

AMERICAN TOWER CORP /MA/

Form 10-Q

May 01, 2013

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

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One):

- ☒ **Quarterly report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2013.**
- ☐ **Transition report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.**  
**Commission File Number: 001-14195**

**AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction of

Incorporation or Organization)

**65-0723837**  
(I.R.S. Employer

Identification No.)

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**116 Huntington Avenue**

**Boston, Massachusetts 02116**

**(Address of principal executive offices)**

**Telephone Number (617) 375-7500**

**(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities 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 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, a non-accelerated filer or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check One):

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐

Non-accelerated filer ☐ Smaller reporting company ☐

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

As of April 19, 2013, there were 395,485,671 shares of common stock outstanding.

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**AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION**

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**QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q**

**FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31, 2013**

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**Table of Contents****PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS Unaudited**

(in thousands, except share data)

|                                               | March 31,<br>2013 | December 31,<br>2012 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                 |                   |                      |
| CURRENT ASSETS:                               |                   |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents                     | \$ 441,706        | \$ 368,618           |
| Restricted cash                               | 46,733            | 69,316               |
| Short-term investments                        | 13,004            | 6,018                |
| Accounts receivable, net                      | 145,446           | 143,772              |
| Prepaid and other current assets              | 232,110           | 222,851              |
| Deferred income taxes                         | 24,617            | 25,754               |
| Total current assets                          | 903,616           | 836,329              |
| PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, net                   | 5,879,513         | 5,796,517            |
| GOODWILL                                      | 2,898,638         | 2,881,959            |
| OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS, net                  | 3,271,981         | 3,136,602            |
| DEFERRED INCOME TAXES                         | 215,559           | 209,257              |
| DEFERRED RENT ASSET                           | 811,903           | 776,201              |
| NOTES RECEIVABLE AND OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS | 482,530           | 452,788              |
| TOTAL                                         | \$ 14,463,740     | \$ 14,089,653        |
| <b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>                 |                   |                      |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES:                          |                   |                      |
| Accounts payable                              | \$ 86,769         | \$ 89,578            |
| Accrued expenses                              | 263,187           | 287,575              |
| Distributions payable                         | 103,095           | 189                  |
| Accrued interest                              | 80,065            | 71,271               |
| Current portion of long-term obligations      | 57,603            | 60,031               |
| Unearned revenue                              | 148,405           | 124,147              |
| Total current liabilities                     | 739,124           | 632,791              |
| LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS                         | 8,791,520         | 8,693,345            |
| ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATIONS                  | 455,982           | 435,635              |
| OTHER NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES                 | 695,592           | 643,701              |
| Total liabilities                             | 10,682,218        | 10,405,472           |

**COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES****EQUITY:**

Preferred stock: \$.01 par value; 20,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued or outstanding

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Common stock: \$.01 par value; 1,000,000,000 shares authorized; 396,624,027 and 395,963,218 shares issued; and 395,587,902 and 395,091,213 shares outstanding, respectively

|                                                                     |                      |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                                                                     | 3,966                | 3,959                |
| Additional paid-in capital                                          | 5,029,261            | 5,012,124            |
| Distributions in excess of earnings                                 | (1,128,361)          | (1,196,907)          |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss                                | (158,043)            | (183,347)            |
| Treasury stock (1,036,125 and 872,005 shares at cost, respectively) | (75,208)             | (62,728)             |
| <b>Total American Tower Corporation equity</b>                      | <b>3,671,615</b>     | <b>3,573,101</b>     |
| Noncontrolling interest                                             | 109,907              | 111,080              |
| <b>Total equity</b>                                                 | <b>3,781,522</b>     | <b>3,684,181</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                        | <b>\$ 14,463,740</b> | <b>\$ 14,089,653</b> |

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS Unaudited****(in thousands, except per share data)**

|                                                                                                                                              | <b>Three Months Ended<br/>March 31,</b> |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                                                                                                                              | <b>2013</b>                             | <b>2012</b>       |
| <b>REVENUES:</b>                                                                                                                             |                                         |                   |
| Rental and management                                                                                                                        | \$ 777,433                              | \$ 683,990        |
| Network development services                                                                                                                 | 25,295                                  | 12,527            |
| Total operating revenues                                                                                                                     | 802,728                                 | 696,517           |
| <b>OPERATING EXPENSES:</b>                                                                                                                   |                                         |                   |
| Costs of operations (exclusive of items shown separately below):                                                                             |                                         |                   |
| Rental and management (including stock-based compensation expense of \$246 and \$197, respectively)                                          | 191,295                                 | 163,724           |
| Network development services (including stock-based compensation expense of \$192 and \$264, respectively)                                   | 10,471                                  | 7,261             |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion                                                                                                     | 185,804                                 | 149,655           |
| Selling, general, administrative and development expense (including stock-based compensation expense of \$20,604 and \$12,584, respectively) | 101,153                                 | 79,584            |
| Other operating expenses                                                                                                                     | 14,319                                  | 21,847            |
| Total operating expenses                                                                                                                     | 503,042                                 | 422,071           |
| <b>OPERATING INCOME</b>                                                                                                                      | <b>299,686</b>                          | <b>274,446</b>    |
| <b>OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE):</b>                                                                                                               |                                         |                   |
| Interest income, TV Azteca, net of interest expense of \$371 and \$371, respectively                                                         | 3,543                                   | 3,543             |
| Interest income                                                                                                                              | 1,714                                   | 2,253             |
| Interest expense                                                                                                                             | (111,766)                               | (95,117)          |
| Loss on retirement of long-term obligations                                                                                                  | (35,298)                                | (398)             |
| Other income (including unrealized foreign currency gains of \$22,143 and \$55,838, respectively)                                            | 22,291                                  | 52,861            |
| Total other expense                                                                                                                          | (119,516)                               | (36,858)          |
| <b>INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND INCOME ON EQUITY METHOD INVESTMENTS</b>                                         | <b>180,170</b>                          | <b>237,588</b>    |
| Income tax provision                                                                                                                         | (19,222)                                | (27,248)          |
| Income on equity method investments                                                                                                          |                                         | 18                |
| <b>NET INCOME</b>                                                                                                                            | <b>160,948</b>                          | <b>210,358</b>    |
| Net loss (income) attributable to noncontrolling interest                                                                                    | 10,459                                  | 10,948            |
| <b>NET INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION</b>                                                                                 | <b>\$ 171,407</b>                       | <b>\$ 221,306</b> |
| <b>NET INCOME PER COMMON SHARE AMOUNTS:</b>                                                                                                  |                                         |                   |
| Basic net income attributable to American Tower Corporation                                                                                  | \$ 0.43                                 | \$ 0.56           |
| Diluted net income attributable to American Tower Corporation                                                                                | \$ 0.43                                 | \$ 0.56           |

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING:**

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|                                  |         |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Basic                            | 395,239 | 393,885 |
| Diluted                          | 399,659 | 398,453 |
| DISTRIBUTIONS DECLARED PER SHARE | \$ 0.26 | \$ 0.21 |

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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**AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Unaudited**

(in thousands)

|                                                                                                                     | <b>Three Months Ended<br/>March 31,</b> |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
|                                                                                                                     | <b>2013</b>                             | <b>2012</b> |
| Net income                                                                                                          | \$ 160,948                              | \$ 210,358  |
| Other comprehensive income:                                                                                         |                                         |             |
| Changes in fair value of cash flow hedges, net of taxes of \$111 and \$0, respectively                              | (1,044)                                 | (383)       |
| Reclassification of unrealized losses on cash flow hedges to net income, net of taxes of \$59 and \$0, respectively | 549                                     | 48          |
| Reclassification of unrealized losses on available-for-sale securities to net income                                |                                         | 495         |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments, net of taxes of \$13,732 and \$642, respectively                          | 27,427                                  | 36,909      |
| Other comprehensive income                                                                                          | 26,932                                  | 37,069      |
| Comprehensive income                                                                                                | 187,880                                 | 247,427     |
| Comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interest                                                          | 8,831                                   | 18,814      |
| Comprehensive income attributable to American Tower Corporation                                                     | \$ 196,711                              | \$ 266,241  |

See accompanying notes to the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS Unaudited****(in thousands)**

|                                                                                       | <b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b> |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
|                                                                                       | <b>2013</b>                         | <b>2012</b> |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>                                          |                                     |             |
| Net income                                                                            | \$ 160,948                          | \$ 210,358  |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash provided by operating activities:         |                                     |             |
| Stock-based compensation expense                                                      | 21,042                              | 13,045      |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion                                              | 185,804                             | 149,655     |
| Loss on early retirement of securitized debt                                          | 35,288                              |             |
| Other non-cash items reflected in statements of operations                            | (7,496)                             | (28,342)    |
| Increase in net deferred rent asset                                                   | (26,806)                            | (28,789)    |
| Decrease (increase) in restricted cash                                                | 22,583                              | (13,490)    |
| (Increase) decrease in assets                                                         | (7,374)                             | 55,126      |
| Increase in liabilities                                                               | 10,047                              | 44,454      |
| Cash provided by operating activities                                                 | 394,036                             | 402,017     |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>                                          |                                     |             |
| Payments for purchase of property and equipment and construction activities           | (123,905)                           | (121,032)   |
| Payments for acquisitions, net of cash acquired                                       | (245,094)                           | (159,403)   |
| Proceeds from sale of short-term investments and other non-current assets             | 7,150                               | 1,095       |
| Payments for short-term investments                                                   | (14,650)                            | (10,085)    |
| Deposits, restricted cash, investments and other                                      | (129)                               | (1,871)     |
| Cash used for investing activities                                                    | (376,628)                           | (291,296)   |
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>                                          |                                     |             |
| Proceeds from short-term borrowings, net                                              |                                     | 17,127      |
| Borrowings under credit facilities                                                    | 249,000                             | 1,325,000   |
| Proceeds from issuance of senior notes, net                                           | 983,354                             | 698,670     |
| Proceeds from issuance of Securities in securitization transaction, net               | 1,778,496                           |             |
| Proceeds from other long-term borrowings                                              |                                     | 16,676      |
| Repayments of notes payable, credit facilities and capital leases                     | (2,937,744)                         | (2,018,847) |
| Contributions from noncontrolling interest holders, net                               | 7,658                               | 3,327       |
| Purchases of common stock                                                             | (12,480)                            | (20,665)    |
| Proceeds from stock options                                                           | 6,140                               | 15,615      |
| Payment for early retirement of securitized debt                                      | (29,234)                            |             |
| Deferred financing costs and other financing activities                               | (10,561)                            | (9,463)     |
| Cash provided by financing activities                                                 | 34,629                              | 27,440      |
| Net effect of changes in foreign currency exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents | 21,051                              | 2,906       |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS                                             | 73,088                              | 141,067     |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR                                          | 368,618                             | 330,191     |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF PERIOD                                              | \$ 441,706                          | \$ 471,258  |

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|                                                                                                                       |           |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| CASH PAID (RECEIVED) FOR INCOME TAXES (NET OF REFUNDS OF \$704 AND PAYMENTS OF \$12,972, RESPECTIVELY)                | \$ 13,543 | \$ (897)  |
| CASH PAID FOR INTEREST                                                                                                | \$ 95,251 | \$ 77,936 |
| NON-CASH INVESTING AND FINANCING ACTIVITIES:                                                                          |           |           |
| DECREASE IN ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES FOR PURCHASES OF PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES | \$ 1,691  | \$ 7,813  |
| PURCHASES OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT UNDER CAPITAL LEASES                                                       | \$ 4,495  | \$ 1,066  |

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EQUITY Unaudited**

(in thousands, except share data)

|                                                                                      | Common Stock |          | Treasury Stock |             | Additional   | Other         | Earnings       |                |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------|----------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|                                                                                      | Issued       | Amount   | Shares         | Amount      | Paid-in      | Comprehensive | in Excess of   | Noncontrolling | Total        |
|                                                                                      | Shares       |          |                |             | Capital      | Income        | Distributions  | Interest       | Equity       |
|                                                                                      |              |          |                |             |              | (Loss)        | (Earnings)     |                |              |
| BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 2012                                                             | 393,642,079  | \$ 3,936 |                | \$          | \$ 4,903,800 | \$ (142,617)  | \$ (1,477,899) | \$ 122,922     | \$ 3,410,142 |
| Stock-based compensation related activity                                            | 1,035,202    | 10       |                |             | 13,455       |               |                |                | 13,465       |
| Treasury stock activity                                                              |              |          | (79,000)       | (4,924)     |              |               |                |                | (4,924)      |
| Changes in fair value of cash flow hedges, net of tax                                |              |          |                |             |              | (287)         |                | (96)           | (383)        |
| Reclassification of unrealized losses on cash flow hedges to net income, net of tax  |              |          |                |             |              | 48            |                |                | 48           |
| Reclassification of unrealized losses on available-for-sale securities to net income |              |          |                |             |              | 495           |                |                | 495          |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment, net of tax                                  |              |          |                |             |              | 44,679        |                | (7,770)        | 36,909       |
| Contributions from noncontrolling interest                                           |              |          |                |             |              |               |                | 3,504          | 3,504        |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interest                                             |              |          |                |             |              |               |                | (177)          | (177)        |
| Dividends/distributions declared                                                     |              |          |                |             |              |               | (83,034)       |                | (83,034)     |
| Net income (loss)                                                                    |              |          |                |             |              |               | 221,306        | (10,948)       | 210,358      |
| BALANCE, MARCH 31, 2012                                                              | 394,677,281  | \$ 3,946 | (79,000)       | \$ (4,924)  | \$ 4,917,255 | \$ (97,682)   | \$ (1,339,627) | \$ 107,435     | \$ 3,586,403 |
| BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 2013                                                             | 395,963,218  | \$ 3,959 | (872,005)      | \$ (62,728) | \$ 5,012,124 | \$ (183,347)  | \$ (1,196,907) | \$ 111,080     | \$ 3,684,181 |
| Stock-based compensation related activity                                            | 660,809      | 7        |                |             | 17,137       |               |                |                | 17,144       |
| Treasury stock activity                                                              |              |          | (164,120)      | (12,480)    |              |               |                |                | (12,480)     |
| Changes in fair value of cash flow hedges, net of tax                                |              |          |                |             |              | (1,115)       |                | 71             | (1,044)      |
| Reclassification of unrealized losses on cash flow hedges to net income, net of tax  |              |          |                |             |              | 511           |                | 38             | 549          |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment, net of tax                                  |              |          |                |             |              | 25,908        |                | 1,519          | 27,427       |
| Contributions from noncontrolling interest                                           |              |          |                |             |              |               |                | 7,820          | 7,820        |
| Distributions to noncontrolling interest                                             |              |          |                |             |              |               |                | (162)          | (162)        |
| Dividends/distributions declared                                                     |              |          |                |             |              |               | (102,861)      |                | (102,861)    |

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|                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |         |          |         |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|----------|---------|
| Net income (loss) |  |  |  |  |  |  | 171,407 | (10,459) | 160,948 |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------|----------|---------|

|                         |             |          |             |             |              |              |                |            |              |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------|
| BALANCE, MARCH 31, 2013 | 396,624,027 | \$ 3,966 | (1,036,125) | \$ (75,208) | \$ 5,029,261 | \$ (158,043) | \$ (1,128,361) | \$ 109,907 | \$ 3,781,522 |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|--------------|

See accompanying notes to unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

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### **AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**

#### **NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Unaudited**

##### **1. Description of Business, Basis of Presentation and Accounting Policies**

American Tower Corporation is, through its various subsidiaries (collectively, "ATC" or the "Company"), an independent owner, operator and developer of wireless and broadcast communications real estate in the United States, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Ghana, India, Mexico, Peru, South Africa and Uganda. The Company's primary business is the leasing of antenna space on multi-tenant communications sites to wireless service providers, radio and television broadcast companies, wireless data and data providers, government agencies and municipalities and tenants in a number of other industries. The Company also manages rooftop and tower sites for property owners, operates in-building and outdoor distributed antenna system ("DAS") networks, holds property interests under third-party communications sites and provides network development services that primarily support its rental and management operations and the addition of new tenants and equipment on its sites. The Company began operating as a real estate investment trust for federal income tax purposes ("REIT") effective January 1, 2012.

ATC is a holding company that conducts its operations through its directly and indirectly owned subsidiaries and its joint ventures. ATC's principal domestic operating subsidiaries are American Towers LLC and SpectraSite Communications, LLC. ATC conducts its international operations through its subsidiary, American Tower International, Inc., which in turn conducts operations through its various international operating subsidiaries and joint ventures.

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared by the Company pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). The financial information included herein is unaudited; however, the Company believes that all adjustments (consisting primarily of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation of the Company's financial position and results of operations for such periods have been included. These condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes should be read in conjunction with the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

The Company believes that since January 1, 2012, it has been organized and has operated in a manner that enables it to qualify, and intends to continue to operate in a manner that will allow it to continue to qualify, as a REIT for federal income tax purposes.

The Company holds and operates certain of its assets through one or more taxable REIT subsidiaries ("TRSs"). A TRS is a subsidiary of a REIT that is subject to applicable corporate income tax. The Company's use of TRSs enables it to continue to engage in certain businesses while complying with REIT qualification requirements and also allows the Company to retain income generated by these businesses for reinvestment without the requirement of distributing those earnings. The non-REIT qualified businesses that the Company holds through TRSs include its network development services segment. In addition, the Company has included most of its international operations and DAS networks business within its TRSs. The Company changed the election for substantially all of its Mexican operations, all of which was previously designated as a TRS, to be treated as a qualified REIT subsidiary as of March 1, 2013. Although the election did not have a material effect on the Company's deferred tax position, the Company recognized a one-time dividend from its Mexican operations, the income from which the Company may either offset with its net operating losses or distribute to its stockholders as part of its regular distributions. For all periods subsequent to March 1, 2013, the Company will be required to include the income from its Mexican operations as part of its REIT taxable income for the purpose of computing the Company's REIT distribution requirements.

The Company is also considering changing the election of other previously designated TRSs, which hold certain of its other international operations, to be treated as qualified REIT subsidiaries or other disregarded entities (collectively, "QRSs"), and may reorganize and transfer certain assets or operations from its TRSs to other subsidiaries, including QRSs.

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Unaudited**

As a REIT, the Company generally will not be subject to federal income taxes on its income and gains that the Company distributes to its stockholders, including the income derived from leasing towers. However, even as a REIT, the Company will remain obligated to pay income taxes on earnings from its TRS assets. In addition, the Company's international assets and operations continue to be subject to taxation in the foreign jurisdictions where those assets are held or those operations are conducted.

*Principles of Consolidation and Basis of Presentation* The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and those entities in which it has a controlling interest. Investments in entities that the Company does not control are accounted for using the equity or cost method, depending upon the Company's ability to exercise significant influence over operating and financial policies. All intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

*Significant Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates* The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ( GAAP ) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates, and such differences could be material to the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements. The significant estimates in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements include impairment of long-lived assets (including goodwill), asset retirement obligations, revenue recognition, rent expense, stock-based compensation, income taxes and accounting for business combinations. The Company considers events or transactions that occur after the balance sheet date but before the financial statements are issued as additional evidence for certain estimates or to identify matters that require additional disclosure.

*Recently Adopted Accounting Standards* In February 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued additional guidance on comprehensive income which adds new disclosure requirements for items reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income ( AOCI ) by component. This guidance enhances the transparency of changes in other comprehensive income ( OCI ) and items transferred out of AOCI in the financial statements and it does not amend any existing requirements for reporting net income or OCI in the financial statements. Since the guidance relates only to presentation and disclosure of information, the adoption did not have a material effect on the Company's condensed consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In February 2013, the FASB issued guidance that clarifies the scope of transactions subject to disclosures about offsetting assets and liabilities. The guidance requires an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. This guidance is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013 on a retrospective basis. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's disclosures in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

**2. Prepaid and Other Current Assets**

Prepaid and other current assets consist of the following as of (in thousands):

|                                                       | March 31, 2013 | December 31, 2012 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Prepaid operating ground leases                       | \$ 61,046      | \$ 56,916         |
| Prepaid income tax                                    | 56,475         | 57,665            |
| Prepaid assets                                        | 31,660         | 19,037            |
| Value added tax and other consumption tax receivables | 16,412         | 22,443            |
| Other miscellaneous current assets                    | 66,517         | 66,790            |
| Balance                                               | \$ 232,110     | \$ 222,851        |



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Accrued expenses consist of the following as of (in thousands):

|                                        | <b>March 31, 2013</b> | <b>December 31, 2012 (1)</b> |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Accrued property and real estate taxes | \$ 39,280             | \$ 36,814                    |
| Payroll and related withholdings       | 28,596                | 37,586                       |
| Accrued rent                           | 23,725                | 24,394                       |
| Other accrued expenses                 | 171,586               | 188,781                      |
| <b>Balance</b>                         | <b>\$ 263,187</b>     | <b>\$ 287,575</b>            |

(1) December 31, 2012 balances have been revised to reflect purchase accounting measurement period adjustments.

**4. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets**

The changes in the carrying value of goodwill for the Company's business segments are as follows (in thousands):

|                                        | <b>Rental and Management<br/>Domestic</b> | <b>International</b> | <b>Network<br/>Development<br/>Services</b> | <b>Total</b>        |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance as of January 1, 2013 (1)      | \$ 2,320,777                              | \$ 559,182           | \$ 2,000                                    | \$ 2,881,959        |
| Additions                              |                                           | 14,796               |                                             | 14,796              |
| Effect of foreign currency translation |                                           | 1,883                |                                             | 1,883               |
| <b>Balance as of March 31, 2013</b>    | <b>\$ 2,320,777</b>                       | <b>\$ 575,861</b>    | <b>\$ 2,000</b>                             | <b>\$ 2,898,638</b> |

(1) Balances have been revised to reflect purchase accounting measurement period adjustments.

The Company's other intangible assets subject to amortization consist of the following (in thousands):

|                                         |                                                   | <b>As of March 31, 2013</b>         |                                     |                           | <b>As of December 31, 2012 (1)</b>  |                                     |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | <b>Estimated<br/>Useful<br/>Lives<br/>(years)</b> | <b>Gross<br/>Carrying<br/>Value</b> | <b>Accumulated<br/>Amortization</b> | <b>Net Book<br/>Value</b> | <b>Gross<br/>Carrying<br/>Value</b> | <b>Accumulated<br/>Amortization</b> | <b>Net Book<br/>Value</b> |
| Acquired network location (2)           | Up to 20                                          | \$ 1,753,626                        | \$ (738,687)                        | \$ 1,014,939              | \$ 1,701,188                        | \$ (721,135)                        | \$ 980,053                |
| Acquired customer-related intangibles   | 15-20                                             | 3,188,837                           | (1,022,610)                         | 2,166,227                 | 3,065,979                           | (979,264)                           | 2,086,715                 |
| Acquired licenses and other intangibles | 3-20                                              | 26,180                              | (21,037)                            | 5,143                     | 26,079                              | (20,835)                            | 5,244                     |

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|                                   |     |           |             |              |           |             |              |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| Economic Rights, TV Azteca        | 70  | 30,439    | (14,732)    | 15,707       | 28,954    | (13,902)    | 15,052       |
| Total                             |     | 4,999,082 | (1,797,066) | 3,202,016    | 4,822,200 | (1,735,136) | 3,087,064    |
| Deferred financing costs, net (3) | N/A |           |             | 69,965       |           |             | 49,538       |
| Other intangible assets, net      |     |           |             | \$ 3,271,981 |           |             | \$ 3,136,602 |

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- (1) December 31, 2012 balances have been revised to reflect purchase accounting measurement period adjustments.
- (2) Acquired network location intangibles are amortized over the shorter of the term of the corresponding ground lease taking into consideration lease renewal options and residual value or up to 20 years, as the Company considers these intangibles to be directly related to the tower assets.
- (3) Deferred financing costs are amortized over the term of the respective debt instruments to which they relate using the effective interest method. This amortization is included in interest expense rather than in amortization expense.

The acquired network location intangibles represent the value to the Company of the incremental revenue growth, which could potentially be obtained from leasing the excess capacity on acquired communications sites. The acquired customer-related intangibles typically represent the value to the Company of customer contracts and relationships in place at the time of an acquisition, including assumptions regarding estimated renewals. The acquired licenses and other intangibles consist primarily of non-competition agreements acquired from SpectraSite, Inc. and in other tower acquisitions.

The Company amortizes these intangibles on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives. As of March 31, 2013, the remaining weighted average amortization period of the Company's intangible assets, excluding the TV Azteca Economic Rights detailed in note 5 to the Company's consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, was approximately 13 years. Amortization of intangible assets for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 was approximately \$60.5 million and \$51.8 million (excluding amortization of deferred financing costs, which is included in interest expense), respectively. The Company expects to record amortization expense (excluding amortization of deferred financing costs) as follows over the next five years (in millions):

| <b>Fiscal Year</b>    |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 2013 (remaining year) | \$ 193.9 |
| 2014                  | 234.4    |
| 2015                  | 221.0    |
| 2016                  | 213.6    |
| 2017                  | 212.1    |
| 2018                  | 210.7    |

**5. Financing Transactions**

*Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1* During the year ended December 31, 2007, the Company completed a securitization transaction involving assets related to 5,295 broadcast and wireless communications towers owned by two special purpose subsidiaries of the Company, through a private offering of \$1.75 billion of Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1 (the Certificates). On March 15, 2013, the Company repaid all indebtedness outstanding under the Certificates (\$1.75 billion in principal amount), plus prepayment consideration and accrued interest thereon and other costs and expenses related thereto, with proceeds from the offering of \$1.8 billion of Secured Tower Revenue Securities, Series 2013-1A and Series 2013-2A, as described in more detail below (collectively, the Securities). The Company recorded a loss on retirement of long-term obligations in the accompanying statements of operations of \$35.3 million, consisting of prepayment consideration of \$29.2 million and the expense of deferred financing costs of \$6.1 million.

*Secured Tower Revenue Securities, Series 2013-1A and Series 2013-2A* On March 15, 2013, the Company completed a securitization transaction (the Securitization) involving assets related to 5,195 wireless and

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broadcast communications towers (the Secured Towers ) owned by two special purpose subsidiaries of the Company, through a private offering of \$1.8 billion of the Securities. The net proceeds of the transaction were \$1.78 billion. The Securities were issued by American Tower Trust I (the Trust ), a trust established by American Tower Depositor Sub, LLC (the Depositor ), an indirect wholly owned special purpose subsidiary of the Company. The assets of the Trust consist of a nonrecourse loan (the Loan ) to American Tower Asset Sub, LLC and American Tower Asset Sub II, LLC (the Borrowers ), pursuant to a First Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated as of March 15, 2013 (the Loan Agreement ). The Borrowers are special purpose entities formed solely for the purpose of holding the Secured Towers subject to a securitization.

The Securities were issued in two separate series of the same class pursuant to a First Amended and Restated Trust and Servicing Agreement (the Trust Agreement ), with terms identical to the Loan. The effective weighted average interest rate of the Loan is 2.648%. The Series 2013-1A Securities have an expected life of five years with a final repayment date in March 2043. The Series 2013-2A Securities have an expected life of ten years with a final repayment date in March 2048. The effective weighted average life of the Securities is 8.6 years.

Amounts due under the Loan will be paid by the Borrowers solely from the cash flows generated by the Secured Towers. These funds in turn will be used by or on behalf of the Trust to service the payment of interest on the Securities and for any other payments required by the Loan Agreement or Trust Agreement. The Borrowers are required to make monthly payments of interest on the Loan. Subject to certain limited exceptions described below, no payments of principal will be required to be made prior to March 15, 2018, which is the anticipated repayment date for the component of the Loan associated with the Series 2013-1A Securities. On a monthly basis, after payment of all required amounts under the Loan Agreement and Trust Agreement, the excess cash flows generated from the operation of the Secured Towers are released to the Borrowers, and can then be distributed to, and used by, the Company. However, if the debt service coverage ratio (the DSCR ), generally defined as the net cash flow divided by the amount of interest, servicing fees and trustee fees that the Borrowers will be required to pay over the succeeding 12 months on the principal amount of the Loan, is 1.30x or less (the Cash Trap DSCR ) for such quarter, and the DSCR continues to be below the Cash Trap DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters, then all cash flow in excess of amounts required to make debt service payments, to fund required reserves, to pay management fees and budgeted operating expenses and to make other payments required under the loan documents, referred to as excess cash flow, will be deposited into a reserve account instead of being released to the Borrowers. The funds in the reserve account will not be released to the Borrowers unless the DSCR exceeds the Cash Trap DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters. An amortization period commences if (i) as of the end of any calendar quarter the DSCR is equal to or falls below 1.15x (the Minimum DSCR ) for such calendar quarter and such amortization period will continue to exist until the DSCR exceeds the Minimum DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters or (ii) on the anticipated repayment date the component of the Loan corresponding to the applicable subclass of the Securities has not been repaid in full, provided that such amortization period shall apply with respect to such component that has not been repaid in full. During an amortization period all excess cash is applied to payment of the principal on the Loan.

The Borrowers may prepay the Loan in whole or in part at any time provided it is accompanied by applicable prepayment consideration. If the prepayment occurs within twelve months of the anticipated repayment date for the Series 2013-1A Securities or eighteen months of the anticipated repayment date for the Series 2013-2A Securities, no prepayment consideration is due. The entire unpaid principal balance of the component of the Loan related to the Series 2013-1A Securities will be due in March 2043. The entire unpaid principal balance of the component of the Loan related to the Series 2013-2A Securities will be due in March 2048. The Loan may be defeased in whole at any time prior to the anticipated repayment date for any component of the Loan then outstanding.

The Loan is secured by (1) mortgages, deeds of trust and deeds to secure debt on substantially all of the Secured Towers, (2) a pledge of their operating cash flows from the Secured Towers, (3) a security interest in

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substantially all of the Borrowers' personal property and fixtures and (4) the Borrowers' rights under the tenant leases and the Management Agreement entered into in connection with the Securitization. American Tower Holding Sub, LLC, whose only material assets are its equity interests in each of the Borrowers, and American Tower Guarantor Sub, LLC, whose only material asset is its equity interest in American Tower Holding Sub, LLC, each have guaranteed repayment of the Loan and pledged their equity interests in their respective subsidiary or subsidiaries as security for such payment obligations. American Tower Guarantor Sub, LLC, American Tower Holding Sub, LLC, the Depositor and the Borrowers each were formed as special purpose entities solely for purposes of entering a securitization transaction, and the assets and credit of these entities are not available to satisfy the debts and other obligations of the Company or any other person, except as set forth in the Loan Agreement.

The Loan Agreement includes operating covenants and other restrictions customary for loans subject to rated securitizations. Among other things, the Borrowers are prohibited from incurring other indebtedness for borrowed money or further encumbering their assets other than customary carveouts for ordinary course trade payables and permitted encumbrances (as defined in the Loan Agreement). The organizational documents of the Borrowers contain provisions consistent with rating agency securitization criteria for special purpose entities, including the requirement that the Borrowers maintain at least two independent directors. The Loan Agreement also contains certain covenants that require the Borrowers to provide the trustee with regular financial reports and operating budgets, promptly notify the trustee of events of default and material breaches under the Loan Agreement and other agreements related to the Secured Towers, and allow the trustee reasonable access to the Secured Towers, including the right to conduct site investigations.

A failure to comply with the covenants in the Loan Agreement could prevent the Borrowers from taking certain actions with respect to the Secured Towers, and could prevent the Borrowers from distributing any excess cash from the operation of the Secured Towers to the Company. If the Borrowers were to default on the Loan, Midland Loan Services, a Division of PNC Bank, National Association, in its capacity as servicer on behalf of the trustee, could seek to foreclose upon or otherwise convert the ownership of the Secured Towers, in which case the Company could lose the Secured Towers and the revenue associated with the Secured Towers.

Under the Loan Agreement, the Borrowers are required to maintain reserve accounts, including for ground rents, real estate and personal property taxes and insurance premiums, and to reserve a portion of advance rents from tenants on the Secured Towers. Based on the terms of the Loan Agreement, all rental cash receipts received for each month are reserved for the succeeding month and held in an account controlled by the Trustee and then released. The \$39.3 million held in the reserve accounts as of March 31, 2013 is classified as restricted cash on the Company's accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet.

*Senior Notes Offering* On January 8, 2013, the Company completed a registered public offering of \$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of 3.50% senior unsecured notes due 2023 (the "3.50% Notes"), which were issued at a price equal to 99.185% of their fair value. The net proceeds to the Company from the offering were approximately \$983.4 million, after deducting commissions and expenses. The Company used \$265.0 million of the net proceeds to repay the outstanding indebtedness under its \$1.0 billion unsecured credit facility entered into in April 2011 (the "2011 Credit Facility") and \$718.4 million to repay a portion of the outstanding indebtedness incurred under its \$1.0 billion unsecured credit facility entered into in January 2012 (the "2012 Credit Facility").

The 3.50% Notes mature on January 31, 2023, and interest is payable semi-annually in arrears on January 31 and July 31 of each year, commencing on July 31, 2013. The Company may redeem the 3.50% Notes at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount, plus a make-whole premium, together with accrued interest to the redemption date. Interest on the notes began to accrue on January 8, 2013 and is computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

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If the Company undergoes a change of control and ratings decline, each as defined in the supplemental indenture, the Company will be required to offer to repurchase all of the 3.50% Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest up to but not including the repurchase date. The 3.50% Notes rank equally with all of the Company's other senior unsecured debt and are structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of its subsidiaries. The supplemental indenture contains certain covenants that restrict the Company's ability to merge, consolidate or sell assets and its (together with its subsidiaries) ability to incur liens. These covenants are subject to a number of exceptions, including that the Company and its subsidiaries may incur certain liens on assets, mortgages or other liens securing indebtedness, if the aggregate amount of such liens does not exceed 3.5x Adjusted EBITDA, as defined in the supplemental indenture.

*2011 Credit Facility* As of March 31, 2013, the Company did not have any amounts outstanding under the 2011 Credit Facility and had approximately \$1.9 million of undrawn letters of credit. The Company repaid all outstanding amounts on January 8, 2013 with net proceeds received from the offering of the 3.50% Notes. The Company continues to maintain the ability to draw down and repay amounts under the 2011 Credit Facility in the ordinary course.

The 2011 Credit Facility has a term of five years and matures on April 8, 2016. The current margin over London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) that the Company would incur on borrowings is 1.850% and the current commitment fee on the undrawn portion of the 2011 Credit Facility is 0.350%.

*2012 Credit Facility* As of March 31, 2013, the Company had \$322.0 million outstanding under the 2012 Credit Facility and had approximately \$2.7 million of undrawn letters of credit. The Company repaid \$719.0 million on January 8, 2013 with net proceeds received from the offering of the 3.50% Notes and cash on hand. The Company continues to maintain the ability to draw down and repay amounts under the 2012 Credit Facility in the ordinary course.

The 2012 Credit Facility has a term of five years and matures on January 31, 2017. The current margin over LIBOR that the Company would incur on borrowings is 1.625%, and the current commitment fee on the undrawn portion of the 2012 Credit Facility is 0.225%.

*2012 Term Loan* On June 29, 2012, the Company entered into a \$750.0 million unsecured term loan (2012 Term Loan). The 2012 Term Loan has a term of five years and matures on June 29, 2017. As of March 31, 2013, the interest rate under the 2012 Term Loan is LIBOR plus 1.75%.

**6. Derivative Financial Instruments**

The Company is exposed to certain risks related to its ongoing business operations. The primary risk managed through the use of derivative instruments is interest rate risk. From time to time, the Company enters into interest rate protection agreements to manage exposure to variability in cash flows relating to forecasted interest payments. Under these agreements, the Company is exposed to credit risk to the extent that a counterparty fails to meet the terms of a contract. The Company's credit risk exposure is limited to the current value of the contract at the time the counterparty fails to perform.

If a derivative is designated as a cash flow hedge, the effective portions of changes in the fair value of the derivative are recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) and are recognized in the results of operations when the hedged item affects earnings. Ineffective portions of changes in the fair value of cash flow hedges are recognized immediately in the results of operations. For derivative instruments not designated as hedging instruments, changes in fair value are recognized in the results of operations in the period in which the change occurs.

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The Company has entered into interest rate swap agreements to manage its exposure to variability in interest rates on debt in South Africa and Colombia. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had nine interest rate swap agreements outstanding in South Africa with an aggregate notional value of 423.6 million ZAR (\$45.9 million) and one interest rate swap agreement outstanding in Colombia with a notional value of 101.3 billion COP (\$55.3 million). The Company's South African interest rate swap agreements accrue interest based on the Johannesburg Interbank Agreed Rate ( JIBAR ) and have been designated as cash flow hedges, have fixed interest rates ranging from 6.09% to 7.25% and expire on March 31, 2020. The Company's Colombian interest rate swap agreement accrues interest based on the Inter-bank Rate ( IBR ) and has been designated as a cash flow hedge, has a fixed interest rate of 5.78%, and expires on November 30, 2020.

As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the notional amount and fair value of the Company's interest rate swap agreements, which were recorded as other non-current liabilities, were as follows (in thousands):

|                            | March 31, 2013 (1) | December 31, 2012 (2) |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>ZAR</b>                 |                    |                       |
| Notional                   | 423,634            | 423,634               |
| Carrying Amount/Fair Value | 14,841             | 20,441                |
| <b>COP</b>                 |                    |                       |
| Notional                   | 101,250,000        | 101,250,000           |
| Carrying Amount/Fair Value | 7,398,809          | 5,356,377             |

- (1) The interest rate swap agreements are denominated in ZAR and COP and have an aggregate notional amount and fair value of \$101.1 million and \$5.6 million, respectively, as of March 31, 2013.
- (2) The interest rate swap agreements are denominated in ZAR and COP and have an aggregate notional amount and fair value of \$107.3 million and \$5.4 million, respectively, as of December 31, 2012.

During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, the interest rate swap agreements held by the Company had the following impact on OCI included in the condensed consolidated balance sheets and in the condensed consolidated statements of operations (in thousands):

| Three Months Ended March 31, 2013                                                              |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amount of Gain/(Loss)<br>Recognized in OCI on<br>Derivatives (Effective<br>Portion)<br>\$(933) | Location of Gain/(Loss)<br>Reclassified from<br>Accumulated OCI into<br>Income (Effective<br>Portion)<br>Interest expense | Amount of Gain/(Loss)<br>Reclassified from<br>Accumulated OCI into<br>Income (Effective Portion)<br>\$(608) | Location of Gain/(Loss)<br>Recognized in Income on<br>Derivative (Ineffective<br>Portion and Amount<br>Excluded from<br>Effectiveness Testing)<br>N/A | Gain/(Loss) Recognized in<br>Income on Derivative<br>(Ineffective Portion and<br>Amount Excluded from<br>Effectiveness Testing)<br>N/A |

| Three Months Ended March 31, 2012                                                              |                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Amount of Gain/(Loss)<br>Recognized in OCI on<br>Derivatives (Effective<br>Portion)<br>\$(535) | Location of Gain/(Loss)<br>Reclassified from<br>Accumulated OCI into<br>Income (Effective<br>Portion)<br>Interest expense | Amount of Gain/(Loss)<br>Reclassified from<br>Accumulated OCI into<br>Income (Effective<br>Portion)<br>\$(152) | Location of Gain/(Loss)<br>Recognized in Income on<br>Derivative (Ineffective<br>Portion and Amount<br>Excluded from<br>Effectiveness Testing)<br>N/A | Gain/(Loss) Recognized in<br>Income on Derivative<br>(Ineffective Portion and<br>Amount Excluded from<br>Effectiveness Testing)<br>N/A |

As of March 31, 2013, \$1.6 million of the amounts related to derivatives designated as cash flow hedges and recorded in accumulated other comprehensive (loss) income is expected to be reclassified into earnings in the next twelve months.



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The Company determines the fair value of its financial instruments based on the fair value hierarchy, which requires an entity to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. Below are the three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.
- Level 3 Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

*Items Measured at Fair Value on a Recurring Basis* The fair value of the Company's financial assets and liabilities that are required to be measured on a recurring basis at fair value is as follows (in thousands):

|                                              | March 31, 2013                           |          |           |                                     |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
|                                              | Fair Value Measurements Using<br>Level 1 | Level 2  | Level 3   | Assets/Liabilities<br>at Fair Value |
| <b>Assets:</b>                               |                                          |          |           |                                     |
| Short-term investments (1)                   | \$ 13,004                                |          |           | \$ 13,004                           |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>                          |                                          |          |           |                                     |
| Acquisition-related contingent consideration |                                          |          | \$ 25,201 | \$ 25,201                           |
| Interest rate swap agreements (2)            |                                          | \$ 5,645 |           | \$ 5,645                            |

|                                              | December 31, 2012                        |          |           | Assets/Liabilities<br>at Fair Value |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
|                                              | Fair Value Measurements Using<br>Level 1 | Level 2  | Level 3   |                                     |
| <b>Assets:</b>                               |                                          |          |           |                                     |
| Short-term investments (1)                   | \$ 6,018                                 |          |           | \$ 6,018                            |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>                          |                                          |          |           |                                     |
| Acquisition-related contingent consideration |                                          |          | \$ 23,711 | \$ 23,711                           |
| Interest rate swap agreements (2)            |                                          | \$ 5,442 |           | \$ 5,442                            |

(1) Consists of highly liquid investments with original maturities in excess of three months.

(2) Consists of interest rate swap agreements based on JIBAR and IBR whose value is determined using a pricing model with inputs that are observable in the market or can be derived principally from, or corroborated by, observable market data.

Cash and cash equivalents include short-term investments, including money market funds, with original maturities of three months or less whose fair value approximated cost at March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012.

The fair value of the Company's interest rate swap agreements recorded as liabilities is included in other non-current liabilities in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets. Fair valuations of the Company's interest rate swap agreements reflect the value of the instrument including the values associated with



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counterparty risk and the Company's own credit standing. The Company includes in the valuation of the derivative instrument the value of the net credit differential between the counterparties to the derivative contract.

The Company may be required to pay additional consideration under certain agreements for the acquisitions of communications sites in Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, South Africa and the United States if specific conditions are met or events occur, such as the (i) collocation of certain wireless carriers subsequent to acquiring the communications sites (ii) conversion of certain barter agreements with other wireless carriers to cash-paying master lease agreements or (iii) achievement of certain earnings targets.

Acquisition-related contingent consideration is initially measured and recorded at fair value as an element of consideration paid in connection with an acquisition with subsequent adjustments recognized in other operating expenses in the condensed consolidated statements of operations. The Company determines the fair value of acquisition-related contingent consideration, and any subsequent changes in fair value using a discounted probability-weighted approach. This approach takes into consideration Level 3 unobservable inputs including probability assessments of expected future cash flows over the period in which the obligation is expected to be settled and applies a discount factor that captures the uncertainties associated with the obligation. Changes in these unobservable inputs could significantly impact the fair value of the liabilities recorded in the accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheets and operating expenses in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

As of March 31, 2013, the Company estimates that the value of all potential acquisition-related contingent consideration required payments to be between zero and \$46.3 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, the fair value of the contingent consideration changed as follows (in thousands):

|                                         | 2013      | 2012      |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Balance as of January 1                 | \$ 23,711 | \$ 25,617 |
| Additions                               | 165       |           |
| Payments                                | (3,189)   | (445)     |
| Change in fair value                    | 5,255     | 5,830     |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | (741)     | 1,357     |
| Balance as of March 31                  | \$ 25,201 | \$ 32,359 |

*Items Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis* During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company did not record any asset impairment charges. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, certain long-lived assets held and used with a carrying value of \$288.8 million were written down to their net realizable value of \$278.1 million, as a result of an asset impairment charge of \$10.7 million, which was recorded in other operating expenses in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. These adjustments were determined by comparing the estimated proceeds from sale of assets or the projected future discounted cash flows to be provided from the long-lived assets (calculated using Level 3 inputs) to the asset's carrying value. There were no other items measured at fair value on a nonrecurring basis during the three months ended March 31, 2013.

*Fair Value of Financial Instruments* The carrying value of the Company's financial instruments, with the exception of long-term obligations, including the current portion, reasonably approximate the related fair value as of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012. The Company's estimates of fair value of its long-term obligations, including the current portion, are based primarily upon reported market values. For long-term debt not actively traded, fair value was estimated using a discounted cash flow analysis using rates for debt with similar terms and maturities. As of March 31, 2013, the carrying value and fair value of long-term obligations, including the

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current portion, were \$8.8 billion and \$9.4 billion, respectively, of which \$5.8 billion was measured using Level 1 inputs and \$3.6 billion was measured using Level 2 inputs. As of December 31, 2012, the carrying value and fair value of long-term obligations, including the current portion, were \$8.8 billion and \$9.4 billion, respectively, of which \$4.9 billion was measured using Level 1 inputs and \$4.5 billion was measured using Level 2 inputs.

**8. Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income**

The changes in accumulated other comprehensive income for the three months ended March 31, 2013 is as follows (in thousands):

|                                                                              | Unrealized Losses on<br>Cash Flow Hedges (1) | Deferred Loss<br>on the<br>Settlement<br>of<br>the<br>Treasury<br>Rate Lock | Foreign<br>Currency<br>Items | Total        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Beginning balance                                                            | \$ (4,780)                                   | \$ (3,827)                                                                  | \$ (202,509)                 | \$ (211,116) |
| Other comprehensive income before reclassifications, net of tax              | (1,044)                                      |                                                                             | 27,427                       | 26,383       |
| Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income, net of tax | 350                                          | 199                                                                         |                              | 549          |
| Net current-period other comprehensive income                                | (694)                                        | 199                                                                         | 27,427                       | 26,932       |
| Ending balance                                                               | \$ (5,474)                                   | \$ (3,628)                                                                  | \$ (175,082)                 | \$ (184,184) |

- (1) Losses on cash flow hedges have been reclassified into interest expense in the accompanying condensed consolidated statements of operations. The tax effect of \$0.1 million is included in income tax expense.

**9. Income Taxes**

The Company provides for income taxes at the end of each interim period based on the estimated effective tax rate for the full fiscal year. Cumulative adjustments to the Company's estimate are recorded in the interim period in which a change in the estimated annual effective rate is determined. As described in note 1, the Company began operating as a REIT for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2012. As a REIT, the Company will continue to be subject to income taxes on the income of its TRSs. Under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the Company may deduct amounts distributed to stockholders against the income generated in its QRSs. Additionally, the Company is able to offset income in both its TRSs and QRSs by utilizing its net operating losses.

The Company provides valuation allowances if, based on the available evidence, it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. Management assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate if sufficient future taxable income will be generated to use the existing deferred tax assets.

As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits that would impact the effective tax rate, if recognized, was approximately \$34.1 million and \$30.6 million, respectively. The increase in the amount of unrecognized tax benefits during the

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three months ended March 31, 2013 is primarily attributable to the additions to the Company's existing tax positions and fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. The Company expects the unrecognized tax benefits to change over the next 12 months if certain tax matters ultimately settle with the applicable taxing jurisdiction during this timeframe, as described in note 13

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to the Company's consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012. The impact of the amount of such changes to previously recorded uncertain tax positions could range from zero to \$1.3 million.

The Company recorded penalties and tax-related interest expense during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 of \$1.4 million. As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the total amount of accrued income tax-related interest and penalties included in other non-current liabilities in the condensed consolidated balance sheets was \$30.8 million and \$28.7 million, respectively.

**10. Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company recognized stock-based compensation expense during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 of \$21.0 million and \$13.0 million, respectively. The Company capitalized \$0.4 million and \$0.6 million of stock-based compensation expense as property and equipment during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively.

*Summary of Stock-Based Compensation Plans* The Company maintains equity incentive plans that provide for the grant of stock-based awards to its directors, officers and employees. The 2007 Equity Incentive Plan ( 2007 Plan ) provides for the grant of non-qualified and incentive stock options, as well as restricted stock units, restricted stock and other stock-based awards. Exercise prices in the case of non-qualified and incentive stock options are not less than the fair value of the underlying common stock on the date of grant. Equity awards typically vest ratably over various periods, generally four years, and generally expire ten years from the date of grant. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had the ability to grant stock-based awards with respect to an aggregate of 16.6 million shares of common stock under the 2007 Plan.

Effective January 1, 2013, the Company's Compensation Committee adopted a death, disability and retirement benefits program in connection with equity awards that provides for the amendment of stock options and restricted stock units granted on or after January 1, 2013, to accelerate vesting and to extend exercise periods upon an employee's death or permanent disability, or upon an employee's qualified retirement provided certain eligibility criteria are met. Accordingly, for grants made after January 1, 2013, the Company will recognize compensation expense for all stock-based compensation over the shorter of (i) the four-year vesting period or (ii) the period from the date of grant to the date the employee becomes eligible for such retirement benefits, which may occur upon grant. Due to the accelerated recognition of stock-based compensation expense related to awards granted to retirement eligible employees, the Company recognized an additional \$6.7 million of stock-based compensation expense during the three months ended March 31, 2013.

*Stock Options* The following table summarizes the Company's option activity for the three months ended March 31, 2013:

|                                   | <b>Number of<br/>Options</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Outstanding as of January 1, 2013 | 5,829,945                    |
| Granted                           | 1,338,360                    |
| Exercised                         | (149,926)                    |
| Forfeited                         |                              |
| Expired                           |                              |
| Outstanding as of March 31, 2013  | 7,018,379                    |

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The Company estimates the fair value of each option grant on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes pricing model. The following assumptions were used to determine the grant date fair value for options granted during the three months ended March 31, 2013:

|                                                                |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Range of risk-free interest rate                               | 0.75% - 0.90%   |
| Weighted average risk-free interest rate                       | 0.90%           |
| Expected life of option grants                                 | 4.4 years       |
| Range of expected volatility of underlying stock price         | 33.83% - 36.09% |
| Weighted average expected volatility of underlying stock price | 33.84%          |
| Expected annual dividends                                      | 1.50%           |

The weighted average grant date fair value per share during the three months ended March 31, 2013 was \$19.31. As of March 31, 2013, total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested stock options was \$49.2 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately three years.

*Restricted Stock Units* The following table summarizes the Company's restricted stock unit activity during the three months ended March 31, 2013:

|                                   | <b>Number of<br/>Units</b> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Outstanding as of January 1, 2013 | 1,968,553                  |
| Granted                           | 774,020                    |
| Vested                            | (753,915)                  |
| Forfeited                         | (24,932)                   |
| Outstanding as of March 31, 2013  | 1,963,726                  |

As of March 31, 2013, total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested restricted stock units granted under the 2007 Plan was \$109.4 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted average period of approximately three years. Distributions accrue with each unvested restricted stock unit award granted subsequent to January 1, 2012.

**11. Equity**

*Stock Repurchase Program* In March 2011, the Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program, pursuant to which the Company is authorized to purchase up to \$1.5 billion of its common stock ( 2011 Buyback ).

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company repurchased 164,120 shares of its common stock for an aggregate of \$12.5 million, including commissions and fees, pursuant to the 2011 Buyback. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had repurchased a total of approximately 4.5 million shares of its common stock under the 2011 Buyback for an aggregate of \$256.4 million, including commissions and fees.

Between April 1, 2013 and April 19, 2013, the Company repurchased an additional 205,814 shares of its common stock for an aggregate of \$16.1 million, including commissions and fees, pursuant to the 2011 Buyback. As of April 19, 2013, the Company had repurchased a total of approximately 4.7 million shares of its common stock under the 2011 Buyback for an aggregate of \$272.5 million, including commissions and fees.

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Under the 2011 Buyback, the Company is authorized to purchase shares from time to time through open market purchases or privately negotiated transactions at prevailing prices in accordance with securities laws and other legal requirements, and subject to market conditions and other factors. To facilitate repurchases, the

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Company makes purchases pursuant to trading plans under Rule 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which allows the Company to repurchase shares during periods when it otherwise might be prevented from doing so under insider trading laws or because of self-imposed trading blackout periods.

The Company continues to manage the pacing of the remaining \$1.2 billion under the 2011 Buyback in response to general market conditions and other relevant factors. In the near term, the Company expects to fund any further repurchases of its common stock through a combination of cash on hand, cash generated by operations and borrowings under its credit facilities. Purchases under the 2011 Buyback are subject to the Company having available cash to fund repurchases.

*Distributions* On March 12, 2013, the Company declared a cash distribution of \$0.26 per share and on April 25, 2013 paid a total of approximately \$102.8 million to stockholders of record at the close of business on April 10, 2013.

The Company accrues distributions on unvested restricted stock unit awards granted subsequent to January 1, 2012, which are payable upon vesting. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had accrued \$0.5 million of distributions payable upon the vesting of restricted stock units.

To maintain its REIT status, the Company expects to continue paying regular distributions, the amount, timing and frequency of which will be determined and be subject to adjustment by the Company's Board of Directors.

**12. Earnings per Common Share**

Basic income from continuing operations per common share represents income from continuing operations attributable to American Tower Corporation divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted income from continuing operations per common share represents income from continuing operations attributable to American Tower Corporation divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period and any dilutive common share equivalents, including unvested restricted stock, shares issuable upon exercise of stock options as determined under the treasury stock method and upon conversion of the Company's convertible notes, as determined under the if-converted method. Dilutive common share equivalents also include the dilutive impact of the Verizon transaction (see note 13).

The following table sets forth basic and diluted income from continuing operations per common share computational data for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 (in thousands, except per share data):

|                                                                                                       | <b>Three Months Ended<br/>March 31,</b> |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
|                                                                                                       | <b>2013</b>                             | <b>2012</b> |
| Income from continuing operations attributable to American Tower Corporation                          | \$ 171,407                              | \$ 221,306  |
| Basic weighted average common shares outstanding                                                      | 395,239                                 | 393,885     |
| Dilutive securities                                                                                   | 4,420                                   | 4,568       |
| Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding                                                    | 399,659                                 | 398,453     |
| Basic income from continuing operations attributable to American Tower Corporation per common share   | \$ 0.43                                 | \$ 0.56     |
| Diluted income from continuing operations attributable to American Tower Corporation per common share | \$ 0.43                                 | \$ 0.56     |



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For the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, the diluted weighted average number of common shares outstanding excluded shares issuable upon exercise of the Company's stock options and share based awards of 0.4 million and 1.3 million, respectively, as the effect would be anti-dilutive.

**13. Commitments and Contingencies**

*Litigation*

The Company periodically becomes involved in various claims, lawsuits and proceedings that are incidental to its business. In the opinion of Company management, after consultation with counsel, there are no matters currently pending that would, in the event of an adverse outcome, materially impact the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity.

*Commitments*

*AT&T Transaction* The Company has an agreement with SBC Communications Inc., a predecessor entity to AT&T Inc. ( AT&T ), for the lease or sublease of approximately 2,450 towers from AT&T commencing between December 2000 and August 2004. All of the towers are part of the Securitization. The average term of the lease or sublease for all sites at the inception of the agreement was approximately 27 years, assuming renewals or extensions of the underlying ground leases for the sites. The Company has the option to purchase the sites subject to the applicable lease or sublease upon its expiration. Each tower is assigned to an annual tranche, ranging from 2013 to 2032, which represents the outside expiration date for the sublease rights to that tower. The purchase price for each site is a fixed amount stated in the sublease for that site plus the fair market value of certain alterations made to the related tower by AT&T. The aggregate purchase option price for the towers leased and subleased was approximately \$558.0 million as of March 31, 2013, and will accrete at a rate of 10% per year to the applicable expiration of the lease or sublease of a site. For all such sites purchased by the Company prior to June 30, 2020, AT&T will continue to lease the reserved space at the then-current monthly fee which shall escalate in accordance with the standard master lease agreement for the remainder of AT&T's tenancy. Thereafter, AT&T shall have the right to renew such lease for up to four successive five-year terms. For all such sites purchased by the Company subsequent to June 30, 2020, AT&T has the right to continue to lease the reserved space for successive one-year terms at a rent equal to the lesser of the agreed upon market rate and the then current monthly fee, which is subject to an annual increase based on changes in the Consumer Price Index.

*Verizon Transaction* In December 2000, the Company entered into an agreement with ALLTEL, a predecessor entity to Verizon Wireless ( Verizon ) to acquire towers through a 15-year sublease agreement. Pursuant to the agreement with Verizon, as amended, the Company acquired rights to a total of approximately 1,800 towers in tranches between April 2001 and March 2002. The Company has the option to purchase each tower at the expiration of the applicable sublease, which will occur in tranches between April 2016 and March 2017 based on the original closing date for such tranche of towers. The purchase price per tower as of the original closing date was \$27,500 and will accrete at a rate of 3% per annum through the expiration of the applicable sublease. The aggregate purchase option price for the subleased towers was approximately \$69.6 million as of March 31, 2013. At Verizon's option, at the expiration of the sublease, the purchase price would be payable in cash or with 769 shares of the Company's common stock per tower, which at March 31, 2013 would be valued at approximately \$105.1 million.

*Other Contingencies* The Company is subject to income tax and other taxes in the geographic areas where it operates, and periodically receives notifications of audits, assessments or other actions by taxing authorities. The Company evaluates the circumstances of each notification based on the information available, and records a liability for any potential outcome that is probable or more likely than not unfavorable, if the

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liability is also reasonably estimable. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company received notices from the Indian tax authorities of their intent to challenge the transfer pricing related to taxes arising out of transactions of Essar Telecom Infrastructure Private Limited ( ETIPL ) in 2008, prior to the Company's acquisition of ETIPL in August 2010. Pursuant to the Company's definitive acquisition agreement, the seller is obligated to indemnify and defend the Company with respect to any tax-related liability that may arise from activities prior to March 31, 2010. Since no formal assessment has been issued and the Company believes ETIPL's tax position will be sustained upon examination, the Company has not recorded a liability related to this notification.

**14. Acquisitions**

All of the acquisitions described below are being accounted for as business combinations and are consistent with the Company's strategy to expand in selected geographic areas.

The estimates of the fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed at the date of the applicable acquisition are subject to adjustment during the measurement period (up to one year from the particular acquisition date). The primary areas of the preliminary purchase price allocations that are not yet finalized relate to the fair value of certain tangible and intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed, including contingent consideration, and residual goodwill and any related tax impact. The fair values of these net assets acquired are based on management's estimates and assumptions, as well as other information compiled by management, including valuations that utilize customary valuation procedures and techniques. During the measurement period, the Company will adjust assets and/or liabilities if new information is obtained about facts and circumstances that existed as of the acquisition date that, if known, would have resulted in the revised estimated values of those assets and/or liabilities as of that date. The effect of measurement period adjustments to the estimated fair values is reflected as if the adjustments had been completed on the acquisition date. The impact of all changes that do not qualify as measurement period adjustments are included in current period earnings. If the actual results differ from the estimates and judgments used in these fair values, the amounts recorded in the condensed consolidated financial statements could be subject to a possible impairment of the intangible assets and/or goodwill, or require acceleration of the amortization expense of intangible assets in subsequent periods. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company made certain purchase accounting measurement period adjustments related to several acquisitions and therefore retrospectively adjusted the fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed in the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2012.

*Impact of current year acquisitions* The Company typically acquires communications sites from wireless carriers or other tower operators and subsequently integrates those sites into its existing portfolio of communications sites. The financial results of the Company's acquisitions have been included in the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations for the quarter ended March 31, 2013 from the date of acquisition. The date of acquisition, and by extension the point at which the Company begins to recognize the results of an acquisition may be dependent upon, among other things, the receipt of contractual consents, the commencement and extent of leasing arrangements and the timing of the transfer of title or rights to the assets, which may be accomplished in phases. For sites acquired from communication service providers, these sites may never have been operated as a business and were utilized solely by the seller as a component of their network infrastructure. An acquisition, depending on its size and nature, may or may not involve the transfer of business operations or employees.

*Brazil Vivo Acquisition* On March 30, 2012, the Company entered into a definitive agreement to purchase up to 1,500 towers from Vivo S.A. ( Vivo ). Pursuant to the agreement, on March 30, 2012, the Company purchased 800 communications sites for an aggregate purchase price of \$151.7 million. On June 30,

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2012, the Company purchased the remaining 700 communications sites for an aggregate purchase price of \$126.3 million, subject to post-closing adjustments. In addition, the Company and Vivo amended the asset purchase agreement to allow for the acquisition of up to an additional 300 communications sites by the Company, subject to regulatory approval. On August 31, 2012, the Company purchased an additional 192 communications sites from Vivo for an aggregate purchase price of \$32.7 million, subject to post-closing adjustments.

The allocation of the purchase price was finalized during the three months ended March 31, 2013. The following table summarizes the allocation of the aggregate purchase price consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | <b>Final Purchase Price<br/>Allocation (1)</b> | <b>Preliminary Purchase Price<br/>Allocation (2)</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Non-current assets                | \$ 22,418                                      | \$ 24,460                                            |
| Property and equipment            | 138,959                                        | 138,959                                              |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 123,995                                        | 117,990                                              |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (18,195)                                       | (18,195)                                             |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 267,177                                     | \$ 263,214                                           |
| Goodwill (4)                      | 43,518                                         | 47,481                                               |

(1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.

(2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

(3) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$83.0 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$41.0 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.

(4) The Company expects that the goodwill recorded will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's international rental and management segment.

**Uganda Acquisition** On December 8, 2011, the Company entered into a definitive agreement with MTN Group to establish a joint venture in Uganda. The joint venture is controlled by a holding company of which a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company holds a 51% interest and a wholly owned subsidiary of MTN Group holds a 49% interest. The joint venture is managed and controlled by the Company and owns a tower operations company in Uganda.

Pursuant to the agreement, the joint venture agreed to purchase a total of up to 1,000 existing communications sites from MTN Group's operating subsidiary in Uganda, subject to customary closing conditions. On June 29, 2012, the joint venture acquired 962 communications sites for an aggregate purchase price of \$171.5 million, subject to post-closing adjustments. During the year ended December 31, 2012, the aggregate purchase price was subsequently increased to \$173.2 million, subject to future post-closing adjustments. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the aggregate purchase price was subsequently decreased to \$169.2 million, subject to future post-closing adjustments.

Under the terms of the purchase agreement, legal title to certain of these communications sites will be transferred upon fulfillment of certain conditions by MTN Group. Prior to the fulfillment of these conditions, the joint venture will operate and maintain control of these communications sites, and accordingly, reflect these sites in the allocation of purchase price and the consolidated operating results.

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The following table summarizes the allocation of the aggregate purchase price consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | Updated Purchase Price<br>Allocation (1) | Preliminary Purchase Price<br>Allocation (2) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Non-current assets                | \$ 2,258                                 | \$ 2,258                                     |
| Property and equipment            | 102,366                                  | 102,366                                      |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 58,910                                   | 63,500                                       |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (7,528)                                  | (7,528)                                      |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 156,006                               | \$ 160,596                                   |
| Goodwill (4)                      | 13,234                                   | 12,564                                       |

- (1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.  
(2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.  
(3) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$32.9 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$26.0 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.  
(4) The Company expects that the goodwill will not be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's international rental and management segment.

*Mexico Telefónica Acquisition* On September 12, 2012, the Company entered into a definitive agreement to purchase up to 348 communications sites from Telefónica's Mexican subsidiary, Pegaso PCS, S.A. de C.V. (Telefónica Mexico). On September 27, 2012 and December 14, 2012, the Company completed the purchase of 279 and 2 communications sites, respectively, for an aggregate purchase price of \$63.5 million (including value added tax of \$8.8 million).

The following table summarizes the allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | Updated Purchase Price<br>Allocation (1) | Preliminary Purchase Price<br>Allocation (2) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Current assets                    | \$ 8,763                                 | \$ 8,763                                     |
| Non-current assets                | 761                                      | 2,332                                        |
| Property and equipment            | 31,601                                   | 26,711                                       |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 21,801                                   | 21,079                                       |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (1,349)                                  | (1,349)                                      |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 61,577                                | \$ 57,536                                    |
| Goodwill (4)                      | 1,957                                    | 5,998                                        |

- (1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.  
(2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

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- (3) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$11.7 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$10.1 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (4) The Company expects that the goodwill will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's international rental and management segment.

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On November 16, 2012, the Company entered into an agreement to purchase up to 198 additional communications sites from Telefónica Mexico. On December 14, 2012 and February 22, 2013, the Company completed the purchase of 188 and 2 communications sites, respectively, for an aggregate purchase price of \$64.9 million (including value added tax of \$8.9 million).

The following table summarizes the allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | <b>Updated Purchase Price<br/>Allocation (1)</b> | <b>Preliminary Purchase Price<br/>Allocation (2)</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Current assets                    | \$ 8,947                                         | \$ 8,852                                             |
| Non-current assets                | 886                                              | 1,524                                                |
| Property and equipment            | 18,290                                           | 17,994                                               |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 36,479                                           | 33,882                                               |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (2,013)                                          | (1,992)                                              |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 62,589                                        | \$ 60,260                                            |
| Goodwill (4)                      | 2,277                                            | 3,919                                                |

- (1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.
- (2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.
- (3) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$33.4 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$3.1 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (4) The Company expects that the goodwill will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's international rental and management segment.

**Mexico Axtel Acquisition** On January 23, 2013, the Company entered into a definitive agreement to purchase communications sites from Axtel, S.A.B. de C.V. (Axtel). Pursuant to the definitive agreement, on January 31, 2013, the Company acquired 883 sites from Axtel for an aggregate purchase price of \$248.5 million, subject to post-closing adjustments and value added tax.

The following table summarizes the preliminary allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | <b>Preliminary Purchase Price<br/>Allocation</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Non-current assets                | \$ 5,701                                         |
| Property and equipment            | 73,476                                           |
| Intangible assets (1)             | 164,064                                          |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (9,377)                                          |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 233,864                                       |
| Goodwill (2)                      | 14,659                                           |

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- (1) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$118.7 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$45.4 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (2) The Company expects that the goodwill will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's international rental and management segment.

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**Skyway Acquisition** On December 20, 2012, the Company acquired an entity holding a portfolio of 318 communications sites from Skyway Towers Holdings, LLC ( Skyway ) for an aggregate purchase price of \$169.6 million, including cash paid of approximately \$169.5 million and net liabilities assumed of approximately \$0.1 million. The aggregate purchase price was subsequently decreased to \$166.7 million, including cash paid of approximately \$166.6 million and net liabilities assumed of approximately \$0.1 million, as the Company returned 11 communications sites to Skyway pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

The following table summarizes the preliminary allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | Updated Purchase Price<br>Allocation (1) | Preliminary Purchase Price<br>Allocation (2) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Current assets                    | \$ 740                                   | \$ 740                                       |
| Property and equipment            | 59,598                                   | 60,671                                       |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 85,200                                   | 83,700                                       |
| Current liabilities               | (1,067)                                  | (454)                                        |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (3,244)                                  | (3,333)                                      |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 141,227                               | \$ 141,324                                   |
| Goodwill (4)                      | 25,440                                   | 28,224                                       |

- (1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.
- (2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.
- (3) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$64.7 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$20.5 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (4) The Company expects that the goodwill recorded will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's domestic rental and management segment.

**Diamond Acquisition** On December 28, 2012, the Company acquired Diamond Communications Trust and its subsidiary New Towers LLC, which hold a portfolio of 316 communications sites and 24 property interests under third-party communications sites, for an aggregate purchase price of \$322.5 million, including cash paid of \$320.1 million and net liabilities assumed of \$2.4 million.

The following table summarizes the preliminary allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                   | Updated Purchase Price<br>Allocation (1) | Preliminary Purchase Price<br>Allocation (2) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Current assets                    | \$ 842                                   | \$ 842                                       |
| Property and equipment            | 72,447                                   | 69,045                                       |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 216,200                                  | 199,700                                      |
| Current liabilities               | (3,216)                                  | (3,216)                                      |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (3,423)                                  | (3,423)                                      |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 282,850                               | \$ 262,948                                   |

|              |        |        |
|--------------|--------|--------|
| Goodwill (4) | 37,276 | 57,178 |
|--------------|--------|--------|

(1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.

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- (2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.
- (3) Consists of customer-related intangibles of approximately \$184.2 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$32.0 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (4) The Company expects that the goodwill recorded will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's domestic rental and management segment.

*Colombia Colombia Movil Acquisition* On July 17, 2011, the Company entered into a definitive agreement with Colombia Movil S.A. E.S.P. (Colombia Movil), whereby ATC Sitios Infraco, S.A.S., a Colombian subsidiary of the Company (ATC Infraco), would purchase up to 2,126 communications sites from Colombia Movil for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$182.0 million.

On February 1, 2013, ATC Infraco purchased 13 communications sites for an aggregate purchase price of \$1.3 million (including contingent consideration of \$0.2 million), subject to post-closing adjustments. Through a subsidiary, Millicom International Cellular S.A. (Millicom) exercised its option to acquire an indirect, substantial noncontrolling interest in ATC Infraco.

The following table summarizes the preliminary allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon their estimated fair value at the date of acquisition (in thousands):

|                                       | <b>Preliminary Purchase Price<br/>Allocation</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Property and equipment                | \$ 1,098                                         |
| Intangible assets (1)                 | 247                                              |
| Other non-current liabilities         | (195)                                            |
| <br>Fair value of net assets acquired | <br>\$ 1,150                                     |
| <br>Goodwill (2)                      | <br>112                                          |

- (1) Consists of customer-related intangibles of less than \$0.1 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$0.2 million. The customer-related intangibles and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (2) The Company expects that the goodwill will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's international rental and management segment.

As of March 31, 2013, the Company had acquired a total of 1,539 communications sites under the agreement. Under the terms of the agreement, the Company is required to make additional payments upon the conversion of certain barter agreements with other wireless carriers to cash paying lease agreements. Based on the Company's current estimates, the value of potential contingent consideration payments required to be made under the amended agreement is expected to be between zero and \$31.9 million and is estimated to be \$17.4 million using a probability weighted average of the expected outcomes at March 31, 2013. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, the Company recorded an increase in fair value of \$0.5 million in other operating expenses in the condensed consolidated statements of operations.

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*Prior Year U.S. Acquisitions* The following table summarizes the allocation of the aggregate purchase consideration paid and the amounts of assets acquired and liabilities assumed based upon the estimated fair value at the acquisition date for acquisitions which closed during the year ended December 31, 2012 (in thousands):

|                                   | Updated Purchase Price<br>Allocation (1) | Preliminary Purchase Price<br>Allocation (2) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Non-current assets                | \$ 153                                   | \$ 153                                       |
| Property and equipment            | 61,195                                   | 61,995                                       |
| Intangible assets (3)             | 77,399                                   | 78,199                                       |
| Other non-current liabilities     | (1,310)                                  | (1,310)                                      |
| Fair value of net assets acquired | \$ 137,437                               | \$ 139,037                                   |
| Goodwill (4)                      | 8,724                                    | 7,124                                        |

- (1) Reflected in the condensed consolidated balance sheets herein.
- (2) Reflected in the consolidated balance sheets in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.
- (3) Consists of customer relationships of approximately \$61.3 million and network location intangibles of approximately \$16.1 million. The customer relationships and network location intangibles are being amortized on a straight-line basis over periods of up to 20 years.
- (4) The Company expects that the goodwill recorded will be deductible for tax purposes. The goodwill was allocated to the Company's domestic rental and management segment.

**15. Business Segments**

The Company operates in three business segments: domestic rental and management, international rental and management and network development services. The Company's primary business is leasing antenna space on multi-tenant communications sites to wireless service providers, radio and television broadcast companies, wireless data providers, government agencies and municipalities and tenants in a number of other industries. This business is referred to as the Company's rental and management operations and is comprised of domestic and international segments:

Domestic: consisting of rental and management operations in the United States; and

International: consisting of rental and management operations in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Germany, Ghana, India, Mexico, Peru, South Africa and Uganda.

The Company has applied the aggregation criteria to operations within the international rental and management operating segments on a basis consistent with management's review of information and performance evaluation.

The Company's network development services segment offers tower-related services in the United States, including site acquisition, zoning and permitting services and structural analysis services, which primarily support its site leasing business and the addition of new tenants and equipment on its sites. The network development services segment is a strategic business unit that offers different services from the rental and management operating segments and requires different resources, skill sets and marketing strategies.

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The accounting policies applied in compiling segment information below are similar to those described in note 1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012. Among other factors, in evaluating financial performance in each business segment, management uses segment gross margin

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**AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Unaudited**

and segment operating profit. The Company defines segment gross margin as segment revenue less segment operating expenses excluding stock-based compensation expense recorded in costs of operations; depreciation, amortization and accretion; selling, general, administrative and development expense; and other operating expenses. The Company defines segment operating profit as segment gross margin less selling, general, administrative and development expense attributable to the segment, excluding stock-based compensation expense and corporate expenses. For reporting purposes, the international rental and management segment operating profit and segment gross margin also include interest income, TV Azteca, net. These measures of segment gross margin and segment operating profit are also before interest income, interest expense, loss on retirement of long-term obligations, other income (expense), net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest, income (loss) on equity method investments and income taxes. The categories of expenses indicated above, such as depreciation, have been excluded from segment operating performance as they are not considered in the review of information or the evaluation of results by management. There are no significant revenues resulting from transactions between the Company's operating segments. All intercompany transactions are eliminated to reconcile segment results and assets to the condensed consolidated statements of operations and condensed consolidated balance sheets.

Summarized financial information concerning the Company's reportable segments for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 is shown in the following tables. The Other column represents amounts excluded from specific segments, such as business development operations, stock-based compensation expense and corporate expenses included in selling, general, administrative and development expense; other operating expense; interest income; interest expense; loss on retirement of long-term obligations; and other income (expense), as well as reconciles segment operating profit to income from continuing operations before income taxes and income on equity method investments, as these amounts are not utilized in assessing each segment's performance.

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Unaudited**

| Three months ended March 31, 2013                                                             | Rental and Management |               | Total Rental and Management<br>(in thousands) | Network Development Services | Other      | Total         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|---------------|
|                                                                                               | Domestic              | International |                                               |                              |            |               |
| Segment revenues                                                                              | \$ 515,676            | \$ 261,757    | \$ 777,433                                    | \$ 25,295                    |            | \$ 802,728    |
| Segment operating expenses (1)                                                                | 91,833                | 99,216        | 191,049                                       | 10,279                       |            | 201,328       |
| Interest income, TV Azteca, net                                                               |                       | 3,543         | 3,543                                         |                              |            | 3,543         |
| Segment gross margin                                                                          | 423,843               | 166,084       | 589,927                                       | 15,016                       |            | 604,943       |
| Segment selling, general, administrative and development expense (1)                          | 22,898                | 29,535        | 52,433                                        | 2,901                        |            | 55,334        |
| Segment operating profit                                                                      | \$ 400,945            | \$ 136,549    | \$ 537,494                                    | \$ 12,115                    |            | \$ 549,609    |
| Stock-based compensation expense                                                              |                       |               |                                               |                              | \$ 21,042  | 21,042        |
| Other selling, general, administrative and development expense                                |                       |               |                                               |                              | 25,215     | 25,215        |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion                                                      |                       |               |                                               |                              | 185,804    | 185,804       |
| Other expense (principally interest expense and other (expense) income)                       |                       |               |                                               |                              | 137,378    | 137,378       |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes and income on equity method investments |                       |               |                                               |                              |            | \$ 180,170    |
| Total assets                                                                                  | \$ 8,477,955          | \$ 5,564,160  | \$ 14,042,115                                 | \$ 66,857                    | \$ 354,768 | \$ 14,463,740 |

- (1) Segment operating expenses and segment selling, general, administrative and development expenses exclude stock-based compensation expense of \$0.4 million and \$20.6 million, respectively.

**Table of Contents****AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Unaudited**

| Three months ended March 31, 2012                                                             | Rental and Management |               | Total Rental and Management<br>(in thousands) | Network Development Services | Other     | Total      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|
|                                                                                               | Domestic              | International |                                               |                              |           |            |
| Segment revenues                                                                              | \$ 487,062            | \$ 196,928    | \$ 683,990                                    | \$ 12,527                    |           | \$ 696,517 |
| Segment operating expenses (1)                                                                | 93,003                | 70,524        | 163,527                                       | 6,997                        |           | 170,524    |
| Interest income, TV Azteca, net                                                               |                       | 3,543         | 3,543                                         |                              |           | 3,543      |
| Segment gross margin                                                                          | 394,059               | 129,947       | 524,006                                       | 5,530                        |           | 529,536    |
| Segment selling, general, administrative and development expense (1)                          | 19,400                | 23,895        | 43,295                                        | 358                          |           | 43,653     |
| Segment operating profit                                                                      | \$ 374,659            | \$ 106,052    | \$ 480,711                                    | \$ 5,172                     |           | \$ 485,883 |
| Stock-based compensation expense                                                              |                       |               |                                               |                              | \$ 13,045 | 13,045     |
| Other selling, general, administrative and development expense                                |                       |               |                                               |                              | 23,347    | 23,347     |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion                                                      |                       |               |                                               |                              | 149,655   | 149,655    |
| Other expense (principally interest expense and other (expense) income)                       |                       |               |                                               |                              | 62,248    | 62,248     |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes and income on equity method investments |                       |               |                                               |                              |           | \$ 237,588 |

- (1) Segment operating expenses and segment selling, general, administrative and development expenses exclude stock-based compensation expense of \$0.5 million and \$12.6 million, respectively.

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### **ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements relating to our goals, beliefs, plans or current expectations and other statements that are not of historical facts. For example, when we use words such as project, believe, anticipate, expect, forecast, estimate, intend, should, would, could or may, or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes, we are making forward-looking statements. Certain important factors may cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by our forward-looking statements, including those set forth under the caption Risk Factors in Part II, Item 1A. of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Forward-looking statements represent management's current expectations and are inherently uncertain. We do not undertake any obligation to update forward-looking statements made by us.*

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations that follow are based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ( GAAP ). The preparation of our financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of our financial statements. Actual results may differ significantly from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. This discussion should be read in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements herein and the accompanying notes thereto, information set forth under the caption Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, and in particular, the information set forth therein under Item 7. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.

#### **Overview**

We are a leading independent owner, operator and developer of wireless and broadcast communications real estate. Our primary business is leasing antenna space on multi-tenant communications sites to wireless service providers, radio and television broadcast companies, wireless data providers, government agencies and municipalities and tenants in a number of other industries. We refer to this business as our rental and management operations, which accounted for approximately 97% of our total revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2013. We also offer tower-related services domestically, including site acquisition, zoning and permitting services and structural analysis services, which primarily support our site leasing business and the addition of new tenants and equipment on our sites. Effective January 1, 2012, we reorganized to qualify as a real estate investment trust for federal income tax purposes ( REIT, and the reorganization, the REIT Conversion ).

Our communications real estate portfolio of 55,966 sites, as of March 31, 2013, includes wireless and broadcast communications towers and distributed antenna system ( DAS ) networks, which provide seamless coverage solutions in certain in-building and outdoor wireless environments. Our portfolio primarily consists of towers that we own and towers that we operate pursuant to long-term lease arrangements, including, as of March 31, 2013, 22,599 towers domestically and 33,074 towers internationally. Our portfolio also includes 293 DAS networks. In addition to the communications sites in our portfolio, we manage rooftop and tower sites for property owners under various contractual arrangements. We also hold property interests that we lease to communications service providers and third-party tower operators.

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The following table details the number of communications sites we own or operate as of March 31, 2013:

| Country        | Number of<br>Owned<br>Sites | Number of<br>Operated<br>Sites (1) |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| United States  | 16,446                      | 6,421                              |
| International: |                             |                                    |
| Brazil         | 4,223                       | 155                                |
| Chile          | 1,184                       |                                    |
| Colombia       | 2,335                       | 706                                |
| Germany        | 2,031                       |                                    |
| Ghana          | 1,934                       |                                    |
| India          | 10,690                      |                                    |
| Mexico         | 6,478                       | 199                                |
| Peru           | 499                         |                                    |
| South Africa   | 1,621                       |                                    |
| Uganda         | 1,044                       |                                    |

(1) All of the sites we operate are held pursuant to long-term capital leases, including those subject to purchase options. Our continuing operations are reported in three segments, domestic rental and management, international rental and management and network development services. Among other factors, management uses segment gross margin and segment operating profit in its assessment of operating performance in each business segment. We define segment gross margin as segment revenue less segment operating expenses, excluding stock-based compensation expense recorded in costs of operations; depreciation, amortization and accretion; selling, general, administrative and development expense; and other operating expense. We define segment operating profit as segment gross margin less selling, general, administrative and development expense attributable to the segment, excluding stock-based compensation expense and corporate expenses. Segment gross margin and segment operating profit for the international rental and management segment also include interest income, TV Azteca, net (see note 15 to our condensed consolidated financial statements included herein). These measures of segment gross margin and segment operating profit are also before interest income, interest expense, loss on retirement of long-term obligations, other income (expense), net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interest, income (loss) on equity method investments and income taxes.

In the section that follows, we provide information regarding management's expectations of long-term drivers of demand for our communications sites, as well as our current quarter-to-date results of operations, financial position and sources and uses of liquidity. In addition, we highlight key trends, which management believes provide valuable insight into our operating and financial resource allocation decisions.

**Revenue Growth.** Our rental and management segments operate approximately 56,000 communications sites. Due to our diversified communications site portfolio, our tenant lease rates vary considerably depending upon numerous factors, including but not limited to, tower location, amount and type of tenant equipment on the tower, ground space required by the tenant and remaining tower capacity. We measure the remaining tower capacity by assessing several factors, including tower height, tower type, environmental conditions, existing equipment on the tower and zoning and permitting regulations in effect in the jurisdiction where the tower is located. In many instances, tower capacity can be increased through tower augmentation.

The primary sources of revenue growth for our domestic and international rental and management segments are:

Recurring revenues from tenant leases generated from sites which existed in our portfolio as of the beginning of the prior year period ( legacy sites );

Contractual rent escalations on existing tenant leases, net of cancellations;



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New revenue generated from leasing additional space on our legacy sites; and

New revenue generated from sites acquired or constructed since the beginning of the prior year period ( new sites ). The majority of our tenant leases with wireless carriers are typically for an initial non-cancellable term of five to ten years, with multiple five-year renewal terms thereafter. Accordingly, nearly all of the revenue generated by our rental and management operations during the three months ended March 31, 2013 is recurring revenue that we should continue to receive in future periods. Based upon foreign currency exchange rates and the tenant leases in place as of March 31, 2013, we expect to generate approximately \$21 billion of non-cancellable tenant lease revenue over future periods, absent the impact of straight-line lease accounting. In addition, most of our tenant leases have provisions that periodically increase the rent due under the lease, typically annually based on a fixed percentage (on average approximately 3.5% in the U.S.), inflation or inflation with a fixed minimum or maximum escalation for the year. Revenue lost from either cancellations of leases at the end of their terms or rent negotiations historically have not had a material adverse effect on the revenues generated by our rental and management operations. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, loss of revenue from tenant lease cancellations or renegotiations represented approximately 1.4% of the total revenue of our rental and management segments.

*Demand Drivers.* We continue to believe that our site leasing revenue is likely to increase due to the growing use of wireless communications services and our ability to meet that demand by adding new tenants and new equipment for existing tenants on our legacy sites, which increases the utilization and profitability of our sites. In addition, we believe the majority of our site leasing activity will continue to come from wireless service providers. Our legacy site portfolio and our established tenant base provide us with new business opportunities, which have historically resulted in consistent and predictable organic revenue growth as wireless carriers seek to increase the coverage and capacity of their networks as well as roll out next generation wireless technologies. In addition, we intend to continue to supplement the organic growth on our legacy sites by selectively developing or acquiring new sites in our existing and new markets where we can achieve our risk adjusted return on investment criteria.

According to industry data, we believe the following key trends will provide opportunities for organic growth in our domestic rental and management segment:

The deployment of advanced wireless technology across existing wireless networks will provide higher speed data services and enable fixed broadband substitution. As a result, our tenants continue to deploy additional equipment across their existing networks.

Wireless service providers compete based on the overall capacity and coverage of their existing wireless networks. To maintain or improve their network performance as overall network usage increases, our tenants continue to deploy additional equipment across their existing sites and also add new cell sites.

Wireless service providers are investing in reinforcing their networks through incremental backhaul and the utilization of on-site generators, which results in additional space and/or equipment leased at the tower site.

Wireless service providers continue to acquire additional spectrum, and as a result, are expected to add additional equipment to their network as they seek to optimize their network configuration.

According to industry data, we believe the following key trends will provide opportunities for organic growth in our international rental and management segment:

In India, nationwide voice networks continue to be deployed as wireless service providers are beginning their initial investments in wireless data networks.

In Ghana and Uganda, wireless service providers continue to build their voice and data networks to satisfy increasing demand for wireless service.

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In South Africa, carriers are beginning to deploy wireless data networks utilizing spectrum acquired through recent auctions.

In Mexico and Brazil, nationwide voice networks have been deployed and certain incumbent wireless service providers continue to invest in their wireless data networks. Recent spectrum auctions in both markets have enabled other incumbent wireless service providers and new market entrants to begin initial investments in wireless data networks.

In markets such as Chile, Colombia and Peru, recent or anticipated spectrum auctions are expected to drive investment in nationwide voice and wireless data networks.

In Germany, our most mature international wireless market, demand is currently being driven by a government-mandated rural LTE network build-out, as well as other tenant initiatives to deploy next generation wireless services.

**Direct Operating Expenses.** Direct operating expenses incurred by our domestic and international rental and management segments include direct site level expenses and consist primarily of ground rent, property taxes, repairs and maintenance, security and power and fuel costs, some of which may be passed through to our tenants. These segment direct operating expenses exclude all segment and corporate selling, general, administrative and development expenses, which are aggregated into one line item entitled selling, general, administrative and development expense in our condensed consolidated statements of operations. In general, our domestic and international rental and management segments selling, general, administrative and development expenses do not significantly increase as a result of adding incremental tenants to our legacy sites and typically increase only modestly year-over-year. As a result, leasing additional space to new tenants on our legacy sites provides significant incremental cash flow. We may incur additional segment selling, general, administrative and development expenses as we increase our presence in geographic areas where we have recently launched operations or are focused on expanding our portfolio. Our profit margin growth is therefore positively impacted by the addition of new tenants to our legacy sites and can be temporarily diluted by our development activities.

As we continue to focus on growing our rental and management operations, we anticipate that our network development services revenue will continue to represent a small percentage of our total revenues. Through our network development services segment, we offer tower-related services, including site acquisition, zoning and permitting services and structural analysis services, which primarily support our site leasing business and the addition of new tenants and equipment on our sites.

**REIT Conversion.** We began operating as a REIT effective January 1, 2012. The REIT tax rules require that we derive most of our income, other than income generated by a taxable REIT subsidiary ( TRS ), from investments in real estate, which for us primarily consists of income from the leasing of our communications sites. Under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code ), maintaining REIT status generally requires that no more than 25% of the value of the REIT's assets be represented by securities of one or more TRSs and other non-qualifying assets.

A REIT must annually distribute to its stockholders an amount equal to at least 90% of its REIT taxable income (determined before the deduction for distributed earnings and excluding any net capital gain). On April 25, 2013, we made a regular distribution of \$0.26 per share, or a total of approximately \$102.8 million, to our stockholders of record at the close of business on April 10, 2013. The amount, timing and frequency of future distributions will be at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors and will be declared based upon various factors, a number of which may be beyond our control, including our financial condition and operating cash flows, the amount required to maintain REIT status and reduce any income and excise taxes that we otherwise would be required to pay, limitations on distributions in our existing and future debt instruments, our ability to utilize net operating losses ( NOLs ) to offset, in whole or in part, our distribution requirements, limitations on our ability to fund distributions using cash generated through our TRSs and other factors that our Board of Directors may deem relevant.

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For more information on the requirements to qualify as a REIT, see Item 1 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 under the caption Business Overview, and Item 1A of this Quarterly Report under the caption Risk Factors.

### **Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

Included in our analysis of our results of operations are discussions regarding earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization and accretion, as adjusted ( Adjusted EBITDA ), Funds From Operations, as defined by the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts ( NAREIT FFO ) and Adjusted Funds From Operations ( AFFO ).

We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income before income (loss) on discontinued operations, net; income (loss) from equity method investments; income tax provision (benefit); other income (expense); loss on retirement of long-term obligations; interest expense; interest income; other operating expenses; depreciation, amortization and accretion; and stock-based compensation expense.

NAREIT FFO is defined as net income before gains or losses from the sale or disposal of real estate, real estate related impairment charges and real estate related depreciation, amortization and accretion, and including adjustments for (i) unconsolidated affiliates and (ii) noncontrolling interest.

We define AFFO as NAREIT FFO before (i) straight-line revenue and expense; (ii) stock-based compensation expense; (iii) the non-cash portion of our tax provision; (iv) non-real estate related depreciation, amortization and accretion; (v) amortization of deferred financing costs, capitalized interest and debt discounts and premiums; (vi) other (income) expense; (vii) loss on retirement of long-term obligations; (viii) other operating (income) expense; (ix) unconsolidated affiliates; and (x) noncontrolling interest, less cash payments related to capital improvements and cash payments related to corporate capital expenditures.

Adjusted EBITDA, NAREIT FFO and AFFO are not intended to replace net income or any other performance measures determined in accordance with GAAP. Neither NAREIT FFO nor AFFO represent cash flows from operating activities in accordance with GAAP and therefore these measures should not be considered indicative of cash flows from operating activities as a measure of liquidity or of funds available to fund our cash needs, including our ability to make cash distributions. Rather, Adjusted EBITDA, NAREIT FFO and AFFO are presented as we believe each is a useful indicator of our current operating performance. We believe that these metrics are useful to an investor in evaluating our operating performance because (1) each is a key measure used by our management team for purposes of decision making and for evaluating the performance of our operating segments; (2) Adjusted EBITDA is a component of the calculation used by our lenders to determine compliance with certain debt covenants; (3) Adjusted EBITDA is widely used in the tower industry to measure operating performance as depreciation, amortization and accretion may vary significantly among companies depending upon accounting methods and useful lives, particularly where acquisitions and non-operating factors are involved; (4) each provides investors with a meaningful measure for evaluating our period to period operating performance by eliminating items which are not operational in nature; and (5) each provides investors with a measure for comparing our results of operations to those of different companies.

Our measurement of Adjusted EBITDA, NAREIT FFO and AFFO may not be comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. Reconciliations of Adjusted EBITDA, NAREIT FFO and AFFO to net income, the most directly comparable GAAP measure, have been included below.

**Table of Contents****Results of Operations****Three Months Ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 (in thousands, except percentages)***Revenue*

|                              | <b>Three Months Ended<br/>March 31,</b> |             | <b>Amount of</b>               | <b>Percent</b>                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                              | <b>2013</b>                             | <b>2012</b> | <b>Increase<br/>(Decrease)</b> | <b>Increase<br/>(Decrease)</b> |
| Rental and management        |                                         |             |                                |                                |
| Domestic                     | \$ 515,676                              | \$ 487,062  | \$ 28,614                      | 6%                             |
| International                | 261,757                                 | 196,928     | 64,829                         | 33                             |
| Total rental and management  | 777,433                                 | 683,990     | 93,443                         | 14                             |
| Network development services | 25,295                                  | 12,527      | 12,768                         | 102                            |
| Total revenues               | \$ 802,728                              | \$ 696,517  | \$ 106,211                     | 15%                            |

Total revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 15% to \$802.7 million. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in both of our rental and management segments, including organic revenue growth attributable to our legacy sites, and revenue growth attributable to the approximately 10,180 new sites that we have constructed or acquired since January 1, 2012.

Domestic rental and management segment revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 6% to \$515.7 million, which was comprised of:

Revenue growth from legacy sites of approximately 4%, which includes approximately 5% due to incremental revenue primarily generated from new tenant leases and amendments to existing tenant leases on our legacy sites and approximately 2% attributable to contractual rent escalations, net of tenant lease cancellations, partially offset by a negative impact of 3% due to a tenant billing settlement and a lease termination settlement which totaled \$15.6 million during the quarter ended March 31, 2012;

Revenue growth from new sites of approximately 3%, resulting from the construction or acquisition of approximately 1,030 new sites, as well as land interests under third-party sites since January 1, 2012; and

A decrease of less than 1% from the impact of straight-line lease accounting.

International rental and management segment revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 33% to \$261.8 million, which was comprised of:

Revenue growth from new sites of approximately 27%, resulting from the construction or acquisition of approximately 9,150 new sites since January 1, 2012;

Revenue growth from legacy sites of approximately 14%, which includes approximately 11% due to incremental revenue primarily generated from new tenant leases and amendments to existing tenant leases on our legacy sites and approximately 3% attributable to contractual rent escalations, net of tenant lease cancellations; and

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A decline of approximately 8% attributable to the negative impact from foreign currency translation, which includes the negative impact of approximately 4% attributable to fluctuations in Brazilian Reais, approximately 2% due to fluctuations in South African Rand and approximately 2% associated with fluctuations in Indian Rupee.

Network development services segment revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 102% to \$25.3 million. The growth was primarily attributable to an increase in structural engineering services as a result of an increase in tenant lease applications; which are primarily associated with our tenants' next generation technology network upgrades during the three months ended March 31, 2013. In addition, network development services segment revenue increased as a result of additional zoning, permitting and site acquisitions projects for one of our major tenants.

**Table of Contents***Gross Margin*

|                              | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |            | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                              | 2013                            | 2012       |                                     |                                   |
| Rental and management        |                                 |            |                                     |                                   |
| Domestic                     | \$ 423,843                      | \$ 394,059 | \$ 29,784                           | 8%                                |
| International                | 166,084                         | 129,947    | 36,137                              | 28                                |
| Total rental and management  | 589,927                         | 524,006    | 65,921                              | 13                                |
| Network development services | 15,016                          | 5,530      | 9,486                               | 172%                              |

Domestic rental and management segment gross margin for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 8% to \$423.8 million, which was comprised of:

Gross margin growth from legacy sites of approximately 5%, primarily associated with the increase in revenue, as described above, as well as an approximate 6% decrease in expenses primarily attributable to the impacts of straight-line lease accounting and delayed repair and maintenance expense due to inclement weather during the three months ended March 31, 2013; and

Gross margin growth from new sites of approximately 3%, resulting from the construction or acquisition of approximately 1,030 new sites, as well as land interests under third-party sites since January 1, 2012.

International rental and management segment gross margin for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 28% to \$166.1 million, which was comprised of:

Gross margin growth from new sites of approximately 25%, resulting from the construction or acquisition of approximately 9,150 new sites since January 1, 2012;

Gross margin growth from legacy sites of approximately 10%, primarily associated with the increase in revenue, as described above; and

A decline of approximately 7% attributable to the negative impact from foreign currency translation, which includes the negative impact of approximately 4% attributable to fluctuations in Brazilian Reals, approximately 2% due to fluctuations in South African Rand and approximately 1% associated with fluctuations in Indian Rupee.

Network development services segment gross margin for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 172% to \$15.0 million. The increase was primarily attributable to the increase in revenue as described above.

*Selling, General, Administrative and Development Expense*

|                       | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |           | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                       | 2013                            | 2012      |                                     |                                   |
| Rental and management |                                 |           |                                     |                                   |
| Domestic              | \$ 22,898                       | \$ 19,400 | \$ 3,498                            | 18%                               |
| International         | 29,535                          | 23,895    | 5,640                               | 24                                |

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|                                                                |            |           |           |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----|
| Total rental and management                                    | 52,433     | 43,295    | 9,138     | 21  |
| Network development services                                   | 2,901      | 358       | 2,543     | 710 |
| Other                                                          | 45,819     | 35,931    | 9,888     | 28  |
| Total selling, general, administrative and development expense | \$ 101,153 | \$ 79,584 | \$ 21,569 | 27% |

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Total selling, general, administrative and development expense ( SG&A ) for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 27% to \$101.2 million. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in our international rental and management segment and other SG&A.

Domestic rental and management segment SG&A for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 18% to \$22.9 million. The increase was primarily driven by increasing personnel and related costs to support a growing portfolio.

International rental and management segment SG&A for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 24% to \$29.5 million. The increase was primarily attributable to our continued expansion initiatives in foreign markets including the launch of operations in Uganda and Germany.

Network development services segment SG&A for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 710% to \$2.9 million. The increase was primarily attributable to the reversal of bad debt expense during the three months ended March 31, 2012 of \$1.4 million upon the receipt of tenant payments for amounts previously reserved.

Other SG&A for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 28% to \$45.8 million. The increase was primarily due to an \$8.0 million increase in SG&A related stock-based compensation expense primarily due to \$6.7 million of additional stock-based compensation expense recognized in connection with awards granted to retirement eligible employees.

### Operating Profit

|                              | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |            | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                              | 2013                            | 2012       |                                     |                                   |
| Rental and management        |                                 |            |                                     |                                   |
| Domestic                     | \$ 400,945                      | \$ 374,659 | \$ 26,286                           | 7%                                |
| International                | 136,549                         | 106,052    | 30,497                              | 29                                |
| Total rental and management  | 537,494                         | 480,711    | 56,783                              | 12                                |
| Network development services | 12,115                          | 5,172      | 6,943                               | 134%                              |

Domestic rental and management segment operating profit for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 7% to \$400.9 million. The growth was primarily attributable to the increase in our domestic rental and management segment gross margin (8%), as described above, and was partially offset by an increase in our domestic rental and management segment SG&A (18%), as described above.

International rental and management segment operating profit for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 29% to \$136.5 million. The growth was primarily attributable to the increase in our international rental and management segment gross margin (28%), as described above, and was partially offset by an increase in our international rental and management segment SG&A (24%), as described above.

Network development services segment operating profit for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 134% to \$12.1 million. The growth was primarily attributable to the increase in network development services segment gross margin (172%), as described above, and was partially offset by an increase in our network development services segment SG&A (710%), as described above.

### Depreciation, Amortization and Accretion

|                                          | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |            | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                          | 2013                            | 2012       |                                     |                                   |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion | \$ 185,804                      | \$ 149,655 | \$ 36,149                           | 24%                               |

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Depreciation, amortization and accretion for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 24% to \$185.8 million. The increase was primarily attributable to the depreciation, amortization and accretion associated with the acquisition or construction of approximately 10,180 sites since January 1, 2012, which resulted in an increase in property and equipment.

*Other Operating Expenses*

|                          | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |           | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                          | 2013                            | 2012      |                                     |                                   |
| Other operating expenses | \$ 14,319                       | \$ 21,847 | \$ (7,528)                          | (34)%                             |

Other operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased 34% to \$14.3 million. This change was primarily attributable to a decrease of approximately \$14.3 million in impairment charges and loss on disposal of assets, which included the impairment of one of our outdoor DAS networks upon the termination of a tenant lease during the three months ended March 31, 2012. This decrease was partially offset by an increase of approximately \$7.1 million in acquisition related costs.

*Interest Expense*

|                  | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |           | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                  | 2013                            | 2012      |                                     |                                   |
| Interest expense | \$ 111,766                      | \$ 95,117 | \$ 16,649                           | 18%                               |

Interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 18% to \$111.8 million. The increase was primarily attributable to an increase in our average debt outstanding of approximately \$1.6 billion, which was primarily used to fund our recent acquisitions, partially offset by a decrease in our annualized weighted average cost of borrowing from 5.24% to 4.94%.

*Loss on Retirement of Long-term Obligations*

|                                             | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |        | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                             | 2013                            | 2012   |                                     |                                   |
| Loss on retirement of long-term obligations | \$ 35,298                       | \$ 398 | \$ 34,900                           | 8,769%                            |

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, loss on retirement of long-term obligations increased to \$35.3 million as we repaid the \$1.75 billion outstanding balance of the Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1 and incurred a prepayment penalty and recorded the acceleration of deferred financing costs.

*Other Income*

|              | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |           | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|              | 2013                            | 2012      |                                     |                                   |
| Other income | \$ 22,291                       | \$ 52,861 | \$ (30,570)                         | (58)%                             |

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, other income decreased 58% to \$22.3 million. The decrease was primarily a result of a decline in unrealized currency gains of \$33.7 million. During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, we recorded unrealized foreign currency gains of approximately \$22.1 million and \$55.8 million, respectively, resulting primarily from fluctuations in the foreign currency exchange rates associated with our intercompany notes and similar unaffiliated balances denominated in a currency other than the subsidiaries functional currencies.



**Table of Contents***Income Tax Provision*

|                      | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |           | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                      | 2013                            | 2012      |                                     |                                   |
| Income tax provision | \$ 19,222                       | \$ 27,248 | \$ (8,026)                          | (29)%                             |
| Effective tax rate   | 10.7%                           | 11.5%     |                                     |                                   |

The income tax provision for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased 29% to \$19.2 million. The effective tax rate ( ETR ) for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased to 10.7% from 11.5%. This decrease was primarily attributable to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates in our TRSs during the three months ended March 31, 2012 that resulted in higher tax expense than during the three months ended March 31, 2013.

The ETR on income from continuing operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 differs from the federal statutory rate primarily due to our expected qualification for taxation as a REIT effective as of January 1, 2012 and to adjustments for foreign items.

*Net Income/Adjusted EBITDA*

|                                             | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |            | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                             | 2013                            | 2012       |                                     |                                   |
| Net income                                  | \$ 160,948                      | \$ 210,358 | \$ (49,410)                         | (23)%                             |
| Income from equity method investments       |                                 | (18)       | (18)                                | (100)                             |
| Income tax provision                        | 19,222                          | 27,248     | (8,026)                             | (29)                              |
| Other income                                | (22,291)                        | (52,861)   | (30,570)                            | (58)                              |
| Loss on retirement of long-term obligations | 35,298                          | 398        | 34,900                              | 8,769                             |
| Interest expense                            | 111,766                         | 95,117     | 16,649                              | 18                                |
| Interest income                             | (1,714)                         | (2,253)    | (539)                               | (24)                              |
| Other operating expenses                    | 14,319                          | 21,847     | (7,528)                             | (34)                              |
| Depreciation, amortization and accretion    | 185,804                         | 149,655    | 36,149                              | 24                                |
| Stock-based compensation expense            | 21,042                          | 13,045     | 7,997                               | 61                                |
| Adjusted EBITDA                             | \$ 524,394                      | \$ 462,536 | \$ 61,858                           | 13%                               |

Net income for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased 23% to \$160.9 million. The decrease was primarily attributable to the loss on retirement of long-term obligations recorded during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and increases in interest expense and depreciation, amortization and accretion expense, partially offset by an increase in our rental and management segments operating profit, as described above.

Adjusted EBITDA for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 13% to \$524.4 million. Adjusted EBITDA growth was primarily attributable to the increase in our rental and management segments gross margin, and was partially offset by an increase in SG&A.

**Table of Contents***Net Income/NAREIT FFO/AFFO*

|                                                                                                    | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |                   | Amount of<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) | Percent<br>Increase<br>(Decrease) |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|                                                                                                    | 2013                            | 2012              |                                     |                                   |
| Net income                                                                                         | \$ 160,948                      | \$ 210,358        | \$ (49,410)                         | (23)%                             |
| Real estate related depreciation, amortization and accretion                                       | 163,742                         | 132,832           | 30,910                              | 23                                |
| Losses from sale or disposal of real estate and real estate related impairment charges             | 269                             | 3,815             | (3,546)                             | (93)                              |
| Adjustments for unconsolidated affiliates and noncontrolling interest                              | 2,830                           | 6,617             | (3,787)                             | (57)                              |
| <b>NAREIT FFO</b>                                                                                  | <b>\$ 327,789</b>               | <b>\$ 353,622</b> | <b>\$ (25,833)</b>                  | <b>(7)%</b>                       |
| Straight-line revenue                                                                              | (34,240)                        | (38,503)          | (4,263)                             | (11)                              |
| Straight-line expense                                                                              | 7,115                           | 9,735             | (2,620)                             | (27)                              |
| Stock-based compensation expense                                                                   | 21,042                          | 13,045            | 7,997                               | 61                                |
| Non-cash portion of tax provision                                                                  | 5,679                           | 28,145            | (22,466)                            | (80)                              |
| Non-real estate related depreciation, amortization and accretion                                   | 22,062                          | 16,823            | 5,239                               | 31                                |
| Amortization of deferred financing costs, capitalized interest and debt discounts and premiums (1) | 7,527                           | 1,852             | 5,675                               | 306                               |
| Other income (2)                                                                                   | (22,291)                        | (52,861)          | (30,570)                            | (58)                              |
| Loss on retirement of long-term obligations                                                        | 35,298                          | 398               | 34,900                              | 8,769                             |
| Other operating expenses (3)                                                                       | 14,050                          | 18,032            | (3,982)                             | (22)                              |
| Capital improvement capital expenditures                                                           | (15,882)                        | (13,929)          | 1,953                               | 14                                |
| Corporate capital expenditures                                                                     | (7,518)                         | (4,212)           | 3,306                               | 78                                |
| Adjustments for unconsolidated affiliates and noncontrolling interest                              | (2,830)                         | (6,617)           | (3,787)                             | (57)                              |
| <b>AFFO</b>                                                                                        | <b>\$ 357,801</b>               | <b>\$ 325,530</b> | <b>\$ 32,271</b>                    | <b>10%</b>                        |

(1) Includes accrued non-cash interest expense attributable to joint-venture loans.

(2) Primarily includes unrealized (gain) loss on foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations.

(3) Primarily includes impairments and transaction related costs.

NAREIT FFO for the three months ended March 31, 2013 was \$327.8 million as compared to NAREIT FFO of \$353.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012. AFFO for the three months ended March 31, 2013 increased 10% to \$357.8 million as compared to \$325.5 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012. AFFO growth was primarily attributable to the increase in our operating profit and was partially offset by an increase in cash paid for interest expense and cash paid for income taxes. The increase in cash paid for income taxes was primarily attributable to the non-recurrence of a \$12.5 million tax refund which was received during the three months ended March 31, 2012.

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

The information in this section updates as of March 31, 2013 the Liquidity and Capital Resources section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 and should be read in conjunction with that report.

**Overview**

As a holding company, our cash flows are derived primarily from the operations of, and distributions from, our operating subsidiaries or funds raised through borrowings under our credit facilities and debt offerings. As of March 31, 2013, we had approximately \$2,115.1 million of total liquidity, comprised of approximately \$441.7 million in cash and cash equivalents and the ability to borrow up to \$1,673.4 million, net of any outstanding letters of credit, under our \$1.0 billion unsecured credit facility entered into in April 2011 (the 2011 Credit

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Facility ) and our \$1.0 billion unsecured credit facility entered into in January 2012 (the 2012 Credit Facility ). In January 2013, we completed a registered public offering of \$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of 3.50% senior unsecured notes due 2023 ( 3.50% Notes ) and used the net proceeds to repay certain amounts outstanding under the 2011 Credit Facility and 2012 Credit Facility. Summary cash flow information for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 is set forth below (in thousands).

|                                                                      | Three Months Ended<br>March 31, |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
|                                                                      | 2013                            | 2012       |
| Net cash provided by (used for):                                     |                                 |            |
| Operating activities                                                 | \$ 394,036                      | \$ 402,017 |
| Investing activities                                                 | (376,628)                       | (291,296)  |
| Financing activities                                                 | 34,629                          | 27,440     |
| Net effect of changes in exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents | 21,051                          | 2,906      |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents                            | \$ 73,088                       | \$ 141,067 |

We use our cash flows to fund our operations and investments in our business, including tower maintenance and improvements, communications site construction and managed network installations, and tower and land acquisitions. Additionally, we use our cash flows to make distributions of our REIT taxable income in order to maintain our REIT qualification under the Code and fund our stock repurchase program.

As of March 31, 2013, we had total outstanding indebtedness of approximately \$8.8 billion. During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and the year ended December 31, 2012, we generated sufficient cash flow from operations to fund our capital expenditures and debt service obligations, as well as our required REIT distributions. We believe the cash generated by operations during the next 12 months will be sufficient to fund our REIT distribution requirements, capital expenditures and debt service (interest and principal repayments) obligations for the next 12 months. If our pending acquisitions, capital expenditures or debt repayments exceed the cash generated by our operations, we believe we have sufficient borrowing capacity under our credit facilities to fund our activities. As of March 31, 2013, we had approximately \$250.3 million of cash and cash equivalents held by our foreign subsidiaries, of which \$83.4 million was held by our joint ventures. Historically, it has not been our practice to repatriate cash from our foreign subsidiaries primarily due to our ongoing expansion efforts and related capital needs. However, in the event that we do repatriate any funds, we may be required to accrue and pay taxes.

As a REIT, we are subject to a number of organizational and operational requirements, including a requirement that we annually distribute to our stockholders an amount equal to at least 90% of our REIT taxable income (determined before the deduction for distributed earnings and excluding any net capital gain). Generally, we expect to distribute all or substantially all of our REIT taxable income so as not to be subject to the income or excise tax on undistributed REIT taxable income. On April 25, 2013, we made a regular distribution of \$0.26 per share, or a total of approximately \$102.8 million, to stockholders of record at the close of business on April 10, 2013. The amount, timing and frequency of future distributions will be at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors and will be based upon various factors. See Item 5 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 under the caption Dividends for a discussion of these factors considered.

**Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

For the three months ended March 31, 2013, cash provided by operating activities was \$394.0 million, a decrease of \$8.0 million as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2012. This decrease was primarily due to an increase in cash paid for interest and income taxes during the three months ended March 31, 2013.

Cash paid for income taxes increased from the prior year period due to the non-recurrence of a \$12.5 million tax refund received during the three months ended March 31, 2012. In addition, \$61.4 million of value added tax was recovered during the three months ended March 31, 2012.

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### ***Cash Flows from Investing Activities***

For the three months ended March 31, 2013, cash used for investing activities was \$376.6 million, an increase of \$85.3 million as compared to the three months ended March 31, 2012. This increase was primarily attributable to an increase in acquisition-related activity during the three months ended March 31, 2013.

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, payments for purchases of property and equipment and construction activities totaled \$123.9 million, including \$57.3 million of capital expenditures for discretionary capital projects, such as completion of the construction of approximately 452 communications sites and the installation of approximately 124 shared generators domestically, \$14.8 million spent to acquire land under our towers that was subject to ground agreements (including leases), \$23.4 million of capital expenditures related to capital improvements and corporate capital expenditures primarily attributable to information technology improvements and office build-outs, \$21.7 million for the redevelopment of existing communications sites to accommodate new tenant equipment and \$6.7 million of capital expenditures related to start-up capital projects primarily attributable to acquisitions and new market launches and costs that are contemplated in the business cases for these investments. In addition, during the three months ended March 31, 2013, we spent \$245.1 million to acquire approximately 920 communications sites in our served markets and for the payment of amounts previously recognized in accounts payable or accrued expenses in the condensed consolidated balance sheets for communications sites we acquired in Uganda and the United States during the year ended December 31, 2012.

We plan to continue to allocate our available capital after our REIT distribution requirements among investment alternatives that meet our return on investment criteria. Accordingly, we expect to continue to deploy our discretionary capital through our annual discretionary capital expenditure program, including land purchases and new site construction and acquisitions. We expect that our 2013 total capital expenditures will be between approximately \$550 million and \$650 million, including between \$110 and \$120 million for capital improvements and corporate capital expenditures, \$20 million for start-up capital projects, between \$95 million and \$105 million for the redevelopment of existing communications sites, between \$85 million and \$105 million for ground lease purchases and between \$240 million and \$300 million for other discretionary capital projects, including the construction of approximately 2,250 to 2,750 new communications sites.

### ***Cash Flows from Financing Activities***

For the three months ended March 31, 2013, cash provided by financing activities was \$34.6 million, as compared to \$27.4 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012.

Cash provided by financing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2013 is primarily due to (i) net proceeds of \$1.78 billion from the offering of \$1.8 billion of Secured Tower Revenue Securities, Series 2013-1A and Series 2013-2A (collectively, the Securities), as described in more detail below, (ii) net proceeds from our registered offering of \$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of our 3.50% Notes of \$983.4 million, (iii) borrowings under our 2012 Credit Facility of \$249.0 million, (iv) net contributions from noncontrolling interest holders of \$7.7 million and (v) proceeds from stock options of \$6.1 million.

The proceeds from these borrowings were partially offset by the repayment of (i) \$1.75 billion of Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1 (the Certificates) and accrued interest thereon plus prepayment consideration of \$29.2 million (ii) \$919.0 million under the 2012 Credit Facility and (iii) \$265.0 million under the 2011 Credit Facility. In addition, we paid \$12.5 million for the repurchase of our common stock.

*Commercial Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1.* During the year ended December 31, 2007, we completed a securitization transaction involving assets related to 5,295 broadcast and wireless communications towers owned by two special purpose subsidiaries of ours, through a private offering of \$1.75 billion of the Certificates. On March 15, 2013, we repaid all indebtedness outstanding under the Certificates (\$1.75 billion in principal amount), plus prepayment consideration and accrued interest thereon and other costs and expenses related thereto, with proceeds from the offering of \$1.8 billion of the Securities.

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*Secured Tower Revenue Securities, Series 2013-1A and Series 2013-2A.* On March 15, 2013, we completed a securitization transaction (the "Securitization") involving assets related to 5,195 wireless and broadcast communications towers (the "Secured Towers") owned by two of our special purpose subsidiaries, through a private offering of \$1.8 billion of the Securities. The Securities were issued by American Tower Trust I (the "Trust"), a trust established by American Tower Depositor Sub, LLC (the "Depositor"), our indirect wholly owned special purpose subsidiary. The assets of the Trust consist of a nonrecourse loan (the "Loan") to American Tower Asset Sub, LLC and American Tower Asset Sub II, LLC (the "Borrowers"), pursuant to a First Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated as of March 15, 2013 (the "Loan Agreement"). The Borrowers are special purpose entities formed solely for the purpose of holding the Secured Towers subject to a securitization.

The Securities were issued in two separate series of the same class pursuant to a First Amended and Restated Trust and Servicing Agreement (the "Trust Agreement"), with terms identical to the Loan. The effective weighted average interest rate of the Loan is 2.648%. The Series 2013-1A Securities have an expected life of five years with a final repayment date in March 2043. The Series 2013-2A Securities have an expected life of ten years with a final repayment date in March 2048. The effective weighted average life of the Securities is 8.6 years.

Amounts due under the Loan will be paid by the Borrowers solely from the cash flows generated by the Secured Towers. These funds in turn will be used by or on behalf of the Trust to service the payment of interest on the Securities and for any other payments required by the Loan Agreement. The Borrowers are required to make monthly payments of interest on the Loan. Subject to certain limited exceptions described below, no payments of principal will be required to be made prior to March 15, 2018, which is the anticipated repayment date for the component of the Loan associated with the Series 2013-1A Securities. On a monthly basis, after payment of all required amounts under the Loan Agreement and Trust Agreement, the excess cash flows generated from the operation of the Secured Towers are released to the Borrowers, and can then be distributed to, and used by, us. However, if the debt service coverage ratio (the "DSCR") as of the last day of any calendar quarter prior to the applicable anticipated repayment date, generally defined as the net cash flow divided by the amount of interest, servicing fees and trustee fees that the Borrowers will be required to pay over the succeeding 12 months on the Loan, is 1.30x or less (the "Cash Trap DSCR") for such quarter, and the DSCR continues to be equal to or below the Cash Trap DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters, then all cash flow in excess of amounts required to make debt service payments, to fund required reserves, to pay management fees and budgeted operating expenses and to make other payments required under the loan documents, referred to as excess cash flow, will be deposited into a reserve account instead of being released to the Borrowers. The funds in the reserve account will not be released to the Borrowers unless the DSCR exceeds the Cash Trap DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters. An amortization period commences if (i) as of the end of any calendar quarter the DSCR equals or falls below 1.15x (the "Minimum DSCR") for such calendar quarter and such amortization period will continue to exist until the DSCR exceeds the Minimum DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters or (ii) on the anticipated repayment date the component of the Loan corresponding to the applicable subclass of the Securities has not been repaid in full, provided that such amortization period shall apply with respect to such component that has not been repaid in full. During an amortization period all excess cash is applied to payment of the principal on the Loan.

The Borrowers may prepay the Loan in whole or in part at any time, provided it is accompanied by applicable prepayment consideration. If the prepayment occurs within twelve months of the anticipated repayment date for the Series 2013-1A Securities or eighteen months of the anticipated repayment date for the Series 2013-2A Securities, no prepayment consideration is due. The entire unpaid principal balance of the component of the Loan related to the Series 2013-1A Securities will be due in March 2043. The entire unpaid principal balance of the component of the Loan related to the Series 2013-2A Securities will be due in March 2048. The Loan may be defeased in whole at any time prior to the anticipated repayment date for any component of the Loan then outstanding.

The Loan is secured by (1) mortgages, deeds of trust and deeds to secure debt on substantially all of the Secured Towers, (2) a pledge of their operating cash flows from the Secured Towers, (3) a security interest in substantially all of the Borrowers' personal property and fixtures and (4) the Borrowers' rights under the tenant leases and the Management Agreement entered into in connection with the Securitization. American Tower Holding

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Sub, LLC, whose only material assets are its equity interests in each of the Borrowers, and American Tower Guarantor Sub, LLC, whose only material asset is its equity interest in American Tower Holding Sub, LLC, each have guaranteed repayment of the Loan and pledged their equity interests in their respective subsidiary or subsidiaries as security for such payment obligations. American Tower Guarantor Sub, LLC, American Tower Holding Sub, LLC, the Depositor and the Borrowers each were formed as special purpose entities solely for purposes of entering a securitization transaction, and the assets and credit of these entities are not available to satisfy the debts and other obligations of us or any other person, except as set forth in the Loan Agreement.

The Loan Agreement includes operating covenants and other restrictions customary for loans subject to rated securitizations. Among other things, the Borrowers are prohibited from incurring other indebtedness for borrowed money or further encumbering their assets with customary carveouts for ordinary course trade payables and permitted encumbrances (as defined in the Loan Agreement). The organizational documents of the Borrowers contain provisions consistent with rating agency securitization criteria for special purpose entities, including the requirement that the Borrowers maintain at least two independent directors. The Loan Agreement also contains certain covenants that require the Borrowers to provide the trustee with regular financial reports and operating budgets, promptly notify the trustee of events of default and material breaches under the Loan Agreement and other agreements related to the Secured Towers, and allow the trustee reasonable access to the Secured Towers, including the right to conduct site investigations.

A failure to comply with the covenants in the Loan Agreement could prevent the Borrowers from taking certain actions with respect to the Secured Towers, and could prevent the Borrowers from distributing any excess cash from the operation of the Secured Towers to us. If the Borrowers were to default on the Loan, Midland Loan Services, a Division of PNC Bank, National Association, in its capacity as servicer on behalf of the trustee, could seek to foreclose upon or otherwise convert the ownership of the Secured Towers, in which case we could lose the Secured Towers and the revenue associated with the Secured Towers.

Under the Loan Agreement, the Borrowers are required to maintain reserve accounts, including for ground rents, real estate and personal property taxes and insurance premiums, and to reserve a portion of advance rents from tenants on the Secured Towers. Based on the terms of the Loan Agreement, all rental cash receipts received for each month are reserved for the succeeding month and held in an account controlled by the trustee and then released. The \$39.3 million held in the reserve accounts as of March 31, 2013 is classified as restricted cash on our accompanying condensed consolidated balance sheet.

*Senior Notes Offering.* On January 8, 2013, we completed a registered public offering of \$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of the 3.50% Notes, which were issued at a price equal to 99.185% of their face value. We used \$265.0 million of the net proceeds to repay the outstanding indebtedness under the 2011 Credit Facility and \$718.4 million to repay a portion of the outstanding indebtedness incurred under the 2012 Credit Facility.

The 3.50% Notes mature on January 31, 2023, and interest is payable semi-annually in arrears on January 31 and July 31 of each year, commencing on July 31, 2013. We may redeem the 3.50% Notes at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount, plus a make-whole premium, together with accrued interest to the redemption date. Interest on the notes began to accrue on January 8, 2013 and is computed on the basis of a 360-day year comprised of twelve 30-day months.

If we undergo a change of control and ratings decline, each as defined in the supplemental indenture, we will be required to offer to repurchase all of the 3.50% Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest up to but not including the repurchase date. The 3.50% Notes rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured debt and are structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other obligations of our subsidiaries.

The supplemental indenture contains certain covenants that restrict our ability to merge, consolidate or sell assets and our (together with our subsidiaries ) ability to incur liens. These covenants are subject to a number of exceptions, including that we and our subsidiaries may incur certain liens on assets, mortgages or other liens

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securing indebtedness, if the aggregate amount of such liens does not exceed 3.5x Adjusted EBITDA, as defined in the supplemental indenture.

*2011 Credit Facility.* As of March 31, 2013, we did not have any amounts outstanding under our 2011 Credit Facility and had approximately \$1.9 million of undrawn letters of credit. We repaid all outstanding amounts on January 8, 2013 with net proceeds received from the offering of the 3.50% Notes. We continue to maintain the ability to draw down and repay amounts under our 2011 Credit Facility in the ordinary course.

The 2011 Credit Facility has a term of five years and matures on April 8, 2016. The current margin over London Interbank Offered Rate ( LIBOR ) that we would incur on borrowings is 1.850% and the current commitment fee on the undrawn portion of the 2011 Credit Facility is 0.350%.

*2012 Credit Facility.* As of March 31, 2013, we had \$322.0 million outstanding under the 2012 Credit Facility and had approximately \$2.7 million of undrawn letters of credit. We repaid \$719.0 million on January 8, 2013 with net proceeds received from the offering of the 3.50% Notes and cash on hand. We continue to maintain the ability to draw down and repay amounts under our 2012 Credit Facility in the ordinary course.

The 2012 Credit Facility has a term of five years and matures on January 31, 2017. The current margin over LIBOR that we would incur on borrowings is 1.625%, and the current commitment fee on the undrawn portion of the 2012 Credit Facility is 0.225%.

*2012 Term Loan.* On June 29, 2012, we entered into a \$750.0 million unsecured term loan ( 2012 Term Loan ). The 2012 Term Loan has a term of five years and matures on June 29, 2017. As of March 31, 2013, the interest rate under the 2012 Term Loan is LIBOR plus 1.75%.

*Stock Repurchase Program.* In March 2011, our Board of Directors approved a stock repurchase program, pursuant to which we are authorized to purchase up to \$1.5 billion of our common stock (the 2011 Buyback ).

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, we repurchased 164,120 shares of our common stock for an aggregate of \$12.5 million, including commissions and fees, pursuant to the 2011 Buyback. As of March 31, 2013, we had repurchased a total of approximately 4.5 million shares of our common stock under the 2011 Buyback for an aggregate of \$256.4 million, including commissions and fees.

Between April 1, 2013 and April 19, 2013, we repurchased an additional 205,814 shares of our common stock for an aggregate of \$16.1 million, including commissions and fees, pursuant to the 2011 Buyback. As of April 19, 2013, we had repurchased a total of approximately 4.7 million shares of our common stock under the 2011 Buyback for an aggregate of \$272.5 million, including commissions and fees.

Under the 2011 Buyback, we are authorized to purchase shares from time to time through open market purchases or privately negotiated transactions at prevailing prices in accordance with securities laws and other legal requirements, and subject to market conditions and other factors. To facilitate repurchases, we make purchases pursuant to trading plans under Rule 10b5-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), which allows us to repurchase shares during periods when it otherwise might be prevented from doing so under insider trading laws or because of self-imposed trading blackout periods.

We expect to continue managing the pacing of the remaining \$1.2 billion under the 2011 Buyback in response to general market conditions and other relevant factors. In the near term, we expect to fund any further repurchases of our common stock through a combination of cash on hand, cash generated by operations and borrowings under our credit facilities. Purchases under the 2011 Buyback are subject to us having available cash to fund repurchases.

*Sales of Equity Securities.* We receive proceeds from sales of our equity securities pursuant to our employee stock purchase plan, upon the exercise of stock options granted under our equity incentive plans. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, we received an aggregate of approximately \$6.1 million in proceeds upon exercises of stock options.

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**Distributions.** As a REIT, we must annually distribute to our stockholders an amount equal to at least 90% of our REIT taxable income (determined before the deduction for distributed earnings and excluding any net capital gain). Generally, we expect to distribute all or substantially all of our REIT taxable income so as to not be subject to income tax or excise tax on undistributed REIT taxable income. The amount, timing and frequency of future distributions, however, will be at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors and will be declared based upon various factors, a number of which may be beyond our control, including our financial condition and operating cash flows, the amount required to maintain REIT status and reduce any income and excise taxes that we otherwise would be required to pay, limitations on distributions in our existing and future debt instruments, our ability to utilize NOLs to offset our distribution requirements, limitations on our ability to fund distributions using cash generated through our TRSs and other factors that our Board of Directors may deem relevant.

On March 12, 2013, we declared a cash distribution of \$0.26 per share and on April 25, 2013 paid a total of approximately \$102.8 million to stockholders of record at the close of business on April 10, 2013.

We accrue distributions on unvested restricted stock unit awards granted subsequent to January 1, 2012, which are payable upon vesting. As of March 31, 2013, we had accrued \$0.5 million of distributions payable upon the vesting of restricted stock units.

**Contractual Obligations.** Our contractual obligations relate primarily to the Securitization, borrowings under our 2011 Credit Facility, 2012 Credit Facility, 2012 Term Loan and our outstanding notes.

The following table summarizes our borrowings under the 2011 Credit Facility, 2012 Credit Facility, 2012 Term Loan and the balance outstanding under our notes and the Securities and certain other debt, as of March 31, 2013 (in thousands):

| <b>Indebtedness</b>                                                                            | <b>Balance<br/>Outstanding</b> | <b>Maturity Date</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Secured Tower Revenue Securities, Series 2013-1A (1)                                           | \$ 500,000                     | March 15, 2018       |
| Secured Tower Revenue Securities, Series 2013-2A (2)                                           | 1,300,000                      | March 15, 2023       |
| 2011 Credit Facility                                                                           |                                | April 8, 2016        |
| 2012 Credit Facility                                                                           | 322,000                        | January 31, 2017     |
| 2012 Term Loan                                                                                 | 750,000                        | June 29, 2017        |
| Unison Notes, Series 2010-1 Class C, Series 2010-2 Class C and Series 2010-2 Class F notes (3) | 206,750                        | April 15, 2017       |
| 3.50% senior notes                                                                             | 992,007                        | January 31, 2023     |
| 4.70% senior notes                                                                             | 698,787                        | March 15, 2022       |
| 5.90% senior notes                                                                             | 499,370                        | November 1, 2021     |
| 4.50% senior notes                                                                             | 999,440                        | January 15, 2018     |
| 5.05% senior notes                                                                             | 699,353                        | September 1, 2020    |
| 4.625% senior notes                                                                            | 599,676                        | April 1, 2015        |
| 7.00% senior notes                                                                             | 500,000                        | October 15, 2017     |
| 7.25% senior notes                                                                             | 296,388                        | May 15, 2019         |
| Ghana loan (4)                                                                                 | 130,951                        | May 4, 2016          |
| Uganda loan (4)                                                                                | 61,023                         | June 29, 2019        |
| South African facility (5)                                                                     | 90,326                         | March 31, 2020       |
| Colombian long-term credit facility (6)                                                        | 73,682                         | November 30, 2020    |
| Colombian bridge loans (7)                                                                     | 51,312                         | June 22, 2013        |
| Colombian loan (4)                                                                             | 19,176                         | February 22, 2022    |
| Other debt, including capital leases                                                           | 58,882                         |                      |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                   | <b>\$ 8,849,123</b>            |                      |

(1) Anticipated repayment date; final legal maturity date is March 15, 2043.

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- (2) Anticipated repayment date; final legal maturity date is March 15, 2048.
  - (3) Assumed by us in connection with the acquisition of certain legal entities holding a portfolio of property interests from Unison Holdings, LLC and Unison Site Management II, L.L.C. (the "Unison Acquisition"), and have anticipated repayment dates of April 15, 2017, April 15, 2020 and April 15, 2020, respectively, and a final maturity date of April 15, 2040.
  - (4) Denominated in U.S. Dollars.
  - (5) Denominated in South African Rand and amortizes through March 31, 2020.
  - (6) Denominated in Colombian Pesos and amortizes through November 30, 2020.
  - (7) Denominated in Colombian Pesos. The maturity dates for the Colombian bridge loans may be extended from time to time.
- A description of our contractual debt obligations is set forth under the caption "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk" in Part I, Item 3 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. We classify uncertain tax positions as non-current income tax liabilities. We expect the unrecognized tax benefits to change over the next 12 months if certain tax matters ultimately settle with the applicable taxing jurisdiction during this timeframe. However, based on the status of these items and the amount of uncertainty associated with the outcome and timing of audit settlements, we are currently unable to estimate the impact of the amount of such changes, if any, to previously recorded uncertain tax positions and have classified approximately \$35.6 million as other non-current liabilities in the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2013. We also classified approximately \$30.8 million of accrued income tax related interest and penalties as other non-current liabilities in the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2013.

## ***Factors Affecting Sources of Liquidity***

As discussed in the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, our liquidity is dependent on our ability to generate cash flow from operating activities, borrow funds under our credit facilities and maintain compliance with the contractual agreements governing our indebtedness. As discussed below, the loan agreements relating to the Securitization and to the 2011 Credit Facility, 2012 Credit Facility and 2012 Term Loan contain certain financial and operating covenants and other restrictions that could impact our liquidity. We believe that the foregoing debt agreements represent our material debt agreements that contain covenants, our compliance with which would be material to an investor's understanding of our financial results and the impact of those results on our liquidity.

*Restrictions Under Loan Agreements Relating to the 2011 Credit Facility, the 2012 Credit Facility and the 2012 Term Loan.* The loan agreements for the 2011 Credit Facility, the 2012 Credit Facility and the 2012 Term Loan contain certain financial and operating covenants and other restrictions applicable to us and all of our subsidiaries that are not designated as unrestricted subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. These include limitations on additional debt, distributions and dividends, guaranties, sales of assets and liens. The loan agreements also contain covenants that establish three financial tests with which we and our restricted subsidiaries must comply related to total leverage, senior secured leverage and interest coverage, as set forth below. Where we designate certain of our subsidiaries as unrestricted subsidiaries in accordance with the respective agreements, those subsidiaries are excluded for purposes of the covenant calculations. As of March 31, 2013, we were in compliance with each of these covenants.

**Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio:** This ratio requires that we not exceed a ratio of Total Debt to Adjusted EBITDA (each as defined in the loan agreements) of 6.00 to 1.00. Based on our financial performance for the 12 months ended March 31, 2013, we could incur approximately \$2.7 billion of additional indebtedness and still remain in compliance with this ratio. In addition, if we maintain our existing debt levels and our expenses do not change materially from current levels, our revenues could decrease by approximately \$452 million and we would still remain in compliance with this ratio.

**Consolidated Senior Secured Leverage Ratio:** This ratio requires that we not exceed a ratio of Senior Secured Debt (as defined in the loan agreements) to Adjusted EBITDA of 3.00 to 1.00. Based on our financial performance for the 12 months ended March 31, 2013, we could incur approximately \$3.6

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billion of additional Senior Secured Debt and still remain in compliance with this ratio (effectively, however, this ratio would be limited to \$2.7 billion to remain in compliance with other covenants). In addition, if we maintain our existing Senior Secured Debt levels and our expenses do not change materially from current levels, our revenues could decrease by approximately \$1.2 billion and we would still remain in compliance with this ratio.

**Interest Coverage Ratio:** This ratio requires that we maintain a ratio of Adjusted EBITDA to Interest Expense (as defined in the loan agreements) of not less than 2.50 to 1.00. Based on our financial performance for the 12 months ended March 31, 2013, our interest expense, which was \$407 million for that period, could increase by approximately \$362 million and we would still remain in compliance with this ratio. In addition, if our interest expense does not change materially from current levels, our revenues could decrease by approximately \$906 million and we would still remain in compliance with this ratio.

The loan agreements for our credit facilities also contain reporting and information covenants that require us to provide financial and operating information within certain time periods. If we are unable to provide the required information on a timely basis, we would be in breach of these covenants.

Any failure to comply with the financial maintenance tests and operating covenants of the loan agreements for our credit facilities would not only prevent us from being able to borrow additional funds under these credit facilities, but would constitute a default under these credit facilities, which could result in, among other things, the amounts outstanding, including all accrued interest and unpaid fees, becoming immediately due and payable. If this were to occur, we would not have sufficient cash on hand to repay such indebtedness. The key factors affecting our ability to comply with the debt covenants described above are our financial performance relative to the financial maintenance tests defined in the loan agreements for these credit facilities and our ability to fund our debt service obligations. Based upon our current expectations, we believe our operating results during the next twelve months will be sufficient to comply with these covenants.

*Restrictions Under Loan Agreement Relating to the Securitization.* The Loan Agreement related to the Securitization involves assets related to 5,195 broadcast and wireless communications towers owned by the Borrowers, through a private offering of \$1.8 billion of the Securities. As of March 31, 2013, 5,195 broadcast and wireless communications towers are owned by the Borrowers.

The Loan Agreement includes certain financial ratios and operating covenants and other restrictions customary for loans subject to rated securitizations. Among other things, the Borrowers are prohibited from incurring other indebtedness for borrowed money or further encumbering their assets with customary carveouts for ordinary course trade payables and permitted encumbrances (as defined in the Loan Agreement). The Borrowers' organizational documents contain provisions consistent with rating agency securitization criteria for special purpose entities, including the requirement that the Borrowers maintain at least two independent directors. The Loan Agreement also contains certain covenants that require the Borrowers to provide the trustee with regular financial reports and operating budgets, promptly notify the trustee of events of default and material breaches under the Loan Agreement and other agreements related to the Secured Towers, and allow the trustee reasonable access to the Secured Towers, including the right to conduct site investigations.

Under the terms of the Loan Agreement, amounts due under the loan will be paid solely from the cash flows generated by the Secured Towers, which must be deposited, and thereafter distributed, solely pursuant to the terms of the Loan. The Borrowers are required to make monthly payments of interest on the Loan. On a monthly basis, after payment of all required amounts under the Loan Agreement, the excess cash flows generated from the operation of the Secured Towers are released to the Borrowers, which can then be distributed to, and used by, us.

In order to distribute this excess cash flow to us, the Borrowers must maintain several specified ratios with respect to their DSCR. For this purpose, DSCR is tested as of the last day of each calendar quarter prior to the applicable anticipated repayment date and is generally defined as four times the Borrowers' net cash flow for that

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quarter divided by the amount of interest, servicing fees and trustee fees that the Borrowers must pay over the succeeding 12 months on the principal amount of the Loan. Pursuant to one such test, if the DSCR as of the end of any calendar quarter were 1.30x or less (the "Cash Trap DSCR") for such quarter, and the DSCR continues to be below the Cash Trap DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters, then all excess cash flow would be placed in a reserve account and would not be released to the Borrowers for distribution to us until the DSCR exceeded the Cash Trap DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters.

Additionally, while the anticipated repayment date is not until March 2018 for the Series 2013-1A Securities and March 2023 for the Series 2013-2A Securities, excess cash flow would be applied to principal during an "amortization period" under the Loan if the DSCR as of the end of any calendar quarter was equal to or fell below 1.15x (the "Minimum DSCR").

In such a case, all excess cash flow and any amounts then in the reserve account because the Cash Trap DSCR was not met would be applied to pay principal of the Loan on each monthly payment date until the DSCR exceeded the Minimum DSCR for two consecutive calendar quarters, and so would not be available for distribution to us.

Consequently, a failure to comply with the covenants in the Loan Agreement could prevent the Borrowers from taking certain actions with respect to the Secured Towers. Additionally, a failure to meet the noted DSCR tests could prevent the Borrowers from distributing excess cash flow to us, which could affect our ability to fund our discretionary expenditures, including tower construction and acquisitions, meet REIT distribution requirements and fund our stock repurchase program. In addition, if the Borrowers were to default on the Loan, the trustee could seek to foreclose upon or otherwise convert the ownership of the Secured Towers, in which case we could lose the towers and the revenue associated with the towers.

As of March 31, 2013, the Borrowers' DSCR was 9.06x. Based on the Borrowers' net cash flow for the calendar quarter ended March 31, 2013 and the amount of interest, servicing fees and trustee fees payable over the succeeding 12 months on the Loan, the Borrowers could endure a reduction of approximately \$373 million in net cash flow before triggering a Cash Trap DSCR, and approximately \$380 million in net cash flow before triggering an amortization period.

As discussed above, we use our available liquidity and seek new sources of liquidity to refinance and repurchase our outstanding indebtedness. In addition, in order to fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives, satisfy our REIT distribution requirements and fund our stock repurchase program, we may need to raise additional capital through financing activities. If we determine that it is desirable or necessary to raise additional capital, we may be unable to do so, or such additional financing may be prohibitively expensive or restricted by the terms of our outstanding indebtedness. If we are unable to raise capital when our needs arise, we may not be able to fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives, satisfy our REIT distribution requirements, refinance our existing indebtedness or fund our stock repurchase program.

In addition, our liquidity depends on our ability to generate cash flow from operating activities. As set forth under the caption "Risk Factors" in Part II, Item 1A. of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, we derive a substantial portion of our revenues from a small number of tenants and, consequently, a failure by a significant tenant to perform its contractual obligations to us could adversely affect our cash flow and liquidity.

For more information regarding the terms of our outstanding indebtedness, please see note 8 to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The

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preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, as well as related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. We evaluate our policies and estimates on an ongoing basis, including those related to impairment of assets, asset retirement obligations, accounting for acquisitions, revenue recognition, rent expense, stock-based compensation and income taxes, which we discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012. Management bases its estimates on historical experience and other various assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

We have reviewed our policies and estimates to determine our critical accounting policies for the three months ended March 31, 2013. We have made no material changes to the critical accounting policies described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012.

### **Recently Adopted Accounting Standards**

In February 2013, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued additional guidance on comprehensive income which adds new disclosure requirements for items reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income ( AOCI ) by component. This guidance enhances the transparency of changes in other comprehensive income ( OCI ) and items transferred out of AOCI in the financial statements and it does not amend any existing requirements for reporting net income or OCI in the financial statements. Since the guidance relates only to presentation and disclosure of information, the adoption did not have a material effect on our condensed consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In February 2013, the FASB issued guidance that clarifies the scope of transactions subject to disclosures about offsetting assets and liabilities. The guidance requires an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. This guidance is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013 on a retrospective basis. The adoption of this guidance did not have a material impact on our disclosures in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

**Table of Contents****ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

The following tables provide information as of March 31, 2013 about our market risk exposure associated with changing interest rates. For long-term debt obligations, the table presents principal cash flows by maturity date and average interest rates related to outstanding obligations. For interest rate swaps, the tables present notional principal amounts and weighted-average interest rates by contractual maturity dates.

**As of March 31, 2013**

**Principal Payments and Interest Rate Detail by Contractual Maturity Dates**

(In thousands, except percentages)

| Long-Term Debt            | 2013      | 2014     | 2015       | 2016       | 2017         | Thereafter   | Total        | Fair Value   |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Fixed Rate Debt (a)       | \$ 55,345 | \$ 2,559 | \$ 601,621 | \$ 132,463 | \$ 568,249   | \$ 6,196,085 | \$ 7,556,322 | \$ 8,123,637 |
| Average Interest Rate (a) | 7.82%     | 6.06%    | 4.63%      | 8.99%      | 6.81%        | 4.23%        |              |              |
| Variable Rate Debt (a)    | \$ 2,258  | \$ 6,202 | \$ 13,335  | \$ 24,768  | \$ 1,100,048 | \$ 150,421   | \$ 1,297,032 | \$ 1,301,635 |

**Aggregate Notional Amounts Associated with Interest Rate Swaps in Place**

**As of March 31, 2013 and Interest Rate Detail by Contractual Maturity Dates**

(In thousands, except percentages)

| Interest Rate SWAPS      | 2013     | 2014     | 2015     | 2016      | 2017      | Thereafter | Total      | Fair Value |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| Notional Amount          | \$ 1,147 | \$ 3,328 | \$ 7,485 | \$ 15,075 | \$ 17,098 | \$ 56,995  | \$ 101,128 | \$ 5,645   |
| Fixed Rate Debt Rate (b) |          |          |          |           |           |            | 10.78%     |            |

- (a) As of March 31, 2013, variable rate debt consisted of our 2012 Credit Facility (\$322.0 million), which matures on January 31, 2017 and our 2012 Term Loan (\$750.0 million), which matures on June 29, 2017. Variable rate debt also includes \$90.3 million of indebtedness outstanding under the South African facility, which amortizes through March 31, 2020, \$61.0 million of indebtedness under the Uganda loan, which matures on June 29, 2019 and \$73.7 million of indebtedness under the Colombian long-term credit facility, which amortizes through November 30, 2020. As of March 31, 2013, fixed rate debt consisted of: Securities issued in the Securitization (\$1.8 billion); Unison Notes, acquired in connection with the Unison Acquisition (\$196.0 million principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$206.8 million); the 7.25% senior notes due 2019 (\$300.0 million principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$296.4 million); the 7.00% senior notes due 2017 (\$500.0 million principal amount due at maturity); the 4.625% senior notes due 2015 (\$600.0 million principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$599.7 million); the 5.05% senior notes due 2020 (\$700.0 million principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$699.4 million); the 4.50% senior notes due 2018 (\$1.0 billion principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$999.4 million); the 5.90% senior notes due 2021 (\$500.0 million principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$499.4 million); the 4.70% senior notes due 2022 (\$700.0 million principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$698.8 million); the 3.50% Notes (\$1.0 billion principal amount due at maturity, the balance as of March 31, 2013 was \$992.0 million); and other debt of \$260.3 million (including the Colombian bridge loans, Colombian loan and Ghana loan and other debt including capital leases). Interest on the 2011 Credit Facility, the 2012 Credit Facility and the 2012 Term Loan is payable in accordance with the applicable LIBOR agreement or quarterly and accrues at our option either at LIBOR plus margin (as defined) or the base rate plus margin (as defined). The weighted average interest rate in effect at March 31, 2013 for the 2011 Credit Facility, the 2012 Credit Facility and the 2012 Term Loan was 1.92%. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, the weighted average interest rate under the 2011 Credit Facility, the 2012 Credit Facility and the 2012 Term Loan was 2.11%. Interest on the South African facility is payable in accordance with the applicable Johannesburg Interbank Agreed Rate ( JIBAR ) agreement and accrues at JIBAR plus margin (as defined). The weighted average interest rate at March 31, 2013, after giving effect to our interest rate swap agreements in South Africa, was 9.84%. Interest on the Uganda loan is payable in accordance with the applicable LIBOR plus margin (as defined). The Uganda Loan accrued interest at 6.368% at March 31, 2013. Interest on the Colombian long-term credit facility is payable in accordance with the applicable Inter-bank Rate ( IBR ) agreement and accrues at IBR plus margin (as defined). The weighted average interest rate at March 31, 2013, after giving effect to our interest rate swap agreements in Colombia was 10.11%.

(b) Represents the weighted average fixed rate of interest based on contractual notional amount as a percentage of total notional amounts.

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As of March 31, 2013, we held ten interest rate swap agreements, all of which have been designated as cash flow hedges, and which had an aggregate notional amount of \$101.1 million, interest rates ranging from 5.78% to 7.25% and expiration dates through November 2020.

Changes in interest rates can cause interest charges to fluctuate on our variable rate debt. Variable rate debt as of March 31, 2013, was comprised of \$322.0 million under the 2012 Credit Facility, \$750.0 million under the 2012 Term Loan, \$61.0 million under the Uganda loan, \$44.5 million under the South African facility after giving effect to our interest rate swap agreements in South Africa and \$18.4 million under the Colombian long-term credit facility after giving effect to our interest rate swap agreements in Colombia. A 10% increase in current interest rates would result in an additional \$0.7 million of interest expense for the three months ended March 31, 2013.

We are exposed to market risk from changes in foreign currency exchange rates primarily in connection with our foreign subsidiaries and joint ventures internationally. Any transaction denominated in a currency other than the U.S. Dollar is reported in U.S. Dollars at the applicable exchange rate. All assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. Dollars at exchange rates in effect at the end of the applicable fiscal reporting period and all revenues and expenses are translated at average rates for the period. The cumulative translation effect is included in equity and as a component of comprehensive income (loss). We may enter into additional foreign currency financial instruments in anticipation of future transactions in order to minimize the risk of currency fluctuations.

For the three months ended March 31, 2013, approximately 33% of our revenues and approximately 43% of our total operating expenses were denominated in foreign currencies, as compared to 28% and 36%, respectively, during the same period in 2012.

We have performed a sensitivity analysis assuming a hypothetical 10% adverse movement in foreign currency exchange rates from the quoted foreign currency exchange rates at March 31, 2013. As of March 31, 2013, the analysis indicated that such an adverse movement would cause our revenues, operating results and cash flows to fluctuate by less than 5%.

As of March 31, 2013, we have incurred a substantial amount of additional intercompany debt, which is not considered to be permanently reinvested, and similar unaffiliated balances that were denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the subsidiary in which it is recorded. As this debt had not been designated as being of long-term investment in nature, any changes in the foreign currency exchange rates will result in unrealized gains or losses, which will be included in our determination of net income. An adverse change of 10% in the underlying exchange rates of our unsettled intercompany debt and similar unaffiliated balances would result in approximately \$221.9 million of unrealized gains or losses that would be included in other (expense) income in our condensed consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013.

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### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### **Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

We have established disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to us, including our consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to the officers who certify our financial reports and to other members of senior management and the Board of Directors.

Our management, with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act as of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that these disclosure controls and procedures are effective and designed to ensure that the information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the requisite time periods specified in the applicable rules and forms, and that it is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

#### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the three months ended March 31, 2013 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

We periodically become involved in various claims and lawsuits that are incidental to our business. In our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, we reported our material legal proceedings. Since the filing of our Annual Report, there have been no material developments with respect to any material legal proceedings to which we are a party.

**ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

*Decrease in demand for our communications sites would materially and adversely affect our operating results and we cannot control that demand.*

Factors affecting the demand for our communications sites and, to a lesser extent, our network development services, could materially and adversely affect our operating results. Those factors include:

technological changes;

delays or changes in the deployment of next generation wireless technologies;

governmental licensing of spectrum or restricting or revoking spectrum licenses;

increased use of network sharing, roaming or resale arrangements by wireless service providers;

a decrease in consumer demand for wireless services due to general economic conditions or other factors;

the financial condition of wireless service providers;

the ability and willingness of wireless service providers to maintain or increase capital expenditures on network infrastructure;

mergers or consolidations among wireless service providers; and

zoning, environmental, health or other government regulations or changes in the application and enforcement thereof.

Any downturn in the economy or disruption in the financial and credit markets could impact consumer demand for wireless services. If wireless service subscribers significantly reduce their minutes of use, or fail to widely adopt and use wireless data applications, our wireless service provider tenants could experience a decrease in demand for their services. As a result, they may scale back their capital expenditure plans, which could materially and adversely affect leasing demand for our communications sites and our network development services business, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

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Furthermore, the demand for broadcast space in the United States and Mexico depends on the needs of television and radio broadcasters. Among other things, technological advances, including the development of satellite-delivered radio and video services, may reduce the need for tower-based broadcast transmission. In addition, any significant increase in attrition rate or decrease in overall demand for broadcast space could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***New technologies or changes in a tenant's business model could make our tower leasing business less desirable and result in decreasing revenues.***

The development and implementation of new technologies designed to enhance the efficiency of wireless networks or changes in a tenant's business model could reduce the need for tower-based wireless services,

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decrease demand for tower space or reduce obtainable lease rates. In addition, tenants may have less of their budget allocated to lease space on our towers, as the industry is trending towards deploying increased capital to the development and implementation of new technologies. Examples of these technologies include spectrally efficient technologies which could relieve a portion of our tenants' network capacity needs and as a result, could reduce the demand for tower-based antenna space. Additionally, certain small cell complementary network technologies could shift a portion of our tenants' network investment away from the traditional tower-based networks, which may reduce the need for carriers to add more equipment at certain communications sites. Moreover, the emergence of alternative technologies could reduce the need for tower-based broadcast services transmission and reception. For example, the growth in delivery of wireless communications, radio and video services by direct broadcast satellites could materially and adversely affect demand for our tower space. Further, a tenant may decide to no longer outsource tower infrastructure or otherwise change its business model which would result in a decrease in our revenue. The development and implementation of any of these and similar technologies to any significant degree or changes in a tenant's business model could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***Our business is subject to government regulations and changes in current or future laws or regulations could restrict our ability to operate our business as we currently do.***

Our business and that of our tenants are subject to federal, state, local and foreign regulations. In certain jurisdictions, these regulations could be applied or enforced retroactively. Zoning authorities and community organizations are often opposed to construction of communications sites in their communities and these regulations and initiatives can delay, prevent or increase the cost of new tower construction, modifications, additions of new antennas to a site or site upgrades, thereby limiting our ability to respond to tenant demands and requirements. In addition, in certain foreign jurisdictions, we are required to pay annual license fees, and these fees may be subject to substantial increases by the government. Foreign jurisdictions in which we operate and currently are not required to pay license fees may enact license fees, which may apply retroactively. In certain foreign jurisdictions, there may be changes to zoning regulations or construction laws based on site location which may result in increased costs to modify certain of our existing towers or decreased revenue due to the removal of certain towers to ensure compliance with such changes. Existing regulatory policies may materially and adversely affect the associated timing or cost of such projects and additional regulations may be adopted that increase delays or result in additional costs to us, or that prevent such projects in certain locations. Furthermore, the tax laws, regulations and interpretations governing REITs may change at any time. These factors could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***If our tenants consolidate, merge or share site infrastructure with each other to a significant degree, our growth, revenue and ability to generate positive cash flows could be materially and adversely affected.***

Significant consolidation among our tenants may result in the decommissioning of certain existing communications sites, because certain portions of these tenants' networks may be redundant. For example, in the United States, recently combined companies have either rationalized or announced plans to rationalize duplicative parts of their networks, which may result in the decommissioning of certain equipment on our communications sites. We would expect a similar outcome in certain other countries where we do business if consolidation of certain tenants occurs. In addition, certain combined companies have undergone or are currently undergoing a modernization of their networks, and these and other tenants could determine not to renew leases with us as a result. Our ongoing contractual revenues and our future results may be negatively impacted if a significant number of these leases are not renewed. Similar consequences might occur if wireless service providers engage in extensive sharing of site infrastructure, roaming or resale arrangements as an alternative to leasing our communications sites.

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***We could suffer adverse tax or other financial consequences if taxing authorities do not agree with our tax positions.***

We periodically are subject to examinations by taxing authorities in the states and countries where we do business, and we expect that we will continue to be subject to tax examinations in the future. Moreover, the Internal Revenue Service and any state or local tax authority may successfully assert liabilities against us for corporate income taxes for taxable years prior to the time we qualified as a REIT, or with respect to our TRSs, in which case either we will owe these taxes plus applicable interest and penalties, if any, or we will offset additional income as determined by a tax authority with our NOLs. If we offset such additional income with our NOLs, our required distributions to maintain our qualification and taxation as a REIT will increase and we may be required to pay deficiency dividends and an associated interest charge if our prior REIT distributions were insufficient in light of the reduced available NOLs.

In addition, domestic and international tax laws and regulations are extremely complex and subject to varying interpretations. We recognize tax benefits of uncertain tax positions when we believe the positions are more likely than not to be sustained upon a challenge by the relevant tax authority. We believe our judgments in this area are reasonable and correct, but there is no guarantee that our tax positions will not be challenged by relevant tax authorities or that we would be successful in any such challenge. If there are tax benefits that are challenged successfully by a taxing authority, we may be required to pay additional taxes or use our NOLs or we may seek to enter into settlements with the taxing authorities, all of which could require significant payments or otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***A substantial portion of our revenue is derived from a small number of tenants, and we are sensitive to changes in the creditworthiness and financial strength of our tenants.***

A substantial portion of our total operating revenues is derived from a small number of tenants. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, four tenants accounted for approximately 75% of our domestic rental and management segment revenue; and five tenants accounted for approximately 55% of our international rental and management segment revenue. If any of these tenants are unwilling or unable to perform their obligations under our agreements with them, our revenues, results of operations, financial condition and liquidity could be materially and adversely affected. In the ordinary course of our business, we do occasionally experience disputes with our tenants, generally regarding the interpretation of terms in our leases. We have historically resolved these disputes in a manner that did not have a material adverse effect on us or our tenant relationships. However, it is possible that such disputes could lead to a termination of our leases with tenants or a material modification of the terms of those leases, either of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition. If we are forced to resolve any of these disputes through litigation, our relationship with the applicable tenant could be terminated or damaged, which could lead to decreased revenues or increased costs, resulting in a corresponding adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Additionally, due to the long-term nature of our tenant leases, we depend on the continued financial strength of our tenants. Many wireless service providers operate with substantial leverage. We sometimes experience tenants that are facing financial difficulty or have filed for bankruptcy. In addition, many of our tenants and potential tenants rely on capital raising activities to fund their operations and capital expenditures. Downturns in the economy and disruptions in the financial and credit markets have periodically made it more difficult and more expensive to raise capital. If our tenants or potential tenants are unable to raise adequate capital to fund their business plans, they may reduce their spending, which could materially and adversely affect demand for our communications sites and our network development services business. If, as a result of a prolonged economic downturn or otherwise, one or more of our significant tenants experienced financial difficulties or filed for bankruptcy, it could result in uncollectible accounts receivable and an impairment of our deferred rent asset, tower asset, network location intangible asset or customer-related intangible asset. The loss of significant tenants, or the loss of all or a portion of our anticipated lease revenues from certain tenants, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

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*Our foreign operations are subject to economic, political and other risks that could materially and adversely affect our revenues or financial position, including risks associated with fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates.*

Our international business operations and our expansion into new markets in the future could result in adverse financial consequences and operational problems not typically experienced in the United States. For the three months ended March 31, 2013, approximately 33% of our consolidated revenue was generated by our international operations, compared to 28% for the three months ended March 31, 2012. We anticipate that our revenues from our international operations will continue to grow. Accordingly, our business is subject to risks associated with doing business internationally, including:

changes in a specific country's or region's political or economic conditions, including inflation;

laws or regulations that tax or otherwise restrict repatriation of earnings or other funds or otherwise limit distributions of capital;

changes to existing or new tax laws, methodologies on our international acquisitions, or fees directed specifically at the ownership and operation of communications sites or our international acquisitions, which may be applied or enforced retroactively;

changes to zoning regulations or construction laws, which could retroactively be applied to our existing communications sites;

expropriation or governmental regulation restricting foreign ownership or requiring reversion or divestiture;

actions restricting or revoking spectrum licenses or suspending business under prior licenses;

material site security issues;

significant license surcharges;

increases in the cost of labor (as a result of unionization or otherwise);

potential failure to comply with anti-bribery laws such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act or similar local anti-bribery laws, or Office of Foreign Assets Control requirements; and

uncertain rulings or results from legal or judicial systems, including inconsistencies between and within laws, regulations and decrees, and judicial application thereof, which may be enforced retroactively, and delays in the judicial process.

In our international operations, many of our tenants are subsidiaries of global telecommunications companies. These subsidiaries may not have the explicit or implied financial support of their parent entities.

In addition, as we continue to invest in joint venture opportunities internationally, our partners may have business or economic goals that are inconsistent with ours, be in positions to take action contrary to our interests, policies or objectives, have competing interests in our, or other, markets that could create conflict of interest issues, withhold consents contrary to our requests or become unable or unwilling to fulfill their commitments, which could expose us to additional liabilities or costs, including requiring us to assume and fulfill the obligations of that joint venture.

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We also face risks associated with changes in foreign currency exchange rates, including those arising from our operations, investments and financing transactions related to our international business. Volatility in foreign currency exchange rates can also affect our ability to plan, forecast and budget for our international operations and expansion efforts. Our revenues earned from our international operations are primarily denominated in their respective local currencies. We have not historically engaged in significant currency hedging activities relating to our non-U.S. Dollar operations, and a weakening of these foreign currencies against the U.S. Dollar would have a negative impact on our reported revenues, operating profits and income.

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***Our expansion initiatives involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could adversely affect our operating results, disrupt our operations or expose us to additional risk if we are not able to successfully integrate operations, assets and personnel.***

As we continue to acquire communications sites in our existing markets and expand into new markets, we are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including not meeting our return on investment criteria and financial objectives, increased costs, assumed liabilities and the diversion of managerial attention due to acquisitions. Achieving the benefits of acquisitions depends in part on integrating operations, communications tower portfolios and personnel in a timely and efficient manner. Integration may be difficult and unpredictable for many reasons, including, among other things, differing systems and processes, potential cultural differences, customary business practices and conflicting policies, procedures and operations. In addition, the integration of businesses may significantly burden management and internal resources, including the potential loss or unavailability of key personnel.

Furthermore, our international expansion initiatives are subject to additional risks such as complex laws, regulations and business practices that may require additional resources and personnel, and the other risks described above in . Our foreign operations are subject to economic, political and other risks that could materially and adversely affect our revenues or financial position, including risks associated with fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. As a result, our foreign operations and expansion initiatives may not succeed and may materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***If we are unable to protect our rights to the land under our towers, it could adversely affect our business and operating results.***

Our real property interests relating to our towers consist primarily of leasehold and sub-leasehold interests, fee interests, easements, licenses and rights-of-way. A loss of these interests at a particular tower site may interfere with our ability to operate a tower and generate revenues. For various reasons, we may not always have the ability to access, analyze and verify all information regarding titles and other issues prior to completing an acquisition of communications sites, which can affect our rights to access and operate a site. From time to time we also experience disputes with landowners regarding the terms of ground agreements for land under a tower, which can affect our ability to access and operate a tower site. Further, for various reasons, landowners may not want to renew their ground agreements with us, they may lose their rights to the land, or they may transfer their land interests to third parties, including ground lease aggregators, which could affect our ability to renew ground agreements on commercially viable terms. Approximately 88% of the communications sites in our portfolio as of March 31, 2013 are located on land we lease pursuant to operating leases. Approximately 77% of the ground leases for these sites have a final expiration date of 2022 and beyond. Further, for various reasons, title to property interests in some of the foreign jurisdictions in which we operate may not be as certain as title to our property interests in the United States. Our inability to protect our rights to the land under our towers may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***Increasing competition in the tower industry may create pricing pressures that may materially and adversely affect us.***

Our industry is highly competitive and our tenants have numerous alternatives in leasing antenna space. Some of our competitors, such as wireless carriers that allow collocation on their towers, are larger and may have greater financial resources than we do, while other competitors may have lower return on investment criteria than we do.

Competitive pricing for tenants on towers from these competitors could materially and adversely affect our lease rates and services income, as well as require us to pay significantly more to acquire assets. In addition, we may not be able to renew existing tenant leases or enter into new tenant leases, resulting in a material adverse impact on our results of operations and growth rate. Increasing competition could also make the acquisition of high quality tower assets more costly. Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

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***If we are unable or choose not to exercise our rights to purchase towers that are subject to lease and sublease agreements at the end of the applicable period, our cash flows derived from such towers would be eliminated.***

Our communications real estate portfolio includes towers that we operate pursuant to lease and sublease agreements that include a purchase option at the end of each lease period. We may not have the required available capital to exercise our right to purchase leased or subleased towers at the end of the applicable period. Even if we do have available capital, we may choose not to exercise our right to purchase such towers for business or other reasons. In the event that we do not exercise these purchase rights or are otherwise unable to acquire an interest that would allow us to continue to operate these towers after the applicable period, we would lose the cash flows derived from such towers. In the event that we decide to exercise these purchase rights, the benefits of the acquisitions of a significant number of towers may not exceed the associated acquisition, compliance and integration costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***If we elect not to qualify as a REIT or fail to remain qualified as a REIT, we would be subject to tax at corporate income tax rates, which would substantially reduce funds otherwise available.***

We began operating as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, effective for the taxable year beginning January 1, 2012. If we elect not to qualify as a REIT or fail to remain qualified as a REIT, we will be taxed at corporate income tax rates unless certain relief provisions apply. We cannot guarantee that we will continue to remain qualified, including if our Board of Directors determines it is no longer in our interests to be a REIT.

Qualification as a REIT requires application of certain highly technical and complex provisions of the Code, which provisions may change from time to time, to our operations as well as various factual determinations concerning matters and circumstances not entirely within our control. There are limited judicial or administrative interpretations of the Code provisions.

For instance, the net income of our TRSs is not required to be distributed to us, and such undistributed TRS income is generally not subject to our REIT distribution requirements. However, if the accumulation of cash or reinvestment of significant earnings in our TRSs causes the fair market value of our securities in those entities, taken together with other non-qualifying assets, to exceed 25% of the fair market value of our assets, in each case as determined for REIT asset testing purposes, we would, absent timely responsive action, fail to qualify as a REIT.

If, in any taxable year, we fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT, and are not entitled to relief under the Code:

we will not be allowed a deduction for distributions to stockholders in computing our taxable income;

we will be subject to federal and state income tax, including any applicable alternative minimum tax, on our taxable income at regular corporate tax rates; and

we would be disqualified from REIT tax treatment for the four taxable years following the year during which we were so disqualified.

Any corporate tax liability could be substantial and would reduce the amount of cash available for other purposes. If we elect not to or fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT, we may need to borrow additional funds or liquidate some investments to pay any additional tax liability. Accordingly, funds available for investment and operations would be reduced.

***We may be limited in our ability to fund required distributions using cash generated through our TRSs.***

As a REIT, we must distribute to our stockholders an amount equal to at least 90% of the REIT taxable income (determined before the deduction for distributed earnings and excluding any net capital gain). Timing

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differences between the receipt of income and the recognition of income for federal income tax purposes, as well as the effect of non-deductible expenditures, may impair our ability to fund required distributions. If our cash available for distribution falls short of our estimates, we may be unable to maintain distributions that approximate our REIT taxable income, and as a result, may fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT. To the extent that we satisfy the 90% distribution requirement, but distribute less than 100% of our REIT taxable income, we will be subject to federal corporate income tax on our undistributed taxable income. In addition, we will be subject to a 4% nondeductible excise tax if the actual amount that we distribute to our stockholders for a calendar year is less than the minimum amount specified under the Code.

Our ability to receive distributions from our TRSs is limited by the rules with which we must comply to maintain our status as a REIT. In particular, at least 75% of our gross income for each taxable year as a REIT must be derived from real estate, which principally includes gross income from the leasing of our communications sites and rental-related services. Consequently, no more than 25% of our gross income may consist of dividend income from our TRSs and other non-qualifying types of income. Thus, our ability to receive distributions from our TRSs may be limited, and may impact our ability to fund distributions to our stockholders. Specifically, if our TRSs become highly profitable, we might become limited in our ability to receive net income from our TRSs in an amount required to fund distributions to our stockholders commensurate with that profitability.

In addition, the majority of our income and cash flows from our TRSs are generated from our international operations. In many cases, there are local withholding taxes and currency controls that may impact our ability or willingness to repatriate funds to the United States to help satisfy REIT distribution requirements.

*Complying with REIT requirements may limit our flexibility or cause us to forego otherwise attractive opportunities.*

To maintain our qualification as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, we must continually satisfy tests concerning, among other things, the sources of our income, the nature and diversification of our assets, the amounts we distribute to our stockholders and the concentration of ownership of our stock. Compliance with these tests will require us to refrain from certain activities and may hinder our ability to make certain attractive investments, including the purchase of non-qualifying assets, the expansion of non-real estate activities, and investments in the businesses to be conducted by our TRSs, and to that extent limit our opportunities and our flexibility to change our business strategy. We could also be required to liquidate otherwise attractive investments, and could be limited in our ability to hedge liabilities and risks. Furthermore, acquisition opportunities in domestic and international markets may be adversely affected if we need or require the target company to comply with some REIT requirements prior to closing. In addition, we may receive pressure from investors not to pursue growth opportunities that are not immediately accretive.

Under the Code, no more than 25% of the value of the assets of a REIT may be represented by securities of one or more TRSs and other non-qualifying assets. This limitation may affect our ability to make additional investments in our managed networks business or network development services segment as currently structured and operated, in other non-REIT qualifying operations or assets, or in international operations conducted through TRSs that we do not elect to bring into the REIT structure. To meet our annual distribution requirements, we may be required to distribute amounts that may otherwise be used for our operations, including amounts that may otherwise be invested in future acquisitions, capital expenditures or repayment of debt, and it is possible that we might be required to borrow funds, sell assets or raise equity to fund these distributions, even if the then-prevailing market conditions are not favorable for these borrowings, sales or offerings.

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***Certain of our business activities may be subject to corporate level income tax and foreign taxes, which reduce our cash flows, and may have deferred and contingent tax liabilities.***

We are subject to certain federal, state, local and foreign taxes on our income and assets, including alternative minimum taxes, taxes on any undistributed income and state, local or foreign income, franchise, property and transfer taxes. In addition, we could, in certain circumstances, be required to pay an excise or penalty tax, which could be significant in amount, in order to utilize one or more relief provisions under the Code to maintain qualification for taxation as a REIT. Any of these taxes would decrease our earnings and our available cash.

Our TRS assets and operations will continue to be subject, as applicable, to federal and state corporate income taxes and to foreign taxes in the jurisdictions in which those assets and operations are located.

We will also be subject to a federal corporate level tax at the highest regular corporate rate (currently 35%) on the gain recognized from a sale of assets occurring within a specified period (generally, ten years) after the REIT Conversion, up to the amount of the built-in gain that existed on January 1, 2012, which is based on the fair market value of those assets in excess of our tax basis as of January 1, 2012. Gain from a sale of an asset occurring after the specified period ends will not be subject to this corporate level tax. We currently do not expect to sell any asset if the sale would result in the imposition of a material tax liability, but our plans may change in the future.

***We may need additional financing to fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives and to satisfy our REIT distribution requirements.***

To fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives and to satisfy our REIT distribution requirements, we may need to raise additional capital through financing activities, sell assets or raise equity. We believe our cash provided by operations for the year ending December 31, 2013 will sufficiently fund our cash needs for operations, capital expenditures, required REIT distribution payments and cash debt service (interest and principal repayments) obligations through 2013. However, we anticipate that we may need to obtain additional sources of capital in the future to fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives and satisfy our REIT distribution requirements. Depending on market conditions, we may seek to raise capital through credit facilities or debt or equity offerings. Additionally, a downgrade of our credit rating below investment grade could negatively impact our ability to access credit markets or preclude us from obtaining funds on investment grade terms and conditions. Further, certain of our current debt instruments limit the amount of indebtedness we and our subsidiaries may incur. Additional financing, therefore, may be unavailable, more expensive or restricted by the terms of our outstanding indebtedness. If we are unable to raise capital when our needs arise, we may not be able to fund our capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives or satisfy our REIT distribution requirements.

***Our leverage and debt service obligations may materially and adversely affect us.***

In order to meet the REIT distribution requirements and maintain our qualification and taxation as a REIT, we may need to borrow funds, sell assets or raise equity, even if the then-prevailing market conditions are not favorable for these borrowings, sales or offerings. Any insufficiency of our cash flows to cover our REIT distribution requirements could adversely impact our ability to raise short- and long-term debt, to sell assets or to offer equity securities. Furthermore, the REIT distribution requirements may increase the financing we need to fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives. This would increase our total leverage.

As of March 31, 2013, we had approximately \$8.8 billion of consolidated debt and the ability to borrow additional amounts of approximately \$1.7 billion under our credit facilities. Our leverage could render us unable to generate cash sufficient to pay when due the principal of, interest on, or other amounts due with respect to our indebtedness. We are also permitted, subject to certain restrictions under our existing indebtedness, to draw down on our credit facilities and obtain additional long-term debt and working capital lines of credit to meet future financing needs.

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Our leverage could have significant negative consequences on our business, results of operations or financial condition, including:

impairing our ability to meet one or more of the financial ratio covenants contained in our debt agreements or to generate cash sufficient to pay interest or principal due under those agreements, which could result in an acceleration of some or all of our outstanding debt and the loss of the Secured Towers if an uncured default occurs;

increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

limiting our ability to obtain additional debt or equity financing;

increasing our borrowing costs if our current investment grade debt ratings decline;

requiring the dedication of a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to service our debt, thereby reducing the amount of our cash flow available for other purposes, including capital expenditures or REIT distributions;

requiring us to sell debt or equity securities or to sell some of our core assets, possibly on unfavorable terms, to meet payment obligations;

limiting our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the markets in which we compete;

limiting our ability to repurchase our common stock or make distributions to our stockholders; and

placing us at a possible competitive disadvantage to less leveraged competitors and competitors that may have better access to capital resources.

***Restrictive covenants in the Loan Agreement related to our Securitization, the loan agreements for our credit facilities and the indentures governing our debt securities could materially and adversely affect our business by limiting flexibility.***

The Loan Agreement related to our Securitization includes operating covenants and other restrictions customary for loans subject to rated securitizations. Among other things, the borrowers under the Loan Agreement are prohibited from incurring other indebtedness for borrowed money or further encumbering their assets. A failure to comply with the covenants in the Loan Agreement could prevent the borrowers from taking certain actions with respect to the Secured Towers and could prevent the borrowers from distributing any excess cash from the operation of such towers to us. If the borrowers were to default on the Loan, the servicer on the loan could seek to foreclose upon or otherwise convert the ownership of the Secured Towers, in which case we could lose such towers and the excess cash flow associated with such towers.

The loan agreements for our credit facilities contain restrictive covenants, as well as requirements to comply with certain leverage and other financial maintenance tests, and could thus limit our ability to take various actions, including incurring additional debt, guaranteeing indebtedness or making distributions to stockholders, and engaging in various types of transactions, including mergers, acquisitions and sales of assets. Additionally, our indentures restrict our and our subsidiaries' ability to incur liens securing our or their indebtedness. These covenants could have an adverse effect on our business by limiting our ability to take advantage of financing, new tower development, mergers and acquisitions or other opportunities. Further, if these limits prevent us from satisfying our REIT distribution requirements, we could fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT. If these limits do not jeopardize our qualification for taxation as a REIT but nevertheless prevent us from distributing 100% of our REIT taxable income, we would be subject to federal corporate income tax, and potentially a nondeductible excise tax, on the retained amounts.

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In addition, reporting and information covenants in our loan agreements and indentures require that we provide financial and operating information within certain time periods. If we are unable to timely provide the

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required information, we would be in breach of these covenants. For more information regarding the covenants and requirements discussed above, please see Item 7 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 under the caption Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources Factors Affecting Sources of Liquidity and note 8 to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report.

***We may incur goodwill and other intangible asset impairment charges which could result in a significant reduction to our earnings.***

In accordance with GAAP, we are required to assess our goodwill and other intangible assets annually to determine if they are impaired or more frequently in the event of circumstances indicating potential impairment. These circumstances could include a decline in our actual or expected future cash flows or income, a significant adverse change in the business climate, a decline in market capitalization, or slower growth rates in our industry, among others. If the testing performed indicates that impairment has occurred, we are required to record a non-cash impairment charge for the difference between the carrying value of the goodwill or other intangible assets and the implied fair value of the goodwill or other intangible assets in the period the determination is made.

While we did not record any impairment charges during the three months ended March 31, 2013, it is possible that in the future, we may be required to record impairment charges for our goodwill or for other intangible assets. These charges could be significant, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***We have limited experience operating as a REIT, which may adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, cash flow and ability to satisfy debt service obligations.***

We have only been operating as a REIT since January 1, 2012. Accordingly, the experience of our senior management operating a REIT is limited and may adversely affect our ability to remain qualified as a REIT. Failure to maintain REIT status could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations, cash flow and ability to satisfy debt service obligations.

***We could have liability under environmental and occupational safety and health laws.***

Our operations, like those of other companies engaged in similar businesses, are subject to the requirements of various federal, state, local and foreign environmental and occupational safety and health laws and regulations, including those relating to the management, use, storage, disposal, emission and remediation of, and exposure to, hazardous and non-hazardous substances, materials and wastes. As the owner, lessee or operator of real property and facilities, we may be liable for substantial costs of investigation, removal or remediation of soil and groundwater contaminated by hazardous materials, without regard to whether we, as the owner, lessee or operator, knew of, or were responsible for, the contamination. We may also be liable for certain costs of remediating contamination at third-party sites to which we sent waste for disposal, even if the original disposal may have complied with all legal requirements at the time. Many of these laws and regulations contain information reporting and record keeping requirements. We cannot assure you that we are at all times in complete compliance with all environmental requirements. We may be subject to potentially significant fines or penalties if we fail to comply with any of these requirements. The requirements of these laws and regulations are complex, change frequently and could become more stringent in the future. In certain jurisdictions these laws and regulations could be applied or enforced retroactively. It is possible that these requirements will change or that liabilities will arise in the future in a manner that could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

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***Our towers or data centers may be affected by natural disasters and other unforeseen events for which our insurance may not provide adequate coverage.***

Our towers are subject to risks associated with natural disasters, such as ice and wind storms, tornadoes, floods, hurricanes and earthquakes, as well as other unforeseen events. Any damage or destruction to our towers or data centers, or certain unforeseen events, may impact our ability to provide services to our tenants. While we maintain insurance coverage for natural disasters, we may not have adequate insurance to cover the associated costs of repair or reconstruction for a major future event. Further, we carry business interruption insurance, but our insurance may not adequately cover all of our lost revenues, including potential revenues from new tenants that could have been added to our towers but for the event. If we are unable to provide services to our tenants, it could lead to tenant loss, resulting in a corresponding material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

***Our costs could increase and our revenues could decrease due to perceived health risks from radio emissions, especially if these perceived risks are substantiated.***

Public perception of possible health risks associated with cellular and other wireless communications technology could slow the growth of wireless companies, which could in turn slow our growth. In particular, negative public perception of, and regulations regarding, these perceived health risks could undermine the market acceptance of wireless communications services and increase opposition to the development and expansion of tower sites. The potential connection between radio frequency emissions and certain negative health or environmental effects has been the subject of substantial study by the scientific community in recent years and numerous health-related lawsuits have been filed against wireless carriers and wireless device manufacturers. If a scientific study or court decision resulted in a finding that radio frequency emissions pose health risks to consumers, it could negatively impact our tenants and the market for wireless services, which could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition. We do not maintain any significant insurance with respect to these matters.

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During the three months ended March 31, 2013, we repurchased a total of 164,120 shares of our common stock for an aggregate of \$12.5 million, including commissions and fees, pursuant to our publicly announced stock repurchase program, as follows:

| Period              | Total Number of Shares Purchased (1) | Average Price Paid per Share (2) | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Approximate Dollar Value of Shares that May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (in millions) |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January 2013        | 15,790                               | \$ 77.91                         | 15,790                                                                           | \$ 1,254.8                                                                                             |
| February 2013       |                                      |                                  |                                                                                  | 1,254.8                                                                                                |
| March 2013          | 148,330                              | 75.82                            | 148,330                                                                          | 1,243.6                                                                                                |
| Total First Quarter | 164,120                              | \$ 76.02                         | 164,120                                                                          | \$ 1,243.6                                                                                             |

(1) Repurchases made pursuant to the 2011 Buyback. Under this program, our management is authorized to purchase shares from time to time through open market purchases or privately negotiated transactions at prevailing prices as permitted by securities laws and other legal requirements, and subject to market conditions and other factors. To facilitate repurchases, we make purchases pursuant to trading plans under Rule 10b5-1 of the Exchange Act, which allows us to repurchase shares during periods when we otherwise might be prevented from doing so under insider trading laws or because of self-imposed trading blackout periods. This program may be discontinued at any time.

(2) Average price paid per share is calculated using the aggregate price, excluding commissions and fees.

We continued to repurchase shares of our common stock pursuant to our 2011 Buyback subsequent to March 31, 2013. Between April 1, 2013 and April 19, 2013, we repurchased an additional 205,814 shares of our common stock for an aggregate of \$16.1 million, including commissions and fees, pursuant to the 2011 Buyback. As a result, as of April 19, 2013, we had repurchased a total of 4.7 million shares of our common stock under the 2011 Buyback for an aggregate of \$272.5 million, including commissions and fees. We expect to continue to manage the pacing of the remaining \$1.2 billion under the 2011 Buyback in response to general market conditions and other relevant factors.

**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

N/A.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

See the Exhibit Index on Page EX-1 of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, which is incorporated herein by reference.

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**SIGNATURES**

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

AMERICAN TOWER CORPORATION

Date: May 1, 2013

By: /s/ THOMAS A. BARTLETT

Thomas A. Bartlett

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

(Duly Authorized Officer and Principal

Financial Officer)

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**EXHIBIT INDEX**

| <b>Exhibit No.</b> | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10.1               | First Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, dated as of March 15, 2013, by and between American Tower Asset Sub, LLC and American Tower Asset Sub II, LLC, as Borrowers, and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for American Tower Trust I Secured Tower Revenue Securities, as Lender.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 10.2               | First Amended and Restated Management Agreement, dated as of March 15, 2013, by and between American Tower Asset Sub, LLC and American Tower Asset Sub II, LLC, as Owners, and SpectraSite Communications, LLC, as Manager.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 10.3               | First Amended and Restated Cash Management Agreement, dated as of March 15, 2013, by and among American Tower Asset Sub, LLC and American Tower Asset Sub II, LLC, as Borrowers, and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for American Tower Trust I Secured Tower Revenue Securities, as Lender, Midland Loan Services, a Division of PNC Bank, National Association, as Servicer, U.S. Bank National Association, as Agent, and SpectraSite Communications, LLC, as Manager. |
| 10.4               | First Amended and Restated Trust and Servicing Agreement, dated as of March 15, 2013, by and among American Tower Depositor Sub, LLC, as Depositor, Midland Loan Services, a Division of PNC Bank, National Association, as Servicer, and U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 10.5               | Letter Agreement, dated as of March 12, 2013, by and between the Company and Steven C. Marshall.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 12                 | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 31.1               | Certification of Principal Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 31.2               | Certification of Principal Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 32                 | Certifications pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350 as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 101.INS            | XBRL Instance Document                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 101.SCH            | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 101.CAL            | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 101.LAB            | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 101.PRE            | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 101.DEF            | XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

Ex-1