

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 10- K

☒ **Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003

☐ **Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 1- 9761

### ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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

**36- 2151613**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

**Two Pierce Place**  
**Itasca, Illinois**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**60143- 3141**  
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (630) 773- 3800**

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

<u>Title of each class</u>	<u>Name of each exchange on which registered</u>
Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share	New York Stock Exchange
Common Share Purchase Rights	New York Stock Exchange

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

**None**

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b- 2 of the Act). Yes ☒ No ☐.

The aggregate market value of the voting common equity held by non- affiliates of the registrant, computed by reference to the last reported price at which the stock was sold on June 30, 2003 (the last day of the registrant's most recently completed second quarter) was \$2,348,777,000.

The number of outstanding shares of the registrant's Common Stock, \$1.00 par value, as of December 31, 2003 was 89,997,000.

#### Documents incorporated by reference:

Portions of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.'s Annual Report to Stockholders for the year ended December 31, 2003 are incorporated by reference into this Form 10- K in response to Parts I and II to the extent described herein.

Portions of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.'s definitive 2004 Proxy Statement are incorporated by reference into this Form 10- K in response to Part III to the extent described herein.

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**ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.**  
**ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10- K**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003**

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## PART I

### Item 1. Business.

#### General

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as "Gallagher" unless the context otherwise requires) are engaged in providing insurance brokerage, risk management and related services to clients in the United States and abroad. Gallagher's principal activity is the negotiation and placement of insurance for its clients. Gallagher also specializes in furnishing risk management services. Risk management involves assisting clients in analyzing risks and determining whether proper protection is best obtained through the purchase of insurance or through retention of all or a portion of those risks and the adoption of corporate risk management policies and cost-effective loss control and prevention programs. Risk management services also include claims management, loss control consulting and property appraisals. Gallagher believes that its ability to deliver comprehensively structured risk management and brokerage services is one of its major strengths. In addition, Gallagher has a financial services operation that manages its investment portfolio.

Gallagher operates through a network of more than 250 sales and service offices located throughout the United States and eight countries abroad and through a network of correspondent brokers and consultants in more than 100 countries around the world. Some of these offices are fully staffed with sales, marketing, claims and other service personnel; others function as servicing offices for the brokerage and risk management service operations of Gallagher. Gallagher's international operations include a Lloyd's of London broker and affiliated companies in England and other facilities in Australia, Bahrain, Bermuda, Canada, Malaysia, Scotland and Singapore.

Gallagher was founded in 1927 and was reincorporated as a Delaware corporation in 1972. Gallagher's executive offices are located at Two Pierce Place, Itasca, Illinois 60143- 3141, and its telephone number is (630) 773- 3800.

#### Information Concerning Forward- Looking Statements

This annual report contains forward- looking statements within the meaning of that term in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "Act") found at Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Additional written or oral forward- looking statements may be made by Gallagher from time to time in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), press releases, or otherwise. Statements contained in this report that are not historical facts are forward- looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Act. Forward- looking statements may include, but are not limited to, discussions concerning revenues, expenses, earnings, cash flow, capital structure, financial losses, as well as market and industry conditions, premium rates, financial markets, interest rates, foreign exchange rates, contingencies and matters relating to Gallagher's operations and income taxes. In addition, when used in this report, the words "anticipates," "believes," "should," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "plans" and variations thereof and similar expressions are intended to identify forward- looking statements. Such forward- looking statements are based on available current market and industry material, experts' reports and opinions and long- term trends, as well as management's expectations concerning future events impacting Gallagher.

Forward- looking statements made by or on behalf of Gallagher are subject to risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to the following: Gallagher's commission revenues are highly dependent on premiums charged by insurers, which are subject to fluctuation; lower interest rates reduce Gallagher's income earned on invested funds; the alternative insurance market continues to grow which could unfavorably impact commission and favorably impact fee revenue, though not necessarily to the same extent; Gallagher's revenues vary significantly from period to period as a result of the timing of policy inception dates and the net effect of new and lost business production; the general level of economic activity can have a substantial impact on Gallagher's renewal business; Gallagher's operating results, returns on investments and financial position may be adversely impacted by exposure to various market risks such as interest rate, equity pricing, foreign exchange rates and the competitive environment, and Gallagher's effective income tax rate may be subject to increase as a result of changes in income tax laws or unfavorable interpretations of existing income tax laws. Gallagher's ability to grow has been enhanced through acquisitions, which may or may not be available on acceptable terms in the future and which, if consummated, may or may not be advantageous to Gallagher. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially from those set forth in the forward- looking statements.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward- looking statements contained in this report, which speak only as of the date set forth on the signature page hereto. Gallagher undertakes no obligation to publicly release the result of any revisions to these forward- looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after such date or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events.

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### Operating Segments

Gallagher has identified three operating segments: Brokerage, Risk Management and Financial Services. The Brokerage segment, for commission or fee compensation, primarily places commercial property/casualty (P/C) and employee benefit- related insurance on behalf of its customers. The Risk Management segment provides P/C and health claim third- party administration, loss control and risk management consulting and insurance property appraisals. Third party administration is principally the management and processing of claims for self- insurance programs of Gallagher's clients or clients of other brokers. The Financial Services segment is responsible for managing Gallagher's investment portfolio.

The two major sources of operating revenues for Gallagher are commissions from brokerage operations and service fees from brokerage and risk management operations. Information with respect to all sources of revenue, by operating segment, for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003, is as follows (in millions):

	2003		2002		2001	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
Commissions						
Brokerage	\$ 746.2	59%	\$ 662.9	63%	\$ 537.9	61%
Fees						
Brokerage	135.5	11%	109.0	10%	62.3	7%
Risk Management	320.7	25%	280.4	26%	263.6	30%
Investment income and other						
Brokerage	7.5	1%	9.4	1%	12.1	1%
Risk Management	1.0	0%	0.8	0%	1.1	0%
Financial Services	93.6	7%	38.9	4%	46.0	5%
Gross revenues	1,304.5	103%	1,101.4	104%	923.0	104%
Less brokerage	(40.7)	(3%)	(41.1)	(4%)	(35.0)	(4%)
Total revenues	\$ 1,263.8	100%	\$ 1,060.3	100%	\$ 888.0	100%

See Note 19 to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements on pages 50 to 52, which are incorporated herein by reference for additional financial information, including earnings before income taxes and identifiable assets, by operating segment, for 2003, 2002 and 2001.

During 2003, 2002 and 2001, Gallagher's total revenues and expenses each increased sequentially from quarter- to- quarter within the calendar years, except for the second quarter of 2001 and the third quarter of 2002, the latter of which was negatively impacted by \$28.9 million of investment write-downs. However, commission and fee revenues and the related expenses can vary from quarter- to- quarter as a result of the timing of policy inception dates that traditionally are heaviest in the third and fourth quarters. On the other hand, salaries and employee benefits, rent, depreciation and amortization expenses tend to be more uniform throughout the year. In addition, the timing of acquisitions accounted for as purchases will also impact the trends in Gallagher's quarterly operating results. See Note 18 to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements on page 49, which are incorporated herein by reference for unaudited quarterly operating results for 2003 and 2002.

### Brokerage

The Brokerage segment comprises three operating divisions: the Brokerage Services- Retail Division (BSD), Specialty Marketing and International (SMI) and Gallagher Benefit Services (GBS).

BSD places insurance for and services commercial, industrial, institutional, governmental, religious and personal accounts throughout the United States and abroad. SMI places insurance for and services commercial, industrial, institutional, governmental, religious and personal accounts throughout the United States and abroad. BSD and SMI act as agents in soliciting, negotiating and effecting contracts of insurance through insurance companies worldwide, as brokers in procuring contracts of insurance on behalf of insureds, and as administrators in setting up and managing self-insured programs. In addition, SMI places insurance on behalf of other brokers. BSD and SMI both have the capability to handle insurable risks and related coverages for all forms of P/C products. SMI also places surplus lines coverages, which are coverages for various specialized risks not available

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from insurance companies licensed by the states in which the risks are located. In addition, SMI's reinsurance intermediary operations place reinsurance coverages for its insurance company clients.

GBS specializes in the management of employee benefit programs through fully insured and self- insured programs. GBS provides services in connection with the design, financing, implementation, administration and communication of compensation and employee benefit programs (including pension and profit- sharing plans, group life, health, accident and disability insurance programs and income tax deferral plans), and provides other professional services in connection therewith.

The primary source of Gallagher's compensation for its Brokerage segment is commissions paid by insurance companies which are usually based upon a percentage of the premium paid by insureds. Commission rates are dependent on a number of factors including the type of insurance, the particular insurance company and the capacity in which Gallagher acts. In some cases, Gallagher is compensated for brokerage or advisory services directly by fees from clients. Gallagher may also receive contingent commissions which are based on the estimated profit the underwriting insurance company earns and/or the overall volume of business placed by Gallagher in a given period of time. Occasionally, Gallagher shares commissions with other brokers who have participated with Gallagher in placing insurance or servicing insureds. GBS receives a fee for acting in the capacity of advisor and administrator with respect to employee benefit programs and receives commissions in connection with the placement of insurance under such programs.

### **Risk Management**

The Risk Management segment comprises two wholly- owned subsidiaries: Gallagher Bassett Services (GB) and Gallagher Benefit Administrators (GBA). Approximately 90% of this segment's total revenues are generated by GB.

GB provides a full range of risk management services including claims management, risk control consulting services, information management, and property appraisals on a totally integrated or select, stand- alone basis. GB provides these services for Gallagher's clients through a network of service offices located throughout the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and Australia.

GB primarily markets its risk management services directly to clients on an unbundled basis independent of Gallagher. GB also markets these services to BSD and SMI clients who are interested in P/C risk management related services.

In connection with its risk management services, GB provides "self- insurance" programs for large institutions, risk sharing pools and associations, and large commercial and industrial customers. Self- insurance, as administered by GB, is a program in which the client assumes a manageable portion of its insurance risks, usually (although not always) placing the less predictable and larger loss exposures with an insurance carrier that specializes in these less predictable exposures.

GBA is a third- party administrator that serves the self- funded employee health benefit marketplace by integrating effective managed care and quality assurance programs with claims administration services. The employee health benefit services provided by GBA are, in many instances, directly supported by GBS.

GB's and GBA's revenues for risk management services are substantially in the form of fees. These fees are typically negotiated in advance on an annual basis based upon the estimated volume of the services to be performed.

### **Financial Services**

Financial Services is primarily responsible for Gallagher's investment portfolio which includes marketable securities, tax advantaged investments, real estate partnerships, an investment in Allied World Assurance Holdings, Ltd., an alternative investment fund manager, notes receivable from investees and an investment in an airplane leasing company that leases two cargo airplanes to the French Postal Service. Financial Services manages the invested assets of Gallagher in order to maximize the long- term after- tax return to Gallagher. During the first quarter of 2003, Gallagher decided to withdraw virtually all continued support for its venture capital investments, except to the limited extent needed to realize value from the remaining assets. Without Gallagher's support, it was doubtful that these operations would be able to execute their business plans. Therefore, Gallagher's venture capital investments were determined to be other- than- temporarily impaired leading to a \$25.7 million pretax charge in the first quarter of 2003. In addition, effective July 1, 2003, Gallagher early adopted FASB Interpretation No. 46 (FIN 46), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities," which required Gallagher to consolidate one partially- owned entity, that was determined to be a variable interest entity (VIE) and previously not consolidated because it was not controlled by Gallagher through a majority voting interest. The adoption of FIN 46 did not result in any additional debt on Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet nor did it have any impact on its 2003 consolidated net earnings or December 31, 2003 stockholders' equity. See

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Note 3 to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements on pages 26 to 32, which are incorporated herein by reference for a summary of Gallagher's investments.

Gallagher's overall non- fiduciary investment strategy going forward will be primarily focused on tax advantaged investments and real estate. Gallagher uses the limited partnership or limited liability company forms of legal ownership to fund many of its investments in order to obtain favorable tax treatment with respect to gains, losses and distributions, while limiting its liability. Based on the ownership structure of these investments, management believes that Gallagher's exposure to losses related to these investments is limited to the combination of its net carrying value, letters of credit, financial guarantees and funding commitments. In the event that certain of these limited partnerships or limited liability companies were to default on their debt obligations and Gallagher's net carrying value became impaired, the amount to be written- off could have a material effect on Gallagher's consolidated financial position or operating results. In some cases, Gallagher may be at risk for tax credits taken in previous years, which may also be material to its operations. See Note 3 (pages 26 to 32) and Note 16 (pages 43 to 47) to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements, which are incorporated herein by reference for a summary of outstanding letters of credit, financial guarantees and funding commitments and Note 7 on page 36 for a summary of outstanding debt and contingent commitments. In addition, see Note 3 (pages 26 to 32) to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a summary of Gallagher's tax credit exposure.

### International Operations

Total revenues by geographic area for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003 are as follows (in millions):

	2003		2002		2001	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
United States	\$ 1,133.8	90%	\$ 954.7	90%	\$ 812.4	91%
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda	130.0	10%	105.6	10%	75.6	9%
Total revenues	\$ 1,263.8	100%	\$ 1,060.3	100%	\$ 888.0	100%

The Brokerage segment's international operations comprise the following: a Lloyd's of London broker and an insurance brokerage and risk management joint- venture in the United Kingdom; an insurance brokerage operation and two "rent- a- captive" insurance company facilities in Bermuda; reinsurance intermediary operations in Australia and Singapore; and a network of correspondent brokers and consultants in more than 100 countries around the world.

Arthur J. Gallagher (UK) (AJG UK) is a wholly- owned London based subsidiary of Gallagher. It provides brokerage and other services to clients primarily located outside the United Kingdom. The principal activity of AJG UK is to negotiate and place insurance and reinsurance with Lloyd's of London underwriters and insurance companies worldwide. AJG UK's brokerage services encompass most classes of business within the general categories of aviation, marine, reinsurance (treaty and facultative) and P/C. The thrust of AJG UK's business development has been with non- United Kingdom brokers, agents and insurers rather than domestic United Kingdom retail business. Its clients are primarily insurance and reinsurance companies, underwriters at Lloyd's of London, Gallagher's non- United Kingdom subsidiaries, other independent agents and brokers and major business corporations requiring direct insurance and reinsurance placements.

Risk Management Partners (RMP) is a 50% owned joint- venture between Gallagher and Munich- American Re Corporation that markets customized insurance and risk management products and services to United Kingdom public entities through offices in England and Scotland. RMP was formed in 1994 and Gallagher believes that RMP is now the third largest provider of insurance brokerage related services to the public entity market in the United Kingdom.

Arthur J. Gallagher (Bermuda) provides clients with direct access to the risk- taking capacity of foreign insurers for both direct and reinsurance placements. It also acts as a wholesaler to Gallagher's marketing efforts by accessing global insurance and reinsurance companies in the placement of United States and foreign risks. In addition, it provides services relating to the formation and management of offshore captive insurance companies.

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Gallagher has ownership interests in two Bermuda- based insurance companies that operate "rent- a- captive" facilities: Artex Insurance Company, a partially owned joint- venture, and Protected Insurance Company, a wholly- owned subsidiary. Rent- a- captives enable clients to receive the benefits of owning a captive insurance company without certain disadvantages of ownership. Captive insurance companies are created for clients to insure their risks and capture underwriting profit and investment income, which is then available for use by the insured generally for reducing future costs of their insurance programs.

Arthur J. Gallagher Australasia is a wholly- owned subsidiary of Gallagher that is headquartered in Sydney, Australia. This subsidiary provides reinsurance placements for international or local Australian companies, and specialty programs and coverages for Australian and other clients through underwriting facilities with Lloyd's of London underwriters.

Arthur J. Gallagher Asia is a 51% owned joint- venture of AJG UK that is based in Singapore. It specializes in treaty and facultative reinsurance placements for insurance companies located throughout Asia. These placements are made directly with reinsurance companies or through Gallagher's subsidiaries and encompass several lines of business. Gallagher also has brokerage operations in Bahrain and Malaysia that are not material to Gallagher's Brokerage segment.

The Brokerage segment also has strategic alliances with a variety of international brokers in countries where Gallagher does not have a physical presence. Through a network of correspondent brokers and consultants in more than 100 countries globally, Gallagher is able to fully serve its clients' coverage and service needs in virtually any geographic area where their operations are located.

The Risk Management segment's international operations principally comprise risk management companies in the United Kingdom and Australia.

Gallagher Bassett International (UK) (GB UK), a wholly- owned subsidiary of GB, provides risk management services for foreign operations, as well as United States operations that are foreign controlled. Headquartered in London with additional offices in England and Scotland, GB UK works with insurance companies, reinsurance companies, overseas brokers, and risk managers of overseas organizations. Services include consulting, claims management, information management, loss control and property valuations.

Wyatt Gallagher Bassett is a wholly- owned subsidiary of GB that is headquartered in Brisbane, Australia with additional facilities located in Australia. Wyatt Gallagher Bassett is principally engaged in providing claims adjusting and risk management services in Australia. Services include consulting, claims management, crisis management, information management, loss control and property valuations.

Gallagher also has risk management service facilities in Canada that are not material to Gallagher's Risk Management segment.

See Note 17 (pages 48 to 49) and Note 19 (pages 50 to 52) to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements which are incorporated herein by reference for additional financial information related to Gallagher's foreign operations, including earnings before income taxes and identifiable assets, by operating segment, for 2003, 2002 and 2001.

## **Markets and Marketing**

A large portion of the commission and fee business of Gallagher is derived from all types of business institutions, not- for- profit organizations, associations and municipal and other governmental entities. Gallagher's clients include United States and multi- national corporations engaged in a broad range of commercial and industrial businesses. Gallagher also places insurance for individuals. Gallagher services its clients through its network of more than 250 sales and service offices in the United States and eight countries abroad. No material part of Gallagher's business is dependent upon a single customer or on a few customers. The loss of any one customer would not have a materially adverse effect on Gallagher. In 2003, the largest single customer represented less than 2% of total revenues.

Gallagher believes that its ability to deliver comprehensively structured risk management and brokerage services, including the placement of insurance and reinsurance, is one of its major strengths. Gallagher also believes that its risk management business enhances and attracts insurance brokerage business due to the nature and strength of business relationships that it forms with clients when providing a variety of risk management services on an ongoing basis.



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Gallagher requires its employees serving in a sales or marketing capacity, including all executive officers of Gallagher, to enter into agreements with Gallagher restricting disclosure of confidential information and solicitation of clients and prospects of Gallagher upon their termination of employment. The confidentiality and non-solicitation provisions of such agreements terminate in the event of a hostile change in control of Gallagher, as defined therein.

### **Competition**

According to *Business Insurance* magazine, Gallagher is the fourth largest insurance broker worldwide (third largest in the United States) in terms of total revenues. The insurance brokerage and service business is highly competitive and there are many insurance brokerage and service organizations as well as individuals on a global basis who actively compete with Gallagher in every area of its business. Three competing firms are significantly larger and have several times the commission and/or fee revenues of Gallagher. There are firms in a particular region or locality that are as large or larger than the particular local office of Gallagher. Gallagher believes that the primary factors determining its competitive position with other organizations in its industry are the quality of the services rendered and the overall costs to its clients.

Gallagher is also in competition with certain insurance companies that write insurance directly for their customers. Government benefits relating to health, disability, and retirement are also alternatives to private insurance and hence indirectly compete with the business of Gallagher. To date, such direct writing and government benefits have had, in the opinion of Gallagher, relatively little effect on its business and operations, but Gallagher can make no prediction as to their effect in the future.

### **Regulation**

In every state and foreign jurisdiction in which Gallagher does business, Gallagher or an employee is required to be licensed or receive regulatory approval in order for Gallagher to conduct business. In addition to licensing requirements applicable to Gallagher, most jurisdictions require that individuals who engage in brokerage and certain insurance service activities be personally licensed.

Gallagher's insurance brokerage and risk management operations depend on its continued good standing under the licenses and approvals pursuant to which it operates. Licensing laws and regulations vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. In all jurisdictions, the applicable licensing laws and regulations are subject to amendment or interpretation by regulatory authorities. Generally such authorities are vested with relatively broad and general discretion as to the granting, renewing and revoking of licenses and approvals.

### **Business Combinations**

In 2003, Gallagher acquired the net assets of thirteen insurance brokerage firms and one risk management firm (twelve asset purchases and two stock purchases) in exchange for its common stock and/or cash using the purchase method for recording business combinations. See Note 4 to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements on pages 33 to 34, which are incorporated herein by reference for a summary of the entities acquired, the amount and nature of the consideration paid and the dates of acquisition.

Effective on February 1, 2004, Gallagher acquired substantially all of the net assets of Roberts, Eastland & Persac a corporation engaged in the insurance brokerage and services business, in exchange for 12,000 shares of Gallagher's common stock, cash of \$3.5 million and a contingent earnout obligation of \$1.5 million that, if any is earned, will be paid in cash.

Gallagher believes that the net effect of these acquisitions has been and will be to expand the volume of general services rendered by Gallagher and the geographical areas in which Gallagher renders such services and not to change substantially the nature of the services performed by Gallagher.

Gallagher is considering and intends to consider from time to time, additional acquisitions and divestitures on terms that it deems advantageous. Gallagher at this time is engaged in preliminary discussions with a number of candidates for possible future acquisitions and has received signed, non-binding letters of intent from six acquisition candidates. No assurances can be given that any additional acquisitions or divestitures will be consummated, or, if consummated, will be advantageous to Gallagher.



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### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2003, Gallagher employed approximately 7,200 employees, none of whom is represented by a labor union. Gallagher continuously reviews benefits and other matters of interest to its employees and considers its relations with its employees to be satisfactory.

### **Available Information**

Gallagher makes available free of charge on its website at [www.ajg.com](http://www.ajg.com) its annual report on Form 10- K, quarterly reports on Form 10- Q, current reports on Form 8- K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, as soon as reasonably practicable after electronically filing or furnishing such material to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Gallagher's Governance Guidelines, Audit Committee Charter, Compensation Committee Charter and Nominating/Governance Committee Charter are also available on our website or upon written or verbal request. Requests for copies of any of these documents should be directed in writing to Investor Relations, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Two Pierce Place, Itasca, Illinois 60143- 3141, or by telephone to (630) 773- 3800.

### **Item 2. Properties.**

Gallagher's executive offices and certain subsidiary and branch facilities are located at Two Pierce Place, Itasca, Illinois, where Gallagher leases approximately 260,000 square feet of space. The lease commitment on this property expires February 28, 2006. Gallagher has a 60% ownership interest in the limited partnership that owns the Two Pierce Place property. This investment is consolidated into Gallagher's consolidated financial statements. See Note 3 (pages 26 to 32), Note 7 (page 36) and Note 16 (pages 43 to 47) to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements which are incorporated herein by reference for additional information with respect to this ownership interest.

Gallagher generally operates in leased premises. Certain office space leases have options permitting renewals for additional periods. In addition to minimum fixed rentals, a number of leases contain annual escalation clauses generally related to increases in an inflation index. See Note 16 to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements on pages 43 to 47, which are incorporated herein by reference for information with respect to Gallagher's lease commitments at December 31, 2003.

### **Item 3. Legal Proceedings.**

Information regarding legal proceedings of Gallagher is included in Note 16 (Litigation) to the Consolidated Financial Statements on page 47 of Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

No matters were submitted to a vote of security holders during Gallagher's fourth quarter ended December 31, 2003.

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The executive officers of Gallagher are as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Position and Year First Elected</u>
Robert E. Gallagher	81	Chairman since 1990, Chief Executive Officer from 1963 until 1995
J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.	52	President since 1990, Chief Executive Officer since 1995
Elizabeth J. Brinkerhoff	60	Vice President since 1993
Richard C. Cary	41	Controller since 1997, Chief Accounting Officer since 2001, Acting Chief Financial Officer September 2002 to April 2003
James W. Durkin, Jr.	54	Vice President since 1985, President of GBS since 1985
Nicholas M. Elsberg	61	Vice President since 1994
James S. Gault	52	Vice President since 1992, President and Chief Operating Officer of BSD since June 2002
Douglas K. Howell	42	Vice President since March 2003 and Chief Financial Officer since April 2003
David E. McGurn, Jr.	50	Vice President since 1993, President of SMI since 2001
Richard J. McKenna	57	Vice President since 1994, President of GB since 2000
John C. Rosengren	57	Vice President and General Counsel since 1995, Secretary since 2002

With the exception of Mr. Howell, each such person has been principally employed by Gallagher in management capacities for more than the past five years. All executive officers are elected annually and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

Prior to joining Gallagher on March 3, 2003, Mr. Howell was employed as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Insurance Group (NYSE:TW) from April 2001 to February 2003 and prior thereto as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of GuideOne Insurance Group since 1997.

**PART II****Item 5. Market for the Registrant's Common Stock and Related Stockholder Matters.**

Gallagher's common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, trading under the symbol "AJG." The following table sets forth information as to the price range of Gallagher's common stock for the two- year period January 1, 2002 through December 31, 2003 and the dividends declared per common share for such period. The table reflects the range of high and low sales prices per share as reported on the New York Stock Exchange composite listing.

	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Dividends Declared per Common Share</u>
<b>Quarterly Periods</b>			
<b>2003</b>			
First	\$ 29.75	\$ 23.28	\$ .18
Second	29.00	23.35	.18
Third	29.06	24.64	.18
Fourth	32.74	26.74	.18
<b>2002</b>			
First	\$ 37.24	\$ 31.00	\$ .15
Second	37.20	32.15	.15
Third	34.90	21.70	.15
Fourth	29.80	22.10	.15

As of January 30, 2004, there were approximately 775 holders of record of Gallagher's common stock.

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**Item 6. Selected Financial Data.**

The following selected consolidated financial data for each of the five years in the period ended December 31, 2003 have been derived from Gallagher's consolidated financial statements. Such data should be read in conjunction with Gallagher's audited Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes thereto, which have been incorporated by reference in Item 8 of this annual report.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
	(In millions, except per share and employee data)				
Consolidated Statement of Earnings Data:					
Commissions	\$ 746.2	\$ 662.9	\$ 537.9	\$ 472.9	\$ 440.8
Fees	456.2	389.4	325.9	282.4	235.9
Investment income and other	102.1	49.1	59.2	45.3	39.2
Gross revenues	1,304.5	1,101.4	923.0	800.6	715.9
Less brokerage	(40.7)	(41.1)	(35.0)	(26.1)	(16.7)
Total revenues	1,263.8	1,060.3	888.0	774.5	699.2
Total expenses	1,070.5	874.8	746.2	640.8	572.2
Earnings before income taxes	193.3	185.5	141.8	133.7	127.0
Provision for income taxes	47.1	55.6	16.5	40.7	43.8
Net earnings	\$ 146.2	\$ 129.9	\$ 125.3	\$ 93.0	\$ 83.2
Per Share Data:					
Basic net earnings per share <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.49	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.11	\$ 1.02
Diluted net earnings per share <sup>(2)</sup>	1.57	1.41	1.39	1.04	.97
Dividends declared per common share <sup>(3)</sup>	.72	.60	.52	.46	.40
Share Data:					
Shares outstanding at year end	90.0	88.5	85.1	84.5	82.2
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	90.0	87.3	84.8	83.6	81.7
Weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding	93.3	91.9	90.1	89.0	85.6
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:					
Total assets	\$ 2,901.6	\$ 2,463.6	\$ 2,145.3	\$ 1,626.8	\$ 1,364.3
Long- term debt less current portion	122.1	128.3	96.7	103.9	13.9
Total stockholders' equity	619.1	528.2	371.6	328.9	260.8
Return on Beginning Stockholders' Equity <sup>(4)</sup>					
	28%	35%	38%	36%	31%
Employee Data:					
	7,206	7,111	6,499	5,714	5,344

Number of employees at year end								
Total gross revenue								
per employee <sup>(5)</sup>	\$	181,000	\$	155,000	\$	142,000	\$	140,000
Net earnings per								
employee <sup>(5)</sup>	\$	20,000	\$	18,000	\$	19,000	\$	16,000

- 
- (1) Based on the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year.
- (2) Based on the weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding during the year.
- (3) Based on the total dividends declared on a share of common stock outstanding during the entire year.
- (4) Represents annual net earnings divided by stockholders' equity as of the beginning of the year.
- (5) Based on the number of employees at year end.

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

Information regarding Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations is included in Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements under the caption entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" on pages 2 to 14 and is incorporated herein by reference. All of such information should be read in conjunction with Gallagher's Consolidated Financial Statements and related notes thereto, which have been incorporated by reference in Item 8 of this annual report.

### **Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.**

Information regarding Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk is included in Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements under the caption entitled "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure about Market Risk" on pages 14 to 15 and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

Gallagher's Consolidated Financial Statements, the related notes thereto, Management's Report and Report of Independent Auditors are included in Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements on pages 16 to 52 and are incorporated herein by reference.

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

### **Item 9A. Controls and Procedures.**

As of December 31, 2003, Gallagher's management, including Gallagher's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), have conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of its disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a- 15(b) of the Exchange Act. Based on that evaluation, the CEO and CFO concluded that Gallagher's disclosure controls and procedures are effective in ensuring that all material information required to be filed in this annual report has been made known to them in a timely manner.

There has been no change in Gallagher's internal control over financial reporting during the fourth fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2003 that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, Gallagher's internal control over financial reporting.

## **PART III**

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

Information regarding directors and nominees for directors of Gallagher is included under the caption entitled "Election of Directors" in the 2004 Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference. Information regarding executive officers of Gallagher is included under the caption entitled "Executive Officers of the Registrant" in Part I of this annual report.

The Board of Directors has determined that Gary P. Coughlan qualifies as an audit committee financial expert, as such term is defined in recently adopted rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission implementing requirements of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act of 2002.

Gallagher has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all of Gallagher's employees and directors, including its principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. Gallagher's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics covers all areas of professional conduct including, but not limited to, conflicts of interest, disclosure obligations, insider trading, confidential information, as well as compliance with all laws, rules and regulations applicable to Gallagher's business.

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A copy of Gallagher's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is posted on its website at [www.ajg.com](http://www.ajg.com). In the event that an amendment to, or a waiver from, a provision of Gallagher's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to any of Gallagher's officers or directors is necessary, Gallagher intends to post such information on its website.

Gallagher undertakes to provide without charge to any person, upon written or verbal request of such person, a copy of Gallagher's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. Requests should be directed in writing to Investor Relations, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Two Pierce Place, Itasca, Illinois 60143-3141, or by telephone to (630) 773- 3800.

### **Item 11. Executive Compensation.**

Information regarding executive compensation of Gallagher's directors and executive officers is included in the 2004 Proxy Statement under the caption entitled "Compensation of Executive Officers and Directors," and is incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, the report of the Compensation Committee on executive compensation and the stock performance graph shall not be deemed to be incorporated herein by reference.

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

Information regarding beneficial ownership of the Common Stock by certain beneficial owners and by management of Gallagher is included under the caption entitled "Principal Holders of Securities" in the 2004 Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

Information regarding the number of shares of Common Stock available under Gallagher's equity compensation plans is included under the caption entitled "Equity Compensation Plan Information" in the 2004 Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

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

Not applicable.

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

Information regarding principal accountant services is included in the 2004 Proxy Statement under the caption entitled "Principal Accountant Fees and Services," and is incorporated herein by reference.

**PART IV**

**Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules and Reports on Form 8- K.**

(a) The following documents are filed as a part of this report:

1. Consolidated Financial Statements from Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements which are incorporated herein by reference:
  - (a) Consolidated Statement of Earnings for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003 (page 16)
  - (b) Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 (page 17).
  - (c) Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003 (page 18).
  - (d) Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003 (page 19).
  - (e) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (pages 20 to 52).
  - (f) Management's Report (page 53).
  - (g) Report of Independent Auditors (page 54).
2. Consolidated Financial Statement Schedules required to be filed by Item 8 of this Form:
  - (a) Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts.

All other schedules are omitted because they are not applicable, or not required, or because the required information is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or the Notes thereto.

3. Exhibits:

Included in this Form 10- K.

*10.27.4	Amendment No. 4 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 23, 2003.
*10.28.4	Amendment No. 5 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1989 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 23, 2003.
13.0	Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements.
21.0	Subsidiaries of Gallagher, including state or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization and the names under which each does business.
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors.
24.0	Powers of Attorney.
31.1	Rule 13a- 14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer.
31.2	Rule 13a- 14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer.
32.1	Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer.
32.2	Section 1350 Certification of Chief Financial Officer.



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Not included in this Form 10- K.

3.1	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Gallagher (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1996, File No. 1- 9761).
3.1.1	Certificate of Amendment of Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Amended as of May 18, 2000 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
3.1.2	Certificate of Amendment of Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Amended as of May 23, 2001 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2001, File No. 1- 9761).
3.2	By- Laws of Gallagher (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form S- 1 Registration Statement No. 33- 10447).
3.3	Rights Agreement between Gallagher and Bank of America Illinois (formerly Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago) (incorporated by reference to Exhibits 1 and 2 to Gallagher's Form 8- A Registration Statement filed May 12, 1987, File No. 0- 13480).
3.4	Assignment and Assumption Agreement of Rights Agreement by and among Bank of America Illinois (formerly Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago), Harris Trust and Savings Bank and Gallagher (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form S- 8 Registration Statement No. 33- 38031).
3.5	Amendment No. 1 to Exhibit 3.3 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1996, File No. 1- 9761).
4.1	Instruments defining the rights of security holders (relevant portions contained in the Restated Certificate of Incorporation and By- Laws of Gallagher and the Rights Agreement in Exhibits 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3, respectively, hereby incorporated by reference).
10.5	Lease Agreement between Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and Itasca Center III Limited Partnership, a Texas limited partnership, dated July 26, 1989 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 1989, File No. 1- 9761).
10.7	Letter dated December 31, 1983 from Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. to Bank of America Illinois (formerly Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust Company of Chicago) regarding Common Stock Purchase Financing Program including exhibits thereto and related letters (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form S- 1 Registration Statement No. 2- 89195).
10.7.1	Amendment to Exhibit No. 10.7 dated September 11, 1985 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 1985, File No. 0- 13480).
10.8	Credit Agreement Dated as of July 21, 2003 Among Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., The Guarantors Party Thereto, The Banks Party Thereto, Citibank, N.A., as Syndication Agent, and Harris Trust and Savings Bank, as Agent and Lead Arranger. (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2003, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.10	Board of Directors' Resolution from meeting on January 26, 1984 relating to consulting and retirement benefits for certain directors (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form S- 1 Registration Statement No. 2- 89195).
*10.11	Form of Indemnity Agreement between Gallagher and each of its directors and corporate officers (incorporated by reference to Attachment A to Gallagher's Proxy Statement dated April 10, 1987 for its Annual Meeting of Stockholders, File No. 0- 13480).
*10.14	Form of Change in Control Agreement between Gallagher and each of its Executive Officers (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 1998, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.15	

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*10.16	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Deferred Equity Participation Plan and Deferred Equity Trust Agreement dated March 22, 2001 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.18	Promissory Note dated March 15, 2001 in the principal amount of \$2,382,900 from Michael J. Cloherty, payable to Gallagher (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.19	Employment Agreement dated January 1, 1999 between Gallagher and James J. Braniff III (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.20	Secured Promissory Note dated June 19, 1996 in the principal amount of \$1,155,000 from James J. Braniff III, payable to Gallagher (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.21	Promissory Note dated February 1, 1999 in the principal amount of \$100,000 from James J. Braniff III, payable to Gallagher (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- K Annual Report for 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.22	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Brokerage Services Division Management Bonus Plan Amended and Restated as of March 21, 2002 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2002, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.22.1	Employment Agreement dated September 3, 2002 between Gallagher and Michael J. Cloherty (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2002, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.25	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. United Kingdom Incentive Stock Option Plan, Amended and restated as of January 22, 1998 and approved by the Inland Revenue on June 12, 1998 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1998, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.26	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Incentive Stock Option Plan, Amended and restated as of May 19, 1998 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1998, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.27	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, Amended and restated as of January 22, 1998 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1998, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.27.1	Amendment No. 1 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 20, 2000 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2000, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.27.2	Amendment No. 2 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 18, 2001 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2001, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.27.3	Amendment No. 3 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 17, 2002 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2002, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.28	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1989 Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, Amended and restated as of January 22, 1998 (incorporated by

reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 1998, File No. 1- 9761).

\*10.28.1

Amendment No. 2 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1989 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 20, 2000 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2000, File No. 1- 9761).

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*10.28.2	Amendment No. 3 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1989 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 18, 2001 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2001, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.28.3	Amendment No. 4 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1989 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 17, 2002 (incorporated by reference to the same exhibit number to Gallagher's Form 10- Q Quarterly Report for the quarterly period ended June 30, 2002, File No. 1- 9761).
*10.29	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restricted Stock Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.6 to Gallagher's Form S- 8 Registration Statement, No. 333- 106539).
*10.30	Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit A of Gallagher's Proxy Statement dated April 7, 2003 for its Annual Meeting of Stockholders, File No. 1- 9761).

All other exhibits are omitted because they are not applicable, or not required, or because the required information is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or Notes thereto.

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\* Such exhibit is a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement required to be filed as an exhibit to this form pursuant to item 601 of Regulation S- K.

Not applicable.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) 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 on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2004.

ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

By: /S/ J. PATRICK GALLAGHER, JR.

J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2004 by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant in the capacities indicated.

Name	Title
<u>*ROBERT E. GALLAGHER</u>	Chairman and Director
Robert E. Gallagher	
<u>/S/ J. PATRICK GALLAGHER, JR.</u>	President and Director (Principal Executive Officer)
J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.	
<u>/S/ DOUGLAS K. HOWELL</u>	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)
Douglas K. Howell	
<u>/S/ RICHARD C. CARY</u>	Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)
Richard C. Cary	
<u>*T. KIMBALL BROOKER</u>	Director
T. Kimball Brooker	
<u>*GARY P. COUGHLAN</u>	Director
Gary P. Coughlan	
<u>*ILENE S. GORDON</u>	Director
Ilene S. Gordon	
<u>*ELBERT O. HAND</u>	Director
Elbert O. Hand	
<u>*DAVID S. JOHNSON</u>	Director
David S. Johnson	
<u>*JAMES R. WIMMER</u>	Director
James R. Wimmer	

/S/ JOHN C. ROSENGREN  
\*By: John C. Rosengren, Attorney-in-Fact

**ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.  
VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS**

	Balance at Beginning of Year		Additions Charged to Earnings		Adjustments		Balance at End of Year
(In millions)							
Year ended December 31, 2003							
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 2.0	\$	1.9	\$	(1.2) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	2.7
Allowance for estimated policy cancellations	3.0		-		-		3.0
Accumulated amortization of goodwill	7.1		-		(0.3) <sup>(2)</sup>		6.8
Accumulated amortization of expiration lists and noncompete agreements	7.5		9.9		(1.0) <sup>(3)</sup>		16.4
Year ended December 31, 2002							
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 1.7	\$	4.7	\$	(4.4) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	2.0
Allowance for estimated policy cancellations	2.5		0.5		-		3.0
Accumulated amortization of goodwill	7.1		-		-		7.1
Accumulated amortization of expiration lists and noncompete agreements	1.7		6.6		(0.8) <sup>(3)</sup>		7.5
Year ended December 31, 2001							
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ 3.1	\$	1.7	\$	(3.1) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$	1.7
Allowance for estimated policy cancellations	2.0		0.5		-		2.5
Accumulated amortization of goodwill	5.8		2.6		(1.3) <sup>(2)</sup>		7.1
Accumulated amortization of expiration lists and noncompete agreements	4.2		0.9		(3.4) <sup>(3)</sup>		1.7

<sup>(1)</sup> Bad debt write- offs net of recoveries.

<sup>(2)</sup> Elimination of fully amortized goodwill, intangible asset/amortization reclassifications and disposal of acquired businesses.

<sup>(3)</sup> Elimination of fully amortized expiration lists and non- compete agreements, intangible asset/amortization reclassifications and disposal of acquired businesses.

**ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.**  
**ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10- K**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003**

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

10.27.4	Amendment No. 4 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 23, 2003.
10.28.4	Amendment No. 5 to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restated 1989 Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, Amended as of January 23, 2003.
13.0	Gallagher's 2003 Financial Statements.
21.0	Subsidiaries of Gallagher, including state or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization and the names under which each does business.
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors.
24.0	Powers of Attorney.
31.1	Rule 13a- 14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer.
31.2	Rule 13a- 14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer.
32.1	Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer.
32.2	Section 1350 Certification of Chief Financial Officer.



**AMENDMENT NO. FOUR TO THE  
ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO. RESTATED 1988 NONQUALIFIED  
STOCK OPTION PLAN**

THIS AMENDMENT NO. FOUR to the ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO. 1988 NONQUALIFIED STOCK OPTION PLAN (as restated January 22, 1998), dated January 23, 2003, is made by Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., a Delaware corporation (the "Company").

WHEREAS, the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan (the "Plan") was adopted by the Company's Board of Directors and approved by the Company's Stockholders in 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Company's Board of Directors has determined that the Plan should be amended to increase the number of shares of the Company's Common Stock subject to the Plan by 6,000,000 from 33,600,000 to 39,600,000 shares.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and in order to reflect the approval of the Board of Directors of the Company:

"The shares that may be made subject to options under the Plan shall be shares of Common Stock of the Company, one dollar (\$1.00) par value ("Common Stock"), and the total shares subject to option and issued pursuant to this Plan shall not exceed, in the aggregate, 39,600,000 shares of the Common Stock of the Company."

2. Except as expressly amended and supplemented by this Amendment, the Plan is hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused its President and Secretary to execute this Amendment No. Four to the Restated Plan as of the 23rd day of January, 2003.

ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

By:           /S/ J. PATRICK GALLAGHER, JR          

**J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.  
President**

ATTEST:

          /S/ JOHN C. ROSENGREN          

**John C. Rosengren  
Secretary**

**AMENDMENT NO. FIVE TO THE  
ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO. RESTATED 1989 NON- EMPLOYEE  
DIRECTORS' STOCK OPTION PLAN**

THIS AMENDMENT NO. FIVE to the ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO. 1989 NON- EMPLOYEE DIRECTORS' STOCK OPTION PLAN (as restated January 22, 1998), dated January 23, 2003, is made by Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., a Delaware corporation (the "Company").

WHEREAS, the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1989 Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan (the "Plan") was adopted by the Company's Board of Directors and approved by the Company's Stockholders in 1989; and

WHEREAS, the Company's Board of Directors has determined that the Plan should be amended to increase the number of shares of the Company's Common Stock subject to the Plan by 600,000 from 1,325,000 to 1,925,000 shares.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing and in order to reflect the approval of the Board of Directors of the Company:

1. The first sentence of Section 4 of the Plan is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:

"The shares that may be made subject to Options under the Plan shall be shares of common stock, one dollar (\$1.00) par value ("Common Stock"), of the Company, and the total number of shares subject to the Options and issued pursuant to this Plan shall not exceed, in the aggregate, 1,925,000 shares of the Common Stock of the Company."

2. Except as expressly amended and supplemented by this Amendment, the Plan is hereby ratified and confirmed in all respects.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused its President and Secretary to execute this Amendment No. Five to the Plan as of the 23rd day of January, 2003.

ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER & CO.

By:                    /S/   J. PATRICK GALLAGHER, JR

\_\_\_\_\_  
**J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.**  
**President**

ATTEST:

/S/   JOHN C. ROSENGREN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**John C. Rosengren**  
**Secretary**

## Arthur J. Gallagher &amp; Co.

## 2003 Financial Statements

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## Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

### Introduction

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with Gallagher's consolidated financial statements and the related notes thereto that are included elsewhere herein.

Gallagher provides insurance brokerage and risk management services to a wide variety of commercial, industrial, institutional, governmental and personal accounts through out the United States and abroad. Commission revenue is primarily generated through the negotiation and placement of insurance for its clients. Fee revenue is primarily generated by providing other risk management services including claims management, information management, risk control services and appraisals in either the property/casualty (P/C) market or human resource/employee benefits market. Investment income and other revenue is generated from Gallagher's investment portfolio, which includes fiduciary funds, equity securities, and tax advantaged and other strategic investments. Gallagher is headquartered in Itasca, Illinois, has operations in nine countries and does business in more than 100 countries globally through a network of correspondent brokers and consultants.

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations contains certain statements relating to future results which are forward- looking statements as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. See "Cautionary Language Regarding Forward- Looking Statements" on page 30 of the 2003 Annual Review.

### Insurance Market Overview

During the period from 1986 to 2000, heavy competition for market share among P/C insurance carriers resulted in low premium rates. This "soft market" (i.e., low premium rates) generally resulted in flat or reduced renewal commissions. During this soft market, natural catastrophes and other losses resulted in billions of dollars in underwriting losses to the insurance market. Substantial mergers, both domestically and internationally, resulted in fewer insurance companies. Increased property replacement costs and increasingly large litigation awards caused some clients to seek higher levels of insurance coverage. These factors would generally have the effect of generating higher premiums to clients and higher commissions to Gallagher. However, there were opposing factors including favorable equity markets, increased underwriting capital causing heavy competition for market share and improved economies of scale following consolidations, all of which tended to lower premium rates. The net result was that P/C premium rates remained low through 1999. Years of underwriting losses, coupled with the downward turn in equity markets and the decline in interest rates during the three- year period that preceded 2003, have depleted insurers' capital. In order to restore their capital to adequate levels, many carriers began to increase premium rates in 2000 and continued to do so throughout 2001 and 2002 and well into 2003, particularly after the events described below.

The insurance industry was jolted by the tragic terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001. The devastation caused by those events resulted in the largest insurance loss ever. Along with this historic loss, larger than anticipated loss experience across most risks, the stock market's steep decline, lower interest rates and diminished risk capacity led to an unprecedented acceleration of premium rate increases. A higher premium rate environment is referred to as a "hard market" and generally results in increased commission revenues. Fluctuations in premiums charged by insurance companies have a direct and potentially material impact on the insurance brokerage industry. Commission revenues are generally based on a percentage of the premiums paid by insureds and normally follow premium levels. Thus, a hard market will generally contribute positively to Gallagher's operating results. Since September 11<sup>th</sup>, the increased premium rates charged by insurance companies have had a positive impact on Gallagher's 2002 and 2003 operating results. While the hard market has continued into 2003, statements made by P/C insurance carriers in the latter part of 2003, and Gallagher's fourth quarter 2003 renewals, indicate that the rate of increase in premiums has moderated. Carriers are indicating that moderate claim related increases are becoming more typical rather than the substantial double- digit increases seen in 2002 and 2003. Further, carriers are becoming more competitive on selective client risks with favorable historical loss experience. Gallagher is unable to predict with a high degree of certainty the future effect of this moderation on its operations. However, if the industry is entering a period of flattening premium rates and a softer market, then the effect of this trend may have a negative impact on Gallagher's brokerage revenues.

In a period of rising insurance costs, there is resistance among certain "risk" buyers (Gallagher's clients) to pay increased premiums and the higher commissions generated by these premiums. Such resistance has caused some buyers to raise their deductibles and/or reduce the overall amount of insurance coverage they purchase. In addition, some buyers have switched to negotiated fee in lieu of commission arrangements with Gallagher for placing their risk. Other buyers have moved toward the alternative insurance market, which could have a favorable effect on Gallagher's Risk Management Services segment. These factors tend to reduce commission revenue to Gallagher. Gallagher anticipates that new sales and renewal increases in the areas of risk management, claims management, captive insurance and self- insurance services will continue to be a major factor in Gallagher's fee revenue growth in 2004. Though inflation tends to increase the levels of insured values and risk exposures, premium rates charged by insurance companies have had a greater impact on Gallagher's revenues than inflation.

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## Critical Accounting Policies

Gallagher's consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP), which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Gallagher believes the following significant accounting policies may involve a higher degree of judgment and complexity. See Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements for other significant accounting policies.

### Revenue Recognition

Commission revenues are recognized at the latter of the billing or the effective date of the related insurance policies, net of an allowance for estimated policy cancellations. Commission revenues related to installment premiums are recognized periodically as billed. Contingent commissions and commissions on premiums directly billed by insurance companies, are recognized as revenue when the data necessary to reasonably determine such amounts has been obtained by Gallagher. A contingent commission is a commission paid by an insurance company that is based on the overall profit and/or volume of the business placed with that insurance company. Commissions on premiums billed directly by insurance companies relate to a large number of small premium transactions, whereby the billing and policy issuance process is controlled entirely by the insurance company. Typically, these types of commission revenues cannot be reasonably determined until the cash or the related policy detail is received by Gallagher from the insurance companies. The income effects of subsequent premium adjustments are recorded when the adjustments become known.

Fee revenues generated from the Brokerage segment primarily relate to fees negotiated in lieu of commissions, which are recognized in the same manner as commission revenues. Fee revenues generated from the Risk Management segment relate to third party claims administration, loss control and other risk management consulting services, which are provided over a period of time, typically one year. These fee revenues are recognized ratably as the services are rendered. The income effects of subsequent fee adjustments are recorded when the adjustments become known.

Premiums and fees receivable in the consolidated balance sheet are net of allowances for estimated policy cancellations and doubtful accounts. The allowance for estimated policy cancellations is established through a charge to revenues, while the allowance for doubtful accounts is established through a charge to other operating expenses. Both of these allowances are based on estimates and assumptions using historical data to project future experience. Gallagher periodically reviews the adequacy of these allowances and makes adjustments as necessary. The use of different estimates or assumptions could produce different results.

### Fair Value of Investments

**Trading Securities** - Trading securities managed directly by Gallagher and by third party managers consist primarily of common and preferred stocks and corporate bonds. The trading securities managed by third parties, which were generally structured through limited partnerships, were liquidated during 2003. Trading securities are carried at fair value in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet, with unrealized gains and losses included in the consolidated statement of earnings. The fair value for these securities is primarily based on quoted market prices. To the extent that quoted market prices are not available, fair value is determined based on other relevant factors including dealer price quotations, price quotations for similar instruments in different markets and pricing models. Pricing models and their underlying assumptions impact the amount and timing of unrealized gains and losses recognized. The use of different pricing models or assumptions could produce different results.

**Other Investments** - For those investments that do not have quoted market prices, Gallagher utilizes various valuation techniques to estimate fair value and proactively looks for indicators of impairment. Factors, among others, that may indicate that an impairment could exist, include defaults on interest and/or principal payments, reductions or changes to dividend payments, sustained operating losses or a trend of poor operating performance, recent refinancings or recapitalizations, unfavorable press reports, untimely filing of financial information, significant customer or revenue loss, litigation, tax audits, losses by other companies in a similar industry, overall economic conditions, management and expert advisor changes, and significant changes in strategy. In addition, in cases where the ultimate value of an investment is directly dependent on Gallagher for future financial support, Gallagher assesses its willingness and intent to provide future funding.

If an indicator of impairment exists, Gallagher compares the investment's carrying value to an estimate of its fair value. To estimate the fair value of loans, Gallagher discounts the expected future cash flows from principal and interest payments. This requires Gallagher to exercise significant judgment when estimating both the amount and the timing of the expected cash flows. To estimate the fair value of common and preferred stock investments, Gallagher compares values established in recent recapitalizations or appraisals conducted by third parties. In some cases, no such recapitalizations or appraisals exist and Gallagher must perform its own valuations. This also requires Gallagher to exercise significant judgment. Even if impairment indicators exist, no write-down may be required if the estimated fair value is not less than the current carrying value or the decline in value is determined to be temporary and Gallagher has the ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient for the value to recover. When Gallagher determines an impairment is other-than-temporary, and therefore that a write-down is required, it is recorded as a realized loss against current period earnings.

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Both the process to review for indicators of impairment and, if such indicators exist, the method to compute the amount of impairment incorporate quantitative data and qualitative criteria including the receipt of new information that can dramatically change the decision about the valuation of an investment in a short period of time. The determination of whether a decline in fair value is other- than- temporary is necessarily a matter of subjective judgment. The timing and amount of realized losses reported in earnings could vary if management's conclusions were different.

Due to the inherent risk of investments, Gallagher cannot give assurance that there will not be impairments in the future should conditions change.

### **Intangible Assets**

Intangible assets represent the excess of cost over the value of net tangible assets of acquired businesses. Gallagher classifies its intangible assets as either goodwill, expiration lists or non- compete agreements. Expiration lists and non- compete agreements are amortized using the straight- line method over their estimated useful lives (5 to 15 years for expiration lists and 5 to 6 years for non- compete agreements), while goodwill is not subject to amortization. Allocation of intangible assets between goodwill, expiration lists and non- compete agreements and the determination of estimated useful lives are based on valuations Gallagher receives from qualified independent appraisers. The calculations of these amounts are based on estimates and assumptions using historical and pro forma data and recognized valuation methods. The use of different estimates or assumptions could produce different results. Intangible assets are carried at cost, less accumulated amortization in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet.

While goodwill is not amortized, it is subject to periodic reviews for impairment (at least annually or more frequently if impairment indicators arise). Gallagher reviews goodwill for impairment periodically and whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable. Such impairment reviews are performed at the division level with respect to goodwill. Under those circumstances, if the fair value were less than the carrying amount of the asset, an indicator of impairment would exist and further analysis would be required to determine whether or not a loss would need to be charged against current period earnings. No such indicators were noted in 2003 and 2002. The determinations of impairment indicators and fair value are based on estimates and assumptions related to the amount and timing of future cash flows and future interest rates. The use of different estimates or assumptions could produce different results.

### **Adoption of New Accounting Standards**

See Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion on the effects of the adoption of new accounting standards in 2003.

### **Business Combinations**

See Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion on the 2003 business combinations.

### **Results of Operations**

In the discussion that follows regarding Gallagher's results of operations, Gallagher provides organic growth percentages with respect to its commission and fee revenues. This information may be considered a "non- GAAP financial measure" because it is derived from Gallagher's consolidated financial information but is not required to be presented in financial statements that are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP). Rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) require supplemental explanations and reconciliations of all "non- GAAP financial measures." When Gallagher refers to organic growth percentages with respect to its commission and fee revenues in its discussion of results of operations, Gallagher excludes the first twelve months of net commission and fee revenues generated from the acquisitions accounted for as purchases in each year presented. These acquisition- related commissions and fees are excluded from organic revenues in order to determine the revenue growth that is associated with the operations that were a part of Gallagher in the prior year. Management has historically utilized organic revenue growth as an important indicator when assessing and evaluating the performance of its Brokerage and Risk Management segments. Management also believes that the use of this measure allows financial statements users to measure, analyze and compare the growth from its Brokerage and Risk Management segments in a meaningful and consistent manner. A reconciliation of organic revenue growth percentages to the reported revenue growth percentages for the Brokerage and Risk Management segments is presented in the paragraphs immediately following each table in which such percentages are presented.

## Brokerage

The Brokerage segment comprises three operating divisions: the Brokerage Services- Retail Division (BSD), Specialty Marketing and International (SMI) and Gallagher Benefit Services (GBS). The Brokerage segment, for commission or fee compensation, places commercial P/C and employee benefit- related insurance on behalf of its customers. Financial information relating to Gallagher's Brokerage segment is as follows (in millions):

	2003	Percent Change	2002	Percent Change	2001
Commissions	\$ 746.2	13%	\$ 662.9	23%	\$ 537.9
Fees	135.5	24%	109.0	75%	62.3
Investment income - fiduciary	7.5	(20%)	9.4	(22%)	12.1
Gross revenues	889.2	14%	781.3	28%	612.3
Less brokerage	(40.7)	(1%)	(41.1)	17%	(35.0)
Total revenues	848.5	15%	740.2	28%	577.3
Compensation	482.1	14%	424.0	30%	325.7
Operating	172.2	15%	150.0	23%	121.8
Depreciation	12.1	11%	10.9	18%	9.2
Amortization	9.8	48%	6.6	113%	3.1
Total expenses	676.2	14%	591.5	29%	459.8
Earnings before income taxes	172.3	16%	148.7	27%	117.5
Provision for income taxes	42.1	(6%)	44.6	230%	13.5
Net earnings	\$ 130.2	25%	\$ 104.1	0%	\$ 104.0
Growth - revenues	15%		28%		12%
Organic growth in commissions and fees	10%		17%		14%
Growth - pretax earnings	16%		27%		21%
Compensation expense ratio	54%		54%		53%
Other operating expense ratio	19%		19%		20%
Effective tax rate	24%		30%		11%
Pretax profit margin	19%		19%		19%
Identifiable assets at December 31	\$ 2,042.9		\$ 1,755.2		\$ 1,540.7

The increase in commissions for 2003 compared to 2002 was principally due to new business production, renewal rate increases and an increase in contingent commissions, all of which aggregated to \$197.0 million and were partially offset by lost business of \$114.0 million. The increase in fees for 2003 compared to 2002 resulted from new business production and renewal rate increases of approximately \$39.0 million, which were partially offset by lost business of \$13.0 million. Also contributing to the increase in commissions and fees in 2003 were revenues associated with the acquisitions accounted for as purchases that were made in the last 12 months. The increase in commissions for 2002 compared to 2001 was principally due to new business production, renewal rate increases and an increase in contingent commissions, all of which aggregated to \$204.0 million and were partially offset by lost business of \$79.0 million. The increase in fees for 2002 compared to 2001 resulted from new business production and renewal rate increases of approximately \$55.0 million, which were partially offset by lost business of \$8.0 million. Also contributing to the increase in commissions and fees in 2002 were revenues associated with the acquisitions accounted for as purchases that were made in the last 12 months. The organic growth in commission and fee revenues in 2003 was 10%, 17% for 2002 and 14% for 2001. The following acquisition-related commission and fee revenues were excluded in deriving the organic growth percentages: \$34.8 million in 2003 and \$69.5 million in 2002.

Investment income - fiduciary, which represents interest income earned on cash and restricted funds, decreased in 2003 compared to 2002 and in 2002 compared to 2001 primarily due to reductions in short- term interest rates. While the amount of invested cash has increased, rates of return are at historically low levels placing downward pressure on the interest that Gallagher is able to earn.



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The increase in compensation expense in 2003 compared to 2002 was primarily due to an increase in the average number of employees, salary increases, increases in incentive compensation linked to Gallagher's overall operating results, a corresponding increase in employee benefit expenses, increases in pension and medical insurance costs, the expensing of stock-based compensation in 2003 and the adverse impact of foreign currency translation. The increase in employee headcount primarily relates to the addition of employees associated with the acquisitions accounted for as purchases that were made in the last 12 months and the full year effect of additional employees hired throughout 2002 as part of an initiative by Gallagher to grow revenues through targeted strategic hiring. Compensation as a percentage of commission and fee revenues was 54% in 2003 and 2002 and 53% for 2001. The 2003 and 2002 percentages were slightly higher than Gallagher's historical ratios primarily due to the investments made in new personnel during 2002 and the latter part of 2001 as it takes time for the commission and fee revenues generated from the new production personnel to cover their fixed costs and to contribute favorably to pretax earnings. The increase in compensation expense in 2002 compared to 2001 was primarily due to an increase in employee headcount, salary increases, increases in incentive compensation linked to Gallagher's overall operating results, a corresponding increase in employee benefit expenses, and increases in pension and medical insurance costs in 2002. The increase in the average number of employees primarily relates to the investments made in new personnel during 2002 and to the addition of employees associated with the acquisitions accounted for as purchases that were made in 2002 and the latter part of 2001.

The increases in other operating expenses in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001 were due primarily to an increase in fees for professional services, costs associated with leased office space and office expansion, business insurance costs and expenses associated with the acquisitions accounted for as purchases that were made in the last 12 months. Also contributing were increases in travel and entertainment costs primarily related to new business development from new producers.

The increases in depreciation expense in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001 were due primarily to the purchases of furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements related to office expansions and moves made during 2003 and 2002, respectively. Also contributing to the increases in 2003 and 2002 was the depreciation expense associated with the acquisitions accounted for as purchases completed during the respective years and the latter part of 2001.

The increases in amortization in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001 were due primarily to amortization expense associated with acquisitions accounted for as purchases completed in 2003 and 2002 and the latter part of 2001. Expiration lists and non-compete agreements are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives (5 to 15 years for expiration lists and 5 to 6 years for non-compete agreements).

The overall effective income tax rates reflect the effect of tax credits generated by investments in limited partnerships that operate low income housing and alternative energy projects, which are partially offset by state and foreign taxes. The decrease in the effective income tax rate in 2003 was due to a synthetic coal (Syn/Coal) facility transaction that was consummated in the first quarter of 2003. Assuming no negative developments occur with respect to the availability of Syn/Coal tax credits, Gallagher expects that the additional tax credits generated from this and other similar transactions will keep the effective tax rate in the mid- to low- 20% range for 2004. The increase in the effective income tax rate in 2002 compared to 2001 was due primarily to a reduction in the amount of tax credits earned in 2002. This decrease in tax credits is directly attributable to the sales of Gallagher's interests in limited partnerships that operate Syn/Coal facilities. These sales were completed in the third and fourth quarters of 2001 and the first and fourth quarters of 2002. See Note 17 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Risk Management

The Risk Management segment provides P/C and health claim third- party administration, loss control and risk management consulting and insurance property appraisals. Third- party administration is principally the management and processing of claims for self- insurance programs of Gallagher's clients or clients of other brokers. Approximately 90% of this segment's total revenues relate to the P/C operations. Financial information relating to Gallagher's Risk Management segment is as follows (in millions):

	2003	Percent Change	2002	Percent Change	2001
Fees	\$ 320.7	14%	\$ 280.4	6%	\$ 263.6
Investment income - fiduciary	1.0	25%	0.8	(27%)	1.1
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>321.7</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>281.2</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>264.7</b>
Compensation	178.7	12%	159.9	6%	150.2
Operating	90.6	13%	80.4	6%	75.7
Depreciation	9.4	1%	9.3	31%	7.1
Amortization	0.1	NMF	-	(100%)	0.4
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>278.8</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>249.6</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>233.4</b>
Earnings before income taxes	42.9	36%	31.6	1%	31.3
Provision for income taxes	10.4	11%	9.4	147%	3.8
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 32.5</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>\$ 22.2</b>	<b>(19%)</b>	<b>\$ 27.5</b>
Growth - revenues	14%		6%		14%
Organic growth in fees	14%		6%		14%
Growth - pretax earnings	36%		1%		(2%)
Compensation expense ratio	56%		57%		57%
Other operating expense ratio	28%		29%		29%
Effective tax rate	24%		30%		12%
Pretax profit margin	13%		11%		12%
Identifiable assets at December 31	\$ 201.8		\$ 73.6		\$ 63.7

The increase in fees for 2003 compared to 2002 was due primarily to new business production, renewal rate increases and highly favorable retention rates on existing business, all of which aggregated to \$68.0 million and were partially offset by lost business of \$28.0 million. The increase in fees for 2002 compared to 2001 was due primarily to new business production, renewal rate increases and highly favorable retention rates on existing business, all of which aggregated to \$43.0 million and were partially offset by lost business of \$26.0 million. The organic growth in fee revenues in 2003 was 14%, 6% for 2002 and 14% for 2001. Historically, the Risk Management segment has made few acquisitions, which have not been material to this segment's operations. Thus, there typically is no material difference between GAAP revenues and organic revenues for this segment. The decrease in the organic revenue growth in 2002 from historical double- digit percentages was primarily the result of the events of September 11, 2001, combined with a general economic slowdown in the United States. Gallagher Bassett (GB) provides services to several airline, hospitality and restaurant- related clients, all of whose businesses were particularly hit hard following September 11<sup>th</sup>. Because those clients experienced declines in their business, including reductions in their headcount, the rate of increase in new GB claim counts slowed in 2002, and for some clients, actual claim counts decreased from the same period in 2001. In addition, the hard market had an unfavorable impact on GB as several of its managing general agent programs were unable to renew their coverages in the reinsurance marketplace during 2002. GB's 2002 operating results were also negatively impacted by several insurance carrier insolvencies in 2002 and 2001. As GB's revenues are generally based on the number of new claims it handles, the reduction in claims in 2002 had a direct impact on revenue. In 2003, GB's claim counts grew to pre- September 11, 2001 levels.

Investment income - fiduciary, which represents interest income earned on Gallagher's cash and cash equivalents, was relatively unchanged in 2003, 2002 and 2001. While the amount of invested cash has increased, rates of return are at historically low levels placing downward pressure on the interest that Gallagher is able to earn.

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The increase in compensation expense in 2003 compared to 2002 was due to an increase in the average number of employees, salary increases, a corresponding increase in employee benefit expenses, an increase in the use of temporary staffing, and increases in pension and medical insurance costs in 2003. The increase in compensation expense in 2002 compared to 2001 was due to an increase in the average number of employees, salary increases, a corresponding increase in employee benefit expenses, an increase in the use of temporary staffing, and increases in pension and medical insurance costs in 2002. The increase in employee headcount relates to the hiring of additional production staff to support new business generated.

The increases in other operating expenses in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001 were due primarily to an increase in fees for professional services, costs associated with leased office space and office expansion and business insurance costs.

Depreciation expense was relatively unchanged in 2003 compared to 2002. Changes in depreciation expense from year- to- year are due primarily to the timing of purchases of furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements related to office expansions and moves. The increase in depreciation expense in 2002 compared to 2001 was primarily due to the implementation of a new health claims processing system in the latter part of 2001.

See the Results of Operations for the Brokerage segment for a discussion on changes in the overall effective income tax rate in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001.

The increase in identifiable assets in 2003 compared to 2002 is primarily due to the inclusion of client claim funds held by GB in a fiduciary capacity in Gallagher's December 31, 2003 consolidated balance sheet. These funds relate to GB's third- party administration business, which were not previously reported in Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet. GB does not earn any interest income on these funds held. These client funds have been included in restricted cash, along with a corresponding liability, in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet.

## Financial Services

The Financial Services segment is responsible for managing Gallagher's investment portfolio. See Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements for a summary of Gallagher's investments as of December 31, 2003 and 2002 and a detailed discussion on the nature of the investments held. Financial information relating to Gallagher's Financial Services segment is as follows (in millions):

	2003	Percent Change	2002	Percent Change	2001
Investment income:					
Trading securities	\$ 7.0	52%	\$ 4.6	(13%)	\$ 5.3
Asset Alliance Corporation (AAC) related investments	5.1	19%	4.3	330%	1.0
Low income housing investments	1.0	(63%)	2.7	42%	1.9
Alternative energy investments	41.3	13%	36.5	280%	9.6
Real estate, venture capital and other investments	(0.5)	(150%)	(0.2)	91%	(2.2)
Consolidated investments	15.6	59%	9.8	27%	7.7
Impact of FIN 46 on consolidated investments	46.4	NMF	-	NMF	-
Other	2.2	(31%)	3.2	(9%)	3.5
Total investment income	118.1	94%	60.9	127%	26.8
Investment gains (losses)	(24.5)	(11%)	(22.0)	(215%)	19.2
Total revenues	93.6	141%	38.9	(15%)	46.0
Investment expenses	53.7	189%	18.6	(53%)	39.2
Impact of FIN 46 on investment expenses	44.1	NMF	-	0%	-
Interest	8.0	(16%)	9.5	(10%)	10.5
Depreciation	7.4	32%	5.6	70%	3.3
Impact of FIN 46 on depreciation	2.3	NMF	-	0%	-
Total expenses	115.5	243%	33.7	(36%)	53.0
Earnings (loss) before income taxes	(21.9)	(521%)	5.2	174%	(7.0)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(5.4)	(438%)	1.6	300%	(0.8)
Net earnings (loss)	\$ (16.5)	(558%)	\$ 3.6	158%	\$ (6.2)
Identifiable assets at December 31	\$ 656.9		\$ 634.8		\$ 540.9

The increase in investment income from trading securities in 2003 compared to 2002 was primarily due to the recovery in the equity markets during 2003 and to the reclassification of Gallagher's marketable securities portfolio from available for sale to trading, which was effective on September 30, 2002. As a result of this reclassification, changes in unrealized gains and losses on this portfolio are recorded in investment income in the consolidated statement of earnings. Prior to September 30, 2002, changes in unrealized gains and losses on this portfolio were recorded in stockholders' equity as accumulated other comprehensive earnings or losses. Amounts included in investment income from trading securities represent interest and dividend income and normal recurring realized and unrealized gains and losses on the trading securities portfolios.

Investment income from AAC related investments primarily represents income associated with Gallagher's debt, preferred and common stock investments in AAC. Gallagher accounts for the common stock portion of its investment using the equity method. The increase in investment income from AAC related investments in 2003 compared to 2002 was primarily due to a recovery in the equity markets during 2003 and dividends related to AAC preferred stock held by Gallagher. The increase in investment income from AAC related investments in 2002 compared to 2001 was primarily due to an increase in the funds under management by AAC and interest and dividend income earned on AAC debt and preferred stock held by Gallagher.

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Investment income from low income housing (LIH) developments primarily represents income associated with Gallagher's equity investment in a LIH Developer that is accounted for using the equity method and interest income from bridge loans made by Gallagher related to LIH developments. The decrease in investment income from LIH investments in 2003 compared to 2002 was due to the timing of closing on the syndication of projects by the LIH Developer, the gains from which flow to Gallagher through equity method accounting. The timing of closing on the syndication of development projects can vary dramatically from year- to- year. Investment income from LIH investments was relatively unchanged in 2002 compared to 2001.

Investment income from alternative energy investments primarily relates to installment gains from several sales of Gallagher's interests in limited partnerships that operate Syn/Coal facilities which occurred in the latter part of 2001 and early in 2002. The increase in investment income from alternative energy investments for 2003 compared to 2002 was due primarily to an increase in volume processed by the Syn/Coal facilities. In addition, costs associated with installment sales increased in 2003 due to shipping costs related to Syn/Coal sales to customers not located at the Syn/Coal production facilities. The increase in investment income from alternative energy investments for 2002 compared to 2001 was primarily due to the timing of the Syn/Coal facility sales in 2001.

Investment income from real estate, venture capital and other investments was relatively unchanged in 2003 compared to 2002. The change in investment income from real estate, venture capital and other investments between 2002 and 2001 is primarily due to equity losses that were incurred in 2001. During 2002, Gallagher wrote- down several venture capital equity investments that had generated losses to Gallagher in 2001 through equity method accounting.

The increase in investment income from consolidated investments in 2003 compared to 2002 was primarily due to land sales in 2003 with respect to the Florida community development. The increase in investment income from consolidated investments for 2002 compared to 2001 was primarily due to the acquisition of an airplane leasing company in the second quarter of 2002. In May 2002, a 90% owned subsidiary of Gallagher acquired the net assets of a leasing company that leases two cargo airplanes to the French Postal Service. This 2002 transaction also contributed to the increase in investment income from consolidated investments for 2003 compared to 2002.

Investment income from consolidated investments for 2003 was also impacted by the adoption of FIN 46. Effective July 1, 2003, Gallagher early adopted FIN 46, which required Gallagher to consolidate a Syn/Coal partnership in which it has a 5% ownership interest. Prior to July, 1, 2003, this partnership was not consolidated because it was not controlled by Gallagher through a majority voting interest. For the six- month period ended December 31, 2003, Gallagher recognized investment income of \$46.4 million related to the consolidation of this Syn/Coal partnership.

Investment gains (losses) primarily include realized gains and losses that occurred in the respective years related to write- downs and dispositions of venture capital investments, which included loans and equity holdings in start- up companies. During 2003, Gallagher incurred \$29.1 million of investment losses and generated \$4.6 million of investment gains, for a net loss of \$24.5 million. During the first quarter of 2003, Gallagher incurred \$25.7 million of the losses related to write- downs and dispositions when it decided to withdraw virtually all continued support for its venture capital investments, except to the limited extent needed to realize value from the remaining assets. Without Gallagher's support, it was doubtful that these operations would be able to execute their business plans. Therefore, Gallagher's investments were determined to be other- than- temporarily impaired. During 2002, Gallagher recognized \$28.8 million of net aggregate write- downs of loans and equity holdings related to its venture capital investments due to a decline in the equity markets and generally poor economic conditions during 2002. Substantially all of these write- downs were recognized in the third quarter of 2002 when the equity markets were at their lows for the year. In addition, Gallagher incurred a \$3.6 million loss in the third quarter of 2002 on the sale of a venture capital investment and recognized a \$3.0 million loss in the fourth quarter of 2002 through the equity method of accounting for AAC's write- down of its investment in Beacon Hill Asset Management LLC (Beacon Hill). These 2002 losses were partially offset by an \$11.8 million gain related to the sale of a portion of Gallagher's equity position in AAC to an international financial institution that was completed in the second quarter of 2002. Gallagher also recognized one- time gains in 2002 of \$2.0 million related to guarantee fee income and \$2.5 million related to the disposition of a branch operation. In addition, in 2002 and 2001, investment gains (losses) include other- than- temporary impairments that were recognized related to Gallagher's securities managed directly portfolio that prior to September 2002 were classified as available for sale. In 2002 and 2001, Gallagher incurred other- than- temporary impairments of \$2.7 million and \$0.6 million, respectively, related to Gallagher's securities managed directly portfolio that resulted from a sharp decline in the equity markets during 2002 and 2001. During 2001, Gallagher recognized one- time gains of \$4.5 million generated from the sale of land by the Florida community development, \$4.4 million related to three alternative energy transactions, \$1.3 million related to two other real estate transactions, \$2.9 million related to guarantee fee income, \$3.4 million related to realized gains from investments written- off prior to 2001, \$0.9 million related to a LIH transaction and \$2.4 million related to the disposition of a branch operation.

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Investment expenses include compensation, professional fees, operating expenses of the alternative energy investments, expenses of the real estate partnerships and airplane leasing company and overhead expenses such as rent and utilities. The increase in investment expenses for 2003 compared to 2002 was primarily due to increases in operating expenses of the alternative energy investments. Also contributing to the increase in investment expenses were increases in incentive compensation, professional fees and management compensation associated with investment transactions. The decrease in investment expenses in 2002 compared to 2001 was primarily due to the sales of Gallagher's interests in limited partnerships that operate Syn/Coal facilities that were completed in the third and fourth quarters of 2001 and the first and fourth quarters of 2002. As a result of the sales, Gallagher's portion of the operating expenses of the Syn/Coal facilities was substantially reduced, which also resulted in an increase in the effective income tax rate in 2002 due to a reduction in the amount of tax credits earned in 2002. This decrease in tax credits is directly attributable to the sales of Gallagher's interests in limited partnerships that operate Syn/Coal facilities.

Investment and depreciation expenses for 2003 were also adversely impacted by the adoption of FIN 46 and the related consolidation of the Syn/Coal partnership. For the six- month period ended December 31, 2003, Gallagher recognized investment and depreciation expenses of \$44.1 million and \$2.3 million, respectively, related to this Syn/Coal partnership.

The decreases in interest expense in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001 were due to reductions in the amount of corporate related borrowings and to reductions in short- term interest rates in 2003 compared to 2002. The increases in depreciation expense in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001 were primarily due to the acquisition of the airplane leasing company in the second quarter of 2002.

See the Results of Operations for the Brokerage segment for a discussion on changes in the overall effective income tax rate in 2003 compared to 2002 and 2002 compared to 2001.

### **Financial Condition and Liquidity**

**Cash Provided by Operations** - Liquidity describes the ability of a company to generate sufficient cash flows to meet the cash requirements of its business operations. The insurance brokerage industry is not capital intensive. Historically, Gallagher's capital requirements have primarily included dividend payments on its common stock, repurchases of its common stock, funding of its investments and capital expenditures. The capital used to fund Gallagher's investment portfolio was primarily generated from the excess cash provided by its operations and tax savings generated from tax advantaged investments. During 2003, Gallagher decided to withdraw virtually all continued support for its venture capital investments and to liquidate substantially all of its trading securities portfolio. As a result, the capital requirements for funding Gallagher's investments will decrease dramatically and the net cash flow related to investment activities should be cash flow positive in the future.

Gallagher's ability to meet its future cash requirements related to the payments of dividends on its common stock and the repurchases of its common stock substantially depends upon its ability to generate positive cash flows from its operating activities. Cash provided by operating activities was \$229.0 million, \$149.7 million and \$131.5 million for 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. The increase in cash provided by operating activities in 2003 compared to 2002 is primarily due to the increase in net earnings and to the liquidation of the trading securities portfolio during 2003. Gallagher's cash flows from operating activities are primarily derived from its net earnings, as adjusted for realized gains and losses and its noncash expenses, which include depreciation, amortization, deferred compensation, restricted stock and stock- based compensation expenses. When assessing the overall liquidity of Gallagher, the focus should be on net earnings, adjusted for noncash items, in the income statement and cash provided by operating activities in the statement of cash flows as indicators of trends in liquidity. From a balance sheet perspective, the focus should not be on premium and fees receivables, premium payables or restricted cash for trends in liquidity. Because of the variability related to the timing of premiums and fees receivable and premiums payable, net cash flows provided by operations will vary substantially from quarter- to- quarter and year- to- year related to these items. In addition, funds restricted as to Gallagher's use, primarily premiums held as fiduciary funds, are presented in Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet as "Restricted cash" and have not been included in determining Gallagher's overall liquidity. In order consider these items in assessing trends in liquidity for Gallagher, they should be looked at in a combined manner, because changes in these balances are interrelated and are based on the timing of premium movement. In assessing the overall liquidity of Gallagher from a balance sheet perspective, it should be noted that at December 31, Gallagher had no Corporate related borrowings outstanding, a cash and cash equivalent balance of \$193.6 million and tangible net worth of \$396.2 million. Gallagher does have a \$250.0 million unsecured revolving credit agreement (Credit Agreement) it uses from time- to- time borrow to supplement operating cash flows. The Credit Agreement contains various covenants that require Gallagher to maintain specified levels of net worth and financial leverage ratios. Gallagher was in compliance with these covenants at December 31, 2003.

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Gallagher's net earnings have increased every year since 1991. Gallagher expects this favorable trend to continue in the foreseeable future because it intends to expand its business through organic growth from existing operations and growth through acquisitions. Acquisitions allow Gallagher to expand into desirable businesses and geographic locations, further extend its presence in the retail and wholesale insurance brokerage services industry and increase the volume of general services currently provided. However, management has no plans to substantially change the nature of the services performed by Gallagher. Gallagher believes that it has the ability to adequately fund future acquisitions through the use of cash and/or its common stock.

Another source of liquidity to Gallagher is the issuance of its common stock related to its stock option and employee stock purchase plans. Gallagher has four stock option plans for directors, officers and key employees of Gallagher and its subsidiaries. The options are primarily granted at the fair value of the underlying shares at the date of grant and generally become exercisable at the rate of 10% per year beginning the calendar year after the date of grant. In addition, Gallagher has an employee stock purchase plan under which it allows Gallagher's employees to purchase its common stock at 85% of its fair market value. Proceeds from the issuance of its common stock related to these plans have contributed favorably to net cash provided by financing activities and Gallagher believes this favorable trend will continue in the foreseeable future.

Currently, Gallagher believes it has sufficient capital to meet its cash flow needs. However, in the event that Gallagher needs capital to fund its operations and investing requirements, it would use borrowings under its line- of- credit agreement to meet its short- term needs and would consider other alternatives for its long- term needs. Such alternatives would include raising capital through public markets or restructuring its operations in the event that cash flows from operations are reduced dramatically due to lost business. However, Gallagher has historically been profitable and cash flows from operations and short- term borrowings under its line- of- credit agreement have been sufficient to fund Gallagher's operating, investment and capital expenditure needs. Gallagher expects this favorable cash flow trend to continue in the foreseeable future.

**Dividends** - In 2003, Gallagher declared \$64.9 million in cash dividends on its common stock, or \$.72 per common share. Gallagher's dividend policy is determined by the Board of Directors. Quarterly dividends are declared after considering Gallagher's available cash from earnings and its anticipated cash needs. On January 15, 2004, Gallagher paid a fourth quarter dividend of \$.18 per common share to shareholders of record at December 31, 2003, a 20% increase over the fourth quarter dividend per share in 2002. On January 22, 2004, Gallagher announced an increase in its quarterly dividend for the first quarter of 2004 from \$.18 to \$.25 per common share, a 39% increase over 2003. If each quarterly dividend in 2004 is \$.25 per common share, then this increase in the dividend will result in an annualized increase in the net cash used by financing activities in 2004 of approximately \$25.0 million.

**Capital Expenditures** - Net capital expenditures were \$25.3 million, \$45.4 million and \$31.5 million for 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. These amounts include net capital expenditures of the two previously discussed real estate partnerships of \$5.8 million in 2003, \$11.5 million in 2002 and \$7.2 million in 2001, the majority of which are related to the Florida community development. Capital expenditures by Gallagher are related primarily to office relocations and expansions and updating computer systems and equipment. In 2004, exclusive of the net capital expenditures related to those two real estate partnerships, Gallagher expects total expenditures for capital improvements to be approximately \$25.0 million.

**Common Stock Repurchases** - Gallagher has a common stock repurchase plan that has been approved by the Board of Directors. Under the plan, Gallagher repurchased 2.9 million shares at a cost of \$80.8 million, 0.5 million shares at a cost of \$11.7 million and 3.4 million shares at a cost of \$103.0 million in 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. Repurchased shares are held for reissuance in connection with its equity compensation and stock option plans. Under the provisions of the repurchase plan, as of December 31, 2003, Gallagher was authorized to repurchase approximately 2.6 million additional shares. Gallagher is under no commitment or obligation to repurchase any particular amount of common stock and at its discretion may suspend the repurchase plan at any time.

## Contractual Obligations and Commitments

In connection with its investing and operating activities, Gallagher has entered into certain contractual obligations as well as funding commitments and financial guarantees. See Notes 3, 7 and 16 to the consolidated financial statements for additional discussion of these obligations and commitments. Gallagher's future minimum cash payments, excluding interest, associated with its contractual obligations pursuant to its Credit Agreement, consolidated investment borrowings, operating leases and purchase commitments at December 31, 2003 are as follows (in millions):

	Payments Due by Period													
	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		Thereafter		Total	
Contractual Obligations														
Credit Agreement	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Consolidated investment borrowings:														
Florida community development debt		27.7		0.1		0.1		-		-		12.4		40.3
Home office mortgage loan		0.8		0.9		0.9		1.1		74.1		-		77.8
Airplane leasing company debt		2.4		2.6		29.9		-		-		-		34.9
Total debt obligations		30.9		3.6		30.9		1.1		74.1		12.4		153.0
Operating lease obligations		48.1		43.1		38.0		30.9		24.8		46.9		231.8
Net Syn/Coal purchase commitments		4.7		4.7		4.7		4.7		-		-		18.8
Outstanding purchase obligations		3.4		-		-		-		-		-		3.4
Total contractual obligations	\$	87.1	\$	51.4	\$	73.6	\$	36.7	\$	98.9	\$	59.3	\$	407.0

The amounts presented in the table above may not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements of Gallagher, because the actual timing of the future payments made may vary from the stated contractual obligation.

**Credit Agreement** - Gallagher has a \$250.0 million unsecured revolving credit agreement (Credit Agreement) it uses to post LOCs and from time-to-time borrow to supplement operating cash flows. At January 27, 2004, \$51.1 million of LOCs (of which Gallagher has \$26.8 million of liabilities recorded as of December 31, 2003) were outstanding under the Credit Agreement, which primarily relate to Gallagher's investments as discussed in Notes 3 and 16 to the consolidated financial statements. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Credit Agreement at December 31, 2003. Accordingly, as of January 27, 2004, \$198.9 million remained available for potential borrowings, of which \$23.9 million may be in the form of additional LOCs. Gallagher is under no obligation to utilize the Credit Agreement in performing its normal business operations. See Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of the terms of the Credit Agreement.

**Consolidated Investment Borrowings** - As more fully described in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, the accompanying December 31, 2003 balance sheet includes \$153.0 million of borrowings related to Gallagher's consolidated investment enterprises of which \$32.4 million is recourse to Gallagher. These borrowings are partially secured by the underlying assets of the investment enterprises and support their operations.

**Operating Lease Obligations** - Gallagher generally operates in leased premises. Certain office space leases have options permitting renewals for additional periods. In addition to minimum fixed rentals, a number of leases contain annual escalation clauses generally related to increases in an inflation index.

**Net Syn/Coal Purchase Commitments** - Gallagher owns 5% of a Syn/Coal facility. The other 95% was previously sold on the installment sale basis and has substantial residual value to Gallagher. Under the FIN 46 criteria, this investment has been determined to be a VIE which required Gallagher to consolidate this facility into its consolidated financial statements. See Notes 2 and 3 to the consolidated financial statements for additional disclosures regarding this Syn/Coal partnership. In December 2000, the Syn/Coal partnership simultaneously executed a raw coal purchase agreement and a Syn/Coal sales agreement with a state-owned utility which purchases the majority of the partnership's Syn/Coal production. The agreements provide for minimum quantities at prices indexed to the prevailing market prices. The utility also receives a discount for each ton of Syn/Coal it purchases in excess of a base. These agreements terminate immediately in the event the Syn/Coal produced ceases to constitute a "qualified fuel" under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 29 or upon termination of either of the agreements. The net annual Syn/Coal purchase commitment represents the minimum raw coal purchases at estimated costs, plus discounts earned by the utility, less sales of Syn/Coal at estimated prices. See Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of Syn/Coal tax credits under IRC Section 29.



**Outstanding Purchase Obligations** - Gallagher is a service company and typically does not have a material amount of outstanding purchase obligations at any point in time. The amount disclosed in the table above represents the aggregate amount of unrecorded purchase obligations that Gallagher has outstanding as of December 31, 2003. These obligations represent agreements to purchase goods or services and the construction of a building at the Florida community development that were executed in the normal course of business.

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## Off- Balance Sheet Arrangements

**Off- Balance Sheet Commitments** - Gallagher's total unrecorded commitments associated with outstanding LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments as of December 31, 2003 are as follows (in millions):

	Amount of Commitment Expiration by Period							Total Amounts Committed
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Thereafter		
Off- Balance Sheet Commitments								
Investment related:								
Letters of credit	\$	2.1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16.3	\$ 18.4
Financial guarantees		1.5	-	-	-	-	7.6	9.1
Funding commitments		1.7	-	5.9	-	-	-	7.6
		5.3	-	5.9	-	-	23.9	35.1
Operations related:								
Letters of credit		-	-	-	-	-	5.9	5.9
Total commitments	\$	5.3	\$ -	\$ 5.9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29.8	\$ 41.0

Since commitments may expire unused, the amounts presented in the table above do not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements of Gallagher. See Notes 3 and 16 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of Gallagher's outstanding LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments. All but one of the LOCs represent multiple year commitments but have annual, automatic renewing provisions and are classified by the latest commitment date.

During 2003 and 2002, Gallagher acquired 14 and 10 companies, respectively, which were accounted for using the purchase accounting method for recording business combinations. Substantially all of the purchase agreements related to these acquisitions contain contingent purchase obligations. The contingent purchase obligations related to the 2003 acquisitions are disclosed in Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements. These contingent payables represent the maximum amount of additional consideration that could be paid pursuant to the purchase agreements related to these acquisitions. These contingent obligations are primarily based upon future earnings of the acquired entities and were not included in the purchase price that was recorded for these acquisitions at their respective acquisition dates. Future payments made under these arrangements will be recorded as upward adjustments to goodwill when the contingencies are settled. The aggregate amount of unrecorded contingent payables outstanding as of December 31, 2003 related to the 2003 and 2002 acquisitions was \$42.5 million.

**Off- Balance Sheet Debt** - Gallagher's unconsolidated investment portfolio includes investments in enterprises where Gallagher's ownership interest is between 3% and 50%, whereby management has determined that Gallagher's level of economic interest is not sufficient to require consolidation. As a result, these investments are accounted for using either the lower of amortized cost/cost or fair value, or the equity method, whichever is appropriate depending on the legal form of Gallagher's ownership interest and the applicable percentage of the entity owned. As such, the balance sheets of these investees are not consolidated in Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2003 and 2002. The December 31, 2003 and 2002 balance sheets of several of these unconsolidated investments contain outstanding debt, which is also not required to be included in Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet.

In certain cases, Gallagher guarantees a portion of the enterprises' debt. Based on the ownership structure of these investments, management believes that Gallagher's exposure to losses related to these investments is limited to the combination of its net carrying value, funding commitments, LOCs and financial guarantees. In the event that certain of these enterprises were to default on their debt obligations and Gallagher's net carrying value became impaired, the amount to be written-off could have a material effect on Gallagher's consolidated operating results and/or financial position. See Notes 3 and 16 to the consolidated financial statements.

## Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure about Market Risk

Gallagher is exposed to various market risks in its day- to- day operations. Market risk is the potential loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices, such as interest and foreign currency exchange rates and equity prices. Gallagher does not enter into derivatives or other similar financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes. The following analyses present the hypothetical loss in fair value of the financial instruments held by Gallagher at December 31, 2003 that are sensitive to changes in interest rates and equity prices. The range of changes in interest rates used in the analyses reflects Gallagher's view of changes that are reasonably possible over a one- year period. This discussion of market risks related to Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet includes estimates of future economic environments caused by changes in market risks. The effect of actual changes in these risk factors may differ materially from Gallagher's estimates. In the ordinary course of business, Gallagher also faces risks that

are either nonfinancial or unquantifiable, including credit risk and legal risk. These risks are not included in the following analyses.

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Gallagher has a diversified investment portfolio, which includes cash and cash equivalents and trading securities. Accordingly, these assets are subject to various market risk exposures such as interest rate risk and equity price risk.

The fair value of Gallagher's cash and cash equivalents at December 31, 2003 approximated its carrying value due to its short- term duration. Market risk was estimated as the potential decrease in fair value resulting from a hypothetical one percentage point increase in interest rates for the instruments contained in cash and cash equivalents. The resulting fair values were not materially different from the carrying values at December 31, 2003.

The fair value of Gallagher's trading securities portfolio managed internally was \$5.0 million at December 31, 2003. This unhedged portfolio consists primarily of dividend- yielding preferred stocks that are more sensitive to interest rate risk than to equity pricing risk. The estimated potential loss in fair value resulting from a hypothetical one- percentage point increase in short- term interest rates would be approximately \$0.2 million at December 31, 2003.

Gallagher has other investments that have valuations that are indirectly influenced by equity markets and general economic conditions that can change rapidly. In addition, some investments require direct and active financial and operational support from Gallagher. A future material adverse effect may result from changes in market conditions or if Gallagher elects to withdraw financial or operational support.

At December 31, 2003, Gallagher had no borrowings outstanding under its Credit Agreement. However, in the event that Gallagher does have borrowings outstanding, the fair value of these borrowings would likely approximate their carrying value due to their short- term duration and variable interest rates. The market risk would be estimated as the potential increase in the fair value resulting from a hypothetical one- percentage point decrease in Gallagher's weighted average short- term borrowing rate at December 31, 2003 and the resulting fair value would not be materially different from its carrying value.

Gallagher is subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk primarily, from its United Kingdom based subsidiaries that incur expenses denominated primarily in British pounds while receiving a substantial portion of their revenues in U.S. dollars. Gallagher does not hedge this foreign currency exchange rate risk. Foreign currency gains (losses) related to this market risk are recorded in earnings before income taxes as they are incurred. Assuming a hypothetical adverse change of 10% in the average foreign currency exchange rate for 2003 (a weakening of the U.S. dollar), earnings before income taxes would decrease by approximately \$7.6 million. Gallagher is also subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk associated with the translation of its foreign subsidiaries into U.S. dollars. However, it is management's opinion that this foreign currency exchange risk is not material to Gallagher's consolidated operating results or financial position. Gallagher manages the balance sheet of its foreign subsidiaries such that foreign liabilities are matched with equal foreign assets thereby maintaining a "balanced book" which minimizes the effects of currency fluctuations.

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**Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.**

**Consolidated Statement of Earnings**  
(In millions, except per share data)

**Year Ended December 31,**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
Commissions	\$ 746.2	\$ 662.9	\$ 537.9
Fees	456.2	389.4	325.9
Investment income - fiduciary funds	8.5	10.2	13.2
Investment income - all other	118.1	60.9	26.8
Investment gains (losses)	(24.5)	(22.0)	19.2
Gross revenues	1,304.5	1,101.4	923.0
Less brokerage	(40.7)	(41.1)	(35.0)
Total revenues	1,263.8	1,060.3	888.0
Compensation	660.8	583.9	475.9
Operating	262.8	230.4	197.5
Investment expenses	97.8	18.6	39.2
Interest	8.0	9.5	10.5
Depreciation	31.2	25.8	19.6
Amortization	9.9	6.6	3.5
Total expenses	1,070.5	874.8	746.2
Earnings before income taxes	193.3	185.5	141.8
Provision for income taxes	47.1	55.6	16.5
Net earnings	\$ 146.2	\$ 129.9	\$ 125.3
Basic net earnings per share	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.49	\$ 1.48
Diluted net earnings per share	1.57	1.41	1.39
Dividends declared per common share	.72	.60	.52

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.**

**Consolidated Balance Sheet**  
(In millions)

**December 31,**

	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 193.6	\$ 152.6
Restricted cash	437.6	256.3
Trading securities	5.0	58.2
Investments - current	26.9	37.9
Premiums and fees receivable	1,286.4	1,183.7
Other current assets	158.4	84.9
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>2,107.9</b>	<b>1,773.6</b>
Investments - long- term	121.0	168.4
Fixed assets related to consolidated investments - net	205.2	185.4
Other fixed assets - net	61.0	65.6
Deferred income taxes	137.8	102.4
Other noncurrent assets	45.8	33.1
Goodwill - net	138.3	84.2
Amortizable intangible assets - net	84.6	50.9
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,901.6</b>	<b>\$ 2,463.6</b>
Premiums payable to insurance and reinsurance companies	\$ 1,743.5	\$ 1,488.2
Accrued compensation and other accrued liabilities	219.3	165.7
Unearned fees	27.3	19.4
Income taxes payable	24.3	11.0
Other current liabilities	16.0	17.5
Corporate related borrowings	-	25.0
Consolidated investments related borrowings - current	30.9	22.8
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>2,061.3</b>	<b>1,749.6</b>
Consolidated investments related borrowings - long- term	122.1	128.3
Other noncurrent liabilities	99.1	57.5
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,282.5</b>	<b>1,935.4</b>
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock - issued and outstanding 90.0 shares in 2003 and 88.5 shares in 2002	90.0	88.5
Capital in excess of par value	105.5	92.7
Retained earnings	442.3	361.0
Unearned deferred compensation	(9.6)	(6.5)
Unearned restricted stock	(9.1)	(7.5)
<b>Total stockholders' equity</b>	<b>619.1</b>	<b>528.2</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholders' equity</b>	<b>\$ 2,901.6</b>	<b>\$ 2,463.6</b>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows  
(In millions)

Year Ended December 31,

	2003	2002	2001
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net earnings	\$ 146.2	\$ 129.9	\$ 125.3
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Net loss (gain) on investments and other	25.0	22.7	(17.3)
Gain on sales of operations	(2.5)	(2.5)	(2.4)
Depreciation and amortization	41.0	32.4	23.1
Amortization of deferred compensation and restricted stock	7.6	3.4	0.6
Stock- based compensation expense	1.8	-	-
Increase in restricted cash	(181.3)	(46.8)	(50.9)
Increase in premiums receivable	(68.3)	(57.7)	(297.7)
Increase in premiums payable	212.7	103.0	380.5
Decrease (increase) in trading securities - net	55.5	(1.8)	1.1
Increase in other current assets	(37.4)	(21.8)	(9.2)
Increase (decrease) in accrued compensation and other accrued liabilities	30.6	(7.7)	16.0
Increase (decrease) in income taxes payable	12.2	(22.8)	23.5
Tax benefit from issuance of common stock	14.1	18.7	24.8
Net change in deferred income taxes	(32.1)	(6.5)	(77.8)
Other	3.9	7.2	(8.1)
Net cash provided by operating activities	229.0	149.7	131.5
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchases of available- for- sale (AFS) marketable securities	-	(16.0)	(14.0)
Proceeds from sales and maturities of AFS marketable securities	-	13.7	23.5
Net additions to fixed assets	(25.3)	(45.4)	(31.5)
Cash paid for acquisitions, net of cash acquired	(28.7)	(5.4)	(17.9)
Proceeds from sales of operations	4.2	2.5	2.7
Other	4.0	1.9	(47.8)
Net cash used by investing activities	(45.8)	(48.7)	(85.0)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	23.7	15.5	27.3
Repurchases of common stock	(80.8)	(11.7)	(104.1)
Dividends paid	(61.9)	(50.4)	(41.6)
Borrowings on line of credit facilities	36.3	271.5	210.3
	(56.5)	(268.0)	(171.7)

Repayments on line of credit facilities			
Borrowings of long- term debt	-	0.5	(4.0)
Repayments of long- term debt	(3.0)	(4.4)	(13.5)
Net cash used by financing activities	(142.2)	(47.0)	(97.3)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	41.0	54.0	(50.8)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	152.6	98.6	149.4
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 193.6	\$ 152.6	\$ 98.6
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Interest paid	\$ 9.2	\$ 10.7	\$ 10.5
Income taxes paid	50.0	63.1	36.5

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

**Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.**  
**Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity**

(In millions)	Common Stock		Capital in Excess of Par Value	Retained Earnings	Unearned Deferred Compensation	Unearned Restricted Stock	Accum Other Comprehensive Earnings (Loss)	Total
	Shares	Amount						
Balance at December 31, 2000	84.5	\$ 84.5	\$ 21.8	\$ 225.1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2.5)	\$ 328.9
Net earnings	-	-	-	125.3	-	-	-	125.3
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on available for sale securities	-	-	-	-	-	-	(0.2)	(0.2)
Comprehensive earnings								125.1
Cash dividends declared on common stock	-	-	-	(43.5)	-	-	-	(43.5)
Common stock issued under stock option plans	3.0	3.0	24.3	-	-	-	-	27.3
Tax benefit from issuance of common stock	-	-	24.8	-	-	-	-	24.8
Common stock repurchases	(3.4)	(3.4)	(90.1)	(9.5)	-	-	-	(103.0)
Common stock issued in six pooling and purchase acquisitions	0.8	0.8	24.2	-	-	-	-	25.0
Common stock issued under deferred compensation	0.2	0.2	3.8	-	(3.4)	-	-	0.6
Equity transactions of pooled companies prior to acquisition	-	-	-	(13.6)	-	-	-	(13.6)
Balance at December 31, 2001	85.1	85.1	8.8	283.8	(3.4)	-	(2.7)	371.6
Net earnings	-	-	-	129.9	-	-	-	129.9
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on available for sale securities	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.7	2.7
Comprehensive earnings								132.6
Cash dividends declared on common stock	-	-	-	(52.7)	-	-	-	(52.7)
	1.9	1.9	13.6	-	-	-	-	15.5

Common stock issued under stock option plans								
Tax benefit from issuance of common stock	-	-	18.7	-	-	-	-	18.7
Common stock repurchases	(0.5)	(0.5)	(11.2)	-	-	-	-	(11.7)
Common stock issued in seven purchase acquisitions	1.6	1.6	49.2	-	-	-	-	50.8
Common stock issued under deferred compensation	0.1	0.1	3.9	-	(3.1)	-	-	0.9
Common stock issued under restricted stock	0.3	0.3	9.7	-	-	(7.5)	-	2.5
Balance at December 31, 2002	88.5	88.5	92.7	361.0	(6.5)	(7.5)	-	528.2
Comprehensive and net earnings	-	-	-	146.2	-	-	-	146.2
Cash dividends declared on common stock	-	-	-	(64.9)	-	-	-	(64.9)
Common stock issued under stock option plans	2.1	2.1	18.0	-	-	-	-	20.1
Tax benefit from issuance of common stock	-	-	14.1	-	-	-	-	14.1
Compensation expense related to stock option plan grants	-	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	1.8
Common stock issued under employee stock purchase plan	0.2	0.2	3.5	-	-	-	-	3.7
Common stock repurchases	(2.9)	(2.9)	(77.9)	-	-	-	-	(80.8)
Common stock issued in twelve purchase acquisitions	1.6	1.6	41.5	-	-	-	-	43.1
Common stock issued under deferred compensation	0.2	0.2	4.3	-	(3.1)	-	-	1.4
Common stock issued under restricted stock	0.3	0.3	7.5	-	-	(1.6)	-	6.2
Balance at December 31, 2003	90.0	\$ 90.0	\$ 105.5	\$ 442.3	\$ (9.6)	\$ (9.1)	\$ -	\$ 619.1

See notes to consolidated financial statements.



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Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

December 31, 2003

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Nature of Operations** - Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Gallagher) provides insurance brokerage and risk management services to a wide variety of commercial, industrial, institutional and governmental organizations. Commission revenue is principally generated through the negotiation and placement of insurance for its clients. Fee revenue is primarily generated by providing other risk management services including claims management, information management, risk control services and appraisals in either the property/casualty (P/C) market or human resource/employee benefit market. Investment income and other revenue is generated from Gallagher's investment portfolio, which includes fiduciary funds, equity securities, and tax advantaged and other strategic investments. Gallagher is headquartered in Itasca, Illinois, has operations in nine countries and does business in more than 100 countries globally through a network of correspondent brokers and consultants.

**Basis of Presentation** - The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Gallagher and all of its majority owned subsidiaries (50% or greater ownership). Substantially all of Gallagher's investments in partially owned entities in which Gallagher's ownership is less than 50%, are accounted for using either the lower of amortized cost/cost or fair value, or the equity method, whichever is appropriate depending on the legal form of Gallagher's ownership interest and the applicable percentage of the entity owned. See Notes 2 and 3 for a discussion on a partially owned entity in which Gallagher's ownership percentage is 5% that has been consolidated. For partially owned entities accounted for using the equity method, Gallagher's share of the net earnings of these entities is included in consolidated net earnings. All material intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior years' financial statements in order to conform to the current year presentation.

**Use of Estimates** - The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Such estimates and assumptions could change in the future as more information becomes known which could impact the amounts reported and disclosed herein.

**Revenue Recognition** - Gallagher's revenues are derived from commissions, fees and investment income.

Commission revenues are recognized at the latter of the billing or the effective date of the related insurance policies, net of an allowance for estimated policy cancellations. Commission revenues related to installment premiums are recognized periodically as billed. Contingent commissions and commissions on premiums directly billed by insurance companies are recognized as revenue when the data necessary to reasonably determine such amounts has been obtained by Gallagher. A contingent commission is a commission paid by an insurance company that is based on the overall profit and/or volume of the business placed with that insurance company. Commissions on premiums billed directly by insurance companies relate to a large number of small premium transactions, whereby the billing and policy issuance process is controlled entirely by the insurance company. Typically, these types of commission revenues cannot be reasonably determined until the cash or the related policy detail is received by Gallagher from the insurance companies. The income effects of subsequent premium adjustments are recorded when the adjustments become known.

Fee revenues generated from the Brokerage segment primarily relate to fees negotiated in lieu of commissions, which are recognized in the same manner as commission revenues. Fee revenues generated from the Risk Management segment relate to third party claims administration, loss control and other risk management consulting services, which are provided over a period of time, typically one year. These fee revenues are recognized ratably as the services are rendered. The income effects of subsequent fee adjustments are recorded when the adjustments become known.

Brokerage expense is deducted from gross revenues in the determination of Gallagher's total revenues. Brokerage expense represents commissions paid to sub-brokers related to the placement of certain business by Gallagher's Brokerage Services- Retail Division. This expense is recognized in the same manner as commission revenues.

Premiums and fees receivable in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet are net of allowances for estimated policy cancellations and doubtful accounts. The allowance for estimated policy cancellations was \$3.0 million at December 31, 2003 and 2002, which represents a reserve for future reversals in commission and fee revenues related to the potential cancellation of client insurance policies that were in force as of year end. The allowance for doubtful accounts was \$2.7 million and \$2.0 million at December 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. The allowance for estimated policy cancellations is established through a charge to revenues, while the allowance for doubtful accounts is established through a charge to other operating expenses. Both of these allowances are based on estimates and assumptions using historical data to project future experience. Gallagher periodically reviews the adequacy of these allowances and makes adjustments as necessary. The use of different estimates or assumptions could produce different results.

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Investment income primarily includes interest income, dividend income, net realized and unrealized gains (losses), income (loss) from equity investments, installment gains, income from consolidated investments and gains on sales of operations. Interest income is recorded as earned. Dividend income is recognized as income based on the date that the underlying security trades "ex- dividend." For revenue recognition policies pertaining to net realized and unrealized gains (losses), see the accounting policy on investments with respect to trading securities below. Income (loss) from equity investments represents Gallagher's proportionate share of income or losses from investments accounted for using the equity method.

**Earnings per Share** - Basic net earnings per share is computed by dividing net earnings by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the reporting period. Diluted net earnings per share is computed by dividing net earnings by the weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding during the reporting period. Common equivalent shares include incremental shares from dilutive stock options, which are calculated from the date of grant under the treasury stock method using the average market price for the period.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents** - Short- term investments, consisting principally of commercial paper and certificates of deposit that have a maturity of 90 days or less at date of purchase, are considered cash equivalents.

**Restricted Cash** - In its capacity as an insurance broker, Gallagher collects premiums from insureds and, after deducting its commissions and/or fees, remits these premiums to insurance carriers. Unremitted insurance premiums are held in a fiduciary capacity until disbursed by Gallagher and are restricted as to use by laws in certain states and foreign jurisdictions in which Gallagher's subsidiaries operate. Various state and foreign agencies regulate insurance brokers and provide specific requirements that limit the type of investments that may be made with such funds. Accordingly, Gallagher invests these funds in cash, money market accounts, commercial paper and certificates of deposit. Gallagher earns interest income on these unremitted funds, which is reported as interest income from fiduciary funds in the accompanying consolidated statement of earnings. These unremitted amounts are reported as restricted cash in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet, with the related liability reported as premiums payable to insurance companies. Additionally, several of Gallagher's foreign subsidiaries are required by various foreign agencies to meet certain liquidity and solvency requirements. Gallagher was in compliance with these requirements at December 31, 2003.

Related to its third party administration business, Gallagher is responsible for client claim funds that it holds in a fiduciary capacity. Gallagher does not earn any interest income on these funds held. These client funds have been included in restricted cash, along with a corresponding liability, in the accompanying December 31, 2003 consolidated balance sheet.

## **Investments**

**Trading Securities** - Trading securities managed directly by Gallagher and by third party managers consist primarily of common and preferred stocks and corporate bonds. The trading securities managed by third parties, which were generally structured through limited partnerships, were liquidated during 2003. Trading securities are carried at fair value in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet, with unrealized gains and losses included in the consolidated statement of earnings. The fair value for these securities is primarily based on quoted market prices. To the extent that quoted market prices are not available, fair value is determined based on other relevant factors including dealer price quotations, price quotations for similar instruments in different markets and pricing models. Pricing models and their underlying assumptions impact the amount and timing of unrealized gains and losses recognized. The use of different pricing models or assumptions could produce different results.

Effective September 30, 2002, Gallagher reclassified the securities managed directly by Gallagher from available for sale to trading based on changes in its investment philosophy. Prior to September 30, 2002, these securities were considered available for sale and were carried at fair value in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet, with unrealized gains and losses, less related deferred income taxes, excluded from net earnings and reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity in accumulated other comprehensive earnings (loss). Gains and losses were recognized in net earnings when realized using the specific identification method. The fair value of marketable securities held as available for sale were based primarily on quoted market prices. As a result of this reclassification, \$425,000 of net pretax unrealized losses, previously classified in accumulated other comprehensive earnings (loss), was recognized in earnings before income taxes in the third quarter of 2002.

**Other Investments** - For those investments that do not have quoted market prices, Gallagher utilizes various valuation techniques to estimate fair value and proactively looks for indicators of impairment. Factors, among others, that may indicate that an impairment could exist, include defaults on interest and/or principal payments, reductions or changes to dividend payments, sustained operating losses or a trend of poor operating performance, recent refinancings or recapitalizations, unfavorable press reports, untimely filing of financial information, significant customer or revenue loss, litigation, tax audits, losses by other companies in a similar industry, overall economic conditions, management and expert advisor changes, and significant changes in strategy. In addition, in cases where the ultimate value of an investment is directly dependent on Gallagher for future financial support, Gallagher assesses its willingness and intent to provide future funding.

If an indicator of impairment exists, Gallagher compares the investment's carrying value to an estimate of its fair value. To estimate the fair value of loans, Gallagher discounts the expected future cash flows from principal and interest payments. This requires Gallagher to exercise significant judgment when estimating both the amount and the timing of the expected cash flows. To estimate the fair value of common and preferred stock investments, Gallagher compares values established in recent recapitalizations or appraisals conducted by third parties. In some cases, no such recapitalizations or appraisals exist and Gallagher must perform its own valuations. This also requires Gallagher to exercise significant judgment. Even if impairment indicators exist, no write- down may be required if the estimated fair value is not less than the current carrying value or the decline in value is determined to be temporary and Gallagher has the ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient for the value to recover. When Gallagher determines an impairment is other- than- temporary, and therefore that a write- down is required, it is recorded as a realized loss against current period earnings.

Both the process to review for indicators of impairment and, if such indicators exist, the method to compute the amount of impairment incorporate quantitative data and qualitative criteria including the receipt of new information that can dramatically change the decision about the valuation of an investment in a short period of time. The determination of whether a decline in fair value is other- than- temporary is necessarily a matter of subjective judgment. The timing and amount of realized losses reported in earnings could vary if management's conclusions were different.

Due to the inherent risk of investments, Gallagher cannot give assurance that there will not be impairments in the future should conditions change.

**Fixed Assets** - Fixed assets are carried at cost, less accumulated depreciation, in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet. Gallagher periodically reviews long- lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable. Under those circumstances, if the fair value were less than the carrying amount of the asset, a loss would be recognized for the difference. Depreciation for fixed assets is computed using the straight- line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	Useful Life
Furniture and equipment	3 to 10 years
Buildings and improvements	3 to 40 years
Airplanes of a consolidated leasing company	15 years
Syn/Coal equipment	Monthly pro rata basis through December 2007
Leasehold improvements	Lesser of remaining life of the asset or life of lease

**Intangible Assets** - Intangible assets represent the excess of cost over the value of net tangible assets of acquired businesses. Gallagher classifies its intangible assets as either goodwill, expiration lists or non- compete agreements. Expiration lists and non- compete agreements are amortized using the straight- line method over their estimated useful lives (5 to 15 years for expiration lists and 5 to 6 years for non- compete agreements), while goodwill is not subject to amortization. Allocation of intangible assets between goodwill, expiration lists and non- compete agreements and the determination of estimated useful lives are based on valuations Gallagher receives from qualified independent appraisers. The calculations of these amounts are based on estimates and assumptions using historical and pro forma data and recognized valuation methods. The use of different estimates or assumptions could produce different results. Intangible assets are carried at cost, less accumulated amortization in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet.

While goodwill is not amortized, it is subject to periodic reviews for impairment (at least annually or more frequently if impairment indicators arise). Gallagher reviews goodwill for impairment periodically and whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable. Such impairment reviews are performed at the division level with respect to goodwill. Under those circumstances, if the fair value were less than the carrying amount of the asset, an indicator of impairment would exist and further analysis would be required to determine whether or not a loss would need to be charged against current period earnings. No such indicators were noted in 2003 and 2002. The determinations of impairment indicators and fair value are based on estimates and assumptions related to the amount and timing of future cash flows and future interest rates. The use of different estimates or assumptions could produce different results.

**Stock- Based Compensation** - In 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 148, "Accounting for Stock- Based Compensation Transition and Disclosure, An Amendment of SFAS No. 123," which was effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2002. SFAS 148 provides alternative methods of transition for an entity that voluntarily changes to the fair value based method of accounting for stock- based employee compensation. SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock- Based Compensation," encourages but does not require companies to record compensation expense for stock- based employee compensation plans based on the fair value of options granted.

During the fourth quarter 2003, Gallagher adopted the fair value method of accounting for employee stock options pursuant to SFAS 123 and 148. Prior to January 1, 2003, Gallagher applied the intrinsic value method as permitted under SFAS 123 and defined in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25 (APB 25), "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," which excluded employee options granted at fair market value from compensation expense. Substantially all of the stock options currently outstanding have an exercise price equal to the fair market price at the date of grant and, therefore, under APB 25, virtually no compensation expense was recorded in 2002 and prior years. The change to the fair value method of accounting is being applied prospectively to all stock option awards granted, modified, or settled after January 1, 2003 and to employee stock purchases made during 2003 through participation in Gallagher's employee stock purchase plan. SFAS 123 requires that the fair value method for stock-based compensation be applied as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which it is adopted for all stock-based awards granted subsequent to such date. The consolidated financial statements for each of the first three quarters of 2003 were not restated for this change since its impact was not material to the amounts previously reported. The expense related to the first three quarters was charged against earnings in the fourth quarter of 2003. During 2003, Gallagher recognized \$1.8 million of compensation expense due to the adoption of SFAS 123 related to its stock option plans and its employee stock purchase plan.

At December 31, 2003, Gallagher had four stock option plans, which are described more fully in Note 10. Gallagher primarily grants stock options for a fixed number of shares to employees, with an exercise price equal to the fair value of the underlying shares at the date of grant. For all options granted prior to January 1, 2003, Gallagher continues to account for stock option grants under the recognition and measurement principles of APB 25 and related Interpretations and, accordingly, recognizes no compensation expense for these stock options granted to employees. The following table illustrates the effect on net earnings and net earnings per share if Gallagher had applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123 to stock-based employee compensation (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2003	2002	2001
Net earnings - as reported	\$ 146.2	\$ 129.9	\$ 125.3
Add: Stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported net earnings, net of related tax effects	1.4	-	-
Deduct: Total stock-based employee compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards (see Note 10), net of related tax effects	(5.5)	(4.0)	(6.2)
Pro forma net earnings	\$ 142.1	\$ 125.9	\$ 119.1
Basic net earnings per share - as reported	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.49	\$ 1.48
Basic net earnings per share - pro forma	1.58	1.44	1.40
Diluted net earnings per share - as reported	1.57	1.41	1.39
Diluted net earnings per share - pro forma	1.54	1.38	1.33

As presented in the table above, had Gallagher applied the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS 123 to the 2002 and prior stock options grants, diluted net earnings per share as reported would have been reduced by \$.03 in 2003, \$.03 in 2002 and \$.06 in 2001. The pro forma disclosures above only include the effect of options granted subsequent to January 1, 1995, the date in which fair value was to be measured under SFAS 123. Accordingly, the effects of applying the SFAS 123 pro forma disclosures to future periods may not be indicative of future results.

**Fair Value of Financial Instruments** - The carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities reported in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet for cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, premiums and fees receivable, premiums payable to insurance companies, accrued salaries and bonuses, accounts payable and other accrued liabilities, unearned fees and income taxes payable, at December 31, 2003 and 2002, approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments. The financial assets that comprise investment strategies and marketable securities are carried at fair value in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet. Fair values for other investments and notes receivable are disclosed in Note 3. The carrying amounts of borrowings outstanding under Gallagher's credit agreement and other debt agreements listed in Note 7 approximate their fair values at December 31, 2003 because the borrowings are at floating interest rates or the rates are not significantly different from the prevailing market rates.

## 2. Adoption of New Accounting Standards

**Stock- Based Compensation** - See Note 1 for a discussion on the adoption of a new accounting standard related to stock- based compensation.

**Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities** - In January 2003, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 46 (FIN 46), "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities." FIN 46 defines a variable interest entity (VIE) as a corporation, partnership, trust, or any other legal structure used for business purposes that has: (a) an insufficient amount of equity for the entity to carry on its principal operations, without additional subordinated support from other parties; (b) a group of equity owners that do not have the authority to make decisions about the entity's activities; or (c) equity that does not absorb the entity's losses or receive the benefits of the entity.

Prior to FIN 46, a partially- owned entity was only consolidated into the investor company's consolidated financial statements if it was controlled by the investor company through voting interests. Regardless of voting interests, FIN 46 requires a VIE to be consolidated by an investor company if the investor company is subject to a majority of the risk of the expected loss from the VIE's activities or entitled to receive a majority of the VIE's expected residual returns or both. FIN 46 also requires disclosures about VIEs in circumstances where the investor company is not required to consolidate but does have a significant variable interest. The consolidation requirements of FIN 46 applied immediately to VIEs created or invested in after January 31, 2003. The consolidation requirements apply to entities not considered special purpose entities that were created or invested in before February 1, 2003, in the first fiscal year or interim period ending after December 15, 2003. Early adoption is permitted.

Gallagher did not create or invest in any new VIEs subsequent to December 31, 2002. Effective July 1, 2003, Gallagher early adopted FIN 46, which required Gallagher to consolidate one partially- owned entity, that was determined to be a VIE and previously not consolidated because it was not controlled by Gallagher through a majority voting interest. The adoption of FIN 46 did not result in any additional debt on Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet nor did it have any impact on its 2003 consolidated net earnings or December 31, 2003 stockholders' equity. The following is a summary of the impact of the adoption of FIN 46 on Gallagher's December 31, 2003 consolidated financial statements (in millions except per share data):

Financial Statement Line	Balance Prior to Adjustment	Impact of FIN 46	Adjusted Balance
<b>Statement of Earnings - Year Ended December 31, 2003</b>			
Investment income - all other	\$ 71.7	\$ 46.4	\$ 118.1
Investment expenses	53.7	44.1	97.8
Depreciation	28.9	2.3	31.2
Earnings before income taxes	193.3	-	193.3
Basic net earnings per share	1.63	-	1.63
Diluted net earnings per share	1.57	-	1.57
<b>Balance Sheet at December 31, 2003</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	193.2	0.4	193.6
Other current assets	149.3	9.1	158.4
Investments - long term	132.0	(11.0)	121.0
Fixed assets related to consolidated investments - net	186.3	18.9	205.2
Accrued compensation and other accrued liabilities	206.4	12.9	219.3
Other noncurrent liabilities	94.6	4.5	99.1
Total stockholders' equity	619.1	-	619.1

Restatement of previously issued financial statements is not required. See Note 3 for the disclosures relating to those partially- owned or financed entities identified by Gallagher subject to the provisions of FIN 46.

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**Guarantees** - In November 2002, FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 45 (FIN 45), "Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others," which significantly changed the previous practice of accounting for, and disclosure of, guarantees and commitments. FIN 45 requires certain guarantees to initially be recorded at fair value, which was different from the previous practice of recording a liability only when a loss is probable and estimable, as those terms are defined in SFAS No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies." FIN 45 also requires a guarantor to make significant new disclosures, even when the likelihood of making any payments under the guarantee is remote, which is also a change from prior practice.

FIN 45's disclosure requirements were effective for all guarantees, regardless of the initiation date, for financial statements of interim or annual periods ending after December 15, 2002, while the initial recognition and initial measurement provisions are applicable on a prospective basis to guarantees issued, renewed or modified after December 31, 2002. During 2003, Gallagher evaluated thirteen financial guarantees and letters of credit pursuant to FIN 45, the results of which had no material impact on Gallagher's consolidated operating results and/or financial position. Gallagher will continue to evaluate all new or renewing guarantees each quarter to determine their impact on Gallagher's consolidated financial statements, the results of which could have a material effect on Gallagher's consolidated operating results and/or financial position. See Notes 3 and 16 for additional details and disclosures regarding Gallagher's financial guarantees and letters of credit.

### 3. Investments

**Trading Securities** - The following is a summary of Gallagher's trading securities and the related outstanding letters of credit (LOCs), financial guarantees and funding commitments (in millions):

					December 31, 2003	
	December 31, 2003		December 31, 2002		LOCs & Financial Guarantees	Funding Commitments
	Current	Long- term	Current	Long- term		
<b>Trading Securities:</b>						
Managed directly	\$ 5.0	\$ -	\$ 17.7	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Managed by third parties	-	-	40.5	-	-	-
<b>Total trading securities</b>	<b>\$ 5.0</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 58.2</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Trading securities managed directly by Gallagher and by third party managers consist primarily of common and preferred stocks and corporate bonds. The trading securities managed by third parties were generally structured through limited partnerships. All of the trading securities are carried at fair value in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet, with unrealized gains and losses included in the consolidated statement of earnings.

The trading securities managed directly by Gallagher can generally be liquidated in 30 days or less. The trading securities managed by third parties were liquidated during 2003.

**Investments** - The following is a summary of Gallagher's other investments and the related outstanding letters of credit (LOCs), financial guarantees and funding commitments (in millions):

					December 31, 2003	
	December 31, 2003		December 31, 2002		LOCs & Financial Guarantees	Funding Commitments
	Current	Long- term	Current	Long- term		
<b>Investments:</b>						
Asset Alliance Corporation (AAC) related investments:						
Direct and indirect investments in AAC	\$ 1.3	\$ 49.8	\$ -	\$ 46.7	\$ -	\$ -
Investment guaranteed by AAC	-	-	-	9.1	-	-
Low income housing (LIH) developments:						
Bridge loans	9.5	-	20.3	-	-	-
Partnership interests	-	3.1	-	8.1	-	-
LIH Developer	-	7.6	-	7.6	-	-
Alternative energy investments:						
Owned partnership interests	1.5	28.3	0.9	15.2	5.9	0.2
Partnership interest installment sales	14.6	8.0	15.0	24.3	-	-
Bermuda insurance investments	-	20.4	-	20.4	6.7	-
Real estate, venture capital and	-	3.8	1.7	37.0	2.1	5.9

other investments:

Total investments	\$	26.9	\$	121.0	\$	37.9	\$	168.4	\$	14.7	\$	6.1

**Asset Alliance Corporation** - Through various debt and common and preferred stock holdings, Gallagher effectively owns 25% of AAC, a holding company that generally owns 50% of 13 private investment management firms (Firms). These Firms manage domestic and international investment portfolios for corporations, pension funds and individuals, which totaled approximately \$4 billion at December 31, 2003. AAC has a proportional interest in the Firms' revenues that result principally from fees and participation in investment returns from the managed investment portfolios. Gallagher accounts for its holdings in AAC's common stock using equity method accounting.

Prior to 2001, Gallagher agreed to guarantee a portion of AAC's debt. On June 30, 2003, AAC made its regularly scheduled debt service payment, which released Gallagher from any remaining guarantee.



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During the fourth quarter 2002, one of the Firms, Beacon Hill Asset Management LLC (Beacon Hill), withdrew from managing its portfolio due to various legal, contractual and business issues. As a result, AAC wrote down its investment and, correspondingly, Gallagher recorded a \$3.0 million pretax charge to reflect its proportional loss. In the first quarter 2003, investors in a Beacon Hill investment partnership filed a lawsuit to recover investment losses naming AAC as a co- defendant. Gallagher is unable to estimate the impact, if any, this lawsuit may have on AAC and the resulting impact on Gallagher's investment value.

**Low Income Housing (LIH) Developments** - Gallagher's investments in LIH consist of three components:

**Bridge Loans** primarily represent early- stage loans to an LIH developer on properties that are being developed to qualify for LIH tax credits. The loans are collateralized by the land and buildings under development and carry fixed interest rates ranging from 4.0% to 9.5% at December 31, 2003. The loans are generally outstanding for 12 to 24 months and accrue interest until the projects are refinanced by a purchaser or syndicator. No loan has ever defaulted since Gallagher began making these types of loans in 1996.

**Partnership Interests** represent Gallagher's ownership in completed and certified LIH developments. At December 31, 2003, Gallagher owned a limited partnership interest in 24 LIH developments. These are generating tax benefits to Gallagher on an ongoing basis in the form of both tax deductions for operating losses and tax credits. These investments are generally accounted for using the effective yield method and are carried at amortized cost. Under the effective yield method, Gallagher recognizes the tax credits as they are allocated by the partnerships, which are included, net of amortization of the investment, as a component of the provision for income taxes. Gallagher has never incurred a loss on a LIH project.

Twelve of the LIH developments have been determined to be VIEs but are not required to be consolidated. Gallagher invested in these developments between 1990 and 2000 as a limited partner. At December 31, 2003, total assets and total debt of these developments was approximately \$76 million and \$60 million, respectively. Gallagher's maximum exposure to a potential loss from these VIEs was \$3.1 million at December 31, 2003, which equaled the net aggregate carrying value of its investments.

**LIH Developer** represents Gallagher's 30% ownership interest in the company that is the developer and/or syndicator of most of Gallagher's LIH development investments. It has been determined to be a VIE but is not required to be consolidated. Gallagher's original investment was in 1996. The LIH Developer generates revenues from syndication and development fees and its equity is virtually all cash, cash producing real estate project receivables and bridge loans. Gallagher accounts for this investment using equity method accounting. At December 31, 2003, the LIH Developer had total assets of approximately \$23 million and no debt. Gallagher's maximum exposure to a potential loss from this VIE was \$7.6 million at December 31, 2003, which equaled the net carrying value of its investment.

**Alternative Energy Investments** - Gallagher has made investments in partnerships formed to develop energy that qualifies for tax credits under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 29. There are two types of such investments:

**Owned Partnership Interests** consist of (i) waste- to- energy (Biomass) partnerships which own the rights to gas emissions (Biogas) from landfills and the wells and infrastructure necessary to capture the Biogas and (ii) synthetic coal (Syn/Coal) partnerships which own and lease equipment that processes qualified fuel under IRC Section 29. Gallagher has an interest in six Biomass limited partnerships and five Syn/Coal limited partnerships or limited liability companies which generate tax benefits to Gallagher on an ongoing basis in the form of both tax deductions for operating losses and tax credits. Two of the Syn/Coal limited partnerships are consolidated (one due to ownership percentage and one due to it being a VIE as discussed below) into Gallagher's 2003 consolidated financial statements. The remainder of these investments are primarily carried at amortized cost. Gallagher recognizes the tax credits as they are allocated by the partnerships, which are included as a component of the provision for income taxes.

At December 31, 2003, LOCs and financial guarantees of \$5.9 million related to the completion of a Biogas pipeline and the reclamation of a Syn/Coal property. The \$0.2 million funding commitment related to a Syn/Coal project.

Five of the Biomass limited partnerships have been determined to be VIEs but are not required to be consolidated. Gallagher is a limited partner in each investment. The investments were entered into by Gallagher between 1991 and 1998. At December 31, 2003, total assets and total debt of these investments was approximately \$21 million and \$14 million, respectively. Gallagher's maximum exposure to a potential loss from these VIEs was \$2.4 million at December 31, 2003, which equaled the net aggregate carrying value of its investments.

Because of Gallagher's economic interest in one of the Syn/Coal partnerships, it has been determined to be a VIE and, effective as of July 1, 2003, was required to be consolidated into Gallagher's consolidated financial statements under FIN 46 criteria. See Note 2 and the "Consolidated Investments" section below for additional details and disclosures regarding this Syn/Coal partnership.

**Partnership Interest Installment Sales** represent the remaining book value and receivables from the Biomass and Syn/Coal operations that have been either partially or completely sold to third parties. Gallagher accounts for these investments on the installment sale basis, which requires that the net gains, including the amortization of the bases of the assets sold, be recognized over time as a component of investment income.

**Biomass** - As part of selling its interests in Biomass partnerships, Gallagher provided indemnifications to the buyers for taxes that may arise as a result of incorrect representations. Gallagher obtained legal, tax, and other expert services and advice when making these representations. At December 31, 2003, the maximum potential amount of future payments that Gallagher could be required to make under these indemnifications totaled approximately \$11 million, net of the applicable income tax benefit. Gallagher did not record any liability in its December 31, 2003 consolidated balance sheet for these potential indemnifications.

**Syn/Coal** - As part of selling its interests in Syn/Coal partnerships, Gallagher provided indemnifications to the buyers for taxes that may arise as a result of incorrect representations. Gallagher obtained legal, tax, and other expert services and advice when making these representations, and in certain circumstances, subsequently obtained private letter rulings (PLRs) from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Gallagher has not recorded any liability in its December 31, 2003 consolidated balance sheet for these potential indemnifications.

On October 29, 2003, the IRS issued Announcement 2003- 70 stating that it had completed a review of chemical change issues associated with tax credits claimed under IRC Section 29 relating to the production and sale of synthetic coal (Syn/Coal Credits). It further stated that it would resume the issuance of PLRs concerning Syn/Coal Credits consistent with the guidelines regarding chemical change previously set forth in Revenue Procedures 2001- 30 and 2001- 34 and certain additional requirements related to sampling, testing and recordkeeping procedures, even though the IRS does not believe the level of chemical change required under that guidance is sufficient for IRC Section 29 purposes. The IRS also stated in the announcement that it would continue to issue PLRs because it recognized that many taxpayers and their investors have relied on its long standing PLR practice to make investments. In Announcement 2003- 46 issued on June 27, 2003, the IRS had questioned the validity of certain test procedures and results that had been presented to it by taxpayers with interests in synthetic fuel operations as evidence that the required significant chemical change had occurred, and had initiated a review of these test procedures and results which was completed as noted in Announcement 2003- 70.

Separately, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Government Affairs Committee of the United States Senate (Subcommittee) is conducting an investigation of potential abuses of tax credits by producers of synthetic fuel under IRC Section 29. The Subcommittee Chairman, in a memorandum commencing the investigation, has stated that he anticipates the investigation will focus on whether certain synthetic fuel producers are claiming tax credits even though their product is not a qualified synthetic fuel under Section 29 and IRS regulations. The memorandum also states that the investigation will address whether certain corporations are engaging in transactions solely to take advantage of unused Section 29 credits with no other business purpose and the IRS's efforts to curb abuses related to these credits.

The effect of these two developments on the synthetic coal industry is not clear. Gallagher is aware that new PLRs have been issued since October 29, 2003, and it has participated in an interview with Subcommittee staff. Gallagher continues to believe it is claiming Syn/Coal Credits in accordance with IRC Section 29 and two PLRs previously obtained by Syn/Coal partnerships in which it has an interest. Gallagher understands these PLRs are consistent with those issued to other taxpayers and has received no indication from the IRS that it will seek to revoke or modify them. In that regard, one of the Syn/Coal partnerships in which Gallagher has an interest, is under examination for the tax year 2000, and the PLR it obtained was reviewed in the course of that examination. That partnership has been recently advised that the examination will be closed without any changes being proposed by the IRS for the tax year 2000.

Gallagher has insurance policies in place, the scope of which Gallagher believes would provide substantial coverage in the event the Syn/Coal Credits were disallowed. While there can be no assurance that such coverage would ultimately be available, if the full amount of the policies were collected, Gallagher's maximum after- tax exposure relating to the disallowance of the Syn/Coal Credits is as follows (in millions):

	Maximum		Net of Insurance
Tax credits recorded by Gallagher	\$ 106.9	\$	64.3
Installment sale proceeds subject to indemnification	110.8		3.0
Net carrying value of assets held at December 31, 2003	14.0		14.0
Total exposure	\$ 231.7	\$	81.3

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**Bermuda Insurance Investments** - These investments consist primarily of a \$20 million equity investment (less than 2% ownership) in Allied World Assurance Holdings, Ltd. which is a Bermuda based insurance and reinsurance company founded in 2001 by American International Group, Inc., The Chubb Corporation and affiliates of Goldman, Sachs & Co. This investment is carried at its original cost.

The remaining balance of \$0.4 million is Gallagher's rent- a- captive facility, formed in 1997 that Gallagher uses as a placement facility for its insurance brokerage operations. This operation has been consolidated into Gallagher's consolidated financial statements. Gallagher has posted \$6.7 million of LOCs to allow the rent- a- captive to meet minimum statutory surplus requirements and for additional collateral related to premium and claim funds held in a fiduciary capacity. These LOCs have never been drawn upon.

**Real Estate, Venture Capital and Other Investments** - At December 31, 2003, Gallagher had investments in eight real estate ventures with a net carrying value of \$4.6 million in the aggregate, none of which was in excess of \$2.1 million. Gallagher also had investments in six venture capital investments that consisted of various debt and equity investments in development- stage companies and turn- arounds, none of which had a carrying value in excess of \$1.1 million. These investments' carrying values netted to a \$2.1 million allowance in the aggregate, which included reserves for LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments related to these venture capital investments. The remaining \$1.3 million related to six other investments, none of which was in excess of \$600,000 at December 31, 2003.

On January 27, 2004, Gallagher reached an agreement to withdraw its support of one of the real estate ventures which released Gallagher from a \$2.0 million LOC. This LOC was in place as of December 31, 2003 but Gallagher did not report this as an obligation as of December 31, 2003 due to its release subsequent to year end. This LOC was never drawn upon during the period it was outstanding.

Seven of these investments have been determined to be VIEs but are not required to be consolidated. These were originally invested in between 1997 and 2001. At December 31, 2003, total assets and total debt of these investments was approximately \$156 million and \$153 million, respectively. Gallagher's maximum exposure to a potential loss related to these investments was \$3.1 million at December 31, 2003, which equaled the net aggregate carrying value of these investments.

**Consolidated Investments** - Gallagher has an ownership interest in excess of 50% in four investment enterprises: two real estate partnerships, an airplane leasing limited liability company and one Syn/Coal facility. One real estate partnership represents a 60% investment in a limited partnership that owns the building that Gallagher leases for its home office and several of its subsidiary operations. The other real estate partnership represents an 80% investment in a limited partnership that is developing an 11,000- acre residential community near Orlando, Florida. Gallagher owns 90% of an airplane leasing company that leases two cargo airplanes to the French Postal Service. During the fourth quarter 2003, Gallagher acquired a 99% equity position in a Syn/Coal facility held to generate IRC Section 29 tax credits. These four investments are consolidated into Gallagher's consolidated financial statements.

Gallagher also owns 5% of another Syn/Coal facility. The other 95% was previously sold on the installment sale basis and has substantial residual value to Gallagher. Under the FIN 46 criteria, this investment has been determined to be a VIE which required Gallagher to consolidate this facility into its consolidated financial statements. See Note 2 for additional disclosures regarding this Syn/Coal partnership.

The following is a summary of the consolidated investments and the related outstanding LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments (in millions):

	December 31, 2003			
	December 31, 2003	December 31, 2002	LOCs & Financial Guarantees	Funding Commitments
Home office land and building:				
Fixed assets	\$ 100.9	\$ 100.4	\$ -	\$ -
Accumulated depreciation	(13.2)	(10.6)	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - current	(0.8)	(0.7)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - current	-	-	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(74.0)	(74.8)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(3.0)	(3.0)	-	-
Net other consolidated assets and liabilities	2.2	0.7	-	-
Net investment	12.1	12.0	-	-
Florida community development land and improvements:				
Fixed assets	56.0	50.7	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - current	(10.7)	(2.9)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - current	(17.0)	(17.0)	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(0.2)	(3.3)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(12.4)	(12.4)	-	-
Net other consolidated assets and liabilities	(3.6)	(2.0)	12.8	1.5
Net investment	12.1	13.1	12.8	1.5
Airplane leasing company:				
Fixed assets	51.8	51.8	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	(10.5)	(6.9)	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - current	(2.4)	(2.2)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - current	-	-	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(32.5)	(34.8)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - noncurrent	-	-	-	-
Net other consolidated assets and liabilities	0.9	0.2	-	-
Net investment	7.3	8.1	-	-
Syn/Coal partnerships:				
Cash and receivables	19.0	-	-	-

Fixed assets	35.2	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	(15.0)	-	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - current	-	-	-	-
Recourse borrowings - current	-	-	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - noncurrent	-	-	-	-
Recourse borrowings - noncurrent	-	-	-	-
Net other consolidated assets and liabilities	(18.4)	-	-	-
Net investment	20.8	-	-	-
Total consolidated investments:				
Cash and receivables	19.0	-	-	-
Fixed assets	243.9	202.9	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	(38.7)	(17.5)	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - current	(13.9)	(5.8)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - current	(17.0)	(17.0)	-	-
Non- recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(106.7)	(112.9)	-	-
Recourse borrowings - noncurrent	(15.4)	(15.4)	-	-
Net other consolidated assets and liabilities	(18.9)	(1.1)	12.8	1.5
Net investment	\$ 52.3	\$ 33.2	\$ 12.8	\$ 1.5

As shown in the above table, three of the five consolidated investment enterprises have borrowings related to their assets. In the case of the home office building and the airplane leasing company, over 97% of the borrowings are collateralized solely by the enterprises' underlying assets and are non-recourse to Gallagher's other operations. In regards to the Florida community development, approximately 73% of the borrowings are recourse to Gallagher through LOCs and written financial guarantees in the event the underlying assets are not sufficient collateral. In addition, at December 31, 2003, with respect to the Florida community development, Gallagher has verbally committed to fund another \$1.5 million of development costs.

At December 31, 2003, Gallagher's maximum exposure to a potential loss related to these investments is as follows (in millions):

Net carrying value	\$	52.3
Recourse portion of debt		32.4
LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments		14.3
Maximum exposure	\$	99.0

See Note 16 for a summary of future cash payments, excluding interest, related to the borrowings of Gallagher's consolidated investment enterprises.

Significant components of investment income are as follows (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2003	2002	2001
Interest - fiduciary	\$ 8.5	\$ 10.2	\$ 13.2
Trading securities:			
Interest	3.3	1.0	2.5
Dividends	1.7	1.8	2.3
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on securities managed by third parties	0.7	-	(0.1)
Net realized gain on securities managed by third parties	0.4	1.5	0.1
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on securities managed directly	(0.1)	0.2	-
Net realized gain on securities managed directly	1.0	0.1	0.5
Other- than- temporary impairments	-	(2.7)	(0.6)
Other realized gains	-	-	3.4
AAC related investments:			
Interest	1.1	1.1	0.2
Dividends	1.1	0.8	-
Income from equity ownership	2.9	2.4	0.8
Fee income	-	2.0	2.9
Loss from AAC's write- down of investment in fund manager	-	(3.0)	-
Gain on sale of portion of minority interest	-	11.8	-
LIH developments:			
Interest	0.9	1.4	1.2
Income from equity ownership	0.1	1.3	0.7
Other realized gains	2.1	-	0.9
Alternative energy investments:			
Interest	1.4	1.2	2.5
Installment gains	39.0	34.6	6.3
Other income	0.9	0.7	0.8
Other realized gains	-	-	4.4
Real estate, venture capital and other investments:			
Loss from equity ownership	(0.5)	(0.2)	(2.2)
Realized losses on dispositions and write- downs	(29.1)	(32.4)	-
Other realized gains (losses)	-	(0.2)	5.8
Income from consolidated investments	62.0	9.8	7.7
Gains on sales of operations	2.5	2.5	2.4
Other income	2.2	3.2	3.5
Total investment income	\$ 102.1	\$ 49.1	\$ 59.2

Effective on September 30, 2002, Gallagher reclassified its securities managed directly portfolio from available for sale to trading. As a result of this reclassification, changes in unrealized gains and losses on this portfolio are recorded in investment income in the consolidated statement of earnings. Prior to September 30, 2002, changes in unrealized gains and losses on this portfolio were recorded in stockholders' equity as accumulated other comprehensive earnings or losses. Amounts included in investment income from trading securities represent interest and dividend income and normal recurring realized and unrealized gains and losses on the trading securities portfolios. In 2002 and 2001, Gallagher incurred other- than- temporary impairments of \$2.7 million and \$0.6 million, respectively, that were recognized related to Gallagher's securities managed directly portfolio that resulted from a sharp decline in the equity markets during 2002 and 2001. Also in 2001, there were \$3.4 million of realized gains from investments written- off prior to 2001.

Investment income from AAC related investments primarily represents income associated with Gallagher's debt, preferred and common stock investments in AAC. Gallagher accounts for the common stock portion of its investment using the equity method. During the fourth quarter of 2002, Gallagher recognized a \$3.0 million loss through the equity method of accounting for AAC's write- down of its investment in Beacon Hill. In addition, Gallagher recognized an \$11.8 million gain related to the sale of a portion of its equity position in AAC to an international financial institution. Fee income in 2002 and 2001 consists primarily of investment related fees paid to Gallagher for providing letters of credit and financial guarantees to AAC.

Investment income from low income housing (LIH) developments primarily represents income associated with Gallagher's equity investment in a LIH Developer that is accounted for using the equity method and interest income from bridge loans made by Gallagher related to LIH developments.

Investment income from alternative energy investments primarily relates to installment gains from several sales of Gallagher's interests in limited partnerships that operate Syn/Coal facilities, that occurred in the latter part of 2001 and early 2002, and a sale of several of its Biomass partnerships in 2000. Gallagher accounts for these transactions on the installment sale basis, which requires that the gains, net of the amortization of the bases of the assets sold, be recognized over time as a component of investment income. Also in 2001, Gallagher recognized one- time gains of \$4.4 million related to three alternative energy sale transactions.

Investment income from real estate, venture capital and other investments primarily represents income associated with Gallagher investments in eight real estate ventures, six venture capital investments that consisted of various debt and equity investments in development- stage companies and turn-arounds and six other investments. During 2003, Gallagher incurred \$29.1 million of losses related to its venture capital investments. During the first quarter of 2003, Gallagher incurred \$25.7 million of the losses related to the write- downs and dispositions when it decided to withdraw virtually all continued support for its venture capital investments, except to the limited extent needed to realize value from the remaining assets. Without Gallagher's support, it was doubtful that these operations would be able to execute their business plans. Therefore, Gallagher's investments were determined to be other- than- temporarily impaired. During 2002, Gallagher recognized \$28.8 million of net aggregate write- downs of loans and equity holdings related to its venture capital investments. In addition, Gallagher incurred a \$3.6 million loss in the third quarter of 2002 on the sale of a venture capital investment. Several of the venture capital equity investments written- down in 2002 had generated losses to Gallagher in 2001 using equity method accounting. During 2001, Gallagher recognized one- time gains of \$4.5 million generated from the sale of land by the Florida community development and \$1.3 million related to two other real estate transactions.

Income from consolidated investments in 2003 primarily represents the impact of the adoption of FIN 46. Effective July 1, 2003, Gallagher early adopted FIN 46, which required Gallagher to consolidate a Syn/Coal partnership in which it has a 5% ownership interest. Prior to July, 1, 2003, this partnership was not consolidated because it was not controlled by Gallagher through a majority voting interest. For the six- month period ended December 31, 2003, Gallagher recognized investment income of \$46.4 million related to this Syn/Coal partnership. Investment income from consolidated investments also includes income related to the Florida community development, Gallagher's home office building and the airplane leasing company. Income from consolidated investments in 2002 and 2001 primarily represents rental income related to the airplane leasing company (2002 only) and the two real estate partnerships. Rental income of the home office building was \$6.8 million, \$7.2 million and \$7.4 million in 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. Total expenses associated with the rental income, including interest and depreciation expenses, were \$6.6 million, \$7.5 million and \$7.7 million in 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. In 2003 and 2002, rental income of the airplane leasing company was \$3.2 million and \$1.9 million, respectively, and total expenses associated with this income, including interest and depreciation expenses, was \$5.0 million and \$2.9 million, respectively.

Gains on sales of operations primarily represent gains from the dispositions of branch operations. Gallagher disposed of one operation in each of 2003, 2002 and 2001. The net assets sold and the operating results included in the consolidated statement of earnings related to these operations were not material to the consolidated financial statements.

#### 4. Business Combinations

During 2003, Gallagher acquired substantially all the net assets of the following firms (13 insurance brokerage and one risk management) in exchange for its common stock and/or cash. These acquisitions have been accounted for using the purchase accounting method for recording business combinations (in millions except share data):

Name and Effective Date of Acquisitions	Common Shares Issued	Common Share Value	Cash Paid	Accrued Payable	Escrow Deposited	Recorded Purchase Price	Contingent Payable
(000s)							
January 1, 2003	101	\$ 2.7	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.3	\$ 3.0	\$ -
January 1, 2003	54	1.4	-	-	0.2	1.6	-
January 1, 2003	49	1.3	-	-	0.2	1.5	-
February 28, 2003	577	12.7	-	-	1.4	14.1	8.5
May 31, 2003	119	2.9	-	-	0.3	3.2	1.3
July 1, 2003	30	0.8	3.6	-	0.5	4.9	2.3
September 1, 2003	25	0.6	0.3	-	0.1	1.0	1.8
October 1, 2003	29	0.5	2.5	-	0.3	3.3	-
October 1, 2003	103	2.6	1.1	-	0.4	4.1	1.8
October 1, 2003	100	2.4	2.2	-	0.5	5.1	3.2
October 1, 2003	-	-	23.5	-	1.3	24.8	9.1
November 1, 2003	44	1.1	0.6	-	0.2	1.9	1.0
November 1, 2003	76	2.0	-	-	0.2	2.2	0.5
December 1, 2003	-	-	7.4	1.7	-	9.1	-
	1,307	\$ 31.0	\$ 41.2	\$ 1.7	\$ 5.9	\$ 79.8	\$ 29.5

Common shares exchanged in connection with these acquisitions were valued at closing market prices as of the effective date of the respective acquisition. Escrow deposits that are returned to Gallagher as a result of purchase price adjustment provisions are recorded as downward adjustments to goodwill when the escrows are settled. The contingent payables that are disclosed in the foregoing table represent the maximum amount of additional consideration that could be paid pursuant to the purchase agreements related to these acquisitions. These contingent obligations are primarily based upon future earnings of



the acquired entities and were not included in the purchase price that was recorded for these acquisitions at their respective acquisition dates. Future payments made under these arrangements will be recorded as upward adjustments to goodwill when the contingencies are settled. The aggregate amount of unrecorded contingent payables outstanding as of December 31, 2003 related to the 2003 and 2002 acquisitions was \$42.5 million.

During 2003, Gallagher issued 0.3 million shares to settle a contingent purchase obligation related to a May 2002 acquisition and recorded additional goodwill of \$7.9 million.

The following is a summary of the estimated fair values of the assets acquired at the date of each acquisition based on preliminary purchase price allocations (in millions):

	BPI	AAI	HRA	NIP	CHK	WGB	Eight Other Acquisitions	Total
Current assets	\$ 0.1	\$ 4.3	\$ 0.1	\$ 5.6	\$ 23.8	\$ -	\$ 18.8	\$ 52.7
Fixed assets	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.2	0.3
Goodwill	4.8	3.4	3.1	2.4	7.0	4.6	10.1	35.4
Expiration lists	9.1	1.9	0.6	3.2	13.7	3.6	4.6	36.7
Non- compete agreements	1.0	-	0.3	-	1.4	0.9	1.7	5.3
Total assets acquired	15.0	9.6	4.1	11.2	46.0	9.1	35.4	130.4
Current liabilities	0.9	4.7	-	5.4	21.2	-	17.7	49.9
Noncurrent liabilities	-	-	-	0.7	-	-	-	0.7
Total liabilities assumed	0.9	4.7	-	6.1	21.2	-	17.7	50.6
Total net assets acquired	\$ 14.1	\$ 4.9	\$ 4.1	\$ 5.1	\$ 24.8	\$ 9.1	\$ 17.7	\$ 79.8

These acquisitions allow Gallagher to expand into desirable businesses and geographic locations, further extend its presence in the retail and wholesale insurance brokerage services industry and increase the volume of general services currently provided. The excess of the purchase price over the estimated fair value of the tangible net assets acquired at the acquisition date was allocated within the Brokerage and Risk Management segments to goodwill, expiration lists and non- compete agreements in the amounts of \$35.4 million, \$36.7 million and \$5.3 million, respectively. Purchase price allocations are preliminarily established at the time of the acquisition and are subsequently reviewed within the first year of operations to determine the necessity for allocation adjustments. Expiration lists and non- compete agreements related to these acquisitions are currently being amortized on a straight- line basis over a weighted average useful life of 15 years and 5 to 6 years, respectively. Goodwill is not amortized, but is subject to periodic reviews for impairment (at least annually or more frequently if impairment indicators arise). Gallagher reviews goodwill for impairment periodically and whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable. Under those circumstances, if the fair value were less than the carrying amount of the asset, an indicator of impairment would exist and further analysis would be required to determine whether or not a loss would need to be charged against current period earnings. No such indicators were noted in 2003 and 2002. Of the \$36.7 million of expiration lists and \$5.3 million of non- compete agreements related to the 2003 acquisitions, \$29.5 million and \$4.3 million, respectively, are not expected to be deductible for income tax purposes. Accordingly, Gallagher recorded a deferred tax liability of \$11.3 million, and a corresponding amount of goodwill, in 2003 related to the nondeductible amortizable assets. This amount has not been included in the above table.

Gallagher's consolidated financial statements for 2003 include the operations of these companies from the date of their respective acquisition. The following is a summary of the unaudited pro forma historical results, as if these purchased entities had been acquired at January 1, 2002 (in millions, except per share data):

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2003	2002
Total revenues	\$ 1,283.8	\$ 1,096.9
Net earnings	149.8	131.2
Basic net earnings per share	1.66	1.48
Diluted net earnings per share	1.60	1.41

The unaudited pro forma results above have been prepared for comparative purposes only and do not purport to be indicative of the results of operations which actually would have resulted had the acquisitions occurred at January 1, 2002, nor is it necessarily indicative of future operating

results.

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## 5. Fixed Assets

Major classes of fixed assets consist of the following (in millions):

	December 31,	
	2003	2002
Furniture and equipment	\$ 137.9	\$ 137.8
Buildings and improvements	97.2	96.7
Land and improvements	59.3	54.3
Airplanes of consolidated leasing company	51.8	51.8
Leasehold improvements	26.9	26.7
Syn/Coal equipment	35.2	-
	408.3	367.3
Accumulated depreciation	(142.1)	(116.3)
Net fixed assets	\$ 266.2	\$ 251.0

## 6. Intangible Assets

Major classes of amortizable intangible assets consist of the following (in millions):

	December 31,	
	2003	2002
Expiration lists	\$ 84.1	\$ 45.2
Accumulated amortization - expiration lists	(12.1)	(5.7)
	72.0	39.5
Non- compete agreements	16.9	13.2
Accumulated amortization - non- compete agreements	(4.3)	(1.8)
	12.6	11.4
Net amortizable assets	\$ 84.6	\$ 50.9

Estimated aggregate amortization expense for each of the next five years is as follows:

2004	\$ 12.1
2005	12.1
2006	11.9
2007	11.9
2008	11.7
Total	\$ 59.7

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for 2003 are as follows (in millions):

	Brokerage	Risk Management	Financial Services	Total
Balance as of January 1, 2003	\$ 81.7	\$ 2.5	\$ -	\$ 84.2

Goodwill acquired during the year	48.5	6.1	-	54.6
Adjustments related to independent appraisals and other purchase accounting adjustments	1.2	-	-	1.2
Goodwill written- off related to sales of business units and impairment reviews during the year	(1.7)	-	-	(1.7)
Balance as of December 31, 2003	<u>\$ 129.7</u>	<u>\$ 8.6</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 138.3</u>

## 7. Credit and Other Debt Agreements

On July 21, 2003, Gallagher entered into a \$250.0 million unsecured revolving credit agreement (Credit Agreement), which expires on July 20, 2006, with a group of ten financial institutions. The Credit Agreement replaced a \$150.0 million unsecured revolving credit agreement that was to expire on September 10, 2003. The Credit Agreement provides for a revolving credit commitment of up to \$250.0 million. In addition, the Credit Agreement provides for the issuance of standby LOCs, which are limited to \$75.0 million in the aggregate. The issuance of such LOCs reduces the amount of net funds available for future borrowing under the Credit Agreement. At January 27, 2004, \$51.1 million of LOCs (of which Gallagher has \$26.8 of liabilities recorded as of December 31, 2003) were outstanding under the Credit Agreement, which primarily related to Gallagher's investments as discussed in Notes 3 and 16 to the consolidated financial statements. There were no borrowings outstanding under the revolving credit commitment at December 31, 2003. Accordingly, as of January 27, 2004, \$198.9 million remained available for potential borrowings, of which \$23.9 million may be in the form of additional LOCs. Interest rates on borrowings under the Credit Agreement are based on the prime commercial rate or LIBOR plus .575%, .800% or 1.000%, the determination of which is dependent on a financial leverage ratio maintained by Gallagher. The annual facility fee related to the Credit Agreement is either .125%, .150% or .200% of the used and unused portions, the determination of which is also dependent on a financial leverage ratio maintained by Gallagher. Gallagher incurred approximately \$1.0 million in fees and expenses related to the Credit Agreement, which has been capitalized and is being amortized to expense over the life of the Credit Agreement. The Credit Agreement contains various covenants that require Gallagher to maintain specified levels of net worth and financial leverage ratios. Gallagher was in compliance with these covenants at December 31, 2003.

The following is a summary of Gallagher's Credit Agreement and consolidated investment related debt (in millions):

	December 31,	
	2003	2002
<b>Gallagher's Credit Agreement:</b>		
Periodic payments of interest and principal, prime or LIBOR plus up to 1.00%, expires July 2006	\$ -	\$ 25.0
<b>Mortgage loan on Gallagher's home office:</b>		
Monthly installments of principal and interest, fixed rate of 8.35%, 30 year amortization, balloon payment 2008	77.8	78.6
<b>Line of credit facility on Florida community development:</b>		
Permits borrowings up to \$17.0 million, quarterly interest- only payments, variable rate of LIBOR plus 2.00%, expires 2004	17.0	17.0
<b>Line of credit facility on Florida community development:</b>		
Permits borrowings up to \$15.0 million, monthly interest- only payments, rate of prime plus 0.5%, expires 2004	4.8	-
<b>Bonds payable on Florida community development:</b>		
Monthly interest- only payments through 2010, variable rate based on commercial paper rate, balloon payment 2010	12.4	12.4
<b>Mortgage loan on Florida community development:</b>		
Annual installments, fixed rate of 8.00%, expires 2004	5.6	5.7
<b>Equipment loans on Florida community development:</b>		
Fixed monthly payments, fixed rates of 6.25% and 7.00%, expire 2005 and 2007	0.5	0.4
<b>Loan on airplanes leased to French Postal Service:</b>		
Monthly principal and interest payments, variable rate of LIBOR plus 1.62%, balloon payment 2006	34.9	37.0
	<u>\$ 153.0</u>	<u>\$ 176.1</u>

See Note 16 for additional discussion on commitments and contingencies.

## 8. Capital Stock and Stockholders' Rights Plan

**Capital Stock** - The table below summarizes certain information about Gallagher's capital stock at December 31, 2003 and 2002 (in millions, except par value data):

Class	Par Value	Authorized Shares
Preferred stock	No par	1
Common stock	\$ 1.00	400

**Stockholders' Rights Plan** - Non-voting Rights, authorized by the Board of Directors on March 10, 1987 and approved by stockholders on May 12, 1987, are outstanding on each share of Gallagher's outstanding common stock. The Rights Plan was amended in 1996 to extend the expiration of the Rights to May 12, 2007. Under certain conditions, each Right may be exercised to purchase one share of common stock at an exercise price of \$25. The Rights become exercisable and transferable after a public announcement that a person or group (as defined) has acquired 20% or more of the common stock or after commencement or public announcement of a tender offer for 30% or more of the common stock. If Gallagher is acquired in a merger or business combination, each Right exercised gives the holder the right to purchase \$50 of market value of common stock of the surviving company for the \$25 exercise price. The Rights may be redeemed by Gallagher at \$.0125 per Right at any time prior to the public announcement of the acquisition of 20% of the common stock.

## 9. Earnings per Share

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net earnings per share (in millions, except per share data):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2003	2002	2001
Net earnings	\$ 146.2	\$ 129.9	\$ 125.3
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	90.0	87.3	84.8
Dilutive effect of stock options using the treasury stock method	3.3	4.6	5.3
Weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding	93.3	91.9	90.1
Basic net earnings per share	\$ 1.63	\$ 1.49	\$ 1.48
Diluted net earnings per share	1.57	1.41	1.39

Options to purchase 2.0 million, 0.3 million and 0.2 million shares of common stock were outstanding at December 31, 2003, 2002 and 2001, but were not included in the computation of the dilutive effect of stock options for the year then ended. These options were excluded from the computation because the options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the common shares during the respective period and, therefore, would be antidilutive to earnings per share under the treasury stock method.

## 10. Stock Option Plans

Gallagher has incentive and nonqualified stock option plans for officers and key employees of Gallagher and its subsidiaries. The options are primarily granted at the fair value of the underlying shares at the date of grant. Options granted under the nonqualified plan primarily become exercisable at the rate of 10% per year beginning the calendar year after the date of grant or earlier in the event of death, disability or retirement. Options expire 10 years from the date of grant, or earlier in the event of termination of the employee.

In addition, Gallagher has a non-employee directors' stock option plan, which currently authorizes 1,925,000 shares for grant, with Discretionary Options granted at the direction of the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors (the Compensation Committee) and Retainer Options granted in lieu of the directors' annual retainer. Discretionary Options shall be exercisable at such rates as shall be determined by the Committee on the date of grant. Retainer Options shall be cumulatively exercisable at the rate of 25% of the total Retainer Option at the end of each full fiscal quarter succeeding the date of grant. The excess of fair value at the date of grant over the option price for these nonqualified stock options is considered compensation and is charged against earnings ratably over the vesting period.

Gallagher also has an incentive stock option plan for its officers and key employees resident in the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom plan is essentially the same as Gallagher's domestic employee stock option plans, with certain modifications to comply with United Kingdom law and to provide potentially favorable tax treatment for grantees resident in the United Kingdom.

All of the aforementioned stock option plans provide for the immediate vesting of all outstanding stock option grants in the event of a change in control of Gallagher as defined in the plan documents.

For purposes of the pro forma disclosures in Note 1 and for the expense recognition in 2003, the estimated fair values of the stock option grants are amortized to expense over the options' expected lives. The fair value of stock options at the date of grant was estimated using the Black- Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted average assumptions:

Year Ended December 31,			
	2003	2002	2001
Expected dividend yield	2.8%	3.0%	3.0%
Expected risk- free interest rate	4.1%	3.8%	5.0%
Volatility	26.9%	26.1%	24.5%
Expected life (in years)	6.9	6.0	5.3

The Black- Scholes option valuation model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded options which have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. In addition, option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions including the expected stock price volatility. Because Gallagher's employee and director stock options have characteristics significantly different from those of traded options, and because changes in the selective input assumptions can materially affect the fair value estimate, in management's opinion, the existing models do not necessarily provide a reliable single measure of the fair value of its employee and director stock options. The weighted average fair value per option for all options granted during 2003, 2002 and 2001, as determined on the grant date using the Black- Scholes option valuation model, was \$6.38, \$5.06 and \$7.03, respectively.

The following is a summary of Gallagher's stock option activity and related information (in millions, except exercise price data):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2001	
	Shares Under Option	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Shares Under Option	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Shares Under Option	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Beginning balance	14.4	\$ 16.05	14.1	\$ 13.63	14.4	\$ 10.43
Granted	2.9	24.99	2.3	24.30	2.8	24.95
Exercised	(2.1)	9.44	(1.9)	8.16	(3.0)	9.00
Canceled	(0.2)	21.00	(0.1)	17.15	(0.1)	14.17
Ending balance	15.0	\$ 18.59	14.4	\$ 16.05	14.1	\$ 13.63
Exercisable at end of year	5.2		5.1		4.8	

Options with respect to 10.7 million shares were available for grant at December 31, 2003.

Other information regarding stock options outstanding and exercisable at December 31, 2003 is summarized as follows (in millions, except exercise price data):

Options Outstanding				Options Exercisable	
Range of Exercise Prices	Number Outstanding	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (in years)	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Number Exercisable	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$ 1.11 - \$ 9.25	4.7	2.75	\$ 8.40	2.8	\$ 8.27
9.31 - 22.70	4.3	7.18	19.23	1.3	16.19
22.87 - 26.50	5.1	8.49	25.42	0.8	25.54
26.87 - 36.94	0.9	7.98	30.74	0.3	30.58
\$ 1.11 - \$36.94	15.0	6.27	\$ 18.59	5.2	\$ 13.99

## 11. Deferred Compensation

Gallagher has a Deferred Equity Participation Plan, which is a non-qualified plan that provides for distributions to certain key executives of Gallagher upon their normal retirement. Under the provisions of the plan, Gallagher contributes shares of its common stock, in an amount approved by Gallagher's Board of Directors, to a rabbi trust on behalf of the executives participating in the plan. Distributions under the plan may not normally be made until the participant reaches age 62 and are subject to forfeiture in the event of voluntary termination of employment prior to age 62. All distributions from the plan are made in the form of Gallagher's common stock.

On March 31, 2003 and 2002, Gallagher contributed \$4.4 million and \$4.0 million, respectively, to the plan through the issuance of 169,000 and 122,000 shares, respectively, of Gallagher's common stock. The Gallagher common stock that is issued under the plan to the rabbi trust is valued at historical cost (fair market value at the date of grant) and the unearned deferred compensation obligation is classified as a contra equity amount. The unearned deferred compensation balance is shown as a reduction of stockholders' equity in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and is being amortized to compensation expense ratably over the vesting period of the participants. Future changes in the fair value of the Gallagher common stock that is owed to the participants does not have any impact on Gallagher's consolidated financial statements. During 2003 and 2002, \$1.4 million and \$0.9 million, respectively, were charged to compensation expense related to the common stock issued under this plan.

## 12. Restricted Stock Awards

Gallagher has an incentive compensation plan for several of its key executives and management personnel. The compensation under this plan is determined by a formula applied to the pretax profitability of certain operating divisions and may include an equity award as part of such incentive compensation.

On March 31, 2003 and 2002, Gallagher contributed 275,000 and 274,000 shares, respectively, of its common stock to the plan, with an aggregate fair value of \$7.2 million and \$9.0 million, respectively, as of those dates. Also, on March 31, 2003, Gallagher granted restricted stock awards of 27,000 shares in the aggregate of its common stock to its Chief Executive Officer and one other Corporate Officer, with an aggregate fair value of \$0.7 million as of that date. Also, on March 31, 2002, Gallagher granted, to its Chief Executive Officer, a restricted stock award of 32,000 shares of Gallagher common stock with an aggregate fair value of \$1.0 million as of that date. All of the 2003 restricted stock awards vest over a two- year period at the rate of 50% per year beginning on March 31, 2004. All of the 2002 restricted stock awards vest over a three- year period at the rate of 33 1/3% per year beginning on March 31, 2003. Gallagher accounts for restricted stock at historical cost which equals its fair market value at the date of grant. When restricted shares are issued, an unearned restricted stock obligation is recorded as a reduction of stockholders' equity, which will be ratably charged to compensation expense over the vesting period of the participants. Future changes in the fair value of the Gallagher common stock that is owed to the participants does not have any impact on Gallagher's consolidated financial statements. During 2003 and 2002, \$6.3 million and \$2.5 million, respectively, were charged to compensation expense related to these awards.

On June 1, 2003, Gallagher adopted a restricted stock plan for its directors, officers and other employees. Under the provisions of the plan, Gallagher is authorized to issue 4.0 million shares of Gallagher common stock. The Compensation Committee is responsible for the administration of the plan. Each award granted under the plan represents a right of the holder of the award to receive shares of Gallagher common stock, cash or a combination of shares and cash, subject to the holder's continued employment with Gallagher for a period of time after the date the award is granted. The Compensation Committee shall determine each recipient of an award under the plan, the number of shares of common stock subject to such award and the period of continued employment required for the vesting of such award, and these terms will be included in an award agreement between Gallagher and the recipient of the award. No awards have been granted under the plan as of the date of this report.

## 13. Employee Stock Purchase Plan

Effective July 1, 2003, Gallagher adopted an employee stock purchase plan (ESPP) under which the sale of 4.0 million shares of Gallagher's common stock has been authorized. Eligible employees may contribute up to 15% of their compensation towards the quarterly purchase of Gallagher's common stock. The employee's purchase price is 85% of the lesser of the fair market value of the stock on the first business day or the last business day of the quarterly offering period. Employees may annually purchase shares having a fair market value of up to \$25,000 (measured as of the first day of the quarterly offering period of each calendar year). Effective as of the end of the third and fourth quarters of 2003, Gallagher issued 0.1 million shares of common stock each quarter to employees who participated in the ESPP during those quarters at an aggregate purchase price of \$1.8 million, or \$22.89 per share, and \$1.9 million, or \$24.71 per share, respectively. Currently, there are 3.8 million shares reserved for future issuance. During 2003, \$0.7 million was charged to compensation expense related to the common stock issued under the ESPP.

#### 14. Retirement Plans

Gallagher has a noncontributory defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all domestic employees who have attained a specified age and one year of employment. Benefits under the plan are based on years of service and salary history. Gallagher accounts for the defined benefit pension plan in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 87 (SFAS 87), "Employers' Accounting for Pensions." The difference between the present value of the pension benefit obligation at the date of adoption of SFAS 87 and the fair value of plan assets at that date is being amortized on a straight-line basis over the average remaining service period of employees expected to receive benefits.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances of the pension benefit obligation and fair value of plan assets and the funded status of the plan is as follows (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,			
	2003		2002	
<b>Change in pension benefit obligation:</b>				
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$	123.3	\$	98.8
Service cost		14.5		11.4
Interest cost		8.5		7.6
Plan amendments		-		2.9
Net actuarial loss		9.6		4.6
Benefits paid		(2.2)		(2.0)
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$	153.7	\$	123.3
<b>Change in plan assets:</b>				
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	\$	82.7	\$	66.2
Actual return on plan assets		17.6		(6.1)
Contributions by Gallagher		17.7		24.6
Benefits paid		(2.2)		(2.0)
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	\$	115.8	\$	82.7
Funded status of the plan (underfunded)	\$	(37.9)	\$	(40.6)
Unrecognized net actuarial loss		13.2		14.0
Unrecognized prior service cost		3.0		3.3
Unrecognized transition obligation		0.2		0.2
Net amount recognized	\$	(21.5)	\$	(23.1)

The components of the net periodic pension benefit cost for the plan consists of the following (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2001	
Service cost - benefits earned during the year	\$	14.5	\$	11.4	\$	9.1
Interest cost on benefit obligation		8.5		7.6		6.3
Expected return on plan assets		(7.5)		(6.5)		(5.9)
Amortization of prior service cost		0.3		0.3		0.1
Amortization of net actuarial loss (gain)		0.4		-		(0.4)
Amortization of transition obligation		0.1		0.1		0.1



Net periodic benefit cost	\$	16.3	\$	12.9	\$	9.3
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The following is information for pension plans with an accumulated benefit obligation in excess of plan assets (in millions):

	December 31,			
	2003		2002	
Projected benefit obligation	\$	153.7	\$	123.3
Accumulated benefit obligation		118.5		95.8
Fair value of plan assets		115.8		82.7

The following weighted average assumptions were used at December 31 in determining the plan's pension benefit obligation:

	December 31,	
	2003	2002
Discount rate	6.50%	6.75%
Weighted average rate of increase in future compensation levels	6.30%	6.30%

The following weighted average assumptions were used at January 1 in determining the plan's net periodic pension benefit cost:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2003	2002
Discount rate	6.75%	7.50%
Weighted average rate of increase in future compensation levels	6.20%	6.50%
Expected long- term rate of return on assets	8.50%	9.00%

The following is a summary of the plan's weighted average asset allocations at December 31 by asset category:

Asset Category	December 31,	
	2003	2002
Equity securities	59.0%	55.0%
Debt securities	32.0%	35.0%
Real estate	9.0%	10.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Plan assets are invested in various pooled separate accounts under a group annuity contract managed by a life insurance company. The plan's investment policy provides that investments shall be allocated in a manner designed to provide a long- term investment return greater than the actuarial assumptions, maximize investment return commensurate with risk, and to comply with the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) by investing in the funds in a manner consistent with ERISA's fiduciary standards. Gallagher expects to contribute between \$5.0 million and \$10.0 million to the plan in 2004, subject to the maximum tax deductible contribution that is allowed under the IRC.

Gallagher has a qualified contributory savings and thrift (401(k)) plan covering the majority of its domestic employees. Gallagher's matching contributions (up to a maximum of 2% of eligible compensation; effective January 1, 2004 the maximum was increased to 2.5%) are at the discretion of Gallagher's Board of Directors and may not exceed the maximum amount deductible for federal income tax purposes. Gallagher contributed \$6.5 million, \$5.3 million, and \$4.6 million in 2003, 2002 and 2001, respectively. Gallagher also has a nonqualified deferred compensation plan for certain employees who, due to Internal Revenue Service rules, cannot take full advantage of the Gallagher matching contributions under the savings and thrift plan. The plan permits these employees to annually elect to defer a portion of their compensation until their retirement. Gallagher's matching contributions to this plan are also at the discretion of Gallagher's Board of Directors. Gallagher contributed \$0.6 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million to the plan in 2003, 2002, and 2001, respectively. The fair value of the plan's assets at December 31, 2003, and 2002 respectively, including employee contributions and investment earnings thereon, was \$27.5 million and \$16.0 million, respectively, and has been included in other noncurrent assets and the corresponding liability has been included in other noncurrent liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet.

Gallagher also has a foreign defined contribution plan that provides for basic contributions by Gallagher and voluntary contributions by employees resident in the United Kingdom, which are matched 100% by Gallagher, up to a maximum of 5% of eligible compensation. Net expense for foreign retirement plans amounted to \$4.0 million in 2003, \$4.3 million in 2002 and \$3.4 million in 2001.

## 15. Postretirement Benefits Other than Pensions

In 1992, Gallagher amended its health benefits plan to eliminate retiree coverage, except for retirees and those employees who had already attained a specified age and length of service at the time of the amendment. The retiree health plan is contributory, with contributions adjusted annually, and is funded on a pay- as- you- go basis.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending balances of the postretirement benefit obligation and the funded status of the plan is as follows (in millions):

		Year Ended December 31,	
		2003	2002
<b>Change in postretirement benefit obligation:</b>			
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$	6.2	\$ 6.9
Service cost		-	-
Interest cost		0.4	0.4
Net actuarial loss (gain)		1.0	(0.8)
Benefits paid		(0.3)	(0.3)
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$	7.3	\$ 6.2
<b>Change in plan assets:</b>			
Fair value of plan assets at beginning and end of year	\$	-	\$ -
Funded status of the plan (underfunded)	\$	(7.3)	\$ (6.2)
Unrecognized net actuarial (gain) loss		(4.3)	(5.7)
Unrecognized prior service cost		-	-
Unrecognized transition obligation		4.6	5.2
Net amount recognized	\$	(7.0)	\$ (6.7)

The components of the net periodic postretirement benefit cost include the following (in millions):

		Year Ended December 31,		
		2003	2002	2001
Service cost - benefits earned during the year	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -
Interest cost on benefit obligation		0.4	0.4	0.5
Amortization of transition obligation		0.5	0.5	0.5
Amortization of net actuarial gain		(0.4)	(0.4)	(0.3)
Net periodic benefit cost	\$	0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.7

The discount rate used to measure the postretirement benefit obligation was 6.50% at December 31, 2003 and 6.75% at December 31, 2002. The discount rate used to measure the net periodic postretirement benefit cost at January 1 was 6.75% for 2003 and 7.50% for 2002. The transition obligation is being amortized over a 20- year period.

The following assumed healthcare cost trend rates were used at December 31 in determining the plan's postretirement benefit obligation:

		December 31,	
		2003	2002
Healthcare cost trend rate assumed for next year		6.50%	6.50%

Rate to which the cost trend rate is assumed to decline (the ultimate trend rate)	4.50%	4.50%
Year that the rate reaches the the ultimate trend rate	2009	2009

The assumed healthcare cost trend rate has a significant effect on the amounts reported and disclosed herein. A one percentage point change in the assumed healthcare cost trend rate would have the following effects (in millions):

	One Percentage Point	
	Increase	Decrease
Effect on the net periodic postretirement benefit cost in 2003	\$0.1	\$(0.1)
Effect on the postretirement benefit obligation at December 31, 2003	0.8	(0.7)

On December 8, 2003, the President of the United States signed into law the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (the Act). The Act introduces a prescription drug benefit under Medicare (Medicare Part D) as well as a federal subsidy to sponsors of retiree health care benefit plans that provide a benefit that is at least actuarially equivalent to Medicare Part D. In January 2004, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 106- 1 (FSP), "Accounting and Disclosure Requirements Related to the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003," which was effective for interim or annual financial statements of fiscal years ending after December 7, 2003 and permits a one- time election to defer accounting for the effects of the Act. In accordance with the FSP, Gallagher has elected to defer accounting for the effects of the Act and as such, any measures of the postretirement benefit obligation or net periodic postretirement benefit cost in the financial statements or accompanying notes do not reflect the effects of the Act. Specific authoritative guidance on the accounting for the federal subsidy is pending and that guidance, when issued, could require Gallagher to change previously reported information. However, Gallagher does not believe that the effect of the Act will be material to its consolidated financial statements.

## 16. Commitments, Contingencies, Financial Guarantees and Off- Balance Sheet Arrangements

In connection with its investing and operating activities, Gallagher has entered into certain contractual obligations as well as commitments. See Notes 3 and 7 for additional discussion of these obligations and commitments. Gallagher's future minimum cash payments, excluding interest, associated with its contractual obligations pursuant to the Credit Agreement, consolidated investment borrowings, operating leases and purchase commitments at December 31, 2003 are as follows (in millions):

	Payments Due by Period						Total
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Thereafter	
<b>Contractual Obligations</b>							
Credit Agreement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Consolidated investment borrowings:							
Florida community development debt	27.7	0.1	0.1	-	-	12.4	40.3
Home office mortgage loan	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.1	74.1	-	77.8
Airplane leasing company debt	2.4	2.6	29.9	-	-	-	34.9
Total debt obligations	30.9	3.6	30.9	1.1	74.1	12.4	153.0
Operating lease obligations	48.1	43.1	38.0	30.9	24.8	46.9	231.8
Net Syn/Coal purchase commitments	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	-	-	18.8
Outstanding purchase obligations	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	3.4
Total contractual obligations	\$ 87.1	\$ 51.4	\$ 73.6	\$ 36.7	\$ 98.9	\$ 59.3	\$ 407.0

The amounts presented in the table above may not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements of Gallagher, because the actual timing of the future payments made may vary from the stated contractual obligation.

**Credit Agreement** - Gallagher has a \$250.0 million unsecured revolving credit agreement (Credit Agreement) it uses to post LOCs and from time-to- time borrow to supplement operating cash flows. At January 27, 2004, \$51.1 million of LOCs (of which Gallagher has \$26.8 of liabilities recorded as of December 31, 2003) were outstanding under the Credit Agreement, which primarily related to Gallagher's investments as discussed in Note 3. There were no borrowings outstanding under the Credit Agreement at December 31, 2003. Accordingly, as of January 27, 2004, \$198.9 million remained available for potential borrowings, of which \$23.9 million may be in the form of additional LOCs. Gallagher is under no obligation to utilize the Credit Agreement in performing its normal business operations. See Note 7 to the consolidated financial statements for a discussion of the terms of the Credit Agreement.

**Consolidated Investment Borrowings** - As more fully described in Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements, at December 31, 2003, the accompanying balance sheet includes \$153.0 million of borrowings related to Gallagher's consolidated investment enterprises of which \$32.4 million is recourse to Gallagher's other operations. These borrowings are partially secured by the underlying assets of the investment enterprises and support their operations.

**Operating Lease Obligations** - Gallagher generally operates in leased premises. Certain office space leases have options permitting renewals for additional periods. In addition to minimum fixed rentals, a number of leases contain annual escalation clauses generally related to increases in an

inflation index.

Total rent expense, including rent relating to cancelable leases and leases with initial terms of less than one year, amounted to \$53.7 million in 2003, \$49.9 million in 2002 and \$46.7 million in 2001.

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With respect to the home office building, the property is leased to Gallagher and non Gallagher tenants under operating leases that expire at various dates over the next three years. In the normal course of business, Gallagher expects that the leases will be renewed or replaced. The following is a summary of the minimum future rentals to be received from non- Gallagher tenants on noncancelable operating leases as of December 31, 2003 (in millions):

Year	Amount
2004	\$ 5.4
2005	5.1
2006	4.3
Total	\$ 14.8

Charges for real estate taxes and common area maintenance are adjusted annually based on actual expenses, and the related revenues are recognized in the year in which the expenses are incurred. These amounts are not included in the minimum future rentals to be received in the table above.

**Net Syn/Coal Purchase Commitments** - Gallagher owns 5% of a Syn/Coal facility. The other 95% was previously sold on the installment sale basis and has substantial residual value to Gallagher. Under the FIN 46 criteria, this investment has been determined to be a VIE which required Gallagher to consolidate this facility into its financial statements. See Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements for additional disclosures regarding this Syn/Coal partnership. In December 2000, the Syn/Coal partnership simultaneously executed a raw coal purchase agreement and a Syn/Coal sales agreement with a state- owned utility which purchases the majority of the partnership's Syn/Coal production. The agreements provide for minimum quantities at prices pegged to the prevailing market prices. The utility also receives a per ton discount for each ton of Syn/Coal it purchases in excess of a base. These agreements terminate immediately in the event the Syn/Coal produced ceases to constitute a "qualified fuel" under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 29 or upon termination of either of the agreements. The net annual Syn/Coal purchase commitment represents the minimum raw coal purchases at estimated costs, plus discounts earned by the utility, less sales of Syn/Coal at estimated prices.

**Outstanding Purchase Obligations** - Gallagher is a service company and thus typically does not have a material amount of outstanding purchase obligations at any point in time. The amount disclosed in the table above represents the aggregate amount of unrecorded purchase obligations that Gallagher has outstanding as of December 31, 2003. These obligations represent agreements to purchase goods or services and the construction of a building at the Florida community development that were executed in the normal course of business.

**Off- Balance Sheet Commitments** - Gallagher's total unrecorded commitments associated with outstanding letters of credit, financial guarantees and funding commitments as of December 31, 2003 are as follows (in millions):

	Amount of Commitment Expiration by Period						Total Amounts Committed
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Thereafter	
Off- Balance Sheet Commitments							
Investment related:							
Letters of credit	\$ 2.1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16.3	\$ 18.4
Financial guarantees	1.5	-	-	-	-	7.6	9.1
Funding commitments	1.7	-	5.9	-	-	-	7.6
	5.3	-	5.9	-	-	23.9	35.1
Operations related:							
Letters of credit	-	-	-	-	-	5.9	5.9
Total commitments	\$ 5.3	\$ -	\$ 5.9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29.8	\$ 41.0

Since commitments may expire unused, the amounts presented in the table above do not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements of Gallagher. See Note 3 for a discussion of Gallagher's outstanding LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments. All but one of the LOCs represent multiple year commitments but have annual, automatic renewing provisions and are classified by the latest commitment date.

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During 2003 and 2002, Gallagher acquired 14 and 10 companies, respectively, which were accounted for using the purchase accounting method for recording business combinations. Substantially all of the purchase agreements related to these acquisitions contain contingent purchase obligations. The contingent purchase obligations related to the 2003 acquisitions are disclosed in Note 4 to the consolidated financial statements. These contingent payables represent the maximum amount of additional consideration that could be paid pursuant to the purchase agreements related to these acquisitions. These contingent obligations are primarily based upon future earnings of the acquired entities and were not included in the purchase price that was recorded for these acquisitions at their respective acquisition dates. Future payments made under these arrangements will be recorded as upward adjustments to goodwill when the contingencies are settled. The aggregate amount of unrecorded contingent payables outstanding as of December 31, 2003 related to the 2003 and 2002 acquisitions was \$42.5 million.

**Off- Balance Sheet Debt** - Gallagher's unconsolidated investment portfolio includes investments in enterprises where Gallagher's ownership interest is between 3% and 50%, whereby management has determined that Gallagher's level of economic interest is not sufficient to require consolidation. As a result, these investments are accounted for using either the lower of amortized cost/cost or fair value, or the equity method, whichever is appropriate depending on the legal form of Gallagher's ownership interest and the applicable percentage of the entity owned. As such, the balance sheets of these investees are not consolidated in Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2003 and 2002. The December 31, 2003 and 2002 balance sheets of several of these unconsolidated investments contain outstanding debt, which is also not required to be included in Gallagher's consolidated balance sheet.

In certain cases, Gallagher guarantees a portion of the enterprises' debt. Based on the ownership structure of these investments, management believes that Gallagher's exposure to losses related to these investments is limited to the combination of its net carrying value, funding commitments, LOCs and financial guarantees. In the event that certain of these enterprises were to default on their debt obligations and Gallagher's net carrying value became impaired, the amount to be written- off could have a material effect on Gallagher's consolidated operating results and/or financial position. See Notes 3 and 16 to the consolidated financial statements.

Gallagher's commitments associated with outstanding letters of credit (LOCs), financial guarantees and funding commitments at December 31, 2003 are as follows (all dollar amounts in table and related footnotes are in millions):

Description, Purpose and Trigger	Collateral	Compensation to Gallagher	Maximum Exposure	Liability Recorded
<b>Tax advantaged investments</b>				
Credit support (guarantee) for investee's loan to develop landfill gas projects - expires 2004 Trigger - Investee defaults on loan	(2)	None	\$ 1.5 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ -
Trigger - Activities cease and Gallagher does not proceed with the reclamation process	(3)	None	4.4	-
Trigger - Agreed conditions met	None	None	0.2	-
<b>Real estate, venture capital, and other</b>				
Credit support (LOC) for investee's debt facility used to acquire and develop landfill gas sites - net of incoming letter of credit - expires after 2008 Trigger - Investee defaults on loan	(2)	None	2.0	2.0
Trigger - Investee defaults on rent payments	None	None	0.2	0.2
Trigger - Investee defaults on loan	None	1.75% per year on amount of guarantee	2.0	2.0

Description, Purpose and Trigger	Collateral	Compensation to Gallagher	Maximum Exposure	Liability Recorded
<b>Real estate, venture capital, and other (continued)</b>				
Trigger - Investee defaults on mortgage	None	None	0.5	0.5
Trigger - Agreed conditions met	None	None	5.9	-
Credit support (LOC) for property developer investee loans used to purchase and develop a retail property which is anchored by Wal- Mart - expires 2004 Trigger - Investee defaults on mortgage	(2)	A share of project profit	2.1	-
<b>Investments accounted for on a consolidated basis</b>				
Credit support (LOC) for Gallagher's corporate headquarters building mortgage - expires 2005 Trigger - Manager (partial owner) defaults on mortgage payment	None	None	3.0	3.0
Credit support (2 LOCs and 3 guarantees) for Florida community development bonds, water reclamation facility obligation and lines of credit used for project development - expires 2004 through 2032 Trigger - Harmony or Community Development District default on payments	(4)	(5)	42.2 <sup>(6)</sup>	29.4
Trigger - Agreed conditions met	None	None	1.5	-
<b>Other</b>				
Credit support (LOC) for deductibles due by Gallagher on its own insurance coverages - expires after 2008 Trigger - Gallagher does not reimburse the insurance company for deductibles the insurance company advances on behalf of Gallagher	None	None	6.1	4.0
Credit support (LOC) for deductibles due by a client of Gallagher on the client's insurance plan - expires after 2008 Trigger - Client does not fund its deductibles	(7)	Outstanding guarantee multiplied by the current prime interest rate	3.8	-
Credit enhancement (LOC) for Gallagher's	(8)	Reimbursement of LOC fees	3.7	-



Bermuda captive insurance operation to meet minimum statutory capital requirements - expires after 2008 Trigger - Dissolution or catastrophic financial results of the operations				
Credit support (2 LOCs) for client's claim funds held by Gallagher's Bermuda captive insurance operation in a fiduciary capacity - expires after 2008 Trigger - Investments fall below prescribed levels	None	To be negotiated	3.0	-

Description, Purpose and Trigger	Collateral	Compensation to Gallagher	Maximum Exposure	Liability Recorded
<b>Other (continued)</b>				
Trigger - Subsidiary defaults on its payments	None	None	0.6	0.6
			<u>\$ 82.7<sup>(9)</sup></u>	<u>\$ 41.7</u>

- (1) Plus interest and collection expenses.
- (2) Security interest in the projects.
- (3) The land.
- (4) The property.
- (5) Retroactive, annual, cumulative fee of 10% for \$29,600 of the LOCs and guarantees. The remaining \$12,575 LOC has a fee of \$750 plus an interest rate differential.
- (6) Plus interest and collection expenses on \$17,000 of the total.
- (7) Lien on real property with an appraised value of approximately \$15,000.
- (8) The majority owners of the operation pledge their percentage ownership portion of any draw.
- (9) See page 14 of the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations for an analysis of the Off-Balance Sheet Commitments.

Since commitments may expire unused, the amounts presented in the table above do not necessarily reflect the actual future cash funding requirements of Gallagher.

As more fully described in Notes 3 and 7, at December 31, 2003, Gallagher had LOCs, financial guarantees and funding commitments related to its investments.

In addition to obligations and commitments related to Gallagher's investing activities discussed above, at December 31, 2003, Gallagher has posted LOCs of \$6.1 million and \$3.8 million related to Gallagher's self insurance deductibles and a client's self insurance deductibles, respectively. Gallagher has a recorded liability of \$4.0 million related to its self- insurance deductibles and has collateral on the client's self- insurance deductibles valued at approximately \$15.0 million. In addition, Gallagher had LOCs totaling \$0.6 million at December 31, 2003 related to its risk management services operations, which Gallagher has recorded as a liability.

**Litigation** - Gallagher is engaged in various legal actions incident to the nature of its business. Management is of the opinion that none of the litigation will have a material effect on Gallagher's consolidated financial position or operating results. Gallagher's financial services subsidiary is party to a lawsuit relating to its investment in the synthetic fuel industry which, if determined adversely to the subsidiary on substantially all claims and for a substantial amount of the damages asserted, could have a material adverse effect on Gallagher. However, Gallagher believes that the plaintiff's claims lack merit. The subsidiary is vigorously defending such claims and has asserted counterclaims against the plaintiff.

Gallagher purchases insurance to provide protection from errors and omissions (E&O) claims that may arise during the ordinary course of business. However, insuring 100% of potential claims is not cost effective and Gallagher has historically maintained self- insurance reserves for the portion of its E&O exposure that is not insured. Gallagher periodically determines a range of possible reserve levels using actuarial techniques which rely heavily on projecting historical claim data into the future. Gallagher's E&O reserve in the December 31, 2003 consolidated balance sheet is above the lower end of the most recently determined actuarial range by \$3.0 million and below the upper end of the actuarial range by \$7.0 million. There can be no assurances that the historical claim data used to project the current reserve levels will be indicative of future claim activity. Thus, the actuarial ranges and E&O reserve level could change in the future as more information becomes known, which could materially impact the amounts reported and disclosed herein.

## 17. Income Taxes

Significant components of earnings before income taxes and the provision for income taxes are as follows (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2001	
Earnings before income taxes:						
Domestic	\$	175.1	\$	173.3	\$	133.3
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda		18.2		12.2		8.5
	\$	193.3	\$	185.5	\$	141.8
Provision for income taxes:						
Federal:						
Current	\$	57.0	\$	45.0	\$	79.0
Deferred		(30.1)		(5.7)		(73.6)
		26.9		39.3		5.4
State and local:						
Current		16.5		14.2		20.2
Deferred		(1.7)		(1.2)		(10.5)
		14.8		13.0		9.7
Foreign:						
Current		4.9		2.7		1.5
Deferred		0.5		0.6		(0.1)
		5.4		3.3		1.4
Total provision for income taxes	\$	47.1	\$	55.6	\$	16.5

A reconciliation of the provision for income taxes with the United States federal income tax rate is as follows (in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2001	
	Amount	% of Pretax Earnings	Amount	% of Pretax Earnings	Amount	% of Pretax Earnings
Federal statutory rate	\$ 67.7	35.0	\$ 64.9	35.0	\$ 49.6	35.0
State income taxes - net of federal benefit	9.7	5.0	8.5	4.6	6.3	4.5
Foreign taxes	(2.6)	(1.3)	(1.5)	(0.8)	(1.6)	(1.1)
Low income housing and alternative energy tax credits	(31.8)	(16.5)	(19.1)	(10.3)	(40.1)	(28.3)
Amortization expense of low income housing and alternative energy investment, net of tax benefit	1.6	0.8	2.4	1.3	4.8	3.4

Other - net	<u>2.5</u>	<u>1.3</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>(2.5)</u>	<u>(1.8)</u>
Provision for income taxes	\$ 47.1	24.3	\$ 55.6	30.0	\$ 16.5	11.7
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes. Significant components of Gallagher's deferred tax liabilities and assets are as follows (in millions):

	December 31,	
	2003	2002
<b>Deferred tax assets:</b>		
Alternative minimum tax (AMT) and other credit carryforwards	\$ 67.0	\$ 46.6
Accrued and unfunded compensation and employee benefits	51.8	44.3
Investment- related partnerships	28.1	40.3
Accrued liabilities	22.2	24.0
Other	26.0	4.8
<b>Total deferred tax assets</b>	<b>195.1</b>	<b>160.0</b>
Valuation allowance for deferred tax assets	-	-
<b>Deferred tax assets</b>	<b>195.1</b>	<b>160.0</b>
<b>Deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Non deductible amortizable intangible assets	21.1	10.3
Accrued and unfunded compensation and employee benefits	1.1	1.0
Accrued liabilities	6.9	5.1
Investment- related partnerships	9.5	7.8
<b>Total deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>24.2</b>
<b>Net deferred tax assets</b>	<b>\$ 156.5</b>	<b>\$ 135.8</b>

At December 31, 2003 and 2002, \$57.3 million and \$57.6 million respectively, of deferred tax assets have been included in other current assets in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet. At December 31, 2003 and 2002, \$38.6 million and \$24.2 million respectively, of deferred tax liabilities have been included in other noncurrent liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet. AMT credits and other have an indefinite and 20 year life, respectively. Gallagher expects to fully utilize the amounts carried forward. During the period from 1994 to 1996, Gallagher provided for United States federal income taxes on the undistributed earnings of its foreign subsidiaries. Due to changes in the United States federal income tax laws effective in 1997, Gallagher no longer provides for United States federal income taxes on the undistributed earnings (\$62 million at December 31, 2003) of certain foreign subsidiaries which are considered permanently invested outside of the United States. The amount of unrecognized deferred tax liability on these undistributed earnings is \$16 million at December 31, 2003.

#### 18. Quarterly Operating Results (unaudited)

Quarterly operating results for 2003 and 2002 were as follows (in millions, except per share data):

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
<b>2003</b>				
Total revenues	\$ 254.3	\$ 299.0	\$ 345.0	\$ 365.5
Total expenses	238.5	250.7	280.6	300.7
Earnings before income taxes	15.8	48.3	64.4	64.8
Net earnings	11.9	36.2	48.9	49.2
Basic earnings per share	.13	.40	.54	.55
Diluted net earnings per share	.13	.39	.52	.53
<b>2002</b>				
Total revenues	\$ 239.0	\$ 266.8	\$ 256.5	\$ 298.0
Total expenses	190.2	218.2	223.2	243.2
Earnings before income taxes	48.8	48.6	33.3	54.8
Net earnings	33.7	34.5	23.3	38.4
Basic earnings per share	.39	.39	.26	.43

Diluted net earnings per  
share

.37

.37

.25

.42

- 49 -

## 19. Segment Information

Gallagher has identified three operating segments: Brokerage, Risk Management and Financial Services. The Brokerage segment comprises three operating divisions: the Brokerage Services- Retail Division, Specialty Marketing and International and Gallagher Benefit Services. The Brokerage segment, for commission or fee compensation, places commercial property/casualty (P/C) and employee benefit- related insurance on behalf of its customers. The Risk Management segment provides P/C and health claim third- party administration, loss control and risk management consulting and insurance property appraisals. Third party administration is principally the management and processing of claims for self- insurance programs of Gallagher's clients or clients of other brokers. Approximately 90% of this segment's total revenues relate to the P/C operations. The Financial Services segment is responsible for managing Gallagher's investment portfolio. Allocations of investment income and certain expenses are based on reasonable assumptions and estimates. Reported operating results by segment would change if different methods were applied. Financial information relating to Gallagher's segments for 2003, 2002 and 2001 is as follows (in millions):

	Brokerage		Risk Management		Financial Services		Total
Year Ended December 31, 2003							
Revenues:							
Commissions	\$	746.2	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 746.2
Fees		135.5		320.7		-	456.2
Investment income - fiduciary		7.5		1.0		-	8.5
Investment income all other		-		-		71.7	71.7
Impact of FIN 46 on investment income all other						46.4	46.4
Investment income gains (losses)		-		-		(24.5)	(24.5)
Gross revenues		889.2		321.7		93.6	1,304.5
Less brokerage		(40.7)		-		-	(40.7)
Total revenues		848.5		321.7		93.6	1,263.8
Compensation		482.1		178.7		-	660.8
Operating		172.2		90.6		-	262.8
Investment expenses		-		-		53.7	53.7
Impact of FIN 46 on investment expenses		-		-		44.1	44.1
Interest		-		-		8.0	8.0
Depreciation		12.1		9.4		7.4	28.9
Impact of FIN 46 on depreciation		-		-		2.3	2.3
Amortization		9.8		0.1		-	9.9
Total expenses		676.2		278.8		115.5	1,070.5
Earnings (loss) before income taxes		172.3		42.9		(21.9)	193.3
Provision for income taxes		42.1		10.4		(5.4)	47.1
Net earnings (loss)	\$	130.2	\$	32.5	\$	(16.5)	\$ 146.2
Net foreign exchange gain (loss)	\$	0.5	\$	(0.3)	\$	-	\$ 0.2
Revenues:							
United States	\$	753.2	\$	290.3	\$	90.3	\$ 1,133.8
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda		95.3		31.4		3.3	130.0

Total revenues	\$	848.5	\$	321.7	\$	93.6	\$	1,263.8
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**At December 31, 2003**

Identifiable assets:

United States	\$	1,433.2	\$	175.4	\$	611.7	\$	2,220.3
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Foreign, principally

United Kingdom,

Australia and Bermuda

609.7

26.4

45.2

681.3

Total identifiable assets	\$	2,042.9	\$	201.8	\$	656.9	\$	2,901.6
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Goodwill - net	\$	129.8	\$	8.5	\$	-	\$	138.3
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Amortizable intangible

assets - net

79.4

5.2

-

84.6

	Brokerage	Risk Management	Financial Services	Total
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2002</b>				
Revenues:				
Commissions	\$ 662.9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 662.9
Fees	109.0	280.4	-	389.4
Investment income - fiduciary	9.4	0.8	-	10.2
Investment income all other	-	-	60.9	60.9
Investment income gains (losses)	-	-	(22.0)	(22.0)
Gross revenues	781.3	281.2	38.9	1,101.4
Less brokerage	(41.1)	-	-	(41.1)
Total revenues	740.2	281.2	38.9	1,060.3
Compensation	424.0	159.9	-	583.9
Operating	150.0	80.4	-	230.4
Investment expenses	-	-	18.6	18.6
Interest	-	-	9.5	9.5
Depreciation	10.9	9.3	5.6	25.8
Amortization	6.6	-	-	6.6
Total expenses	591.5	249.6	33.7	874.8
Earnings (loss) before income taxes	148.7	31.6	5.2	185.5
Provision for income taxes	44.6	9.4	1.6	55.6
Net earnings (loss)	\$ 104.1	\$ 22.2	\$ 3.6	\$ 129.9
Net foreign exchange gain (loss)	\$ 0.3	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0.3
Revenues:				
United States	\$ 661.0	\$ 256.7	\$ 37.0	\$ 954.7
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda	79.2	24.5	1.9	105.6
Total revenues	\$ 740.2	\$ 281.2	\$ 38.9	\$ 1,060.3
<b>At December 31, 2002</b>				
Identifiable assets:				
United States	\$ 1,270.6	\$ 53.5	\$ 586.0	\$ 1,910.1
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda	484.6	20.1	48.8	553.5
Total identifiable assets	\$ 1,755.2	\$ 73.6	\$ 634.8	\$ 2,463.6
Goodwill - net	\$ 81.7	\$ 2.5	\$ -	\$ 84.2
Amortizable intangible assets - net	50.2	0.7	-	50.9



	Brokerage	Risk Management	Financial Services	Total
<b>Year Ended December 31, 2001</b>				
Revenues:				
Commissions	\$ 537.9	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 537.9
Fees	62.3	263.6	-	325.9
Investment income - fiduciary	12.1	1.1	-	13.2
Investment income all other	-	-	26.8	26.8
Investment income gains (losses)	-	-	19.2	19.2
Gross revenues	612.3	264.7	46.0	923.0
Less brokerage	(35.0)	-	-	(35.0)
Total revenues	577.3	264.7	46.0	888.0
Compensation	325.7	150.2	-	475.9
Operating	121.8	75.7	-	197.5
Investment expenses	-	-	39.2	39.2
Interest	-	-	10.5	10.5
Depreciation	9.2	7.1	3.3	19.6
Amortization	3.1	0.4	-	3.5
Total expenses	459.8	233.4	53.0	746.2
Earnings (loss) before income taxes	117.5	31.3	(7.0)	141.8
Provision for income taxes	13.5	3.8	(0.8)	16.5
Net earnings (loss)	\$ 104.0	\$ 27.5	\$ (6.2)	\$ 125.3
Net foreign exchange gain (loss)	\$ (0.5)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (0.5)
Revenues:				
United States	\$ 526.0	\$ 242.4	\$ 44.0	\$ 812.4
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda	51.3	22.3	2.0	75.6
Total revenues	\$ 577.3	\$ 264.7	\$ 46.0	\$ 888.0
<b>At December 31, 2001</b>				
Identifiable assets:				
United States	\$ 1,165.2	\$ 47.2	\$ 537.6	\$ 1,750.0
Foreign, principally United Kingdom, Australia and Bermuda	375.5	16.5	3.3	395.3
Total identifiable assets	\$ 1,540.7	\$ 63.7	\$ 540.9	\$ 2,145.3
Goodwill - net	\$ 52.5	\$ 1.9	\$ -	\$ 54.4
Amortizable intangible assets - net	9.9	-	-	9.9

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**Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.**

**Management's Report**

The management of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Gallagher) is responsible for the preparation and integrity of the consolidated financial statements and the related financial comments appearing in this annual report. The consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and include certain amounts based on management's best estimates and judgments. Other financial information presented in this annual report is consistent with the consolidated financial statements.

Gallagher maintains a system of internal accounting controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are executed as authorized and are recorded and reported properly. This system of controls is based on written policies and procedures, appropriate divisions of responsibility and authority, careful selection and training of personnel and the utilization of an internal audit function. Policies and procedures prescribe that Gallagher and all employees are to maintain the highest ethical standards and that business practices throughout the world are to be conducted in a manner which is above reproach.

Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, have audited Gallagher's consolidated financial statements and their report is presented herein.

The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee composed entirely of outside directors. Ernst & Young LLP has direct access to the Audit Committee and periodically meets with the Committee to discuss accounting, auditing and financial reporting matters.

Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.  
Itasca, Illinois  
January 27, 2004

/s/ J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.

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President and Chief Executive Officer

/s/ Douglas K. Howell

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Chief Financial Officer

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**Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.**

**Report of Independent Auditors**

Board of Directors and Stockholders  
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Gallagher) as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related consolidated statements of earnings, stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003. These financial statements are the responsibility of Gallagher's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. at December 31, 2003 and 2002, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2003, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

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Ernst & Young LLP

Chicago, Illinois  
January 27, 2004

## SUBSIDIARIES OF GALLAGHER

In the following list of subsidiaries of Gallagher, those companies that are indented represent subsidiaries of the corporation under which they are indented. Except for directors' qualifying shares, 100% of the voting stock of each of the subsidiaries listed below, other than those indicated by footnote, is owned of record or beneficially by its indicated parent.

<b>Name</b>	<b>State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation</b>
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Registrant)	Delaware
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Illinois)	Illinois
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Oklahoma, Inc.	Oklahoma
Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, Inc.	Illinois
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Wisconsin, Inc.	Wisconsin
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Pennsylvania, Inc.	Pennsylvania
Gallagher Captive Services, Inc.	Delaware
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.- Chicago Metro	Illinois
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (St. Louis)	Delaware
Gallagher Holt, Inc.	Texas
Arthur J. Gallagher, Inc.	Texas
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Texas, Inc.	Texas
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Florida)	Florida
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of New York, Inc.	New York
Colonial Alternative Risk Services, Inc.	New York
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Ohio Agency, Inc.	Ohio
Risk Placement Services, Inc.	Illinois
Risk Placement Services of Texas, Inc.	Texas
Risk Placement Services of Arkansas, Inc.	Arkansas
Risk Placement Insurance Services of Massachusetts, Inc.	Massachusetts
Risk Placement Services of Louisiana, Inc.	Louisiana
Risk Placement Services of Pennsylvania, Inc.	Pennsylvania
Risk Placement Services of New York, Inc.	New York
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.- Greenville	South Carolina
Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. of Massachusetts, Inc.	Massachusetts
Gallagher Insurance Advisors, Inc.	Massachusetts
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Rhode Island, Inc.	Rhode Island
Arthur J. Gallagher International, Inc.	Delaware
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Bermuda) Limited	Bermuda
Arthur J. Gallagher Intermediaries (Bermuda) Limited	Bermuda
Arthur J. Gallagher Management (Bermuda) Limited	Bermuda
Gallagher Captive Services (Cayman) Limited	Cayman Islands
Scholastic Risk Services Limited	Bermuda
Artex Insurance Company Ltd <sup>(1)</sup>	Bermuda
Artex Underwriting Managers Ltd	Bermuda
Protected Insurance Company	Bermuda
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.- Little Rock	Arkansas
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Georgia, Inc.	Georgia
Arthur J. Gallagher (UK) Limited	England
Arthur J. Gallagher Middle East BSC (c) <sup>(2)</sup>	England
Risk Management Partners Ltd. <sup>(3)</sup>	England
John Plumer & Company Limited	England
Morgan Insurance Services Limited	England
MRS Holdings Limited	England
Morgan Read & Sharman Limited	England
Arthur J. Gallagher Asia Pte Ltd <sup>(4)</sup>	Singapore
Arthur J. Gallagher Asia Limited	Hong Kong
Arthur J. Gallagher (L) BHD	Malaysia

<b>Name</b>	<b>State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation</b>
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Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc.	Delaware
Gallagher Bassett of New York, Inc.	New York
Gallagher Bassett International Ltd.	Delaware
Gallagher Bassett International Ltd. (UK)	England
Gallagher Bassett Canada Inc.	Canada
Gallagher Benefit Administrators, Inc.	Illinois
Gallagher Bassett Investigative Services, Inc.	Delaware
Wyatt Gallagher Bassett Pty Ltd	Australia
Gallagher Bassett Australia Pty Ltd	Australia
Wyatt Gallagher Bassett (NSW) Pty Ltd	Australia
Wyatt Gallagher Bassett PNG Limited	New Guinea
Wyatt Gallagher Bassett Workers Compensation Victoria Pty Ltd	Australia
Claimnet Pty Ltd	Australia
Gallagher Bassett International S.A.	France
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Insurance Brokers of California, Inc.	California
Charity First Insurance Services, Inc.	California
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Connecticut, Inc.	Connecticut
Craig M. Ferguson & Co., Inc.	Connecticut
C. W. Excess Incorporated	New York
Arthur J. Gallagher Intermediaries, Inc.	New York
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.- Denver	Colorado
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Michigan, Inc.	Michigan
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Washington, Inc.	Washington
Gallagher Louisiana, Inc.	Louisiana
Arthur J. Gallagher of Louisiana, Inc.	Louisiana
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Mississippi, Inc.	Mississippi
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.- Kansas City, Inc.	Missouri
IMC Insurance Management Corporation	Missouri
IMC Services Corporation	Missouri
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of New Jersey, Inc.	New Jersey
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Ohio Life Agency, Inc.	Ohio
Gallagher Pipino, Inc.	Ohio
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Minnesota, Inc.	Minnesota
Risk Placement Services of Arizona, Inc.	Arizona
AJG Financial Services, Inc.	Delaware
AJG Capital, Inc. <sup>(5)</sup>	Illinois
Aviacargo Leasing Limited	Ireland
AJG Investments, Inc.	Delaware
AJG Premium Finance, Inc.	Illinois
AJG Coal, Inc.	Delaware
AJG Coal Indiana LLC	Delaware
Lamberson Koster & Company	California
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Tennessee, Inc.	Tennessee
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Kentucky, Inc.	Kentucky
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.	Delaware
Gallagher Benefit Services of Michigan, Inc.	Michigan
Gallagher Benefit Services of the Carolinas, Inc.	North Carolina
Gallagher Benefit Services of Colorado, Inc.	Colorado
Gallagher Benefit Services of Kansas City, Inc.	Delaware
Gallagher Benefit Services of New York, Inc.	New York
Gallagher Benefit Services of Texas, Inc.	Texas
Gallagher Benefit Services of Washington, D.C.	Delaware
GBS Retirement Services, Inc.	New York
Gallagher Benefit Services of Alabama	Alabama
GBS Insurance and Financial Services	Delaware

Name	State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation
Gallagher Loss Control Services, Inc.	Tennessee
Arthur J. Gallagher Service Company	Delaware
Arthur J. Gallagher Australasia Pty Ltd.	Australia
Arthur J. Gallagher Australia Pty Ltd	Australia
Arthur J. Gallagher Reinsurance Australasia Pty Ltd	Australia
AJG Two Pierce, Inc.	Delaware
John P. Woods Co., Inc.	Delaware
Gallagher Healthcare Insurance Services, Inc.	Texas
Gallagher Healthcare Insurance Services of Kansas City, LLC <sup>(2)</sup>	Missouri
Specialty Catastrophe Services, Inc.	New Jersey
Manning & Smith Insurance, Inc.	Kansas
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. of Iowa, Inc.	Iowa
Connor Hale Kerslake Limited	England

- (1) 76% of the Common Stock of this subsidiary is owned by two third parties.
- (2) 49% of the Common Stock of this subsidiary is owned by a third party.
- (3) 50% of the Common Stock of each of this subsidiary is owned by an unrelated party.
- (4) 49% of the Common Stock of this subsidiary is owned by two third parties.
- (5) 10% of the Common Stock of this subsidiary is owned by an unrelated party.

**CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

We consent to the incorporation by reference in this Annual Report on Form 10- K of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. (Gallagher) of our report dated January 27, 2004, included in Gallagher's 2003 Annual Report to Stockholders.

Our audits also included the consolidated financial statement schedule of Gallagher listed in Item 15(a)(2). This schedule is the responsibility of Gallagher's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion based on our audits. In our opinion, the consolidated financial statement schedule referred to above, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

We consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statements (Form S- 8, No. 33- 604 and Form S- 8, No. 33- 14625) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Incentive and United Kingdom Incentive Plans, in the Registration Statements (Form S- 8, No. 33- 24251, Form S- 8, No. 33- 38031 and Form S- 8, No. 333- 57155) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Incentive and 1988 Nonqualified Stock Option Plans, in the Registration Statement (Form S- 8, No. 33- 30816) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, in the Registration Statements (Form S- 8, No. 33- 64614 and Form S- 8, No. 33- 80648) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Incentive, 1988 Nonqualified, and Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plans, in the Registration Statements (Form S- 8, No. 333- 06359, Form S- 8, No. 333- 40000, Form S- 8, No. 333- 87320 and Form S- 8, No. 333- 106535) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Nonqualified and Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plans, in the Registration Statement (Form S- 8, No. 333- 62930) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. 1988 Nonqualified and Non- Employee Directors' Stock Option Plans and the Gallagher Healthcare Insurance Services, Inc. 2001 Nonqualified Stock Option Plan, in the Registration Statement (Form S- 8, No. 333- 106534) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Employee Stock Purchase Plan, in the Registration Statement (Form S- 8, No. 333- 106539) pertaining to the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Restricted Stock Plan, in the Registration Statements (Form S- 4, No. 333- 75197, Form S- 3, No. 333- 84139 and Form S- 4, No. 333- 55254), and in the related Prospectuses, of our report dated January 27, 2004 with respect to the consolidated financial statements of Gallagher incorporated by reference herein, and our report included in the preceding paragraph with respect to the consolidated financial statement schedule included in this Annual Report on Form 10- K for the year ended December 31, 2003.

/S/ ERNST & YOUNG LLP

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**Ernst & Young LLP**

Chicago, Illinois  
February 4, 2004

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren his true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for him, and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004.

/s/ ROBERT E. GALLAGHER

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**Robert E. Gallagher**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren his true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for him, and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004.

/s/ T. KIMBALL BROOKER

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**T. Kimball Brooker**



**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren his true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for him, and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004

/s/ GARY P. COUGHLAN

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**Gary P. Coughlan**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren her true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for her, and in her name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004.

/s/ ILENE S. GORDON

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**Ilene S. Gordon**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren his true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for him, and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004.

/s/ ELBERT O. HAND

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**Elbert O. Hand**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren his true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for him, and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004.

/s/ DAVID S. JOHNSON

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**David S. Johnson**

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints John C. Rosengren his true and lawful attorney-in- fact and agent, for him, and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities (I) to sign the Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. Annual Report on Form 10- K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2003 and any and all amendments thereto and (ii) to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney- in- fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in such connection, as fully to all intents and purposes as the undersigned might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney- in- fact and agent, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has duly executed this instrument as of this 22nd day of January, 2004.

/s/ JAMES R. WIMMER

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**James R. Wimmer**

**Rule 13a- 14(a) Certification of Chief Executive Officer**

**Certification**

I, J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr., certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10- K of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a- 15(e) and 15d- 15(e)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a.) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared; and
  - (b.) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (c.) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting;
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a.) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b.) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 9, 2004

/s/ J. PATRICK GALLAGHER, JR.

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**J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer**  
**(principal executive officer)**

**Rule 13a- 14(a) Certification of Chief Financial Officer**

**Certification**

I, Douglas K. Howell, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10- K of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a- 15(e) and 15d- 15(e)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a.) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared; and
  - (b.) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (c.) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting;
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a.) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b.) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 9, 2004

/s/ DOUGLAS K. HOWELL

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**Douglas K. Howell**  
**Vice President Chief Financial Officer**  
**(principal financial officer)**

**Section 1350 Certification of Chief Executive Officer**

I, J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr., the chief executive officer of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., certify that (i) the Annual Report on Form 10- K of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. for the twelve month period ended December 31, 2003 (the "Form 10- K") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and (ii) the information contained in the Form 10- K fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and its subsidiaries.

Date: February 9, 2004

/s/ J. PATRICK GALLAGHER, JR.

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**J. Patrick Gallagher, Jr.**  
**President and Chief Executive Officer**  
**(principal executive officer)**



**Section 1350 Certification of Chief Financial Officer**

I, Douglas K. Howell, the chief financial officer of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., certify that (i) the Annual Report on Form 10- K of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. for the twelve month period ended December 31, 2003 (the "Form 10- K") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and (ii) the information contained in the Form 10- K fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. and its subsidiaries.

Date: February 9, 2004

/s/ DOUGLAS K. HOWELL

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**Douglas K. Howell**  
**Vice President**  
**Chief Financial Officer**  
**(principal financial officer)**