate of 10% if it holds less than a 25% equity interest in that subsidiary or is not the beneficial owner of the income.

Pursuant to the *PRC Individual Income Tax Law*, or the Individual Income Tax Law, adopted on December 29, 2007 and amended on June 30, 2011, individuals who are domiciled in the PRC or who are not domiciled but have resided in the PRC for at least one year are required to pay Individual Income Taxes in accordance with the Individual Income Tax Law on income derived from sources in and outside the PRC. For those individuals who are neither domiciled in nor residents of the PRC, or who are not domiciled and reside for less than one year in the PRC, are required to pay Individual Income Taxes in accordance with this law on income derived from sources within the PRC.

Table of Contents

C. Organizational Structure

The following diagram illustrates our corporate structure and the place of formation and affiliation of each of our subsidiaries before and after the termination of the VIEs on December 23, 2011.

SMHL Organization Chart Before December 23, 2011

Table of Contents

SMHL Organization Chart After December 23, 2011

44

Table of Contents

- (1) Jieli Investment Management Consulting (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., or Jieli Consulting, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by SearchMedia International.
- (2) Jieli Network Technology Development (Shanghai) Co., Ltd, or Jieli Network, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by SearchMedia International for the purpose of facilitating foreign capital investment into the PRC.
- (3) Shanghai Botang Advertising Co., Ltd, or Shanghai Botang, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon Shanghai.
- (4) Beijing Wanshuizhiyuan Advertising Co., Ltd, or Beijing Wanshuizhiyuan , a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon Shanghai.
- (5) Wuxi Ruizhong Advertising Co., Ltd., or Wuxi Ruizhong, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon Shanghai.
- (6) Shenyang Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd., or Shenyang Jingli, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon Shanghai.
- (7) Zhejiang Continental Advertising Co, Ltd., or Zhejiang Continental, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon Shanghai. Zhejiang Continental was disposed on May 2, 2012.
- (8) Qingdao Kaixiang Advertising Co., Ltd., or Qingdao Kaixiang, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Jingli Shanghai.
- (9) Ad-Icon Company Limited, or Ad-Icon, a company incorporated under the laws of Hong Kong, 100% owned by SearchMedia International.
- (10) Ad-Icon Advertising (Shanghai) Co., Ltd., or Ad-Icon Shanghai, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon.
- (11) Quanwei Advertising (Shanghai) Co. Ltd., or Quanwei, a Chinese limited liability company, 100% owned by Ad-Icon.

Before the termination of the VIE, most of our advertising business in China was provided through Ad-Icon Shanghai and its subsidiaries, with a portion of our operations provided through our contractual arrangements with our consolidated PRC variable interest entities, namely, Jingli Shanghai, and its subsidiaries. Our consolidated PRC variable interest entities hold the requisite licenses to provide advertising services in China. Our subsidiary, Jieli Consulting, has entered into a series of contractual arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its subsidiaries and shareholders under which:

we are able to exert effective control over our consolidated PRC variable interest entities;

a substantial portion of the economic benefits of our consolidated PRC variable interest entities are transferred to us; and

we have an exclusive option to purchase all or part of the equity interests in our consolidated PRC variable interest entities in each case when, and to the extent, permitted by PRC law.

At the time of the termination of the VIE on December 23, 2011, Jingli Shanghai still held 100% of the equity interests of our other Chinese affiliates, namely, Tianjin Shengshitongda, Shanghai Jincheng, Shaanxi Xinshichuang, Changsha Jingli and Wenzhou Rigao. Upon termination of the VIE structure with Jingli Shanghai, we had no equity ownership in or contractually control over these entities.

Great Talent Holdings Ltd., (Great Talent), a Hong Kong company, was established by SearchMedia International in early 2008. SearchMedia International originally intended to utilize this entity for tax planning purposes. In April 2008, SearchMedia International acquired Ad-Icon Company Limited (HK) and determined not to use Great Talent for tax planning purposes. As such, Great Talent has remained inactive since it was established.

Table of Contents

VIEs arrangements (Terminated as of December 23, 2011)

A variable interest entity (VIE) is an entity that either (i) has insufficient equity to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support or (ii) has equity investors who lack the characteristics of a controlling financial interest. A VIE is consolidated by its primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary has both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance and the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits from the entity that could potentially be significant to the VIE.

If the Company determines that it has operating power and the obligation to absorb losses or receive benefits, the Company consolidates the VIE as the primary beneficiary, and if not, does not consolidate. The Company's involvement constitutes power that is most significant to the entity when it has unconstrained decision-making ability over key operational functions within the entity.

Assets recognized as a result of consolidating VIEs do not represent additional assets that could be used to satisfy claims against the Company's general assets. Conversely, liabilities recognized as a result of consolidating these VIEs do not claims against the Company's general assets.

PRC regulations currently prohibit or restrict foreign ownership of media and advertising business with the exception that foreign entities that directly invest in the advertising industry in China are required to have at least three years of direct operations in the advertising industry outside of China pursuant to the Administrative Regulations on Foreign-invested Advertising Enterprises (2004, as amended in 2008). As a Cayman Islands corporation, the Company is deemed a foreign legal person under PRC laws. Prior to the incorporation of Ad-Icon Shanghai, a WOFE permitted to operate advertising businesses in China, and to comply with PRC laws and regulations, the Company conducts substantially all of its operations through its VIE. The VIE is wholly owned by certain ex-employees of the Company (nominee shareholders).

Upon the formation of the VIE, the Company entered into various agreements with the VIE, through which, the Company holds all of the variable interests of the VIE. Details of key agreements with the VIE are as follows:

Contractual Arrangements with Jingli Shanghai and its Shareholders

Loan Agreement. Pursuant to the loan agreement dated September 10, 2007 between Jieli Consulting and the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai, namely Ms. Qinying Liu and Ms. Le Yang, Jieli Consulting granted an interest-free loan to each shareholder. The principal amounts of the loans to Ms. Qinying Liu and Ms. Le Yang were \$6.7 million and \$4.5 million, respectively, in proportion with their respective original capital contributions to Jingli Shanghai. The term of the loan agreement is 10 years and may be extended for another ten years automatically unless Jieli Consulting terminates the agreement in a written form three months before the expiration date of the agreement. The loan can be repaid only with the proceeds from the transfer of the shareholder's equity interest in Jingli Shanghai to Jieli Consulting or another person designated by Jieli Consulting at the minimum price permitted by then applicable PRC law. Jieli Consulting may accelerate the loan repayment upon certain events, including if a shareholder dies, loses action capacity, no longer works for Jingli Shanghai or any affiliate of Jingli Shanghai, or commits a crime, or if Jieli Consulting so informs a shareholder as permitted by then applicable PRC law.

Table of Contents

Equity Pledge Agreement. Pursuant to the equity pledge agreement dated September 10, 2007 among Jieli Consulting, Jingli Shanghai, and its shareholders, each shareholder has pledged all of her equity interest in Jingli Shanghai to Jieli Consulting to guarantee the performance of the shareholders' and Jingli Shanghai's obligations under the loan agreement, the exclusive call option agreement, and the exclusive technical consulting and service agreement. If Jingli Shanghai or any of its shareholders breaches its respective contractual obligations under these agreements, Jieli Consulting, as pledgee, will be entitled to certain rights, including the right to sell the pledged equity interests. The shareholders agreed not to transfer, sell, pledge, dispose of or otherwise create any new encumbrance on their equity interest in Jingli Shanghai without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting. The equity pledge agreement will expire after Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders fully perform their respective obligations under the loan agreement, the exclusive call option agreement and the exclusive technical consulting and service agreement, each briefly described in this section of the Form 20-F.

Exclusive Call Option Agreement. Under the exclusive call option agreement dated September 10, 2007 among Jingli Shanghai, its shareholders, and Jieli Consulting, Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders irrevocably granted Jieli Consulting or its designated person an exclusive option to purchase, when and to the extent permitted under then applicable PRC law, all or part of the equity interests in Jingli Shanghai. The exercise price for all of the equity interests of Jingli Shanghai is the minimum price permitted by then applicable PRC law or a higher price determined by Jieli Consulting. Unless this exclusive call option agreement is terminated on an earlier date as agreed upon by the parties to the agreement, the term of the agreement is ten years and may be extended for another ten years automatically unless Jieli Consulting terminates the agreement in writing three months before the expiration date of the agreement. Pursuant to this call option agreement,

The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may not change the articles of association, bylaws, registered capital or shareholding structure of Jingli Shanghai, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not acquire or merge with any third parties, or invest in any third parties, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not generate, delegate, guarantee for, or allow existing any indebtedness without the prior consent or confirmation of Jieli Consulting, except in the ordinary courses of business;

Jingli Shanghai may not enter into any material contracts with the contractual price exceeding RMB1.0 million without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting, except in the ordinary courses of business;

Jingli Shanghai may not grant loans or guaranties to any third parties, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not transfer, pledge, have caused any encumbrances, or otherwise dispose of any shares of Jingli Shanghai, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not declare or pay any dividends without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting; upon the request of Jieli Consulting, Jingli Shanghai shall declare and pay all distributable dividends to its shareholders; and

The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may only appoint the persons nominated by Jieli Consulting as directors of Jingli Shanghai, upon request of Jieli Consulting.

Power of Attorney. The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai have executed a power of attorney to Mr. Guojun Liang, which irrevocably authorizes Mr. Liang (who is the husband of Ms. Qinying Liu), to vote as such shareholders' attorney-in-fact on all of the matters of Jingli Shanghai requiring shareholder approval.

Table of Contents

Exclusive Technical Consulting and Service Agreement. Pursuant to the exclusive technical consulting and service agreement dated September 10, 2007 between Jingli Shanghai and Jieli Consulting, Jieli Consulting has the exclusive and irrevocable right to provide to Jingli Shanghai technical consulting services related to the business operations of Jingli Shanghai. Jingli Shanghai agrees to pay annual technical service fees to Jieli Consulting based on the actual services provided by Jieli Consulting. If Jingli Shanghai does not generate net profits in a fiscal year, Jieli Consulting agrees not to charge services for that year. The term of this agreement is 10 years commencing on September 10, 2007 and may be extended automatically for another 10 years unless Jieli Consulting terminates the agreement by a written notice three months before the expiration date.

The agreements above did not provide substantive kick-out right of the VIE to unilaterally terminate the contracts and the VIE could not force termination by paying a termination fee. The VIE also need to agree to an extension of fixed term. As a result of these agreements, Jieli Consulting exercised effective control over the VIE, received substantially all of the economic benefits and residual interest and absorbs all of the risks and expected losses from the VIE, and had an exclusive call option to purchase all the equity interest in the VIE at a minimal price. Therefore, Jieli Consulting was considered as the primary beneficiary of the VIE and accordingly the financial statements of these VIE were consolidated in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The Company believes that Jieli Consulting's contractual arrangements with the VIE were in compliance with PRC law and were legally enforceable. However, uncertainties in the PRC legal system could limit the Company's ability to enforce these contractual arrangements and if the shareholders of the VIE were to reduce their interest in the Company, their interests may diverge from that of the Company and that may potentially increase the risk that they would seek to act contrary to the contractual terms, for example by influencing the VIE not to pay the service fees when required to do so.

The Company's ability to control the VIE also depended on the voting power obtained under the power of attorney, described above. Jieli Consulting had the power to vote on all matters requiring shareholder approval in the VIE. As noted above, the Company believed the power of attorney is legally enforceable but may not be as effective as direct equity ownership.

In addition, if the legal structure and contractual arrangements were found to be in violation of any existing PRC laws and regulations, the PRC government could, among other things:

revoke the Company's business and operating licenses;

require the Company to discontinue or restrict operations;

restrict the Company's right to issue the invoice and collect revenues;

block the Company's websites;

require the Company to restructure the operations in such a way as to compel the Company to establish a new enterprise, re-apply for the necessary licenses or relocate our businesses, staff and assets;

impose additional conditions or requirements with which the Company may not be able to comply; or

take other regulatory or enforcement actions against the Company that could be harmful to the Company's business.

The imposition of any of these penalties may result in a material and adverse effect on the Company's ability to conduct the Company's business. In addition, if the imposition of any of these penalties causes the Company to lose the rights to direct the activities of the VIE and its subsidiaries or the right to receive its economic benefits, the Company would no longer be able to consolidate the VIE. The Company does not believe that any penalties imposed or actions taken by the PRC government would result in the liquidation of the Company, Jieli Consulting, or the VIE.

Table of Contents

Effective December 23, 2011, the VIE, Shanghai Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. (Jingli), and its subsidiaries have all ceased their respective advertisement business so that the VIE structure is no longer required or in place.

D. Property, Plant and Equipment

Our headquarters are located at K-Wah Center #38-03, 1010 Middle Huaihai Road, Shanghai, China, 200031, where we lease approximately 100 square meters of office space. As of December 31, 2011, our offices in 12 cities occupy an aggregate of approximately 4,150 square meters of leased space.

Item 4A Unresolved Staff Comments

Not applicable.

Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects

You should read the following discussion in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes included in this Annual Report on Form 20-F. This Annual Report on Form 20-F contains certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (PSLRA), Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the Exchange Act), about our expectations, beliefs, or intentions regarding our business, financial condition, results of operations, strategies, or prospects. You can identify forward-looking statements by the fact that these statements do not relate strictly to historical or current matters. Rather, forward-looking statements relate to anticipated or expected events, activities, trends, or results as of the date they are made. Because forward-looking statements relate to matters that have not yet occurred, these statements are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from any future results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Many factors could cause our actual activities or results to differ materially from the activities and results anticipated in forward-looking statements. These factors include those contained in Part I, Item 3.D Key Information Risk Factors of this Annual Report on Form 20-F. We do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements. We intend that all forward-looking statements be subject to the safe harbor provisions of PSLRA. These forward-looking statements are only predictions and reflect our views as of the date they are made with respect to future events and financial performance.

Overview

We are a multi-platform media company operating primarily in the out-of-home advertising industry. Out-of-home advertising typically refers to advertising media in public places, such as billboards, in-elevator displays, street furniture and transit area displays. We are one of the largest operators of integrated outdoor billboard and in-elevator advertising networks in China. Our core outdoor billboard and in-elevator platforms are complemented by our transit advertising platform, which together enables us to provide multi-platform, one-stop shop services for our local, national and international clients.

Table of Contents

Targeting the rapidly growing number of urban and increasingly affluent consumers in China, we deploy our advertising network across the following select media platforms:

Outdoor billboard platform. As of December 31, 2011, we operate a network of about 750 high-impact billboards with over 500,000 square feet of surface display area in 15 cities, including Beijing, Hong Kong, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenyang, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Chongqing and Chengdu. Our billboards are mostly deployed in commercial centers and other desirable areas with heavy vehicle or foot traffic.

In-elevator platform. As of December 31, 2011, we operate a network of about 150,000 printed and digital poster frames delivered targeted advertising messages inside elevators to captive audiences in high-rise residential and office buildings in over 50 major cities in China. Only approximately 30,000 frames were managed upon concession contracts signed directly with media owners.

Transit advertising platform. As of December 31, 2011, we acted as an agency for a bus advertising network of 5,000 buses in Beijing. Our multi-platform offerings are cross-marketed by a sales force located in 16 offices across China. Our advertising clients are from industries ranging from telecommunications, insurance and banking, to automobile, real estate, electronics and fast moving consumer goods.

During December of 2011 and year to date of 2012, the Company has streamlined the business by eliminating unprofitable or under-performing operations such as Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen in-elevator businesses, other subsidiaries that were eliminated as a result of the VIE structure termination, and divested Zhejiang Continental back to its previous owners and eliminated the related earn-out liability (please refer to liquidity and capital resources section for more details). The Company believes that the cost savings from eliminating the remaining earn-out obligations pursuant to the separation agreement for Zhejiang Continental frees up the Company's resources for use in other more promising opportunities.

As a result of the aforementioned business streamlining, sales and marketing team and headquarter headcount had been downsized to reduce overhead costs and improve cashflow.

If the Company's earn-out obligations for the remaining acquired subsidiaries are not extinguished pursuant to our Integration Program, our ability to raise additional capital may be jeopardized. Furthermore, our business strategy to pursue organic growth and the viability of new concessions and other projects is dependent upon our ability to raise new funding.

We expect to continue expanding our own concessions through acquisitions and organic expansion and capitalize on the growth opportunities in China's out-of-home advertising and other emerging media markets.

Industry Trends and Uncertainties

Operating results are affected by these factors that impact the out-of-home advertising industry in China:

Growth of the PRC economy and the advertising industry. The growth of the PRC economy affects the size and growth rate of the advertising industry in China. As the advertising industry is typically sensitive to general economic conditions, any slowdown in the economy, such as the recent worldwide economic downturn, could directly and adversely affect the overall advertising spending in China by multinational and domestic advertisers. The amount and timing of collection of advertising fees from advertisers may also be negatively impacted as a result, which could in turn affect our liquidity and results of operations.

Advertising spending and budget cycle of advertisers. Advertising spending and budget cycle of advertisers will affect

Table of Contents

the amount and timing of demand for our service offerings. In a contracted economy, the budget size for advertising may be reduced. Advertisers may have shorter budget cycles, may contract for shorter-term advertising promotions and may seek a media platform with higher average returns on their advertising spending.

Advertisers' marketing strategy and budget. Our revenues depend on advertising spending budgeted by our clients for out-of-home advertising, including offerings through our outdoor billboard, in-elevator displays, street furniture and transit advertising platforms. The level of acceptance of our platforms by advertisers and the value of its advertising network relative to its low cost, as perceived by our advertisers, affect our business growth.

Competition and pricing pressure. The level of competition in the out-of-home advertising market from existing operators and new market entrants for clients and for media assets could affect opportunities for growth, influence prices that we could charge for our advertising services, and affect the leasing cost of advertising space. We compete for advertising clients generally on the basis of network coverage, service quality, technology, media offerings, services and brand name.

Seasonality and One-Time Events. Although we do not experience significant seasonality in our business, advertising spending is affected by holidays and one-time events. Advertising spending for outdoor media typically decreases during the Chinese New Year, which occurs in the first calendar quarter of each year, and increases in the last calendar quarter.

Laws regulating advertising in the PRC. A change in PRC law or government practice regulating the advertising industry in general and our service platforms in particular could affect our results of operations, in terms of compliance costs and scope of advertising services offered to clients.

Company Specific Trends and Uncertainties

Our operating results are also directly affected by company-specific factors, including the following:

Ability to maintain market position and expand into new cities. The market for out-of-home advertising services continues to evolve rapidly, and as a multi-platform media company with a presence in major cities in China, we compete with different players across our platforms and cities of operation. For our in-elevator advertising platform, we compete primarily with other nationwide operators of in-elevator poster frame advertising. We may face competition in individual cities from local and regional players and new entrants into the local and regional market from time to time. For our billboard advertising platform, we compete against mostly local or regional outdoor billboard owners and operators, as the outdoor billboard market in China is largely fragmented. We also compete for the advertising budget of advertisers with other operators of out-of-home advertising and operators of other advertising media including television, radio, newspapers, magazines and the Internet. Our continued ability to maintain our market position is central to our ability to attract new clients, expand relationships with site owners and managers and increase our revenues.

Ability to expand client base and increase the number of advertising contracts and average revenues per contract. Our ability to expand our client base and increase the number of advertising contracts and average revenues per contract is a key driver of our revenue growth. We believe our extensive advertising network across multiple media platforms allows us to act as a one-stop shop for advertising clients that seek nationwide distribution of advertising content across multiple advertising channels, including outdoor billboards, elevators and subway stations.

Ability to sign and extend site leases for lower rentals. Our ability to generate revenues and increase profitability from advertising sales depends largely on our ability to provide a large network of our media products across media platforms at desirable locations on commercially advantageous terms. The effectiveness of our network also depends on the cooperation of site owners and managers to allow us to install the desired types of poster frames at the desired spots on their properties and, for in-elevator advertising to keep the elevators in operation and accessible to the viewing public. In some cases, we have not maintained good relations and some of our leases have been terminated or may be terminated in the future.

Ability to integrate acquired companies. We acquired a number of advertising businesses in 2008 and 2010. We have been in the process of integrating and centralizing the operational accounting, legal, human resource and administrative functions of the acquired companies. Due to certain corporate issues and unpaid earn-out obligations, such efforts, to date, have not fully met our expectations which create a substantial risk that we may not be able to fully realize the anticipated benefits of these acquisitions. The extent to which we are able to successfully integrate the acquired companies into our business, in terms of sales and marketing, client service, growth strategy and corporate culture, will impact our results of operations, financial control, and internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

Ability to cross-sell. Our ability to increase revenues by effectively leveraging our multi-platform advertising network will be determined by our ability to integrate our sales efforts and successfully implementing cross-selling sales initiatives. To further implement cross-selling initiatives, we plan to employ an integrated sales approach under which we will coordinate the sales and maintenance teams across platforms and geographic regions and provide them with the proper incentive structure to encourage more cohesive and consistent services to our clients and a heightened awareness of opportunities to cross-sell our media offerings while optimizing advertising solutions for our clients

Long outstanding accounts receivables days. As our accounts receivables are closely tied with our key sales employees and ex-owners of our subsidiaries, full and timely cooperation from these individuals are imperative in our accounts receivables collection. Any disagreement or dispute with such individuals due to certain corporate issues and unpaid earn-out obligations may cause delays in accounts receivables collection or even their recoverability.

Other receivables due to ex-owners withdrawals from the subsidiary and related party transactions. Such transactions are prevalent at the subsidiary level and may affect the cashflow of the group.

Ability to retain key employees and sales people. Recruiting and retaining a team of senior executives, key employees and sales team with industry knowledge and experience is essential to our continued success.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to allowance for doubtful accounts, estimate of useful lives of intangible assets, impairment of goodwill and other intangibles, cash flow forecasts, share-based compensation expense, and contingencies and litigation liabilities. We base our estimates on historical experience, known or expected trends, independent valuations and various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances based on information available as of the date of the issuance of these financial statements. The results of such assumptions form the basis for making estimates about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The current economic environment and its potential effect on us and our clients have combined to increase the uncertainty inherent in such estimates and assumptions. Future results could be significantly affected if actual results were to be different from these estimates and assumptions.

We believe the following critical accounting policies govern our more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

Revenue recognition

We recognize advertising service revenue on a straight-line basis over the period in which the customer advertisement is to be displayed, which typically ranges from 1 month to 2 years, starting from the date we first display the advertisement. Written contracts are entered into between us and our customers to specify the price, the period and the location at which the advertisement is to be displayed. Revenue is only recognized if the collectability of the advertising service fee is probable.

We generate advertising service revenues from the sales of frame space on the poster frame network, advertising time slots on traditional billboard networks and the sale of advertising services through our transit based media. In the majority of advertising arrangements, we act as a principal in the transaction and record advertising revenues on a gross basis. The associated expenses are recorded as cost of revenues. In some instances we are considered an agent and recognize revenue on a net basis.

Table of Contents

Customer payments received in excess of the amount of revenue recognized are recorded as deferred revenue in the consolidated balance sheet, and are recognized as revenue when the advertising services are rendered.

Accounts receivable and allowance for doubtful accounts

Accounts receivable consist of amounts billed but not yet collected and unbilled receivables. Unbilled receivables relate to revenues earned and recognized, but which have not been billed by us in accordance with the terms of the advertising service contract. The payment terms of our service contracts with its customers vary and typically require an initial payment to be billed or paid at the commencement of the service period, progress payments to be billed during the service period, and a final payment to be billed after the completion of the service period. None of our accounts receivable bear interest. The allowance for doubtful accounts is management's best estimate of the amount of probable credit losses in our existing accounts receivable. Management determines the allowance based on historical write-off experience and reviews of customer-specific facts and economic conditions. Account balances are charged off against the allowance after all means of collection have been exhausted and the potential for recovery is considered remote. We do not have any off-balance-sheet credit exposure related to its customers.

As of December 31, 2010 and 2011, our accounts receivable includes amounts earned and recognized as revenues of US\$6.1 million and US\$2.1 million, respectively but not yet billed (unbilled receivables). Management expects all unbilled receivables to be billed and collected within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

As December 31, 2011, we provided a \$4.5 million reserve against accounts receivable. Management's estimate of the appropriate reserve on accounts receivable at December 31, 2011 was based on the aged nature of these accounts receivable. In making its judgment, management assessed its customers' ability to continue to pay their outstanding invoices on a timely basis, and whether their financial position might deteriorate significantly in the future, which would result in their inability to pay their debts to us.

Goodwill and Intangible Assets

Goodwill and other intangible assets are accounted for in accordance with the provisions of FASB ASC 350 Intangibles - Goodwill and Other. We account for business acquisitions using the acquisition method of accounting. Before 2009, goodwill consists of the cost of acquired businesses in excess of the fair value of the net assets acquired. Other intangible assets are separately recognized if the benefit of the intangible asset is obtained through contractual or other legal rights, or if the intangible asset can be sold, transferred, licensed, rented, or exchanged, regardless of an intent to do so.

Beginning January 1, 2009, goodwill is measured as the excess of a over b below:

- a. The aggregate of the following:
 1. The consideration transferred measured in accordance ASC 805, which generally requires acquisition-date fair value.
 2. The fair value of any non-controlling interest in the acquiree.
 3. In a business combination achieved in stages, the acquisition-date fair value of the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree.
- b. The net of the acquisition-date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and the liabilities assumed measured in accordance with ASC 805.

Table of Contents

Under FASB ASC 350, goodwill, including any goodwill included in the carrying value of investments accounted for using the equity method of accounting, and certain other intangible assets deemed to have indefinite useful lives, are not amortized.

Pursuant to a series of acquisition agreements signed with each of the acquired entities' ex-owners in 2008 and 2010, the purchase consideration for each acquisition would be settled in cash and is contingent based on the operational results agreed and confirmed by us and each of the acquired entities' ex-owners (earn-out period). The acquisitions in 2008 were based on a pre-determined multiple of net income for the first two years after the acquisition. At the acquisition dates in 2008, the Company accounted for the acquisition under FAS 141 and no goodwill was recognized due to the contingent nature of the consideration. Based on the Group's audited operating results through December 31, 2009 and the amended acquisition agreements during December 31, 2010, the Company recorded additional consideration payable which resulted in additional goodwill in 2010. As such, the Group recognized contingent consideration in 2010 and then immediately recognized goodwill impairment when the implied fair value of the goodwill was lower than the carrying value.

In April 2009, the FASB issued Staff Position No. FSP FAS 141(R)-1, Accounting for Assets Acquired and Liabilities Assumed in a Business Combination That Arise from Contingencies (ASC Topic 805-20). This updated guidance amended the accounting treatment for assets and liabilities arising from contingencies in a business combination and requires that pre-acquisition contingencies be recognized at fair value, if fair value can be reasonably determined. For the 2010 acquisition, the contingent consideration was initially recognized at fair value based on best estimate and goodwill was recognized in accordance with ASC Topic 805-20. Upon resolution of the contingency, adjustment to goodwill or against the identifiable net assets is to be made.

The initial allocation of purchase price for all acquisitions made in 2008 was based on valuations performed by independent valuation firms using the multiple period excess earnings method.

At the initial allocation of purchase price, we also estimate fair value of acquired intangible assets including customer relationship and lease agreements. Our intangible assets are amortized on a straight line basis over their respective estimated useful lives, which are the periods over which the assets are expected to contribute directly or indirectly to our future cash flows. Our intangible assets represent customer relationship, lease agreements, and non-compete agreement, which have estimated useful lives ranging from 0.5 to 4.4 years.

Impairment of long-lived assets

a) Impairment of goodwill

We test goodwill for possible impairment in the fourth quarter of each fiscal year or when circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. Circumstances that could trigger an impairment test between annual tests include, but are not limited to:

a significant adverse change in the business climate or legal factors;

an adverse action or assessment by a regulator;

unanticipated competition;

Table of Contents

loss of key personnel;

the likelihood that a reporting unit or a significant portion of a reporting unit will be sold or disposed of; and

a change in reportable segments; and/or results of testing for recoverability of a significant asset group within a reporting unit.

We utilize a two-step method to perform a goodwill impairment review. In the first step, we determine the fair value of the reporting unit using expected future discounted cash flows and estimated terminal values. If the net book value of the reporting unit exceeds the fair value, we would then perform the second step of the impairment test which requires allocation of the reporting unit's fair value of all of its assets and liabilities in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation, with any residual fair value being allocated to goodwill. The implied fair value of the goodwill is then compared to the carrying value to determine impairment, if any.

As of December 31, 2010 and 2011, we had a goodwill balance of \$46.0 million and \$16.9 million, respectively, which is not deductible for tax purposes. The results of our annual impairment test resulted in a goodwill impairment loss of \$39.4 million mainly due to our billboard and agency service business in 2010, and \$27.9 million for our billboard and agency service business in 2011, as the valuations indicated that the fair value of the businesses were less than the carrying value.

For the methodology for the fair value used to determine the goodwill impairment, we applied the income approach where the discounted cash flow analysis has been performed to estimate the total enterprise value. Under this approach, the free cash flow to the Company was first estimated and then the after tax weighted average cost of capital was used to discount the cash flow to calculate the estimated value.

Application of goodwill impairment test requires judgment, including the identification of reporting units, assigning assets and liabilities to the reporting units, assigning goodwill to reporting units and estimating the fair value of each reporting unit. Changes in these estimates and assumptions could materially affect the determination of fair value of each reporting unit which could trigger impairment.

In calculating the future cash flows, certain assumptions are required to be made in respect of highly uncertain matters such as revenue growth rates, gross margin percentages and terminal growth rates. We may incur additional goodwill impairment charges in the future although we cannot predict whether this will occur.

As at the year ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, we performed the goodwill impairment test based on the actual net income in 2010 and 2011 which is significantly lower than the 2008 and 2009 net income. This indicated that the historical operating results will not be indicative of future operating results. The primary drivers in our assumptions that resulted in the goodwill impairment charges includes:

the decline in business performance and divestiture of Zhejiang Continental in 2012;

significantly reduced projected future cash flow based on actual financial results;

an increase in the discount rate to discount our future cashflow;

the acquisition took place before the financial crisis in 2008. The overall business dropped significantly due to the economic downturn. We do not expect a recovery of the economy in our cash flow projections;

the ex-owners had less incentive to expand the business after the earn-out period; and

the synergy of consolidating and integrating multiple acquired businesses is lower than what we expected.

Table of Contents

b) Impairment of long-lived assets other than goodwill

Indefinite-lived intangible assets are assessed for impairment at least annually based on comparisons of their respective fair values to their carrying values. Finite-lived intangible assets are amortized over their respective useful lives and, along with other long-lived assets, are evaluated for impairment periodically whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their related carrying amounts may not be recoverable in accordance with FASB ASC 360-10-15, *Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*.

In evaluating long-lived assets for recoverability, including finite-lived intangibles and property and equipment, we use our best estimate of future cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset and eventual disposition in accordance with FASB ASC 360-10-15. To the extent that estimated future, undiscounted cash inflows attributable to the asset, less estimated future, undiscounted cash outflows, are less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized in an amount equal to the difference between the carrying value of such asset and its fair value. Assets to be disposed of and for which there is a committed plan of disposal, whether through sale or abandonment, are reported at the lower of carrying value or fair value less costs to sell.

Asset recoverability is an area involving management judgment, requiring assessment as to whether the carrying value of assets can be supported by the undiscounted future cash flows. In calculating the future cash flows, certain assumptions are required to be made in respect of highly uncertain matters such as revenue growth rates, gross margin percentages and terminal growth rates.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

FASB ASC 820 *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs into three levels based on the extent to which inputs used in measuring fair value are observable in the market.

These tiers include:

Level 1 defined as observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets;

Level 2 defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 defined as unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

The fair value of the Group's financial assets and liabilities approximate their carrying amount because of short-term maturity of these instruments. The Group's option and acquisition consideration payable fall into Level 3 and there were no transfers in or out of Level 3 during the years presented.

Table of Contents**Share-based payments**

Our accounts for share-based payments in accordance with ASC Topic 718, Compensation Stock Compensation . Under ASC 718, we measure the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award and recognizes the costs over the period the employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award, which generally is the vesting period. For awards with performance conditions, the compensation expense is based on the grant-date fair value of the award, the number of shares ultimately expected to vest and the vesting period.

We determined the estimated grant-date fair value of share options based on the Binomial Tree option-pricing model using the following assumptions:

Options granted to employee:	2009	2010	2011
Risk-free rate of return	3.43%	2.744 %-4.142%	2.35%
Weighted average expected option life	10 years	10 years	10 years
Expected volatility rate	40.3%	64.00%	102.20%
Dividend yield	0%	0%	0%

The expected volatility in the table above was based on the weighted average volatility of several comparable U.S. listed companies in the advertising industry with operations in the PRC. Since we were a private company at the time the options were issued, we estimated the potential volatility of its ordinary share price by referring to the weighted average volatility of these comparable companies because management believes that the weighted average volatility of such companies is a reasonable benchmark to use in estimating the expected volatility of our ordinary shares.

Because our share options have certain characteristics that are significantly different from traded options, and because changes in the subjective assumptions can materially affect the estimated value, in management's opinion, the existing valuation model may not provide an accurate measure of the fair value of our share options. Although the fair value of share options is determined in accordance with ASC Topic 718, Compensation Stock Compensation, using an option-pricing model, that value may not be indicative of the fair value observed in a willing buyer/willing seller market transaction.

Recently issued accounting standards

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2011-04, *Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs* (ASU 2011-04). ASU 2011-04 amended the FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures* to converge the fair value measurement guidance in US GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). Some of the amendments clarify the application of existing fair value measurement requirements, while other amendments change particular principles in ASC 820. In addition, ASU 2011-04 requires additional fair value disclosures. ASU 2011-04 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied prospectively. The Group does not expect that ASU 2011-04 will have a significant impact on its consolidated results of operations or financial position.

Table of Contents

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income* (ASU 2011-05). ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity and requires an entity to present items of net income, other comprehensive income and total comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05* (ASU 2011-12). ASU 2011-12 defers the effective date of the changes in ASU 2011-05 that relate to the presentation of reclassification adjustments for each component of other comprehensive income in both net income and other comprehensive income. The amendments in the ASUs do not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income or when an item of other comprehensive income must be reclassified to net income. ASU 2011-05 and ASU 2011-12 are both effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and must be applied retrospectively. The Group will be required to adopt ASU 2011-05 and ASU 2011-12 no later than the quarter beginning January 1, 2012. As the ASUs require additional presentation only, there will be no impact to the Group's consolidated results of operations or financial position.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08, *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment* (ASU 2011-08). ASU 2011-08 gives an entity the option to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test described in Topic 350. Previous guidance required an entity to test goodwill for impairment by first comparing the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount. ASU 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. The Group will be required to adopt ASU 2011-08 as of January 1, 2012 and does not expect that ASU 2011-08 will have a significant impact on its consolidated results of operations or financial position.

A. Operating Results**Results of Operations***For the Year ended December 31, 2011 compared to the Years ended December 31, 2010 and December 31, 2009*

The following table sets forth the amounts and the percentage relationship to revenues of certain items in our consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011:

(Amount in thousands)	For the Years Ended December 31,			Increase/ (Decrease)% 2010 vs 2009	Increase/ (Decrease)% 2011 vs 2010
	2009	2010	2011		
Revenues	\$ 37,741	\$ 48,967	\$ 55,571	30%	13%
Cost of revenues	(28,059)	(36,454)	(45,788)	30%	26%
Gross profit	9,682	12,513	9,783	29%	(22%)
Operating expenses					
Loss on impairment of goodwill	(15,749)	(39,411)	(27,927)	150%	(29%)
Loss on impairment of intangible assets			(2,723)		
Gain on termination of VIEs			9,551		
Change of fair value of acquisition consideration payable			10,681		
Gain from extinguishment of acquisition consideration payable			4,340		
Loss on abandonment of lease	(550)	(1,256)		128%	(100%)
Loss on disposals of fixed assets	(15)	(4)		(73%)	(100%)
Sales and marketing expenses	(3,384)	(4,462)	(6,722)	32%	51%
General and administrative expenses	(13,832)	(12,203)	(10,221)	(12%)	(16%)
Total operating expenses	(33,530)	(57,336)	(23,021)	71%	(60%)
Loss from operations	(23,848)	(44,823)	(13,238)	88%	(70%)
Other income/(expense)					

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Interest income	11	24	34	118%	42%
Interest expense	(1,962)	(45)	(89)	(98%)	98%
Increase in fair value of liability warrant	824			(100%)	
Gain on extinguishment of the notes	6,669			(100%)	
Other income/ (expense), net		(368)	(79)		(79%)
Foreign currency transaction loss, net	(24)	(7)	(4)	(71%)	(43%)
Total other income/ (expense)	5,518	(396)	(138)	(107%)	(65%)
Loss before income taxes	(18,330)	(45,219)	(13,376)	147%	(71%)
Provision for income taxes	(4,319)	(1,420)	(83)	(67%)	(94%)
Net loss	\$ (22,649)	\$ (46,639)	\$ (13,459)	106%	(71%)

Table of Contents

Revenue. We generate our revenues from providing advertising services over our network which consists primarily of the following platforms:

Outdoor billboard platform. We typically sign advertising contracts with terms ranging from 6 to 24 months for billboard advertisements. Each contract will typically specify the billboard location, measurement and the price. The contract price varies substantially from contract to contract, based on the location and measurement of the billboard. Deposits or progress payments are typically required at various stages of the contract performance, such as signing of contract, confirmation of content and completion of service period.

In-elevator platform. We typically sign advertising contracts with terms ranging from 1 to 6 months for in-elevator advertisements. Typically, we negotiate for a contract price for covering a set of cities or districts within cities. We may sometimes help certain clients design a detailed plan, based on the contract price and targeted demographics, with particular buildings where the advertisements will be displayed within the cities or districts specified under the contract. Progress payments are typically required at various stages of the contract performance.

Transit advertising platform. We typically sign advertising contracts with terms ranging from one to three months for bus advertisements. The price typically consists of advertising fees and production fees. Typically, the contracts specify a certain combination of bus lines and we have the discretion to assign specific and bus lines for each contract. Service payments are typically required at pre-specified dates prior to the completion of the contract.

We recognize advertising service revenues on a straight-line basis over the period in which the advertisement is required to be displayed, starting from the date we first display the advertisement. We only recognize revenue if the collectability of the service fee is probable. The amount of advertising service revenues recognized is net of business taxes and surcharges ranging between 8% and 9%.

Our revenue generation is affected by the number of advertising contracts we enter into with clients and the average revenues per contract. The number of our advertising contracts is also driven by client-specific factors such as timing of introduction of new advertising campaigns, seasonality of clients' operations and growth of business sectors in which our clients operate. Depending on client demand, the number of service contracts with our clients varies from period to period. The loss of, or significant reduction in, business from any major client without replacement clients could adversely impact our operating results. Conversely, the addition of a major advertising service contracts may significantly increase our revenues.

Table of Contents

Our revenues per contract are affected by factors affecting out-of-home advertising service providers. As we typically negotiate for the overall contract amount before providing an advertising plan with specific display locations, average revenues per contract are particularly affected by the acceptance of our platforms as part of the marketing strategies and budgets of our clients.

Revenues for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$55.6 million compared to \$49.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and \$37.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Revenue in 2011 increased primarily due to the expansion of outdoor billboard and agency services. The Company acquired new clients mainly in the electronic and auto industry. We intend to increase the number of contracts in the future in addition to increasing the average revenue per contract.

Cost of revenues. The cost of revenues consists primarily of operating lease cost of advertising space for displaying advertisements, depreciation of advertisement display equipment, amortization of intangible assets relating to lease agreements and direct staff and material costs associated with production and installation of advertisement content. Cost of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$45.8 million compared to \$36.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and \$28.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The costs of revenues for both periods primarily consisted of leasing cost to site owners and managers. The increase in cost of revenues in 2011 was primarily due to the increase in number of outdoor billboards and agency costs throughout the year. The cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues was 82.4% for 2011, as compared to 74.4% for 2010 and 74.3% for 2009. The increase in 2011 was due primarily to the increase in provision of agency services which had higher cost of revenues than self owned billboards and elevators.

Gross profit. Our gross profit for the year ended December 31, 2011 was \$9.8 million compared to \$12.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and \$9.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Our gross margin decreased from 25.7% in 2009 to 25.6% in 2010 and decreased to 17.6% in 2011 due primarily to changes in the mix of service offerings. The contribution of agency services revenue to the total revenue for the year ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011 was 57.2%, 59.5% and 75.7% respectively. Our average gross profit margin for agency service is 12.6%.

Operating expenses. Selling and marketing expenses consist of marketing and promotion, amortization of intangible assets relating to customer relationship and sales commissions, payroll, traveling expenses, transportation and advertising expenses incurred by our selling and distribution team. General and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries and benefits for management and administrative personnel, share-based compensation, rental and utility expenses.

Recently, we scaled down some of our operations and closed four unprofitable offices under our subsidiary Ad-Icon Shanghai that were involved in the elevator business. We will continue to serve those markets by relying on our other subsidiaries to represent us in the cities affected by the closings. This strategic decision will reduce the overlap in resources and also minimize overhead expenses. As a result of our strategic decision to close these offices, we have reduced the number of media screens from our current portfolio by 20,000 screens. As a result of the office closings, we were able to subsequently downsize the sales & marketing and assets development team to reduce overhead expenses and to improve our operating margins.

Table of Contents

Total operating expenses for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$23.0 million compared to \$57.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and \$33.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. The significant components of operating expenses are set forth below:

Loss on impairment of goodwill and intangible assets. As a result of the reduction of the estimated value of the reporting units as part of annual impairment tests, goodwill and intangible assets were reduced by \$15.7 million in 2009, \$39.4 million in 2010 and \$30.7 million in 2011, respectively.

Gain on termination of VIE. The Group recognized gain of \$9.6 million on the termination of VIEs at December 23, 2011.

Change of fair value of acquisition consideration payable. On May 31, 2010, the Group acquired 100% of the equity interest in Zhejiang Continental. The consideration was based on a predetermined earn-out formula applied to audited operating results through December 31, 2010 and 2011. At the acquisition date, the contingent consideration payable was recognized at fair value based on historical and forecast operational results agreed to and confirmed by the Group. As at December 31, 2011, the contingent consideration of Zhejiang Continental was resolved and there was a reduction of total consideration compared to the initial estimated contingent purchase price. An adjustment to contingent consideration of \$10.7 million was recognized to the income statements. On May 2, 2012, the Company divested Zhejiang Continental back to the previous owners. See *Liquidity and Capital Resources* section for details.

Gain from extinguishment of acquisition consideration payable. The contingent consideration of Kaixiang, Wuxi Ruizhong and HK Ad-Icon were partially settled in 2011 and a gain of \$4.3 million was recognized to the income statement due to issuance of the Company's shares at a price lower than the price initially agreed at acquisition.

Sales and marketing expenses. Sales and marketing expenses were \$6.7 million for the year ended December 2011 compared to \$4.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and \$3.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2009, primarily due to the changes in sales commissions in line with the net revenues and increase in marketing expenses.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses were \$10.2 million for 2011 compared to \$12.2 million for 2010 and \$13.8 million for 2009.

The following table describes our general and administrative expenses for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011. The increase in bad debt expenses in 2010 and 2011 is primarily due to an increase in bad debt for elevator and billboards subsidiaries. Staff salary increased from \$2.8 million in 2009 to \$3.1 million in 2010 is primarily due to a new acquisition and expansion of business. Staff salary declined in 2011 as a result of reduction in staff. Professional fees in 2009 were higher than 2010 and 2011, primarily due to the expenses related to the completion of the Business Combination. Share based compensation represents amortization of fair value of options and shares granted to our staff. The amount increased in 2010 due to more options granted after the Business Combination.

(Amounts in thousands)	For the Years Ended December 31		
	2009	2010	2011
Bad debt expense	\$ 1,611	\$ 2,197	\$ 2,905
Professional fee	4,759	2,435	1,947
Salary expense	2,785	3,066	2,846
Rental expense	1,643	524	488
Share-based compensation	403	2,107	771
Other G&A expense	2,631	1,874	1,264
	\$ 13,832	\$ 12,203	\$ 10,221

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Other income/ (expenses). Total other income/ (expenses) for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$(0.1) million compared to \$(0.4) million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and \$5.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2009. Significant components of the other expenses are set forth below:

Interest expense. Interest expense costs in 2009 consist predominately of non-cash financial charges related to

Table of Contents

investments in SearchMedia International prior to the completion of the Business Combination. The 2009 amount primarily consists of \$1.0 million of interest expense on the convertible promissory note. The Business Combination was closed in October 2009 and no related interest was incurred in 2010 and 2011.

Gain on extinguishment of the notes. On September 17, 2008, certain notes issued by SearchMedia International in March 2008 were cancelled by the holder. The notes, with a principal sum of \$10 million plus accrued interest of \$0.6 million and all the related conversion rights, were cancelled in exchange for a new note with a principal sum of \$15 million, which bears interest at 12% per annum and has no conversion right. The 2009 amount represents fair value gain on extinguishment of the Promissory Note at the closure of reverse acquisition in October, 2009.

Provision for income taxes. Income tax expense was \$4.3 million in 2009, \$1.4 million in 2010 and \$0.1 million in 2011. Although we had consolidated net loss, the PRC statutory tax rate was 25% for our subsidiaries with net income. The decrease of income tax expense in 2011 is mainly due to reduce in deferred tax liabilities as a result of the impairment on goodwill and intangible assets in Zhejiang Continental.

Net loss. As a result of the foregoing, we had a net loss of \$13.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to a net loss of \$46.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and a net loss of \$22.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Effect of Inflation

The rates of inflation experienced in recent years have had no material impact on our financial statements. We attempt to recover increased costs by increasing prices for our services, to the extent permitted by contracts and competition.

Foreign Currency

The Group's reporting currency is the United States dollar (US\$). The functional currency of the Company is the US\$, whereas the functional currency of the Company's subsidiaries in the PRC is the Renminbi (RMB) and the functional currency of the Company's subsidiaries in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is the Hong Kong Dollars (HK\$), as the PRC and HKSAR are the primary economic environments in which the respective entities operate. Since the RMB is not a fully convertible currency, all foreign exchange transactions involving RMB must take place either through the People's Bank of China (the PBOC) or other institutions authorized to buy and sell foreign currency. The exchange rates adopted for the foreign exchange transactions are the rates of exchange quoted by the PBOC.

Transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency are translated into the respective functional currency at the exchange rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a currency other than the functional currency are translated into the functional currency using the applicable exchange rate at each balance sheet date. The resulting exchange differences are recorded in foreign currency transaction gain (loss) in the consolidated statements of operations.

The assets and liabilities of the Company's subsidiaries are translated into the US\$ reporting currency using the exchange rate at each balance sheet date. Revenue and expenses of these entities are translated into US\$ at average rates prevailing during

Table of Contents

the year. Equity accounts are translated at historical exchange rates. Gains and losses resulting from translation of these entities' financial statements into the US\$ reporting currency are recorded as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income within shareholders' deficit/equity. We do not have any foreign currency forward contracts.

Cash Flow Analysis

The following table presents a summary of our cash flows and beginning and ending cash balances for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011:

(Amounts in thousands)	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2009	2010	2011
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	\$ (8,775)	\$ 1,670	\$ (2,852)
Net cash used in investing activities	(40,593)	(20,152)	(902)
Net cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities	73,665	(3,465)	611
Foreign currency translation adjustment	5	103	219
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	24,302	(21,844)	(2,924)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	5,096	29,398	7,554
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 29,398	\$ 7,554	\$ 4,630

Cash Flows from Operating Activities. Net cash flows from operating activities were \$(8.8) million, \$1.7 million and \$(2.9) million for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively. The net cash used in operating activities in 2009 was mainly attributed to loss from operations excluding non-cash items. The increase in net cash flows from operating activities in 2010 was primarily due to the decrease in loss from operations excluding non-cash items and increase in accounts payable and accrued expenses in 2010. The decrease in net cash flows from operating activities in 2011 was primarily due to the loss from operations excluding non-cash items.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities. Net cash used in investing activities was \$(40.6) million, \$(20.2) million and \$(0.9) million for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively. The decrease in cash used in investing activities in 2011 compared to 2010 and 2009 was primarily due to reduce in amount of cash used for acquisition payment.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities. Net cash flows from financing activities was \$73.7 million, \$(3.5) million and \$0.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively. Net cash provided by financing activities in 2011 mainly arose from short term bank loan. Net cash used in financing activities in 2010 mainly arose from repurchase of warrants. Net cash provided by financing activities in 2009 is primarily attributed to \$76.1 million proceeds from the Business Combination and a \$5.0 million repayment in promissory note in 2009.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Our cash balance at December 31, 2011 was \$4.6 million, representing a decrease of \$3.0 million from \$7.6 million at December 31, 2010.

Table of Contents**B. Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our working capital from operations increased by \$8.4 million to \$31.0 million net current liabilities at December 31, 2011 as compared to net current liabilities of \$39.4 million at December 31, 2010. Approximately \$23.2 million of the net current liabilities in 2011 is attributable to earn-out obligations. The decrease in net current liabilities in 2011 was primarily due to a settlement of certain earn-out obligations and deconsolidation of VIE during the year. Total current assets decreased by \$2.9 million from \$35.8 million at December 31, 2010 to \$32.9 million at December 31, 2011. The decrease in current assets was primarily due to the decrease in cash and cash equivalent.

We are obligated to pay earn-out payments during 2011 and over the next twelve months in connection with our acquisitions of a number of advertising businesses. The amount of earn-out consideration typically depends, among other factors, on the annual net income under USGAAP of an acquired entity in a two-year post-closing period starting from the date of acquisition based on mutual written agreement by us and the ex-owners of the subsidiaries. The range of multiples for each of the post-closing periods is from 2.2X to 3.5X. As of December 31, 2011, our earn-out payable was approximately \$23.2 million, of which \$16.8 million is payable in cash and \$6.4 million is payable in stock within the next twelve months. No additional contingent earn-out consideration was incurred during 2012 up to the date of this Annual Report.

In April 2012, the Company's board of directors approved and authorized a capped pool of 7 million common shares to be issued to ex-owners of subsidiaries, (Integration Program) for the purpose of converting and eliminating our earn-out liabilities. In addition to eliminating the earn-out liabilities from the Company's balance sheet, the secondary purpose of this Integration Program is to further align the interest of our subsidiaries and shareholders and provide additional incentives for new concessions that benefit all of our operations as a group, as well as enhance the Company's liquidity and capitalization. On May 2, 2012, the Company divested Zhejiang Continental back to its previous owners and eliminate the related earn-out liability of \$8.2 million as of December 31, 2011, in exchange for the issuance of 1 million shares of the Company. The Company believes that the cost savings from not carrying out the remaining earn-out obligations pursuant to the acquisition agreement for Zhejiang Continental frees up the Company's resources for use in other more promising opportunities. Also, the Company obtained a wavier from Haiya to eliminate the consideration payable of \$3.0 million in May 2012.

Through the divestiture of Zhejiang Continental and the wavier from Haiya, the Company has materially reduced its outstanding earn-out liabilities to \$12.0 million while focusing on its remaining subsidiaries to build shareholder value. Through the Integration Program, we expect that the cash earn-out obligations will be fully eliminated within the second quarter of 2012, and that we do not need to fully utilize the shares in the Integration Program as a result of previous corporate restructuring actions undertaken to further improve performance and terminate operations which are not likely to be profitable for the Company going forward. In addition, the improved liquidity and capitalization following these corporate actions will better allow the Company to embark on new out-of-home media initiatives and nationwide concessions.

In February 2012, the Company entered into an agreement for a new \$3.0 million Convertible Note (the Note) with its existing major shareholder and several other investors including an affiliate of the Company's Chief Executive Officer. The Note has a one year term and borrowings bear interest at a rate of 10% per annum. In addition, the Note is convertible into the Company's common shares at \$1.25 per share. We utilized part of the Note to fund the repurchase of shares at an average price per share of \$0.25 from the partial settlement of the arbitration with predecessor shareholders. Other proceeds from the Note are anticipated to be utilized for new concessions, acquisitions and general working capital purposes.

Table of Contents

To reduce or eliminate the net current liabilities from our financial statements, the Company has also engaged tax professionals to look into reducing the business tax and income tax liabilities currently reported under current liabilities through various restructuring methodologies. While we do not expect that many of these reported tax liabilities will ever be required to be paid by the Company, they nevertheless must remain on our financial statements as current tax liabilities due to applicable US accounting principles.

We do not anticipate having any material capital expenditures for the next twelve months except for some limited frames and billboard structures as replacements. Our operating lease obligations as of December 31, 2011 for the next twelve months are \$13.3 million. We believe that we will be able to fund our capital expenditures, operating lease payments and our anticipated operating cash requirements for at least the next twelve months and satisfy any remaining obligations from our working capital and anticipated cash flows from operations.

In addition, we may also need additional cash resources in the future if we find and wish to pursue opportunities for investment, acquisition, strategic cooperation or other similar actions. Accordingly, we may seek to issue debt or equity securities or obtain a credit facility. Any issuance of equity securities could cause dilution to our shareholders. Any incurrence of indebtedness could increase our debt service obligations and cause us to be subject to restrictive operating and financial covenants. It is possible that, when we need additional cash resources, financing will only be available to us in amounts or on terms not acceptable to us or that financing will not be available at all.

Our shareholders' deficit as at December 31, 2011 was \$13.5 million. Upon completion of the divesture of Zhejiang Continental and elimination of Haiya's earn-out liabilities in May 2012, our earn-out payable was reduced by \$11.2 million which also significantly reduced our shareholders' deficit. The Company continues to renegotiate with ex-owners of subsidiaries to convert the remaining earn-out liabilities of \$12.0 million into the Company's common shares under the Integration Program. The Company expects the Integration Program will be substantially completed by the end of the second quarter of 2012. The Company also expects the Convertible Note holders to convert their Notes during 2012 and that will increase our shareholders' equity by another \$3.0 million. The Company expects to regain compliance with the NYSE MKT's minimum stockholders' equity requirement standard by January 15, 2013.

C. Research and Development, Patents and Licenses, etc.

The information required by this item is not applicable.

D. Trend Information

Please refer to Overview for a discussion on the most significant recent trends in our production, sales, costs and selling prices. In addition, please refer to discussions included in this Item for a discussion of known trends, uncertainties, demands, commitments or events that we believe are reasonably likely to have a material effect on our revenues, income from continuing operations, profitability, liquidity or capital resources, or that would cause reported financial information not necessarily to be indicative of future operating results or financial condition.

E. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any outstanding off-balance sheet guarantees, interest rate swap transactions or foreign currency forward contracts. In addition, we do not engage in trading activities involving non-exchange traded contracts. In our ongoing business, we do not enter into transactions involving, or otherwise form relationships with, unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships that are established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes.

F. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations

The following table sets forth the Company's known contractual obligations as of December 31, 2011:

Contractual Obligations (\$000)	Total	Payments due by period		
		1-3 years	3-5 years	More than

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

		<i>Less than 1 year</i>			<i>5 years</i>
Accounts payable in relation to advertising agreements	\$ 14,167	\$ 14,167	\$	\$	\$
Operating Lease Obligations	13,334	11,600	1,734		
Other Long-Term Liabilities Reflected on the Company's Balance Sheet (1)	23,238	23,238			
Total	\$ 50,739	\$ 49,005	\$ 1,734	\$	\$

(1) Represents consideration payable in connection to our acquisitions of a number of advertising businesses.

Table of Contents**Item 6 Directors, Senior Management and Employees****A. Directors and Senior Management
Directors**

The following table sets forth the names and ages of our directors, each of whom has served as a director as of the date of this annual report.

Name	Age
Robert Fried	52
Chi-Chuan (Frank) Chen	53
Jeffrey Yunan Ren	36
Steven D. Rubin	51
Peter Tan	39
Paul Conway	42

The following additional information is provided for each of the directors listed above.

Mr. Robert Fried has served as Co-Chairman of the board of directors since the Business Combination in October 2009. Mr. Fried served as the President and Chief Executive Officer and a member of the board of directors of Ideation from November 2007 to October 2009. Mr. Fried is a digital media entrepreneur and accomplished film producer. Since 1990, Mr. Fried has served as President of Fried Films, a motion picture production company he founded in 1990. Mr. Fried has produced or served as executive producer for 15 films, including *Rudy*, *The Boondock Saints*, *Man of the Year* and *Collateral*. Mr. Fried won an Academy Award for the Live Action Short Film *Session Man*. Mr. Fried has founded several digital media companies including Spirit EMX, parent of spiritclips.com, a popular internet-based inspirational content company for which Mr. Fried presently serves as CEO; and WhatsHotNow.com, for which Mr. Fried served as Chief Executive Officer from July 1999 until June 2001. From December 1994 until June 1996, Mr. Fried was President and Chief Executive Officer of Savoy Pictures, a unit of Savoy Pictures Entertainment, Inc. Savoy Pictures Entertainment was sold to Silver King Communications, which is now a part of InterActive Corp, in 1996. From 1983 to 1990, Mr. Fried held several executive positions including Executive Vice President in charge of Production for Columbia Pictures, Director of Film Finance and Special Projects for Columbia Pictures and Director of Business Development at Twentieth Century Fox. Mr. Fried holds an M.S. from Cornell University and an M.B.A. from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business.

Mr. Fried brings entrepreneurial, leadership and digital media experience to the board of directors. Mr. Fried's experience as an executive producer and executive officer in media related industries provides broad understanding and expertise that strengthens the board of directors collective knowledge, capabilities and experience.

Mr. Chi-Chuan (Frank) Chen has served as a member of the board of directors since the Business Combination in October 2009. Mr. Chen is a Vice President and Special Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer at Ruentex Group. He has served in the Investment Management Department at Ruentex Group since 1987. Mr. Chen holds a B.S. in chemical engineering and an MBA from National Taiwan University.

Table of Contents

Mr. Chen brings investment management experience to the board of directors. Mr. Chen's 20 years of experience in the investment management department of Ruentex Group provides broad knowledge, experience and insights to the board of directors.

Mr. Jeffrey Yunan Ren has served as a member of the board of directors and the Chairman of the Audit Committee since February 2012. Mr. Ren currently serves as an independent director of Prince Frog International Holdings Limited, a public company focusing on the manufacture and distribution of child care products and household hygiene products in China and trading on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, and serves as a board director of numerous private companies. From June 2010 to March 2012, Mr. Ren served as President of Bicon International (HK) Limited, a pharmaceutical investment holding company based in Hong Kong. Previously, Mr. Ren served as an Executive Director at UBS Investment Bank in Hong Kong from 2008 to 2010 and as a Vice President at Lehman Brothers in Hong Kong from 2006 to 2008. Prior to 2006, Mr. Ren served as an attorney with such international law firms as Skadden, Arps, Clifford Chance and Perkins Coie. Mr. Ren holds an LLM from Harvard Law School, and is a graduate of Beijing University Law School (LLB and Graduate Program).

Mr. Ren brings investment management, corporate finance and legal experience to the board of directors. Mr. Ren has advised companies in Asian markets as a corporate executive, as a board member, as an investment banker and as an attorney with major international law firms. His experience provides the board of directors and the audit committee with international finance experience and knowledge of Asian markets.

Mr. Steven D. Rubin has served as a member of the board of directors since the Business Combination in October 2009. Mr. Rubin served as the Secretary of Ideation from June 2007 to October 2009. Mr. Rubin has been the Executive Vice President - Administration of OPKO Health, Inc. since May 2007 and a director of OPKO Health, Inc. since February 2007 and is a member of The Frost Group LLC. Mr. Rubin served as the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of IVAX Corporation from August 2001 until September 2006. Mr. Rubin currently serves on the board of directors of Opko Health, Inc., Dreams, Inc., a vertically integrated sports licensing and products company, Safestitch Medical, Inc., a medical device company, PROLOR Biotech, Inc., a development stage biopharmaceutical company, Kidville, Inc., which operates large, upscale facilities, catering to newborns through five-year-old children and their families and offers a wide range of developmental classes for newborns to 5 year olds, Non-Invasive Monitoring Systems, Inc., a medical device company, Tiger X Medical, Inc., previously an early-stage orthopedic medical device company specializing in designing, developing and marketing reconstructive joint devices and spinal surgical devices, Castle Brands, Inc., a developer and marketer of premium brand spirits, and Neovasc, Inc., a company developing and marketing medical specialty vascular devices.

Mr. Rubin brings leadership, business and legal experience to the board of directors. Mr. Rubin has advised companies in several aspects of business, transactional, and legal affairs for more than 23 years. His experience as a practicing lawyer, general counsel, and board member to multiple public companies has given him broad understanding and expertise, particularly relating to strategic planning and acquisitions.

Table of Contents

Mr. Paul Conway served as our Chief Executive Office from February 2010 to February 2012. Mr. Conway currently serves as a consultant to the Company. From 1998 through January 2010, Mr. Conway worked at Oppenheimer & Co., Inc., where he served as Managing Director of Media Investment Banking from January 2009 to January 2010, as Executive Director of Media Investment Banking from January 2006 to January 2009, and as Director of Media Investment Banking from January 2003 to January 2006. Mr. Conway holds a B.B.A. from the University of Miami and an M.B.A. from the Columbia University Graduate School of Business.

Mr. Conway brings media related investment banking management experience to the board of directors. Mr. Conway's prior experience as the Chief Executive Officer of the Company and his investment banking management experience provide industry related knowledge and insights to the board of directors.

Executive Officers

The following individuals are our current executive officers.

Name	Age	Position
Peter Tan	39	Chief Executive Officer
Wilfred Chow	46	Chief Financial Officer
Garbo Lee	54	President

All officers serve until they resign or are replaced or renamed at the discretion of the board of directors.

The following additional information is provided for our current executive officers.

Mr. Peter Tan has served as our Chief Executive Officer since February 2012. Mr. Tan is currently the chairman of TGC Partners Limited and managing director of TGC Financial Partners Limited, an investment advisory firm which he founded in 2009. He was also partner and part of the founding team of SIG China, the China-based private equity fund of leading U.S. hedge fund Susquehanna International Group (SIG). Mr. Tan has been actively involved in more than 40 investments in China, 12 of which were eventually listed on international stock exchanges. He has been particularly active in the media space over the past decade, and was an early investor in Airmedia and other Chinese media companies. Mr. Tan formerly served as a board member or observer of multiple companies prior to their U.S. listing, including Home Inns, E-House and Bona Entertainment Group. He was also a director at Ocean Butterflies International and 51credit. Mr. Tan is currently a director of Cathay Industries, a specialty chemical manufacturer based in China. Prior to co-founding SIG China, Mr. Tan was a lawyer with White & Case LLP and Perkins Coie LLP, where he was qualified to practice in England, Hong Kong and Singapore, and where he founded the private equity & venture capital practices and advised emerging-growth companies on fundraising transactions throughout their lifecycle.

Mr. Tan brings more than fifteen years of global investment, corporate finance and corporate law experience to the board of directors. Mr. Tan is knowledgeable about China's media and entertainment industries. His experience as a board member, as a founder of a private equity firm and as an attorney with major international law firms has given him knowledge as a leading specialist on public and private equity and venture capital investments in Greater China. Mr. Tan provides the board of directors with knowledge regarding the media industry in China and insights into pursuing accretive acquisitions and opportunities in the future.

Table of Contents

Mr. Wilfred Chow has served as our Chief Financial Officer since January 2010. From April 2006 through December 2009, Mr. Chow was Senior Vice President of American Oriental Bioengineering, a pharmaceutical company. Prior to that, he was Chief Financial Officer of Aptegrity Inc. He also held senior positions in PriceWaterhouseCoopers and Deloitte & Touche in both the New York and Hong Kong office. Mr. Chow has over 20 years of experience in the financial markets. He received his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Hong Kong and M.B.A. from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom. Mr. Chow is a certified public accountant in the United States.

Ms. Garbo Lee has served as our President since the Business Combination in October 2009. Ms. Lee served as the president of SearchMedia International from March 2009 to October 2009. Prior to that, she was the chief operating officer of SearchMedia International. Ms. Lee has over 24 years of experience in the advertising industry. Prior to joining SearchMedia International, Ms. Lee was a general manager of Sony BMG Music Entertainment (PRC) Inc., a Chinese music marketing and distribution company under Sony BMG Music Entertainment, a global recorded music joint venture headquartered in New York City, from 2005 to 2007. She served as general manager of Coming Age Communication Co. Ltd., a China-based integrated marketing company, from 2002 to 2004. From 2000 to 2002, she worked as managing director and vice president of Doyle Dane Bernbach (DDB) Shanghai, an advertising and integrated marketing company under Omnicom Group in China. From 1984 to 2000, Ms. Lee worked for various companies under WPP Group. Ms. Lee received her bachelor's degree in arts from International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan.

Johnny Lo served as the our Chief Operating Officer beginning on September 2011. On May 14, 2012, the Company terminated Mr. Lo and ceased any future acquisition of Mr. Lo's company, Sky Media Company.

There are no family relationships among the members of SearchMedia Holdings' board of directors or the members of SearchMedia Holdings' senior management.

No director or member of senior management has any arrangement or understanding with major shareholders, customers, suppliers or others, pursuant to which such director or member of senior management was selected as a director or member of senior management of SearchMedia Holdings.

B. Compensation

For the year ended December 31, 2011, we paid aggregate cash compensation of approximately \$0.9 million to our directors and executive officers. No executive officer is entitled to any severance benefits upon termination of his or her employment with our company except for Peter Tan, Wilfred Chow and Garbo Lee.

The aggregate remuneration paid and benefits in kind granted to our executive officers for the year ended December 31, 2011 was approximately \$0.6 million. In addition beginning on October 30, 2009, non-employee members of the board of directors are paid an annual cash fee of \$20,000 payable per quarter. Committee chairmen receive an additional annual fee of \$5,000 other than Mr. Tan during his time as audit committee chairman and Mr. Ren, each of whom received an annualized fee of \$20,000 as audit committee chairman. Mr. Fried and Mr. Rubin also received \$75,000 and \$40,000, respectively, as fees paid in connection with consulting agreements. The aggregate remuneration paid to the directors or accrued by us for fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 was \$0.3 million.

Table of Contents**Share Incentives**

In January 2008, in order to attract and retain the best available personnel, we adopted the 2008 share incentive plan, or the plan to purchase a maximum of 1,796,492 shares in our company. As of August 13, 2010, subject to shareholder approval which was received in September of 2011, the board of directors voted to reserve 3,000,000 shares for issuance under the plan.

The following table summarizes, as of April 30, 2012, the options and restricted shares granted to our directors and executive officers and other individuals as a group, without giving effect to options that were exercised or terminated.

Name:	Common Shares Underlying Granted Options/ or Restricted Shares	Exercise Price (\$/share)	Grant Date	Expiration Date
Peter Tan	75,000	1.06	February 8, 2012	February 7, 2022
	400,000	1.10	February 13, 2012	February 12, 2022
Paul Conway	*	1.65	March 27, 2012	March 27, 2012(1)
	*		March 27, 2012	(1)
Wilfred Chow	*	2.62	January 4, 2010	August 20, 2020
Garbo Lee	*	7.14	January 11, 2010	January 10, 2020
Robert Fried	*	7.14	January 11, 2010	January 10, 2020
	*	1.06	February 8, 2012	February 7, 2022
Glenn Halpryn (2)	*	7.14	January 11, 2010	January 10, 2020
Steve Rubin	*	7.14	January 11, 2010	January 10, 2020
	*	1.06	February 8, 2012	February 7, 2022
Chi-Chuan Chen	*	7.14	January 11, 2010	January 10, 2020
	*	1.06	February 8, 2012	February 7, 2022
Jeffrey Ren	*	1.55	March 21, 2012	March 20, 2022
Other individuals as a group	1,207,576	(3)	(3)	(4)
Total	2,435,909			

* Less than one percent of the outstanding ordinary shares.

- (1) Mr. Conway's earlier grant of 250,000 stock options and 100,000 restricted shares were terminated pursuant to his separation agreement and he received a new grant of 100,000 stock options and 33,333 restricted shares.
- (2) Mr. Halpryn resigned from the board of directors effective June 30, 2011.
- (3) Options/restricted shares were granted to other individuals on various exercise price and various dates
- (4) Other individuals' options expire on various dates.

The following paragraphs describe the principal terms of our 2008 share incentive plan:

Plan Administration. SearchMedia Holdings' board of directors, or a committee designated by the board or directors, will administer the plan. The committee or the full board of directors, as appropriate, will determine the provisions and terms and conditions of each award grant.

Types of Awards. The types of awards SearchMedia International may grant under the plan include the following.

options to purchase SearchMedia Holdings' ordinary shares;

Table of Contents

restricted shares, which represent non-transferable ordinary shares, that may be subject to forfeiture, restrictions on transferability and other restrictions; and

restricted share units, which represent the right to receive SearchMedia Holdings' ordinary shares at a specified date in the future, which may be subject to forfeiture.

Award Document. Awards granted under SearchMedia International's plan are each evidenced by an award document that sets forth the terms, conditions and limitations for each grant, including the exercise price, the number of shares to which the award pertains, the conditions upon which an option will become vested and exercisable and other customary provisions.

Eligibility. SearchMedia Holdings International may grant awards to (i) its employees, directors and consultants, and (ii) employees, directors and consultants of any of its parents or subsidiaries and of any entity in which SearchMedia Holdings or any of its parents or subsidiaries holds a substantial ownership interest. Incentive share options may be granted to employees of SearchMedia International, or any of its parents or subsidiaries, and may not be granted to employees of a related entity or to independent directors or consultants.

Acceleration of Awards upon Change of Control and Corporate Transactions. Unless otherwise provided in the award agreement: 1) the outstanding awards will accelerate by one year upon occurrence of a change-of-control transaction where the successor entity does not convert, assume or replace SearchMedia International's outstanding awards under the plan; 2) in the event of a corporate transaction as defined in the plan, including certain amalgamations, arrangements, consolidations or schemes of arrangement and the transfer of all or substantially all of the company's assets, each outstanding award that is not assumed or replaced by the successor entity will become fully vested and immediately exercisable provided that the related grantee's continuous service with SearchMedia International shall not be terminated before that date; and 3) furthermore, in the event of a corporate transaction, each outstanding award that is assumed or replaced by the successor entity will become fully vested and immediately exercisable immediately upon termination of the participant's employment or service within twelve (12) months of the Corporate Transaction without cause.

Term of the Awards. The term of each award grant shall be stated in the award agreement, provided that the term for an option shall not exceed ten years from the date of the grant, unless shareholder approval is obtained for amending the plan to extend the exercise period for an option beyond ten years from the date of the grant.

Vesting Schedule. In general, the plan administrator determines, or the award agreement specifies, the vesting schedule.

Transfer Restrictions. Except as otherwise provided by the committee that administers the plan, awards granted under the plan may not be assigned, transferred or otherwise disposed of by the award holders other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution.

Termination and Amendment of the Plan. Unless terminated earlier, the plan will expire on, and no award may be granted pursuant to the plan after, the tenth anniversary of its effective date. With the approval of SearchMedia Holdings' board of directors, the committee that administers the plan may amend or terminate the plan, except that shareholder approval shall be obtained to the extent necessary or desirable to comply with applicable laws or stock exchange rules, or for amendments to the plan that increase the number of shares available under the plan, permit the committee to extend the term of the plan or the exercise price of an option beyond ten years from the date of grant or result in a material increase in benefits or a change in eligibility requirements.

Table of Contents

C. Board Practices

The directors of SearchMedia Holdings will serve as directors until the next Annual Meeting or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The directors have served in that capacity since the Business Combination.

All officers serve until they resign or are replaced or renamed at the discretion of the board of directors.

Board Committees

The board of directors has established an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee.

Audit Committee Members and Financial Expert

The board of directors has established an Audit Committee. During 2011, Mr. Glenn Halpryn served as the chairman of the Audit Committee until his resignation from the board of directors on June 30, 2011. Mr. Peter Tan served as the chairman of the Audit Committee from July 1, 2011 until February 8, 2012 when he was appointed Chief Executive Officer. Upon his appointment to the board of directors on February 25, 2012, Mr. Jeffrey Ren took his place on the Audit Committee as chairman. The Audit Committee currently consists of Jeffrey Ren (Chair) and Chi-Chuan Chen. The board of directors has determined that Mr. Ren meets the attributes of an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of SEC regulations and is independent within the meaning of the listing standards of NYSE MKT and applicable SEC regulations. Messrs. Halpryn and Tan were considered audit committee financial experts and independent when they served as the chairman of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to the Charter of the Audit Committee of the board of directors of SearchMedia Holdings Limited which was amended on August 6, 2010.

Compensation Committee Members

The Compensation Committee currently consists of Robert Fried and Steve Rubin. The Compensation Committee operates pursuant to the Charter of the Compensation Committee of the board of directors of SearchMedia Holdings Limited which was approved on December 8, 2009.

Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee Members

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee currently consists of Robert Fried and Steve Rubin. The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee operates pursuant to the Charter of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee of the board of directors of SearchMedia Holdings Limited which was approved on December 8, 2009.

Table of Contents

Code of Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Ethics applicable to our directors, officers and employees including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and principal accounting officer. A copy of our Code of Ethics is available on our website at www.searchmediaholdings.com. We intend to post amendments to or waivers from our Code of Ethics (to the extent applicable to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or principal accounting officer or to our directors) on our website. Our website is not part of this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

Compensation of Directors

Our Compensation Committee recommends director compensation to the board of directors. The non-employee members of the board of directors receive an annual cash fee of \$20,000 that is payable per quarter. The committee chairmen receive an additional \$5,000 annual fee. Except for Mr. Fried and Mr. Rubin, each non-employee member of the board of directors was granted 25,000 stock options in 2010, which fully vested on January 11, 2011 and which expire January 11, 2020. Mr. Fried and Mr. Rubin were granted 50,000 stock options in 2010, which fully vested on January 11, 2011 and which expire on January 11, 2020. Mr. Tan was paid a cash fee of \$20,000 as the chairman of the Audit Committee until he resigned on February 8, 2012. Mr. Ren was appointed as the chairman of the Audit Committee beginning February 25, 2012 and currently receives the cash fee of \$20,000 as the chairman of the Audit Committee. In 2012, Mr. Fried, Mr. Rubin, and Mr. Chen were granted 100,000 stock options, 75,000 stock options, and 25,000 stock options, respectively, as members of the board of directors. Messrs. Fried, Rubin, and Chen's stock options fully vest on February 8, 2013. In March of 2012, Mr. Ren was granted 25,000 stock options which fully vest on February 24, 2013. Additionally, upon his appointment as Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Tan was granted 400,000 stock options, which vest pro rata over three years beginning February 13, 2013. Mr. Tan was also granted 75,000 stock options, as a member of the board of directors, that fully vest on February 8, 2013. All stock options expire 10 years after the grant date.

D. Employees

As of March 31, 2012, we had approximately 192 employees, including 21 business development personnel, 64 sales and marketing personnel, 37 maintenance and operation personnel, 70 finance and administrative personnel. All of our employees are full-time. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. We manage our own staff recruitment.

We are required by applicable PRC regulations to contribute for our employees certain amounts, based on our employees' aggregate salaries, to a defined contribution pension plan, a medical insurance plan, a housing fund, an unemployment insurance plan, a personal injury insurance plan and a maternity insurance plan. We believe that we have made the required payments in compliance with the applicable laws and regulations since our inception.

Table of Contents

E. Share Ownership

Please see Item 6.B and Item 7

Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions

A. Major Shareholders

74

Table of Contents

The following table sets forth certain information as of May 8, 2012 concerning the beneficial ownership of the ordinary shares by (i) each person known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of the outstanding ordinary shares, (ii) each of our directors serving on May 8, 2012, (iii) each current executive officer, and (iv) all of our current executive officers and directors as a group. Unless indicated below, all holders listed below have sole voting power and investment power over the shares beneficially owned by them. Unless noted otherwise, the address of each person listed below is K-Wah Center #38-03, 1010 Middle Huaihai Road, Shanghai, China, 200031.

Beneficial Owner	Ordinary Shares Beneficially Owned (1)	Percentage of Class of Ordinary Shares Beneficially Owned (%)
Officers and Directors		
Peter Tan (2)	160,000	*
Robert N. Fried(3)	1,323,264	6.9%
Steven D. Rubin(4)	363,870	1.9%
Jeffrey Yunan Ren	0	
Chi-Chuan Chen (5)	25,000	*
Garbo Lee (6)	63,722	*
Wilfred Chow (7)	152,000	*
Paul Conway(12)	3,000	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (8 persons)	2,090,856	10.6%
5% Holders		
Dr. Phillip Frost, M.D. (8)	7,412,033	32.1%
China Seed Ventures, L.P.(9)	1,194,626	6.5%
Heartland Advisors Inc. (10)	1,200,000	6.5%
Luxor Capital Group, LP (11)	1,306,632	7.1%
Deutsche Bank AG, HK Branch (13)	2,399,995	12.8%

* The person beneficially owns less than 1% of SearchMedia Holdings' outstanding common shares.

(1) Based on 18,472,570 shares outstanding as of May 8, 2012.

(2) Includes 160,000 ordinary shares issuable upon the conversion of a convertible note in favor of an affiliate of Mr. Tan at a conversion price of \$1.25 per share. The convertible note is convertible into shares within 60 days of the date of this annual report on Form 20-F.

(3) Includes exercisable warrants to purchase 590,793 ordinary shares and includes 50,000 ordinary shares underlying options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after May 8, 2012.

(4) Includes exercisable warrants to purchase 153,000 ordinary shares and includes 50,000 ordinary shares underlying options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after May 8, 2012.

(5) Includes 25,000 ordinary shares underlying options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after May 8, 2012.

(6) Includes 63,722 ordinary shares underlying options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after May 8, 2012.

(7) Includes 150,000 ordinary shares underlying options that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days after May 8, 2012.

(8) Includes exercisable warrants to purchase 2,785,599 ordinary shares and 2,000,000 ordinary shares issuable upon the conversion of a convertible note at a conversion price of \$1.25 per share. The convertible note is convertible into shares within 60 days of the date of this annual report on Form 20-F. Ownership is as reported in the Schedule 13D/A filed by Dr. Phillip Frost, M.D. on November 22, 2011 and additional information known to the Company. The business address of Dr. Frost, M.D. is 4400 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 1500, Miami, Florida 33137.

(9) Includes 140,000 ordinary shares issuable upon the conversion of a convertible note at a conversion price of \$1.25 per share. Ownership is as reported in the Schedule 13D filed by China Seed Ventures, L.P. on January 21, 2010 and additional information known to the Company. The business address of China Seed Ventures, L.P. is Room 104 Building 18, No. 800 Huashan Road, Shanghai, China.

(10) Ownership is as reported in the Schedule 13G/A filed by Heartland Advisors Inc. on February 10, 2012. The business address of Heartland Advisor Inc is 789 North Water Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

(11) Ownership is as reported in the Schedule 13G/A filed by Luxor Capital Group, LP on February 14, 2012. The business address of Luxor Capital Group, LP is 1114 Avenue of the Americas, 29th Floor, New York, New York 10036.

(12) Excludes 58,087 shares to be issued to Mr. Conway pursuant to the terms of the May 2012 settlement agreement with the Company.

(13) Does not exclude ordinary shares to be returned to the Company pursuant to that certain settlement agreement effective May 11, 2012 between the Company and Deutsche Bank AG, HK Branch. Includes exercisable warrants to purchase 255,427 ordinary shares. Ownership

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

is as reported in the Schedule 13G filed by Deutsche Bank AG, HK Branch on November 10, 2009. The business address of Deutsche Bank AG, HK Branch is Theodor-Heuss-Allee 70, 60468 Frankfurt am Main, Federal Republic of Germany.

Table of Contents

None of our major shareholders have different voting rights from those of our other shareholders. To the best of our knowledge, we are not directly or indirectly controlled by another corporation, by any foreign government or by any other natural or legal person severally or jointly. The Company is not aware of any arrangement that may, at a subsequent date, result in a change of control of the Company.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

The following table lists all securities authorized for issuance and outstanding under our equity compensation plans at December 31, 2011:

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding outstanding options)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	1,367,195	\$ 4.22	1,461,766

B. Related Party Transactions
Certain Relationships and Related Transactions

The Audit Committee reviews and approves transactions in which SearchMedia Holdings was or is to be a participant, where the amount involved exceeded or will exceed \$120,000 annually and any of our directors, executive officers or their immediate family members had or will have a direct or indirect material interest. We have a written policy stating that the Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and, if appropriate, approving or ratifying any related party transactions. The related party transaction will not be approved unless at a minimum it is for our benefit and is upon terms no less favorable to us than if the related party transaction was with an unrelated third party.

Transactions with SearchMedia International's Shareholders and Senior Management Personnel
Convertible Promissory Notes

In February 2012, the Company entered into an agreement for a new \$3.0 million Convertible Note with its existing major shareholder and several other investors including an affiliate of the Company's Chief Executive Officer. The Note has a one year term and borrowings bear interest at a rate of 10% per annum. In addition, the Note is convertible into the Company's common shares at \$1.25 per share.

Table of Contents

Share buyback with shareholders

In January 2012 and May 2012, the Company reached settlement agreements for the arbitration between the Company and certain of its predecessor shareholders related to matters from the Share Exchange Agreement signed October 30, 2009. Pursuant to the settlement agreement (i) 2,471,968 shares will be repurchased by the Company at an average price per share of \$0.25 and such shares will be retired, (ii) 2,029,700 shares will be surrendered and cancelled without consideration, and (iii) 1,624,993 warrants will be surrendered and cancelled without consideration. As of the date of this report, 742,959 shares were returned for no consideration, 2,471,968 shares were purchased for an average price of \$0.25 share and 1,624,993 warrants were surrendered and canceled without consideration.

Advance to senior management personnel

For the year ended December 31, 2011, revenue of \$0.05 million was recorded, which represents amounts received or receivable from affiliated entities of senior management personnel of the Company for provision of advertising services to such affiliated entities.

As of December 31, 2011, \$2.1 million was payable to the Company as advances made by the Company to the senior management personnel. The advances are secured by the contingent purchase price payable to the previous owners of the acquired companies. The advances were subsequently settled due to disposition of Zhejiang Continental or charged to the income statement as expenses upon receipt of the former owners' reimbursement reports. We have not made any material advances during 2012, however we have made some non-material advances in 2012 relating to travel and business expenses.

As of December 31, 2011, \$0.4 million was payable to the senior management personnel as operating expenses paid on behalf of the Company by such personnel.

Director Independence

The board of directors undertook a review of Messrs. Fried, Rubin and Chen's independence in October 2010. Additionally, upon Mr. Tan's appointment effective June 30, 2011 and Mr. Ren's appointment in February 2012, the board reviewed the independence of Mr. Tan and Mr. Ren, respectively. During this review, the board of directors considered transactions and relationships between each director or any member of his or her immediate family and us and our subsidiaries and affiliates. The board of directors also examined transactions and relationships between directors or their known affiliates and members of our senior management or their known affiliates. The purpose of this review was to determine whether any such relationships or transactions were inconsistent with a determination that the director is independent under applicable laws and regulations and the NYSE MKT listing standards. As a result of our review of the relationships of each of the members of the board of directors, the board of directors affirmatively determined that a majority of our directors, including Messrs. Fried, Chen, Ren and Rubin, are independent directors within the meaning of the listing standards of NYSE MKT and applicable law.

C. Interests of Experts and Counsel

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

Item 8 Financial Information

A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information

We have appended consolidated financial statements filed as part of this annual report.

Legal or Arbitration Proceedings

Shareholder Lawsuits in the United States

A shareholder complaint was filed on September 13, 2010 by Sid Murdeshwar against SearchMedia Holdings, the former Ideation officers and directors and certain of the SearchMedia Holdings officers and directors (the Individual Defendants) as a purported class action on behalf of the shareholders of SearchMedia Holdings in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The case was filed under the caption *Sid Murdeshwar, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, Plaintiff v. SearchMedia Holdings Limited f/k/a Ideation Acquisition Corp., Robert N. Fried, Phillip Frost, Rao Uppaluri, Steven D. Rubin, Glenn Halpryn, Thomas E. Beier, David H. Moskowitz, Shawn Gold, Garbo Lee, Paul Conway, Qinying Liu, Earl Yen, and Jennifer Huang, Defendants* .

A separate shareholder complaint was filed on December 23, 2010 by Hymie Akst against SearchMedia Holdings, the former Ideation officers and directors and certain of the SearchMedia Holdings officers and directors (the Individual Defendants) as a purported class action on behalf of the shareholders of SearchMedia Holdings in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. The case was filed under the caption *Hymie Akst, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, Plaintiff v. SearchMedia Holdings Limited f/k/a Ideation Acquisition Corp., Robert N. Fried, Phillip Frost, Rao Uppaluri, Steven D. Rubin, Glenn Halpryn, Thomas E. Beier, David H. Moskowitz, Shawn Gold, Garbo Lee, Paul Conway, Qinying Liu, Earl Yen, and Jennifer Huang, Defendants* .

On February 17, 2011, the *Murdeshwar* action was transferred to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. The *Akst* plaintiffs voluntarily dismissed their action on February 23, 2011. On April 11, 2011, the *Murdeshwar* plaintiffs amended their complaint, alleging, among other things, that the directors of SearchMedia Holdings violated the federal securities laws by making false and misleading statements regarding Ideation's acquisition of the target company, SearchMedia International, and by overstating SearchMedia International's financial results. The amended complaint further alleged that the individual Defendants are liable for the alleged misrepresentations as controlling persons. The complaint sought certification of a class of SearchMedia Holdings shareholders who purchased or otherwise acquired SearchMedia Holdings securities between April 1, 2009 and August 20, 2010, and all persons who were holders of SearchMedia Holdings on October 2, 2009, an award of compensatory damages, an award of reasonable fees and costs incurred in the action, and such other relief as the Court deems just and proper.

In August 2011, the Court dismissed the claims pertaining to alleged misstatements and omissions made about SearchMedia International's financial results and future prospects, but did not dismiss the claims regarding the alleged misstatements and omissions in Ideation's proxy statement.

In September 2011, after attending a mediation, SearchMedia Holdings and certain of the individual Defendants (Robert Fried, Phillip Frost, Rao Uppaluri, Steven Rubin, Glenn Halpryn, Thomas Beier, David Moskowitz and Shawn Gold) (the Settling Defendants) reached a tentative settlement with the *Akst* Plaintiffs.

Table of Contents

Under the terms of the settlement, SearchMedia Holdings' D&O insurer agreed to pay \$2.75 million in exchange for a release of the claims asserted against the Settling Defendants by the *Akst* plaintiffs and the putative class members. SearchMedia Holdings and the other Settling Defendants did not admit to any wrongdoing. The settlement does not include a release of the Plaintiffs' claims against SearchMedia International or Defendants Garbo Lee, Qinying Liu, Earl Yen, Jennifer Huang and Paul Conway, who have not been served with the amended complaint. In January 2012, the court dismissed without prejudice the claims against these remaining Defendants for the plaintiffs' failure to timely effect service on them.

On April 23, 2012, the court held a final fairness hearing on the settlement. There were no objections to the settlement. On April 24, 2012, the court signed a final judgment approving the settlement and dismissing the lawsuit with prejudice.

Securities and Exchange Commission Investigation

On November 30, 2010, the SEC served a Subpoena Duces Tecum (the Subpoena) on SearchMedia Holdings pursuant to a formal Order of Investigation dated November 12, 2010, seeking documents regarding SearchMedia's financial restatement and alleged accounting improprieties. On March 16, 2011, the SEC served an additional subpoena on the SearchMedia Holdings seeking additional documents regarding SearchMedia's financial restatement and alleged accounting improprieties. We are cooperating fully with the SEC's investigation and intend to continue to do so. To date, we have produced over approximately 80% of the total responsive documents and continue to collect and review documents responsive to the subpoena duces tecum to supplement the production.

Lawsuit in China

In February 2012, the original shareholders of Wuxi Ruizhong Advertisement Co., Ltd. filed an arbitration application with China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC Shanghai) against Ad-Icon Shanghai. The original Wuxi shareholders claimed that Ad-Icon Shanghai owed them approximately \$0.7 million related to the unpaid stock consideration for the equity interest of Wuxi Ruizhong. On October 21, 2011, SearchMedia issued 132,272 shares to the person entrusted by the original Wuxi Shareholders, which we deemed payment in full for the stock earn-out consideration payable. As of the date of this Annual Report on Form 20-F, the case is still in the arbitration process.

SearchMedia Arbitration Claim Against Prior Shareholders

Pursuant to the terms of the Share Exchange Agreement dated October 29, 2009, SearchMedia Holdings commenced claims against the former shareholders and directors of SearchMedia International Limited for fraud and for breaches of representations, warranties and covenants contained in the Share Exchange Agreement. SearchMedia Holdings is seeking the return of shares from China Seed Ventures, L.P., Qinying Liu, Deutsche Bank AG, Le Yang, Sun Hing Associates LTD., and Vervain Equity Investments Limited (collectively, the SM Shareholders), as well as damages in excess of the trade-in value of the shares held by the SM Shareholders. While the arbitration is still in the procedural stage, SearchMedia Holdings has entered into binding settlements with China Seed Ventures, L.P., Qinying Liu, Le Yang and Deutsche Bank AG. Consideration for these settlements involve both the return of shares and the repurchase of shares for below-market price amounts. The matter is currently pending at the International Centre for Dispute Resolution.

In addition, from time to time, we may be subject to legal proceedings, investigations and claims incidental to the conduct of our business. We are not currently a party to any legal proceeding or investigation, except the shareholder complaint described above, that in the opinion of our management, is likely to have a material adverse effect on our business or financial condition.

Dividend Policy

We have not paid any dividends on our common stock to date and do not intend to pay dividends at this time.

B. Significant Changes

Except as disclosed elsewhere in this annual report, we have not experienced any significant changes since the date of our audited consolidated financial statements included in this annual report.

Table of Contents**Item 9 The Offer and Listing****A. Offer and Listing Details**

Our common stock and warrants are listed on the NYSE MKT under the symbols IDI and IDI.WS, respectively. The closing price for our ordinary shares on May 14, 2012, the most recent trading day before the date of this Annual Report on Form 20-F, was \$1.91. The closing price for our warrants on April 30, 2012, the last day the NYSE MKT reports trading activity in our warrants, was \$0.13.

The table below sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low bid prices for the securities as reported on the NYSE MKT in U.S. dollars. These quotations reflect inter-dealer prices, without markup, markdown or commissions, and may not represent actual transactions.

Full Financial Year	Annual High and Low Market Prices for the Five Most Recent Full Financial Years					
	Units (1)		Common Stock		Warrants	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
2007(2)	\$ 8.01	\$ 7.85	\$ 7.20	\$ 7.20	\$ 0.70	\$ 0.70
2008	\$ 8.10	\$ 6.85	\$ 8.10	\$ 6.75	\$ 0.71	\$ 0.03
2009	\$ 9.82	\$ 7.17	\$ 9.20	\$ 7.09	\$ 3.14	\$ 0.03
2010	\$	\$	\$ 7.55	\$ 1.62	\$ 2.25	\$ 0.19
2011	\$	\$	\$ 3.50	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.05

- (1) During the fourth quarter of 2009, trading in the units was suspended.
- (2) This table sets forth the range of high and low sales prices for the units, common stock and warrants for the applicable portion of the year ended December 31, 2007. The units commenced public trading on November 20, 2007, and the common stock and warrants commenced public trading separately on December 26, 2007. The table also includes price information for Ideation Acquisition Corp. securities before the Business Combination.

Full Financial Year	High and Low Market Prices for each Full Financial Quarter for the Two Most Recent Years and the Subsequent Quarters					
	Units (1)		Common Stock		Warrants	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
2010						
First Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 7.55	\$ 4.51	\$ 2.25	\$ 0.80
Second Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 6.14	\$ 3.01	\$ 1.20	\$ 0.40
Third Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 3.63	\$ 1.62	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.22
Fourth Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 3.65	\$ 1.68	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.19
2011						
First Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.71	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.12
Second Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 2.72	\$ 1.42	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.13
Third Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 2.03	\$ 1.13	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.11
Fourth Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 1.97	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.05
2012						
First Quarter	\$	\$	\$ 1.85	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.06
Second Quarter (through May 14, 2012)	\$	\$	\$ 1.93	\$ 1.51	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.08

- (1) During the fourth quarter of 2009, trading in the units was suspended.

Table of Contents

	High and Low Market Prices for each of the Most Recent Six Months					
	Units (1)		Common Stock		Warrants	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
2011						
December	\$	\$	\$ 3.50	\$ 2.81	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.23
2012						
January	\$	\$	\$ 1.35	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.06
February	\$	\$	\$ 1.85	\$ 0.96	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.12
March	\$	\$	\$ 1.82	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.19	\$ 0.09
April	\$	\$	\$ 1.93	\$ 1.51	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.08
May (through May 14, 2012)(2)	\$	\$	\$ 1.92	\$ 1.80	\$	\$

(1) During the fourth quarter of 2009, trading in the units was suspended.

(2) During May 2012, the warrants were not traded.

As of May 8, 2012, there were, of record, 36 holders of common stock, 11 holders of warrants and no holders of units.

B. Plan of Distribution

Not applicable.

C. Markets

See the first paragraph of Item 9A above.

D. Selling Shareholders

Not applicable.

E. Dilution

Not applicable.

F. Expenses of the Issue

Not applicable.

Item 10 Additional Information**A. Share Capital**

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

B. Memorandum and Articles of Association

We incorporate by reference into this annual report the description of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of SearchMedia Holdings Limited contained in our Current Report on Form 8-K first filed with the Commission on November 5, 2009.

C. Material Contracts

We have not entered into any material contracts other than in the ordinary course of business and other than those described in Item 4. Information on the Company or elsewhere in this annual report on Form 20-F.

D. Exchange Controls

Please see the discussion regarding regulations of dividend distributions found in Regulatory Matters under Item 4.B

E. Taxation

The following summary of the material Cayman Islands and United States federal income tax consequences of an investment in our common shares is based upon laws and relevant interpretations thereof in effect as of the date of this annual report, all of which are subject to change. This summary does not deal with all possible tax consequences relating to an investment in our common shares, such as the tax consequences under state, local and other tax laws.

Cayman Islands Taxation

The Cayman Islands currently levies no taxes on individuals or corporations based upon profits, income, gains or appreciation and there is no taxation in the nature of inheritance tax or estate duty. There are no other taxes likely to be material to our company levied by the Government of the Cayman Islands except for stamp duties which may be applicable on instruments executed in, or brought within, the jurisdiction of the Cayman Islands. There are no exchange control regulations or currency restrictions in the Cayman Islands.

United States Federal Income Taxation

The following discussion describes the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders (as defined below) under present law of an investment in the common shares. This discussion applies only to U.S. Holders that hold the common shares as capital assets (generally, property held for investment) and that have the U.S. dollar as their functional currency. This discussion is based on the tax laws of the United States in effect as of the date of this annual report and on U.S. Treasury regulations in effect or, in some cases, proposed as of the date of this annual report, as well as judicial and administrative interpretations thereof available on or before such date. All of the foregoing authorities are subject to change, which change could apply retroactively and could affect the tax consequences described below.

The following discussion does not address the tax consequences to any particular investor or to persons in special tax situations such as:

banks and other financial institutions;

insurance companies;

regulated investment companies;

Table of Contents

real estate investment trusts;

broker-dealers;

traders that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting;

U.S. expatriates;

tax-exempt entities;

persons liable for alternative minimum tax;

persons holding a common share as part of a straddle, hedging, conversion or integrated transaction;

persons that actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our voting stock;

persons who acquired common shares pursuant to the exercise of any employee share option or otherwise as compensation; or

partnerships or other pass-through entities, or persons holding common shares through such entities.

INVESTORS ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS ABOUT THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL TAX RULES TO THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES AS WELL AS THE STATE, LOCAL, NON-U.S. AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF COMMON SHARES.

The discussion below of the U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders will apply to you if you are a beneficial owner of our common shares and you are, for U.S. federal income tax purposes,

an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation (or other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes) created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States, any State thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

a trust that (i) is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and the control of one or more U.S. persons for all substantial decisions or (ii) has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

The tax treatment of a partner in a partnership (or other entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) that holds our common shares will depend on the status of such partner and the activities of such partnership. If you are a partner in such partnership, you should consult your tax advisors.

Taxation of dividends and other distributions on the common shares

Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, the gross amount of any distributions we make to you with respect to common shares generally will be includible in your gross income as dividend income on the date of receipt by you but only to the extent that the distribution is paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). The dividends will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction allowed to corporations in respect of dividends received from other U.S. corporations. To the extent that the amount of the distribution exceeds our current and accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles), such excess amount will be treated first as a tax-free return of your tax basis in your common shares, and then, to the extent such excess amount exceeds your tax basis in your common shares, as capital gain. We currently do not, and we do not intend to, calculate our earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles. Therefore, a U.S. Holder should expect that a distribution will generally be reported as a dividend even if that distribution would otherwise be treated as a non-taxable return of capital or as a capital gain under the rules described above.

Table of Contents

With respect to certain non-corporate U.S. Holders, including individual U.S. Holders, for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2011, dividends may be taxed at the lower capital gains rate applicable to qualified dividend income, provided that (i) either (a) the common shares, as applicable, are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States or (b) we are eligible for the benefits of a qualifying income tax treaty with the United States that includes an exchange of information program, (ii) we are neither a passive foreign investment company nor treated as such with respect to you (as discussed below) for the taxable year in which the dividend was paid and the preceding taxable year and (iii) certain holding period requirements are met. Under U.S. Internal Revenue Service authority, common shares will be considered for purposes of clause (i) above to be readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States if they are listed on the NYSE MKT, as are our common shares. If we are treated as a resident enterprise for PRC tax purposes under the New EIT Law, we may be eligible for the benefits of the income tax treaty between the United States and the PRC. For more information regarding the New EIT Law, see Item 3.D. Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Doing Business in the People's Republic of China. If we were deemed a resident enterprise by PRC tax authorities, we could be subject to tax on our global income and our non-PRC shareholders could be subject to certain PRC taxes. You should consult your tax advisors regarding the availability of the lower capital gains rate applicable to qualified dividend income for dividends paid with respect to our common shares.

Dividends will constitute foreign source income for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. If the dividends are taxed as qualified dividend income (as discussed above), the amount of the dividend taken into account for purposes of calculating the foreign tax credit limitation will in general be limited to the gross amount of the dividend, multiplied by the reduced tax rate applicable to qualified dividend income and divided by the highest tax rate normally applicable to dividends. The limitation on foreign taxes eligible for credit is calculated separately with respect to specific classes of income. For this purpose, dividends distributed by us with respect to the common shares will generally constitute passive category income but could, in the case of certain U.S. Holders, constitute general category income.

If PRC withholding taxes apply to dividends paid to you with respect to our common shares, subject to certain conditions and limitations, such PRC withholding taxes may be treated as foreign taxes eligible for credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability. For more information regarding such PRC withholding taxes, see Item 3.D. Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Doing Business in the People's Republic of China. If we were deemed a resident enterprise by PRC tax authorities, we could be subject to tax on our global income and our non-PRC shareholders could be subject to certain PRC taxes. The rules relating to the determination of the foreign tax credit are complex, and you should consult your tax advisors regarding the availability of a foreign tax credit in your particular circumstances.

Taxation of disposition of common shares

Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, you will recognize taxable gain or loss on any sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of a common share equal to the difference between the amount realized (in U.S. dollars) for the common share and your tax basis (in U.S. dollars) in the common share. The gain or loss generally will be a capital gain or loss. If you are a non-corporate U.S. Holder, including an individual U.S. Holder, that has held the common share for more than one year, you may be eligible for reduced tax rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. Any gain or loss that you recognize on a disposition of common shares will generally be treated as U.S. source income or loss for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. However, if we are treated as a resident enterprise for PRC tax purposes, we may be eligible for the benefits of the income tax treaty between the United States and the PRC. In such event, if PRC withholding

Table of Contents

taxes were to be imposed on any gain from the disposition of the common shares, a U.S. Holder that is eligible for the benefits of the income tax treaty between the United States and the PRC may elect to treat the gain as PRC source income. For more information regarding such PRC withholding taxes, see Item 3.D. Key Information Risk Factors Risks Relating to Doing Business in the People's Republic of China. If we were deemed a resident enterprise by PRC tax authorities, we could be subject to tax on our global income and our non-PRC shareholders could be subject to certain PRC taxes. You should consult your tax advisors regarding the proper treatment of gain or loss in your particular circumstances.

Passive foreign investment company

Based on the market price of our common shares, the value of our assets, and the composition of our income and assets, although not free from doubt, we do not believe that we were a passive foreign investment company (PFIC) for U.S. federal income tax purposes for our taxable year ended December 31, 2011. However, the application of the PFIC rules is subject to uncertainty in several respects, including how the contractual arrangements between us and our affiliated entities will be treated for purposes of the PFIC rules, and we cannot assure you that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service will not take a contrary position. A non-U.S. corporation will be a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes for any taxable year if either:

at least 75% of its gross income for such year is passive income; or

at least 50% of the value of its assets (based on an average of the quarterly values of the assets) during such year is attributable to assets that produce passive income or are held for the production of passive income.

For this purpose, we will be treated as owning our proportionate share of the assets and earning our proportionate share of the income of any other corporation in which we own, directly or indirectly, at least 25% (by value) of the stock. In applying this rule, however, it is not clear whether the contractual arrangements between us and our affiliated entities will be treated as ownership of stock.

We must make a separate determination after the close of each taxable year as to whether we were a PFIC for that year. Because the value of our assets for purposes of the PFIC test will generally be determined by reference to the market price of our common shares, fluctuations in the market price of the common shares may cause us to become a PFIC. In addition, changes in the composition of our income or assets may cause us to become a PFIC.

If we are a PFIC for any taxable year during which you hold common shares, we generally will continue to be treated as a PFIC with respect to you for all succeeding years during which you hold the common shares, unless we cease to be a PFIC and you make a deemed sale election with respect to the common shares, as applicable. If such election is made, you will be deemed to have sold the common shares you hold at their fair market value and any gain from such deemed sale would be subject to the rules described in the following two paragraphs. After the deemed sale election, your common shares with respect to which the deemed sale election was made will not be treated as shares in a PFIC unless we subsequently become a PFIC.

For each taxable year that we are treated as a PFIC with respect to you, you will be subject to special tax rules with respect to any excess distribution you receive and any gain you recognize from a sale or other disposition (including a pledge) of the common shares, unless you make a mark-to-market election as discussed below. Distributions you receive in a taxable year

Table of Contents

that are greater than 125% of the average annual distributions you received during the shorter of the three preceding taxable years or your holding period for the common shares will be treated as an excess distribution. Under these special tax rules:

the excess distribution or recognized gain will be allocated ratably over your holding period for the common shares;

the amount allocated to the current taxable year, and any taxable years in your holding period prior to the first taxable year in which we were a PFIC, will be treated as ordinary income; and

the amount allocated to each other taxable year will be subject to the highest tax rate in effect for individuals or corporations, as applicable, for each such year and the interest charge generally applicable to underpayments of tax will be imposed on the resulting tax attributable to each such year.

The tax liability for amounts allocated to taxable years prior to the year of disposition or excess distribution cannot be offset by any net operating losses for such years, and gains (but not losses) from a sale or other disposition of the common shares cannot be treated as capital, even if you hold the common shares as capital assets.

If we are treated as a PFIC with respect to you for any taxable year, to the extent any of our subsidiaries are also PFICs or we make direct or indirect equity investments in other entities that are PFICs, you may be deemed to own shares in such lower-tier PFICs that are directly or indirectly owned by us in that proportion which the value of the common shares you own bears to the value of all of our common shares, and you may be subject to the rules described in the preceding two paragraphs with respect to the shares of such lower-tier PFICs that you would be deemed to own. You should consult your tax advisors regarding the application of the PFIC rules to any of our subsidiaries.

A U.S. Holder of marketable stock (as defined below) in a PFIC may make a mark-to-market election for such stock to elect out of the PFIC rules described above regarding excess distributions and recognized gains. If you make a mark-to-market election for the common shares, you will include in income for each year that we are a PFIC an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the common shares you hold as of the close of your taxable year over your adjusted basis in such common shares. You will be allowed a deduction for the excess, if any, of the adjusted basis of the common shares over their fair market value as of the close of the taxable year. However, deductions will be allowable only to the extent of any net mark-to-market gains on the common shares included in your income for prior taxable years. Amounts included in your income under a mark-to-market election, as well as any gain from the actual sale or other disposition of the common shares, will be treated as ordinary income. Ordinary loss treatment will apply to the deductible portion of any mark-to-market loss on the common shares, as well as to any loss from the actual sale or other disposition of the common shares, to the extent that the amount of such loss does not exceed the net mark-to-market gains previously included for such common shares. Your basis in the common shares will be adjusted to reflect any such income or loss amounts. The tax rules that apply to distributions by corporations which are not PFICs would apply to distributions by us, except that the lower capital gains rate applicable to qualified dividend income (discussed above under Taxation of dividends and other distributions on the common shares) would not apply.

The mark-to-market election is available only for marketable stock, which is stock that is regularly traded on a qualified exchange or other market, as defined in applicable U.S. Treasury regulations. Our common shares are listed on the NYSE

Table of Contents

MKT, which is a qualified exchange or other market for these purposes. Consequently, if the common shares continue to be listed on the NYSE MKT and are regularly traded, and you are a holder of common shares, we expect that the mark-to-market election would be available to you if we were to become a PFIC. Because a mark-to-market election cannot be made for equity interests in any lower-tier PFICs that we own, a U.S. Holder may continue to be subject to the PFIC rules described above regarding excess distributions and recognized gains with respect to its indirect interest in any investments held by us that are treated as an equity interest in a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. You should consult your tax advisors as to the availability and desirability of a mark-to-market election, as well as the impact of such election on interests in any lower-tier PFICs.

Alternatively, a U.S. Holder of stock of a PFIC may make a qualified electing fund election with respect to such corporation to elect out of the PFIC rules described above regarding excess distributions and recognized gains. A U.S. Holder that makes a qualified electing fund election with respect to a PFIC will generally include in income for a taxable year such holder's *pro rata* share of the corporation's income for the taxable year. However, you may make a qualified electing fund election with respect to your common shares only if we agree to furnish you annually with certain tax information, and we currently do not intend to prepare or provide such information.

Under newly enacted legislation, unless otherwise provided by the U.S. Treasury, each U.S. shareholder of a PFIC is required to file an annual report containing such information as the U.S. Treasury may require. Prior to such legislation, a U.S. shareholder of a PFIC was required to file U.S. Internal Revenue Service Form 8621 only for each taxable year in which such shareholder received distributions from the PFIC, recognized gain on a disposition of the PFIC stock, or made a reportable election. If we become a PFIC, you should consult your tax advisors regarding any reporting requirements that may apply to you.

You are strongly urged to consult your tax advisor regarding the application of the PFIC rules to your investment in common shares.

Information reporting and backup withholding

Dividend payments with respect to common shares and proceeds from the sale, exchange or other disposition of common shares may be subject to information reporting to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and possible U.S. backup withholding at a current rate of 28%. Backup withholding will not apply, however, to a U.S. Holder that furnishes a correct taxpayer identification number and makes any other required certification or that is otherwise exempt from backup withholding. U.S. Holders that are required to establish their exempt status generally must provide such certification on U.S. Internal Revenue Service Form W-9. Under newly enacted legislation, for taxable years beginning after March 18, 2010, certain individuals holding the common shares other than in an account at a financial institution may be subject to additional information reporting requirements. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of the U.S. information reporting and backup withholding rules.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Amounts withheld as backup withholding may be credited against your U.S. federal income tax liability, and you may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules by filing an appropriate claim for refund with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and furnishing any required information in a timely manner.

Table of Contents

F. Dividends and Paying Agents

Not applicable.

G. Statement by Experts

Not applicable.

H. Documents on Display

We have filed this annual report on Form 20-F, including exhibits, with the SEC. As allowed by the SEC, in Item 19 of this annual report, we incorporate by reference certain information we filed with the SEC. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this annual report.

The SEC also maintains a website that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers, such as us, who file electronically with the SEC. The address of that website is www.sec.gov. The information on that website is not a part of this annual report.

We are subject to periodic reporting and other informational requirements of the Exchange Act, as applicable to foreign private issuers. Accordingly, we are required to file reports, including annual reports on Form 20-F, and other information with the SEC. As a foreign private issuer, we are exempt from the rules of the Exchange Act prescribing the furnishing and content of proxy statements to shareholders under the federal proxy rules contained in Sections 14(a), (b) and (c) of the Exchange Act, and our executive officers, directors and principal shareholders are exempt from the reporting and short-swing profit recovery provisions contained in Section 16 of the Exchange Act. The registration statements, reports and other information so filed can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can request copies of these documents upon payment of a duplicating fee, by writing to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference rooms.

I. Subsidiary Information

Not applicable.

Item 11 Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Not applicable.

Item 12 Description of Securities Other than Equity Securities

Not applicable.

Table of Contents

PART II

Item 13 Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies

Not applicable.

Item 14 Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

Item 15 Controls and Procedures

Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and other procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by a registrant in reports filed or furnished under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) is properly recorded, processed, summarized, and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include processes to accumulate and evaluate relevant information and communicate such information to the registrant's management, including its principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow for timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

As required by Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 under the Exchange Act, we evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 31, 2011. This evaluation was carried out under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer. As described below, under Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, material weaknesses were identified in our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 and as a result our disclosure controls and procedures were not effective as of December 31, 2011.

Management's Annual Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Our internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of our financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP.

Internal control over financial reporting cannot provide absolute assurance of achieving financial reporting objectives because of its inherent limitations. Internal control over financial reporting is a process that involves human diligence and compliance and is subject to lapses in judgment and breakdowns resulting from human failures. Internal control over financial reporting also can be circumvented by collusion or improper management override. Because of such limitations, there is a risk that material misstatements may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis by internal control over financial reporting. However, these inherent limitations are known features of the financial reporting process. Therefore, it is possible to design into the process safeguards to reduce, though not eliminate, this risk.

A material weakness in internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Auditing Standard No. 2 of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board) is a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the annual or interim

Table of Contents

financial statements will not be prevented or detected. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects a company's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report external financial data reliably in accordance with GAAP such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the company's annual or interim financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected. Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011, using the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control-Integrated Framework.

In connection with the audit of our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011, we have identified certain matters involving our internal control over financial reporting that constitute material weaknesses. The material weaknesses identified result from inadequate tax staff and inadequate integrated financial systems and financial reporting and closing processes. Specifically, the following items were identified:

insufficient tax staff commensurate to reconcile the China statutory tax and US GAAP differences and for SEC requirements;

lack of a fully integrated financial consolidation and reporting system, which requires extensive manual analysis, reconciliation and adjustments in order to produce financial statements for external reporting purposes;

insufficient review of account reconciliations to ensure that all unreconciled items, such as collectibility assessment of accounts receivable, are identified and resolved in a timely manner.

As a result of the material weaknesses, described above, our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 was not effective. We have taken some steps to remediate the material weaknesses described above. We have added additional accounting and tax staff.

In addition, we are in the process of developing and implementing further plans to remediate deficiencies in the areas of tax, policies, and procedures and controls. However, additional measures may be necessary, and the measures we expect to take to improve our internal controls may not be sufficient to address the issues identified, to ensure that our internal controls are effective or to ensure that such material weakness or other material weaknesses would not result in a material misstatement of our annual or interim financial statements. In addition, other material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may be identified in the future. If we are unable to correct deficiencies in internal controls in a timely manner, our ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information accurately and within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC will be adversely affected. This failure could negatively affect the market price and trading liquidity of our common stock, cause investors to lose confidence in our reported financial information, subject us to civil and criminal investigations and penalties, and generally materially and adversely impact our business and financial condition.

Table of Contents**Item 16 [Reserved]****Item 16A Audit Committee Financial Expert**

The board of directors has determined that Mr. Jeffrey Ren meets the attributes of an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of SEC regulations and is independent within the meaning of the listing standards of NYSE MKT and applicable SEC regulations.

Item 16B Code of Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Ethics applicable to our directors, officers and employees including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and principal accounting officer. A copy of our Code of Ethics is available on our website at www.searchmediaholdings.com. We intend to post amendments to or waivers from our Code of Ethics (to the extent applicable to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or principal accounting officer or to our directors) on our website. Our website is not part of this Annual Report on Form 20-F.

Item 16C Principal Accountant Fees and Services

The following table presents fees for professional services rendered by Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP (MarcumBP), our independent registered public accounting firm, for the audit of our annual financial statements, fees for audit-related services, tax services and all other services. MarcumBP was formed pursuant to a joint venture agreement between the practice of Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP (B&P), our former independent registered public accounting firm, and Marcum LLP. Accordingly, B&P effectively resigned as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm and MarcumBP became the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. The change in the Company's independent registered public accounting firm was approved by the Audit Committee of the Company's board of directors on April 22, 2011.

	Fiscal 2011	Fiscal 2010
Audit fees	\$ 350,000	\$ 350,000
Audit related fees	42,453	
Tax fees		
All other fees		
	\$ 392,453	\$ 350,000

All audit related services, tax services and other services were pre-approved by our Audit Committee, which concluded that the provision of such services by Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP were compatible with the maintenance of that firm's independence in the conduct of its auditing functions. Our Audit Committee must review and pre-approve both audit and permitted non-audit services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm and shall not engage the independent registered public accounting firm to perform any non-audit services prohibited by law or regulation. At each Audit Committee meeting, our Audit Committee receives updates on the services actually provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, and management may present additional services for pre-approval. Our Audit Committee has delegated to the Chairman of the Audit Committee the authority to evaluate and approve engagements on behalf of the Audit Committee in the event that a need arises for pre-approval between regular Audit Committee meetings. If the Chairman so approves any such engagements, he will report that approval to the full Audit Committee at the next Audit Committee meeting.

Table of Contents

Each year, the independent registered public accounting firm's retention to audit our financial statements, including the associated fee, is approved by our Audit Committee before the filing of the preceding year's Annual Report on Form 10-K or Form 20-F.

Item 16D Exemptions from the Listing Standards for Audit Committees

Not applicable.

Item 16E Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

In January 2012 and May 2012, the Company reached settlement agreements with certain predecessor shareholders to repurchase ordinary shares or have the ordinary shares or warrants surrendered and cancelled without consideration.

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period		(a) Total Number of Ordinary Shares or Warrants Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Ordinary Share or Warrant	(c) Total Number of Ordinary Shares or Warrants Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	(d) Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Ordinary Shares or Warrants that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
January 1, 2012	January 31, 2012	3,214,927X	0.25	3,214,927	N/A
January 1, 2012	January 31, 2012	1,624,993Y	0	1,624,993	N/A
May 1, 2012					
May 14, 2012		1,286,741X	0*	1,286,741	N/A

X Represents a transaction in ordinary shares.

Y Represents a transaction in warrants.

Of the 3,214,927 ordinary shares, there were (A) 2,471,968 ordinary shares repurchased at an average price of \$0.25 and such shares were retired and (B) 742,959 ordinary shares surrendered and cancelled without consideration. The ordinary shares were repurchased or surrendered pursuant to settlement agreements with certain predecessor shareholders.

The warrants were surrendered and cancelled without consideration pursuant to settlement agreements with certain predecessor shareholders. The cancelled warrants had strike prices ranging from \$0.001 to \$7.88 per share.

* The 1,286,741 ordinary shares were surrendered and cancelled without consideration and pursuant to a settlement agreement with a certain predecessor shareholder.

Table of Contents

Item 16F Change in Registrant's Certifying Accountant

As a result of the joint venture agreement between Bernstein & Pinchuk (B&P) and Marcum LLP, B&P resigned to allow the Company to enter into a new engagement with the newly formed entity Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP (MarcumBP), which will replace B&P moving forward. The joint venture does not disrupt or alter the location of or the composition of the existing audit team working with SearchMedia. The Audit Committee engaged MarcumBP as its independent registered public accounting firm effective immediately.

B&P had been engaged by the Company to audit its financial statements since May 2010 and provided its audit report for the Company's financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008. During these fiscal years and the subsequent interim period, B&P's reports did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, were not qualified or modified and contained no disagreements on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure or auditing scope or procedure.

Item 16G Corporate Governance

Section 110 of the NYSE MKT Company Guide permits foreign private issuers like us to follow home country practice with respect to certain corporate governance matters. We are not aware of any significant ways in which our corporate governance practices differ from those followed by U.S. domestic companies under the NYSE MKT Company Guide.

Item 16H Mine Safety Disclosure

Not applicable.

PART III

Item 17 Financial Statements

We have elected to provide financial statements pursuant to Item 18.

Item 18 Financial Statements

The consolidated financial statements of SearchMedia Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries are included at the end of this annual report.

Table of Contents**Item 19 Exhibits**

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibits
1.1	Memorandum and Articles of Association of SearchMedia Holdings Limited upon completion of redomestication. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.3 of the Registrant's current report on Form 8-K dated November 5, 2009 (File No. 333-158336)).
2.1	Form of Warrant of SearchMedia Holdings Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
3.1	Form of Voting Agreement between SearchMedia International Limited, Qinying Liu, Le Yang, China Seed Ventures, L.P., Gentfull Investment Limited, Gavast Estates Limited, Linden Ventures II (BVI), Limited, Frost Gamma Investments Trust, Robert N. Fried, Subbarao Uppaluri, Steven D. Rubin and Jane Hsiao (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.4 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.1	Agreement and Plan of Merger, Conversion and Share Exchange by and among Ideation Acquisition Corp., the registrant, SearchMedia International Limited, the subsidiaries of SearchMedia International Limited, the subsidiaries of SearchMedia International Limited, Shanghai Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. and certain shareholders and warrant holders of SearchMedia International Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.1 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.2	First Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, Conversion and Share Exchange, dated as of May 27, 2009, by and among the registrant, Earl Yen, Tommy Cheung and Stephen Lau and Qinying Liu (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.2 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.3	Second Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, Conversion and Share Exchange, dated as of September 8, 2009, by and among the registrant, Earl Yen, Tommy Cheung, Stephen Lau, Qinying Liu, Linden Ventures, Inc., Vervain Equity Investment Limited, Sun Hing Associates Limited and The Frost Group, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.3 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.4	Third Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, Conversion and Share Exchange, dated as of September 22, 2009, by and among the registrant, Ideation Acquisition Corp., Earl Yen, Tommy Cheung, Terrance Hogan, Qinying Liu, and Linden Ventures II (BVI), Ltd. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.4 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.5	Fourth Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, Conversion and Share Exchange, dated as of October 30, 2009, by and among the registrant, Ideation Acquisition Corp., Earl Yen, Tommy Cheung, Stephen Lau and Qinying Liu. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 2.5 of the Registrant's current report on Form 8-K dated November 5, 2009 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.6	Form of Registration Rights Agreement among SearchMedia International Limited, Deutsche Bank AG, Hong Kong Branch, Gentfull Investment Limited, Gavast Estates Limited, China Seed Ventures, L.P. and Linden Ventures II (BVI) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.7	Form of Lock-Up between SearchMedia Holdings Limited and SearchMedia International Limited shareholders and warrant holders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.8	Form of Management Lock-Up between SearchMedia Holdings Limited and SearchMedia International Limited shareholders and warrant holders (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).+
4.9	Form of Employment Agreement with the SearchMedia International Limited executive officers (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.5 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).+
4.10	English Translation of Exclusive Technology Consulting and Service Agreement between Jieli Consulting and Jingli Shanghai, dated as of September 10, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.6 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
4.11	English Translation of Exclusive Call Option Agreement among Jingli Shanghai, its shareholders and Jieli Consulting, dated as of September 10, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.7 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No.

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

333-158336)).

- 4.12 English Translation of Equity Pledge Agreement among Jingli Shanghai, its shareholders and Jieli Consulting, dated as of September 10, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.8 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
- 4.13 English Translation of Power of Attorney by the shareholders of Jieli Consulting dated as of September 10, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.9 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
- 4.14 English Translation of Loan Agreement between the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai and Jieli Consulting, dated as of September 10, 2007 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.10 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).
- 4.15 Letter Agreement, dated as of September 8, 2009, by and among Ideation Acquisition Corp. and certain investors of Ideation Acquisition Corp. and SearchMedia International Limited (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 of the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-4 (File No. 333-158336)).

Table of Contents

- 4.16 SearchMedia Holdings Limited Amended and Restated 2008 Share Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.13 of the Registrant's current report on Form 8-K dated November 5, 2009 (File No. 333-158336)).+
- 4.17 Executive Employment Agreement between SearchMedia Holdings Limited and Wilfred Chow dated December 30, 2009 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's current report on Form 8-K dated January 6, 2010 (File No. 333-158336)).+
- 4.18 Executive Employment Agreement between SearchMedia Holdings Limited and Paul Conway dated January 29, 2010 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of the Registrant's current report on Form 8-K dated February 3, 2010 (File No. 333-158336)).+
- 4.19 English Translation of Ad-Icon Shanghai SAIC Business License.**
- 4.20 Fifth Amendment to Agreement and Plan of Merger, Conversion and Share Exchange, dated as of January 23, 2012, by and among the registrant, Earl Yen, Tommy Cheung, Stephen Lau, and Qinying Liu.**
- 4.21 Executive Employment Agreement between SearchMedia Holdings Limited and Peter Tan, effective February 13, 2012**+
- 8.1 Subsidiaries of SearchMedia Holdings Limited **
- 12.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer filed pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a-14(a).**
- 12.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer filed pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a-14(a).**
- 13.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer furnished pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a-14(b) and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.***
- 13.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer furnished pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a-14(b) and 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.***
- 23.1 Consent of Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP**
- 23.2 Consent of Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP**

+ Management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement

** Filed herewith

*** Furnished herewith

The Company and its consolidated subsidiaries are party to several debt instruments under which the total amount of securities authorized does not exceed 10% of the total assets of the Company and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. Pursuant to paragraph 2(b)(i) of the instructions to the exhibits to Form 20-F, the Company agrees to furnish a copy of such instruments to the SEC upon request.

The Company intends to submit and post the Interactive Data File for the financial statements included in this annual report within the 30 day grace period accorded to registrants complying with XBRL for the first time under the Commission's rules and regulations.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

The registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this annual report on its behalf.

(Registrant)

By: /s/ Wilfred Chow
Name: Wilfred Chow
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Date: May 15, 2012

Table of Contents

SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED

INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
<u>Report of independent registered public accounting firm</u>	F-2
<u>Consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2010 and 2011</u>	F-4
<u>Consolidated statements of operations for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011</u>	F-6
<u>Consolidated statements of changes in shareholders' equity and comprehensive (loss)/income for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011</u>	F-7
<u>Consolidated statements of cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011</u>	F-8
<u>Notes to consolidated financial statements</u>	F-9

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of

SearchMedia Holdings Limited

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of operations, changes in shareholders' equity (deficit) and comprehensive income (loss), and cash flows of SearchMedia Holdings Limited, (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 2009. The Company's management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit.

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 consolidated 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 consolidated financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated results of the Company's operations and its cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2009 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

/s/ Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP

New York, New York

October 29, 2010

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of

SearchMedia Holdings Limited

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of SearchMedia Holdings Limited, (the Company) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in shareholders' equity (deficit) and comprehensive income (loss), and cash flows for the years then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated 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 consolidated 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 audits 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 consolidated financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated 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 consolidated financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, the Company has suffered recurring losses and has a working capital deficiency of approximately \$31,000,000 at December 31, 2011, which raises substantial doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans regarding those matters also are described in Note 2. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

/s/ Marcum Bernstein & Pinchuk LLP

New York, New York

May 15, 2012

NEW YORK OFFICE 7 Penn Plaza Suite 830 New York, New York 10001 **Phone** 646.442.4845 **Fax** 646.349.5200

marcumbp.com

F-3

Table of Contents**SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 7,554	\$ 4,630
Restricted cash	11	1
Accounts receivable, net	18,065	15,822
Amounts due from related parties	966	2,078
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	8,340	9,462
Deferred tax assets	891	866
Total current assets	35,827	32,859
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property and equipment, net	1,133	633
Deposits for property and equipment	2	31
Intangible assets, net	3,954	
Goodwill	45,955	16,926
Total assets	\$ 86,871	\$ 50,449
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY/ (DEFICIT)		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 13,894	\$ 14,167
Accrued expenses and other payables	17,931	13,952
Short-term borrowings	729	
Acquisition consideration payable	29,033	23,238
Amounts due to related parties	1,958	379
Deferred revenue	2,481	2,642
Income taxes payable	9,228	9,524
Total current liabilities	75,254	63,902
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Long-term acquisition consideration payable	10,162	
Long-term payables	3	
Deferred tax liabilities	989	
Total liabilities	86,408	63,902
Commitments and contingency (Note 20)		
SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY/ (DEFICIT)		
Common Shares \$0.0001 par value, 1,000,000,000 shares authorized, 20,858,661 and 21,687,497 shares issued and outstanding on December 31, 2010 and 2011, respectively	2	2
Additional paid-in capital	121,521	123,288
Accumulated other comprehensive income/ (loss)	1,153	(1,071)
Accumulated deficit	(122,213)	(135,672)
Total shareholders equity/ (deficit)	463	(13,453)

Total liabilities and shareholders equity/ (deficit)	\$ 86,871	\$ 50,449
---	------------------	------------------

F-4

Table of Contents

The following table includes assets to settle liabilities of the consolidated variable interest entities. These assets and liabilities are included in the consolidated balance sheets above. (see note 5)

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,942	\$
Accounts receivable, net	3,586	
Property and equipment, net	359	
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ 5,072	\$
Accrued expenses and other payables	8,098	
Deferred revenue	171	

See notes to consolidated financial statements

Table of Contents**SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2009	2010	2011
Advertising services revenues	\$ 37,741	\$ 48,967	\$ 55,571
Cost of revenues	(28,059)	(36,454)	(45,788)
Gross profit	9,682	12,513	9,783
Operating expenses			
Loss on impairment of goodwill	(15,749)	(39,411)	(27,927)
Loss on impairment of intangible assets			(2,723)
Gain on termination of VIEs			9,551
Change of fair value of acquisition consideration payable			10,681
Gain from extinguishment of acquisition consideration payable			4,340
Loss on abandonment of lease	(550)	(1,256)	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	(15)	(4)	
Sales and marketing expenses	(3,384)	(4,462)	(6,722)
General and administrative expenses	(13,832)	(12,203)	(10,221)
Loss from operations	(23,848)	(44,823)	(13,238)
Other income/(expense)			
Interest income	11	24	34
Interest expense	(1,962)	(45)	(89)
Decrease in fair value of liability warrant	824		
Gain on extinguishment of notes	6,669		
Other income/(expense), net		(368)	(79)
Foreign currency transaction loss, net	(24)	(7)	(4)
Total other income/(expense)	5,518	(396)	(138)
Loss before income taxes	(18,330)	(45,219)	(13,376)
Provision for income taxes	(4,319)	(1,420)	(83)
Net loss	\$ (22,649)	\$ (46,639)	\$ (13,459)
Loss per share			
Basic and diluted (In US\$)	\$ (4.44)	\$ (2.24)	\$ (0.64)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding			
Basic and diluted	5,100,465	20,796,789	20,994,015

The following table includes operating results of the consolidated variable interest entities. These operating results are included in the consolidated statements of operations above (see note 5).

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2009	2010	2011
Advertising services revenues	\$ 36,289	\$ 20,709	\$ 530

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Gross profit	9,924	5,556	(54)
Loss from operations	(20,213)	(17,358)	(618)
Net loss	(23,589)	(19,194)	(883)

See notes to consolidated financial statements

F-6

Table of Contents**SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY/ (DEFICIT)****AND COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS)/INCOME**

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	Common Stock		Series A convertible preferred shares		Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated other comprehensive income		Total shareholders (deficit)/equity	Comprehensive Loss Amount
	Number of Shares	Amount US\$	Number of shares	Amount		Accumulated deficit	Comprehensive Loss		
Beginning as of January 1, 2009	2,169,269		675,374	\$ 722		\$ 1,099	\$ (46,306)	\$ (44,485)	
Net loss							(22,649)	(22,649)	\$ (22,649)
Foreign currency exchange translation adjustment						(49)		(49)	(49)
Comprehensive Loss									\$ (22,698)
Returned of shares to the company by certain shareholders	(100,338)								
Repurchase from shareholders	(79,579)				(628)			(628)	
Extinguishment of the notes									
Accretion to Series B redeemable convertible preferred shares redemption value							(3,525)	(3,525)	
Accretion to Series C redeemable convertible preferred shares redemption value							(3,058)	(3,058)	
Statutory reserve					36		(36)		
Conversion of Series A to common shares	675,374		(675,374)	(722)	722				
Conversion of Series B to common shares	2,205,549				26,931			26,931	
Conversion of Series C to common shares	1,712,874				17,790			17,790	
Conversion of convertible note to common shares	1,712,874				6,830			6,830	
Reverse acquisition of Ideation	12,462,345	2			69,253			69,255	
IDI warrant transferred to APIC under EITF 07-5					1,577			1,577	
Share-based compensation					411			411	
Balance as of December 31, 2009	20,758,368	2			122,922	1,050	(75,574)	48,400	
Net loss							(46,639)	(46,639)	\$ (46,639)
Foreign currency exchange translation adjustment						103		103	103

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Comprehensive Loss									\$ (46,536)
Repurchase of warrants				(3,809)					(3,809)
Exercise of warrants	1,460			9					9
Share issued	6,250								
Issuance of common shares for share incentive plan	92,583			1					1
Share-based compensation				2,398					2,398
Balance as of December 31, 2010	20,858,661	2		121,521	1,153	(122,213)			463
Net loss						(13,459)			(13,459) \$ (13,459)
Foreign currency exchange translation adjustment					(2,224)				(2,224) (2,224)
Comprehensive Loss									\$ (15,683)
Share issued for earn-out	750,380			871					871
Issuance of common shares for share incentive plan	78,456			2					2
Share-based compensation				894					894
Balance as of December 31 2011	21,687,497	\$ 2		\$ 123,288	\$ (1,071)	\$ (135,672)			\$ (13,453)

See notes to consolidated financial statements

Table of Contents**SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2009	2010	2011
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net loss	\$ (22,649)	\$ (46,639)	\$ (13,459)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash used in operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization of property and equipment	399	404	385
Amortization of intangible assets	2,015	1,737	1,329
Share-based compensation	411	2,398	894
Increase in fair value of note warrant liability	(824)		
Deferred tax expenses / (benefit)	825	(817)	(1,087)
Change of fair value of acquisition consideration payable			(10,681)
Gain on extinguishment of consideration payable			(4,340)
Gain on termination of VIEs			(9,551)
Loss / (gain) on extinguishment of the notes	(6,669)		
Loss on impairment of goodwill	15,749	39,411	27,927
Loss on impairment of intangible assets			2,723
Loss on disposals of fixed assets	15	4	
Bad debt provision on prepaid expenses and other current assets		1,006	832
Bad debt provision on accounts receivables	1,611	780	2,073
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effect of acquisitions for 2010 and termination of VIEs in 2011:			
(Increase) / decrease in assets:			
Accounts receivable	(4,434)	(5,645)	(1,379)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,737	(4,331)	(3,941)
Amounts due to/from related parties	417	1,882	(2,106)
Increase / (decrease) in liabilities:			
Accounts payable	1,603	4,882	5,114
Accrued expenses and other payables	(1,462)	2,034	2,420
Amounts due to/from related parties	(252)	1,612	(1,558)
Deferred revenue	(293)	579	224
Income taxes payable	3,026	2,373	1,329
Net cash provided by/ (used in) operating activities	(8,775)	1,670	(2,852)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property and equipment	(150)	(140)	(47)
Proceeds from disposals of property and equipment	244	3	3
Cash disposed upon the termination of VIEs			(120)
Cash paid for acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(40,687)	(20,015)	(738)
Net cash used in investing activities	(40,593)	(20,152)	(902)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Decrease in restricted bank deposit	87	259	10
Proceeds from short-term borrowings	688	768	1,346
Repayment of short-term borrowings	(1,855)	(693)	(747)
Proceeds from issuance of convertible promissory notes and warrants	3,672		
Proceeds from exercise of options		9	2

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Issue of options		1	
Repayment of promissory note	(5,000)		
Repurchase of warrants		(3,809)	
Cash from Ideation upon business combination	76,073		
Net cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities	73,665	(3,465)	611
Foreign currency translation adjustment	5	103	219
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	24,302	(21,844)	(2,924)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	5,096	29,398	7,554
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 29,398	\$ 7,554	\$ 4,630

SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

Cash paid for interest	\$ 2,477	\$ 45	\$ 89
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 381	\$ 465	\$ 314
Non-cash investing transactions:			
Acquisition consideration payable	\$ 16,381	\$ 39,195	\$ 15,891
Payable in connection with purchase of property and equipment	\$	\$ 3	\$

See notes to consolidated financial statements

Table of Contents

SEARCHMEDIA HOLDINGS LIMITED

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Amounts in thousands, except share data)

1. Principal activities and organization

(a) Principal activities

SearchMedia Holdings Limited (the Company or SearchMedia Holdings or IDI) is a holding company and, through its consolidated subsidiaries (collectively the Group), is principally engaged in the provision of advertising services in the out-of-home advertising industry. Out-of-home advertising typically refers to advertising media in public places, such as billboards, in-elevator displays, street furniture and transit area displays. The Group is one of the largest operators of integrated outdoor billboard and in-elevator advertising networks in China.

(b) Organization

On October 30, 2009, the Company completed the acquisition of all the issued and outstanding shares and warrants of SearchMedia International Limited (SearchMedia International). SearchMedia International security holders, including certain note holders and warrant holders, received ordinary shares, or securities exercisable or exchangeable for ordinary shares, of the Company. The business combination was accounted for as a reverse recapitalization, whereby SearchMedia International is the continuing entity for financial reporting purposes and is deemed to be the accounting acquirer of SearchMedia Holdings Limited.

Prior to January 1, 2008, SearchMedia International incorporated Jieli Investment Management Consulting (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. (Jieli Consulting), which in turn entered into contractual agreements (see VIEs Arrangements) with the owners of Shanghai Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. (Jingli). The arrangement was to facilitate foreign investors to invest in SearchMedia International as the then PRC laws did not allow direct foreign investment or ownership in advertising companies in the PRC. The terms of these agreements resulted in SearchMedia International, through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Jieli Consulting, bearing all the economic risks and receiving all the economic benefits from the businesses and controlling the financing and operating affairs with respect to Jingli s businesses. In accordance with ASC Topic 810, Consolidation , the financial statements of Jingli were consolidated by SearchMedia International in its consolidated financial statements effective from the date SearchMedia International first became the primary beneficiary pursuant to this contractual arrangements.

In 2008, Jingli, the VIE, acquired 100% equity interests of the following subsidiaries. The Company has consolidated the financial results of the VIE and its subsidiaries in the consolidated financial statements since the date of acquisitions.

Table of Contents

Name of entity	Place of incorporation
Shanghai Jincheng Advertising Co., Ltd. (Jincheng)	PRC
Shaanxi Xinshichuang Advertising Planning Co., Ltd. (Xinshichuang)	PRC
Beijing Wanshuizhiyuan Advertising Co., Ltd. (Wanshuizhiyuan)	PRC
Shenyang Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. (Shenyang Jingli)	PRC
Qingdao Kaixiang Advertising Co., Ltd. (Kaixiang)	PRC
Shanghai Haiya Advertising Co., Ltd. (Haiya)	PRC
Tianjin Shengshitongda Advertising Creativity Co., Ltd. (Shengshitongda)	PRC
Shanghai Botang Advertising Co., Ltd. (Botang)	PRC
Ad-Icon Company Limited (HK Ad-Icon)	HKSAR
Changsha Jingli Advertising Co., Ltd. (Changsha Jingli)	PRC
Wenzhou Rigao Advertising Co., Ltd. (Wenzhou Rigao)	PRC
Wuxi Ruizhong Advertising Co., Ltd. (Wuxi Ruizhong)	PRC

On December 11, 2009, HK Ad-Icon established Ad-Icon Advertising (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. (Ad-Icon Shanghai), a wholly-owned subsidiary in China, which is permitted to operate advertising businesses in China. In 2010, Ad-Icon Shanghai, acquired 100% of the equity interests in Zhejiang Continental Advertising Co., Ltd. Furthermore, 100% of the equity interests in Botang, Wanshuizhiyuan, Kaixiang, Wuxi Ruizhong and Shenyang Jingli acquired by Jingli have been transferred to Ad-Icon Shanghai during 2010 and 2011.

Effective December 23, 2011, the VIE, Jingli, and its subsidiaries including Jincheng, Xinshichuang, Haiya, Shengshitongda, Changsha Jingli and Wenzhou Rigao have all ceased their respective advertisement business so that the VIE structure is no longer required or in place. The Company terminated the VIEs arrangements and ceased to consolidate the financial results of the VIE and its subsidiaries effective December 23, 2011.

VIEs arrangements (Terminated as of December 23, 2011)

A variable interest entity (VIE) is an entity that either (i) has insufficient equity to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support or (ii) has equity investors who lack the characteristics of a controlling financial interest. A VIE is consolidated by its primary beneficiary. The primary beneficiary has both the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact the entity's economic performance and the obligation to absorb losses or the right to receive benefits from the entity that could potentially be significant to the VIE.

If the Company determines that it has operating power and the obligation to absorb losses or receive benefits, the Company consolidates the VIE as the primary beneficiary, and if not, does not consolidate. The Company's involvement constitutes power that is most significant to the entity when it has unconstrained decision-making ability over key operational functions within the entity.

Assets recognized as a result of consolidating VIEs do not represent additional assets that could be used to satisfy claims against the Company's general assets. Conversely, liabilities recognized as a result of consolidating these VIEs do not claims against the Company's general assets.

PRC regulations currently prohibit or restrict foreign ownership of media and advertising business with the exception that foreign entities that directly invest in the advertising industry in China are required to have at least three years of direct operations in the advertising industry outside of China pursuant to the Administrative Regulations on Foreign-invested Advertising Enterprises (2004, as amended in 2008). As a Cayman Islands corporation, the Company is deemed a foreign legal person under PRC laws. Prior to the incorporation of Ad-Icon Shanghai, a WOFE permitted to operate advertising businesses in China, and to comply with PRC laws and regulations, the Company conducts substantially all of its operations through its VIE. The VIE is wholly owned by certain ex-employees of the Company (nominee shareholders).

Table of Contents

Upon the formation of the VIE, the Company entered into various agreements with the VIE, through which, the Company holds all of the variable interests of the VIE. Details of key agreements with the VIE are as follows:

Loan Agreement. Pursuant to the loan agreement dated September 10, 2007 between Jieli Consulting and the shareholders of Jingli Shanghai, namely Ms. Qinying Liu and Ms. Le Yang, Jieli Consulting granted an interest-free loan to each shareholder. The principal amounts of the loans to Ms. Qinying Liu and Ms. Le Yang were \$6.7 million and \$4.5 million, respectively, in proportion with their respective original capital contributions to Jingli Shanghai. The term of the loan agreement is 10 years and may be extended for another ten years automatically unless Jieli Consulting terminates the agreement in a written form three months before the expiration date of the agreement. The loan can be repaid only with the proceeds from the transfer of the shareholder's equity interest in Jingli Shanghai to Jieli Consulting or another person designated by Jieli Consulting at the minimum price permitted by then applicable PRC law. Jieli Consulting may accelerate the loan repayment upon certain events, including if a shareholder dies, loses capacity to act, no longer works for Jingli Shanghai or any affiliate of Jingli Shanghai, or commits a crime, or if Jieli Consulting so informs a shareholder as permitted by then applicable PRC law.

Equity Pledge Agreement. Pursuant to the equity pledge agreement dated September 10, 2007 among Jieli Consulting, Jingli Shanghai, and its shareholders, each shareholder has pledged all of her equity interest in Jingli Shanghai to Jieli Consulting to guarantee the performance of the shareholders' and Jingli Shanghai's obligations under the loan agreement, the exclusive call option agreement, and the exclusive technical consulting and service agreement. If Jingli Shanghai or any of its shareholders breaches its respective contractual obligations under these agreements, Jieli Consulting, as pledgee, will be entitled to certain rights, including the right to sell the pledged equity interests. The shareholders agreed not to transfer, sell, pledge, dispose of or otherwise create any new encumbrance on their equity interest in Jingli Shanghai without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting. The equity pledge agreement will expire after Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders fully perform their respective obligations under the loan agreement, the exclusive call option agreement and the exclusive technical consulting and service agreement, each briefly described in this note.

Exclusive Call Option Agreement. Under the exclusive call option agreement dated September 10, 2007 among Jingli Shanghai, its shareholders, and Jieli Consulting, Jingli Shanghai and its shareholders irrevocably granted Jieli Consulting or its designated person an exclusive option to purchase, when and to the extent permitted under then applicable PRC law, all or part of the equity interests in Jingli Shanghai. The exercise price for all of the equity interests of Jingli Shanghai is the minimum price permitted by then applicable PRC law or a higher price determined by Jieli Consulting. Unless this exclusive call option agreement is terminated on an earlier date as agreed upon by the parties to the agreement, the term of the agreement is ten years and may be extended for another ten years automatically unless Jieli Consulting terminates the agreement in writing three months before the expiration date of the agreement. Pursuant to this call option agreement.

Table of Contents

The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may not change the articles of association, bylaws, registered capital or shareholding structure of Jingli Shanghai, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not acquire or merge with any third parties, or invest in any third parties, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not generate, delegate, guarantee for, or allow existing any indebtedness without the prior consent or confirmation of Jieli Consulting, except in the ordinary courses of business;

Jingli Shanghai may not enter into any material contracts with the contractual price exceeding RMB1.0 million without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting, except in the ordinary courses of business;

Jingli Shanghai may not grant loans or guaranties to any third parties, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not transfer, pledge, have caused any encumbrances, or otherwise dispose of any shares of Jingli Shanghai, without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting;

Jingli Shanghai may not declare or pay any dividends without the prior written consent of Jieli Consulting; upon the request of Jieli Consulting, Jingli Shanghai shall declare and pay all distributable dividends to its shareholders; and

The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai may only appoint the persons nominated by Jieli Consulting as directors of Jingli Shanghai, upon request of Jieli Consulting.

Power of Attorney. The shareholders of Jingli Shanghai have executed a power of attorney to Mr. Guojun Liang, which irrevocably authorizes Mr. Liang (who is the husband of Ms. Qinying Liu), to vote as such shareholders' attorney-in-fact on all of the matters of Jingli Shanghai requiring shareholder approval.

Exclusive Technical Consulting and Service Agreement. Pursuant to the exclusive technical consulting and service agreement dated September 10, 2007 between Jingli Shanghai and Jieli Consulting, Jieli Consulting has the exclusive and irrevocable right to provide to Jingli Shanghai technical consulting services related to the business operations of Jingli Shanghai. Jingli Shanghai agrees to pay annual technical service fees to Jieli Consulting based on the actual services provided by Jieli Consulting. If Jingli Shanghai does not generate net profits in a fiscal year, Jieli Consulting agrees not to charge services for that year. The term of this agreement is 10 years commencing on September 10, 2007 and may be extended automatically for another 10 years unless Jieli Consulting terminates the agreement by a written notice three months before the expiration date.

The agreements above did not provide substantive kick-out right of the VIE to unilaterally terminate the contracts and the VIE could not force termination by paying a termination fee. The VIE also need to agree to an extension of fixed term. As a result of these agreements, Jieli Consulting exercised effective control over the VIE, received substantially all of the economic benefits and residual interest and absorbs all of the risks and expected losses from the VIE, and had an exclusive call option to purchase all the equity interest in the VIE at a minimal price. Therefore, Jieli Consulting was considered as the primary beneficiary of the VIE and accordingly the financial statements of these VIE were consolidated in the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The Company believes that Jieli Consulting's contractual arrangements with the VIE were in compliance with PRC law and were legally enforceable. However, uncertainties in the PRC legal system could limit the Company's ability to enforce these contractual arrangements and if the shareholders of the VIE were to reduce their interest in the Company, their interests may diverge from that of the Company and that may potentially increase the risk that they would seek to act contrary to the contractual terms, for example by influencing the VIE not to pay the

service fees when required to do so.

F-12

Table of Contents

The Company's ability to control the VIE also depended on the voting power obtained under the power of attorney, described above. Jieli Consulting had the power to vote on all matters requiring shareholder approval in the VIE. As noted above, the Company believed the power of attorney is legally enforceable but may not be as effective as direct equity ownership.

In addition, if the legal structure and contractual arrangements were found to be in violation of any existing PRC laws and regulations, the PRC government could, among other things:

revoke the Company's business and operating licenses;

require the Company to discontinue or restrict operations;

restrict the Company's right to issue the invoice and collect revenues;

block the Company's websites;

require the Company to restructure the operations in such a way as to compel the Company to establish a new enterprise, re-apply for the necessary licenses or relocate our businesses, staff and assets;

impose additional conditions or requirements with which the Company may not be able to comply; or

take other regulatory or enforcement actions against the Company that could be harmful to the Company's business.

The imposition of any of these penalties may result in a material and adverse effect on the Company's ability to conduct the Company's business. In addition, if the imposition of any of these penalties causes the Company to lose the rights to direct the activities of the VIE and its subsidiaries or the right to receive its economic benefits, the Company would no longer be able to consolidate the VIE. The Company does not believe that any penalties imposed or actions taken by the PRC government would result in the liquidation of the Company, Jieli Consulting, or the VIE.

Effective December 23, 2011, the VIE, Jingli, and its subsidiaries have all ceased their respective advertisement business so that the VIE structure is no longer required or in place (see note 5).

(c) Reclassification

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to current period's presentation.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP).

Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Company, its subsidiaries and its VIE subsidiary for which the Company is the primary beneficiary. Operating results of its VIE subsidiary were excluded from the consolidated financial statements since December 23, 2011 upon termination of the VIE contracts. All significant transactions among the Company, its subsidiaries and its VIE

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

subsidiary have been eliminated upon consolidation.

Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 810 Consolidation provides guidance on the identification of and financial reporting for entities over which control is achieved through means other than voting interests, which requires

F-13

Table of Contents

certain VIEs to be consolidated by the primary beneficiary of the entity if the equity investors in the entity do not have the characteristics of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity risk for the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support from other parties. Through the contractual arrangements, the Company held all the variable interests of the VIE and had been determined to be the primary beneficiary of the VIEs.

Pursuant to the contractual arrangements with the VIE, the Company had the power to direct activities of the VIE, and had assets transferred out of the VIE primarily in the form of the service fees paid by the VIE. Therefore, the Company believes it has control over the assets of a consolidated VIE to the extent permitted by the applicable PRC law and the contractual arrangements. As the consolidated VIE was incorporated as a limited liability company under the PRC Company Law, creditors of the VIE did not have recourse to the general credit of the Company for any of the liabilities of the consolidated VIE. Currently there was no contractual arrangement that could require the Company to provide additional financial support to the consolidated VIE. As the Company was conducting certain business in the PRC mainly through the VIE, the Company might provide such support on a discretionary basis in the future, which could expose the Company to a loss.

On April 7, 2010, Crystal Liu, one of the equity holders of the VIE, initiated a lawsuit against the Company for an unpaid salary of approximately \$150,000. Based on the advice from the Company's PRC legal counsel, the lawsuit did not impact the validity and performance of any of the agreements entered into between Jieli Consulting and Ms. Liu as the nominee shareholder of Jingli Shanghai. Consequently, it did not impact the Company's previous or current accounting conclusion on the consolidation of Jingli Shanghai. The labor dispute with Ms. Liu has been settled.

In the opinion of our PRC legal counsel, all current VIE contractual arrangements were valid, binding and enforceable, and would not result in any violation of PRC laws or regulations currently in effect. If any of these business partners or contracting counterparties fails to perform its obligations, the Company may not be able to enforce the relevant agreements if the agreements are ruled in violation of the PRC laws. If the PRC government finds that the agreements that establish the structure for operating our China businesses do not comply with PRC governmental restrictions on foreign investment in the media and market research industries, or if these regulations or the interpretation of existing regulations change in the future, the Company could be subject to severe penalties or be forced to relinquish our interests in those operations, even if the agreements are otherwise legal and valid. These conditions may also result in deconsolidation of the VIE.

Going concern

The Company incurred a net loss of \$13,459 during the year ended December 31, 2011. As of December 31, 2011, the Company's net shareholders' deficit was \$13,453, and its current liabilities exceeded its current assets by \$31,043. The Company had cash and cash equivalents of \$4,630 as of December 31, 2011. The Company may not have sufficient cash to meet its payment obligations in the next 12 months in which case we may (i) seek additional financing, (ii) dispose of certain assets or (iii) seek to refinance some or all of our debts.

The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on many events outside of its direct control, including, among other things, the amount of working capital that the Company has available and the financial performance of both the Company and the acquired companies entitled to receive an earn-out payment. The Company's inability to generate cash flows to meet its obligations due to the uncertainty of achieving operating profitability on an annual basis and raising required proceeds on reasonable terms, among other factors, raises substantial doubt as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The accompanying consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

Table of Contents

The management of the Company has taken a number of actions and will continue to address this situation in order to restore the Company to a sound financial position with an appropriate business strategy going forward. These actions include:

1. Issued shares to ex-owners of the subsidiaries and reduced \$5.2 million earn-out liabilities in October 2011;
2. Eliminated its VIE structure and the underlying liabilities in December 2011;
3. Entered into a \$3 million convertible note with its major shareholders with a one-year maturity in February 2012;
4. In April, 2012, the Board of Directors approved and authorized a capped pool of 7 million common shares to be issued to certain ex-owners of the subsidiaries for the purpose of converting and eliminating the outstanding earn-out liabilities;
5. Divested Zhejiang Continental in May 2012 (see note 21);
6. Started the process of securing additional funds;
7. Adopted various cost-saving strategies

Based on the management's plans, the consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming the Company will continue as a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and the liquidation of liabilities in the normal course of business.

(b) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with US GAAP requires the Company's management to make estimates and assumptions relating to the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the allowance for doubtful receivables; useful lives and residual values of property and equipment and intangible assets; recoverability of the carrying amount of property and equipment, goodwill and intangible assets; fair values of financial instruments; the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed upon the consolidation of businesses acquired in 2008 and 2010 respectively; and the assessment of contingent obligations. These estimates are often based on complex judgments and assumptions that management believes to be reasonable but are inherently uncertain and unpredictable. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(c) Foreign currency transactions and translation

The Group's reporting currency is the United States dollars (US\$). The functional currency of the Company is the US\$, whereas the functional currency of the Company's consolidated subsidiaries and VIEs in the PRC is the Renminbi (RMB) and the functional currency of the Company's subsidiaries in the HKSAR is the Hong Kong Dollars (HK\$), as the PRC and HKSAR are the primary economic environments in which the respective entities operate. Since the RMB is not a fully convertible currency, all foreign exchange transactions involving RMB must take place either through the People's Bank of China (the PBOC) or other institutions authorized to buy and sell foreign currency. The exchange rates adopted for the foreign exchange transactions are the rates of exchange quoted by the PBOC.

Transactions denominated in currencies other than the functional currency are translated into the respective functional currency at the exchange rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a currency other than the functional currency are translated into the functional currency using the applicable exchange rate at each balance sheet date. The resulting exchange differences are recorded in foreign currency transaction gain (loss) in the consolidated statements of operations.

Table of Contents

The assets and liabilities of the Company's consolidated subsidiaries and VIEs are translated into the US\$ reporting currency using the exchange rate at each balance sheet date. Revenue and expenses of these entities are translated into US\$ at average rates prevailing during the year. Equity accounts are translated at historical exchange rates. Gains and losses resulting from translation of these entities' financial statements into the US\$ reporting currency are recorded as a separate component of accumulated other comprehensive income within shareholders' equity.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and bank deposits with original maturities of three months or less, which are unrestricted as to withdrawal and use.

The Group's cash and bank deposits were held in major financial institutions located in US and PRC, which management believes have high credit ratings. Cash and bank deposit held in PRC as of December 31, 2010 and 2011 were \$4,340 and \$4,437, respectively. The remaining cash and bank deposits were held in US and HK denominated in USD, amounted to \$3,214 and \$193 as of December 31, 2010 and 2011, respectively.

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash investments. The Company places its temporary cash instruments with well-known financial institutions within the United States and, at times, may maintain balances in excess of the \$250 US FDIC Insurance limit. The Company monitors the credit ratings of the financial institutions to mitigate this risk. The Company maintains accounts with well established multi-national banks under a program where the funds are invested with various FDIC insured banks so as not to exceed the insurance limit.

(e) Restricted cash

Restricted cash represents amounts held by a bank as to withdrawal for use under court orders to hold the accounts as escrow. The restriction on cash is expected to be released when the related litigation is closed.

(f) Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable consist of amounts billed but not yet collected and unbilled receivables. Unbilled receivables relate to revenues earned and recognized, but which have not been billed by the Group in accordance with the terms of the advertising service contract. The payment terms of the Group's service contracts with its customers vary and typically require an initial payment to be billed or paid at the commencement of the service period, progress payments to be billed during the service period, and a final payment to be billed after the completion of the service period. None of the Group's accounts receivable bear interest. The allowance for doubtful accounts is management's best estimate of the amount of probable credit losses in the Group's existing accounts receivable. Management determines the allowance based on historical write-off experience and reviews of customer-specific facts and economic conditions. Account balances are charged off against the allowance after all means of collection have been exhausted and the potential for recovery is considered remote. The Group does not have any off-balance-sheet credit exposure related to its customers.

Table of Contents**(g) Property and equipment**

Property and equipment are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation or amortization. Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets, taking into consideration the assets' salvage or residual value. The estimated useful lives of property and equipment are as follows:

Leasehold improvements	1 to 3 years
Advertisement display equipment	5 years
Furniture, fixtures and office equipment	5 years
Motor vehicles	5 years

When items of property and equipment are retired or otherwise disposed of, loss/income is charged or credited for the difference between the net book value and proceeds received thereon. Ordinary maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred, and replacements and betterments are capitalized.

(h) Intangible assets

The Group's intangible assets are amortized on a straight line basis over their respective estimated useful lives, which are the periods over which the assets are expected to contribute directly or indirectly to the future cash flows of the Group. The Group's intangible assets represent customer relationship, lease agreements and non-compete agreements which have estimated useful lives ranging from 0.5 to 4.4 years.

(i) Goodwill

Goodwill and other intangible assets are accounted for in accordance with the provisions of FASB ASC 350 *Intangibles - Goodwill and Other*. The Group accounts for business acquisitions using the acquisition method of accounting. Prior to 2009, goodwill consists of the cost of acquired businesses in excess of the fair value of the net assets acquired. Other intangible assets are separately recognized if the benefit of the intangible asset is obtained through contractual or other legal rights, or if the intangible asset can be sold, transferred, licensed, rented, or exchanged, regardless of an intent to do so.

Beginning on January 1, 2009, goodwill is measured as the excess of a over b below:

- a. The aggregate of the following:
 1. The consideration transferred measured in accordance ASC 805, which generally requires acquisition-date fair value.
 2. The fair value of any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree.
 3. In a business combination achieved in stages, the acquisition-date fair value of the acquirer's previously held equity interest in the acquiree.
 - b. The net of the acquisition-date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and the liabilities assumed measured in accordance with ASC 805.
- Under FASB ASC 350, goodwill, including any goodwill included in the carrying value of investments accounted for using the equity method of accounting, and certain other intangible assets deemed to have indefinite useful lives, are not amortized.

Table of Contents

(j) Impairment of long-lived assets

The Group tests goodwill for possible impairment in the fourth quarter of each year or when circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. Circumstances that could trigger an impairment test between annual tests include, but are not limited to:

a significant adverse change in the business climate or legal factors;

an adverse action or assessment by a regulator;

unanticipated competition;

loss of key personnel;

the likelihood that a reporting unit or a significant portion of a reporting unit will be sold or disposed of;

a change in reportable segments; and/or results of testing for recoverability of a significant asset group within a reporting unit.

The Group utilizes a two-step method to perform a goodwill impairment review. In the first step, we determine the fair value of the reporting unit using expected future discounted cash flows and estimated terminal values. If the net book value of the reporting unit exceeds the fair value, we would then perform the second step of the impairment test which requires allocation of the reporting unit's fair value of all of its assets and liabilities in a manner similar to a purchase price allocation, with any residual fair value being allocated to goodwill. The implied fair value of the goodwill is then compared to the carrying value to determine impairment, if any.

Application of goodwill impairment test requires judgment, including the identification of reporting units, assigning assets and liabilities to the reporting units, assigning goodwill to reporting units and estimating the fair value of each reporting unit. Changes in these estimates and assumptions could materially affect the determination of fair value of each reporting unit which could trigger impairment.

In calculating the future cash flows, certain assumptions are required to be made in respect of highly uncertain matters such as revenue growth rates, gross margin percentages and terminal growth rates. We may incur additional goodwill impairment charges in the future although we cannot predict whether this will occur.

Indefinite-lived intangible assets are assessed for impairment at least annually based on comparisons of their respective fair values to their carrying values. Finite-lived intangible assets are amortized over their respective useful lives and, along with other long-lived assets, are evaluated for impairment periodically whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their related carrying amounts may not be recoverable in accordance with FASB ASC 360-10-15, *Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*.

In evaluating long-lived assets for recoverability, including finite-lived intangibles and property and equipment, the Group uses its best estimate of future cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset and eventual disposition in accordance with FASB ASC 360-10-15. To the extent that estimated future, undiscounted cash inflows attributable to the asset, less estimated future, undiscounted cash outflows, are less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized in an amount equal to the difference between the carrying value of such asset and its fair value. Assets to be disposed of and for which there is a committed plan of disposal, whether through sale or abandonment, are reported at the lower of carrying value or fair value less costs to sell.

Asset recoverability is an area involving management judgment, requiring assessment as to whether the carrying value of assets can be supported by the undiscounted future cash flows. In calculating the future cash flows, certain assumptions are required to be made in respect of highly uncertain matters such as revenue growth rates, gross margin percentages and terminal growth rates.

Table of Contents

No impairment loss once recognized is subsequently reversed even if facts and circumstances indicate recovery.

(k) Fair Value of Financial Instruments

FASB ASC 820 Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value. The hierarchy prioritizes the inputs into three levels based on the extent to which inputs used in measuring fair value are observable in the market.

These tiers include:

Level 1 defined as observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets;

Level 2 defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 defined as unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists, therefore requiring an entity to develop its own assumptions.

The fair value of the Group's financial assets and liabilities approximate their carrying amount because of the short-term maturity of these instruments. The Group's options and acquisition consideration payable fall into Level 3 and there were no transfers in or out of Level 3 during the years presented.

(l) Revenue recognition

The Group recognizes advertising service revenue on a straight-line basis over the period in which the customer advertisement is to be displayed, which typically ranges from 1 month to 2 years, starting from the date the Group first displays the advertisement. Written contracts are entered into between the Group and its customers to specify the price, the period and the location at which the advertisement is to be displayed. Revenue is only recognized if the collectability of the advertising service fee is probable.

The Group generates advertising service revenues from the sales of frame space on the poster frame network and advertising time slots on traditional billboard networks. In the majority of advertising arrangements, the Group acts as a principal in the transaction and records advertising revenues on a gross basis. The associated expenses are recorded as cost of revenues. In some instances the Group is considered an agent and recognizes revenue on a net basis.

Customer payments received in excess of the amount of revenue recognized are recorded as deferred revenue in the consolidated balance sheet, and are recognized as revenue when the advertising services are rendered.

(m) Cost of revenues

Cost of revenues consists primarily of operating lease cost of advertising space for displaying advertisements, depreciation of advertising display equipment, amortization of intangible assets relating to lease agreements and direct staff and material costs associated with production and installation of advertising content.

Table of Contents

(n) Operating leases

The Group leases advertising space, including billboards and poster frames, and office premises under non-cancellable operating leases. Minimum lease payments are expensed on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Under the terms of the lease agreements, the Group has no legal or contractual asset retirement obligation at the end of the lease.

(o) Advertising and promotion costs

Advertising and promotion costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising and promotion costs, mainly sales commission, included in sales and marketing expenses amounted to \$1,135, \$1,834 and \$3,852 for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively.

(p) Retirement and other post-retirement benefits

Pursuant to relevant PRC regulations, the Company's consolidated subsidiaries in the PRC are required to make contributions to various defined contribution retirement plans organized by the PRC government. The contributions are made for each qualifying PRC employee at rates ranging from 18% to 20% on a standard salary base as determined by the PRC governmental authority. Contributions to the defined contribution plans are charged to the consolidated statements of income as the related employee service is provided.

The Company's subsidiaries in the HKSAR operate a Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme (the MPF scheme) under the Hong Kong Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance for employees employed under the jurisdiction of the Hong Kong Employment Ordinance. The MPF scheme is a defined contribution retirement scheme administered by independent trustees. Under the MPF scheme, the employer is required to make contributions to the scheme at 5% of the employees' relevant income, subject to an upper limit. Contributions to the scheme vest immediately.

The Group has no other obligation for the payment of employee benefits associated with these retirement plans beyond the contributions described above.

(q) Share-based payments

The Group accounts for share-based payments in accordance with ASC Topic 718, *Compensation - Stock Compensation*. Under ASC 718, the Group measures the cost of employee services received in exchange for an award of equity instruments based on the grant-date fair value of the award and recognizes the costs over the period the employee is required to provide service in exchange for the award, which generally is the vesting period. For awards with performance conditions, the compensation expense is based on the grant-date fair value of the award, the number of shares ultimately expected to vest and the vesting period.

(r) Income taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carry forwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates or laws is recognized in income in the period that the change in tax rates or laws is enacted. A valuation allowance is provided to reduce the amount of deferred tax assets if it is considered more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

Table of Contents

The Group applies ASC Topic 740 *Income Taxes*. ASC 740 clarifies the accounting for uncertain tax positions. This interpretation requires that an entity recognizes in the consolidated financial statements the impact of a tax position, if that position is more likely than not of being sustained upon examination, based on the technical merits of the position. Recognized income tax positions are measured at the largest amount that is greater than 50% likely of being realized. Changes in recognition or measurement are reflected in the period in which the change in judgment occurs. The Group's accounting policy is to accrue interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions, if and when required, as interest expense and a component of general and administrative expenses, respectively, in the consolidated statements of operations.

(s) Earnings/(loss) per share

Basic earnings/(loss) per share is computed by dividing income/(loss) attributable to common shares shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year. Diluted earnings (loss) per ordinary share reflects the potential dilution that could occur if securities or other contracts to issue ordinary shares were exercised or converted into ordinary shares and is calculated using the treasury stock method for stock options and unvested shares. Common equivalent shares for which the exercise price exceeds the average market price over the period have an anti-dilutive effect on loss per share and, accordingly, are excluded from the calculation. Common equivalent shares are also excluded from the calculation in loss periods as their effects would be anti-dilutive. The Group incurred net loss for the three years ended December 2009, 2010 and 2011, no diluted earnings (loss) is presented.

(t) Segment reporting

The Group has one operating segment as defined by ASC Topic 280, *Segment Reporting*. For the three years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, the Group's advertising service revenues generated from customers outside the PRC is less than 10% of the Group's total consolidated revenues and the Group's total long-lived tangible assets located outside the PRC is less than 10% of the Group's total consolidated long-lived tangible assets. Consequently no geographic information is presented.

(u) Significant concentrations and risks

No single group or customer contributed more than 10% of the Company's revenue for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

No single group or supplier contributed more than 10% of the Company's cost of revenue for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

An advertising agency customer accounted for 11% of the Company's accounts receivable as of December 31, 2011. No advertising agency customer or individual customer accounted for more than 10% of accounts receivable as of December 31, 2010.

(v) Recently issued accounting standards

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) 2011-04, *Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs* (ASU 2011-04). ASU 2011-04 amended the FASB Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair*

Table of Contents

Value Measurements and Disclosures to converge the fair value measurement guidance in US GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). Some of the amendments clarify the application of existing fair value measurement requirements, while other amendments change particular principles in ASC 820. In addition, ASU 2011-04 requires additional fair value disclosures. ASU 2011-04 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied prospectively. The Group does not expect that ASU 2011-04 will have a significant impact on its consolidated results of operations or financial position.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income* (ASU 2011-05). ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of changes in stockholders' equity and requires an entity to present items of net income, other comprehensive income and total comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05* (ASU 2011-12). ASU 2011-12 defers the effective date of the changes in ASU 2011-05 that relate to the presentation of reclassification adjustments for each component of other comprehensive income in both net income and other comprehensive income. The amendments in the ASUs do not change the items that must be reported in other comprehensive income or when an item of other comprehensive income must be reclassified to net income. ASU 2011-05 and ASU 2011-12 are both effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and must be applied retrospectively. The Group will be required to adopt ASU 2011-05 and ASU 2011-12 no later than the quarter beginning January 1, 2012. As the ASUs require additional presentation only, there will be no impact to the Group's consolidated results of operations or financial position.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08, *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment* (ASU 2011-08). ASU 2011-08 gives an entity the option to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test described in Topic 350. Previous guidance required an entity to test goodwill for impairment by first comparing the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount. ASU 2011-08 is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. The Group will be required to adopt ASU 2011-08 as of January 1, 2012 and does not expect that ASU 2011-08 will have a significant impact on its consolidated results of operations or financial position.

3. Loss per share

Basic loss per share is computed by dividing net loss available to common shareholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the three years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011. Diluted earnings per share reflects the potential dilution that could occur if stock options and other commitments to issue common stock were exercised or equity awards vest resulting in the issuance of common stock or conversion of notes into shares of the Company's common stock that could increase the number of shares outstanding and lower the earnings per share of the Company's common stock. This calculation is not done for years in which a net loss was incurred as this would be antidilutive. The information related to basic and diluted earnings per share is as follows:

	2009	2010	2011
Numerator:			
Net Loss	\$ (22,649)	\$ (46,639)	\$ (13,459)
Denominator:			
Weighted average shares outstanding - Basic and diluted	5,100,465	20,796,789	20,994,015
Loss per share - Basic and diluted (In US\$)	\$ (4.44)	\$ (2.24)	\$ (0.64)

Table of Contents

As of December 31, 2011, there were a total of 1,019,333 stock options and 13,607,441 warrants that would have been included in the computation of diluted earnings per share that could potentially dilute basic earnings per share in the future.

4. Acquisitions**I. 2010 acquisition***a. Initial recognition of contingent acquisition consideration*

On May 31, 2010, the Group acquired 100% of the equity interest in Zhejiang Continental initially valued at \$19,698, including an initial cash consideration of \$73 and \$19,625 of contingent consideration, which represents the lesser of the maximum amount of contingent consideration and the amount of goodwill, was recognized as of the date of acquisition.

The following table summarizes the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed on the date of acquisition of Zhejiang Continental by the Group.

Assets acquired:	
Cash	\$ 302
Accounts receivable	1,706
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	453
Property and equipment	21
Intangible assets	\$ 4,282
Total	\$ 6,764
Liabilities assumed:	
Accounts payable	(143)
Accrued expenses and other payables	(823)
Amounts due to related parties	(2,412)
Income taxes payable	(423)
Deferred tax liability	(1,070)
Total	\$ (4,871)
Goodwill	\$ 17,805
Total consideration	\$ 19,698

		Amortization Period (Years)
Intangible assets comprised of:		
Customer relationship	\$ 1,067	3.4
Lease agreements	2,749	4.4
Non-compete agreement	462	3.4
Assembled workforce	4	N/A
Total	\$ 4,282	

Table of Contents

In addition to the initial consideration, the equity owners of Zhejiang Continental are entitled to subsequent consideration, including cash and ordinary shares of the Company on a predetermined earn-out formula applied to audited operating results through December 31, 2010 (2010 earn-out) and through December 31, 2011 (2011 earn-out). The 2010 earn-out is payable in cash based on a multiple of 3.5 of the full year audited operating results from 2010. The 2011 earn-out is payable in ordinary shares of the Company based on a multiple of 3.3 of the full year audited operating results for 2011. The multiples of 2010 and 2011 earn-out can be reduced to 3.0 if the audited operating results were less than certain amounts. Both 2010 and 2011 earn-out are subject to a maximum amount of \$10,665 and \$10,681, respectively.

The contingent purchase price consideration is payable when each individual 12-month period during the earn-out period is completed and the operational results were agreed to and confirmed. The 2010 earn-out is payable in cash and the 2011 earn-out is payable in ordinary shares of the Company at market price. At the acquisition date, the contingent consideration was recognized at fair value based on historical and forecast operational results agreed to and confirmed by the Group and goodwill was recognized in accordance with ASC Topic 805-20.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the assets and liabilities of Zhejiang Continental as of December 31, 2010 and 2011 and the operating results for the period from May 31, 2010 (date of acquisition by the Group) to December 31, 2010 and for the year ended December 31, 2011.

b. Change of fair value of contingent acquisition payable

As at December 31, 2011, the contingent consideration of Zhejiang Continental was resolved and there was a reduction of total consideration compared to the initial estimated contingent purchase price. An adjustment to contingent consideration of \$10,681 was recognized to the income statements in accordance with ASC Topic 805-30-35.

c. Subsequent disposal of Zhejiang Continental

On May 2, 2012, the Company divested 100% equity interests in Zhejiang Continental back to its original selling shareholders (see note 21). As a result of the decline in performance of Zhejiang Continental, goodwill and intangible assets of Zhejiang Continental, amounting to \$18,816 and \$2,723 respectively were fully impaired at December 31, 2011 (see note 9).

Below is the reconciliation of acquisition consideration payable and goodwill from date of acquisition to December 31, 2011:

<u>Acquisition consideration payable:</u>	
Balance as at date of acquisition	19,698
Consideration paid in 2010	(2,340)
Translation adjustment	610
Balance as at December 31, 2010	17,968
Change of fair value of contingent consideration payable	(10,681)
Translation adjustment	918
Balance as at December 31, 2011	\$ 8,205
<u>Goodwill:</u>	
Balance as at date of acquisition	\$ 17,805
Translation adjustment	553
Balance as at December 31, 2010	18,358
Impairment of goodwill	(18,816)
Translation adjustment	458
Balance as at December 31, 2011	\$

Table of Contents**5. Termination of the VIE contractual agreements**

On December 23, 2011, the Company terminated the contractual arrangement with the VIE, Jingli, so that the VIE structure was no longer in place. The Company ceased to consolidate the financial results of the VIE and its subsidiaries including Jincheng, Xinshichuang, Haiya, Shengshitongda, Changsha Jingli and Wenzhou Rigao upon termination of the contractual agreements. A gain of \$9,551 on such termination was recognized to income statement in accordance with ASC 845-10-30-1.

The carrying amounts of the major classes of assets and liabilities of the VIE and its subsidiaries at December 23, 2011 were as follows:

Assets:	
Cash	\$ 120
Accounts receivable	1,319
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	890
Property and equipment	204
Deferred tax assets	\$ 147
Total	\$ 2,680
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	4,841
Accrued expenses and other payables	7,351
Amounts due to related parties	336
Income taxes payable	1,032
Short-term bank loans	1,381
Total	\$ 14,941
Goodwill	\$ 2,710
Net liabilities	\$ 9,551

Revenue and net income of the VIE and its subsidiaries from January 1, 2011 through December 23, 2011 were:

Advertising service revenue	\$ 530
Loss from operations	(618)
Net loss	(883)

The Company did not classify the termination of the VIE as discontinued operations because the Group expects to continue to generate revenues from the sales of similar services to specific customers of the disposed component. As a result of the migration of customers, continuing cash flows are being generated by the Group from transactions with customers of the disposed component.

Table of Contents

The following unaudited pro forma information summarizes the effect of the termination, as if the termination of the VIE had occurred as of January 1, 2009. This pro forma information is presented for information purposes only. It is based on historical information and does not purport to represent the actual results that may have occurred had the Company terminated the VIE on January 1, 2009, nor is it necessarily indicative of future results of operations of the consolidated enterprises:

	2009 (Unaudited)	2010 (Unaudited)	2011 (Unaudited)
Advertising service revenues	\$ 30,165	\$ 44,318	\$ 55,041
Loss from operations	(11,127)	(39,234)	(12,620)
Net loss	(8,728)	(40,620)	(12,576)

6. Accounts receivable, net

Accounts receivable consist of the following:

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
Accounts receivable	\$ 21,259	\$ 20,366
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(3,194)	(4,544)
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 18,065	\$ 15,822

As of December 31, 2010 and 2011, the Group's accounts receivable includes amounts earned and recognized as revenues of \$6,105 and \$2,133, respectively but not yet billed (unbilled receivables). Management expects all unbilled receivables to be billed and collected within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

The following table presents the movement of the allowance for doubtful accounts:

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
Beginning allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 2,325	\$ 3,194
Effect of foreign currency translation	89	216
Additions charged to bad debt expense	1,171	2,073
Recoveries	(391)	
Termination of the VIEs		(939)
Ending allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 3,194	\$ 4,544

7. Prepaid expenses and other current assets

Prepaid expenses and other current assets consist of the following:

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
Prepaid rent	\$ 5,651	\$ 5,001
Other prepaid expenses	82	8
Rental deposits and other receivables	2,607	4,453

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Total prepaid expenses and other current assets	\$ 8,340	\$ 9,462
---	----------	----------

F-26

Table of Contents

Bad debt expense was \$1,006 and \$832 for the year ended December 31, 2010 and 2011.

8. Property and equipment, net

Property and equipment, net consist of the following:

	As of December 31,	
	2010	2011
Leasehold improvements	\$ 114	\$ 25
Advertising display equipment	1,378	1,156
Furniture, fixtures and office equipment	793	510
Motor vehicles	30	32
Total cost of property and equipment	2,315	1,723
Less: accumulated depreciation and amortization	(1,182)	(1,090)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 1,133	\$ 633

Depreciation of property and equipment were allocated to the following categories of cost and expenses:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2009	2010	2011
Cost of revenues	\$ 233	\$ 232	\$ 244
Selling and marketing expenses		33	27
General and administrative expenses	166	139	114
Total depreciation and amortization	\$ 399	\$ 404	\$ 385

9. Goodwill and other intangible assets

The changes in carrying amount of goodwill for the years ended December 31, 2010 and 2011 are as follows:

	Kaixiang	Wanshui zhiyuan	Shenyang Jingli	Haiya	Shengshi tongda	Botang	Wenzhou Rigao	Wuxi Ruizhong	HK Ad-Icon	Zhejiang Continental	Total
Balance as of January 1, 2010	\$ 12,316	\$ 5,619	\$ 2,313	\$ 3,858	\$ 116	\$ 14,117	\$ 4,904	\$ 1,354	\$ 1,294	\$	\$ 45,891
Goodwill acquired during the year										17,805	17,805
Goodwill recorded as a result of contingent consideration resolved under ASC Topic 805-20	2,309	225	3,205	1,755	(21)	6,442	2,806	2,958	897		20,576
Impairment of goodwill	(10,230)	(2,674)	(3,832)	(5,608)	(97)	(8,864)	(5,169)	(1,286)	(1,651)		(39,411)
Translation adjustment	154	114	(14)	(5)	2	241	38	14	(3)	553	1,094
Balance as of December 31, 2010	\$ 4,549	\$ 3,284	\$ 1,672	\$	\$	\$ 11,936	\$ 2,579	\$ 3,040	\$ 537	\$ 18,358	\$ 45,955

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

Goodwill acquired during the year										
Deconsolidation of VIE						(2,710)				(2,710)
Impairment of goodwill	(1,460)	(1,044)	(1,714)		(4,798)		(95)		(18,816)	(27,927)
Translation adjustment	195	142	42		487	131	152	1	458	1,608
Balance as of December 31, 2011	\$ 3,284	\$ 2,382	\$	\$	\$ 7,625	\$	\$ 3,097	\$ 538	\$	\$ 16,926

F-27

Table of Contents

The gross amount and accumulated impairment losses of goodwill as of December 31, 2010 and 2011 are as follows:

	Kaixiang	Wanshui zhiyuan	Shenyang Jingli	Haiya	Shengshi tongda	Botang	Wenzhou Rigao	Wuxi Ruizhong	HK Ad-Icon	Zhejiang Continental	Total
Goodwill, gross	\$ 15,007	\$ 10,168	\$ 15,862	\$ 7,929	\$ 99	\$ 30,877	\$ 7,862	\$ 4,354	\$ 2,187	\$ 18,358	\$ 112,703
Accumulated impairment losses	(10,458)	(6,884)	(14,190)	(7,929)	(99)	(18,941)	(5,283)	(1,314)	(1,650)		(66,748)
Balance as of December 31, 2010	\$ 4,549	\$ 3,284	\$ 1,672	\$	\$	\$ 11,936	\$ 2,579	\$ 3,040	\$ 537	\$ 18,358	\$ 45,955
Goodwill, gross	\$ 15,774	\$ 10,688	\$ 16,672	\$ 8,334	\$ 104	\$ 32,454	\$ 8,264	\$ 4,576	\$ 2,190	\$ 19,295	\$ 118,351
Accumulated impairment losses	(12,490)	(8,306)	(16,672)	(8,334)	(104)	(24,829)	(8,264)	(1,479)	(1,652)	(19,295)	(101,425)
Balance as of December 31, 2011	\$ 3,284	\$ 2,382	\$	\$	\$	\$ 7,625	\$	\$ 3,097	\$ 538	\$	\$ 16,926

Accumulated impairment losses include current year impairment loss charged to Statement of Operations and translation differences of Goodwill at different years end closing rate.

Goodwill impairment

Management performs a goodwill impairment test for each of its reporting units as of December 31 of each year or when circumstances change that would more likely than not that the carrying amount of goodwill may be impaired. As a result of impairment tests, the Group recorded a goodwill impairment loss of \$15,749, \$39,411 and \$27,927 for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011, respectively.

The Group applied the income approach to estimate the fair value of its reporting units for goodwill impairment tests. The key assumptions used in this approach, which requires significant management judgment, include business assumptions, growth rate, terminal value, discount rate, and tax amortization benefit. Under this approach, the free cash flow to the Company was first estimated and then the after tax weighted average cost of capital (WACC) was used to discount the cash flow to calculate the estimated value. To select the appropriate discount rate, the Company used both the CAPM model and the build up method and then using the weighted average by capital amount weighting. The Company then selected the average of both methods to estimate the WACC to arrive at the concluded discount rate of 20.0%, 21.5% and 18.0% as of December 31, 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively.

Table of Contents

Our goodwill primarily arises from the initial consideration paid and subsequent settlement of contingent consideration of our business acquisitions. Before the issuance of ASC Topic 805-20, the contingent purchase price consideration for each entity is payable when each individual 12-month period during the earn-out period is completed and the operational results were agreed and confirmed. As such, the purchase price allocation cannot be completed until the contingencies are resolved in accordance with SFAS No. 141. Therefore, the contingent consideration was not determinable beyond a reasonable doubt for the 2008 acquisitions, and no goodwill was recognized due to the contingent nature of the consideration. Based on the Group's audited operating results through December 31, 2009 and the amended acquisition agreements during December 31, 2010, the Company recorded additional consideration payable which resulted in additional goodwill in 2010.

In April 2009, the FASB issued Staff Position No. FSP FAS 141(R)-1, *Accounting for Assets Acquired and Liabilities Assumed in a Business Combination That Arise from Contingencies* (ASC Topic 805-20). This updated guidance amended the accounting treatment for assets and liabilities arising from contingencies in a business combination and requires that pre-acquisition contingencies be recognized at fair value, if fair value can be reasonably determined. If fair value cannot be reasonably determined, measurement should be based on the best estimate in accordance with SFAS No. 5, *Accounting for Contingencies* (ASC Topic 450).

The Group performed its annual impairment test at the end of the year, which indicated that the carrying amount exceeded the fair value by a significant margin. The impairment test resulted in an additional goodwill impairment loss in 2010 and 2011, as the valuation analysis indicated that the fair values of the reporting units were less than the carrying value. The Group recognized significant goodwill impairment on the acquired companies right after the Company recorded additional contingent consideration due to:

1. Decline in performance of Zhejiang Continental, which results in goodwill impairment of \$18,816 for the year ended December 31, 2011;
2. The implied fair value of the goodwill was lower than the carrying value when the Company considered cash flow stream in the goodwill impairment test;
3. The discount rate used in the valuation model during the impairment test is higher than the discount rate used in the purchase price allocation due to higher risk associates with advertising industry in recent years;
4. For the acquisitions occurred in 2008, the Company accounted for the acquisition under FAS 141 and record goodwill when the contingent consideration is realized. As a result, the Company recorded the 2009 earn-out payment only when the contingency was realized in 2010. As at the year ended December 31, 2010 and 2011, the Company performed the goodwill impairment test based on the actual net income which is significantly lower than the 2008 and 2009 net income. Accordingly, the Company revised the future projection of its subsidiaries due to:

the acquisitions took place before the financial crisis in 2008. The overall business dropped significantly due to the economic downturn;

the ex-owners had less incentive to expand the business after the earn-out period;

the synergy of consolidating and integrating multiple acquired businesses is lower than what we expected.

Table of Contents

Intangible assets other than goodwill consist of the following:

	Weighted average amortization period	As of December 31,	
		2010	2011
Gross amount			
Customer relationship	0.5-3.4 years	\$ 3,511	\$ 3,533
Lease agreements	1-4.4 years	7,831	6,696
Non-compete agreements	3.4 years	480	505
		11,822	10,734
Accumulated amortization			
Customer relationship		(2,584)	(2,915)
Lease agreements		(4,242)	(4,789)
Non-compete agreements		(86)	(237)
		(6,912)	(7,941)
Accumulated impairment			
Customer relationship		(16)	(618)
Lease agreements		(940)	(1,907)
Non-compete agreements			(268)
		(956)	(2,793)
Net intangible assets			
Customer relationship		911	
Lease agreements		2,649	
Non-compete agreements		394	
		\$ 3,954	\$

For year ended December 31, 2011, the Group recorded an impairment loss on its intangible assets in the amount of \$2,723 associated with Zhejiang Continental mainly due to the decline in business performance. There was no impairment loss for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010.

Amortization of intangible assets was allocated to the following categories of cost and expenses:

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2009	2010	2011
Cost of revenues	\$ 1,379	\$ 1,273	\$ 854
Sales and marketing expenses	636	464	475
Total amortization expenses	\$ 2,015	\$ 1,737	\$ 1,329

There is no future expected amortization of intangible assets as of December 31, 2011, since all of the intangible assets were fully amortized or impaired.

10. Acquisition consideration payable

Edgar Filing: Searchmedia Holdings Ltd - Form 20-F

During the year ended December 31, 2008 and 2010, the Group acquired the respective advertising businesses of Jincheng, Xinshichuang, Kaixiang, Wanshuizhiyuan, Shenyang Jingli, Botang, HK Ad-icon, Shengshitongda, Wenzhou Rigao, Wuxi Ruizhong and Zhejiang Continental (acquired entities). These acquisitions were unrelated to each other.

Pursuant to a series of acquisition agreements signed with each of the acquired entities' former equity owners, which we refer to as the ex-owners, in 2008 and 2010 (original acquisition agreements), the purchase consideration for each acquisition is contingent based on the operational results agreed and confirmed by the Group and each of the acquired entities' ex-owners in a 2-year earn-out period following respective acquisition dates (earn-out period).

F-30

Table of Contents

The table below summarizes the contingent consideration associated with the Company's 2008 and 2010 acquisitions:

Acquired Entity	Total contingent consideration and paid up to December 31, 2010 and consideration payable as of December 31, 2010					
	Contingent consideration	Consideration paid in cash	Consideration paid in stock	Consideration payable	Payable in cash	Payable in stock
Xinshichuang	\$ 1,132	\$ 981	\$	\$ 151	\$ 151	\$
Jincheng	1,058	997		61	61	
Kaixiang	15,396	7,423		7,973	3,953	4,020
Wanshuizhiyuan	10,554	8,996		1,558		1,558
Shenyang Jingli	17,222	15,853		1,369		1,369
Haiya	8,537	5,662		2,875	1,120	1,755
Botang	33,304	32,302		1,002		1,002
HK Ad-icon	2,407	1,545		862	593	269
Shengshitongda	121	121				
Wenzhou Rigao	7,953	4,527		3,426	2,014	1,412
Wuxi Ruizhong	4,542	2,593		1,949	1,268	681
Zhejiang Continental	20,309	2,340		17,969	7,807	10,162
Total	\$ 122,535	\$ 83,340	\$	\$ 39,195	\$ 16,967	\$ 22,228

Acquired Entity	Total contingent consideration and paid up to December 31, 2011 and consideration payable as of December 31, 2011					
	Contingent consideration	Consideration paid in cash	Consideration paid in stock	Consideration payable	Payable in cash	Payable in stock
Kaixiang	\$ 16,183	\$ 7,802	\$ 4,225	\$ 4,156	\$ 4,156	\$
Wanshuizhiyuan	11,093					