

EQUINIX INC  
Form 10-K  
February 26, 2013  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K**

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

OR

**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 000-31293

**EQUINIX, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware** **77-0487526**  
(State of incorporation) (IRS Employer Identification No.)  
**One Lagoon Drive, Fourth Floor, Redwood City, California 94065**

(Address of principal executive offices, including ZIP code)

**(650) 598-6000**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

<b>Title of each class</b>	<b>Name of each exchange on which registered</b>
<b>Common Stock, \$0.001</b>	<b>The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC</b>
<b>Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None</b>	

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

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

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company   
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).  Yes  No

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common stock held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common stock was last sold as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was approximately \$8.4 billion. As of January 31, 2013, a total of 48,803,656 shares of the registrant's common stock were outstanding.

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**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Part III Portions of the registrant's definitive proxy statement to be issued in conjunction with the registrant's 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which is expected to be filed not later than 120 days after the registrant's fiscal year ended December 31, 2012. Except as expressly incorporated by reference, the registrant's proxy statement shall not be deemed to be a part of this report on Form 10-K.

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**DECEMBER 31, 2012**

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**PART I**

**ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

*The words Equinix, we, our, ours, us and the Company refer to Equinix, Inc. All statements in this discussion that are not historical are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, including statements regarding Equinix's expectations, beliefs, intentions, strategies, forecasts, predictions, plans or the like. Such statements are based on management's current expectations and are subject to a number of factors and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements. Equinix cautions investors that there can be no assurance that actual results or business conditions will not differ materially from those projected or suggested in such forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including, but not limited to, the risk factors discussed in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Equinix expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in Equinix's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions, or circumstances on which any such statements are based.*

**Overview**

Equinix, Inc. connects more than 4,000 companies directly to their customers and partners inside the world's most networked data centers. Today, businesses leverage the Equinix interconnection platform in 31 strategic markets across the Americas, Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) and Asia-Pacific.

Platform Equinix combines state-of-the-art International Business Exchange® (IBX®) data centers, a global footprint and unique ecosystems. Together these components accelerate business growth for Equinix's customers by safehousing their infrastructure, locating their assets and applications closer to users to improve performance and enabling them to collaborate with the widest variety of partners and customers.

Equinix's platform offers these unique value propositions to customers:

**Global Data Centers**

A broad footprint of 90+ IBX data centers in 15 countries on 5 continents.

Approximately \$7.0 billion of capital invested in capacity, new markets and acquisitions since 1998.

Equinix delivered more than 99.999% of uptime across its footprint in 2012.

**Connected**

More than 900 networks and approximately 110,000 cross connects in Equinix sites.

Equinix provides less than 10 milliseconds latency to over 90 percent of the population of North America and Europe, as well as key population centers throughout Latin America and Asia-Pacific.

**Partners, Customers and Prospects**

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Equinix sites house a blue-chip customer base of 4,000+ global businesses.

These customers represent a who's who of network, digital media, financial services, cloud/IT and enterprise leaders.

### Opportunity

Equinix data centers contain a dynamic estimated \$5.5 billion marketplace for communications services, interconnecting businesses, networks, carriers and content providers to potential suppliers, customers and partners.

More than 4,000 potential partners to deploy world-class solutions.

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Equinix has established a critical mass of customers that continues to drive new and existing customer growth and bookings. Our network-neutral business model also contributes to our success in the market. We offer customers direct interconnection to an aggregation of bandwidth providers, rather than focusing on selling a particular network. The providers in our sites include the world's top carriers, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), broadband access networks (DSL / cable) and international carriers. Neutrality also means our customers can choose to buy from, or partner with, leading companies across our five targeted verticals. These include:

Network and Mobility Providers (AT&T, British Telecom, Comcast, Level 3 Communications, NTT, Qwest, SingTel, Syniverse, Verizon Business)

Cloud and IT Services (Amazon.com, Box.net, Carpathia, Citrix, IBM, Microsoft, Salesforce.com, Voxel.net, WebEx)

Content Providers (eBay, DIRECTV, Facebook, Hulu, Priceline, SONY, Yahoo!, Zynga)

Enterprise (Barnes & Noble, Bechtel, Booz Allen Hamilton, Deloitte, The GAP, Ingram Micro, The McGraw-Hill Companies, United Stationers Inc.)

Financial Companies (ACTIV Financial, Bloomberg, CBOE, DirectEdge, JP Morgan Chase, Quantlab Financial, Thomson Reuters)  
Equinix generates revenue by providing colocation and related interconnection and managed IT infrastructure offerings on a global platform of 90+ IBX data centers.

Colocation offerings include operations space, storage space, cabinets and power for customers' colocation needs.

Interconnection offerings include cross connects, as well as switch ports on the Equinix Internet Exchange and Equinix Carrier Ethernet Exchange services. These offerings provide scalable and reliable connectivity that allows customers to exchange traffic directly with the service provider of their choice or directly with each other, creating a performance optimized business ecosystem for the exchange of data between strategic partners.

Managed IT infrastructure services allow customers to leverage Equinix's significant telecommunications expertise, maximize the benefits of our IBX data centers and optimize their infrastructure and resources.

The market for Equinix's offerings has historically been served by large telecommunications carriers which have bundled their telecommunications and managed services with their colocation offerings. In addition, some Equinix customers, such as Microsoft, build and operate their own data centers for their large infrastructure deployments, called server farms. However, these customers rely upon Equinix IBX data centers for many of their critical interconnection relationships. The need for large, wholesale outsourced data centers is also being addressed by providers that build large data centers to meet customers' needs for standalone data centers, a different customer segment than Equinix serves.

Due to the increasing cost and complexity of the power and cooling requirements of today's data center equipment, Equinix has gained many customers that have outgrown their existing data centers or that have realized the benefits of a network-neutral model and the ability to create their own optimized business ecosystems for the exchange of data. Strategically, we will continue to look at attractive opportunities to grow market share and selectively expand our footprint and offerings. We continue to leverage our global reach and depth to differentiate based upon our ability to support truly global customer requirements in all our markets.

Several factors contribute to the growth in demand for data center offerings, including:

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The continuing growth of consumer Internet traffic from new bandwidth-intensive services, such as video, voice over IP (VoIP), social media, mobile data, gaming, data-rich media, Ethernet and wireless services.



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Significant increases in power and cooling requirements for today's data center equipment. New generations of servers continue to concentrate processing capability, with associated power consumption and cooling load, into smaller footprints and many legacy-built data centers are unable to accommodate these new power and cooling demands.

The adoption of cloud computing technology services, the growth of enterprise applications delivered across communications networks, such as Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), and disaster recovery services.

The financial services market is experiencing tremendous growth due to electronic trading and the increased volume of peak messages (transactions per second), requiring optimized data exchange through business ecosystems.

The growth of proximity communities that rely on immediate physical colocation and interconnection with their strategic partners and customers, such as financial exchange ecosystems for electronic trading and settlement.

The high capital costs associated with building and maintaining in-sourced data centers creates an opportunity for capital savings by leveraging an outsourced colocation model.

## **Industry Background**

The Internet is a collection of numerous independent networks interconnected to form a network of networks. Users on different networks are able to communicate with each other through interconnection between these networks. For example, when a person sends an email to someone who uses a different provider for his or her connectivity (e.g., Comcast versus Verizon), the email must pass from one network to the other in order to get to its final destination. Equinix provides a physical point at which that interconnection can occur.

In order to accommodate the rapid growth of Internet traffic, an organized approach for network interconnection was needed. The exchange of traffic between these networks became known as peering. Peering is when networks trade traffic at relatively equal amounts and set up agreements to trade traffic often at no charge to the other party. At first, government and non-profit organizations established places where these networks could exchange traffic, or peer, with each other these points were known as network access points, or NAPs. Over time, many NAPs became a natural extension of carrier services and were run by such companies as MFS (now a part of Verizon Business), Sprint, Ameritech and Pacific Bell (the last two now parts of AT&T).

Ultimately, these NAPs were unable to scale with the growth of the Internet, and the lack of neutrality by the carrier owners of these NAPs created a conflict of interest with the participants. This created a market need for network-neutral interconnection points that could accommodate the rapidly growing need to increase performance for enterprise and consumer users of the Internet, especially with the rise of important content providers such as AOL, Microsoft, Yahoo! and others. In addition, the providers, as well as a growing number of enterprises, required a more secure and reliable solution for direct connection to a variety of telecommunications networks as the importance of their Internet operations continued to grow.

To accommodate Internet traffic growth, the largest of these networks left the NAPs and began trading traffic by placing private circuits between each other. Peering, which once occurred at the NAP locations, was moved to these private circuits. Over the years, these circuits became expensive to expand and could not be built quickly enough to accommodate traffic growth. This led to a need by the large carriers to find a more efficient way to peer. Today, many customers satisfy their requirements for peering through data center providers like Equinix because it permits them to peer with the networks they require within one location, using simple direct connections. Their ability to peer within a data center or across a data center campus, instead of across a metro area, has increased the scalability of their operations while decreasing network costs.

The interconnection model has further evolved over the years to include new services offerings. Starting with the peering and network communities, interconnection has since been used for new network services

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including carrier Ethernet, multiprotocol label switching (MPLS), virtual private networks (VPNs) and mobility services, in addition to traditional international private line and voice services. The industry continues to evolve with a set of new offerings where interconnection is often used to solve the network-to-network interconnection challenges.

In addition, the enterprise customer segment is also evolving. In the past, most enterprises opted to keep their data center requirements in house. However, several recent trends have led more and more enterprise CIOs to consider and/or choose to outsource some or all of their data center requirements. The combination of globalization, the proliferation of bandwidth intensive Internet-facing applications and rich media content, the rise of virtualization and cloud computing, business continuity and disaster recovery needs, plus tight corporate IT budgets mean that enterprise CIOs must do more with less. Meanwhile, the biggest challenge for data center and operations managers are constraints on space and power in aging facilities. With limited optical fiber availability, many CIOs struggle to find the necessary capital to build out and connect their existing facilities. Industry analysts forecast growth in the colocation market to be approximately 10% per year over the next four years.

### **Equinix Value Proposition**

More than 4,000 companies, including a diversified mix of cloud and IT service providers, content providers, enterprises, financial companies, and network and mobility service providers, currently operate within Equinix IBX data centers. These companies derive specific value from the following elements of the Equinix service offering:

***Comprehensive global solution:*** With 90+ IBX data centers in 31 markets in the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific, Equinix offers a consistent global solution.

***Premium data centers:*** Equinix IBX data centers feature advanced design, security, power and cooling elements to provide customers with industry-leading reliability. While others in the market have business models that include additional offerings, Equinix is focused on colocation and interconnection as our core competencies.

***Dynamic business ecosystems:*** Equinix's network-neutral model has enabled us to attract a critical mass of networks and cloud and IT services providers and that, in turn, attracts other businesses seeking to interconnect within a single location. This ecosystem model, versus connecting to multiple partners in disparate locations, reduces costs and optimizes the performance of data exchange. As Equinix grows and attracts an even more diversified base of customers, the value of Equinix's IBX data center offering increases.

***Improved economics:*** Customers seeking to outsource their data center operations rather than build their own capital-intensive data centers enjoy significant capital cost savings in this credit-challenged economic environment. Customers also benefit from improved economics on account of the broad access to networks that Equinix provides. Rather than purchasing costly local loops from multiple transit providers, customers can connect directly to more than 900 networks inside Equinix's IBX data centers.

***Leading insight:*** With more than 14 years of industry experience, Equinix has a specialized staff of industry experts and solutions architects who helped build and shape the interconnection infrastructure of the Internet. This specialization and industry knowledge base offer customers a unique consultative value and a competitive advantage.

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### **Our Strategy**

Our objective is to expand our global leadership position as the premier network neutral data center platform for cloud and IT services providers, content providers, financial companies, enterprises and network and mobility services providers. Key components of our strategy include the following:

**Improve customer performance through interconnection.** We have assembled a critical mass of premier network providers and content companies and have become one of the core hubs of the information-driven world. This critical mass is a key selling point for companies that want to connect with a diverse set of networks to provide the best connectivity to their end-customers and network companies that want to sell bandwidth to companies and interconnect with other networks in the most efficient manner available. Currently, we house more than 900 unique networks, including all of the top tier networks, allowing our customers to directly interconnect with providers that best meet their unique global and regional price and performance needs. We have a growing mass of key players in the cloud and IT services, and in enterprise and financial sectors, such as Bloomberg, Facebook, The GAP, IBM, Salesforce.com, SONY and others. We expect these segments will continue to grow as they seek to leverage our critical mass of network providers and interconnect directly with each other to improve performance.

**Streamline ease of doing business globally.** Data center reliability, power availability and network choice are the most important attributes considered by our customers when they are choosing a data center provider in a particular location. We have long been recognized as a leader in these areas and our performance continues to improve against these criteria. Our power infrastructure delivered 99.999% uptime globally in 2012.

In 2012, more than half of our revenue came from customers with deployments across two or more of our global regions, and as globalization continues, seamless global solutions will become an increasingly important data center selection criteria. We continue to focus on strategic acquisitions to expand our market coverage and global product standardization, pricing and contracts harmonization initiatives to meet these global demands.

**Deepen existing and grow new ecosystems.** As networks, cloud and IT services providers, content providers, financial services providers and enterprises locate in our IBX data centers, it benefits their suppliers and business partners to do so as well to gain the full economic and performance benefits of direct interconnection for their business ecosystems. These partners, in turn, pull in their business partners, creating a network effect of customer adoption. Our interconnection offerings enable scalable, reliable and cost-effective interconnection and optimized traffic exchange thus lowering overall cost and increasing flexibility. The ability to directly interconnect with a wide variety of companies is a key differentiator for us in the market. We are rolling out efficient and innovative Internet and Ethernet exchange platforms to accelerate commercial growth in our sites and accelerate this network effect.

**Expand vertical go-to-market plan.** We plan to continue to focus our go-to-market efforts on customer segments and business applications that value the Equinix value proposition of reliability, global reach and ecosystem collaboration opportunities. Today we have identified these segments as cloud services, content and digital media, financial services, enterprises and IT services and network and mobility service providers. As digital business evolves, we will continue to identify and focus our go-to-market efforts on industry segments that need our value proposition.

**Accelerate global reach and scale.** We continue to evaluate expansion opportunities in select markets based on customer demand. In 2012, we successfully acquired ancotel GmbH in Frankfurt, Germany and Asia Tone in Hong Kong to expand our market reach in central and eastern Europe and Shanghai, China, respectively. Also in 2012, Equinix entered into a partnership with PT DCI to enter the Jakarta, Indonesia market and an alliance with Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company PJSC to expand into Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Our strategy is to continue to grow in select existing markets and possibly expand to additional markets where demand and financial return potential warrant. We expect to execute this expansion strategy in a cost-

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effective and disciplined manner through a combination of acquiring existing data centers through lease or purchase, acquiring or investing in local data center operators and building new IBX data centers based on key criteria, such as demand and potential financial return, in each market.

### **Our Customers**

Our customers include carriers, mobility and other bandwidth providers, cloud and IT services providers, content providers, financial companies and global enterprises. We provide each customer access to a choice of business partners and solutions based on their colocation, interconnection and managed IT service needs. As of December 31, 2012, we had more than 4,000 customers worldwide.

Typical customers in our five key customer categories include the following:

<b>Cloud and IT Services</b>	<b>Content Providers</b>	<b>Enterprise</b>	<b>Financial Companies</b>	<b>Network and Mobility Services</b>
Amazon.com	eBay	Barnes & Noble	ACTIV Financial	AT&T
Box.net	DIRECTV	Bechtel	Bloomberg	BT
Citrix	Facebook	Booz Allen Hamilton	CBOE	Comcast
IBM	Hulu	Deloitte	DirectEdge	Level 3
				Communications
Microsoft	Priceline	Ingram Micro	NYSE Technologies	NTT
Salesforce.com	SONY	The GAP	JP Morgan Chase	SingTel
Voxel.net	Yahoo!	The McGraw-Hill Companies	Quantlab Financial	Syniverse
WebEx	Zynga	United Stationers Inc.	Thomson Reuters	Verizon
				Business

Customers typically sign renewable contracts of one or more years in length. No single customer accounted for 10% or more of our revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010.

### **Our Offerings**

Equinix provides a choice of data center offerings primarily comprised of colocation, interconnection solutions and managed IT infrastructure services.

#### **Colocation and Related Offerings**

Our IBX data centers provide our customers with secure, reliable and fault-tolerant environments that are necessary for optimum Internet commerce interconnection. Many of our IBX data centers include multiple layers of physical security, scalable cabinet space availability, on-site trained staff 24 hours per day, 365 days a year, dedicated areas for customer care and equipment staging, redundant AC/DC power systems and multiple other redundant and fault-tolerant infrastructure systems. Some specifications or offerings provided may differ based on original facility design or market.

Within our IBX data centers, customers can place their equipment and interconnect with a choice of networks or other business partners. We also provide customized solutions for customers looking to package our IBX offerings as part of their complex solutions. Our colocation offerings include:

**Cabinets.** Our customers have several choices for collocating their networking, server and storage equipment. They can place the equipment in one of our shared or private cages or customize their space. In certain select markets, customers can purchase their own private suite which is walled off from the rest of the data center. As customers' colocation requirements increase, they can expand within their original cage (or suite) or upgrade into a cage that meets their expanded requirements. Customers buy the hardware they place in our IBX data centers directly from their chosen vendors. Cabinets (or suites) are priced with an initial installation fee and an ongoing recurring monthly charge.

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**Power.** Power is an element of increasing importance in customers' colocation decisions. We offer both AC and DC power circuits at various amperages and phases customized to a customer's individual power requirements. We also offer metered power in certain markets. Power is priced with an initial installation fee and an ongoing recurring monthly charge.

**IBXflex.** IBXflex allows customers to deploy mission-critical operations personnel and equipment on-site at our IBX data centers. Because of the close proximity to their infrastructure within our IBX data centers, IBXflex customers can offer a faster response and quicker troubleshooting solution than those available in traditional colocation facilities. This space can also be used as a secure disaster recovery point for customers' business and operations personnel. This service is priced with an initial installation fee and an ongoing recurring monthly charge.

### **Interconnection Solutions**

Our interconnection solutions enable scalable, reliable and cost-effective interconnection and traffic exchange between Equinix customers. These interconnection solutions are either on a one-to-one basis with direct cross connects or one-to-many through one of our Equinix Exchange solutions. In the peering community, we provide an important industry leadership role by acting as the relationship broker between parties who would like to interconnect within our IBX data centers. Our staff holds or has held significant positions in many leading industry groups, such as the North American Network Operators' Group, or NANOG, and the Internet Engineering Task Force, or IETF. Members of our staff have published industry-recognized white papers and strategy documents in the areas of peering and interconnection, many of which are used by other institutions worldwide in furthering the education and promotion of this important set of solutions. We expect to continue to develop additional solutions in the area of traffic exchange that will allow our customers to leverage the critical mass of networks, cloud services providers, and many important financial services and e-commerce industry leaders now available in our IBX data centers. Our current exchange solutions are comprised of the following:

**Physical Cross Connect/Direct Interconnections.** Customers needing to directly and privately connect to another IBX data center customer can do so through single or multi-mode fiber. These cross connections are the physical link between customers and can be implemented within 24 hours of request. Cross connect offerings are priced with an initial installation fee and an ongoing monthly recurring charge.

**Equinix Internet Exchange.** Customers may choose to connect to and peer through the central switching fabric of our Equinix Internet Exchange rather than purchase a direct physical cross connection. With a connection to this switch, a customer can aggregate multiple interconnects over one physical connection with up to multiple, linked 10 gigabit ports of capacity instead of purchasing individual physical cross connects. The offering is priced per IBX data center with an initial installation fee and an ongoing monthly recurring charge. Individual IBX data center prices increase as the number of participants on the exchange service grows.

**Equinix Metro Connect.** Customers who are located in one IBX data center may need to interconnect with networks or other customers located in an adjacent or nearby IBX data center in the same metro area. Metro Connect allows customers to seamlessly interconnect between IBX data centers at capacities up to an OC-192, or 10 gigabits per second level. Metro Connect offerings are priced with an initial installation fee and an ongoing monthly recurring charge dependent on the capacity the customer purchases.

**Internet Connectivity Services.** Customers who are installing equipment in our IBX data centers generally require IP connectivity or bandwidth services. Although many large customers prefer to contract directly with carriers, we offer customers the ability to contract for these services through us from any of the major bandwidth providers in that data center. This service, which is provided in our Asia-Pacific region, is targeted to customers who require a single bill and a single point of support for their entire contract through Equinix for their bandwidth needs. Internet connectivity services are priced with an initial installation fee and an ongoing monthly recurring charge based on the amount of bandwidth committed.

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**Ethernet Exchange Services.** The Ethernet Exchange offering which is similar to the Equinix Internet Exchange, and we offer it in 17 markets so that customers can connect via a central switching fabric to interconnect between multiple Carrier Ethernet Providers rather than creating individual Network to Network interfaces (NNIs) between individual carriers. The offering builds on the benefits of the Internet community and extends the ability to interconnect to the high growth Ethernet industry. The offering is priced per IBX data center with an initial fee and a monthly recurring charge.

### **Managed IT Infrastructure Services**

With the continued growth in Internet traffic, networks, cloud providers, service providers, enterprises and content providers are challenged to deliver fast and reliable service, while lowering costs. With more than 900 Internet Service Providers (ISPs), fixed and mobile carriers located in our IBX data centers, we leverage the value of network choice with our set of multi-network management and other outsourced IT services, including:

**Professional Services.** Our IBX data centers are staffed with Internet and telecommunications specialists who are on-site and/or available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. These professionals are trained to perform installations of customer equipment and cabling. Professional services are custom-priced depending on customer requirements.

**Smart Hands Services.** Our customers can take advantage of our professional Smart Hands service, which gives customers access to our IBX data center staff for a variety of tasks, when their own staff is not on site. These tasks may include equipment rebooting and power cycling, card swapping and performing emergency equipment replacement. Services are available on-demand or by customer contract and are priced on an hourly basis.

### **Sales and Marketing**

**Sales.** We use a direct sales force and channel marketing program to market our offerings to global enterprises, content providers, financial companies and mobility and network service providers. We organize our sales force by customer type as well as by establishing a sales presence in diverse geographic regions, which enables efficient servicing of the customer base from a network of regional offices. In addition to our worldwide headquarters located in Silicon Valley, we have established an Asia-Pacific regional headquarters in Hong Kong, and a European regional headquarters in London. Our Americas sales offices are located in Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Reston, Virginia and Silicon Valley, and sales offices in Brazil operate out of data centers in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Our EMEA sales offices are located in Amsterdam, Dubai, Dusseldorf, Enschede, Frankfurt, Geneva, London, Munich, Paris, Zurich, and Zwolle. Our Asia-Pacific sales offices are located in Beijing, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney and Tokyo.

Our sales team works closely with each customer to foster the natural network effect of our IBX model, resulting in access to a wider potential customer base via our existing customers. As a result of the IBX interconnection model, IBX data center participants often encourage their customers, suppliers and business partners to also locate in our IBX data centers. These customers, suppliers and business partners, in turn, encourage their business partners to locate in our IBX data centers resulting in additional customer growth. This network effect significantly reduces our new customer acquisition costs. In addition, large network providers or managed service providers may refer customers to Equinix as a part of their total customer solution. Equinix also focuses vertical sales specialists selling to support specific industry requirements for network, mobility and content providers, financial services, cloud computing and systems integrators and enterprise customer segments.

**Marketing.** To support our sales effort and to actively promote our brand in the Americas, Asia-Pacific and EMEA, we conduct comprehensive marketing programs. Our marketing strategies include active public relations and ongoing customer communications programs. Our marketing efforts are focused on major business and trade publications, online media outlets, industry events and sponsored activities. Our staff holds leadership positions

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in key networking organizations, and we participate in a variety of Internet, Carrier Ethernet, computer and financial industry conferences, placing our officers and employees in keynote speaking engagements at these conferences. We also regularly measure customer satisfaction levels and host key customer forums to ensure customer needs are understood and incorporated in product and service planning efforts. From a brand perspective, we build recognition through sponsoring or leading industry technical forums, participating in Internet industry standard-setting bodies and through advertising and online campaigns. We continue to develop and host industry educational forums focused on peering technologies and practices for ISPs and content providers.

### **Our Competition**

While a large number of enterprises own their own data centers, many others outsource some or all of their requirements to multi-tenant Internet data center facilities, such as those operated by Equinix. With the current challenging economic environment, we believe that the outsourcing trend is likely to not only continue but also to grow in the coming years. It is estimated that Equinix is one of over 650 companies that provide Internet data center offerings around the world, ranging in size from firms with a single data center in a single market to firms in over 20 markets. Equinix competes with these firms, which vary in terms of their data center offerings, including:

#### ***Colocation Providers***

Colocation data centers are a type of Internet data center that can also be referred to as retail data center space. Typically, colocation data center space is offered on the basis of individual racks/cabinets or cages ranging from 500 to 10,000 square feet in size. Typical customers of colocation providers include:

Large enterprises with significant IT expertise and requirements

Small and medium businesses looking to outsource data center requirements

Internet application providers

Major Internet content, entertainment and social networking providers

Shared, dedicated and managed hosting providers

Mobility and network service providers

Content delivery networks

Full facility maintenance and systems, including fire suppression, security, power backup and HVAC, are routinely included in managed colocation offerings. A variety of additional services are typically available in colocation facilities, including remote hands technician services and network monitoring services.

In addition to Equinix, providers that offer colocation both globally and locally include firms such as AT&T, CenturyLink, COLT, CyrusOne, Level 3 Communications, NTT, Qwest and Verizon Business.

#### ***Carrier-Neutral Colocation Providers***

In addition to data center space and power, colocation providers also offer interconnection. Certain of these providers, known as network or carrier-neutral colocation providers, can offer customers the choice of hundreds of network service providers, or ISPs, to choose from. Typically, customers use interconnection to buy Internet connectivity, connect VoIP telephone networks, perform financial exchange and settlement

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functions or perform business-to-business e-commerce. Carrier-neutral data centers are often located in key network hubs around the world like New York; Ashburn, Virginia; London; Amsterdam; Singapore, and Hong Kong. Two types of data center facilities offering carrier-neutral colocation are used for many network-to-network interconnections:

A Meet Me Room (MMR) is typically a smaller space, generally 5,000 square feet or less, located in a major carrier hotel and often found in a wholesale data center facility.



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A carrier-neutral data center is generally larger than an MMR and may be a stand-alone building separate from existing carrier hotels.

In addition to Equinix, other providers that we believe could be defined as offering carrier-neutral colocation include CoreSite, Global Switch, Interxion, Telecity Group, Telx, Telehouse and Verizon Terremark.

### ***Wholesale Data Center Providers***

Wholesale data center providers lease data center space that is typically offered in cells or pods (i.e., individual white-space rooms) ranging in size from 10,000 to 20,000 square feet, or larger. Wholesale data center offerings are targeted to both enterprises and to colocation providers. These data centers primarily provide space and power without additional services like technicians, remote hands services or network monitoring (although other tenants might offer such services).

Sample wholesale data center providers include Digital Realty Trust, DuPont Fabros Technology, e-Shelter and Sentrum.

### ***Managed Hosters***

Managed hosting services are provided by several firms that also provide data center colocation services. Typically, managed hosting providers can manage server hardware that is owned by either the hosting provider or the customer. They can also provide a combination of comprehensive systems administration, database administration and sometimes application management services. Frequently, this results in managed hosting providers running the customer's servers, although such administration is frequently shared. The provider may manage such functions as operating systems, databases, security and patch management, while the customer will maintain management of the applications riding on top of those systems.

The full list of potential services that can be offered as part of managed hosting is substantial and includes services such as remote management, custom applications, helpdesk, messaging, databases, disaster recovery, managed storage, managed virtualization, managed security, managed networks and systems monitoring. Managed hosting services are typically used for:

Application hosting by organizations of any size, including large enterprises

Hosted or managed messaging, including Microsoft Exchange and other complex messaging applications

Complex or highly scalable web hosting or e-commerce websites

Managed storage solutions (including large drive arrays or backup robots)

Server disaster recovery and business continuity, including clustering and global server load balancing

Database servers, applications and services

Examples of managed hosters include AT&T, CenturyLink, NaviSite, Rackspace, SunGard, Verizon Business and Verizon Terremark.

Unlike other providers whose core businesses are bandwidth or managed services, we focus on neutral interconnection hubs for cloud and IT service providers, content providers, financial companies, enterprises and network service providers. As a result, we do not have the limited choices found commonly at other hosting/colocation companies. We compete based on the quality of our IBX data centers, our ability to provide a one-stop global solution in our Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific locations, the performance and diversity of our network-neutral strategy, and the economic benefits of the aggregation of top network and business ecosystems under one roof. We expect to continue to benefit from several industry trends including the need for contracting



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with multiple networks due to the uncertainty in the telecommunications market, customers' increasing power requirements, enterprise customers' increased use of virtualization and outsourcing, the continued growth of broadband and significant growth in Ethernet as a network alternative, and the growth in mobile applications.

### **Our Business Segment Financial Information**

We currently operate in three reportable segments, comprised of our Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific geographic regions. Information attributable to each of our reportable segments is set forth in Note 16 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2012, we had 3,153 employees. We had 1,821 employees based in the Americas, 811 employees based in EMEA and 521 employees based in Asia-Pacific. Of those employees, 1,478 were in engineering and operations, 617 were in sales and marketing and 1,058 were in management, finance and administration.

### **Potential Real Estate Investment Trust ( REIT ) Conversion**

On September 13, 2012, we announced that our board of directors approved a plan for Equinix to pursue conversion to a REIT (the REIT conversion ). We have begun implementation of the REIT conversion, and we plan to make a tax election for REIT status for the taxable year beginning January 1, 2015. Any REIT election made by us must be effective as of the beginning of a taxable year; therefore, as a calendar year taxpayer, if we are unable to convert to a REIT by January 1, 2015, the next possible conversion date would be January 1, 2016.

If we are able to convert to and qualify as a REIT, we will generally be permitted to deduct from federal income taxes the dividends we pay to our stockholders. The income represented by such dividends would not be subject to federal taxation at the entity level but would be taxed, if at all, at the stockholder level. Nevertheless, the income of our domestic taxable REIT subsidiaries ( TRS ), which will hold our U.S. operations that may not be REIT-compliant, will be subject, as applicable, to federal and state corporate income tax. Likewise, our foreign subsidiaries will continue to be subject to foreign income taxes in jurisdictions in which they hold assets or conduct operations, regardless of whether held or conducted through TRS or through qualified REIT subsidiaries ( QRS ). We will also be subject to a separate corporate income tax on any gains recognized during a specified period (generally 10 years) following the REIT conversion that are attributable to built-in gains with respect to the assets that we own on the date we convert to a REIT.

Our ability to qualify as a REIT will depend upon our continuing compliance following our REIT conversion with various requirements, including requirements related to the nature of our assets, the sources of our income and the distributions to our stockholders. If we fail to qualify as a REIT, we will be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates. Even if we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we may be subject to some federal, state, local and foreign taxes on our income and property. In particular, while state income tax regimes often parallel the federal income tax regime for REITs described above, many states do not completely follow federal rules and some may not follow them at all.

The REIT conversion implementation currently includes seeking a private letter ruling ( PLR ) from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ). Our PLR request has multiple components, and the conversion to a REIT will require favorable rulings from the IRS on numerous technical tax issues, including classification of our data center assets as qualified real estate assets. We submitted the PLR request to the IRS in 2012, but the IRS may not provide a PLR until late in 2013 or at all.

We currently estimate that we will incur approximately \$50.0 to \$80.0 million in costs to support the REIT conversion, in addition to related tax liabilities associated with a change in our method of depreciating and

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amortizing various data center assets for tax purposes from our current method to methods that are more consistent with the characterization of such assets as real property for REIT purposes. The total recapture of depreciation and amortization expenses across all relevant assets is expected to result in federal and state tax liability of approximately \$340.0 to \$420.0 million, which amount will be payable in the four-year period starting in 2012 even if we abandon the REIT conversion for any reason, including the failure to receive the PLR we are seeking. Prior to the decision to convert to a REIT, our balance sheet reflected our income tax liability as a non-current deferred tax liability. As a result of the decision to convert to a REIT, our non-current tax liability will be gradually and proportionally reclassified from non-current to current over the four-year period, which started in the third quarter of 2012. The current liability reflects the tax liability that relates to additional taxable income expected to be recognized within the twelve-month period from the date of the balance sheet. If the REIT conversion is successful, we also expect to incur an additional \$5.0 to \$10.0 million in annual compliance costs in future years. We expect to pay between \$175.0 to \$250.0 million in cash taxes during 2013.

In accordance with tax rules applicable to REIT conversions, we expect to issue special distributions to our stockholders of undistributed accumulated earnings and profits of approximately \$700.0 million to \$1.1 billion (the E&P distribution), which we expect to pay out in a combination of up to 20% in cash and at least 80% in the form of our common stock. We expect to make the E&P distribution only after receiving a favorable PLR from the IRS and anticipate making a significant portion of the E&P distribution before 2015, with the balance distributed in 2015. In addition, following the completion of the REIT conversion, we intend to declare regular distributions to our stockholders.

## **Available Information**

We were incorporated in Delaware in June 1998. We are required to file reports under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, with the Securities and Exchange Commission. You may read and copy our materials on file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. You may obtain information regarding the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet website at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information.

You may also obtain copies of our annual reports on Form 10-K, our quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and our current reports on Form 8-K, and any amendments to such reports, free of charge by visiting the Investor Relations page on our website, [www.equinix.com](http://www.equinix.com). These reports are available as soon as reasonably practical after we file them with the SEC. Information contained on our website is not part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

## **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

In addition to the other information contained in this report, the following risk factors should be considered carefully in evaluating our business and us:

### **Risks Related to REIT Conversion**

**Although we have chosen to pursue conversion to a REIT, we may not be successful in converting to a REIT effective January 1, 2015, or at all.**

In September 2012, our board of directors approved a plan for us to convert to a REIT. There are significant implementation and operational complexities to address before we can convert to a REIT, including obtaining a favorable private letter ruling, or PLR, from the IRS, completing internal reorganizations, modifying accounting, information technology and real estate systems, receiving stockholder approvals and making required stockholder payouts. Further, changes in legislation, federal tax rules and interpretations thereof could adversely impact our ability to convert to a REIT. Similarly, even if we are able to satisfy the existing REIT requirements, the tax laws, regulations and interpretations governing REITs may change at any time in ways that could be disadvantageous to us.

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Additionally, several conditions must be met in order to complete the conversion to a REIT, and the timing and outcome of many of these conditions are beyond our control. For example, we cannot provide assurance that the IRS will ultimately provide us with a favorable PLR or that any favorable PLR will be received in a timely manner for us to convert successfully to a REIT as of January 1, 2015. Even if the transactions necessary to implement REIT conversion are effected, our board of directors may decide not to elect REIT status, or to delay such election, if it determines in its sole discretion that it is not in the best interests of us or our stockholders. We can provide no assurance if or when conversion to a REIT will be successful. Furthermore, the effective date of the REIT conversion could be delayed beyond January 1, 2015, in which event we could not elect REIT status until the taxable year beginning January 1, 2016, at the earliest.

### **We may not realize the anticipated benefits to stockholders, including the achievement of significant tax savings for us and regular distributions to our stockholders.**

Even if we convert to a REIT and elect REIT status, we cannot provide assurance that our stockholders will experience benefits attributable to our qualification and taxation as a REIT, including our ability to reduce our corporate level federal tax through distributions to stockholders and to make regular distributions to stockholders. The realization of the anticipated benefits to stockholders will depend on numerous factors, many of which are outside our control. In addition, future cash distributions to stockholders will depend on our cash flows, as well as the impact of alternative, more attractive investments as compared to dividends. Further, changes in legislation or the federal tax rules could adversely impact the benefits of being a REIT.

### **We may not qualify or remain qualified as a REIT.**

Although, if we convert to a REIT, we plan to operate in a manner consistent with the REIT qualification rules, we cannot provide assurance that we will, in fact, qualify as a REIT or remain so qualified. REIT qualification involves the application of highly technical and complex provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), to our operations as well as various factual determinations concerning matters and circumstances not entirely within our control. There are limited judicial or administrative interpretations of these provisions. Changes in legislation, federal tax rules and interpretations thereof could also prevent us from converting to a REIT or remaining qualified as a REIT.

If we fail to qualify as a REIT in any taxable year after the REIT conversion, we will be subject to U.S. federal income tax, including any applicable alternative minimum tax, on our taxable income at regular corporate rates with respect to each such taxable year for which the statute of limitations remains open. In addition, we will be subject to monetary penalties for the failure. This treatment would significantly reduce our net earnings and cash flow because of our additional tax liability and the penalties for the years involved, which could significantly impact our financial condition.

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

To qualify as a REIT for federal income tax purposes, we must continually satisfy tests concerning, among other things, the sources of our income, the nature and diversification of our assets, the amounts we distribute to our stockholders and the ownership of our common stock. For example, under the Code, no more than 25% of the value of the assets of a REIT may be represented by securities of one or more of our TRS, and other nonqualifying assets. This limitation may affect our ability to make large investments in other non-REIT qualifying operations or assets. In addition, in order to maintain qualification as a REIT, we will be required to distribute at least 90% of our REIT taxable income annually, determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction and excluding any net capital gains. Even if we maintain our qualification as a REIT, we will be subject to U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate rates for our undistributed REIT taxable income, determined without regard to the dividends paid deduction and including any net capital gains, as well as U.S. federal income tax at regular corporate rates for income recognized by our TRSs. Because of these distribution requirements, we will likely not be able to fund future capital needs and investments from operating cash flow.

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As such, compliance with REIT tests may hinder our ability to make certain attractive investments, including the purchase of significant nonqualifying assets and the material expansion of non-real estate activities.

### **There are uncertainties relating to our estimate of our undistributed accumulated earnings and profits ( E&P ) distribution, as well as the timing of such E&P distribution and the percentage of common stock and cash we may distribute.**

We have provided an estimated range of the E&P distribution. We are in the process of conducting a study of our pre-REIT accumulated earnings and profits as of the close of our 2012 taxable year using our historic tax returns and other available information. This is a very involved and complex study, which is not yet complete, and the actual result of the study relating to our pre-REIT accumulated earnings and profits as of the close of our 2012 taxable year may be materially different from our current estimates. In addition, the estimated range of our E&P distribution is based on our projected taxable income for our 2013 and 2014 taxable years and our current business plans and performance, but our actual earnings and profits (and the actual E&P distribution) will vary depending on, among other items, the timing of certain transactions, our actual taxable income and performance for 2013 and 2014 and possible changes in legislation or tax rules and IRS revenue procedures relating to distributions of earnings and profits. For these reasons and others, our actual E&P distribution may be materially different from our estimated range.

We anticipate distributing a significant portion of the E&P distribution before 2015, with the balance distributed in 2015, but the timing of the planned E&P distribution, which may or may not occur, may be affected by potential tax law changes, the completion of various phases of the REIT conversion process and other factors beyond our control.

We also anticipate paying at least 80% of the E&P distribution in the form of common stock and up to 20% in the form of cash. We may in fact decide, based on our cash flows and strategic plans, IRS revenue procedures relating to distributions of earnings and profits, leverage and other factors, to pay these amounts in a different mix of cash and common stock.

### **We may restructure or issue debt or raise equity to satisfy our E&P distribution and other conversion costs.**

Depending on the ultimate size and timing of the E&P distribution and the cash outlays associated with our conversion to a REIT, we may restructure or issue debt and/or issue equity to fund these disbursements, even if the then-prevailing market conditions are not favorable for these transactions. Whether we issue equity, at what price and amount and other terms of any such issuances will depend on many factors, including alternative sources of capital, our then existing leverage, our need for additional capital, market conditions and other factors beyond our control. If we raise additional funds through the issuance of equity securities or debt convertible into equity securities, the percentage of stock ownership by our existing stockholders may be reduced. In addition, new equity securities or convertible debt securities could have rights, preferences, and privileges senior to those of our current stockholders, which could substantially decrease the value of our securities owned by them. Depending on the share price we are able to obtain, we may have to sell a significant number of shares in order to raise the capital we deem necessary to execute our long-term strategy, and our stockholders may experience dilution in the value of their shares as a result. Furthermore, satisfying our E&P distribution and other conversion costs may increase the financing we need to fund capital expenditures, future growth and expansion initiatives. As a result our indebtedness could increase. See **Other Risks** for further information regarding our substantial indebtedness.

### **There are uncertainties relating to the costs associated with implementing the REIT conversion.**

We have provided an estimated range of our tax and other costs to convert to a REIT, including estimated tax liabilities associated with a change in our method of depreciating and amortizing various assets and annual compliance costs. Our estimate of these taxes and other costs, however, may not be accurate, and such costs may actually be higher than our estimates due to unanticipated outcomes in the process of obtaining a PLR, changes in

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our business support functions and support costs, the unsuccessful execution of internal planning, including restructurings and cost reduction initiatives, or other factors.

### **Restrictive loan covenants could prevent us from satisfying REIT distribution requirements.**

If we are successful in converting to a REIT, restrictions in our credit facility and our indentures may prevent us from satisfying our REIT distribution requirements, and we could fail to qualify for taxation as a REIT. If these limits do not jeopardize our qualification for taxation as a REIT but nevertheless prevent us from distributing 100% of our REIT taxable income, we would be subject to federal corporate income tax, and potentially a nondeductible excise tax, on the retained amounts. See **Other Risks** for further information on our restrictive loan covenants.

### **We have no experience operating as a REIT, which may adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations if we successfully convert to a REIT.**

We have no experience operating as a REIT and our senior management has no experience operating a REIT. Our pre-REIT operating experience may not be sufficient to prepare us to operate successfully as a REIT. Our inability to operate successfully as a REIT, including the failure to maintain REIT status, could adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

## **Other Risks**

### **Acquisitions present many risks, and we may not realize the financial or strategic goals that were contemplated at the time of any transaction.**

Over the last several years, we have completed several acquisitions, including that of Switch & Data Facilities Company, Inc. ( Switch and Data ) in 2010, ALOG Data Centers do Brasil S.A. in 2011 and Asia Tone Limited and ancotel GmbH in 2012 along with an acquisition of a Dubai IBX data center in 2012. We may make additional acquisitions in the future, which may include (i) acquisitions of businesses, products, services or technologies that we believe to be complementary, (ii) acquisitions of new IBX data centers or real estate for development of new IBX data centers or (iii) acquisitions through investments in local data center operators. We may pay for future acquisitions by using our existing cash resources (which may limit other potential uses of our cash), incurring additional debt (which may increase our interest expense, leverage and debt service requirements) and/or issuing shares (which may dilute our existing stockholders and have a negative effect on our earnings per share). Acquisitions expose us to potential risks, including:

the possible disruption of our ongoing business and diversion of management's attention by acquisition, transition and integration activities;

our potential inability to successfully pursue or realize some or all of the anticipated revenue opportunities associated with an acquisition or investment;

the possibility that we may not be able to successfully integrate acquired businesses, or businesses in which we invest, or achieve anticipated operating efficiencies or cost savings;

the possibility that announced acquisitions may not be completed, due to failure to satisfy the conditions to closing or for other reasons;

the dilution of our existing stockholders as a result of our issuing stock in transactions, such as our acquisition of Switch and Data, where 80% of the consideration payable to Switch and Data's stockholders consisted of shares of our common stock;

the possibility of customer dissatisfaction if we are unable to achieve levels of quality and stability on par with past practices;

the possibility that our customers may not accept either the existing equipment infrastructure or the look-and-feel of a new or different IBX data center;



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the possibility that additional capital expenditures may be required or that transaction expenses associated with acquisitions may be higher than anticipated;

the possibility that required financing to fund an acquisition may not be available on acceptable terms or at all;

the possibility that we may be unable to obtain required approvals from governmental authorities under antitrust and competition laws on a timely basis or at all, which could, among other things, delay or prevent us from completing an acquisition, limit our ability to realize the expected financial or strategic benefits of an acquisition or have other adverse effects on our current business and operations;

the possible loss or reduction in value of acquired businesses;

the possibility that future acquisitions may present new complexities in deal structure, related complex accounting and coordination with new partners;

the possibility that future acquisitions may be in geographies, and regulatory environments, to which we are unaccustomed;

the possibility that carriers may find it cost-prohibitive or impractical to bring fiber and networks into a new IBX data center;

the possibility of litigation or other claims in connection with, or as a result of, an acquisition, including claims from terminated employees, customers, former stockholders or other third parties; and

the possibility of pre-existing undisclosed liabilities, including but not limited to lease or landlord related liability, environmental liability or asbestos liability, for which insurance coverage may be insufficient or unavailable.

The occurrence of any of these risks could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

We cannot assure you that the price of any future acquisitions of IBX data centers will be similar to prior IBX data center acquisitions. In fact, we expect costs required to build or render new IBX data centers operational to increase in the future. If our revenue does not keep pace with these potential acquisition and expansion costs, we may not be able to maintain our current or expected margins as we absorb these additional expenses. There is no assurance we would successfully overcome these risks or any other problems encountered with these acquisitions.

**Our substantial debt could adversely affect our cash flows and limit our flexibility to raise additional capital.**

We have a significant amount of debt. Notwithstanding our intention to become adjusted free cash flow positive in 2013, excluding REIT-related cash costs and tax liabilities, we may not achieve such goal and may need to incur additional debt to support our growth. Additional debt may also be incurred to fund future acquisitions, the E&P distribution or the other cash outlays associated with conversion to a REIT. As of December 31, 2012, our total indebtedness was approximately \$3.0 billion, our stockholders' equity was \$2.3 billion and our cash and investments totaled \$546.5 million. In addition, as of December 31, 2012, we had approximately \$528.2 million of additional liquidity available to us as a result of a \$750.0 million credit facility agreement entered into with a group of lenders in the U.S. as more fully described in Note 9 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Some of our debt contains covenants which may limit our operating flexibility or may limit our ability to operate as a REIT. In addition to our substantial debt, we lease a majority of our IBX centers and certain equipment under non-cancellable lease agreements, the majority of which are accounted for as operating leases. As of December 31, 2012, our total minimum operating lease commitments under those lease agreements, excluding potential lease renewals, was approximately \$926.3 million, which represents off-balance sheet commitments.



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Our substantial amount of debt and related covenants, and our off-balance sheet commitments, could have important consequences. For example, they could:

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to make interest and principal payments on our debt and in respect of other off-balance sheet arrangements, reducing the availability of our cash flow to fund future capital expenditures, working capital, execution of our expansion strategy and other general corporate requirements;

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations under our various debt instruments;

increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions and adverse changes in governmental regulations;

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and industry, which may place us at a competitive disadvantage compared with our competitors;

limit our operating flexibility through covenants with which we must comply, such as limiting our ability to repurchase shares of our common stock;

limit our ability to borrow additional funds, even when necessary to maintain adequate liquidity, which would also limit our ability to further expand our business; and

make us more vulnerable to increases in interest rates because of the variable interest rates on some of our borrowings to the extent we have not entirely hedged such variable rate debt.

The occurrence of any of the foregoing factors could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. In addition, the performance of our stock price may trigger events that would require the write-off of a significant portion of our debt issuance costs related to our convertible debt, which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

We may also need to refinance a portion of our outstanding debt as it matures. There is a risk that we may not be able to refinance existing debt or that the terms of any refinancing may not be as favorable as the terms of our existing debt. Furthermore, if prevailing interest rates or other factors at the time of refinancing result in higher interest rates upon refinancing, then the interest expense relating to that refinanced indebtedness would increase. These risks could materially adversely affect our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations.

### **Global economic uncertainty and debt issues could adversely impact our business and financial condition.**

The varying pace of global economic recovery continues to create uncertainty and unpredictability and add risk to our future outlook. Sovereign debt issues and economic uncertainty in Europe and around the world raise concerns in markets where we operate and which are important to our business. Issues in Europe, such as increased Euro currency exchange rate volatility, the negative impact of the crisis and related austerity measures on European economic growth, potential negative spillover effects to additional countries in Europe and the rest of the world, the possibility that one or more countries may leave the Euro zone and re-introduce their individual currencies, and, in more extreme circumstances, the possible dissolution of the Euro currency, could be disruptive to our operations. A global economic downturn could also result in churn in our customer base, reductions in revenues from our offerings, longer sales cycles, slower adoption of new technologies and increased price competition, adversely affecting our liquidity. If customers in EMEA have difficulty paying us, due to the current European debt crisis or a global economic downturn generally, we may also be required to further increase our allowance for doubtful accounts, which would negatively impact our results. The uncertain economic environment could also have an impact on our foreign exchange forward contracts if our counterparties' credit deteriorates further or they are otherwise unable to perform their obligations. Finally, our ability to access the capital markets may be severely restricted at a time when we would like, or need, to do so which could have an impact on our flexibility to pursue additional expansion opportunities and maintain our desired level of revenue growth in the future.



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**The market price of our stock may continue to be highly volatile, and the value of an investment in our common stock may decline.**

Since January 1, 2012, the closing sale price of our common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market has ranged from \$100.90 to \$226.00 per share. The market price of the shares of our common stock has been and may continue to be highly volatile. General economic and market conditions, and market conditions for telecommunications stocks in general, may affect the market price of our common stock.

Announcements by us or others, or speculations about our future plans, may also have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock. These may relate to:

our operating results or forecasts;

new issuances of equity, debt or convertible debt by us;

changes to our capital allocation, tax planning or business strategy;

our planned conversion to a REIT;

a stock repurchase program;

developments in our relationships with corporate customers;

announcements by our customers or competitors;

changes in regulatory policy or interpretation;

governmental investigations;

changes in the ratings of our debt or stock by rating agencies or securities analysts;

our purchase or development of real estate and/or additional IBX data centers;

our acquisitions of complementary businesses; or

the operational performance of our IBX data centers.

The stock market has from time to time experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations, which have particularly affected the market prices for emerging telecommunications companies, and which have often been unrelated to their operating performance. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock. In addition, if we are unsuccessful in our planned conversion to a REIT, the market price of our common stock may decrease, and the decrease may be material. Furthermore, companies that have experienced

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volatility in the market price of their stock have been subject to securities class action litigation. We may be the target of this type of litigation in the future. Securities litigation against us could result in substantial costs and/or damages, and divert management's attention from other business concerns, which could seriously harm our business.

**If we are not able to generate sufficient operating cash flows or obtain external financing, our ability to fund incremental expansion plans may be limited.**

Our capital expenditures, together with ongoing operating expenses, obligations to service our debt and the cash outlays associated with our REIT conversion, will be a substantial drain on our cash flow and may decrease our cash balances. Additional debt or equity financing may not be available when needed or, if available, may not be available on satisfactory terms. Our inability to obtain additional debt and/or equity financing or to generate sufficient cash from operations may require us to prioritize projects or curtail capital expenditures which could adversely affect our results of operations.

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**Fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates in the markets in which we operate internationally could harm our results of operations.**

We may experience gains and losses resulting from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates. To date, the majority of our revenues and costs are denominated in U.S. dollars; however, the majority of revenues and costs in our international operations are denominated in foreign currencies. Where our prices are denominated in U.S. dollars, our sales and revenues could be adversely affected by declines in foreign currencies relative to the U.S. dollar, thereby making our offerings more expensive in local currencies. We are also exposed to risks resulting from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates in connection with our international expansions. To the extent we are paying contractors in foreign currencies, our expansions could cost more than anticipated as a result of declines in the U.S. dollar relative to foreign currencies. In addition, fluctuating foreign currency exchange rates have a direct impact on how our international results of operations translate into U.S. dollars.

Although we currently undertake, and may decide in the future to further undertake, foreign exchange hedging transactions to reduce foreign currency transaction exposure, we do not currently intend to eliminate all foreign currency transaction exposure. Therefore, any weakness of the U.S. dollar may have a positive impact on our consolidated results of operations because the currencies in the foreign countries in which we operate may translate into more U.S. dollars. However, if the U.S. dollar strengthens relative to the currencies of the foreign countries in which we operate, our consolidated financial position and results of operations may be negatively impacted as amounts in foreign currencies will generally translate into fewer U.S. dollars. For additional information on foreign currency risk, refer to our discussion of foreign currency risk in Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk included in Item 7A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**We are continuing to invest in our expansion efforts but may not have sufficient customer demand in the future to realize expected returns on these investments.**

We are considering the acquisition or lease of additional properties and the construction of new IBX data centers beyond those expansion projects already announced. We will be required to commit substantial operational and financial resources to these IBX data centers, generally 12 to 18 months in advance of securing customer contracts, and we may not have sufficient customer demand in those markets to support these centers once they are built. In addition, unanticipated technological changes could affect customer requirements for data centers, and we may not have built such requirements into our new IBX data centers. Either of these contingencies, if they were to occur, could make it difficult for us to realize expected or reasonable returns on these investments.

**Our offerings have a long sales cycle that may harm our revenues and operating results.**

A customer's decision to obtain space in one of our IBX data centers or to purchase services typically involves a significant commitment of resources. In addition, some customers will be reluctant to commit to locating in our IBX data centers until they are confident that the IBX data center has adequate carrier connections. As a result, we have a long sales cycle. Furthermore, we may devote significant time and resources in pursuing a particular sale or customer that does not result in revenue. We have also significantly expanded our sales force in the past year, and it will take time for these new hires to become fully productive.

Delays due to the length of our sales cycle may materially and adversely affect our revenues and operating results, which could harm our ability to meet our forecasts and cause volatility in our stock price.

**Any failure of our physical infrastructure or offerings could lead to significant costs and disruptions that could reduce our revenue and harm our business reputation and financial results.**

Our business depends on providing customers with highly reliable solutions. We must safehouse our customers' infrastructure and equipment located in our IBX data centers. We own certain of our IBX data centers, but others are leased by us, and we rely on the landlord for basic maintenance of our leased IBX data

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centers. If such landlord has not maintained a leased property sufficiently, we may be forced into an early exit from the center which could be disruptive to our business. Furthermore, we continue to acquire IBX data centers not built by us. If we discover that these IBX data centers and their infrastructure assets are not in the condition we expected when they were acquired, we may be required to incur substantial additional costs to repair or upgrade the centers.

The offerings we provide in each of our IBX data centers are subject to failure resulting from numerous factors, including:

human error;

equipment failure;

physical, electronic and cybersecurity breaches;

fire, earthquake, hurricane, flood, tornado and other natural disasters;

extreme temperatures;

water damage;

fiber cuts;

power loss;

terrorist acts;

sabotage and vandalism; and

failure of business partners who provide our resale products.

Problems at one or more of our IBX data centers, whether or not within our control, could result in service interruptions or significant equipment damage. We have service level commitment obligations to certain of our customers, including our significant customers. As a result, service interruptions or significant equipment damage in our IBX data centers could result in difficulty maintaining service level commitments to these customers and potential claims related to such failures. Because our IBX data centers are critical to many of our customers' businesses, service interruptions or significant equipment damage in our IBX data centers could also result in lost profits or other indirect or consequential damages to our customers. We cannot guarantee that a court would enforce any contractual limitations on our liability in the event that one of our customers brings a lawsuit against us as a result of a problem at one of our IBX data centers. In addition, any loss of service, equipment damage or inability to meet our service level commitment obligations could reduce the confidence of our customers and could consequently impair our ability to obtain and retain customers, which would adversely affect both our ability to generate revenues and our operating results.

Furthermore, we are dependent upon Internet service providers, telecommunications carriers and other website operators in the Americas, Asia-Pacific and EMEA regions and elsewhere, some of which have experienced significant system failures and electrical outages in the past. Our customers may in the future experience difficulties due to system failures unrelated to our systems and offerings. If, for any reason, these



providers fail to provide the required services, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely impacted.

**The insurance coverage that we purchase may prove to be inadequate.**

We carry liability, property, business interruption and other insurance policies to cover insurable risks to our company. We select the types of insurance, the limits and the deductibles based on our specific risk profile, the cost of the insurance coverage versus its perceived benefit and general industry standards. Our insurance policies contain industry standard exclusions for events such as war and nuclear reaction. We purchase minimal levels of earthquake insurance for certain of our IBX data centers, but for most of our data centers, including many in

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California, we have elected to self-insure. The earthquake and flood insurance that we do purchase would be subject to high deductibles and any of the limits of insurance that we purchase could prove to be inadequate, which could materially and adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### **Our construction of additional new IBX data centers, or IBX data center expansions, could involve significant risks to our business.**

In order to sustain our growth in certain of our existing and new markets, we must expand an existing data center, lease a new facility or acquire suitable land, with or without structures, to build new IBX data centers from the ground up. Expansions or new builds are currently underway, or being contemplated, in many of our markets. Any related construction requires us to carefully select and rely on the experience of one or more designers, general contractors, and associated subcontractors during the design and construction process. Should a designer, general contractor, or significant subcontractor experience financial or other problems during the design or construction process, we could experience significant delays, increased costs to complete the project and/or other negative impacts to our expected returns.

Site selection is also a critical factor in our expansion plans. There may not be suitable properties available in our markets with the necessary combination of high power capacity and fiber connectivity, or selection may be limited. Thus, while we may prefer to locate new IBX data centers adjacent to our existing locations it may not always be possible. In the event we decide to build new IBX data centers separate from our existing IBX data centers, we may provide interconnection solutions to connect these two centers. Should these solutions not provide the necessary reliability to sustain connection, this could result in lower interconnection revenue and lower margins and could have a negative impact on customer retention over time.

### **Environmental regulations may impose upon us new or unexpected costs.**

We are subject to various federal, state, local and international environmental and health and safety laws and regulations, including those relating to the generation, storage, handling and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes. Certain of these laws and regulations also impose joint and several liability, without regard to fault, for investigation and cleanup costs on current and former owners and operators of real property and persons who have disposed of or released hazardous substances into the environment. Our operations involve the use of hazardous substances and materials such as petroleum fuel for emergency generators, as well as batteries, cleaning solutions and other materials. In addition, we lease, own or operate real property at which hazardous substances and regulated materials have been used in the past. At some of our locations, hazardous substances or regulated materials are known to be present in soil or groundwater, and there may be additional unknown hazardous substances or regulated materials present at sites we own, operate or lease. At some of our locations, there are land use restrictions in place relating to earlier environmental cleanups that do not materially limit our use of the sites. To the extent any hazardous substances or any other substance or material must be cleaned up or removed from our property, we may be responsible under applicable laws, regulations or leases for the removal or cleanup of such substances or materials, the cost of which could be substantial.

In addition, we are subject to environmental, health and safety laws regulating air emissions, storm water management and other issues arising in our business. While these obligations do not normally impose material costs upon our operations, unexpected events, equipment malfunctions and human error, among other factors, can lead to violations of environmental laws, regulations or permits. Furthermore, environmental laws and regulations change frequently and may require additional investment to maintain compliance. Noncompliance with existing, or adoption of more stringent, environmental or health and safety laws and regulations or the discovery of previously unknown contamination could require us to incur costs or become the basis of new or increased liabilities that could be material.

Fossil fuel combustion creates greenhouse gas ( GHG ) emissions that are linked to global climate change. Regulations to limit GHG emissions are in force in the European Union in an effort to prevent or reduce climate

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change. In the U.S., the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ( EPA ) regulates GHG emissions from major stationary sources under the Clean Air Act. Current regulations apply to large sources of GHGs, such as, for example, fossil-fueled electricity generating facilities, the construction of new facilities that emit 100,000 tons per year or more of carbon dioxide equivalent ( CO<sub>2</sub>e , a unit of measurement for GHGs) and the modification of any existing facility that results in an increase of GHG emissions by 75,000 tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>e. A small source exception applies to our existing and anticipated facilities, which exempts sources emitting below 50,000 tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>e or any modification resulting in an increase of less than 50,000 tons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>e, from permitting requirements until at least April 30, 2016. The EPA may develop permitting requirements for smaller sources of GHGs after April 30, 2016, which could potentially affect our facilities. We will continue to monitor the developments of this regulatory program to evaluate its impact on our facilities and business.

Several states within the U.S. have adopted laws intended to limit fossil fuel consumption and/or encourage renewable energy development for the same purpose. For example, California enacted AB-32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, prescribing a statewide cap on global warming pollution with a goal of reaching 1990 GHG emission levels by 2020, and established a mandatory emissions reporting program. Regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board, require allowances to be surrendered for emissions of GHGs. This first phase of the cap-and-trade program will increase our electricity costs by an amount that cannot yet be determined, but the increase could exceed 5% of our costs of electricity at our California locations. In 2015, a second phase of the program will begin, imposing allowance obligations upon suppliers of most forms of fossil fuels, which will increase the costs of our petroleum fuels used for transportation and emergency generators.

We do not anticipate that the climate change-related laws and regulations will force us to modify our operations to limit the emissions of GHG. We could, however, be directly subject to taxes, fees or costs, or could indirectly be required to reimburse electricity providers for such costs representing the GHG attributable to our electricity or fossil fuel consumption. These cost increases could materially increase our costs of operation or limit the availability of electricity or emergency generator fuels. The physical impacts of climate change, including extreme weather conditions such as heat waves, could materially increase our costs of operation due to, for example, an increase in our energy use in order to maintain the temperature and internal environment of our data centers necessary for our operations. To the extent any environmental laws enacted or regulations impose new or unexpected costs, our business, results of operations or financial condition may be adversely affected.

**If we are unable to recruit or retain qualified personnel, our business could be harmed.**

We must continue to identify, hire, train and retain IT professionals, technical engineers, operations employees, and sales, marketing, finance and senior management personnel who maintain relationships with our customers and who can provide the technical, strategic and marketing skills required for our company to grow. There is a shortage of qualified personnel in these fields, and we compete with other companies for the limited pool of talent. The failure to recruit and retain necessary personnel, including but not limited to members of our executive team, could harm our business and our ability to grow our company.

**We may not be able to compete successfully against current and future competitors.**

We must be able to differentiate our IBX data centers and product offerings from those of our competitors. In addition to competing with other neutral colocation providers, we compete with traditional colocation providers, including telecommunications companies, carriers, internet service providers, managed services providers and large REITs who also operate in our market and may enjoy a cost advantage in providing offerings similar to those provided by our IBX data centers. We may experience competition from our landlords which could also reduce the amount of space available to us for expansion in the future. Rather than leasing available space in our buildings to large single tenants, they may decide to convert the space instead to smaller square foot units designed for multi-tenant colocation use, blurring the line between retail and wholesale space. We may also face competition from existing competitors or new entrants to the market seeking to replicate our global IBX data center concept by building or acquiring data centers, offering colocation on neutral terms or by replicating our

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strategy and messaging. Finally, customers may also decide it is cost-effective for them to build out their own data centers. Once customers have an established data center footprint, either through a relationship with one of our competitors or through in-sourcing, it may be extremely difficult to convince them to relocate to our IBX data centers.

Some of our competitors may adopt aggressive pricing policies, especially if they are not highly leveraged or have lower return thresholds than we do. As a result, we may suffer from pricing pressure that would adversely affect our ability to generate revenues. Some of these competitors may also provide our target customers with additional benefits, including bundled communication services or cloud services, and may do so in a manner that is more attractive to our potential customers than obtaining space in our IBX data centers. Competitors could also operate more successfully or form alliances to acquire significant market share.

Failure to compete successfully may materially adversely affect our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations.

### **Our business could be harmed by prolonged power outages or shortages, increased costs of energy or general lack of availability of electrical resources.**

Our IBX data centers are susceptible to regional costs of power, power shortages, planned or unplanned power outages and limitations, especially internationally, on the availability of adequate power resources.

Power outages, such as those relating to the earthquake and tsunami in Japan in 2011 or Superstorm Sandy, which hit the U.S. east coast in 2012, could harm our customers and our business. We attempt to limit our exposure to system downtime by using backup generators and power supplies; however, we may not be able to limit our exposure entirely even with these protections in place. Some of our IBXs are located in leased buildings where, depending upon the lease requirements and number of tenants involved, we may or may not control some or all of the infrastructure including generators and fuel tanks. As a result, in the event of a power outage, we may be dependent upon the landlord, as well as the utility company, to restore the power.

In addition, global fluctuations in the price of power can increase the cost of energy, and although contractual price increase clauses exist in the majority of our customer agreements, we may not always choose to pass these increased costs on to our customers.

In each of our markets, we rely on third parties to provide a sufficient amount of power for current and future customers. At the same time, power and cooling requirements are growing on a per unit basis. As a result, some customers are consuming an increasing amount of power per cabinet. We generally do not control the amount of power our customers draw from their installed circuits. This means that we could face power limitations in our centers. This could have a negative impact on the effective available capacity of a given center and limit our ability to grow our business, which could have a negative impact on our financial performance, operating results and cash flows.

We may also have difficulty obtaining sufficient power capacity for potential expansion sites in new or existing markets. We may experience significant delays and substantial increased costs demanded by the utilities to provide the level of electrical service required by our current IBX data center designs.

### **If our internal controls are found to be ineffective, our financial results or our stock price may be adversely affected.**

Our most recent evaluation of our controls resulted in our conclusion that, as of December 31, 2012, in compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, our internal controls over financial reporting were effective. Our ability to manage our operations and growth, and to successfully implement our proposed REIT conversion and other systems upgrades designed to support our growth, will require us to develop our

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controls and reporting systems and implement or adopt new controls and reporting systems. If in the future our internal control over financial reporting is found to be ineffective, or if a material weakness is identified in our controls over financial reporting, our financial results may be adversely affected. Investors may also lose confidence in the reliability of our financial statements which could adversely affect our stock price.

**If we cannot effectively manage our international operations, and successfully implement our international expansion plans, our revenues may not increase and our business and results of operations would be harmed.**

For the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, we recognized approximately 44%, 41% and 38%, respectively, of our revenues outside the U.S. We currently operate outside of the U.S. in Canada, Brazil, EMEA and Asia-Pacific.

To date, the network neutrality of our IBX data centers and the variety of networks available to our customers has often been a competitive advantage for us. In certain of our acquired IBX data centers in the Asia-Pacific region the limited number of carriers available reduces that advantage. As a result, we may need to adapt our key revenue-generating offerings and pricing to be competitive in those markets. In addition, we are currently undergoing expansions or evaluating expansion opportunities outside of the U.S. Undertaking and managing expansions in foreign jurisdictions may present unanticipated challenges to us.

Our international operations are generally subject to a number of additional risks, including:

the costs of customizing IBX data centers for foreign countries;

protectionist laws and business practices favoring local competition;

greater difficulty or delay in accounts receivable collection;

difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations, including negotiating with foreign labor unions or workers' councils;

difficulties in managing across cultures and in foreign languages;

political and economic instability;

fluctuations in currency exchange rates;

difficulties in repatriating funds from certain countries;

our ability to obtain, transfer, or maintain licenses required by governmental entities with respect to our business;

unexpected changes in regulatory, tax and political environments;

our ability to secure and maintain the necessary physical and telecommunications infrastructure;

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compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act; and

compliance with evolving governmental regulation with which we have little experience.

In addition, compliance with international and U.S. laws and regulations that apply to our international operations increases our cost of doing business in foreign jurisdictions. These laws and regulations include data privacy requirements, labor relations laws, tax laws, anti-competition regulations, import and trade restrictions, export requirements, U.S. laws such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and local laws which also prohibit corrupt payments to governmental officials. Violations of these laws and regulations could result in fines, criminal sanctions against us, our officers or our employees, and prohibitions on the conduct of our business. Any such violations could include prohibitions on our ability to offer our offerings in one or more countries, could delay or prevent potential acquisitions, and could also materially damage our reputation, our brand, our international expansion efforts, our ability to attract and retain employees, our business and our operating results. Our success depends, in part, on our ability to anticipate and address these risks and manage these difficulties.

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### **Economic uncertainty in developing markets could adversely affect our revenue and earnings.**

We conduct business, or are contemplating expansion, in developing markets with economies that tend to be more volatile than those in the U.S. and Western Europe. The risk of doing business in developing markets such as Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia, the United Arab Emirates and other economically volatile areas could adversely affect our operations and earnings. Such risks include the financial instability among customers in these regions, political instability, fraud or corruption and other non-economic factors such as irregular trade flows that need to be managed successfully with the help of the local governments. In addition, commercial laws in some developing countries can be vague, inconsistently administered and retroactively applied. If we are deemed not to be in compliance with applicable laws in developing countries where we conduct business, our prospects and business in those countries could be harmed, which could then have a material adverse impact on our results of operations and financial position. Our failure to successfully manage economic, political and other risks relating to doing business in developing countries and economically and politically volatile areas could adversely affect our business.

### **The use of high power density equipment may limit our ability to fully utilize our older IBX data centers.**

Some customers have increased their use of high-density-power equipment, such as blade servers, in our IBX data centers which has increased the demand for power on a per cabinet basis. Because many of our IBX data centers were built a number of years ago, the current demand for power may exceed the designed electrical capacity in these centers. As power, not space, is a limiting factor in many of our IBX data centers, our ability to fully utilize those IBX data centers may be limited. The ability to increase the power capacity of an IBX data center, should we decide to, is dependent on several factors including, but not limited to, the local utility's ability to provide additional power; the length of time required to provide such power; and/or whether it is feasible to upgrade the electrical infrastructure of an IBX data center to deliver additional power to customers. Although we are currently designing and building to a higher power specification than that of many of our older IBX data centers, there is a risk that demand will continue to increase and our IBX data centers could become underutilized sooner than expected.

### **We expect our operating results to fluctuate.**

We have experienced fluctuations in our results of operations on a quarterly and annual basis. The fluctuations in our operating results may cause the market price of our common stock to be volatile. We may experience significant fluctuations in our operating results in the foreseeable future due to a variety of factors, including, but not limited to:

fluctuations of foreign currencies in the markets in which we operate;

the timing and magnitude of depreciation and interest expense or other expenses related to the acquisition, purchase or construction of additional IBX data centers or the upgrade of existing IBX data centers;

demand for space, power and services at our IBX data centers;

changes in general economic conditions, such as an economic downturn, or specific market conditions in the telecommunications and Internet industries, both of which may have an impact on our customer base;

charges to earnings resulting from past acquisitions due to, among other things, impairment of goodwill or intangible assets, reduction in the useful lives of intangible assets acquired, identification of additional assumed contingent liabilities or revised estimates to restructure an acquired company's operations;

the duration of the sales cycle for our offerings and our ability to ramp our newly-hired sales persons to full productivity within the time period we have forecasted;





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restructuring charges or reversals of existing restructuring charges, which may be necessary due to revised sublease assumptions, changes in strategy or otherwise;

acquisitions or dispositions we may make;

the financial condition and credit risk of our customers;

the provision of customer discounts and credits;

the mix of current and proposed products and offerings and the gross margins associated with our products and offerings;

the timing required for new and future centers to open or become fully utilized;

competition in the markets in which we operate;

conditions related to international operations;

increasing repair and maintenance expenses in connection with aging IBX data centers;

lack of available capacity in our existing IBX data centers to generate new revenue or delays in opening up new or acquired IBX data centers that delay our ability to generate new revenue in markets which have otherwise reached capacity;

changes in rent expense as we amend our IBX data center leases in connection with extending their lease terms when their initial lease term expiration dates approach or changes in shared operating costs in connection with our leases, which are commonly referred to as common area maintenance expenses;

the timing and magnitude of other operating expenses, including taxes, expenses related to the expansion of sales, marketing, operations and acquisitions, if any, of complementary businesses and assets;

the cost and availability of adequate public utilities, including power;

changes in employee stock-based compensation;

overall inflation;

increasing interest expense due to any increases in interest rates and/or potential additional debt financings;

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a stock repurchase program;

our proposed REIT conversion, including the timing of expenditures associated with the REIT conversion;

changes in our tax planning strategies or failure to realize anticipated benefits from such strategies;

changes in income tax benefit or expense; and

changes in or new generally accepted accounting principles ( GAAP ) in the U.S. as periodically released by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ).

Any of the foregoing factors, or other factors discussed elsewhere in this report, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. Although we have experienced growth in revenues in recent quarters, this growth rate is not necessarily indicative of future operating results. Prior to 2008, we had generated net losses every fiscal year since inception. It is possible that we may not be able to generate net income on a quarterly or annual basis in the future. In addition, a relatively large portion of our expenses are fixed in the short-term, particularly with respect to lease and personnel expenses, depreciation and amortization and interest expenses. Therefore, our results of operations are particularly sensitive to fluctuations in revenues. As such, comparisons to prior reporting periods should not be relied upon as indications of our future performance. In addition, our operating results in one or more future quarters may fail to meet the expectations of securities analysts or investors.

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**We have incurred substantial losses in the past and may incur additional losses in the future.**

As of December 31, 2012, our accumulated deficit was \$110.4 million. Although we have generated net income for each fiscal year since 2008, which was our first full year of net income since our inception, we are also currently investing heavily in our future growth through the build out of multiple additional IBX data centers and IBX data center expansions as well as acquisitions of complementary businesses. As a result, we will incur higher depreciation and other operating expenses, as well as acquisition costs and interest expense, that may negatively impact our ability to sustain profitability in future periods unless and until these new IBX data centers generate enough revenue to exceed their operating costs and cover our additional overhead needed to scale our business for this anticipated growth. The current global financial crisis may also impact our ability to sustain profitability if we cannot generate sufficient revenue to offset the increased costs of our recently-opened IBX data centers or IBX data centers currently under construction. In addition, costs associated with the acquisition and integration of any acquired companies, as well as the additional interest expense associated with debt financing we have undertaken to fund our growth initiatives, may also negatively impact our ability to sustain profitability. Finally, given the competitive and evolving nature of the industry in which we operate, we may not be able to sustain or increase profitability on a quarterly or annual basis.

**The failure to obtain favorable terms when we renew our IBX data center leases could harm our business and results of operations.**

While we own certain of our IBX data centers, others are leased under long-term arrangements with lease terms expiring at various dates through 2035. These leased centers have all been subject to significant development by us in order to convert them from, in most cases, vacant buildings or warehouses into IBX data centers. Most of our IBX data center leases have renewal options available to us. However, many of these renewal options provide for the rent to be set at then-prevailing market rates. To the extent that then-prevailing market rates are higher than present rates, these higher costs may adversely impact our business and results of operations.

**We depend on a number of third parties to provide Internet connectivity to our IBX data centers; if connectivity is interrupted or terminated, our operating results and cash flow could be materially and adversely affected.**

The presence of diverse telecommunications carriers' fiber networks in our IBX data centers is critical to our ability to retain and attract new customers. We are not a telecommunications carrier, and as such we rely on third parties to provide our customers with carrier services. We believe that the availability of carrier capacity will directly affect our ability to achieve our projected results. We rely primarily on revenue opportunities from the telecommunications carriers' customers to encourage them to invest the capital and operating resources required to connect from their centers to our IBX data centers. Carriers will likely evaluate the revenue opportunity of an IBX data center based on the assumption that the environment will be highly competitive. We cannot provide assurance that each and every carrier will elect to offer its services within our IBX data centers or that once a carrier has decided to provide Internet connectivity to our IBX data centers that it will continue to do so for any period of time.

Our new IBX data centers require construction and operation of a sophisticated redundant fiber network. The construction required to connect multiple carrier facilities to our IBX data centers is complex and involves factors outside of our control, including regulatory processes and the availability of construction resources. Any hardware or fiber failures on this network may result in significant loss of connectivity to our new IBX data center expansions. This could affect our ability to attract new customers to these IBX data centers or retain existing customers.

If the establishment of highly diverse Internet connectivity to our IBX data centers does not occur, is materially delayed or is discontinued, or is subject to failure, our operating results and cash flow will be adversely affected.

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**We may be vulnerable to security breaches which could disrupt our operations and have a material adverse effect on our financial performance and operating results.**

A party who is able to compromise the security measures on our networks or the security of our infrastructure could misappropriate either our proprietary information or the personal information of our customers, or cause interruptions or malfunctions in our operations or our customers operations. As we provide assurances to our customers that we provide the highest level of security, such a compromise could be particularly harmful to our brand and reputation. We may be required to expend significant capital and resources to protect against such threats or to alleviate problems caused by breaches in security. As techniques used to breach security change frequently, and are generally not recognized until launched against a target, we may not be able to implement security measures in a timely manner or, if and when implemented, we may not be able to determine the extent to which these measures could be circumvented. Any breaches that may occur could expose us to increased risk of lawsuits, regulatory penalties, loss of existing or potential customers, harm to our reputation and increases in our security costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial performance and operating results.

**We have government customers, which subjects us to risks including early termination, audits, investigations, sanctions and penalties.**

We derive some revenues from contracts with the U.S. government, state and local governments and foreign governments. Some of these customers may terminate all or part of their contracts at any time, without cause.

There is increased pressure for governments and their agencies, both domestically and internationally, to reduce spending. Some of our federal government contracts are subject to the approval of appropriations being made by the U.S. Congress to fund the expenditures under these contracts. Similarly, some of our contracts at the state and local levels are subject to government funding authorizations.

Additionally, government contracts are generally subject to audits and investigations which could result in various civil and criminal penalties and administrative sanctions, including termination of contracts, refund of a portion of fees received, forfeiture of profits, suspension of payments, fines and suspensions or debarment from future government business.

**Because we depend on the development and growth of a balanced customer base, including key magnet customers, failure to attract, grow and retain this base of customers could harm our business and operating results.**

Our ability to maximize revenues depends on our ability to develop and grow a balanced customer base, consisting of a variety of companies, including enterprises, cloud, digital content and financial companies, and network service providers. We consider certain of these customers to be key magnets in that they draw in other customers. The more balanced the customer base within each IBX data center, the better we will be able to generate significant interconnection revenues, which in turn increases our overall revenues. Our ability to attract customers to our IBX data centers will depend on a variety of factors, including the presence of multiple carriers, the mix of our offerings, the overall mix of customers, the presence of key customers attracting business through vertical market ecosystems, the IBX data center's operating reliability and security and our ability to effectively market our offerings. However, some of our customers may face competitive pressures and may ultimately not be successful or may be consolidated through merger or acquisition. If these customers do not continue to use our IBX data centers it may be disruptive to our business. Finally, the uncertain economic climate may harm our ability to attract and retain customers if customers slow spending, or delay decision-making, on our offerings, or if customers begin to have difficulty paying us and we experience increased churn in our customer base. Any of these factors may hinder the development, growth and retention of a balanced customer base and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

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### **We are subject to securities class action and other litigation, which may harm our business and results of operations.**

We are subject to various legal proceedings as described in Note 14 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition, we may, in the future, be subject to other litigation. For example, securities class action litigation has often been brought against a company following periods of volatility in the market price of its securities. Litigation can be lengthy, expensive, and divert management's attention and resources. Results cannot be predicted with certainty and an adverse outcome in litigation could result in monetary damages or injunctive relief that could seriously harm our business, results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

### **We may not be able to protect our intellectual property rights.**

We cannot make assurances that the steps taken by us to protect our intellectual property rights will be adequate to deter misappropriation of proprietary information or that we will be able to detect unauthorized use and take appropriate steps to enforce our intellectual property rights. We also are subject to the risk of litigation alleging infringement of third-party intellectual property rights. Any such claims could require us to spend significant sums in litigation, pay damages, develop non-infringing intellectual property, or acquire licenses to the intellectual property that is the subject of the alleged infringement.

### **Government regulation may adversely affect our business.**

Various laws and governmental regulations, both in the U.S. and abroad, governing Internet related services, related communications services and information technologies remain largely unsettled, even in areas where there has been some legislative action. For example, the Federal Communications Commission is considering proposed Internet rules and regulation of broadband that may result in material changes in the regulations and contribution regime affecting us and our customers. Likewise, as part of a review of the current equity market structure, the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission have both sought comments regarding the regulation of independent data centers, such as Equinix, which provide colocation for financial markets and exchanges. The CFTC is also considering regulation of companies that use automated and high-frequency trading systems. Any such regulation may ultimately affect our provision of offerings.

It also may take years to determine whether and how existing laws, such as those governing intellectual property, privacy, libel, telecommunications services and taxation, apply to the Internet and to related offerings such as ours, and substantial resources may be required to comply with regulations or bring any non-compliant business practices into compliance with such regulations. In addition, the development of the market for online commerce and the displacement of traditional telephony service by the Internet and related communications services may prompt an increased call for more stringent consumer protection laws or other regulation both in the U.S. and abroad that may impose additional burdens on companies conducting business online and their service providers.

The adoption, or modification of laws or regulations relating to the Internet and our business, or interpretations of existing laws, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

### **Industry consolidation may have a negative impact on our business model.**

If customers combine businesses, they may require less colocation space, which could lead to churn in our customer base. Regional competitors may also consolidate to become a global competitor. Consolidation of our customers and/or our competitors may present a risk to our business model and have a negative impact on our revenues.

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### **Terrorist activity throughout the world and military action to counter terrorism could adversely impact our business.**

The continued threat of terrorist activity and other acts of war or hostility contribute to a climate of political and economic uncertainty. Due to existing or developing circumstances, we may need to incur additional costs in the future to provide enhanced security, including cybersecurity, which would have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations. These circumstances may also adversely affect our ability to attract and retain customers, our ability to raise capital and the operation and maintenance of our IBX data centers.

### **We have various mechanisms in place that may discourage takeover attempts.**

Certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws may discourage, delay or prevent a third party from acquiring control of us in a merger, acquisition or similar transaction that a stockholder may consider favorable. Such provisions include:

authorization for the issuance of blank check preferred stock;

the prohibition of cumulative voting in the election of directors;

limits on the persons who may call special meetings of stockholders;

the prohibition of stockholder action by written consent; and

advance notice requirements for nominations to the Board or for proposing matters that can be acted on by stockholders at stockholder meetings.

In addition, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which restricts certain business combinations with interested stockholders in certain situations, may also discourage, delay or prevent someone from acquiring or merging with us.

### **ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

There is no disclosure to report pursuant to Item 1B.

### **ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Our executive offices are located in Redwood City, California, and we also have sales offices in several cities throughout the U.S. Our Asia-Pacific headquarters office is located in Hong Kong and we also have office space in Shanghai, China; Singapore; Tokyo, Japan; and Sydney, Australia, which is contained in one of our IBX data centers there. Our EMEA headquarters office is located in London, United Kingdom and our regional sales offices in EMEA are based in our IBX data centers in EMEA. We have entered into leases for certain of our IBX data centers in Atlanta, Georgia; New York, New York; Dallas, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; Englewood, Colorado; Los Angeles, Palo Alto, San Jose, Santa Clara and Sunnyvale, California; Miami, Florida; Newark, North Bergen and Secaucus, New Jersey; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Reston and Vienna, Virginia; Seattle, Washington; Toronto, Canada; Waltham, Massachusetts and Rio De Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil in the Americas region; Shanghai, China; Hong Kong; Singapore; Sydney, Australia and Tokyo, Japan in the Asia-Pacific region; Dubai, U.A.E.; London, United Kingdom; Paris, France; Frankfurt, Munich and Dusseldorf, Germany; Zurich and Geneva, Switzerland and Enschede and Zwolle, the Netherlands in the EMEA region. We own certain of our IBX data centers in Ashburn, Virginia; Chicago, Illinois; Los Angeles and San Jose, California; Paris, France; Frankfurt, Germany and Amsterdam, the Netherlands. We own campuses in Ashburn, Virginia, Silicon Valley and Frankfurt, Germany that house some of our IBX data centers mentioned in the preceding sentence.

**ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

*Alleged Class Action and Shareholder Derivative Actions*

On March 4, 2011, an alleged class action entitled Cement Masons & Plasterers Joint Pension Trust v. Equinix, Inc., et al., No. CV-11-1016-SC, was filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District

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of California, against Equinix and two of our officers. The suit asserts purported claims under Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for allegedly misleading statements regarding our business and financial results. The suit is purportedly brought on behalf of purchasers of our common stock between July 29, 2010 and October 5, 2010, and seeks compensatory damages, fees and costs. Defendants filed a motion to dismiss on November 7, 2011. On March 2, 2012, the Court granted defendants' motion to dismiss without prejudice and gave plaintiffs thirty days in which to amend their complaint. Pursuant to stipulation and order of the court entered on March 16, 2012, the parties agreed that plaintiffs would have up to and through May 2, 2012 to file a Second Amended Complaint. On May 2, 2012 plaintiffs filed a Second Amended Complaint asserting the same basic allegations as in the prior complaint. On June 15, 2012, defendants moved to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint. On September 19, 2012, the Court took the hearing on defendants' motion to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint off calendar and notified the parties that it would make its decision on the pleadings. Subsequently, on September 24, 2012 the Court requested the parties submit supplemental briefing on or before October 9, 2012. The supplemental briefing was submitted on October 9, 2012. On December 5, 2012, the Court granted defendants' motion to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint without prejudice and on January 15, 2013, Plaintiffs filed their Third Amended Complaint. Defendants' response is due by February 26, 2013.

On March 8, 2011, an alleged shareholder derivative action entitled *Rikos v. Equinix, Inc., et al.*, No. CGC-11-508940, was filed in California Superior Court, County of San Francisco, purportedly on behalf of Equinix, and naming Equinix (as a nominal defendant), the members of our board of directors, and two of our officers as defendants. The suit is based on allegations similar to those in the federal securities class action and asserts causes of action against the individual defendants for breach of fiduciary duty, abuse of control, gross mismanagement, waste of corporate assets and unjust enrichment. By agreement and order of the court, this case has been temporarily stayed pending proceedings in the class action, and, pursuant to that agreement, defendants need not respond to the complaint at this time.

On May 20, 2011, an alleged shareholder derivative action entitled *Stopa v. Clontz, et al.*, No. CV-11-2467-SC, was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, purportedly on behalf of Equinix, naming Equinix (as a nominal defendant) and the members of our board of directors as defendants. The suit is based on allegations similar to those in the federal securities class action and the state court derivative action and asserts causes of action against the individual defendants for breach of fiduciary duty, unjust enrichment, abuse of control, gross mismanagement and waste of corporate assets. On June 10, 2011, the Court signed an order relating this case to the federal securities class action. Plaintiffs filed an amended complaint on December 14, 2011. By agreement and order of the court, this case has been temporarily stayed pending proceedings in the class action, and, pursuant to that agreement, defendants need not respond to the complaint at this time.

We make a provision for a liability when it is both probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. These provisions are reviewed at least quarterly and adjusted to reflect the impacts of negotiations, settlements, rulings, advice of legal counsel and other information and events pertaining to a particular case. Unless otherwise specifically disclosed here or in Note 14 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we have determined that no provision for liability nor disclosure is required related to any claim against us because: (a) there is not a reasonable possibility that a loss exceeding amounts already recognized, if any, may be incurred with respect to such claim; (b) a reasonably possible loss or range of loss cannot be estimated; or (c) such estimate is immaterial.

Due to the inherent uncertainties of litigation, we cannot accurately predict the ultimate outcome of these matters, and are unable at this time to determine whether the outcome of the litigation would have a material impact on our results of operations, financial condition or cash flows.

**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURE**

Not applicable.



**Table of Contents****PART II****ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES**

Our common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol of EQIX. Our common stock began trading in August 2000. The following table sets forth on a per share basis the low and high closing prices of our common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Global Select Market during the last two years.

	<b>Low</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Fiscal 2012:</b>		
Fourth Fiscal Quarter	\$ 172.90	\$ 206.20
Third Fiscal Quarter	161.37	206.05
Second Fiscal Quarter	147.70	175.65
First Fiscal Quarter	100.90	157.45
<b>Fiscal 2011:</b>		
Fourth Fiscal Quarter	\$ 84.27	\$ 104.21
Third Fiscal Quarter	82.03	105.87
Second Fiscal Quarter	91.42	101.40
First Fiscal Quarter	82.00	92.43

As of January 31, 2013, we had 48,803,656 shares of our common stock outstanding held by approximately 208 registered holders.

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock. However, if we are successful in pursuing our planned REIT conversion, we expect to become a dividend-paying company in the future. Until such time that we complete all significant actions necessary to qualify as a REIT, we intend to retain our earnings, if any, for future growth.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, we did not issue or sell any securities on an unregistered basis.

**Purchases of Equity Securities by Issuer**

In November 2011, our board of directors approved a share repurchase program to repurchase up to \$250.0 million in value of our common stock in the open market or private transactions through December 31, 2012. There were no share repurchases during the three months ended December 31, 2012. The share repurchase program expired on December 31, 2012, and the unused balance under the share repurchase program was \$150.0 million. For additional information, see Share Repurchase Program in Note 11 of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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**Stock Performance Graph**

The graph set forth below compares the cumulative total stockholder return on Equinix's common stock between December 31, 2007 and December 31, 2012 with the cumulative total return of (i) The NASDAQ Composite Index and (ii) The NASDAQ Telecommunications Index. This graph assumes the investment of \$100.00 on December 31, 2007 in Equinix's common stock, in The NASDAQ Composite Index, and in The NASDAQ Telecommunications Index, and assumes the reinvestment of dividends, if any.

Equinix cautions that the stock price performance shown in the graph below is not indicative of, nor intended to forecast, the potential future performance of Equinix's common stock.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in any of Equinix's previous or future filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that might incorporate this Annual Report on Form 10-K or future filings made by Equinix under those statutes, the stock performance graph shall not be deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any of those prior filings or into any future filings made by Equinix under those statutes.

**Table of Contents****ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following consolidated statement of operations data for the five years ended December 31, 2012 and the consolidated balance sheet data as of December 31, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 and 2008 have been derived from our audited consolidated financial statements and the related notes. Our historical results are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for future periods. The following selected consolidated financial data for the three years ended December 31, 2012 and as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, should be read in conjunction with our audited consolidated financial statements and the related notes in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. In addition, we completed an acquisition of a Dubai IBX data center in November 2012 and acquisitions of Asia Tone Limited and ancotel GmbH in July 2012, an acquisition of an indirect controlling interest in ALOG Data Centers do Brasil S.A. in April 2011 and an acquisition of Switch and Data Facilities Company, Inc. in April 2010. We sold 16 of our IBX data centers located throughout the U.S. in November 2012. For further information on these acquisitions and our discontinued operations, refer to Notes 2 and 4, respectively, of our Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	2012	Years ended December 31,			2008
		2011	2010	2009	
		(dollars in thousands, except per share data)			
<b>Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Revenues	\$ 1,895,744	\$ 1,569,784	\$ 1,196,214	\$ 882,509	\$ 704,680
Costs and operating expenses:					
Cost of revenues	943,995	833,851	652,156	483,420	414,799
Sales and marketing	202,914	158,347	110,765	63,584	66,913
General and administrative	329,399	265,554	220,618	155,324	146,564
Restructuring charges		3,481	6,734	(6,053)	3,142
Impairment charges	9,861				
Acquisition costs	8,822	3,297	12,337	5,155	
Total costs and operating expenses	1,494,991	1,264,530	1,002,610	701,430	631,418
Income from continuing operations	400,753	305,254	193,604	181,079	73,262
Interest income	3,466	2,280	1,515	2,384	8,940
Interest expense	(200,328)	(181,303)	(140,475)	(74,232)	(61,677)
Other-than-temporary impairment (loss) recovery on investments			3,626	(2,590)	(1,527)
Other income (loss)	(2,208)	2,821	692	2,387	1,307
Loss on debt extinguishment and interest rate swaps, net	(5,204)		(10,187)		
Income from continuing operations before income taxes	196,479	129,052	48,775	109,028	20,305
Income tax benefit (expense)	(61,783)	(37,451)	(12,562)	(39,597)	87,619
Net income from continuing operations	134,696	91,601	36,213	69,431	107,924
Net income from discontinued operations, net of tax	13,086	1,009	668		
Net income	147,782	92,610	36,881	69,431	107,924
Net (income) loss attributable to redeemable non-controlling interests	(3,116)	1,394			
Net income attributable to Equinix	\$ 144,666	\$ 94,004	\$ 36,881	\$ 69,431	\$ 107,924

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	Years ended December 31,				
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)					
<b>Earnings per share ( EPS ) attributable to Equinix:</b>					
Basic EPS from continuing operations	\$ 2.74	\$ 1.74	\$ 0.83	\$ 1.80	\$ 2.91
Basic EPS from discontinued operations	0.27	0.02	0.01		
Basic EPS	\$ 3.01	\$ 1.76	\$ 0.84	\$ 1.80	\$ 2.91
Weighted average shares basic	48,004	46,956	43,742	38,488	37,120
Diluted EPS from continuing operations	\$ 2.67	\$ 1.70	\$ 0.81	\$ 1.75	\$ 2.79
Diluted EPS from discontinued operations	0.25	0.02	0.01		
Diluted EPS	\$ 2.92	\$ 1.72	\$ 0.82	\$ 1.75	\$ 2.79
Weighted average shares diluted	51,816	47,898	44,810	39,676	41,582

	Years ended December 31,				
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
(dollars in thousands)					
<b>Other Financial Data (1):</b>					
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 632,026	\$ 587,609	\$ 392,872	\$ 355,492	\$ 267,558
Net cash used in investing activities	(442,873)	(1,499,444)	(600,969)	(558,178)	(478,040)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(222,721)	748,728	309,686	323,598	145,106

- (1) For a discussion of our primary non-GAAP financial metric, adjusted EBITDA, see our non-GAAP financial measures discussion in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in Item 7 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	As of December 31,				
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
(dollars in thousands)					
<b>Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:</b>					
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term and long-term investments	\$ 546,524	\$ 1,076,345	\$ 592,839	\$ 604,367	\$ 307,945
Accounts receivable, net	163,840	139,057	116,358	64,767	66,029
Property, plant and equipment, net	3,918,999	3,225,912	2,650,953	1,808,115	1,492,830
Total assets	6,132,964	5,785,324	4,448,009	3,038,150	2,434,736
Capital lease and other financing obligations, excluding current portion	545,853	390,269	253,945	154,577	133,031
Mortgage and loans payable, excluding current portion	188,802	168,795	100,337	371,322	386,446
Senior notes	1,500,000	1,500,000	750,000		
Convertible debt, excluding current portion	708,726	694,769	916,337	893,706	608,510
Redeemable non-controlling interests	84,178	67,601			
Total stockholders' equity	2,335,273	1,952,212	1,880,515	1,182,483	916,661

**Table of Contents****ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*The following commentary should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and related notes contained elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The information in this discussion contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such statements are based upon current expectations that involve risks and uncertainties. Any statements contained herein that are not statements of historical fact may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. For example, the words believes, anticipates, plans, expects, intends and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Our actual results and the timing of certain events may differ significantly from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such a discrepancy include, but are not limited to, those discussed in Liquidity and Capital Resources and Risk Factors elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. All forward-looking statements in this document are based on information available to us as of the date hereof and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements.*

Our management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is intended to assist readers in understanding our financial information from our management's perspective and is presented as follows:

Overview

Results of Operations

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Contractual Obligations and Off-Balance-Sheet Arrangements

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In November 2012, as more fully described in Note 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we entered into an alliance agreement with Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company PJSC, commercially branded and referred to as du, to deliver colocation and interconnection offerings to customers in the Middle East. We entered into an asset sale and purchase agreement with E-Hosting DataFort FZ, LLC, referred to as EHDF, for a substantially completed data center located in Dubai for cash consideration of approximately \$22.9 million. We also entered a lease agreement with Tecom Investment FZ, LLC, referred to as Tecom, for the underlying building space where the data center assets that were acquired by the Company from EHDF are located. Our IBX data center in Dubai opened for business in early 2013. We refer to this series of transactions collectively as the Dubai IBX data center acquisition.

In November 2012, as more fully described in Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we sold 16 of our IBX data centers located throughout the U.S. for net proceeds of approximately \$76.5 million, which resulted in an after-tax gain on disposal of discontinued operations of approximately \$11.9 million. We refer to this transaction as the divestiture.

In September 2012, we announced that our board of directors approved a plan to pursue conversion to a real estate investment trust, which is referred to as a REIT. We refer to this conversion plan as the REIT conversion. If we are ultimately successful in converting to a REIT, we expect to elect REIT status for our taxable year beginning January 1, 2015. Please see Potential REIT Conversion in the below Overview.

In July 2012, as more fully described in Note 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we acquired certain assets and operations of Asia Tone Limited, referred to as



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Asia Tone, a privately-owned company headquartered in Hong Kong, for gross cash consideration of approximately \$230.5 million. We refer to this transaction as the Asia Tone acquisition. We agreed to pay net cash consideration of \$202.4 million as a result of adjustments to the purchase price included in the purchase and sale agreement. Asia Tone operates six data centers and one disaster recovery center across locations in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Singapore. The Asia Tone acquisition included one data center under construction in Shanghai. The combined company operates under the Equinix name.

In July 2012, as more fully described in Note 2 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we acquired 100% of the issued and outstanding share capital of ancotel GmbH, referred to as ancotel, a privately-owned company headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany for cash consideration of approximately \$85.7 million. We refer to this transaction as the ancotel acquisition. ancotel operates one data center in Frankfurt and edge nodes in Hong Kong and London. The combined company operates under the Equinix name.

In June 2012, as more fully described in Note 9 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we entered into a credit agreement with a group of lenders for a \$750.0 million credit facility, comprised of a \$200.0 million term loan facility, referred to as the U.S. term loan, and a \$550.0 million multicurrency revolving credit facility, referred to as the U.S. revolving credit line. We refer to this transaction as the U.S. financing. In July 2012, we fully utilized the U.S. term loan and used the funds to prepay and terminate the Asia-Pacific financing.

## **Overview**

Equinix provides global data center services that protect and connect the world's most valued information assets. Global enterprises, financial services companies, and content and network service providers rely upon Equinix's leading insight and data centers in 31 markets around the world for the safehousing of their critical IT equipment and the ability to directly connect to the networks that enable today's information-driven economy. Equinix offers the following solutions: (i) premium data center colocation, (ii) interconnection and (iii) exchange and outsourced IT infrastructure services. As of December 31, 2012, we operated or had partner IBX data centers in the Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Rio De Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Seattle, Silicon Valley, Toronto and Washington, D.C. metro areas in the Americas region; France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom in the EMEA region; and Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, China and Singapore in the Asia-Pacific region.

We leverage our global data centers in 31 markets around the world as a global platform which houses more than 90% of the world's Internet routes and allows our customers to increase information and application delivery performance while significantly reducing costs. Based on our global platform and the quality of our IBX data centers, we believe we have established a critical mass of customers. As more customers locate in our IBX data centers, it benefits their suppliers and business partners to colocate as well in order to gain the full economic and performance benefits of our offerings. These partners, in turn, pull in their business partners, creating a marketplace for their services. Our global platform enables scalable, reliable and cost-effective colocation, interconnection and traffic exchange thus lowering overall cost and increasing flexibility. Our focused business model is based on our critical mass of customers and the resulting marketplace effect. This global platform, combined with our strong financial position, continues to drive new customer growth and bookings as we drive scale into our global business.

Historically, our market has been served by large telecommunications carriers who have bundled their telecommunications products and services with their colocation offerings. The data center market landscape has evolved to include cloud computing/utility providers, application hosting providers and systems integrators, managed infrastructure hosting providers and colocation providers with over 350 companies providing data center solutions in the U.S. alone. Each of these data center solutions providers can bundle various colocation, interconnection and network offerings, and outsourced IT infrastructure services. We are able to offer our

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customers a global platform that supports global reach to 15 countries, proven operational reliability, improved application performance and network choice, and a highly scalable set of offerings.

Excluding Asia Tone and ancotel, our customer count increased to approximately 6,093 as of December 31, 2012 versus approximately 5,538 as of December 31, 2011, an increase of 9%. This increase was due to organic growth in our business. Our utilization rate represents the percentage of our cabinet space billing versus net sellable cabinet space available, taking into account power limitations. Excluding Asia Tone and ancotel, our utilization rate decreased to approximately 76% as of December 31, 2012 versus approximately 80% as of December 31, 2011; however, excluding the impact of our IBX data center expansion projects that have opened during the last 12 months, our utilization rate would have increased to approximately 84% as of December 31, 2012. Our utilization rate varies from market to market among our IBX data centers across the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific regions. We continue to monitor the available capacity in each of our selected markets. To the extent we have limited capacity available in a given market it may limit our ability for growth in that market. We perform demand studies on an ongoing basis to determine if future expansion is warranted in a market. In addition, power and cooling requirements for most customers are growing on a per unit basis. As a result, customers are consuming an increasing amount of power per cabinet. Although we generally do not control the amount of power our customers draw from installed circuits, we have negotiated power consumption limitations with certain of our high power demand customers. This increased power consumption has driven the requirement to build out our new IBX data centers to support power and cooling needs twice that of previous IBX data centers. We could face power limitations in our centers even though we may have additional physical cabinet capacity available within a specific IBX data center. This could have a negative impact on the available utilization capacity of a given center, which could have a negative impact on our ability to grow revenues, affecting our financial performance, operating results and cash flows.

Strategically, we will continue to look at attractive opportunities to grow our market share and selectively improve our footprint and offerings. As was the case with our recent expansions and acquisitions, our expansion criteria will be dependent on a number of factors such as demand from new and existing customers, quality of the design, power capacity, access to networks, capacity availability in the current market location, amount of incremental investment required by us in the targeted property, lead-time to break-even on a free cash flow basis and in-place customers. Like our recent expansions and acquisitions, the right combination of these factors may be attractive to us. Depending on the circumstances, these transactions may require additional capital expenditures funded by upfront cash payments or through long-term financing arrangements in order to bring these properties up to Equinix standards. Property expansion may be in the form of purchases of real property, long-term leasing arrangements or acquisitions. Future purchases, construction or acquisitions may be completed by us or with partners or potential customers to minimize the outlay of cash, which can be significant.

Our business is based on a recurring revenue model comprised of colocation and related interconnection and managed infrastructure offerings. We consider these offerings recurring because our customers are generally billed on a fixed and recurring basis each month for the duration of their contract, which is generally one to three years in length. Our recurring revenues have comprised more than 90% of our total revenues during the past three years. In addition, during the past three years, in any given quarter, greater than half of our monthly recurring revenue bookings came from existing customers, contributing to our revenue growth.

Our non-recurring revenues are primarily comprised of installation services related to a customer's initial deployment and professional services that we perform. These services are considered to be non-recurring because they are billed typically once and upon completion of the installation or professional services work performed. The majority of these non-recurring revenues are typically billed on the first invoice distributed to the customer in connection with their initial installation. However, revenues from installation services are deferred and recognized ratably over the longer of the term of the related contract or expected life of the services. Additionally, revenue from contract settlements, when a customer wishes to terminate their contract early, is recognized when no remaining performance obligations exist and collectability is reasonably assured, to the extent that the revenue has not previously been recognized. As a percentage of total revenues, we expect non-recurring revenues to represent less than 10% of total revenues for the foreseeable future.



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Our Americas revenues are derived primarily from colocation and related interconnection offerings, and our EMEA and Asia-Pacific revenues are derived primarily from colocation and managed infrastructure services.

The largest components of our cost of revenues are depreciation, rental payments related to our leased IBX data centers, utility costs, including electricity and bandwidth, IBX data center employees' salaries and benefits, including stock-based compensation, repairs and maintenance, supplies and equipment and security services. A substantial majority of our cost of revenues is fixed in nature and should not vary significantly from period to period, unless we expand our existing IBX data centers or open or acquire new IBX data centers. However, there are certain costs which are considered more variable in nature, including utilities and supplies, that are directly related to growth in our existing and new customer base. We expect the cost of our utilities, specifically electricity, will generally increase in the future on a per-unit or fixed basis in addition to the variable increase related to the growth in consumption by the customer. In addition, the cost of electricity is generally higher in the summer months as compared to other times of the year. To the extent we incur increased utility costs, such increased costs could materially impact our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. Furthermore, to the extent we incur increased electricity costs as a result of either climate change policies or the physical effects of climate change, such increased costs could materially impact our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of compensation and related costs for sales and marketing personnel, including stock-based compensation, sales commissions, marketing programs, public relations, promotional materials and travel, as well as bad debt expense and amortization of customer contract intangible assets.

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries and related expenses, including stock-based compensation, accounting, legal and other professional service fees, and other general corporate expenses such as our corporate regional headquarters office leases and some depreciation expense.

Due to our recurring revenue model, and a cost structure which has a large base that is fixed in nature and generally does not grow in proportion to revenue growth, we expect our cost of revenues, sales and marketing expenses and general and administrative expenses to decline as a percentage of revenue over time, although we expect each of them to grow in absolute dollars in connection with our growth. This is evident in the trends noted below in our discussion about our results of operations. However, for cost of revenues, this trend may periodically be impacted when a large expansion project opens or is acquired and before it starts generating any meaningful revenue. Furthermore, in relation to cost of revenues, we note that the Americas region has a lower cost of revenues as a percentage of revenue than either EMEA or Asia-Pacific. This is due to both the increased scale and maturity of the Americas region compared to either the EMEA or Asia-Pacific region, as well as a higher cost structure outside of the Americas, particularly in EMEA. While we expect all three regions to continue to see lower cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues in future periods, we expect the trend of the Americas having the lowest cost of revenues as a percentage of revenue and EMEA having the highest to continue. As a result, to the extent that revenue growth outside the Americas grows in greater proportion than revenue growth in the Americas, our overall cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues may increase in future periods. Sales and marketing expenses and general and administrative expenses may also periodically increase as a percentage of revenue as we continue to scale our operations to support our growth.

### ***Potential REIT Conversion***

On September 13, 2012, we announced that our board of directors approved a plan for Equinix to pursue conversion to a REIT. We have begun implementation of the REIT conversion, and we plan to make a tax election for REIT status for the taxable year beginning January 1, 2015. Any REIT election made by us must be effective as of the beginning of a taxable year; therefore, as a calendar year taxpayer, if we are unable to convert to a REIT by January 1, 2015, the next possible conversion date would be January 1, 2016.

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If we are able to convert to and qualify as a REIT, we will generally be permitted to deduct from federal income taxes the dividends we pay to our stockholders. The income represented by such dividends would not be subject to federal taxation at the entity level but would be taxed, if at all, at the stockholder level. Nevertheless, the income of our domestic TRS, which will hold our U.S. operations that may not be REIT-compliant, will be subject, as applicable, to federal and state corporate income tax. Likewise, our foreign subsidiaries will continue to be subject to foreign income taxes in jurisdictions in which they hold assets or conduct operations, regardless of whether held or conducted through TRS or through QRS. We will also be subject to a separate corporate income tax on any gains recognized during a specified period (generally 10 years) following the REIT conversion that are attributable to built-in gains with respect to the assets that we own on the date we convert to a REIT. Our ability to qualify as a REIT will depend upon our continuing compliance following our REIT conversion with various requirements, including requirements related to the nature of our assets, the sources of our income and the distributions to our stockholders. If we fail to qualify as a REIT, we will be subject to federal income tax at regular corporate rates. Even if we qualify for taxation as a REIT, we may be subject to some federal, state, local and foreign taxes on our income and property. In particular, while state income tax regimes often parallel the federal income tax regime for REITs described above, many states do not completely follow federal rules and some may not follow them at all.

The REIT conversion implementation currently includes seeking a PLR from the IRS. Our PLR request has multiple components, and the conversion to a REIT will require favorable rulings from the IRS on numerous technical tax issues, including classification of our data center assets as qualified real estate assets. We submitted the PLR request to the IRS in 2012, but the IRS may not provide a PLR until late in 2013 or at all.

We currently estimate that we will incur approximately \$50.0 to \$80.0 million in costs to support the REIT conversion, in addition to related tax liabilities associated with a change in our method of depreciating and amortizing various data center assets for tax purposes from our current method to methods that are more consistent with the characterization of such assets as real property for REIT purposes. The total recapture of depreciation and amortization expenses across all relevant assets is expected to result in federal and state tax liability of approximately \$340.0 to \$420.0 million, which amount will be payable in the four-year period starting in 2012 even if we abandon the REIT conversion for any reason, including the failure to receive the PLR we are seeking. Prior to the decision to convert to a REIT, our balance sheet reflected our income tax liability as a non-current deferred tax liability. As a result of the decision to convert to a REIT, our non-current tax liability will be gradually and proportionally reclassified from non-current to current over the four-year period, which started in the third quarter of 2012. The current liability reflects the tax liability that relates to additional taxable income expected to be recognized within the twelve-month period from the date of the balance sheet. If the REIT conversion is successful, we also expect to incur an additional \$5.0 to \$10.0 million in annual compliance costs in future years. We expect to pay between \$175.0 to \$250.0 million in cash taxes during 2013.

### **Results of Operations**

Our results of operations for year ended December 31, 2012 include the operations of the Dubai IBX data center acquisition from November 9, 2012, Asia Tone from July 4, 2012 and ancotel from July 3, 2012. Our results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2011 include the operations of ALOG from April 25, 2011. Our results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2010 include the operations of Switch & Data Facilities Company, Inc., which is referred to as Switch and Data, from May 1, 2010.

### ***Discontinued Operations***

We present the results of operations associated with 16 of our IBX centers that we sold as net income from discontinued operations in our consolidated statements of operations. Our results of operations have been reclassified to reflect our discontinued operations for all periods presented. Unless otherwise stated, the results of operations discussed herein refer to our continuing operations.

**Table of Contents****Constant Currency Presentation**

Our revenues and certain operating expenses (cost of revenues, sales and marketing and general and administrative expenses) from our international operations have represented and will continue to represent a significant portion of our total revenues and certain operating expenses. As a result, our revenues and certain operating expenses have been and will continue to be affected by changes in the U.S. dollar against major international currencies such as the Brazilian reais, British pound, Canadian dollar, Euro, Swiss franc, Australian dollar, Chinese Yuan, Hong Kong dollar, Japanese yen and Singapore dollar. In order to provide a framework for assessing how each of our business segments performed excluding the impact of foreign currency fluctuations, we present period-over-period percentage changes in our revenues and certain operating expenses on a constant currency basis in addition to the historical amounts as reported. Presenting constant currency results of operations is a non-GAAP financial measure and is not meant to be considered in isolation or as an alternative to GAAP results of operations. However, we have presented this non-GAAP financial measure to provide investors with an additional tool to evaluate our operating results. To present this information, our current and comparative prior period revenues and certain operating expenses from entities reporting in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at constant exchange rates rather than the actual exchange rates in effect during the respective periods (i.e. average rates in effect for the year ended December 31, 2011 are used as exchange rates for the year ended December 31, 2012 when comparing the year ended December 31, 2012 with the year ended December 31, 2011, and average rates in effect for the year ended December 31, 2010 are used as exchange rates for the year ended December 31, 2011 when comparing the year ended December 31, 2011 with the year ended December 31, 2010).

**Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011**

**Revenues.** Our revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were generated from the following revenue classifications and geographic regions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,				% change	
	2012	%	2011	%	Actual	Constant currency
<b>Americas:</b>						
Recurring revenues	\$ 1,114,579	59%	\$ 959,907	61%	16%	16%
Non-recurring revenues	45,895	2%	35,808	2%	28%	30%
	1,160,474	61%	995,715	63%	17%	17%
<b>EMEA:</b>						
Recurring revenues	400,002	21%	328,355	21%	22%	28%
Non-recurring revenues	33,448	2%	29,867	2%	12%	19%
	433,450	23%	358,222	23%	21%	27%
<b>Asia-Pacific:</b>						
Recurring revenues	284,662	15%	204,152	13%	39%	39%
Non-recurring revenues	17,158	1%	11,695	1%	47%	46%
	301,820	16%	215,847	14%	40%	39%
<b>Total:</b>						
Recurring revenues	1,799,243	95%	1,492,414	95%	21%	22%
Non-recurring revenues	96,501	5%	77,370	5%	25%	28%
	\$ 1,895,744	100%	\$ 1,569,784	100%	21%	22%

**Americas Revenues.** Growth in Americas revenues was primarily due to (i) \$27.2 million of incremental revenue from ALOG (\$74.1 million of full-year revenue contributions from ALOG during the year ended December 31, 2012 as compared to \$46.9 million of partial-year revenue contributions during the year ended December 31, 2011), (ii) \$26.5 million of revenue generated from our recently-opened IBX data centers and IBX



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data center expansions in the Dallas, Miami, New York and Washington, D.C. metro areas and (iii) an increase in orders from both our existing customers and new customers during the period as reflected in the growth in our customer count and utilization rate, as discussed above. We expect that our Americas revenues will continue to grow in future periods as a result of continued growth through recently-opened IBX data center expansions and additional IBX data center expansions currently taking place in the Chicago, Seattle, Toronto and Washington, D.C. metro areas, which are expected to open during 2013 and 2014. Our estimates of future revenue growth take account of expected changes in recurring revenues attributable to customer bookings, customer churn or changes or amendments to customers' contracts.

*EMEA Revenues.* During the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, our revenues from the United Kingdom, the largest revenue contributor in the EMEA region for the period, represented approximately 38% and 36%, respectively, of the regional revenues. Our EMEA revenue growth was due to (i) \$11.5 million of additional revenue resulting from the ancotel acquisition, (ii) \$31.8 million of revenue from our recently-opened IBX data center expansions in the Amsterdam, Frankfurt, London and Paris metro areas and (iii) an increase in orders from both our existing customers and new customers during the period as reflected in the growth in our customer count and utilization rate, as discussed above, in both our new and existing IBX data centers. During the year ended December 31, 2012, the U.S. dollar was generally stronger relative to the British pound, Euro and Swiss Franc than during the year ended December 31, 2011, resulting in approximately \$22.8 million of unfavorable foreign currency impact to our EMEA revenues during the year ended December 31, 2012 on a constant currency basis. We expect that our EMEA revenues will continue to grow in future periods as a result of the ancotel acquisition and our continued growth through recently-opened IBX data center expansions and additional IBX data center expansions currently taking place in the Dubai, Frankfurt and Zurich metro areas, which are expected to open during 2013. Our estimates of future revenue growth take into account expected changes in recurring revenues attributable to customer bookings, customer churn or changes or amendments to customers' contracts.

*Asia-Pacific Revenues.* Our revenues from Singapore, the largest revenue contributor in the Asia-Pacific region, represented approximately 37% and 40%, respectively, of the regional revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011. Our Asia-Pacific revenue growth was due to (i) \$23.1 million of additional revenue resulting from the Asia Tone acquisition, (ii) \$9.5 million of revenue generated from our recently-opened IBX center expansions in the Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore and Sydney metro areas and (iii) an increase in orders from both our existing customers and new customers during the period as reflected in the growth in our customer count and utilization rate, as discussed above, in both our new and existing IBX data centers. For the year ended December 31, 2012, the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our Asia-Pacific revenues was not significant on a constant currency basis. We expect that our Asia-Pacific revenues will continue to grow in future periods as a result of the Asia Tone acquisition and our continued growth through recently-opened IBX data center expansions and additional IBX data center expansions currently taking place in the Shanghai, Singapore and Tokyo metro areas, which are expected to open during 2013. Our estimates of future revenue growth take into account expected changes in recurring revenues attributable to customer bookings, or changes or amendments to customers' contracts.

*Cost of Revenues.* Our cost of revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were split among the following geographic regions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,				% change	
	2012	%	2011	%	Actual	Constant currency
Americas.	\$ 532,691	57%	\$ 491,460	59%	8%	8%
EMEA	230,239	24%	212,967	26%	8%	15%
Asia-Pacific	181,065	19%	129,424	15%	40%	40%
Total	\$ 943,995	100%	\$ 833,851	100%	13%	15%

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	Years ended December 31,	
	2012	2011
<i>Cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues:</i>		
Americas .	46%	49%
EMEA	53%	59%
Asia-Pacific	60%	60%
Total	50%	53%

*Americas Cost of Revenues.* Our Americas cost of revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 included \$196.1 million and \$178.6 million, respectively, of depreciation expense. Growth in depreciation expense was primarily due to both our organic IBX data center expansion activity and acquisitions. Excluding depreciation expense, the increase in our Americas cost of revenues was primarily due to (i) \$9.4 million of incremental Americas cost of revenues resulting from the ALOG acquisition, (ii) \$7.0 million of higher compensation costs, including general salaries, bonuses and stock-based compensation cost and (iii) \$5.9 million of higher costs associated with certain revenues from offerings provided to customers. We expect Americas cost of revenues to increase as we continue to grow our business.

*EMEA Cost of Revenues.* EMEA cost of revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 included \$69.4 million and \$67.0 million, respectively, of depreciation expense. Growth in depreciation expense was primarily due to both our organic IBX data center expansion activity and acquisitions. Excluding depreciation expense, the increase in EMEA cost of revenues was primarily due to (i) \$4.4 million of additional cost of revenues resulting from the ancotel acquisition, (ii) an increase of \$6.5 million in utility costs arising from increased customer installations and revenues attributed to customer growth and (iii) \$3.2 million of higher costs associated with costs of equipment sales. During the year ended December 31, 2012, the U.S. dollar was generally stronger relative to the British pound, Euro and Swiss franc than during the year ended December 31, 2011, resulting in approximately \$13.7 million of favorable foreign currency impact to our EMEA cost of revenues during the year ended December 31, 2012 on a constant currency basis. We expect EMEA cost of revenues to increase as we continue to grow our business including costs related to the Dubai IBX data center acquisition.

*Asia-Pacific Cost of Revenues.* Asia-Pacific cost of revenues for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 included \$71.8 million and \$46.7 million, respectively, of depreciation expense. Growth in depreciation expense was primarily due to both our organic IBX data center expansion activity and the Asia Tone acquisition. Excluding depreciation expense, the increase in Asia-Pacific cost of revenues was primarily due to (i) \$10.1 million of additional cost of revenues resulting from the Asia Tone acquisition, (ii) \$10.7 million in higher utility costs and (iii) \$2.9 million of higher compensation expense, including general salaries, bonuses and headcount growth (192 Asia-Pacific employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 153 as of December 31, 2011). For the year ended December 31, 2012, the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our Asia-Pacific cost of revenues was not significant on a constant currency basis. We expect Asia-Pacific cost of revenues to increase as we continue to grow our business.

*Sales and Marketing Expenses.* Our sales and marketing expenses for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were split among the following geographic regions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,				% change	
	2012	%	2011	%	Actual	Constant currency
Americas.	\$ 122,970	61%	\$ 103,435	65%	19%	19%
EMEA	52,595	26%	36,528	23%	44%	49%
Asia-Pacific	27,349	13%	18,384	12%	49%	48%
Total	\$ 202,914	100%	\$ 158,347	100%	28%	29%

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	Years ended December 31,	
	2012	2011
<i>Sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenues:</i>		
Americas	11%	10%
EMEA	12%	10%
Asia-Pacific	9%	9%
Total	11%	10%

*Americas Sales and Marketing Expenses.* The increase in our Americas sales and marketing expenses was due to (i) \$3.8 million of incremental sales and marketing expenses resulting from the ALOG acquisition, (ii) \$11.4 million of higher compensation costs, including sales compensation, general salaries, bonuses, stock-based compensation and headcount growth (256 Americas sales and marketing employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 241 as of December 31, 2011) and (iii) \$3.4 million of professional fees to support our growth. Over the past several years, we have been investing in our Americas sales and marketing initiatives to further increase our revenue. These investments have included the hiring of additional headcount and new product innovation efforts and, as a result, our Americas sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenues have increased. Although we anticipate that we will continue to invest in Americas sales and marketing initiatives, we believe our Americas sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenues will remain at approximately current levels over the next year but should ultimately decrease as we continue to grow our business.

*EMEA Sales and Marketing Expenses.* The increase in our EMEA sales and marketing expenses was primarily due to (i) \$4.6 million of additional sales and marketing expenses resulting from the ancotel acquisition and (ii) \$7.7 million of higher compensation costs, including sales compensation, general salaries, bonuses and stock-based compensation expense and headcount growth (148 EMEA sales and marketing employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 117 as of December 31, 2011). For the year ended December 31, 2012, the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our EMEA sales and marketing expenses was not significant on a constant currency basis. Over the past several years, we have been investing in our EMEA sales and marketing initiatives to further increase our revenue. These investments have included the hiring of additional headcount and new product innovation efforts and, as a result, our EMEA sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenues have increased. Although we anticipate that we will continue to invest in EMEA sales and marketing initiatives, we believe our EMEA sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenues will remain at approximately current levels over the next year or two but should ultimately decrease as we continue to grow our business.

*Asia-Pacific Sales and Marketing Expenses.* The increase in our Asia-Pacific sales and marketing expenses was primarily due to (i) \$1.9 million of additional sales and marketing expenses resulting from the Asia Tone acquisition and (ii) \$6.3 million of higher compensation costs, including sales compensation, general salaries, bonuses and headcount growth (95 Asia-Pacific sales and marketing employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 70 as of December 31, 2011). For the year ended December 31, 2012, the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our Asia-Pacific sales and marketing expenses was not significant on a constant currency basis. Over the past several years, we have been investing in our Asia-Pacific sales and marketing initiatives to further increase our revenue. These investments have included the hiring of additional headcount and new product innovation efforts and, as a result, our Asia-Pacific sales and marketing expenses have increased. Although we anticipate that we will continue to invest in Asia-Pacific sales and marketing initiatives, we believe our Asia-Pacific sales and marketing expenses as a percentage of revenues will remain at approximately current levels over the next year or two but should ultimately decrease as we continue to grow our business.

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**General and Administrative Expenses.** Our general and administrative expenses for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were split among the following geographic regions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,				% change	
	2012	%	2011	%	Actual	Constant currency
Americas	\$ 239,311	73%	\$ 191,439	72%	25%	25%
EMEA	57,093	17%	48,936	18%	17%	20%
Asia-Pacific	32,995	10%	25,179	10%	31%	30%
Total	\$ 329,399	100%	\$ 265,554	100%	24%	25%

	Years ended December 31,	
	2012	2011
<i>General and administrative expenses as a percentage of revenues:</i>		
Americas .	21%	19%
EMEA	13%	14%
Asia-Pacific	11%	12%
Total	17%	17%

**Americas General and Administrative Expenses.** Our Americas general and administrative expenses, which include general corporate expenses, included \$1.6 million of additional general and administrative expenses resulting from the ALOG acquisition. Excluding the ALOG acquisition, the increase in our Americas general and administrative expenses was primarily due to (i) \$22.4 million of higher compensation costs, including general salaries, bonuses, stock-based compensation and headcount growth (605 Americas general and administrative employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 577 as of December 31, 2011), (ii) \$15.4 million of higher professional fees to support our growth and our REIT conversion process and (iii) \$4.8 million of higher depreciation expense as a result of our ongoing efforts to support our growth, such as investments in systems. Over the course of the past year, we have been investing in our Americas general and administrative functions to scale this region effectively for growth, which has included additional investments into improving our back office systems. We expect our current efforts to improve our back office systems will continue over the next several years. Going forward, although we are carefully monitoring our spending given the current economic environment, we expect Americas general and administrative expenses to increase as we continue to further scale our operations to support our growth, including this investment in our back office systems and the REIT conversion process.

**EMEA General and Administrative Expenses.** The increase in our EMEA general and administrative expenses was primarily due to \$3.2 million of additional general and administrative expenses resulting from the ancotel acquisition and (ii) \$5.9 million of higher compensation costs, including general salaries, bonuses and headcount growth (196 EMEA general and administrative employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 180 as of December 31, 2011), partially offset by \$3.7 million of lower professional fees. For the year ended December 31, 2012, the impact of foreign currency fluctuations on our EMEA general and administrative expenses was not significant on a constant currency basis. Over the course of the past year, we have been investing in our EMEA general and administrative functions as a result of our ongoing efforts to scale this region effectively for growth. Going forward, although we are carefully monitoring our spending given the current economic environment, we expect our EMEA general and administrative expenses to increase in future periods as we continue to scale our operations to support our growth; however, as a percentage of revenues, we generally expect them to decrease.

**Asia-Pacific General and Administrative Expenses.** The increase in our Asia-Pacific general and administrative expenses was primarily due to \$5.4 million of higher compensation costs, including general salaries, bonuses and headcount growth (166 Asia-Pacific general and administrative employees as of December 31, 2012 versus 153 as of December 31, 2011). For the year ended December 31, 2012, the impact of



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foreign currency fluctuations on our Asia-Pacific general and administrative expenses was not significant on a constant currency basis. Going forward, although we are carefully monitoring our spending given the current economic environment, we expect Asia-Pacific general and administrative expenses to increase as we continue to scale our operations to support our growth; however, as a percentage of revenues, we generally expect them to decrease.

**Restructuring Charges.** During the year ended December 31, 2012, we did not record any restructuring charges. During the year ended December 31, 2011, we recorded restructuring charges totaling \$3.5 million primarily related to revised sublease assumptions on our excess leased space in the New York metro area. Our excess leased space in the New York metro area remains abandoned and continues to carry a restructuring charge. For additional information, see **Restructuring Charges** in Note 17 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**Impairment Charges.** During the year ended December 31, 2012, we recorded impairment charges totaling \$9.9 million as a result of the fair values of certain long-lived assets being lower than their carrying values due to our decision to abandon two properties in the Americas and Asia-Pacific regions. For additional information, see **Impairment of Long-Lived Assets** in Note 1 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. During the year ended December 31, 2011, no impairment charges were recorded.

**Acquisition Costs.** During the year ended December 31, 2012, we recorded acquisition costs totaling \$8.8 million primarily attributed to the ancotel and Asia Tone acquisitions. During the year ended December 31, 2011, we recorded acquisition costs totaling \$3.3 million primarily related to the ALOG acquisition.

**Interest Income.** Interest income increased to \$3.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 from \$2.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. Interest income increased primarily due to higher yields on invested balances. The average yield for the year ended December 31, 2012 was 0.43% versus 0.33% for the year ended December 31, 2011. We expect our interest income to remain at these low levels for the foreseeable future due to the impact of a continued low interest rate environment and a portfolio more weighted towards short-term securities.

**Interest Expense.** During the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, we recorded interest expense of \$200.3 million and \$181.3 million, respectively. This increase was primarily due to the impact of our \$750.0 million 7.00% senior notes offering in July 2011, which resulted in an approximately \$28.6 million increase in interest expense, and additional financings such as various capital lease and other financing obligations to support our expansion projects. This increase was partially offset by our settlement of the \$250.0 million 2.50% convertible subordinated notes in April 2012, which resulted in an approximately \$13.7 million decrease in interest expense. During the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, we capitalized \$30.6 million and \$13.6 million, respectively, of interest expense to construction in progress. Going forward, we expect our interest expense to increase by approximately \$5.0 million annually as a result of our drawdown of the ALOG financing in July 2012. However, we may begin taking drawdowns from the U.S. revolving credit line under the U.S. financing or incur additional indebtedness to support our growth, resulting in further increases to our interest expense.

**Other Income (Expense).** For the year ended December 31, 2012, we recorded \$2.2 million of other expense compared to \$2.8 million of other income for the year ended December 31, 2011, primarily due to foreign currency exchange gains (losses) during the periods.

**Loss on debt extinguishment.** During the year ended December 31, 2012, we recorded \$5.2 million of loss on debt extinguishment due to the repayment and termination of the Asia-Pacific financing. During the year ended December 31, 2011, no loss on debt extinguishment was recorded.

**Income Taxes.** During the year ended December 31, 2012, we recorded \$61.8 million of income tax expense. The income tax expense recorded during the year ended December 31, 2012 was primarily a result of

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applying the effective statutory tax rates to our operating income adjusted for permanent tax adjustments for the period and the assessments of valuation allowances of \$5.4 million against the net deferred tax assets with certain foreign operating entities. During the year ended December 31, 2011, we recorded \$37.5 million of income tax expense. The income tax expense recorded during the year ended December 31, 2011 was primarily a result of applying the effective statutory tax rates to our operating income adjusted for permanent tax adjustments for the period, partially offset by an income tax benefit due to the release of a valuation allowance of \$2.5 million associated with certain foreign operating entities. The cash taxes for 2012 and 2011 were primarily for state and foreign income taxes.

In connection with the planned REIT Conversion, we changed our method of depreciating and amortizing various data center assets for tax purposes to methods more consistent with the characterization of such assets as real property for REIT purposes. As a result of this decision, we reclassified \$89.2 million of non-current deferred tax liabilities to current deferred tax liabilities as of December 31, 2012 associated with taxes that are expected to be paid in the next 12 months. The change in depreciation and amortization method also increased our taxable income for 2012, resulting in an acceleration of the usage of our operating and windfall employee equity award net operating loss carryforwards. As a result of the tax depreciation method change, the taxable gain recognized in the divestiture and the level of operating profits, we utilized most of our net operating losses in the U.S. for which a deferred tax asset had been previously recognized and most of our windfall tax losses in the U.S. for which a deferred tax asset had not been previously recognized. We recorded excess income tax benefits of \$84.7 million from stock-based compensation in our consolidated balance sheets.

Commencing with certain reorganization activities that we started during the fourth quarter of 2012, we will reassess the long-term profitability of certain of our operations that are currently incurring losses in EMEA. The reassessment may result in releases of valuation allowances that are currently assessed against the net deferred tax assets with these operations, which will affect our effective tax rate favorably at the time when such a benefit is recognized.

***Net Income from Discontinued Operations.*** For the year ended December 31, 2012, our net income from discontinued operations was \$13.1 million, consisting of \$11.9 million from the gain on sale of discontinued operations, net of income tax, and \$1.2 million of net income from discontinued operations. For the year ended December 31, 2011, our net income from discontinued operations was \$1.0 million. For additional information, see *Discontinued Operations* in Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

**Table of Contents****Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010**

**Revenues.** Our revenues for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were generated from the following revenue classifications and geographic regions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,				% change	
	2011	%	2010	%	Actual	Constant currency
<b>Americas:</b>						
Recurring revenues	\$ 959,907	61%	\$ 725,015	61%	32%	32%
Non-recurring revenues	35,808	2%	27,040	2%	32%	32%
	995,715	63%	752,055	63%	32%	32%
<b>EMEA:</b>						
Recurring revenues	328,355	21%	256,570	22%	28%	22%
Non-recurring revenues	29,867	2%	25,223	2%	18%	13%
	358,222	23%	281,793	24%	27%	21%
<b>Asia-Pacific:</b>						
Recurring revenues	204,152	13%	155,200	13%	32%	24%
Non-recurring revenues	11,695	1%	7,166	0%	63%	54%
	215,847	14%	162,366	13%	33%	25%
<b>Total:</b>						
Recurring revenues	1,492,414	95%	1,136,785	96%	31%	29%
Non-recurring revenues	77,370	5%	59,429	4%	30%	27%
	\$ 1,569,784	100%	\$ 1,196,214	100%	31%	29%

**Americas Revenues.** Growth in Americas revenues was primarily due to (i) additional revenues resulting from acquisitions, including \$85.1 million of incremental revenue from Switch and Data (\$214.0 million of full-year revenue contributions from Switch and Data during the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to \$128.8 million of partial-year revenue contributions during the year ended December 31, 2010) and \$46.9 million of additional revenue resulting from the ALOG acquisition, (ii) \$8.9 million of revenues generated from the IBX data centers we opened during the period and the IBX data centers we expanded during the period in the Chicago and Dallas metro areas and (iii) an increase in orders from both our existing customers and new customers during the period as reflected in the growth in our customer count and utilization rate, as discussed above.

The following table presents our Americas revenues excluding the impact of acquisitions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended		Change	
	2011	December 31, 2010	\$	%
<b>Americas:</b>				
Recurring revenues	\$ 706,462	\$ 598,860	\$ 107,602	18%
Non-recurring revenues	28,430	24,355	4,075	17%
	\$ 734,892	\$ 623,215	\$ 111,677	18%

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*EMEA Revenues.* During the year ended December 31, 2011, our revenues from the United Kingdom, the largest revenue contributor in the EMEA region for the period, represented approximately 36% of the regional revenues. During the year ended December 31, 2010, our revenues from Germany, the largest revenue contributor in the EMEA region for the period, represented approximately 36% of the regional revenues. Our EMEA revenue growth was due to (i) \$30.0 million of revenue from our recently-opened IBX data center

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expansions in the Amsterdam, London and Paris metro areas and (ii) an increase in orders from both our existing customers and new customers during the period as reflected in the growth in our customer count and utilization rate, as discussed above, in both our new and existing IBX data centers. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the U.S. dollar was generally weaker relative to the British pound, Euro and Swiss Franc than during the year ended December 31, 2010, resulting in approximately \$17.3 million of favorable foreign currency impact to our EMEA revenues during the year ended December 31, 2011 on a constant currency basis.

*Asia-Pacific Revenues.* Our revenues from Singapore, the largest revenue contributor in the Asia-Pacific region, represented approximately 40% and 38%, respectively, of the regional revenues for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010. Our Asia-Pacific revenue growth was due to an increase in orders from both our existing customers and new customers during the period as reflected in the growth in our customer count and utilization rate, as discussed above, in both our new and existing IBX data centers. During the year ended December 31, 2011, we recorded approximately \$13.0 million of revenue generated from our recently-opened IBX center expansions in the Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney and Tokyo metro areas. During the year ended December 31, 2011, the U.S. dollar was generally weaker relative to the Australian dollar, Hong Kong dollar, Japanese yen and Singapore dollar than during the year ended December 31, 2010, resulting in approximately \$16.2 million of favorable foreign currency impact to our Asia-Pacific revenues during the year ended December 31, 2011 on a constant currency basis.

*Cost of Revenues.* Our cost of revenues for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were split among the following geographic regions (dollars in thousands):

	Years ended December 31,				% change	
	2011	%	2010	%	Actual	Constant currency
Americas.	\$ 491,460	59%	\$ 386,258	59%	27%	27%
EMEA	212,967	26%	176,937	27%	20%	13%
Asia-Pacific	129,424	15%	88,961	14%	45%	35%
Total	\$ 833,851	100%	\$ 652,156	100%	28%	24%

	Years ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
<i>Cost of revenues as a percentage of revenues:</i>		
Americas .	49%	51%
EMEA	59%	63%
Asia-Pacific	60%	55%
Total		