

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-Q

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2008

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: 001-31458

Newcastle Investment Corp.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY
(Address of principal executive offices)

81-0559116
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

10105
(Zip Code)

(212) 798-6100

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

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

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)
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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the last practicable date.

Common stock, \$0.01 par value per share: 52,780,429 shares outstanding as of May 9, 2008.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP.
FORM 10-Q

INDEX

	<u>PAGE</u>
PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Item 1. Financial Statements	
Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2008 (unaudited) and December 31, 2007	1
Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited) for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	2
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (unaudited) for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	3
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007	4
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)	6
Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	17
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	33
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	36
PART II. OTHER INFORMATION	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	37
Item 1A. Risk Factors	37
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	37
Item 3. Defaults upon Senior Securities	38
Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders	38
Item 5. Other Information	38
Item 6. Exhibits	39
SIGNATURES	40

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(dollars in thousands, except share data)

	March 31, 2008 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2007
Assets		
Real estate securities, available for sale	\$ 3,090,024	\$ 4,835,884
Real estate related loans, net	1,818,908	1,856,978
Residential mortgage loans, net	609,073	634,605
Subprime mortgage loans subject to call option	394,913	393,899
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries	15,500	24,477
Operating real estate, held for sale	33,458	34,399
Cash and cash equivalents	118,014	55,916
Restricted cash	122,991	133,126
Derivative assets	—	4,114
Receivables and other assets	50,623	64,372
	<u>\$ 6,253,504</u>	<u>\$ 8,037,770</u>
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Liabilities		
CBO bonds payable	\$ 4,368,664	\$ 4,716,535
Other bonds payable	476,651	546,798
Repurchase agreements	710,434	1,634,362
Financing of subprime mortgage loans subject to call option	394,913	393,899
Junior subordinated notes payable (security for trust preferred)	100,100	100,100
Derivative liabilities	232,130	133,510
Dividends payable	15,445	40,251
Due to affiliates	7,741	7,741
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	12,405	16,949
	<u>6,318,483</u>	<u>7,590,145</u>
Stockholders' Equity		
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 100,000,000 shares authorized, 2,500,000 shares of 9.75% Series B Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, 1,600,000 shares of 8.05% Series C Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, and 2,000,000 shares of 8.375% Series D Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, liquidation preference \$25.00 per share, issued and outstanding	152,500	152,500
Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 500,000,000 shares authorized, 52,780,429 and 52,779,179 shares issued and outstanding at March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, respectively	528	528
Additional paid-in capital	1,033,341	1,033,326
Dividends in excess of earnings	(293,687)	(236,213)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(957,661)	(502,516)
	<u>(64,979)</u>	<u>447,625</u>
	<u>\$ 6,253,504</u>	<u>\$ 8,037,770</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

(dollars in thousands, except share data)

	Three Months Ended	
	March 31,	
	2008	2007
Revenues		
Interest income	\$ 132,894	\$ 162,216
	<u>132,894</u>	<u>162,216</u>
Expenses		
Interest expense	89,375	116,751
Loan and security servicing expense	1,730	1,983
Provision for credit losses	2,505	2,036
General and administrative expense	1,592	1,293
Management fee to affiliate	4,597	3,906
Incentive compensation to affiliate	—	3,688
Depreciation and amortization	72	73
	<u>99,871</u>	<u>129,730</u>
Operating Income	<u>33,023</u>	<u>32,486</u>
Other Income (Loss)		
Gain (loss) on sale of investments, net	6,526	2,212
Other income (loss), net	(19,308)	717
Other-than-temporary impairment	(46,372)	—
Loan impairment	(20,326)	—
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt	8,533	—
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries	708	847
	<u>(70,239)</u>	<u>3,776</u>
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(37,216)	36,262
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	(3,688)	(71)
	<u>(40,904)</u>	<u>36,191</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>(40,904)</u>	<u>36,191</u>
Preferred dividends	(3,375)	(2,515)
	<u>\$ (44,279)</u>	<u>\$ 33,676</u>
Income (Loss) Applicable to Common Stockholders		
	<u>\$ (44,279)</u>	<u>\$ 33,676</u>
Income (Loss) Per Share of Common Stock		
Basic	\$ (0.84)	\$ 0.71
Diluted	\$ (0.84)	\$ 0.70
Income (loss) from continuing operations per share of common stock, after preferred dividends		
Basic	\$ (0.77)	\$ 0.71
Diluted	\$ (0.77)	\$ 0.70
Income (loss) from discontinued operations per share of common stock		
Basic	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.00)
Diluted	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.00)
Weighted Average Number of Shares of Common Stock Outstanding		
Basic	<u>52,780,319</u>	<u>47,572,895</u>
Diluted	<u>52,780,319</u>	<u>47,823,497</u>
Dividends Declared per Share of Common Stock	<u>\$ 0.25</u>	<u>\$ 0.69</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (Unaudited)

FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2008 AND 2007

(dollars in thousands)

	Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Dividends in Excess of Earnings	Accum. Other Comp. Income (Loss)	Total Stock- holders' Equity
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount				
Stockholders' equity - December 31, 2007	6,100,000	\$ 152,500	52,779,179	\$ 528	\$ 1,033,326	\$ (236,213)	\$ (502,516)	\$ 447,625
Dividends declared	—	—	—	—	—	(16,570)	—	(16,570)
Issuance of common stock to directors	—	—	1,250	—	15	—	—	15
Comprehensive income:								
Net income (loss)	—	—	—	—	—	(40,904)	—	(40,904)
Net unrealized (loss) on securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	(332,119)	(332,119)
Reclassification of net realized (gain) on securities into earnings	—	—	—	—	—	—	(7,439)	(7,439)
Foreign currency translation	—	—	—	—	—	—	(598)	(598)
Net unrealized (loss) on derivatives designated as cash flow hedges	—	—	—	—	—	—	(114,684)	(114,684)
Reclassification of net realized (gain) on derivatives designated as cash flow hedges into earnings	—	—	—	—	—	—	(305)	(305)
Total comprehensive income (loss)								(496,049)
Stockholders' equity - March 31, 2008	<u>6,100,000</u>	<u>\$ 152,500</u>	<u>52,780,429</u>	<u>\$ 528</u>	<u>\$ 1,033,341</u>	<u>\$ (293,687)</u>	<u>\$ (957,661)</u>	<u>\$ (64,979)</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW (Unaudited)

(dollars in thousands)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2008	2007
Cash Flows From Operating Activities		
Net income (loss)	\$ (40,904)	\$ 36,191
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (inclusive of amounts related to discontinued operations):		
Depreciation and amortization	420	329
Accretion of discount and other amortization	(10,713)	(3,429)
Deferred rent	90	73
Provision for credit losses	2,505	2,036
Non-cash directors' compensation	15	—
(Gain) on sale of investments	(6,951)	(2,212)
Unrealized (gain) loss on non-hedge derivatives and hedge ineffectiveness	20,294	(471)
Other-than-temporary impairment	49,872	—
Loan impairment	20,326	—
(Gain) on extinguishment of debt	(8,533)	—
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries	(708)	(847)
Distributions of earnings from unconsolidated subsidiaries	708	847
Purchase of loans held for sale	—	(992,031)
Change in:		
Restricted cash	2,965	(22,645)
Receivables and other assets	10,609	(17,233)
Due to affiliates	—	(8,430)
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	(2,421)	5,631
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>37,574</u>	<u>(1,002,191)</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities		
Purchase of real estate securities	—	(225,808)
Proceeds from sale of real estate securities	1,151,012	51,673
Purchase of and advances on loans	12,386	(574,698)
Repayments of loan and security principal	119,293	124,559
Margin received on derivative instruments	38,539	20,946
Margin deposited on derivative instruments	(42,037)	(26,691)
Margin deposits on total rate of return swaps (treated as derivative instruments)	(14,236)	(48,636)
Return of margin deposits on total rate of return swaps (treated as derivative instruments)	26,325	29,316
Net proceeds from termination of derivative instruments	(33,936)	208
Purchase and improvement of operating real estate	(613)	(144)
Distributions of capital from unconsolidated subsidiaries	8,977	90
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>1,265,710</u>	<u>(649,185)</u>

Continued on Page 5

See notes to consolidated financial statements

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOW (Unaudited)

(dollars in thousands)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2008	2007
Cash Flows From Financing Activities		
Repayments of CBO bonds payable	(332,643)	(32,210)
Repayments of other bonds payable	(70,471)	(26,407)
Repayments of notes payable	—	(18,944)
Borrowings under repurchase agreements	20,818	1,776,665
Repayments of repurchase agreements	(945,246)	(338,947)
Return of margin deposits under repurchase agreements	5,457	—
Issuance of repurchase agreements subject to ABCP facility	—	216,672
Repayments of repurchase agreements subject to ABCP facility	—	(48,212)
Draws under credit facility	—	308,800
Repayments of credit facility	—	(277,100)
Issuance of common stock	—	75,746
Costs related to issuance of common stock	52	(732)
Exercise of common stock options	—	1,271
Issuance of preferred stock	—	50,000
Costs related to issuance of preferred stock	—	(1,747)
Dividends paid	(41,376)	(33,872)
Payment of deferred financing costs	—	(1,049)
Restricted cash returned from refinancing activities	122,223	—
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(1,241,186)	1,649,934
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	62,098	(1,442)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Period	55,916	5,371
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Period	<u>\$ 118,014</u>	<u>\$ 3,929</u>
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information		
Cash paid during the period for interest expense	\$ 63,506	\$ 101,458
Cash paid during the period for income taxes	\$ —	\$ —
Supplemental Schedule of Non-Cash Investing and Financing Activities		
Common stock dividends declared but not paid	\$ 13,195	\$ 33,265
Preferred stock dividends declared but not paid	\$ 2,250	\$ 1,552

See notes to consolidated financial statements

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

1. GENERAL

Newcastle Investment Corp. (and its subsidiaries, “Newcastle”) is a Maryland corporation that was formed in 2002. Newcastle conducts its business through three primary segments: (i) real estate securities and real estate related loans, (ii) residential mortgage loans, and (iii) operating real estate.

Newcastle is organized and conducts its operations to qualify as a real estate investment trust (“REIT”) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As such, Newcastle will generally not be subject to U.S. federal corporate income tax on that portion of its net income that is distributed to stockholders if it distributes at least 90% of its REIT taxable income to its stockholders by prescribed dates and complies with various other requirements.

Newcastle is party to a management agreement (the “Management Agreement”) with FIG LLC (the “Manager”), an affiliate of Fortress Investment Group LLC, under which the Manager advises Newcastle on various aspects of its business and manages its day-to-day operations, subject to the supervision of Newcastle’s board of directors. For its services, the Manager receives an annual management fee and incentive compensation, both as defined in the Management Agreement.

Approximately 5.1 million shares of Newcastle’s common stock were held by the Manager, through its affiliates, and its principals at March 31, 2008. In addition, the Manager, through its affiliates, held options to purchase approximately 1.5 million shares of Newcastle’s common stock at March 31, 2008.

The accompanying consolidated financial statements and related notes of Newcastle have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for interim financial reporting and the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted. In the opinion of management, all adjustments considered necessary for a fair presentation of Newcastle’s financial position, results of operations and cash flows have been included and are of a normal and recurring nature. The operating results presented for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for any other interim period or for the entire year. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with Newcastle’s consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007 and notes thereto included in Newcastle’s annual report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Capitalized terms used herein, and not otherwise defined, are defined in Newcastle’s consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2007.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

2. INFORMATION REGARDING BUSINESS SEGMENTS

Newcastle conducts its business through three primary segments: real estate securities and real estate related loans, residential mortgage loans, and operating real estate.

Summary financial data on Newcastle's segments is given below, together with a reconciliation to the same data for Newcastle as a whole:

	Real Estate Securities and Real Estate Related Loans	Residential Mortgage Loans	Operating Real Estate	Unallocated	Total
Three Months then Ended March 31, 2008					
Gross revenues	\$ 105,062	\$ 27,296	\$ —	\$ 536	\$ 132,894
Operating expenses	(647)	(3,590)	—	(6,187)	(10,424)
Interest expense	(69,899)	(17,597)	—	(1,879)	(89,375)
Depreciation and amortization	—	—	—	(72)	(72)
Operating income (loss)	34,516	6,109	—	(7,602)	33,023
Other income (loss)	(66,848)	(3,390)	589	(590)	(70,239)
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(32,332)	2,719	589	(8,192)	(37,216)
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	—	—	(3,688)	—	(3,688)
Net income (loss)	(32,332)	2,719	(3,099)	(8,192)	(40,904)
Preferred dividends	—	—	—	(3,375)	(3,375)
Income (loss) applicable to common stockholders	<u>\$ (32,332)</u>	<u>\$ 2,719</u>	<u>\$ (3,099)</u>	<u>\$ (11,567)</u>	<u>\$ (44,279)</u>
March 31, 2008					
Total Assets					
Carrying value	\$ 5,010,092	\$ 1,072,586	\$ 49,416	\$ 121,410	\$ 6,253,504
Amortized cost basis	\$ 5,757,634	\$ 1,072,586	\$ 49,416	\$ 121,410	\$ 7,001,046
Fair value (A)	\$ 4,854,319	\$ 1,066,805	\$ 49,416	\$ 121,410	\$ 6,091,950
Debt					
Nonrecourse, carrying value	\$ 4,381,555	\$ 858,673	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,240,228
Recourse, carrying value	\$ 701,092	\$ 9,342	\$ —	\$ 100,100	\$ 810,534
Total, fair value	\$ 3,877,952	\$ 856,629	\$ —	\$ 78,001	\$ 4,812,582
Equity					
GAAP book value	\$ (274,896)	\$ 168,719	\$ 47,291	\$ (158,593)	\$ (217,479)
Adjusted book value (B)	\$ 774,025	\$ 174,324	\$ 47,291	\$ (136,494)	\$ 859,146
Adjusted book value per share (B)					\$ 16.28
December 31, 2007					
Total assets	\$ 6,823,061	\$ 1,103,321	\$ 53,065	\$ 58,323	\$ 8,037,770
Three Months Ended March 31, 2007					
Gross revenues	\$ 132,643	\$ 29,493	\$ —	\$ 80	\$ 162,216
Operating expenses	(613)	(3,436)	—	(8,857)	(12,906)
Interest expense	(93,342)	(19,738)	—	(3,671)	(116,751)
Depreciation and amortization	—	—	—	(73)	(73)
Operating income (loss)	38,688	6,319	—	(12,521)	32,486
Other income (loss)	3,046	153	576	1	3,776
Income (loss) from continuing operations	41,734	6,472	576	(12,520)	36,262
Income (loss) from discontinued operations	—	—	(71)	—	(71)
Net income (loss)	41,734	6,472	505	(12,520)	36,191
Preferred dividends	—	—	—	(2,515)	(2,515)
Income (loss) applicable to common stockholders	<u>\$ 41,734</u>	<u>\$ 6,472</u>	<u>\$ 505</u>	<u>\$ (15,035)</u>	<u>\$ 33,676</u>

- (A) Only financial instruments are reflected at fair value, other assets are reflected at their carrying value.
- (B) Represents GAAP book value as if Newcastle had elected to measure all of its financial assets and liabilities at fair value under SFAS 159.

Table of Contents

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

At March 31, 2008 and 2007, Newcastle had \$19.2 million and \$21.4 million, respectively, of long-lived assets in Canada. In connection with such assets, Newcastle recognized revenue of \$.9 million and \$.7 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Newcastle has committed to a plan, and is actively working, to sell all of its operating real estate. As a result, all of the real estate has been classified as held for sale at March 31, 2008 and marked to the lower of cost or market, resulting in a recorded loss of \$3.5 million. All of the related operations, including this loss, have been classified as discontinued operations for all periods presented.

Gain (Loss) on Sale of Investments, Net and Other Income (Loss), Net

These items are comprised of the following:

	<u>Three Months Ended March 31,</u>	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Gain (loss) on sale of investments, net		
Gain on sale of real estate securities	\$ 6,459	\$ 8,108
Loss on sale of real estate securities	(942)	(5,879)
Gain on disposition of loans held for sale	1,434	—
Realized gain (loss) on termination of derivative instruments	(425)	(17)
	<u>\$ 6,526</u>	<u>\$ 2,212</u>
Other income (loss), net		
Realized (loss) on total rate of return swaps	\$ (7,145)	\$ —
Unrealized gain (loss) on total rate of return swaps	(4,084)	258
Gain (loss) on non-hedge derivative instruments	(8,405)	222
Unrealized gain (loss) recognized at de-designation of hedges	(444)	—
Hedge ineffectiveness	208	(8)
Other income (loss)	562	245
	<u>\$ (19,308)</u>	<u>\$ 717</u>

Unconsolidated Subsidiaries

The following table summarizes the activity for significant subsidiaries affecting the equity held by Newcastle in unconsolidated subsidiaries:

	<u>Operating Real Estate</u>	<u>Real Estate Loan</u>
Balance at December 31, 2007	\$ 13,391	\$ 10,984
Contributions to unconsolidated subsidiaries	—	—
Distributions from unconsolidated subsidiaries	(347)	(9,336)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries	589	118
Balance at March 31, 2008	<u>\$ 13,633</u>	<u>\$ 1,766</u>

In April 2008, Newcastle closed on the sale of our interests in the operating real estate joint venture and received net proceeds of \$19.9 million. As a result, Newcastle recorded a gain of approximately \$6.2 million.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

3. REAL ESTATE SECURITIES

The following is a summary of Newcastle's real estate securities at March 31, 2008, all of which are classified as available for sale and are therefore reported at fair value with changes in fair value recorded in other comprehensive income.

Asset Type	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis		Gross Unrealized			Number of Securities	Weighted Average			
		Before Impairment	Other-Than-Temporary Impairment (F)	Gains	Losses	Carrying Value		S&P Equivalent Rating	Coupon	Yield	Maturity (Years)
CMBS-Conduit	\$1,366,265	\$1,309,399	\$ (1,893)	\$ 62	\$(429,877)	\$ 877,691	170	BBB	5.67%	6.32%	7.0
CMBS-Large Loan	608,825	606,996	—	—	(82,923)	524,073	45	BBB-	5.58%	5.58%	2.5
CMBS- CDO	16,000	14,730	(14,090)	—	(320)	320	1	CC	10.14%	0.00%	—
CMBS- B-Note	265,195	254,801	—	357	(32,830)	222,328	40	BB	6.13%	6.93%	5.0
REIT Debt	652,516	663,737	—	727	(63,209)	601,255	65	BBB-	6.24%	5.78%	5.4
ABS-Subprime (E)	562,050	550,100	(194,998)	1,194	(128,742)	227,554	122	BB	4.41%	6.37%	4.6
ABS-Manufactured Housing	61,839	60,016	—	1,316	(4,806)	56,526	9	BBB-	6.68%	7.46%	5.1
ABS-Franchise	43,020	43,148	—	—	(14,208)	28,940	17	BBB	5.84%	5.90%	4.3
FNMA/FHLMC (A) (D)	433,269	442,972	—	9,449	—	452,421	15	AAA	5.65%	5.61%	3.8
Subtotal/Average (B)	<u>4,008,979</u>	<u>3,945,899</u>	<u>(210,981)</u>	<u>13,105</u>	<u>(756,915)</u>	<u>2,991,108</u>	<u>484</u>	<u>BBB</u>	<u>5.64%</u>	<u>6.08%</u>	<u>5.2</u>
Retained Securities (C)	76,380	71,316	(17,238)	—	(3,731)	50,347	6	B+	4.79%	12.20%	7.0
Residual Interests (C)	48,569	62,947	(14,378)	—	—	48,569	2	NR	0.00%	20.00%	5.3
Total/Average	<u>\$4,133,928</u>	<u>\$4,080,162</u>	<u>\$ (242,597)</u>	<u>\$13,105</u>	<u>\$(760,646)</u>	<u>\$ 3,090,024</u>	<u>492</u>	<u>BBB</u>	<u>5.55%</u>	<u>6.34%</u>	<u>5.2</u>

(A) FNMA/FHLMC securities have an implied AAA rating.

(B) The total outstanding face amount of fixed rate securities was \$3.1 billion, and of floating rate securities was \$1.0 billion.

(C) Represents the retained bonds and equity from Subprime Portfolios I and II. These securities have been treated as part of the residential mortgage loan segment – see Note 2. The residuals do not have stated coupons and therefore their coupons have been treated as zero for purposes of the table.

(D) Amortized cost basis and carrying value include principal receivable of \$8.3 million.

(E) Amortized cost basis and carrying value include principal receivable of \$0.3 million.

(F) Represents the cumulative impairment against amortized cost basis through earnings.

Unrealized losses that are considered other-than-temporary are recognized currently in income. During the three months ended March 31, 2008, Newcastle recorded other-than-temporary impairment charges of \$46.4 million, relating to securities with an aggregate post impairment amortized cost basis of \$139.9 million at March 31, 2008. Management closely monitors market valuations and, based on the results of recent market events, has concluded that these securities are other-than-temporarily impaired under GAAP. The remaining unrealized losses on Newcastle's securities are primarily the result of market factors, rather than credit impairment, and Newcastle has performed credit analyses in relation to such securities which support its belief that the carrying values of such securities are fully recoverable over their expected holding period.

Securities in an Unrealized Loss Position	Amortized Cost Basis			Gross Unrealized			Number of Securities	Weighted Average			
	Outstanding Face Amount	Before Impairment	Other-Than-Temporary Impairment	Gains	Losses	Carrying Value		S&P Equivalent Rating	Coupon	Yield	Maturity (Years)
Less Than Twelve Months	\$ 925,107	\$ 879,289	\$ —	\$—	\$(179,702)	\$ 699,587	114	BBB	5.64%	6.10%	4.8
Twelve or More Months	2,288,327	2,252,455	—	—	(580,944)	1,671,511	281	BBB-	5.66%	5.87%	5.6
Total	<u>\$3,213,434</u>	<u>\$3,131,744</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$—</u>	<u>\$(760,646)</u>	<u>\$ 2,371,098</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>BBB-</u>	<u>5.65%</u>	<u>5.93%</u>	<u>5.4</u>

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

4. REAL ESTATE RELATED LOANS, RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS AND SUBPRIME MORTGAGE LOANS

The following is a summary of real estate related loans, residential mortgage loans and subprime mortgage loans at March 31, 2008. The loans contain various terms, including fixed and floating rates, self-amortizing and interest only. They are generally subject to prepayment.

Loan Type	Outstanding Face Amount	Carrying Value	Loan Count	Wtd. Avg. Yield	Weighted Average Maturity (Years) (A)	Floating Rate Loans as a % of Face Amount	Delinquent Face Amount (B)
Mezzanine Loans	\$ 803,042	\$ 799,412	22	6.89%	3.4	87.9%	\$ —
B-Notes	421,104	405,189	15	5.69%	3.4	86.1%	—
Corporate Bank Loans	541,469	519,846	13	6.68%	3.7	100.0%	—
Whole Loans	66,838	66,814	3	6.27%	3.4	100.0%	—
ICH Loans	28,262	27,647	20	7.73%	0.2	0.0%	—
Total Real Estate Related Loans	<u>\$1,860,715</u>	<u>\$1,818,908</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>6.55%</u>	<u>3.4</u>	<u>90.1%</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Residential Loans	\$ 97,454	\$ 98,056	307	3.60%	3.6		\$ 7,920
Manufactured Housing Loans	523,731	511,017	15,215	8.52%	6.0		3,737
Total Residential Mortgage Loans (C)	<u>\$ 621,185</u>	<u>\$ 609,073</u>	<u>15,522</u>	<u>7.71%</u>	<u>5.6</u>		<u>\$ 11,657</u>
Subprime Mortgage Loans Subject to Call Option	<u>\$ 406,217</u>	<u>\$ 394,913</u>					

- (A) The weighted average maturities for the residential loan portfolio and the two manufactured housing loan portfolios were calculated based on constant prepayment rates (CPR) of 20%, 8% and 9%, respectively.
- (B) This face amount of loans is 60 or more days past due, in foreclosure or real estate owned.
- (C) Carrying value includes interest receivable of \$0.4 million for the residential housing loans and principal and interest receivable of \$12.0 million for the manufactured housing loans.

The following is a reconciliation of the related loss allowance.

	Real Estate Related Loans	Residential Mortgage Loans
Balance at December 31, 2007	\$ (600)	\$ (6,917)
Provision for credit losses	(200)	(2,306)
Provision for impaired loans	(19,104)	(1,222)
Realized losses	—	1,798
Balance at March 31, 2008	<u>\$ (19,904)</u>	<u>\$ (8,647)</u>

As of March 31, 2008, Newcastle held an aggregate of \$124.0 million notional amount of total rate of return swaps (including an unfunded asset with a notional amount of \$19.1 million) on 5 reference assets on which it had deposited \$31.7 million of margin. These total rate of return swaps had an aggregate fair value of approximately (\$5.7) million, a weighted average receive interest rate of LIBOR + 2.90%, a weighted average pay interest rate of LIBOR + 0.83%, and a weighted average swap maturity of 0.6 years.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

The following table presents information on the retained interests in Newcastle's securitizations of subprime mortgage loans and the sensitivity of their fair value to call date for immediate 10% and 20% adverse changes in the assumptions utilized in calculating such fair value, at March 31, 2008:

	Subprime Portfolio	
	I	II
Total securitized loans (unpaid principal balance)	\$834,012	\$996,859
Average loan seasoning (months)	31	14
Loans subject to call option (carrying value)	\$292,166	\$102,747
Retained interests (fair value) (A)	\$ 46,272	\$ 52,644
Weighted average life (years) of residual interest	3.8	6.2
Weighted average expected credit losses (B)	8.6%	14.5%
Effect on fair value of retained interests of 10% adverse change	\$ (6,361)	\$ (9,754)
Effect on fair value of retained interests of 20% adverse change	\$ (11,428)	\$ (18,980)
Weighted average constant prepayment rate (C)	20.2%	13.6%
Effect on fair value of retained interests of 10% adverse change	\$ (3,577)	\$ (7,088)
Effect on fair value of retained interests of 20% adverse change	\$ (6,834)	\$ (8,204)
Weighted average discount rate	13.1%	14.1%
Effect on fair value of retained interests of 10% adverse change	\$ (1,637)	\$ (7,898)
Effect on fair value of retained interests of 20% adverse change	\$ (3,167)	\$ (9,534)

- (A) The retained interests include residual interests and retained bonds of the securitizations. Their fair value is estimated based on pricing models.
- (B) Represents the percentage of losses on the original principal balance of the loans at the time of the respective securitizations (April 2006 and July 2007) to the maturity of the loans.
- (C) Represents the weighted average voluntary prepayment rate for the loans from the time of the respective securitizations (April 2006 and July 2007) to the maturity of such loans.

The sensitivity analysis is hypothetical and should be used with caution. In particular, the results are calculated by stressing a particular economic assumption independent of changes in any other assumption; in practice, changes in one factor may result in changes in another, which might counteract or amplify the sensitivities. Also, changes in the fair value based on a 10% or 20% variation in an assumption generally may not be extrapolated because the relationship of the change in the assumption to the change in fair value may not be linear.

The following table summarizes certain characteristics of the underlying subprime mortgage loans in the securitizations as of March 31, 2008:

	Subprime Portfolio	
	I	II
Loan unpaid principal balance (UPB)	\$834,012	\$996,859
Delinquencies of 60 or more days (UPB)	\$151,847	\$ 79,719
Net credit losses for the three months ended March 31, 2008	\$ 4,383	\$ 486
Cumulative net credit losses	\$ 7,954	\$ 486
Cumulative net credit losses as a % of original UPB	0.53%	0.04%
Percentage of ARM loans (A)	60.3%	69.3%
Percentage of loans with loan-to-value ratio >90%	10.4%	17.7%
Percentage of interest-only loans	28.6%	4.6%

- (A) ARM loans are adjustable-rate mortgage loans. An option ARM is an adjustable-rate mortgage that provides the borrower with an option to choose from several payment amounts each month for a specified period of the loan term. None of the loans in the subprime portfolios are an option ARM.

Delinquencies include loans 60 or more days past due, in foreclosure or real estate owned. Newcastle received net cash inflows of \$3.5 million and \$5.8 million from the retained interests of Subprime Portfolios I and II, respectively, during the three months ended March 31, 2008.

The weighted average yields of the retained notes of Subprime Portfolios I and II were 10.3% and 15.0%, respectively, as of March 31, 2008. The loans subject to call option and the corresponding financing recognize interest income and expense based on the expected weighted average coupons of the loans subject to call option at the call date of 9.24% and 8.68%, for Subprime Portfolios I and II, respectively.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

5. DEBT OBLIGATIONS

The following table presents certain information regarding Newcastle's debt obligations and related hedges at March 31, 2008:

Debt Obligation/Collateral	Month Issued	Outstanding Face Amount	Carrying Value	Unhedged Weighted Average Funding Cost (A)	Final Stated Maturity	Weighted Average Funding Cost (B)	Weighted Average Maturity (Years)	Face Amount of Floating Rate Debt	Collateral Amortized Cost Basis (C)	Collateral Carrying Value (K)	Collateral Weighted Average Maturity (Years)	Face Amount of Floating Rate Collateral (C)	Aggregate Notional Amount of Current Hedges
CBO Bonds Payable (D)													
Portfolio V	Mar 2004	\$ 411,085	\$ 408,762	3.45%	Mar 2039	4.04%	4.4	\$ 382,750	\$ 439,138	\$ 354,621	4.5	\$ 192,472	\$ 177,300
Portfolio VI	Sep 2004	454,500	451,781	3.31%	Sep 2039	4.12%	4.9	442,500	492,455	372,506	4.5	224,939	208,897
Portfolio VII	Apr 2005	447,000	443,525	3.20%	Apr 2040	4.37%	5.9	439,600	466,756	347,725	5.5	197,154	242,524
Portfolio VIII	Dec 2005	426,800	423,500	3.22%	Dec 2050	5.05%	7.2	420,800	482,221	327,152	7.3	128,201	341,506
Portfolio IX	Nov 2006	807,500	806,808	3.38%	Nov 2052	3.84%	5.8	799,900	777,027	715,356	4.4	601,063	161,655
Portfolio X	May 2007	585,750	587,055	3.31%	May 2052	3.66%	5.5	585,750	789,393	780,287	3.9	597,560	91,979
Portfolio XI	Jul 2007	1,247,750	1,247,233	2.83%	Jul 2052	5.00%	6.9	1,247,750	1,279,908	1,072,372	5.2	309,798	990,201
		<u>4,380,385</u>	<u>4,368,664</u>			<u>4.37%</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>4,319,050</u>	<u>4,726,898</u>	<u>3,970,019</u>	<u>5.0</u>	<u>2,251,187</u>	<u>2,214,062</u>
Other Bonds Payable													
ICH loans	Aug 1998	12,891	12,891	6.06%	Aug 2030	6.06%	0.1	—	27,647	27,647	0.2	—	—
Manufactured housing loans	Jan 2006	179,162	178,636	LIBOR+1.25%	Jan 2009	5.97%	0.7	179,162	198,576	198,576	6.4	3,272	165,712
Manufactured housing loans	Aug 2006	286,779	285,124	LIBOR+1.25%	Aug 2011	7.02%	2.6	286,779	312,441	312,441	5.7	54,332	285,033
		<u>478,832</u>	<u>476,651</u>			<u>6.60%</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>465,941</u>	<u>538,664</u>	<u>538,664</u>	<u>5.7</u>	<u>57,604</u>	<u>450,745</u>
Repurchase Agreements (E)													
Real estate related loans	Rolling	252,395	252,395	LIBOR+0.84%	Various (G)	3.59%	0.7	252,395	340,545	340,545	1.9	340,604	—
Other real estate securities (F)	Rolling	28,597	28,597	LIBOR+0.61%	Apr 2008	3.31%	0.1	28,597	19,967	19,967	2.7	68,807	—
Residential mortgage loans	Rolling	7,090	7,090	LIBOR+1.75%	Apr 2008	4.45%	0.1	7,090	11,795	11,795	2.8	11,525	—
		<u>288,082</u>	<u>288,082</u>			<u>3.58%</u>	<u>0.6</u>	<u>288,082</u>	<u>372,307</u>	<u>372,307</u>	<u>2.1</u>	<u>420,936</u>	<u>—</u>
FNMA/FHLMC securities	Rolling	422,352	422,352	LIBOR+0.02%	Various (H)	4.63%	0.2	422,352	442,971	452,421	3.8	—	319,309
		<u>710,434</u>	<u>710,434</u>			<u>4.21%</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>710,434</u>	<u>815,278</u>	<u>824,728</u>	<u>3.0</u>	<u>420,936</u>	<u>319,309</u>
Corporate													
Junior subordinated notes payable	Mar 2006	100,100	100,100	7.57%(I)	Apr 2036	7.71%	28.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
		<u>100,100</u>	<u>100,100</u>			<u>7.71%</u>	<u>28.0</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Subtotal debt obligations		<u>5,669,751</u>	<u>5,655,849</u>			<u>4.59%</u>	<u>5.3</u>	<u>\$5,495,425</u>	<u>\$ 6,080,840</u>	<u>\$5,333,411</u>	<u>4.8</u>	<u>\$2,729,727</u>	<u>\$2,984,116</u>
Financing on subprime mortgage loans subject to call option (J)	(J)	406,217	394,913										
Total debt obligations		<u>\$6,075,968</u>	<u>\$6,050,762</u>										

(A) Weighted average, including floating and fixed rate classes and excluding the amortization of deferred financing costs.

(B) Including the effect of applicable hedges.

(C) Including restricted cash held in CBOs.

(D) Collateral is comprised of real estate securities and loans.

(E) Subject to potential mandatory prepayments based on collateral value. The counterparties on these repurchase agreements include: Bear Stearns (\$501.4 million), Deutsche Bank (\$107.6 million), Credit Suisse (\$61.4 million) and other (\$40.0 million).

(F) Debt carrying value exceeds collateral amortized cost basis due to \$24.6 million of repurchase agreements secured by investments in Newcastle's CBO bonds, which are eliminated in consolidation.

(G) The longest maturity is May 2010.

(H) The longest maturity is July 2008.

(I) LIBOR + 2.25% after April 2016.

(J) Issued in April 2006 and July 2007. See Note 4 regarding the securitizations of Subprime Portfolios I and II.

(K) Collateral carrying value represents the aggregate of fair value for real estate securities and amortized cost basis for loans in accordance to GAAP, and restricted cash held in CBOs.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

6. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Newcastle's financial instruments fall into four major categories:

- real estate securities, which are marked to market through other comprehensive income,
- derivatives, which are generally marked to market through other comprehensive income (or through income if they are not effective hedges),
- real estate related and residential mortgage loans, which are generally not marked to market, but for which fair value is disclosed, and
- debt obligations, which are generally not marked to market, but for which fair value is disclosed.

Newcastle held the following financial instruments at March 31, 2008:

	Principal Balance or Notional Amount	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Fair Value Method (A)	Weighted Average Yield/Funding Cost	Weighted Average Maturity (Years)
Assets:						
Real estate securities, available for sale*	\$4,133,928	\$ 3,090,024	\$3,090,024	Broker quotations, counterparty quotations, pricing models	6.34%	5.2
Real estate related loans	1,860,715	1,818,908	1,663,135	Broker quotations, counterparty quotations, pricing models	6.55%	3.4
Residential mortgage loans	621,185	609,073	603,292	Pricing models	7.71%	5.6
Subprime mortgage loans subject to call option (B)	406,217	394,913	394,913	(B)	9.09%	(B)
Liabilities:						
CBO bonds payable	4,380,385	4,368,664	3,166,904	Counterparty quotations, pricing models	4.37%	6.0
Other bonds payable	478,832	476,651	465,201	Pricing models	6.60%	1.8
Repurchase agreements	710,434	710,434	707,563	Market comparables, pricing models	4.21%	0.4
Financing of subprime mortgage loans subject to call option (B)	406,217	394,913	394,913	(B)	9.09%	(B)
Junior subordinated notes payable	100,100	100,100	78,001	Pricing models	7.71%	28.0
Interest rate swaps, treated as hedges (C)*	2,984,116	226,386	226,386	Counterparty quotations	N/A	(C)
Total rate of return swaps (D)*	124,014	5,745	5,745	Broker quotations, counterparty quotations	N/A	(D)
Non-hedge derivatives (E)*	247,426	—	—	Counterparty quotations	N/A	(E)

* Measured at fair value on a recurring basis.

- (A) Based on order of priority. In the case of real estate securities and real estate related loans, broker quotations are obtained if available and practicable, otherwise counterparty quotations are obtained or, finally, internal pricing models are used. Internal pricing models are only used for (i) securities and loans which are not traded in an active market, and therefore have little or no price transparency, and for which significant unobservable inputs must be used in estimating fair value, (ii) loans or debt obligations which are private and untraded.
- (B) These two items results from an option, not an obligation, to repurchase loans from Newcastle's subprime mortgage loan securitizations (Note 4), are noneconomic until such option is exercised, and are equal and offsetting.

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

(C) Represents current swap agreements as follows:

<u>Year of Maturity</u>	<u>Weighted Average Maturity</u>	<u>Aggregate Notional Amount</u>	<u>Weighted Average Fixed Pay Rate</u>	<u>Aggregate Fair Value</u>
Agreements which receive 1-Month LIBOR:				
2010	Dec 2010	\$ 37,605	4.771%	\$ 1,697
2011	Sep 2011	303,559	5.208%	19,329
2012	Apr 2012	70,124	5.224%	4,373
2014	Oct 2014	17,637	5.099%	1,469
2015	Oct 2015	1,364,060	5.254%	116,781
2016	Apr 2016	630,900	5.166%	48,788
2017	Aug 2017	174,034	5.235%	17,705
Agreements which receive 3-Month LIBOR:				
2011	Feb 2011	32,000	5.078%	2,118
2014	Jun 2014	354,197	4.196%	14,126
		<u>\$ 2,984,116</u>		<u>\$ 226,386</u>

A positive fair value represents a liability. Newcastle has recorded \$226.4 million of gross interest rate swap liabilities.

- (D) Represents total rate of return swaps which are treated as non-hedge derivatives. See Note 4 for a further discussion of these swaps. A positive fair value represents a liability; therefore, Newcastle has a net total rate of return swap liability.
- (E) These are two interest rate caps with notional balances of \$229.9 million and \$17.5 million, respectively. The maturity date of the \$229.9 million cap is March 2009 and the maturity date of the \$17.5 million cap is July 2009. The caps had zero fair value at March 31, 2008.

Pursuant to SFAS 157, the methodologies used for valuing such instruments have been categorized into three broad levels as follows:

Level 1 - Quoted prices in active markets for identical instruments.

Level 2 - Valuations based principally on other observable market parameters, including

- Quoted prices in active markets for similar instruments,
- Quoted prices in less active or inactive markets for identical or similar instruments,
- Other observable inputs (such as interest rates, yield curves, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks and default rates), and
- Market corroborated inputs (derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data).

Level 3 - Valuations based significantly on unobservable inputs.

- Level 3A - Valuations based on third party indications (broker quotes or counterparty quotes) which were, in turn, based significantly on unobservable inputs or were otherwise not supportable as Level 2 valuations.
- Level 3B - Valuations based on internal models with significant unobservable inputs.

Pursuant to SFAS 157, these levels form a hierarchy. Newcastle follows this hierarchy for its financial instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis. The classifications are based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The following table summarizes such financial assets and liabilities at March 31, 2008:

	Principal Balance or Notional Amount	Carrying Value	Fair Value			Total
			Level 2	Level 3A	Level 3B	
Assets:						
Real estate securities, available for sale	\$ 4,133,928	\$ 3,090,924	\$ 2,848,365	\$ 80,104	\$ 161,555	\$ 3,090,024
Liabilities:						
Interest rate swaps, treated as hedges	2,984,116	226,386	226,386	—	—	226,386
Total rate of return swaps	124,014	5,745	5,745	—	—	5,745
Non-hedge derivatives	247,426	—	—	—	—	—

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

Newcastle's investments in instruments measured at fair value using Level 3 inputs changed during the three months ended March 31, 2008 as follows:

	<u>Level 3A</u>	<u>Level 3B</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Assets</u>			
Balance at January 1, 2008	\$130,968	\$177,518	\$308,486
Total gains (losses) (A)			
Included in net income (loss) (B)	(3,571)	(42,801)	(46,372)
Included in other comprehensive income	(19,622)	27,854	8,232
Amortization included in interest income	68	6,657	6,725
Settlements or repayments	(2,312)	(20,087)	(22,399)
Transfers in (out) of Level 3	(25,427)	12,414	(13,013)
Balance at March 31, 2008	<u>\$ 80,104</u>	<u>\$161,555</u>	<u>\$241,659</u>

- (A) The total amount of gains (losses) recorded during the period which is included in earnings and is attributable to the change in unrealized gains (losses) relating to assets still held at the reporting date is (\$40.9 million) for assets and (\$11.2 million) for liabilities.
- (B) These gains (losses) are recorded in the following line items in the consolidated statement of operations:

	<u>Assets</u>
Gain (loss) on sale of investments, net	\$ —
Other income (loss), net	—
Other-than-temporary impairment	(46,372)
Total	<u>\$(46,372)</u>

Newcastle has recorded \$19.1 million of impairment on two real estate loans (Note 4) with an aggregate post impairment amortized cost basis of \$32.1 million. These loans were written down to fair value based on internal pricing models (level 3B valuations).

7. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Newcastle is required to present both basic and diluted earnings per share ("EPS"). Basic EPS is calculated by dividing net income available for common stockholders by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during each period. Diluted EPS is calculated by dividing net income available for common stockholders by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding plus the additional dilutive effect of common stock equivalents during each period. Newcastle's common stock equivalents are its outstanding stock options. Net income available for common stockholders is equal to net income less preferred dividends.

The following is a reconciliation of the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding on a diluted basis.

	<u>Three Months Ended</u>	
	<u>March 31,</u>	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding, basic	52,780,319	47,572,895
Dilutive effect of stock options, based on the treasury stock method	—	250,602
Weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding, diluted	<u>52,780,319</u>	<u>47,823,497</u>

As of March 31, 2008, Newcastle's outstanding options were summarized as follows:

Held by the Manager	1,549,340
Issued to the Manager and subsequently transferred to certain of the Manager's employees	935,269
Held by the independent directors	14,000
Total	<u>2,498,609</u>

[Table of Contents](#)

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Unaudited)

MARCH 31, 2008

(dollars in tables in thousands, except share data)

8. RECENT ACTIVITIES

In January 2008, Newcastle repurchased \$16.0 million face amount of a class of CBO bond for \$6.7 million. As a result, Newcastle extinguished \$16.0 million face amount of CBO debt and recorded a gain on extinguishment of debt of \$9.2 million.

In March 2008, Newcastle repurchased \$2.9 million face amount of a class of CBO bond for \$0.6 million. As a result, Newcastle extinguished \$2.9 million face amount of CBO debt and recorded a gain on extinguishment of debt of \$2.3 million.

In the first quarter of 2008, Newcastle sold face amounts of approximately \$762.5 million of FNMA/FHLMC securities and \$525.2 million of non-FNMA/FHLMC securities. Concurrent with the sales, Newcastle terminated the related interest rate swap and interest rate cap agreements, which were de-designated as hedges for accounting purposes at December 31, 2007. As a result, a portion of the gain on sale from these assets was offset by the loss on the termination of the derivatives. In connection with the investments sold in the first quarter, Newcastle recognized a net mark-to-market loss of \$17.2 million in December 2007.

In the first quarter of 2008, Newcastle repaid \$924.0 million of repurchase agreements.

In February 2008, Newcastle repaid in full the debt associated with its first CBO in the amount of \$331.2 million.

In February 2008, Newcastle terminated its credit facility. At the date of termination, no amounts were outstanding under the credit facility (and Newcastle did not incur any material costs related to the termination); at that time, previously incurred and deferred financing costs of \$0.6 million were written off through gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt in the statement of operations.

In April 2008, Newcastle closed on a sale of its interest in the operating real estate joint venture and received net proceeds of approximately \$19.9 million, resulting in a gain of approximately \$6.2 million.

In March 2008, Newcastle's board of directors approved expanding the previously approved share repurchase to allow a potential repurchase of up to \$125 million of Newcastle's common stock or preferred stock. As of May 8, 2008, no shares have been repurchased.

[Table of Contents](#)

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

The following should be read in conjunction with the unaudited consolidated financial statements and notes included herein.

GENERAL

Newcastle Investment Corp. is a real estate investment and finance company. We invest in real estate securities, loans and other real estate related assets. In addition, we consider other opportunistic investments which capitalize on our manager's expertise and which we believe present attractive risk/return profiles and are consistent with our investment guidelines. We seek to deliver stable dividends and attractive risk-adjusted returns to our stockholders through prudent asset selection, active management and the use of match funded financing structures, when appropriate and available, which reduce our interest rate and financing risks. Our objective is to maximize the difference between the yield on our investments and the cost of financing these investments while hedging our interest rate risk. We emphasize portfolio management, asset quality, diversification, match funded financing and credit risk management.

We currently own a diversified portfolio of moderately credit sensitive real estate debt investments including securities and loans. Our portfolio of real estate securities includes commercial mortgage backed securities (CMBS), senior unsecured debt issued by property REITs, real estate related asset backed securities (ABS), and FNMA/FHLMC securities. Mortgage backed securities are interests in or obligations secured by pools of mortgage loans. We generally target investments rated A through BB, except for our FNMA/FHLMC securities which have an implied AAA rating. We also own, directly and indirectly, interests in loans and pools of loans, including real estate related loans, commercial mortgage loans, residential mortgage loans, manufactured housing loans, and subprime mortgage loans. We also own, directly and indirectly, interests in operating real estate.

We employ leverage in order to achieve our return objectives. We do not have a predetermined target debt to equity ratio as we believe the appropriate leverage for the particular assets we are financing depends on the credit quality of those assets. As a result of our negative GAAP equity, our GAAP debt to equity ratio is not a meaningful measure as of March 31, 2008. Our general investment guidelines adopted by our board of directors limit total leverage (as defined under the governing documents) to a maximum 9.0 to 1 debt to equity ratio. As of March 31, 2008, our debt to equity ratio, as computed under this method, was approximately 5.1 to 1.

We strive to maintain access to a broad array of capital resources in an effort to insulate our business from potential fluctuations in the availability of capital. We utilize multiple forms of financing including collateralized bond obligations (CBOs), other securitizations, term loans, and trust preferred securities, as well as short term financing in the form of repurchase agreements.

We seek to match fund our investments with respect to interest rates and maturities in order to minimize the impact of interest rate fluctuations on earnings and reduce the risk of refinancing our liabilities prior to the maturity of the investments. We seek to finance a substantial portion of our real estate securities and loans through the issuance of term debt, which generally represents obligations issued in multiple classes secured by an underlying portfolio of assets. Specifically, our CBO financings offer us the structural flexibility to buy and sell certain investments to manage risk and, subject to certain limitations, to optimize returns.

We conduct our through three primary business segments: (i) real estate securities and real estate related loans, (ii) residential mortgage loans and (iii) operating real estate. Revenues attributable to each segment are disclosed below (in thousands).

<u>For the Three Months Ended March 31,</u>	<u>Real Estate Securities and Real Estate Related Loans</u>	<u>Residential Mortgage Loans</u>	<u>Operating Real Estate</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Total</u>
2008	\$ 105,062	\$ 27,296	\$ —	\$ 536	\$132,894
2007	\$ 132,643	\$ 29,493	\$ —	\$ 80	\$162,216

Market Considerations

Our ability to maintain our dividends is dependent on our ability to invest our capital on a timely basis at attractive levels. The primary market factors that bear on this are credit spreads and the availability of financing on favorable terms.

Generally speaking, widening credit spreads reduce the unrealized gains on our current investments (or cause or increase unrealized losses) and increase our financing costs, but increase the yields available on potential new investments, while tightening credit spreads increase the unrealized gains (or reduce unrealized losses) on our current investments and reduce our financing costs, but reduce the yields available on potential new investments. By reducing unrealized gains (or causing unrealized losses), widening credit spreads also impact our ability to realize gains on existing investments if we were to sell such assets.

Table of Contents

In the first three months of 2008, credit spreads widened substantially. This widening of credit spreads caused the net unrealized losses on our securities and derivatives, recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income, to increase and therefore caused our book value per share to become negative. One of the key drivers of the widening of credit spreads has been the continued disruption in the subprime mortgage lending sector. This disruption has spread rapidly, causing adverse conditions and liquidity concerns throughout the credit markets.

Widening credit spreads, while reducing our book value per share, also result in higher yields on new investment opportunities. However, we must have additional capital available at attractive terms, either through debt financings or equity offerings, in order to take advantage of these investment opportunities. Currently, we are unable to take full advantage of the increased yields available on investments due to a lack of available capital, and we may continue to experience the same restrictions throughout 2008. Non-recourse term financing not subject to margin requirements is generally not available and we must maintain our current sources of capital in order to meet our working capital needs.

In addition, the recent credit and liquidity crisis has adversely affected the market in which we operate in a number of other ways. For example, it has reduced the market trading activity for many real estate securities, resulting in less liquid markets for those securities. As the securities held by us and many other companies in our industry are marked to market at the end of each quarter, the decreased liquidity and concern over market conditions have resulted in what we believe are relatively conservative mark-to-market valuations of many real estate securities. These lower valuations have affected us by, among other things, decreasing our net book value and contributing to our decision to record impairment charges.

In order to increase our liquidity, we have elected to retain the majority of our investment proceeds (including those from recent asset sales) in lieu of using those proceeds to make new investments, and to reduce our dividend below the level of our earnings. This approach has increased our available cash while reducing the earnings from our investments. We may elect to adjust any future dividend payments to reflect our current and expected cash from operations.

We do not currently know the full extent to which this market disruption will affect us or the markets in which we operate, and we are unable to predict its length or ultimate severity. If the disruption continues, we will likely experience further tightening of liquidity, additional impairment charges and increased margin requirements, as well as additional challenges in raising capital and obtaining investment financing on attractive terms.

As of the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, based on our cash balances and committed financing, as well as proceeds from select asset sales, we believe we have sufficient liquidity to maintain our ongoing operations in the current market environment. Future cash flows and our liquidity may be materially impacted if conditions do not substantially improve. Should the current conditions worsen, or persist for an extended period of time, our available capital could be reduced upon the expiration or termination of our capital resources.

Certain aspects of these effects are more fully described in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Interest Rate, Credit and Spread Risk" as well as in "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk."

APPLICATION OF CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the use of estimates and assumptions that could affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Management believes that the estimates and assumptions utilized in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are prudent and reasonable. Actual results have been in line with management's estimates and judgments used in applying each of the accounting policies described below. The following is a summary of our accounting policies that are most effected by judgments, estimates and assumptions.

Variable Interest Entities

In December 2003, Financial Accounting Standards Board Interpretation ("FIN") No. 46R "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities" was issued as a modification of FIN 46. FIN 46R clarified the methodology for determining whether an entity is a variable interest entity ("VIE") and the methodology for assessing who is the primary beneficiary of a VIE. VIEs are defined as entities in which equity investors do not have the characteristics of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity at risk for the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support from other parties. A VIE is required to be consolidated by its primary beneficiary, and only by its primary beneficiary, which is defined as the party who will absorb a majority of the VIE's expected losses or receive a majority of the expected residual returns as a result of holding variable interests.

We will continue to analyze future investments pursuant to the requirements of FIN 46R. These analyses require considerable judgment in determining the primary beneficiary of a VIE since they involve subjective probability weighting of subjectively determined possible cash flow scenarios. The result could be the consolidation of an entity acquired or formed in the future that would otherwise not have been consolidated or the non-consolidation of such an entity that would otherwise have been consolidated.

Valuation and Impairment of Securities

We have classified our real estate securities as available for sale. As such, they are carried at fair value with net unrealized gains or losses reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income. Fair value is based primarily upon broker quotations, as well as counterparty quotations, which provide valuation estimates based upon reasonable market order indications or a good faith estimate thereof. These quotations are subject to significant variability based on market conditions, such as interest rates and credit spreads. Certain securities are not traded in an active market and therefore have little or no price transparency. For a further discussion on this trend, see "–Market Considerations" above. In the instances where we have securities on which we expect adverse cash flow changes either from principal loss or delayed receipt of cash flows, we have estimated the fair value of these securities based on internal pricing models rather than quotations.

With respect to securities valued using pricing models, as of March 31, 2008, approximately \$164.5 million amortized cost basis of securities post impairment (or 4.3% of our total securities portfolio) was valued at \$161.6 million. Based on our estimated loss and other assumptions, we expect to receive approximately \$128.1 million of principal (excluding cash flows on residual interests) from these securities over time (which includes zero principal expected from our 2006 vintage subprime securities). The difference between estimated fair value and expected principal receipts represents unrealized losses which are not expected to be permanent, offset by the present value of expected interest receipts. With respect to these securities, \$42.8 million of loss was recorded to the statement of operations as other-than-temporary impairment during the three months ended March 31, 2008 and \$3.0 million of unrealized loss was recorded to other comprehensive income at March 31, 2008.

Changes in market conditions, as well as changes in the assumptions or methodology used to determine fair value, could result in a significant increase or decrease in our book equity. For securities valued using quotations, a 100 basis point change in credit spreads could impact the fair value by approximately \$105.2 million. For securities valued using pricing models, the inputs include the discount rate, assumptions relating to prepayments, default rates and loss severities, as well as other variables. We validated the inputs and outputs of our models by comparing them to available independent third party market parameters and models for reasonableness. A 10% increase in the default rate assumption would result in a \$21.5 million decrease in the estimated fair value of our securities valued with models.

We must also assess whether unrealized losses on securities, if any, reflect a decline in value which is other-than-temporary and, accordingly, write the impaired security down to its value through earnings. For example, a decline in value is deemed to be other-than-temporary if it is probable that we will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of a security which was not impaired at acquisition, or if we do not have the ability and intent to hold a security in an unrealized loss position until its anticipated recovery (if any). Temporary declines in value generally result from changes in market factors, such as market interest rates and credit spreads, or from certain macroeconomic events, including market disruptions and supply changes, which do not directly impact our ability to collect amounts contractually due. We continually evaluate the credit status of each of our securities and the collateral supporting our securities. This evaluation includes a review of the credit

Table of Contents

of the issuer of the security (if applicable), the credit rating of the security, the key terms of the security (including credit support), debt service coverage and loan to value ratios, the performance of the pool of underlying loans and the estimated value of the collateral supporting such loans, including the effect of local, industry and broader economic trends and factors. These factors include loan default expectations and loss severities, which are analyzed in connection with a particular security's credit support, as well as prepayment rates. The result of this evaluation is considered in relation to the amount of the unrealized loss and the period elapsed since it was incurred. Significant judgment is required in this analysis.

Revenue Recognition on Securities

Income on these securities is recognized using a level yield methodology based upon a number of cash flow assumptions that are subject to uncertainties and contingencies. Such assumptions include the rate and timing of principal and interest receipts (which may be subject to prepayments and defaults). These assumptions are updated on at least a quarterly basis to reflect changes related to a particular security, actual historical data, and market changes. These uncertainties and contingencies are difficult to predict and are subject to future events, and economic and market conditions, which may alter the assumptions. For securities acquired at a discount for credit losses, the net income recognized is based on a "loss adjusted yield" whereby a gross interest yield is recorded to Interest Income, offset by a provision for probable, incurred credit losses which is accrued on a periodic basis to Provision for Credit Losses. The provision is determined based on an evaluation of the credit status of securities, as described in connection with the analysis of impairment above.

Valuation of Derivatives

Similarly, our derivative instruments are carried at fair value pursuant to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 133 "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities," as amended. Fair value is based on counterparty quotations. To the extent they qualify as cash flow hedges under SFAS No. 133, net unrealized gains or losses are reported as a component of accumulated other comprehensive income; otherwise, they are reported currently in income. To the extent they qualify as fair value hedges, net unrealized gains or losses on both the derivative and the related portion of the hedged item are reported currently in income. Fair values of such derivatives are subject to significant variability based on many of the same factors as the securities discussed above. The results of such variability could be a significant increase or decrease in our book equity and/or earnings.

Impairment of Loans

We purchase, directly and indirectly, real estate related, commercial mortgage and residential mortgage loans, including manufactured housing loans and subprime mortgage loans, to be held for investment. We must periodically evaluate each of these loans or loan pools for possible impairment. Impairment is indicated when it is deemed probable that we will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the contractual terms of the loan, or, for loans acquired at a discount for credit losses, when it is deemed probable that we will be unable to collect as anticipated. Upon determination of impairment, we would establish a specific valuation allowance with a corresponding charge to earnings. We continually evaluate our loans receivable for impairment. Our residential mortgage loans, including manufactured housing loans, are aggregated into pools for evaluation based on like characteristics, such as loan type and acquisition date. Individual loans are evaluated based on an analysis of the borrower's performance, the credit rating of the borrower, debt service coverage and loan to value ratios, the estimated value of the underlying collateral, the key terms of the loan, and the effect of local, industry and broader economic trends and factors. Pools of loans are also evaluated based on similar criteria, including trends in defaults and loss severities for the type and seasoning of loans being evaluated. This information is used to estimate specific impairment charges on individual loans as well as provisions for estimated unidentified incurred losses on pools of loans. Significant judgment is required both in determining impairment and in estimating the resulting loss allowance.

Revenue Recognition on Loans

Income on these loans is recognized using a methodology that is similar to the methodology used on our securities and is subject to similar uncertainties and contingencies, which are also analyzed on at least a quarterly basis. For loan pools acquired at a discount for credit losses, the net income recognized is based on a "loss adjusted yield" whereby a gross interest yield is recorded to Interest Income, offset by a provision for probable, incurred credit losses which is accrued on a periodic basis to Provision for Credit Losses. The provision is determined based on an evaluation of the loans as described under "Impairment of Loans" above. A rollforward of the provision is included in Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements.

Impairment of Operating Real Estate

We review our operating real estate for impairment annually or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Upon determination of impairment, we would record a write-down of the asset, which would be charged to earnings. Significant judgment is required both in determining impairment and in estimating the resulting write-down. In addition, when operating real estate is classified as held for sale, it must be recorded at the lower of its carrying amount or fair value less costs of sale. Significant judgment is required in determining the fair value of such properties.

[Table of Contents](#)

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2007, Statement of Position No. 07-1, “Clarification of the Scope of the Audit and Accounting Guide — Investment Companies and Accounting by Parent Companies and Equity Method Investors for Investments in Investment Companies” (“SOP 07-1”) was issued. SOP 07-1 addresses whether the accounting principles of the Audit and Accounting Guide for Investment Companies may be applied to an entity by clarifying the definition of an investment company and whether those accounting principles may be retained by a parent company in consolidation or by an investor in the application of the equity method of accounting. SOP 07-1 eliminates the previously existing exemption for REITs from being considered investment companies. We are currently evaluating the potential effect on our financial condition, liquidity and results of operations upon adoption of SOP 07-1. If we, or any of our subsidiaries, are considered an investment company under this new guidance, it would result in material changes to our financial statements. The primary change would be the recording of all of our (or our subsidiaries’) investments at fair value, with changes in fair value being recorded through the income statement. In February 2008, the FASB indefinitely postponed the adoption of SOP 07-1.

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157, “Fair Value Measurements.” SFAS 157 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants in the market in which the reporting entity transacts, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 applies to reporting periods beginning after November 15, 2007. We adopted SFAS 157 on January 1, 2008. To the extent they are measured at fair value, SFAS 157 did not materially change our fair value measurements for any of our existing financial statement elements. SFAS 157 did change the reported value for our derivative obligations, but this did not have a material effect on our liabilities or accumulated other comprehensive income. As a result, the adoption of SFAS 157 did not have a material impact on our financial condition, liquidity or results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, “The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities.” SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments, and certain other items, at fair value. SFAS 159 also establishes presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons between entities that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. SFAS 159 applies to reporting periods beginning after November 15, 2007. We adopted SFAS 159 on January 1, 2008. We did not elect to measure any items at fair value pursuant to the provisions of SFAS 159. As a result, the adoption of SFAS 159 did not have a material impact on our financial condition, liquidity or results of operations.

In December 2007, the American Securitization Forum (“ASF”) issued the “Streamlined Foreclosure and Loss Avoidance Framework for Securitized Subprime Adjustable Rate Mortgage Loans” (the “ASF Framework”). The ASF Framework provides guidance for servicers to streamline borrower evaluation procedures and to facilitate the use of foreclosure and loss prevention efforts in an attempt to reduce the number of U.S. subprime residential mortgage borrowers who might default in the coming year because the borrowers cannot afford to pay the increased interest rate after their variable loan rate resets. The ASF Framework is focused on U.S. subprime first-lien adjustable-rate residential mortgages that have an initial fixed interest rate period of 36 months or less, are included in securitized pools, were originated between January 1, 2005 and July 31, 2007, and have an initial interest rate reset date between January 1, 2008 and July 31, 2010.

The ASF Framework requires a borrower to meet specific conditions, primarily related to the ability of the borrower to meet the initial terms of the loan and obtain refinancing, to qualify for a fast track loan modification under which the qualifying borrower’s interest rate will be kept at the existing initial rate, generally for five years following the upcoming reset. To qualify for fast-track modification, a loan must currently be no more than 30 days delinquent and no more than 60 days delinquent in the past 12 months, have a loan-to-value ratio greater than 97%, be subject to payment increases greater than 10% upon reset, and be for the primary residence of the borrower.

In January 2008, the SEC’s Office of Chief Accountant (the “OCA”) issued a letter (the “OCA Letter”) addressing accounting issues that may be raised by the ASF Framework. The OCA Letter expressed the view that if a qualifying subprime loan is modified pursuant to the ASF Framework and that loan could legally be modified, the OCA will not object to the continued status of the transferee as a QSPE under SFAS 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities, because it would be reasonable to conclude that defaults on such loans are “reasonably foreseeable” in the absence of any modification.

The servicer for Subprime Portfolios I and II may make loan modifications in accordance with the ASF Framework in 2008, but we do not expect any such modifications to have a material effect on the accounting for our subprime mortgage loans subject to call options or retained interests in the securitizations of Subprime Portfolios I and II. Furthermore, we do not expect that the ASF Framework will affect the off balance sheet treatment of the securitizations of Subprime Portfolios I and II.

In February 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position No. FAS 140-3 (“FSP FAS 140-3”), “Accounting for Transfers of Financial Assets and Repurchase Financing Transactions.” FSP FAS 140-3 provides guidance on accounting for a transfer of a financial asset and a repurchase financing. It presumes that an initial transfer of a financial asset and a repurchase financing are considered part of the same arrangement (a linked transaction) unless certain criteria are met. If the criteria are not met, the linked transaction would be recorded as a net investment, likely as a derivative, instead of recording the purchased financial asset on a gross basis along with a repurchase financing. FSP FAS 140-3 applies to reporting periods beginning after

[Table of Contents](#)

November 15, 2008 and is only applied prospectively to transactions that occur on or after the adoption date. As a result of the prospective nature of the adoption, we do not expect the adoption of FSP FAS 140-3 to have a material impact on our financial condition, liquidity or results of operations, unless we enter into transactions of this type after January 1, 2009.

In March 2008, the FASB issued SFAS 161, "Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." SFAS 161 applies to reporting periods beginning after November 15, 2008. SFAS 161 requires enhanced disclosures about an entity's derivative and hedging activities. It does not change the accounting for such activities. As a result, while the adoption of SFAS 161 will change our disclosures, we do not expect it to have a material impact on our financial condition, liquidity or results of operations.

[Table of Contents](#)

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table summarizes the changes in our results of operations from the three ended March 31, 2007 to the three months ended March 31, 2008 (dollars in thousands):

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2008/2007		Explanations of Material Changes
	Period to Period		
	Amount Change	Percent Change	
Interest income	\$ (29,322)	(18.1)%	(1)
Interest expense	(27,376)	(23.4)%	(1)
Loan and security servicing expense	(253)	(12.8)%	(1)
Provision for credit losses	469	23.0%	(2)
General and administrative expense	299	23.1%	(3)
Management fee to affiliate	691	17.7%	(4)
Incentive compensation to affiliate	(3,688)	(100.0)%	(4)
Depreciation and amortization	(1)	(1.4)%	N/A
Gain (loss) on sale of investments, net	4,314	195.0%	(5)
Other income (loss), net	(20,025)	N.M.	(6)
Other-than-temporary impairment	(46,372)	N.M.	(7)
Loan impairment	(20,326)	N.M.	(7)
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt	8,533	N.M.	(8)
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries	(139)	(16.4)%	(9)
Income (loss) from continuing operations	<u>\$ (73,478)</u>	<u>(202.6)%</u>	

N.M. - Not meaningful

- (1) Changes in interest income and expense are primarily related to our acquisition and disposition during these periods of interest bearing assets and related financings, as follows:

	Three Months Ended March 31, 2008/2007	
	Period to Period Increase (Decrease)	
	Interest Income	Interest Expense
Acquisition of securities and loans	\$ 2,595	\$ 1,090
Disposition of securities and loans	(7,076)	(6,309)
New debt obligations	(5,160)	(6,100)
Repayment of debt obligations	(6,152)	(3,796)
Other (primarily changes in rates)	(13,529)	(12,261)
	<u>\$ (29,322)</u>	<u>\$ (27,376)</u>

Changes in loan and security servicing expense are also primarily due to these acquisitions and paydowns.

- (2) This change is primarily due to the increased provision for our pools of manufactured housing loans.
- (3) This change is primarily due to the increases in insurance expenses and professional fees.
- (4) The increase in management fees is a result of our increased size resulting from our equity issuances. As a result of impairment charges, we will not owe incentive compensation to our manager for an indefinite period of time.
- (5) This change is primarily a result of the volume of sales of real estate securities and the amount of unrealized gains available to be realized. Sales of real estate securities, and the proceeds therefrom, are based on a number of factors including credit, asset type and industry, and liquidity needs, and can be expected to increase or decrease from time to time. Periodic fluctuations in the sales of securities is dependent upon, among other things, management's assessment of credit risk, asset concentration, portfolio balance, liquidity and other factors.
- (6) This change is primarily due to the unrealized loss on total rate of return swaps and the realized loss on the termination of derivative instruments.
- (7) This change is due to impairment charges recorded in the three months ended March 31, 2008 as a result of continued credit market disruption.
- (8) This change is primarily due to the gain on the repurchase of our own debt offset by the write off of deferred financing fees upon repayments of debt obligations.
- (9) This change is primarily the result of a decrease in earnings from an unconsolidated subsidiary which owns franchise loans. A significant portion of the pool of loans was sold in December 2007.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Liquidity is a measurement of our ability to meet potential cash requirements, including ongoing commitments to repay borrowings, fund and maintain investments, and other general business needs. Additionally, to maintain our status as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code, we must distribute annually at least 90% of our REIT taxable income. Our primary sources of funds for liquidity consist of net cash provided by operating activities, borrowings under loans, and the issuance of debt and equity securities when available. Additional sources of liquidity include investments that are readily saleable prior to their maturity. Our debt obligations are generally secured directly by our investment assets.

As of the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, management believes that our cash on hand, when combined with our cash flow provided by operations, as well as proceeds from the repayment or sale of investments and borrowings, is sufficient to satisfy our liquidity needs with respect to our current investment portfolio. However, we may seek additional capital in order to grow our investment portfolio.

We expect to meet our long-term liquidity requirements, specifically the repayment of our debt obligations, through additional borrowings and the liquidation or refinancing of our assets at maturity. In this regard, we had unencumbered assets with a carrying value of approximately \$208.7 million at March 31, 2008, excluding unrestricted cash of \$100.9 million. We believe that the value of these assets is, and will continue to be, sufficient to repay our debt at maturity under either scenario. Our ability to meet our long-term liquidity requirements relating to capital required for the growth of our investment portfolio is subject to obtaining additional equity and debt financing. Decisions by investors and lenders to enter into such transactions with us will depend upon a number of factors, such as our historical and projected financial performance, compliance with the terms of our current credit arrangements, industry and market trends, the availability of capital and our investors' and lenders' policies and rates applicable thereto, and the relative attractiveness of alternative investment or lending opportunities. We strive to maintain access to a broad array of capital resources in an effort to insulate our business from potential fluctuations in the availability of capital.

Our ability to execute our business strategy, particularly the growth of our investment portfolio, depends to a significant degree on our ability to obtain additional capital. Our core business strategy is dependent upon our ability to finance our real estate securities, loans and other real estate related assets with match funded debt at rates that provide a positive net spread. Currently, spreads for such liabilities have widened and demand for such liabilities has become extremely limited, thereby restricting our ability to execute future financings. This restriction is exacerbated by the requirement to post margin on existing obligations.

As of May 8, 2008, we had an unrestricted cash balance of \$123.0 million. Our cash flow provided by operations differs from our net income due to these primary factors: (i) accretion of discount or premium on our real estate securities and loans (including the accrual of interest and fees payable at maturity), discount on our debt obligations, deferred financing costs and interest rate cap premiums, and deferred hedge gains and losses, (ii) gains and losses from sales of assets financed with CBOs, (iii) the provision for credit losses recorded in connection with our loan assets, as well as other-than-temporary impairment recorded on our securities, (iv) unrealized gains or losses on our non-hedge derivatives, particularly our total rate of return swaps, and (v) the non-cash charges associated with our early extinguishment of debt. Proceeds from the sale of assets which serve as collateral for our CBO financings, including gains thereon, are required to be retained in the CBO structure until the related bonds are retired and are therefore not available to fund current cash needs outside of these structures. As of May 8, 2008, we had \$62 million of restricted cash held in CBO financing structures pending its investment in real estate securities and loans.

Our match funded investments are financed under long-term arrangements and we continuously monitor their credit status. Consequently, we expect these investments to generate a generally stable current return, subject to interest rate fluctuations. See "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk — Interest Rate Exposure" below. Our remaining investments, generally financed with short term repurchase agreements, are also subject to refinancing risk upon the maturity of the related debt.

With respect to one of our real estate related loans, we were committed to fund up to an additional \$82.6 million at March 31, 2008, subject to certain conditions to be met by the borrowers.

As described below, under "Interest Rate, Credit and Spread Risk," we are subject to margin calls in connection with our assets financed with repurchase agreements or total rate of return swaps.

See "- Market Considerations" above for a further discussion of recent trends and events affecting our liquidity.

Table of Contents

Investment Portfolio

The following summarizes our investment portfolio at March 31, 2008 (dollars in millions).

	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis	Number of Investments	Credit ⁽¹⁾	Weighted Average Life (years) ⁽²⁾
Investment (3)						
Commercial						
CMBS	\$ 2,256	\$ 2,170	34.2%	256	BBB-	5.5
Mezzanine Loans	816	813	12.8%	23	68%	3.4
B-Notes	421	405	6.4%	15	64%	3.4
Whole Loans	69	69	1.1%	4	69%	3.3
ICH Loans	29	27	0.4%	20	—	0.2
Total Commercial Assets	<u>3,591</u>	<u>3,484</u>	<u>54.9%</u>			<u>4.7</u>
Residential						
Manufactured Housing and Residential Mortgage Loans	621	596	9.4%	15,522	696	5.6
Subprime Securities	562	355	5.6%	122	BB	4.6
Subprime Retained Securities	76	54	0.8%	6	B+	7.0
Subprime Residual Interests	49	49	0.8%	2	637	5.3
Real Estate ABS	105	103	1.6%	26	BBB-	4.8
	<u>1,413</u>	<u>1,157</u>	<u>18.2%</u>			<u>5.2</u>
FNMA/FHLMC securities	433	435	6.9%	15	AAA	3.8
Total Residential Assets	<u>1,846</u>	<u>1,592</u>	<u>25.1%</u>			<u>4.8</u>
Corporate						
REIT Debt	653	664	10.5%	65	BBB-	5.4
Corporate Bank Loans	633	605	9.5%	14	B	3.3
Total Corporate Assets	<u>1,286</u>	<u>1,269</u>	<u>20.0%</u>			<u>4.4</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 6,723</u>	<u>\$ 6,345</u>	<u>100.0%</u>			<u>4.7</u>
Reconciliation to GAAP total assets:						
Net unrealized losses recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income		(748)				
Total rate of return swaps ⁽⁴⁾		(99)				
Other assets						
Subprime mortgage loans subject to call option ⁽⁵⁾		394				
Real estate held for sale		33				
Investments in joint ventures		16				
Cash and restricted cash		241				
Other		72				
GAAP total assets		<u>\$ 6,254</u>				

(1) Credit represents weighted average rating for rated assets, LTV for non-rated commercial assets, FICO score for non-rated residential assets and an implied AAA rating for FNMA/FHLMC securities.

(2) Mezzanine loans, B-Notes and Whole loans are based on the fully extended maturity dates.

(3) The following tables summarize certain supplemental data relating to our investments (\$ in thousands):

CMBS

Deal Vintage (A)	Average Rating	Number	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis	Delinquency 60+/FC/REO (B)	Principal Subordination	Weighted Average Life (years)
Pre 2004	BBB+	79	\$ 411,450	\$ 407,554	18.7%	0.8%	9.1%	4.6
2004	BBB-	59	435,908	428,683	19.8%	0.1%	5.2%	5.8
2005	BB+	50	586,384	553,621	25.5%	0.2%	4.3%	6.5
2006	BB+	36	448,919	428,903	19.8%	0.4%	5.6%	3.9
2007	BBB	32	373,624	351,182	16.2%	0.1%	8.7%	6.6
Total/WA	<u>BBB-</u>	<u>256</u>	<u>\$2,256,285</u>	<u>\$ 2,169,943</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>0.3%</u>	<u>6.3%</u>	<u>5.5</u>

(A) The year in which the securities were issued.

(B) The percentage of underlying loans that are 60+ days delinquent, or in foreclosure or considered real estate owned (REO).

WA - Weighted average, in all tables.

Table of Contents

Mezzanine Loans, B-notes and Whole Loan Portfolio

	Mezzanine	B-Note	Whole Loan	Total/WA
Outstanding Face Amount	\$816,490	\$421,104	\$ 68,604	\$1,306,198
Amortized Cost Basis	\$812,860	\$405,189	\$ 68,580	\$1,286,629
Number	23	15	4	42
Weighted Average First \$ Loan to Value	57%	48%	0%	52%
Weighted Average Last \$ Loan to Value	68%	64%	69%	68%
Delinquency	0%	0%	0%	0%

Manufactured Housing Loans

Deal	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis	Weighted Average Loan Age (months)	Original Balance	Delinquency 90+/FC/REO (A)	Actual Cumulative Loss to Date	Projected Cumulative Loss to Date
Portfolio I	\$ 209,136	\$195,577	39%	80	\$327,855	0.7%	3.5%	5.0%
Portfolio II	314,594	303,466	61%	109	434,743	0.5%	1.8%	3.0%
Total/WA	\$ 523,730	\$499,043	100%	97	\$762,598	0.6%	2.4%	3.8%

(A) The percentage of loans that are 90+ days delinquent, or in foreclosure or considered real estate owned (REO).

Subprime Securities

Vintage (A)	Security Characteristics						
	Weighted Average Rating	Number of Securities	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis (E)	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis	Principal Subordination (F)	Excess Spread
2003	A-	16	\$ 37,583	\$ 35,771	10.1%	21.8%	3.2%
2004	BBB+	30	157,053	147,998	41.7%	14.9%	3.6%
2005	BBB-	44	200,167	159,138	44.8%	14.8%	4.4%
2006	CC+	29	159,497	11,095	3.2%	3.8%	2.8%
2007	CCC	3	7,750	832	0.2%	10.6%	2.8%
Total/WA	BB	122	\$ 562,050	\$ 354,834	100.0%	12.1%	3.6%

Vintage (A)	Collateral Characteristics				
	Average Loan Age (months)	Collateral Factor (B)	3 month CRR (D)	Delinquency (C)	Cumulative Losses to Date
2003	55	0.20	15.7%	9.9%	2.1%
2004	45	0.24	19.3%	14.4%	1.5%
2005	32	0.36	23.3%	23.2%	1.7%
2006	20	0.68	17.8%	24.1%	1.5%
2007	12	0.88	11.3%	16.7%	0.2%
Total/WA	34	0.41	19.9%	20.0%	1.6%

(A) The year in which the securities were issued.

(B) The ratio of original unpaid principal balance of loans still outstanding.

(C) The percentage of underlying loans that are 90+ days delinquent, or in foreclosure or considered real estate owned (REO).

(D) Three month average constant voluntary prepayment rate.

(E) Excludes subprime retained securities and residual interests of \$102.7 million.

(F) The percentage of the amortized cost basis of securities and residual interests that is subordinate to our investments.

Subprime Residuals / Retained Securities

Represents \$54.1 million and \$48.6 million of amortized cost basis of retained bonds and residual interests, respectively, in the securitizations of Subprime Portfolios I and II. For further information on these securitizations, see Note 4 to our consolidated financial statements included herein. The following table summarizes our subprime portfolio securitizations:

Deal	Security Characteristics			Portfolio Characteristics					
	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis	Average Loan Age (months)	Original Securitization Balance	Current Balance	Delinquency 90+/FC/REO (A)	Actual Cumulative Loss to Date	Projected Cumulative Loss to Date
Portfolio I	\$ 55,492	\$ 50,003	48.7%	31	\$1,502,181	\$ 834,013	15.3%	0.5%	0.6%
Portfolio II	69,457	52,644	51.3%	14	1,087,942	996,859	6.3%	0.0%	0.1%
Total/WA	<u>\$ 124,949</u>	<u>\$ 102,647</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>\$2,590,123</u>	<u>\$1,830,872</u>	<u>10.4%</u>	<u>0.3%</u>	<u>0.3%</u>

(A) The percentage of loans that are 90+ days, or in foreclosure or considered real estate owned (REO).

Table of Contents

REIT Debt

Industry	Average Rating	Number	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis
Retail	BB+	16	\$ 200,035	\$202,895	30.6%
Office	BBB	14	132,919	136,055	20.5%
Diversified	BBB	14	151,463	152,159	22.9%
Hotel	BBB-	4	42,720	43,478	6.6%
Multifamily	BBB+	8	44,508	45,854	6.9%
Healthcare	BBB-	4	36,600	37,244	5.6%
Industrial	BBB	3	20,865	21,827	3.3%
Storage	A-	2	23,406	24,225	3.6%
Total/WA	BBB-	65	\$ 652,516	\$663,737	100.0%

Corporate Bank Loans

Industry	Average Rating	Number	Outstanding Face Amount	Amortized Cost Basis	Percentage of Amortized Cost Basis
Real Estate	B-	4	\$ 174,336	\$171,156	28.3%
Resorts	BB-	1	110,991	108,465	17.9%
Media	B+	1	112,000	101,221	16.7%
Retail	B-	1	100,000	95,035	15.7%
Restaurant	CCC+	2	44,363	40,201	6.6%
Transportation	C	2	37,000	35,146	5.8%
Gaming	B+	2	29,692	29,692	4.9%
Theatres	BB-	1	24,591	24,591	4.1%
Total/WA	B	14	\$ 632,973	\$605,507	100.0%

- (4) Total rate of return swaps are reflected in the consolidated balance sheet on a net basis, as derivatives. For purposes of the investment statistics, they are reflected on a gross basis, based on the underlying reference asset. As of March 31, 2008, we held an aggregate of \$124.0 million notional amount of total rate of return swaps (including an unfunded asset with a notional amount of \$19.1 million) on 5 reference assets on which we had deposited \$31.7 million of margin. These total rate of return swaps had an aggregate fair value of approximately (\$5.7) million, a weighted average receive interest rate of LIBOR + 2.90%, a weighted average pay interest rate of LIBOR + 0.83%, and a weighted average maturity of 0.6 years.
- (5) The subprime mortgage loans subject to call option are excluded from the statistics because they result from an option, not an obligation, to repurchase such loans, are noneconomic until such option is exercised, and are offset by an equal liability on the consolidated balance sheet.

Debt Obligations

Our debt obligations, as summarized in Note 5 to our consolidated financial statements, existing at March 31, 2008 (gross of \$25.2 million of discounts) had contractual maturities as follows (in thousands):

	Nonrecourse	Recourse (1)	Total
Period from April 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008	\$ —	\$ 526,005	\$ 526,005
2009	179,163	144,429	323,592
2010	—	40,000	40,000
2011	286,779	—	286,779
2012	—	—	—
2013	—	—	—
Thereafter	4,799,492	100,100	4,899,592
Total	\$ 5,265,434	\$ 810,534	\$ 6,075,968

- (1) Subject to potential mandatory prepayments based on collateral value.

Certain of the debt obligations included above are obligations of our consolidated subsidiaries which own the related collateral. In some cases, including the CBO and Other Bonds Payable, such collateral is not available to other creditors of ours.

Our debt obligations contain various customary loan covenants. Such covenants do not, in management's opinion, materially restrict our investment strategy or ability to raise capital. We are in compliance with all of our loan covenants as of March 31, 2008.

In January 2008, we repurchased \$16.0 million face amount of a class of CBO bond for \$6.7 million. As a result, \$16.0 million face amount of CBO debt was extinguished.

In March 2008, we repurchased \$2.9 million face amount of a class of CBO bond for \$0.6 million. As a result, \$2.9 million face amount of CBO debt was extinguished.

Table of Contents

In first quarter 2008, we sold face amounts of approximately \$762.5 million of FNMA/FHLMC securities and \$525.2 million of non-FNMA/FHLMC securities. Concurrent with the sales, we terminated the related interest rate swap and interest rate cap agreements which were de-designated as hedges for accounting purposes at December 31, 2007.

In first quarter 2008, we repaid \$924.0 million of repurchase agreements and repaid in full the debt associated with our first CBO in the amount of \$331.2 million.

Newcastle had one rolling term financing (in the form of a repurchase agreement) with a maximum maturity of February 2010, with a maximum draw of \$400 million of which \$61.4 million was drawn at March 31, 2008.

In April 2008, a \$400 million term financing agreement was not extended. At such time, \$99.6 million was drawn and the final maturity of such amount is April 2009.

In April 2008, a \$400 million term financing agreement was not extended. At such time, \$40.0 million was drawn and the final maturity of such amount is May 2010.

Table of Contents

The following table summarizes our CBO financings as of March 31, 2008 (dollars in thousands). The amounts reflect data at the unconsolidated CBO level and thus are different from the GAAP balance sheet due to intercompany amounts eliminated in consolidation.

	Portfolio V	Portfolio VI	Portfolio VII	Portfolio VIII	Portfolio IX	Portfolio X	Portfolio XI	Total / Weighted Average
Balance Sheet:								
Asset Face Amount	\$ 453,101	\$ 502,976	\$ 502,007	\$ 532,234	\$ 957,717	\$ 829,933	\$ 1,453,677	\$5,231,645
Asset Amortized Cost Basis	\$ 449,841	\$ 500,843	\$ 466,639	\$ 488,513	\$ 863,204	\$ 803,190	\$ 1,363,419	\$4,935,649
Debt Carrying Value	411,657	451,781	443,525	459,371	806,808	637,055	1,286,202	4,496,399
Invested Equity	\$ 38,184	\$ 49,062	\$ 23,114	\$ 29,142	\$ 56,396	\$ 166,135	\$ 77,217	\$ 439,250
Collateral Composition (1):								
CMBS	56.8% BBB	60.8% BBB	63.4% BBB	64.3% BBB	19.0% BB	11.5% BB+	50.5% BBB+	42.6%
REIT Debt	19.2% BBB	16.5% BBB	9.0% BBB+	11.3% BBB	4.7% BB	0.0% -	23.6% BBB	12.6%
ABS	17.4% A	22.7% A-	19.9% BBB	18.9% BBB	9.8% B	0.0% -	18.3% BBB+	14.4%
Bank Loans	2.2% B+	0.0% -	7.2% B+	5.1% B+	22.3% B	22.3% B-	4.8% B	10.4%
Mezzanine Loans / B-Notes	4.4% BB	0.0% -	0.0% -	0.0% -	34.4% B	63.4% B	0.0% -	16.9%
CDO	0.0% -	0.0% -	0.0% -	0.0% -	9.6% BBB-	1.7% A-	2.5% BBB+	2.7%
Restricted Cash	0.0% -	0.0% -	0.5% -	0.4% -	0.2% -	1.1% -	0.3% -	0.4%
Total	100.0% BBB	100.0% BBB	100.0% BBB-	100.0% BBB	100.0% B+	100.0% B-	100.0% BBB	100.0%
CBO Overview:								
Effective Date	Sep-04	Feb-05	Aug-05	Jan-06	Mar-07	Jul-07	Dec-07	
Reinvestment Period Ends (2)	Mar-09	Sep-09	Apr-10	Dec-10	Nov-11	May-12	Jul-12	
Optional Call Date (3)	Jun-07	Dec-07	May-08	Jan-09	Dec-09	Jun-10	Aug-10	
Auction Call Date (4)	Mar-14	Sep-14	Apr-15	Dec-15	Nov-16	May-17	Jul-17	
Avg Debt Spread (bps) (5)	53	45	33	35	48	39	32	40
CBO Cashflow Triggers (6):								
Over Collateralization								
Effective Date	109.4%	110.0%	111.9%	113.4%	113.2%	116.1%	109.8%	112.0%
Current	108.7%	110.5%	112.1%	115.0%	111.4%	115.5%	111.6%	112.2%
Trigger	105.9%	107.5%	109.3%	110.9%	108.7%	108.0%	101.5%	106.5%
Interest Coverage								
Current	120.8%	122.8%	140.4%	117.1%	154.0%	149.5%	132.2%	136.3%
Trigger	106.0%	106.0%	106.0%	106.0%	106.0%	103.0%	107.0%	105.8%

- Collateral amounts represent amortized cost basis and include CDO bonds of \$116.3 million and other bonds of \$92.7 million issued by Newcastle.
- Our CBO financings typically have a 5 year reinvestment period. Generally, after such period ends, principal payments on the collateral are used to pay down the most senior debt outstanding. Prior to the end of the reinvestment period, principal payments on the collateral are reinvested. Given the current market conditions where credit spreads are widening, these proceeds may potentially be reinvested at higher credit spreads.
- At the option call date, Newcastle, as the equity holder, has the right to pay off the CBO bonds at their related redemption price. The funds needed to pay the debt could be raised either through a sale or refinancing of the collateral.
- At the auction call date, there is a mandatory auction of the assets. If the prices bid are sufficient to pay off the outstanding CBO bonds, the assets will be sold and the CBO bonds will be redeemed.
- Debt spread represents the spread above the benchmark interest rate (LIBOR or U.S. Treasuries) that Newcastle pays on its debt.
- Each of our CBO financings contains tests which measure the amount of over collateralization and excess interest in the transaction. Failure to satisfy these tests would result in principal and/or interest cashflow that would otherwise be distributed to more junior classes of securities (including those held by Newcastle) to be redirected to pay down the most senior class of securities outstanding until the tests are satisfied. The data presented is as of the most recent remittance date on or before March 31, 2008 and may have changed subsequent to that date.

Table of Contents

Stockholders' Equity

Common Stock

The following table presents information on shares of our common stock issued during the three months ended March 31, 2008:

<u>Shares Issued</u>	<u>Range of Issue Prices (1)</u>	<u>Net Proceeds (millions)</u>	<u>Option Granted to Manager</u>
1,250	N/A (2)	\$ 0.00	N/A

(1) Excludes prices of shares issued pursuant to the exercise of options and of shares issued to our independent directors.

(2) The only shares issued during this period were to our independent directors.

At March 31, 2008, we had 52,780,429 shares of common stock outstanding.

As of March 31, 2008, our outstanding options were summarized as follows:

Held by the Manager	1,549,340
Issued to the Manager and subsequently transferred to certain of the Manager's employees	935,269
Held by the independent directors	14,000
Total	<u>2,498,609</u>

As of March 31, 2008, approximately 5.1 million shares of our common stock were held by our manager, through affiliates, and its principals.

In March 2008, our board of directors approved expanding the previously approved share repurchase to allow a potential repurchase of up to \$125 million of our common stock. As of May 8, 2008, no shares have been repurchased.

Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

During the three months ended March 31, 2008, our accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) changed due to the following factors (in thousands):

Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), December 31, 2007	\$(502,516)
Net unrealized gain (loss) on securities	(332,119)
Reclassification of net realized (gain) loss on securities into earnings	(7,439)
Foreign currency translation	(598)
Net unrealized gain (loss) on derivatives designated as cash flow hedges	(114,684)
Reclassification of net realized (gain) loss on derivatives designated as cash flow hedges into earnings	(305)
Accumulated other comprehensive (loss), March 31, 2008	<u>\$(957,661)</u>

Our book equity changes as our real estate securities portfolio and derivatives are marked to market each quarter, among other factors. The primary causes of mark to market changes are changes in interest rates and credit spreads. During the period, sharply widening credit spreads have resulted in a net increase in unrealized losses on our real estate securities and derivatives. While such an environment resulted in a decrease in the fair value of our existing securities portfolio and, therefore, reduced our book equity and ability to realize gains on such existing securities, it did not directly affect our current cash flow or our ability to pay dividends.

See "- Market Considerations" above for a further discussion of recent trends and events affecting our unrealized gains and losses as well as our liquidity.

Common Dividends

<u>Declared for the Period Ended</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Amount Per Share</u>
March 31, 2008	April 2008	\$0.25

Table of Contents

Cash Flow

Net cash flow provided by (used in) operating activities increased to \$37.6 million for the three months ended March 31, 2008 from (\$1,002.2) million for the three months ended March 31, 2007. This change primarily resulted from the acquisition and settlement of our investments as described above, and the performance thereof. The three months ended March 31, 2007 included the purchase of loans held for sale of \$992.0 million.

Investing activities provided (used) \$1,265.7 million and (\$649.2) million during the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Investing activities consisted primarily of investments made in certain real estate securities, loans and other real estate related assets, net of proceeds from the sale or settlement of investments.

Financing activities provided (used) (\$1,241.2) million and \$1,649.9 million during the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The equity issuances, borrowings and debt issuances described above served as the primary sources of cash flow from financing activities. Offsetting uses included the payment of related deferred financing costs, the payment of dividends, and the repayment of debt as described above.

See the consolidated statements of cash flows included in our consolidated financial statements included herein for a reconciliation of our cash position for the periods described herein.

INTEREST RATE, CREDIT AND SPREAD RISK

We are subject to interest rate, credit and spread risk with respect to our investments. These risks are further described in "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk."

OFF-BALANCE SHEET ARRANGEMENTS

As of March 31, 2008, we had two material off-balance sheet arrangements. We believe that these off-balance sheet structures presented the most efficient and least expensive form of financing for these assets at the time they were entered, and represented the most common market-accepted method for financing such assets.

- In April 2006, we securitized our Subprime Portfolio I. The loans were sold to a securitization trust, of which 80% were treated as a sale, which is an off-balance sheet financing as described in "- Liquidity and Capital Resources."
- In July 2007, we securitized our Subprime Portfolio II. The loans were sold to a securitization trust, of which 90% were treated as a sale, which is an off-balance sheet financing as described in "- Liquidity and Capital Resources."

We have no obligation to repurchase any loans from either of our subprime securitizations. Therefore, it is expected that our exposure to loss is limited to the carrying amount of our retained interests in the securitization entities, as described above. A subsidiary of ours gave limited representations and warranties with respect to the second securitization; however, it has no assets and does not have recourse to the general credit of Newcastle.

We also had the following arrangements which do not meet the definition of off-balance sheet arrangements, but do have some of the characteristics of off-balance sheet arrangements.

- We are party to total rate of return swaps which are treated as non-hedge derivatives. For further information on these investments, see "- Liquidity and Capital Resources."
- We have made investments in four unconsolidated subsidiaries.

In each case, our exposure to loss is limited to the carrying (fair) value of our investment, except for the total rate of return swaps where our exposure to loss is limited to their fair value plus their notional amount.

CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

During the first three months of 2008, we had all of the material contractual obligations referred to in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, excluding the debt which was repaid, and the related hedges which were terminated, as described in "- Liquidity and Capital Resources," as well as the following:

<u>Contract Category</u>	<u>Change</u>
Repurchase agreements	In April 2008, two of the term financing facilities, in the form of repurchase agreements, were not extended.

The terms of these contracts are described under "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk" below.

INFLATION

We believe that our risk of increases in the market interest rates on our floating rate debt as a result of inflation is largely offset by our use of match funding and hedging instruments as described above. See "Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure About Market Risk — Interest Rate Exposure" below.

Table of Contents

FUNDS FROM OPERATIONS

We believe FFO is one appropriate measure of the operating performance of real estate companies. We also believe that FFO is an appropriate supplemental disclosure of operating performance for a REIT due to its widespread acceptance and use within the REIT and analyst communities. Furthermore, FFO is used to compute our incentive compensation to the Manager. FFO, for our purposes, represents net income available for common stockholders (computed in accordance with GAAP), excluding extraordinary items, plus depreciation of operating real estate, and after adjustments for unconsolidated subsidiaries, if any. We consider gains and losses on resolution of our investments to be a normal part of our recurring operations and therefore do not exclude such gains and losses when arriving at FFO. Adjustments for unconsolidated subsidiaries, if any, are calculated to reflect FFO on the same basis. FFO does not represent cash generated from operating activities in accordance with GAAP and therefore should not be considered an alternative to net income as an indicator of our operating performance or as an alternative to cash flow as a measure of liquidity and is not necessarily indicative of cash available to fund cash needs. Our calculation of FFO may be different from the calculation used by other companies and, therefore, comparability may be limited.

As a result of the sale or expected sale of all of our operating real estate, and the resultant discontinuation of depreciation, our income (loss) applicable to common stockholders is now equal to our FFO. Funds from Operations (FFO) is calculated as follows (in thousands):

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008
Income (loss) applicable to common stockholders	\$ (44,279)
Operating real estate depreciation	—
Funds from Operations (FFO)	<u>\$ (44,279)</u>

Funds from Operations was derived from our segments as follows (in thousands):

	Book Equity at March 31, 2008	Average Invested Common Equity for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008(2)	FFO for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2008	Return on Invested Common Equity (ROE) (3)
Real estate securities and real estate related loans	\$ 658,389	\$ 772,184	\$ (32,332)	(16.75)%
Residential mortgage loans	198,536	152,454	2,719	7.13%
Operating real estate	49,059	51,497	(3,099)	(24.07)%
Unallocated (1)	<u>(159,596)</u>	<u>(179,312)</u>	<u>(11,567)</u>	N/A
Total (2)	746,388	<u>\$ 796,823</u>	<u>\$ (44,279)</u>	<u>(22.23)%</u>
Preferred stock	152,500			
Accumulated depreciation	(6,206)			
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	<u>(957,661)</u>			
Net book equity	<u>\$ (64,979)</u>			

- (1) Unallocated FFO represents (\$3,375) of preferred dividends, (\$1,895) of interest on our junior subordinated notes payable, and (\$6,297) of corporate general and administrative expenses, management fees and incentive compensation for the three months ended March 31, 2008.
- (2) Invested common equity is equal to book equity excluding preferred stock, accumulated depreciation and accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).
- (3) FFO divided by average invested common equity, annualized.

As a result of the effect of the other-than-temporary impairment on our FFO, we expect that there will be no incentive compensation payable to the Manager for an indeterminate amount of time.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

As of March 31, 2008, we held on our balance sheet total investments of \$240.7 million amortized cost basis of real estate securities and related loans issued by affiliates of our manager and \$56.5 million face amount of real estate loans issued by affiliates of our manager financed under total rate of return swaps and earned approximately \$5.4 million of interest on such investments for the three months ended March 31, 2008.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk is the exposure to loss resulting from changes in interest rates, credit spreads, foreign currency exchange rates, commodity prices and equity prices. The primary market risks that we are exposed to are interest rate risk and credit spread risk. These risks are highly sensitive to many factors, including governmental monetary and tax policies, domestic and international economic and political considerations and other factors beyond our control. All of our market risk sensitive assets, liabilities and related derivative positions are for non-trading purposes only. For a further understanding of how market risk may affect our financial position or operating results, please refer to “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Application of Critical Accounting Policies.”

Interest Rate Exposure

Changes in interest rates, including changes in expected interest rates or “yield curves,” affect our investments in two distinct ways, each of which is discussed below.

First, changes in interest rates affect our net interest income, which is the difference between the interest income earned on assets and the interest expense incurred in connection with our debt obligations and hedges.

Our general financing strategy focuses on the use of match funded structures. This means that we seek to match the maturities of our debt obligations with the maturities of our assets to minimize the risk that we have to refinance our liabilities prior to the maturities of our assets, and to reduce the impact of changing interest rates on our earnings. In addition, we generally match fund interest rates on our assets with like-kind debt (i.e., fixed rate assets are financed with fixed rate debt and floating rate assets are financed with floating rate debt), directly or through the use of interest rate swaps, caps or other financial instruments (see below), or through a combination of these strategies, which also allows us to reduce the impact of changing interest rates on our earnings.

However, increases in interest rates can nonetheless reduce our net interest income to the extent that we are not completely match funded. Furthermore, a period of rising interest rates can negatively impact our return on certain floating rate investments. Although these investments may be financed with floating rate debt, the interest rate on the debt may reset prior to, and in some cases more frequently than, the interest rate on the assets, causing a decrease in return on equity during a period of rising interest rates.

As of March 31, 2008, a 100 basis point increase in short term interest rates would increase our earnings by approximately \$0.7 million per annum.

Second, changes in the level of interest rates also affect the yields required by the marketplace on debt. Increasing interest rates would decrease the value of the fixed rate assets we hold at the time because higher required yields result in lower prices on existing fixed rate assets in order to adjust their yield upward to meet the market.

We generally have the intent and ability to hold our assets until maturity. Such assets are considered available for sale and may be sold prior to maturity on an opportunistic basis or for other reasons.

Changes in unrealized gains or losses resulting from changes in market interest rates do not directly affect our cash flows, or our ability to pay a dividend, as the related assets are expected to be held and their fair value is not relevant to their underlying cash flows. Our assets are largely financed to maturity through long term CBO financings that are not redeemable as a result of book value changes. As long as these fixed rate assets continue to perform as expected, our cash flows from these assets would not be affected by increasing interest rates. Changes in unrealized gains or losses would impact our ability to realize gains on existing investments if they were sold. Furthermore, with respect to changes in unrealized gains or losses on investments which are carried at fair value, changes in unrealized gains or losses would impact our net book value and, in the case of non-hedge derivatives, our net income.

Changes in the value of our assets could affect our ability to borrow and access capital. Also, if the value of our assets subject to repurchase agreements were to decline, it could cause us to fund margin and affect our ability to refinance such assets upon the maturity of the related repurchase agreements, adversely impacting our rate of return on such securities.

As of March 31, 2008, a 100 basis point change in short term interest rates would impact our net book value by approximately \$49.9 million.

Interest rate swaps are agreements in which a series of interest rate flows are exchanged with a third party (counterparty) over a prescribed period. The notional amount on which swaps are based is not exchanged. In general, our swaps are “pay fixed” swaps involving the exchange of floating rate interest payments from the counterparty for fixed interest payments from us. This can effectively convert a floating rate debt obligation into a fixed rate debt obligation.

Table of Contents

Similarly, an interest rate cap or floor agreement is a contract in which we purchase a cap or floor contract on a notional face amount. We will make an up-front payment to the counterparty for which the counterparty agrees to make future payments to us should the reference rate (typically LIBOR) rise above (cap agreements) or fall below (floor agreements) the “strike” rate specified in the contract. Payments on an annualized basis will equal the contractual notional face amount multiplied by the difference between the actual reference rate and the contracted strike rate.

While a REIT may utilize these types of derivative instruments to hedge interest rate risk on its liabilities or for other purposes, such derivative instruments could generate income that is not qualified income for purposes of maintaining REIT status. As a consequence, we may only engage in such instruments to hedge such risks within the constraints of maintaining our standing as a REIT. We do not enter into derivative contracts for speculative purposes nor as a hedge against changes in credit risk.

Our hedging transactions using derivative instruments also involve certain additional risks such as counterparty credit risk, the enforceability of hedging contracts and the risk that unanticipated and significant changes in interest rates will cause a significant loss of basis in the contract. The counterparties to our derivative arrangements are major financial institutions with high credit ratings with which we and our affiliates may also have other financial relationships. As a result, we do not anticipate that any of these counterparties will fail to meet their obligations. There can be no assurance that we will be able to adequately protect against the foregoing risks and will ultimately realize an economic benefit that exceeds the related amounts incurred in connection with engaging in such hedging strategies.

Credit Spread Exposure

Credit spreads measure the yield demanded on loans and securities by the market based on their credit relative to U.S. Treasuries, for fixed rate credit, or LIBOR, for floating rate credit. Our fixed rate loans and securities are valued based on a market credit spread over the rate payable on fixed rate U.S. Treasuries of like maturity. Our floating rate loans and securities are valued based on a market credit spread over LIBOR. Excessive supply of such loans and securities combined with reduced demand will generally cause the market to require a higher yield on such loans and securities, resulting in the use of a higher (or “wider”) spread over the benchmark rate to value them.

Changes in credit spreads affect our investments in two distinct ways, each of which is discussed below.

First, widening credit spreads would result in higher yields being required by the marketplace on loans and securities. This widening would reduce the value of the loans and securities we hold at the time because higher required yields result in lower prices on existing securities in order to adjust their yield upward to meet the market. The effects of such a decrease in values on our financial position, results of operations and liquidity are discussed above under “- Interest Rate Exposure.”

As of March 31, 2008, a 25 basis point movement in credit spreads would impact our net book value by approximately \$26.5 million, but would not directly affect our earnings or cash flow.

Our financing strategy is dependent on our ability to place the match funded debt we use to finance our investments at rates that provide a positive net spread. Currently, spreads for such liabilities have widened and demand for such liabilities has become extremely limited, therefore restricting our ability to execute future financings.

However, a second impact of widening of credit spreads is that it would also result in increased yields on new investments we purchase during or subsequent to the widening, thereby benefiting our ongoing investment activities, as we would earn a higher yield on the same investment amount in comparison to the investing environment prior to such widening. As noted in “- Market Considerations” above, we could only take advantage of these investment opportunities if we have sufficient liquidity and financing is available on favorable terms.

In an environment where spreads are tightening, if spreads tighten on the assets we purchase to a greater degree than they tighten the liabilities we issue, our net spread will be reduced.

Credit Risk

In addition to the above described market risks, Newcastle is subject to credit risk.

Credit risk refers to the ability of each individual borrower under our loans and securities to make required interest and principal payments on the scheduled due dates. The commercial mortgage and asset backed securities we invest in are generally junior in right of payment of interest and principal to one or more senior classes, but benefit from the support of one or more subordinate classes of securities or other form of credit support (which absorbs losses before the securities in which we invest) within a securitization transaction. The senior unsecured REIT debt securities we invest in reflect comparable credit risk. We also invest in loans and securities which represent “first loss” pieces; in other words, they do not benefit from credit support although we believe they predominantly benefit from underlying collateral value well in excess of their carrying amounts.

We believe, based on our due diligence process, that these assets offer attractive risk-adjusted returns with long term principal protection under a variety of default and loss scenarios. We further minimize credit risk by actively monitoring our asset

Table of Contents

portfolio and the underlying credit quality of our holdings and, where appropriate, repositioning our investments to upgrade their credit quality. In the event of a significant rising interest rate environment and/or economic downturn, loan and collateral defaults may increase and result in credit losses that would adversely affect our liquidity and operating results. As described above in “- Market Considerations” and elsewhere in this quarterly report, adverse market and credit conditions have resulted in our recording of other-than-temporary impairment in certain securities.

Margin

Certain of our investments are financed through repurchase agreements or total return swaps which are subject to margin calls based on the value of such investments. Margin calls resulting from decreases in value related to rising interest rates are substantially offset by our ability to make margin calls on our interest rate derivatives. We seek to maintain adequate cash reserves and other sources of available liquidity to meet any margin calls resulting from decreases in value related to a reasonably possible (in the opinion of management) widening of credit spreads.

Fair Values

Fair values for a majority of our investments are readily obtainable through broker quotations. For certain of our financial instruments, fair values are not readily available since there are no active trading markets as characterized by current exchanges between willing parties or due to market conditions. Accordingly, fair values can only be derived or estimated for these instruments using various valuation techniques, such as computing the present value of estimated future cash flows using discount rates commensurate with the risks involved. See “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations – Application of Critical Accounting Policies.” However, the determination of estimated future cash flows is inherently subjective and imprecise. We note that minor changes in assumptions or estimation methodologies can have a material effect on these derived or estimated fair values, and that the fair values reflected in our consolidated financial statements are indicative of the interest rate and credit spread environments as of March 31, 2008 and do not take into consideration the effects of subsequent interest rate or credit spread fluctuations.

We note that the values of our investments in real estate securities, loans and derivative instruments are sensitive to changes in market interest rates, credit spreads and other market factors. The value of these investments can vary, and has varied, materially from period to period.

Trends

See “- Market Considerations” above for a further discussion of recent trends and events affecting our liquidity, unrealized gains and losses.

Interest Rate and Credit Spread Risk Sensitive Instruments

Our holdings of such financial instruments are detailed in Note 6 of our consolidated financial statements included herein. For information regarding the impact of prepayment, reinvestment, and expected loss factors on the timing of realization of our investments, please refer to the consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q as well as our most recent annual consolidated financial statements included in our Form 10-K.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

- (a) Disclosure Controls and Procedures. The Company's management, with the participation of the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")) as of the end of the period covered by this report. The Company's disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported accurately and on a timely basis. Based on such evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have concluded that, as of the end of such period, the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective.
- (b) Internal Control Over Financial Reporting. There have not been any changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting (as such term is defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act) occurred during the fiscal quarter to which this report relates that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

The Company is not party to any material legal proceedings.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes from the risk factors previously disclosed in the registrant's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007.

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report contains certain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements relate to, among other things, the operating performance of our investments, the stability of our earnings, and our financing needs. Forward-looking statements are generally identifiable by use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "potential," "intend," "expect," "endeavor," "seek," "anticipate," "estimate," "overestimate," "underestimate," "believe," "could," "project," "predict," "continue" or other similar words or expressions. Forward-looking statements are based on certain assumptions, discuss future expectations, describe future plans and strategies, contain projections of results of operations or of financial condition or state other forward-looking information. Our ability to predict results or the actual outcome of future plans or strategies is inherently uncertain. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, our actual results and performance could differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results in future periods to differ materially from forecasted results. Factors which could have a material adverse effect on our operations and future prospects include, but are not limited to:

- our ability to take advantage of opportunities in additional asset classes at attractive risk-adjusted prices;
- our ability to deploy capital accretively;
- the risks that default and recovery rates on our loan portfolios exceed our underwriting estimates;
- the relationship between yields on assets which are paid off and yields on assets in which such monies can be reinvested;
- the relative spreads between the yield on the assets we invest in and the cost of financing;
- changes in economic conditions generally and the real estate and bond markets specifically;
- adverse changes in the financing markets we access affecting our ability to finance our investments, or in a manner that maintains our historic net spreads;
- changing risk assessments by lenders that potentially lead to increased margin calls or not extending our repurchase agreements in accordance with their current terms;
- changes in interest rates and/or credit spreads, as well as the success of our hedging strategy in relation to such changes;
- the quality and size of the investment pipeline and the rate at which we can invest our cash, including cash inside our CBOs;
- impairments in the value of the collateral underlying our investments and the relation of any such impairments to our judgments as to whether changes in the market value of our securities, loans or real estate are temporary or not and whether circumstances bearing on the value of such assets warrant changes in carrying values;
- legislative/regulatory changes;
- completion of pending investments;
- the availability and cost of capital for future investments;
- competition within the finance and real estate industries; and
- other risks detailed from time to time below, particularly under the heading "Risk Factors," and in our other SEC reports.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in the forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. The factors noted above could cause our actual results to differ significantly from those contained in any forward-looking statement.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any of these forward-looking statements, which reflect our management's views only as of the date of this report. We are under no duty to update any of the forward-looking statements after the date of this report to conform these statements to actual results.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

[Table of Contents](#)

Item 3. Defaults upon Senior Securities

None.

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

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

Table of Contents

Item 6. Exhibits

- 3.1 Articles of Amendment and Restatement (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (File No. 333-90578), Exhibit 3.1).
- 3.2 Articles Supplementary Relating to the Series B Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2003, Exhibit 3.3).
- 3.3 Articles Supplementary Relating to the Series C Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Report on Form 8-K, Exhibit 3.3, filed on October 25, 2005).
- 3.4 Articles Supplementary Relating to the Series D Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Report on Form 8-A, Exhibit 3.1, filed on March 14, 2007).
- 3.5 Amended and Restated By-laws (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-K, Exhibit 3.1, filed on May 5, 2006).
- 4.1 Rights Agreement between the Registrant and American Stock Transfer and Trust Company, as Rights Agent, dated October 16, 2002 (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2002, Exhibit 4.1).
- 10.1 Amended and Restated Management and Advisory Agreement by and among the Registrant and Fortress Investment Group LLC, dated June 23, 2003 (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-11 (File No. 333-106135), Exhibit 10.1).
- 10.2 Newcastle Investment Corp. Nonqualified Stock Option and Incentive Award Plan Amended and Restated Effective as of February 11, 2004 (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, Exhibit 10.2).
- 21.1 Subsidiaries of the Registrant (incorporated by reference to the Registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007, Exhibit 21.1)
- 31.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 31.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.1 Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
- 32.2 Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

SIGNATURES

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

NEWCASTLE INVESTMENT CORP.
(Registrant)

/s/ Kenneth M. Riis

Name: Kenneth M. Riis
Title: Chief Executive Officer and President
Date: May 12, 2008

/s/ Debra A. Hess

Name: Debra A. Hess
Title: Chief Financial Officer
Date: May 12, 2008

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I, Kenneth M. Riis, certify that:

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

May 12, 2008
(Date)

/s/ Kenneth M. Riis
Kenneth M. Riis
Chief Executive Officer

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

I, Debra A. Hess, certify that:

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

May 12, 2008
(Date)

/s/ Debra A. Hess
Debra A. Hess
Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATION OF CEO PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Newcastle Investment Corp. (the "Company") for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2008 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), Kenneth M. Riis, as Chief Executive Officer of the Company, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to the best of his knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Kenneth M. Riis

Kenneth M. Riis
Chief Executive Officer
May 12, 2008

This certification accompanies the Report pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not, except to the extent required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

**CERTIFICATION OF CFO PURSUANT TO
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of Newcastle Investment Corp. (the "Company") for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2008 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), Debra A. Hess, as Chief Financial Officer of the Company, hereby certifies, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to the best of her knowledge:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Debra A. Hess

Debra A. Hess
Chief Financial Officer
May 12, 2008

This certification accompanies the Report pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not, except to the extent required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.