

FORWARD AIR CORP
Form 10-K
February 24, 2010

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

FORM 10-K

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

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2009
Commission File No. 000-22490

FORWARD AIR CORPORATION
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Tennessee (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	62-1120025 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
---	---

430 Airport Road Greeneville, Tennessee (Address of principal executive offices)	37745 (Zip Code)
---	---------------------

(423) 636-7000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:	
Common Stock, \$0.01 par value (Title of class)	The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (Name of exchange on which registered)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to

submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. 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 definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

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

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

The aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2009 was approximately \$611,603,599 based upon the \$21.32 closing price of the stock as reported on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC on that date. For purposes of this computation, all directors and executive officers of the registrant are assumed to be affiliates. This assumption is not a conclusive determination for purposes other than this calculation.

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common stock, \$0.01 par value per share as of February 17, 2010 was 28,976,977.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the proxy statement for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference into Part III of this report.

Table of Contents

Forward Air Corporation

	Page Number
Part I.	
Item 1.	Business 3
Item 1A.	Risk Factors 13
Item 1B.	Unresolved Staff Comments 17
Item 2.	Properties 17
Item 3.	Legal Proceedings 18
Item 4.	Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders 18
Part II.	
Item 5.	Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities 19
Item 6.	Selected Financial Data 21
Item 7.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations 21
Item 7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk 44
Item 8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data 44
Item 9.	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure 44
Item 9A.	Controls and Procedures 44
Item 9B.	Other Information 47
Part III.	
Item 10.	47

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	
Item 11.	Executive Compensation	47
Item 12.	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Shareholder Matters	47
Item 13.	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	47
Item 14.	Principal Accounting Fees and Services	47
Part IV.		
Item 15.	Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules	47
Signatures		48
Index to Financial Statements		F2
Financial Statement Schedule		S1
Exhibit Index		

Introductory Note

This Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009 (this “Form 10-K”) contains “forward-looking statements,” as defined in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”), and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”). Forward-looking statements are statements other than historical information or statements of current condition and relate to future events or our future financial performance. Some forward-looking statements may be identified by use of such terms as “believes,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “estimates,” “projects” or “expects.” Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The following is a list of factors, among others, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements: economic factors such as recessions, inflation, higher interest rates and downturns in customer business cycles, our inability to maintain our historical growth rate because of a decreased volume of freight or decreased average revenue per pound of freight moving through our network, increasing competition and pricing pressure, surplus inventories, loss of a major customer, the creditworthiness of our customers and their ability to pay for services rendered, our ability to secure terminal facilities in desirable locations at reasonable rates, the inability of our information systems to handle an increased volume of freight moving through our network, changes in fuel prices, claims for property damage, personal injuries or workers’ compensation, employment matters including rising health care costs, enforcement of and changes in governmental regulations, environmental and tax matters, the handling of hazardous materials, the availability and compensation of qualified independent owner-operators and freight handlers needed to serve our transportation needs and our inability to successfully integrate acquisitions. As a result of the foregoing, no assurance can be given as to future financial condition, cash flows or results of operations. We undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Part I

Item 1. Business

We were formed as a corporation under the laws of the State of Tennessee on October 23, 1981. Our operations can be broadly classified into two principal segments: Forward Air, Inc. (“Forward Air”) and Forward Air Solutions, Inc. (“FASI”).

Through our Forward Air segment, we are a leading provider of time-definite surface transportation and related logistics services to the North American deferred air freight market. We offer our customers local pick-up and delivery (Forward Air Complete™) and scheduled surface transportation of cargo as a cost-effective, reliable alternative to air transportation. We transport cargo that must be delivered at a specific time but is less time-sensitive than traditional air freight. This type of cargo is frequently referred to in the transportation industry as deferred air freight. We operate our Forward Air segment through a network of terminals located on or near airports in 84 cities in the United States and Canada, including a central sorting facility in Columbus, Ohio and 12 regional hubs serving key markets. We also offer our customers an array of logistics and other services including: expedited truckload brokerage (“TLX”); dedicated fleets; warehousing; customs brokerage; and shipment consolidation, deconsolidation and handling.

Through our Forward Air segment, we market our airport-to-airport services primarily to air freight forwarders, integrated air cargo carriers, and passenger and cargo airlines. To serve this market, we offer customers a high level of service with a focus on on-time, damage-free deliveries. We serve our customers by locating terminals on or near airports and maintaining regularly scheduled transportation service between major cities. We either receive shipments at our terminals or pick up shipments directly from our customers and transport them by truck (i) directly to the destination terminal; (ii) to our Columbus, Ohio central sorting facility; or (iii) to one of our 12 regional hubs, where they are unloaded, sorted and reloaded. After reloading the shipments, we deliver them to the terminals nearest their destinations and then, if requested by the customer, on to a final designated site. We ship freight directly between terminals when justified by the volume of shipments. During 2009, approximately 23.7% of the freight we handled

was for overnight delivery, approximately 59.2% was for delivery within two to three days and the balance was for delivery in four or more days. We generally do not market our airport-to-airport services directly to shippers (where such services might compete with our freight forwarder customers). Also, because we do not place significant size or weight restrictions on airport-to-airport shipments, we generally do not compete directly with integrated air cargo carriers such as United Parcel Service and Federal Express in the overnight delivery of small parcels. In 2009, Forward Air's five largest customers accounted for approximately 21.2% of Forward Air's operating revenue and no single customer accounted for more than 10.0% of Forward Air's operating revenue.

We continue to develop and implement complimentary services to the airport-to-airport network. Our complimentary services including TLX; dedicated fleets; local pick-up and delivery; warehousing; customs brokerage; and shipment consolidation, deconsolidation and handling are critical to helping meet the changing needs of our customers and for efficiently using the people and resources of our airport-to-airport network.

Through our FASI segment, which we formed in July 2007 in conjunction with our acquisition of certain assets and liabilities of USA Carriers, Inc. ("USAC"), we provide pool distribution services throughout the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest and Southwest continental United States. Pool distribution involves managing high-frequency handling and distribution of time-sensitive product to numerous destinations in specific geographic regions. Our primary customers for pool distribution are regional and nationwide distributors and specialty retailers, such as mall, strip mall and outlet-based retail chains. We service these customers through a network of terminals and service centers located in 19 cities. FASI's three largest customers accounted for approximately 50.8% of FASI's operating revenue, but revenues from these three customers did not exceed 10.0% of our consolidated revenue. No other customers accounted for more than 10.0% of FASI's operating revenue.

Our Industry

As businesses minimize inventory levels, close regional and local distribution centers, perform manufacturing and assembly operations in multiple locations and distribute their products through multiple channels, they have an increased need for expedited or time-definite delivery services. Expedited or time-definite shipments are those shipments for which the customer requires delivery the next day or within two to three days, usually by a specified time or within a specified time window.

Shippers with expedited or time-definite delivery requirements have several principal alternatives to transport freight: freight forwarders; integrated air cargo carriers; less-than-truckload carriers; full truckload carriers, and passenger and cargo airlines.

Although expedited or time-definite freight is often transported by aircraft, freight forwarders and shippers often elect to arrange for its transportation by truck, especially for shipments requiring deferred delivery within two to three days. Generally, the cost of shipping freight, especially heavy freight, by truck is substantially less than shipping by aircraft. We believe there are several trends that are increasing demand for lower-cost truck transportation of expedited air freight. These trends include:

- Freight forwarders obtain requests for shipments from customers, make arrangements for transportation of the cargo by a third-party carrier and usually arrange for both delivery from the shipper to the carrier and from the carrier to the recipient.
- Integrated air cargo carriers provide pick-up and delivery services primarily using their own fleet of trucks and provide transportation services generally using their own fleet of aircraft.
- Less-than-truckload carriers also provide pick-up and delivery services through their own fleet of trucks. These carriers operate terminals where a single shipment is unloaded, sorted and reloaded multiple times. This additional handling increases transit time, handling costs and the likelihood of cargo damage.
- Full truckload carriers provide transportation services generally using their own fleet of trucks. A freight forwarder or shipper must have a shipment of sufficient size to justify the cost of a full truckload. These cost benefit concerns can inhibit the flexibility often required by freight forwarders or shippers.
- Passenger or cargo airlines provide airport-to-airport service, but have limited cargo space and generally accept only shipments weighing less than 150 pounds.

Competitive Advantages

We believe that the following competitive advantages are critical to our success in both our Forward Air and FASI segments:

- **Focus on Specific Freight Markets.** Our Forward Air segment focuses on providing time-definite surface transportation and related logistics services to the deferred air cargo industry. Our FASI segment focuses on providing high-quality pool distribution services to retailers and nationwide distributors of retail products. This focused approach enables us to provide a higher level of service in a more cost-effective manner than our competitors.
- **Expansive Network of Terminals and Sorting Facilities.** We have built a network of Forward Air terminals and sorting facilities throughout the United States and Canada located on or near airports. We believe it would be difficult for a competitor to duplicate our Forward Air network without the expertise and strategic facility locations we have acquired and without expending significant capital and management resources. Our expansive Forward Air

network enables us to provide regularly scheduled service between most markets with low levels of freight damage or loss, all at rates generally significantly below air freight rates.

Primarily through acquisitions, we have created a FASI network of terminals and service centers throughout the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest and Southwest continental United States. The pool distribution market is very fragmented and our competition primarily consists of regional and local providers. We believe that through our network of FASI terminals and service locations we can offer our pool distribution customers comprehensive, high-quality service across the majority of the continental United States.

- **Concentrated Marketing Strategy.** Forward Air provides our deferred air freight services mainly to air freight forwarders, integrated air cargo carriers, and passenger and cargo airlines rather than directly serving shippers. Forward Air does not place significant size or weight restrictions on shipments and, therefore, it does not compete with delivery services such as United Parcel Service and Federal Express in the overnight small parcel market. We believe that Forward Air customers prefer to purchase their transportation services from us because, among other reasons, we generally do not market Forward Air's services to their shipper customers and, therefore, do not compete directly with them for customers.

FASI provides pool distribution services primarily to regional and nationwide distributors and specialty retailers, such as mall, strip mall and outlet-based retail chains.

- **Superior Service Offerings.** Forward Air’s published deferred air freight schedule for transit times with specific cut-off and arrival times generally provides Forward Air customers with the predictability they need. In addition, our network of Forward Air terminals allows us to offer our customers later cut-off times, a higher percentage of direct shipments (which reduces damage and shortens transit times) and earlier delivery times than most of our competitors.

Our network of FASI terminals allows us the opportunity to provide precision deliveries to a wider range of locations than most pool distribution providers with increased on-time performance.

- **Flexible Business Model.** Rather than owning and operating our own fleet of trucks, Forward Air purchases most of its transportation requirements from owner-operators or truckload carriers. This allows Forward Air to respond quickly to changing demands and opportunities in our industry and to generate higher returns on assets because of the lower capital requirements.

Primarily as a result of the structure of our acquisition targets and the nature of pool distribution services, FASI utilizes a higher percentage of Company-employed drivers and Company-owned equipment than Forward Air. However, as the conditions of individual markets and requirements of our customers allow, we are increasing the usage of owner-operators in our pool distribution business.

- **Comprehensive Logistic and Other Service Offerings.** Forward Air offers an array of logistic and other services including: TLX, pick-up and delivery (Forward Air Complete™), dedicated fleet, warehousing, customs brokerage and shipment consolidation and handling. These services are an essential part of many of our Forward Air customers’ transportation needs and are not offered by many of our competitors. Forward Air is able to provide these services utilizing existing infrastructure and thereby able to earn additional revenue without incurring significant additional fixed costs.
- **Leading Technology Platform.** We are committed to using information technology to improve our Forward Air and FASI operations. Through improved information technology, we believe we can increase the volume of freight we handle in our networks, improve visibility of shipment information and reduce our operating costs. Our Forward Air technology allows us to provide our customers with electronic bookings and real-time tracking and tracing of shipments while in our network, complete shipment history, proof of delivery, estimated charges and electronic bill presentment. We continue to enhance our Forward Air systems to permit us and our customers to access vital information through both the Internet and electronic data interchange. We have continued to invest in information technology to the benefit of our customers and our business processes. The primary example of this continued development is our Terminal Automation Program (“TAP”), a wireless application utilized in all our Forward Air terminals. The system enables individual operators to perform virtually all data entry from our terminal floor locations. The system provides immediate shipment updates, resulting in increased shipment accuracy and improved data timeliness. The TAP system not only reduces operational manpower, but also improves our on-time performance. Additionally, in order to support our Forward Air Complete service offering, we developed and installed a web-based system, which coordinates activities between our customers, operations personnel and external service providers.

We are committed to developing the same superior level of information technology for FASI. One of the challenges FASI faces is the integration of many different software applications utilized by not only the companies FASI acquired but our individual customers as well. Our goal is to create a comprehensive system that will provide our pool distribution customers with the same level of visibility, interactivity and flexibility as experienced by our Forward Air customers.

- **Strong Balance Sheet and Availability of Funding.** Our asset-light business model and strong market position in the deferred air freight market provides the foundation for operations that produce excellent

cash flow from operations even in challenging conditions. Our strong balance sheet can also be a competitive advantage. Our competitors, particularly in the pool distribution market, are mainly regional and local operations and may struggle to maintain operations in the current economic environment. The threat of financial instability may encourage new and existing customers to use a more financially secure transportation provider, such as FASI.

Growth Strategy

Our growth strategy is to take advantage of our competitive strengths in order to increase our profits and shareholder returns. Our goal is to use our established networks as the base for which to expand and launch new services that will allow us to grow in any economic environment. Principal components of our efforts include:

- **Increase Freight Volume from Existing Customers.** Many of our customers currently use Forward Air and FASI for only a portion of their overall transportation needs. We believe we can increase freight volumes from existing customers by offering more comprehensive services that address all of the customer's transportation needs, such as Forward Air Complete, our direct to door pick-up and delivery service. By offering additional services that can be integrated with our existing business, we believe we will attract additional business from existing customers.
- **Develop New Customers.** We continue to actively market our Forward Air and FASI services to potential new customers. In our deferred air freight business, we believe air freight forwarders may move away from integrated air cargo carriers because those carriers charge higher rates, and away from less-than-truckload carriers because those carriers provide less reliable service and compete for the same customers as do the air freight forwarders. In addition, we believe Forward Air's comprehensive North American network and related logistics services are attractive to domestic and international airlines. Forward Air Complete™ can also help attract business from new customers who require pick-up and delivery for their shipments. In our pool distribution business, we are emphasizing the development of relationships with retailers who have peak volume seasons outside of the traditional fourth quarter spike in order to help stabilize FASI's earnings throughout the calendar year. Further, by expanding our network of FASI terminals, we believe we can attract new customers and new business from existing customers by offering our services across multiple regions of the continental United States. During the upcoming years, we plan on expanding FASI's terminal footprint by opening FASI operations in select Forward Air terminals. We believe the utilization of existing Forward Air terminals will allow us to increase our FASI revenues with minimal addition of fixed costs.
- **Improve Efficiency of Our Transportation Network.** We constantly seek to improve the efficiency of our airport-to-airport and FASI networks. Regional hubs and direct shuttles improve Forward Air's efficiency by reducing the number of miles freight must be transported and the number of times freight must be handled and sorted. As the volume of freight between key markets increases, we intend to continue to add direct shuttles. Since 2007, we completed the purchase or construction of three new facilities in Chicago, Illinois, Atlanta, Georgia and Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. In 2006, we also completed the expansion of our national hub in Columbus, Ohio. With these new and expanded facilities, we believe we will have the necessary space to grow our business in key gateway cities and to offer additional services. We can improve our FASI operations by increasing the efficiencies of our daily and weekly routes and the cartons handled per hour on our docks. We are constantly looking to improve our route efficiencies by consolidating loads and utilizing owner-operators when available. We are investing in conveyor systems for certain FASI terminals to increase the productivity of our cargo handlers. Finally, we are actively looking to reduce or eliminate the number of duplicate facilities in cities which have both Forward Air and FASI terminals. We have combined Forward Air and FASI facilities in Des Moines, Iowa, Denver, Colorado, Kansas City, Missouri, Nashville, TN and Richmond, Virginia, and will continue this process in upcoming years as the expiration of leases and business volumes allow.
- **Expand Logistics and Other Services.** We continue to expand our logistics and other services to increase revenue and improve utilization of our Forward Air terminal facilities and labor force. Because of the timing of the arrival and departure of cargo, our Forward Air facilities are under-utilized during certain portions of the day, allowing us to add logistics services without significantly increasing our costs. Therefore, we have added a number of Forward Air logistic services in the past few years, such as TLX, dedicated fleet, warehousing, customs brokerage and shipment consolidation and handling services. These services directly benefit our existing customers and increase our ability to attract new customers, particularly those air freight forwarders that cannot justify providing the

services directly. These services are not offered by many transportation providers with whom we compete and are attractive to customers who prefer to use one provider for all of their transportation needs.

- **Expand Pool Distribution Services and Integrate with our Forward Air Services.** In addition to increasing our revenue from traditional pool distribution services, we are working to integrate our Forward Air and FASI service offerings. Through this process we are able to offer customers linehaul or truckload services, with handling and sorting at the origin and destination terminal, and final distribution to one or many locations utilizing FASI pool distribution and Forward Air Complete™.
- **Enhance Information Systems.** We are committed to the continued development and enhancement of our information systems in ways that will continue to provide us competitive service advantages and increased productivity. We believe our enhanced systems have and will assist us in capitalizing on new business opportunities with existing customers and developing relationships with new customers.

- Pursue Strategic Acquisitions. We continue to evaluate acquisitions that can increase our penetration of a geographic area, add new customers, add new business verticals, increase freight volume and add new service offerings. In addition, we expect to explore acquisitions that may enable us to offer additional services. Since our inception, we have acquired certain assets and liabilities of 12 businesses that met one or more of these criteria. During 2008 and 2007, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of four companies that met these criteria.
- Ø In July 2007, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of USAC which provided the base from which we launched our FASI pool distribution services.
- Ø In December 2007, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Black Hawk Freight Services, Inc. (“Black Hawk”) which increased the penetration of our Forward Air airport-to-airport network in the Midwest.
- Ø In March 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Pinch Holdings, Inc. and its related company AFTCO Enterprises, Inc. and certain of their respective wholly-owned subsidiaries (“Pinch”). Pinch was a privately-held provider of pool distribution, airport-to-airport, truckload, custom, and cartage services primarily to the Southwestern continental United States. This acquisition gave FASI a presence primarily in Texas and strengthens the position of our Forward Air network in the Southwest United States.
- Ø In September 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Service Express, Inc. (“Service Express”). The acquisition of Service Express, a privately-held provider of pool distribution services, helped us expand FASI’s geographic footprint in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern continental United States.

Operations

We operate in two reportable segments, based on differences in the services provided: Forward Air and FASI. Through Forward Air we are a leading provider of time-definite transportation and related logistics services to the North American deferred air freight market. Forward Air’s activities can be broadly classified into three categories of services: airport-to-airport, logistics and other.

Through our FASI segment we provide pool distribution services throughout the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest and Southwest continental United States. Pool distribution involves managing high-frequency handling and distribution of time-sensitive product to numerous destinations in specific geographic regions.

Forward Air

Airport-to-airport

We receive freight from air freight forwarders, integrated air cargo carriers and passenger and cargo airlines at our terminals, which are located on or near airports in the United States and Canada. We also pick up freight from customers at designated locations via our Forward Air Complete™ service. We consolidate and transport these shipments by truck through our network to our terminals nearest the ultimate destinations of the shipments. We operate regularly scheduled service to and from each of our terminals through our Columbus, Ohio central sorting facility or through one of our 12 regional hubs. We also operate regularly scheduled shuttle service directly between terminals where the volume of freight warrants bypassing the Columbus, Ohio central sorting facility or a regional hub. When a shipment arrives at our terminal nearest its destination, the customer arranges for the shipment to be picked up and delivered to its final destination, or we, in the alternative, through our Forward Air Complete™ service, deliver the freight for the customer to its final destination.

Terminals

Our airport-to-airport network consists of terminals located in the following 84 cities:

City	Airport Served	City	Airport Served
Albany, NY	ALB	Louisville, KY	SDF
Albuquerque, NM***	ABQ	Memphis, TN	MEM
Allentown, PA*	ABE	McAllen, TX	MFE
Atlanta, GA	ATL	Miami, FL	MIA
Austin, TX	AUS	Milwaukee, WI	MKE
Baltimore, MD	BWI	Minneapolis, MN	MSP
Baton Rouge, LA*	BTR	Mobile, AL*	MOB
Birmingham, AL*	BHM	Moline, IA	MLI
Blountville, TN*	TRI	Montgomery, AL***	MGM
Boston, MA	BOS	Nashville, TN**	BNA
Buffalo, NY	BUF	Newark, NJ	EWR
Burlington, IA	BRL	Newburgh, NY	SWF
Cedar Rapids, IA	CID	New Orleans, LA	MSY
Charleston, SC	CHS	New York, NY	JFK
Charlotte, NC	CLT	Norfolk, VA	ORF
Chicago, IL	ORD	Oklahoma City, OK	OKC
Cincinnati, OH	CVG	Omaha, NE	OMA
Cleveland, OH	CLE	Orlando, FL	MCO
Columbia, SC*	CAE	Pensacola, FL*	PNS
Columbus, OH	CMH	Philadelphia, PA	PHL
Corpus Christi, TX*	CRP	Phoenix, AZ	PHX
Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX	DFW	Pittsburgh, PA	PIT
Dayton, OH*	DAY	Portland, OR	PDX
Denver, CO**	DEN	Raleigh, NC	RDU

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

Des Moines, IA**	DSM	Richmond, VA**	RIC
Detroit, MI	DTW	Rochester, NY	ROC
El Paso, TX	ELP	Sacramento, CA	SMF
Greensboro, NC	GSO	Salt Lake City, UT	SLC
Greenville, SC	GSP	San Antonio, TX	SAT
Hartford, CT	BDL	San Diego, CA	SAN
Harrisburg, PA	MDT	San Francisco, CA	SFO
Houston, TX	IAH	Seattle, WA	SEA
Huntsville, AL*	HSV	Shreveport, LA*	SHV
Indianapolis, IN	IND	St. Louis, MO	STL
Jacksonville, FL	JAX	Syracuse, NY	SYR
Kansas City, MO**	MCI	Tampa, FL	TPA
Knoxville, TN*	TYS	Toledo, OH*	TOL
Lafayette, LA*	LFT	Tucson, AZ*	TUS
Laredo, TX	LRD	Tulsa, OK	TUL
Las Vegas, NV	LAS	Washington, DC	IAD
Little Rock, AR*	LIT	Montreal, Canada*	YUL
Los Angeles, CA	LAX	Toronto, Canada	YYZ

* Denotes an independent agent location.

** Denotes a location with combined Forward Air and FASI operations.

*** Denotes an agent location operated by FASI.

Independent agents and FASI operate 17 and 2 of our Forward Air locations, respectively. These locations typically handle lower volumes of freight relative to our Company-operated facilities.

Direct Service and Regional Hubs

We operate direct terminal-to-terminal services and regional overnight service between terminals where justified by freight volumes. We currently provide regional overnight service to many of the markets within our network. Direct service allows us to provide quicker scheduled service at a lower cost because it allows us to minimize out-of-route miles and eliminate the added time and cost of handling the freight at our central or regional hub sorting facilities. Direct shipments also reduce the likelihood of damage because of reduced handling and sorting of the freight. As we continue to increase volume between various terminals, we intend to add other direct services. Where warranted by sufficient volume in a region, we utilize larger terminals as regional sorting hubs, which allow us to bypass our Columbus, Ohio central sorting facility. These regional hubs improve our operating efficiency and enhance customer service. We operate regional hubs in Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Newark, Newburgh, Orlando, and Sacramento.

Shipments

The average weekly volume of freight moving through our network was approximately 28.5 million pounds per week in 2009. During 2009, our average shipment weighed approximately 693 pounds and shipment sizes ranged from small boxes weighing only a few pounds to large shipments of several thousand pounds. Although we impose no significant size or weight restrictions, we focus our marketing and price structure on shipments of 200 pounds or more. As a result, we typically do not directly compete with integrated air cargo carriers in the overnight delivery of small parcels. The table below summarizes the average weekly volume of freight moving through our network for each year since 1990.

	Average Weekly Volume in Pounds (In Year millions)
1990	1.2
1991	1.4
1992	2.3
1993	3.8
1994	7.4
1995	8.5
1996	10.5
1997	12.4
1998	15.4
1999	19.4
2000	24.0
2001	24.3
2002	24.5
2003	25.3
2004	28.7
2005	31.2
2006	32.2
2007	32.8
2008	34.2
2009	28.5

Logistics and Other Services

Our customers increasingly demand more than the movement of freight from their transportation providers. To meet these demands, we continually seek ways to customize our logistics services and add new services. Logistics and other services increase our profit margins by increasing our revenue without corresponding increases in our fixed costs, as airport-to-airport assets and resources are primarily used to provide the logistics and other services.

Our logistics and other services allow customers to access the following services from a single source:

- expedited truckload brokerage, or TLX;
 - dedicated fleets;
- customs brokerage, such as assistance with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (“U.S. Customs”) procedures for both import and export shipments;
 - warehousing, dock and office space;
 - drayage and intermodal;
 - hotshot or ad-hoc ultra expedited services; and
- shipment consolidation and handling, such as shipment build-up and break-down and reconsolidation of air or ocean pallets or containers.

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

These services are critical to many of our air freight forwarder customers that do not provide logistics services themselves or that prefer to use one provider for all of their surface transportation needs.

Revenue and purchased transportation for our TLX and dedicated fleet services are largely determined by the number of miles driven. The table below summarizes the average miles driven per week to support our logistics services since 2003:

Year	Average Weekly Miles (In thousands)
2003	211
2004	259
2005	248
2006	331
2007	529
2008	676
2009	672

Forward Air Solutions (FASI)

Pool Distribution

Through our FASI segment we provide pool distribution services through a network of terminals and service locations in 19 cities throughout the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest and Southwest continental United States. Pool distribution involves managing high-frequency handling and distribution of time-sensitive product to numerous destinations in specific geographic regions. Our primary customers for this product are regional and nationwide distributors and retailers, such as mall, strip mall and outlet-based retail chains.

We continue to expand the geographic footprint of our FASI pool distribution business, primarily through acquisitions. In July 2007, we acquired USAC which provided the base from which we launched our FASI pool distribution services. On March 17, 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Pinch. The acquisition of Pinch's pool distribution services expanded the geographic footprint in Texas and the Southwestern United States. On September 8, 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Service Express. The acquisition of Service Express helped us expand our geographic footprint in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern continental United States. Our pool distribution network consists of terminals and service locations in the following 19 cities:

City	
Albuquerque, NM***	Kansas City, MO**
Atlanta, GA	Lakeland, FL
Baltimore, MD	Las Vegas, NV
Charlotte, NC	Miami, FL
Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX	Montgomery, AL***
Denver, CO**	Nashville, TN**

Des Moines, Richmond,
IA** VA**
Greensboro, San Antonio,
NC TX
Houston, TX Tulsa, OK
Jacksonville,
FL

** Denotes a location with combined Forward Air and FASI operations.

*** Denotes a location that provides agent station services to Forward Air.

Customers and Marketing

Our Forward Air wholesale customer base is primarily comprised of air freight forwarders, integrated air cargo carriers and passenger and cargo airlines. Our air freight forwarder customers vary in size from small, independent, single facility companies to large, international logistics companies such as SEKO Worldwide, AIT Worldwide Logistics, Associated Global, UPS Supply Chain Solutions and Pilot Air Freight. Because we deliver dependable service, integrated air cargo carriers such as UPS Cargo and DHL Worldwide Express use our network to provide overflow capacity and other services, including shipment of bigger packages and pallet-loaded cargo. Our passenger and cargo airline customers include British Airways, United Airlines and Virgin Atlantic.

Our FASI pool distribution customers are primarily comprised of national and regional retailers and distributors, such as The Limited, The Marmaxx Group, The GAP, Blockbuster and Aeropostale. We also conduct business with other pool distribution providers.

We market all our services through a sales and marketing staff located in major markets of the United States. Senior management also is actively involved in sales and marketing at the national account level and supports local sales initiatives. We also participate in air cargo and retail trade shows and advertise our services through direct mail programs and through the Internet via www.forwardair.com. The information contained on our website is not part of this filing and is therefore not incorporated by reference unless such information is otherwise specifically referenced elsewhere in this report.

Technology and Information Systems

Our technology allows us to provide Forward Air customers with real-time tracking and tracing of shipments throughout the transportation process, complete shipment history, proof of delivery, estimated charges and electronic bill presentment. In addition, our Forward Air customers are able to electronically transmit bookings to us from their own networks and schedule transportation and obtain tracking and tracing information. We continue to develop and enhance our systems to permit our customers to obtain this information both through the Internet and through electronic data interchange.

We continue to enhance our Forward Air TAP application and website service offerings in our continuing effort to automate and improve our operations. TAP enables operations personnel to perform data entry from our terminal floor locations which greatly reduces the need for data entry personnel and provides immediate shipment updates. The result is increased shipment accuracy and improved data timeliness. The TAP system improves our ability to provide accurate, real-time information, and results in both competitive service advantages and increased productivity throughout our network. Our Forward Air Complete™ website coordinates activities between our customers, operations personnel and external service providers. We believe that the TAP system, Forward Air Complete™ website and other technical enhancements will assist us in capitalizing on new business opportunities and could encourage customers to increase the volume of freight they send through our network.

During 2009, we made significant investments in technology for FASI. During the year, we continued our development of a FASI driven enhancement to our existing Forward Air applications. This system enhancement, called FASTRACS, is designed specifically to meet the retail distribution business demands, and makes use of the most modern wireless technologies available. FASTRACS was implemented in 2009 for a select group of customers and is being designed so as to be the primary technology platform for all future customers.

Purchased Transportation

We contract for most of our Forward Air transportation services on a per mile basis from owner-operators. FASI also utilizes owner-operators for certain of its transportation services, but relies more on Company-employed drivers. The owner-operators own, operate and maintain their own tractors and employ their own drivers. Our Forward Air freight

handlers load and unload our trailers for hauling by owner-operators between our terminals.

We seek to establish long-term relationships with owner-operators to assure dependable service and availability. Historically, we have experienced significantly higher than industry average retention of owner-operators. We have established specific guidelines relating to safety records, driving experience and personal evaluations that we use to select our owner-operators. To enhance our relationship with the owner-operators, our per mile rates are generally above prevailing market rates. In addition, we typically offer our owner-operators and their drivers a consistent work schedule. Usually, schedules are between the same two cities, improving quality of work life for the owner-operators and their drivers and, in turn, increasing driver retention.

As a result of efforts to expand our logistics and other services, seasonal demands and volume surges in particular markets, we also purchase transportation from other surface transportation providers to handle overflow volume. Of the \$174.4 million incurred for purchased transportation during 2009, we purchased 70.5% from owner-operators and 29.5% from other surface transportation providers.

Competition

The air freight and pool distribution segments of the transportation industry are highly competitive and very fragmented. Our Forward Air and FASI competitors primarily include national and regional truckload and less-than-truckload carriers. To a lesser extent, Forward Air also competes with integrated air cargo carriers and passenger and cargo airlines.

We believe competition is based primarily on service, on-time delivery, flexibility and reliability, as well as rates. We offer our Forward Air services at rates that generally are significantly below the charge to transport the same shipment to the same destination by air. We believe Forward Air has an advantage over less-than-truckload carriers because Forward Air delivers faster, more reliable service between many cities. We believe FASI has an advantage over its competitors due to its presence in several regions across the continental United States allowing us to provide consistent, high-quality service to our customers regardless of location.

Seasonality

Historically, our operating results have been subject to seasonal trends when measured on a quarterly basis. The first quarter has traditionally been the weakest and the third and fourth quarters have traditionally been the strongest. Typically, this pattern has been the result of factors such as weather, national holidays, customer demand and economic conditions. Additionally, a significant portion of our revenue is derived from customers whose business levels are impacted by the economy. The impact of seasonal trends is more pronounced on our pool distribution business. The pool distribution business is seasonal and operating revenues and results tend to be higher in the third and fourth quarters than in the first and second quarters.

Employees

As of December 31, 2009, we had 1,798 full-time employees, 488 of whom were freight handlers. Also, as of that date, we had an additional 957 part-time employees, of whom the majority were freight handlers. None of our employees are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. We recognize that our workforce, including our freight handlers, is one of our most valuable assets. The recruitment, training and retention of qualified employees is essential to support our continued growth and to meet the service requirements of our customers.

Risk Management and Litigation

Under U.S. Department of Transportation (“DOT”) regulations, we are liable for property damage and personal injuries caused by owner-operators and Company-employed drivers while they are operating on our behalf. We currently maintain liability insurance coverage that we believe is adequate to cover third-party claims. We have a self-insured retention of \$0.5 million per occurrence for vehicle and general liability claims. We may also be subject to claims for workers’ compensation. We maintain workers’ compensation insurance coverage that we believe is adequate to cover such claims. We have a self-insured retention of approximately \$0.3 million for each such claim, except in Ohio, where we are a qualified self-insured entity with an approximately \$0.4 million self-insured retention. We could incur claims in excess of our policy limits or incur claims not covered by our insurance.

From time to time, we are a party to litigation arising in the normal course of our business, most of which involve claims for personal injury, property damage related to the transportation and handling of freight, or workers’ compensation. We do not believe that any of these pending actions, individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Regulation

The DOT and various state agencies have been granted broad powers over our business. These entities generally regulate such activities as authorization to engage in property brokerage and motor carrier operations, safety and financial reporting. We are licensed through our subsidiaries by the DOT as a motor carrier and as a property broker to arrange for the transportation of freight by truck. Our domestic customs brokerage operations are licensed by U.S. Customs. We are subject to similar regulation in Canada.

Service Marks

Through one of our subsidiaries, we hold federal trademark registrations or applications for federal trademark registration, associated with the following service marks: Forward Air, Inc. ®, North America's Most Complete Roadfeeder Network ®, Forward Air ™, Forward Air Solutions ®, Forward Air TLX™, and Forward Air Complete ™. These marks are of significant value to our business.

Website Access

We file reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and other reports from time to time. We are an electronic filer and the SEC maintains an Internet site at www.sec.gov that contains these reports and other information filed electronically. We make available free of charge through our website our Code of Ethics and our reports as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC. Our website address is www.forwardair.com. Please note that this website address is provided as an inactive textual reference only. The information provided on the website is not part of this report, and is therefore not incorporated by reference unless such information is otherwise specifically referenced elsewhere in this report.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the other information in this Form 10-K and other documents we have filed with the SEC from time to time, the following factors should be carefully considered in evaluating our business. Such factors could affect results and cause results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by, or on behalf of, us. Some or all of these factors may apply to our business.

The severe economic downturn has resulted in weaker demand for ground transportation services, which may continue to have a significant negative impact on us.

We are experiencing significantly weaker demand for our airport-to-airport and pool distribution services driven by the severe downturn in the economy. We began to experience weakening demand late in 2008, and this weakness continued throughout 2009. We have adjusted the size of our owner-operator fleet and reduced employee headcount to compensate for the drop in demand. If the economic downturn persists or worsens, demand for our services may continue to weaken. No assurance can be given that our reductions or other steps we have taken or may take will be adequate to offset the effects of reduced demand.

Our business is subject to general economic and business factors that are largely out of our control, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

Our business is dependent upon a number of factors that may have a material adverse effect on the results of our operations, many of which are beyond our control. These factors include increases or rapid fluctuations in fuel prices, capacity in the trucking industry, insurance premiums, self-insured retention levels and difficulty in attracting and retaining qualified owner-operators and freight handlers. Our profitability would decline if we were unable to anticipate and react to increases in our operating costs, including purchased transportation and labor, or decreases in the amount of revenue per pound of freight shipped through our system. As a result of competitive factors, we may be unable to raise our prices to meet increases in our operating costs, which could result in a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Economic conditions may adversely affect our customers and the amount of freight available for transport. This may require us to lower our rates, and this may also result in lower volumes of freight flowing through our network. Customers encountering adverse economic conditions represent a greater potential for loss, and we may be required to increase our reserve for bad-debt losses.

Our results of operations may be affected by seasonal factors. Volumes of freight tend to be lower in the first quarter after the winter holiday season. In addition, it is not possible to predict the short or long-term effects of any geopolitical events on the economy or on customer confidence in the United States, or their impact, if any, on our future results of operations.

In order to grow our business, we will need to increase the volume and revenue per pound of the freight shipped through our networks.

Our growth depends in significant part on our ability to increase the amount and revenue per pound of freight shipped through our networks. The amount of freight shipped through our networks and our revenue per pound depend on numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control, such as economic conditions and our competitors' pricing. Therefore, we cannot guarantee that the amount of freight shipped or the revenue per pound we realize on that freight will increase or even remain at current levels. If we fail to increase the volume of the freight shipped through our networks or the revenue per pound of the freight shipped, we may be unable to maintain or increase our profitability.

Our rates, overall revenue and expenses are subject to volatility.

Our rates are subject to change based on competitive pricing and market factors. Our overall transportation rates consist of base transportation and fuel surcharge rates. Our base transportation rates exclude fuel surcharges and are set based on numerous factors such as length of haul, freight class and weight per shipment. The base rates are subject to change based on competitive pricing pressures and market factors. Most of our competitors impose fuel surcharges, but there is no industry standard for the calculation of fuel surcharge rates. Our fuel surcharge rates are set weekly based on the national average for fuel prices as published by the U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) and our fuel surcharge table. Historically, we have not adjusted our method for determining fuel surcharge rates.

Our net fuel surcharge revenue is the result of our fuel surcharge rates and the tonnage transiting our networks. The fuel surcharge revenue is then netted with the fuel surcharge we pay to our owner-operators and third party transportation providers. Fluctuations in tonnage levels, related load factors, and fuel prices may subject us to volatility in our net fuel surcharge revenue. This potential volatility in net fuel surcharge revenue may adversely impact our overall revenue, base transportation revenue plus net fuel surcharge revenue, and results of operations.

Because a portion of our network costs are fixed, we will be adversely affected by any decrease in the volume or revenue per pound of freight shipped through our networks.

Our operations, particularly our networks of hubs and terminals, represent substantial fixed costs. As a result, any decline in the volume or revenue per pound of freight we handle may have an adverse effect on our operating margin and our results of operations. Typically, Forward Air does not have contracts with our customers and we cannot guarantee that our current customers will continue to utilize our services or that they will continue at the same levels. FASI does have contracts with its customers but these contracts typically have terms allowing cancellation within 30 to 60 days. The actual shippers of the freight moved through our networks include various manufacturers, distributors and/or retailers of electronics, clothing, telecommunications equipment, machine parts, trade show exhibit materials and medical equipment. Adverse business conditions affecting these shippers or adverse general economic conditions are likely to cause a decline in the volume of freight shipped through our networks.

We operate in highly competitive and fragmented segments of our industry, and our business will suffer if we are unable to adequately address downward pricing pressures and other factors that may adversely affect our operations and profitability.

The segments of the freight transportation industry we participate in, are highly competitive, very fragmented and historically have few barriers to entry. Our principal competitors include national and regional truckload and less-than-truckload carriers. To a lesser extent, our Forward Air segment also competes with integrated air cargo carriers and passenger airlines. Our competition ranges from small operators that compete within a limited geographic area to companies with substantially greater financial and other resources, including greater freight capacity. We also face competition from air freight forwarders who decide to establish their own networks to transport deferred air freight. We believe competition is based on service, primarily on-time delivery, flexibility and reliability, as well as rates. Many of our competitors periodically reduce their rates to gain business, especially during times of economic decline. In the past several years, several of our competitors have reduced their rates to unusually low levels that we believe are unsustainable in the long-term, but that may materially adversely affect our business in the short-term. These competitors may cause a decrease in our volume of freight, require us to lower the prices we charge for our services and adversely affect both our growth prospects and profitability.

Claims for property damage, personal injuries or workers' compensation and related expenses could significantly reduce our earnings.

Under DOT regulations, we are liable for property damage and personal injuries caused by owner-operators and Company-employed drivers while they are operating on our behalf. We currently maintain liability insurance coverage that we believe is adequate to cover third-party claims. We have a self-insured retention of \$0.5 million per occurrence for vehicle and general liability claims. We may also be subject to claims for workers' compensation. We maintain workers' compensation insurance coverage that we believe is adequate to cover such claims. We have a self-insured retention of approximately \$0.3 million for each such claim, except in Ohio, where we are a qualified self-insured entity with an approximately \$0.4 million self-insured retention. We could incur claims in excess of our policy limits or incur claims not covered by our insurance. Any claims beyond the limits or scope of our insurance coverage may have a material adverse effect on us. Because we do not carry "stop loss" insurance, a significant increase in the number of claims that we must cover under our self-insurance retainage could adversely affect our profitability. In addition, we may be unable to maintain insurance coverage at a reasonable cost or in sufficient amounts or scope to protect us against losses.

We have grown and may grow, in part, through acquisitions, which involve various risks, and we may not be able to identify or acquire companies consistent with our growth strategy or successfully integrate acquired businesses into our operations.

We have grown through acquisitions and we intend to pursue opportunities to expand our business by acquiring other companies in the future. Acquisitions involve risks, including those relating to:

- identification of appropriate acquisition candidates;
- negotiation of acquisitions on favorable terms and valuations;
 - integration of acquired businesses and personnel;
- implementation of proper business and accounting controls;
- ability to obtain financing, on favorable terms or at all;
 - diversion of management attention;
 - retention of employees and customers;
 - unexpected liabilities;
- potential erosion of operating profits as new acquisitions may be unable to achieve profitability comparable with our core airport-to-airport business, and
 - detrimental issues not discovered during due diligence.

Acquisitions also may affect our short-term cash flow and net income as we expend funds, potentially increase indebtedness and incur additional expenses. If we are not able to identify or acquire companies consistent with our growth strategy, or if we fail to successfully integrate any acquired companies into our operations, we may not achieve anticipated increases in revenue, cost savings and economies of scale, our operating results may actually decline and acquired goodwill may become impaired.

We could be required to record a material non-cash charge to income if our recorded intangible assets or goodwill are determined to be impaired.

We have \$35.9 million of recorded net definite-lived intangible assets on our consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2009. Our definite-lived intangible assets primarily represent the value of customer relationships and non-compete agreements that were recorded in conjunction with our various acquisitions. We review our long-lived assets, such as our definite-lived intangible assets, for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Impairment is recognized on these assets when the sum of undiscounted estimated cash flows expected to result from the use of the asset is less than the carrying value. If such measurement indicates a possible impairment, we would be required to record a non-cash impairment charge to our statement of income in the amount that the carrying value of these assets exceed the estimated fair value of the assets.

We also have recorded goodwill of \$43.3 million on our consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2009. Goodwill is assessed for impairment annually (or more frequently if circumstances indicate possible impairment) for each of our reportable segments. This assessment includes comparing the fair value of each reportable segment to the carrying value of the assets assigned to each reportable segment. If the carrying value of the reportable segment was to exceed our estimated fair value of the reportable segment, we would then be required to estimate the fair value of the individual assets and liabilities within the reportable segment to ascertain the amount of fair value of goodwill and any potential impairment. If we determine that our fair value of goodwill is less than the related book value, we could be required to record a non-cash impairment charge to our statement of income, which could have a material adverse effect on our earnings. During 2009, we determined there were indicators of potential impairment of the goodwill assigned to the FASI segment. This determination was based on the continuing economic recession, declines in current market valuations and FASI operating losses in excess of expectations. As a result, we performed an interim impairment test in accordance with our accounting policy discussed above as of March 31, 2009. Based on the results of the interim impairment test, we concluded that an impairment loss was probable and could be reasonably estimated. Consequently, we recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$7.0 million related to the FASI segment during 2009.

Earnings estimated to be generated by the Forward Air segment are expected to support the carrying value of its goodwill. The FASI segment is currently facing the challenges of building and expanding a business during difficult economic times. If these overall economic conditions worsen or continue for an extended period of time, we may be required to record an additional impairment charge against the carrying value of goodwill related to the FASI segment.

We may have difficulty effectively managing our growth, which could adversely affect our results of operations.

Our growth plans will place significant demands on our management and operating personnel. Our ability to manage our future growth effectively will require us to regularly enhance our operating and management information systems and to continue to attract, retain, train, motivate and manage key employees. If we are unable to manage our growth effectively, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected.

If we fail to maintain and enhance our information technology systems, we may lose orders and customers or incur costs beyond expectations.

We must maintain and enhance our information technology systems to remain competitive and effectively handle higher volumes of freight through our network. We expect customers to continue to demand more sophisticated, fully integrated information systems from their transportation providers. If we are unable to maintain and enhance our information systems to handle our freight volumes and meet the demands of our customers, our business and results of operations will be adversely affected. If our information systems are unable to handle higher freight volumes and increased logistics services, our service levels and operating efficiency may decline. This may lead to a loss of customers and a decline in the volume of freight we receive from customers.

Our information technology systems are subject to risks that we cannot control.

Our information technology systems are dependent upon global communications providers, web browsers, telephone systems and other aspects of the Internet infrastructure that have experienced significant system failures and electrical outages in the past. While we take measures to ensure our major systems have redundant capabilities, our systems are susceptible to outages from fire, floods, power loss, telecommunications failures, break-ins and similar events. Despite our implementation of network security measures, our servers are vulnerable to computer viruses, break-ins and similar disruptions from unauthorized tampering with our computer systems. The occurrence of any of these events could disrupt or damage our information technology systems and inhibit our internal operations, our ability to provide services to our customers and the ability of our customers to access our information technology systems. This may result in the loss of customers or a reduction in demand for our services.

If we have difficulty attracting and retaining owner-operators or freight handlers, our results of operations could be adversely affected.

We depend on owner-operators for most of our transportation needs. In 2009, owner-operators provided 70.5% of our purchased transportation. Competition for owner-operators is intense, and sometimes there are shortages of available owner-operators. In addition, we need a large number of freight handlers to operate our business efficiently. During periods of low unemployment in the areas where our terminals are located, we may have difficulty hiring and retaining a sufficient number of freight handlers. If we have difficulty attracting and retaining enough qualified owner-operators or freight handlers, we may be forced to increase wages and benefits, which would increase our operating costs. This difficulty may also impede our ability to maintain our delivery schedules, which could make our service less competitive and force us to curtail our planned growth. If our labor costs increase, we may be unable to offset the increased labor costs by increasing rates without adversely affecting our business. As a result, our profitability may be reduced.

A determination by regulators that our independent owner-operators are employees rather than independent contractors could expose us to various liabilities and additional costs.

At times, the Internal Revenue Service, the Department of Labor and state authorities have asserted that owner-operators are “employees,” rather than “independent contractors.” One or more governmental authorities may challenge our position that the owner-operators we use are not our employees. A determination by regulators that our independent owner-operators are employees rather than independent contractors could expose us to various liabilities and additional costs including, but not limited to, employment-related expenses such as workers’ compensation insurance coverage and reimbursement of work-related expenses.

We operate in a regulated industry, and increased costs of compliance with, or liability for violation of, existing or future regulations could have a material adverse effect on our business.

The DOT and various state agencies have been granted broad regulatory powers over our business, and we are licensed by the DOT and U.S. Customs. If we fail to comply with any applicable regulations, our licenses may be revoked or we could be subject to substantial fines or penalties and to civil and criminal liability.

The transportation industry is subject to legislative and regulatory changes that can affect the economics of our business by requiring changes in operating practices or influencing the demand for, and the cost of providing, transportation services. Heightened security concerns may continue to result in increased regulations, including the implementation of various security measures, checkpoints or travel restrictions on trucks.

In addition, there may be changes in applicable federal or state tax or other laws or interpretations of those laws. If this happens, we may incur additional taxes, as well as higher workers’ compensation and employee benefit costs, and possibly penalties and interest for prior periods. This could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

We are subject to various environmental laws and regulations, and costs of compliance with, or liabilities for violations of, existing or future laws and regulations could significantly increase our costs of doing business.

Our operations are subject to environmental laws and regulations dealing with, among other things, the handling of hazardous materials and discharge and retention of stormwater. We operate in industrial areas, where truck terminals and other industrial activities are located, and where groundwater or other forms of environmental contamination may have occurred. Our operations involve the risks of fuel spillage, environmental damage, and hazardous waste disposal, among others. If we are involved in a spill or other accident involving hazardous substances, or if we are found to be in violation of applicable environmental laws or regulations, it could significantly increase our cost of doing business. Under specific environmental laws and regulations, we could be held responsible for all of the costs relating to any contamination at our past or present terminals and at third-party waste disposal sites. If we fail to comply with

applicable environmental laws and regulations, we could be subject to substantial fines or penalties and to civil and criminal liability.

In addition, as global warming issues become more prevalent, federal and local governments and our customers are beginning to respond to these issues. This increased focus on sustainability may result in new regulations and customer requirements that could negatively affect us. This could cause us to incur additional direct costs or to make changes to our operations in order to comply with any new regulations and customer requirements, as well as increased indirect costs or loss of revenue resulting from, among other things, our customers incurring additional compliance costs that affect our costs and revenues. We could also lose revenue if our customers divert business from us because we haven't complied with their sustainability requirements. These costs, changes and loss of revenue could have a material adverse affect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We are dependent on our senior management team, and the loss of any such personnel could materially and adversely affect our business.

Our future performance depends, in significant part, upon the continued service of our senior management team. We cannot be certain that we can retain these employees. The loss of the services of one or more of these or other key personnel could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition. We must continue to develop and retain a core group of management personnel and address issues of succession planning if we are to realize our goal of growing our business. We cannot be certain that we will be able to do so.

If our employees were to unionize, our operating costs would likely increase.

None of our employees are currently represented by a collective bargaining agreement. However, we have no assurance that our employees will not unionize in the future, which could increase our operating costs and force us to alter our operating methods. This could have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

Our charter and bylaws and provisions of Tennessee law could discourage or prevent a takeover that may be considered favorable.

Our charter and bylaws and provisions of Tennessee law may discourage, delay or prevent a merger, acquisition or change in control that may be considered favorable. These provisions could also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for shareholders to elect directors and take other corporate actions. Among other things, these provisions:

- authorize us to issue preferred stock, the terms of which may be determined at the sole discretion of our Board of Directors and may adversely affect the voting or economic rights of our shareholders; and
- establish advance notice requirements for nominations for election to the Board of Directors and for proposing matters that can be acted on by shareholders at a meeting.

Our charter and bylaws and provisions of Tennessee law may discourage transactions that otherwise could provide for the payment of a premium over prevailing market prices for our Common Stock, \$0.01 par value per share, and also could limit the price that investors are willing to pay in the future for shares of our Common Stock.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None.

Item 2. Properties

Properties and Equipment

Management believes that we have adequate facilities for conducting our business, including properties owned and leased. Management further believes that in the event replacement property is needed, it will be available on terms and at costs substantially similar to the terms and costs experienced by competitors within the transportation industry.

We lease our 37,500 square foot headquarters in Greeneville, Tennessee from the Greeneville-Greene County Airport Authority. The initial lease term ended in 2006 and has two ten-year and one five-year renewal options. During 2007, we renewed the lease through 2016.

We own our Columbus, Ohio central sorting facility. The expanded Columbus, Ohio facility is 125,000 square feet with 168 trailer doors. This premier facility can unload, sort and load upwards of 3.7 million pounds in five hours. In addition to the expansion, we process-engineered the freight sorting in the expanded building to improve handling efficiencies. The benefits include reductions in the distance each shipment moves in the building to speed up the transfer process, less handling of freight to further improve service integrity and flexibility to operate multiple sorts at the same time.

In June 2009, we completed the construction of a facility near Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas for \$31.6 million. The facility has over 216,000 square feet with 134 trailer doors and approximately 28,000 square feet of office space. In addition, in March and June 2007, we completed the purchase of facilities near Chicago, Illinois and Atlanta, Georgia for \$22.3 million and \$14.9 million, respectively. The Atlanta, Georgia facility is over 142,000 square feet with 118 trailer

doors and approximately 12,000 square feet of office space. The Chicago, Illinois facility is over 125,000 square feet with 110 trailer doors and over 10,000 square feet of office space.

We lease and maintain 77 additional terminals, including our pool distribution terminals, located in major cities throughout the United States and Canada. Lease terms for these terminals are typically for three to five years. The remaining 17 terminals are agent stations operated by independent agents who handle freight for us on a commission basis.

We own the majority of trailers we use to move freight through our networks. Substantially all of our trailers are 53' long, some of which have specialized roller bed equipment required to serve air cargo industry customers. At December 31, 2009, we had 2,233 owned trailers in our fleet with an average age of approximately 4.3 years. In addition, as a result of our acquisitions in 2007 and 2008, at December 31, 2009, we also had 77 leased trailers in our fleet.

Through our acquisitions in 2007 and 2008 we have also increased the size of our tractor and straight truck fleets. At December 31, 2009, we had 327 owned tractors and straight trucks in our fleet, with an average age of approximately 3.8 years. In addition, at December 31, 2009, we also had 137 leased tractors and straight trucks in our fleet.

Item 3. Legal Proceedings

From time to time, we are a party to ordinary, routine litigation incidental to and arising in the normal course of our business, most of which involve claims for personal injury, property damage related to the transportation and handling of freight, or workers' compensation. We do not believe that any of these pending actions, individually or in the aggregate, will have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flow.

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

During the fourth quarter of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, no matters were submitted to a vote of security holders through the solicitation of proxies or otherwise.

Executive Officers of the Registrant

Pursuant to Instruction 3 to Item 401(b) of Regulation S-K of the Securities Act and General Instruction G(3) to Form 10-K, the following information is included in Part I of this report. The ages listed below are as of December 31, 2009.

The following are our executive officers:

Name	Age	Position
Bruce A. Campbell	58	President and Chief Executive Officer
Rodney L. Bell	47	Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Treasurer
Craig A. Drum	54	Senior Vice President, Sales
Matthew J. Jewell	43	Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary
Chris C. Ruble	47	Executive Vice President, Operations

There are no family relationships between any of our executive officers. All officers hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

Bruce A. Campbell has served as a director since April 1993, as President since August 1998, as Chief Executive Officer since October 2003 and as Chairman of the Board since May 2007. Mr. Campbell was Chief Operating Officer from April 1990 until October 2003 and Executive Vice President from April 1990 until August 1998. Prior to joining us, Mr. Campbell served as Vice President of Ryder-Temperature Controlled Carriage in Nashville, Tennessee from September 1985 until December 1989. Mr. Campbell also serves as a director of Green Bankshares, Inc.

Rodney L. Bell began serving as Chief Financial Officer, Senior Vice President and Treasurer in June 2006. Mr. Bell, who is a Certified Public Accountant, was appointed Chief Accounting Officer in February 2006 and continued to serve as Vice President and Controller, positions held since October 2000 and February 1995, respectively. Mr. Bell

joined the Company in March 1992 as Assistant Controller after serving as a senior manager with the accounting firm of Adams and Plucker in Greeneville, Tennessee.

Craig A. Drum has served as Senior Vice President, Sales since July 2001 after joining us in January 2000 as Vice President, Sales for one of our subsidiaries. In February 2001, Mr. Drum was promoted to Vice President of National Accounts. Prior to January 2000, Mr. Drum spent most of his 24-year career in air freight with Delta Air Lines, Inc., most recently as the Director of Sales and Marketing - Cargo.

Matthew J. Jewell has served as Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer since January 2008. From July 2002 until January 2008, he served as Senior Vice President and General Counsel. In October 2002, he was also appointed Secretary. From July 2002 until May 2004, Mr. Jewell was also the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary of Landair Corporation. From January 2000 until joining us in July 2002, Mr. Jewell was a partner with the law firm of Austin & Sparks, P.C. Mr. Jewell was an associate at Dennis, Corry & Porter, L.L.P. from July 1991 to December 1998 and a partner from January 1999 to January 2000.

Chris C. Ruble has served as Executive Vice President, Operations since August 2007. From October 2001 until August 2007, he served as Senior Vice President, Operations. He was a Regional Vice President from September 1997 to October 2001 and a regional manager from February 1997 to September 1997, after starting with us as a terminal manager in January 1996. From June 1986 to August 1995, Mr. Ruble served in various management capacities at Roadway Package System, Inc.

Part II

Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Shareholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Our Common Stock trades on The NASDAQ Global Select Stock Market™ under the symbol “FWRD.” The following table sets forth the high and low sales prices for Common Stock as reported by The NASDAQ Global Select Stock Market™ for each full quarterly period within the two most recent fiscal years.

2009	High	Low	Dividends
First Quarter	\$ 24.66	\$ 13.80	\$ 0.07
Second Quarter	24.60	13.48	0.07
Third Quarter	25.39	19.73	0.07
Fourth Quarter	26.29	20.32	0.07
2008	High	Low	Dividends
First Quarter	\$ 36.86	\$ 25.55	\$ 0.07
Second Quarter	39.09	32.54	0.07
Third Quarter	38.58	25.77	0.07
Fourth Quarter	28.16	17.31	0.07

There were approximately 403 shareholders of record of our Common Stock as of February 4, 2010.

Subsequent to December 31, 2009, our Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.07 per share that will be paid on March 25, 2010 to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 10, 2010. We expect to continue to pay regular quarterly cash dividends, though each subsequent quarterly dividend is subject to review and approval by the Board of Directors.

There are no material restrictions on our ability to declare dividends.

None of our securities were sold during fiscal year 2009 without registration under the Securities Act.

Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2009 with respect to shares of our Common Stock that may be issued under existing equity compensation plans, including the 1992 Amended and Restated Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the “1992 Plan”), the 1999 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the “1999 Plan”), the Amended and Restated Stock Option and Incentive Plan (“1999 Amended Plan”), the Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan (the “NED Plan”), the 2000 Non-Employee Director Award (the “2000 NED Award”), the 2005 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the “ESPP”) and the Amended and Restated Non-Employee Director Stock Plan (the “Amended Plan”). Our shareholders have approved each of these plans.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be Issued upon Exercise of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights	Weighted-Average Exercise Price of Outstanding Options, Warrants and Rights (a)	Number of Securities Remaining Available for Future Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans (b)
Equity Compensation Plans Approved by Shareholders	3,191,254	\$ 26	3,437,416
Equity Compensation Plans Not Approved by Shareholders	--	--	--
Total	3,191,254	\$ 26	3,437,416

- (a) Excludes purchase rights accruing under the ESPP, which has an original shareholder-approved reserve of 500,000 shares. Under the ESPP, each eligible employee may purchase up to 2,000 shares of Common Stock at semi-annual intervals each year at a purchase price per share equal to 90.0% of the lower of the fair market value of the Common Stock at close of (i) the first trading day of an option period or (ii) the last trading day of an option period.
- (b) Includes shares available for future issuance under the ESPP. As of December 31, 2009, an aggregate of 447,232 shares of Common Stock were available for issuance under the ESPP.

Stock Performance Graph

The following graph compares the percentage change in the cumulative shareholder return on our Common Stock with The NASDAQ Trucking and Transportation Stocks Index and The NASDAQ Global Select Stock Market™ Index commencing on the last trading day of December 2004 and ending on the last trading day of December 2009. The graph assumes a base investment of \$100 made on December 31, 2004 and the respective returns assume reinvestment of all dividends. The comparisons in this graph are required by the SEC and, therefore, are not intended to forecast or necessarily be indicative of any future return on our Common Stock.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Forward Air Corporation	100	124	98	106	81	84
Nasdaq Trucking and Transportation Stocks Index	100	109	116	120	85	88
Nasdaq Global Select Stock Market Index	100	102	111	123	75	107

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

No shares of our Common Stock were repurchased by the Company during the quarter ended December 31, 2009.

Item 6. Selected Financial Data

The following table sets forth our selected financial data. The selected financial data should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, included elsewhere in this report.

	Year ended									
	December		December		December		December		December	
	31,		31,		31,		31,		31,	
	2009		2008		2007		2006		2005	
	(In thousands, except per share data)									
Income Statement Data:										
Operating revenue	\$ 417,410	\$ 474,436	\$ 392,737	\$ 352,758	\$ 320,934					
Income from operations	18,550	70,285	71,048	75,396	67,437					
Operating margin (1)	4.4	%	14.8	%	18.1	%	21.4	%	21.0	%
Net income	9,802	42,542	44,925	48,923	44,909					
Net income per share:										
Basic	\$ 0.34	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.52	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.41					
Diluted	\$ 0.34	\$ 1.47	\$ 1.50	\$ 1.55	\$ 1.39					
Cash dividends declared per common share										
	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.24					
Balance Sheet Data (at end of period):										
Total assets	\$ 316,730	\$ 307,527	\$ 241,884	\$ 213,014	\$ 212,600					
Long-term obligations, net of current portion	52,169	53,035	31,486	796	837					
Shareholders' equity	224,507	216,434	171,733	185,227	178,816					

(1) Income from operations as a percentage of operating revenue

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

Overview and Executive Summary

Our operations can be broadly classified into two principal segments: Forward Air and FASI.

Through our Forward Air segment, we are a leading provider of time-definite surface transportation and related logistics services to the North American deferred air freight market. We offer our customers local pick-up and delivery (Forward Air Complete™) and scheduled surface transportation of cargo as a cost-effective, reliable alternative to air transportation. We transport cargo that must be delivered at a specific time, but is less time-sensitive than traditional air freight. This type of cargo is frequently referred to in the transportation industry as deferred air freight. We operate our Forward Air segment through a network of terminals located on or near airports in 84 cities in the United States and Canada, including a central sorting facility in Columbus, Ohio and 12 regional hubs serving key markets. We also offer our customers an array of logistics and other services including: TLX; dedicated fleets; warehousing; customs brokerage; and shipment consolidation, deconsolidation and handling.

FASI provides pool distribution services throughout the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Midwest and Southwest continental United States. Pool distribution involves managing high-frequency handling and distribution of time-sensitive product to numerous destinations in specific geographic regions. Our primary customers for this product are regional and nationwide distributors and retailers, such as mall, strip mall and outlet-based retail chains. We service these customers through a network of terminals and service centers located in 19 cities.

Our operations, particularly our network of hubs and terminals, represent substantial fixed costs. Consequently, our ability to increase our earnings depends in significant part on our ability to increase the amount of freight and the revenue per pound or carton for the freight shipped through our networks and to grow other lines of businesses, such as TLX, which will allow us to maintain revenue growth in challenging shipping environments.

Trends and Developments

Acquisitions

On September 8, 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Service Express. Service Express was a privately-held provider of pool distribution services primarily in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern continental United States. Service Express generated approximately \$39.0 million in revenue during the year ended December 31, 2007. The acquisition of Service Express' pool distribution services added to the geographic footprint of the FASI segment in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States.

On March 17, 2008, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Pinch. Pinch was a privately-held provider of pool distribution, airport-to-airport, truckload, customs, and cartage services primarily to the Southwestern continental United States. Pinch generated approximately \$35.0 million in revenue during the year ended December 31, 2007. The acquisition of Pinch's pool distribution services expanded the geographic footprint of the FASI segment in the Southwestern United States. In addition, it provided additional tonnage density to the Forward Air airport-to-airport network, and the acquisition of Pinch's cartage and truckload business provided an opportunity for Forward Air to expand its service options in the Southwestern United States.

Further, on December 3, 2007 we acquired certain assets and liabilities of Black Hawk for approximately \$35.2 million to increase the penetration of our airport-to-airport network in the Midwest continental United States. Also, on July 30, 2007, we acquired certain assets and liabilities of USAC for approximately \$12.9 million. Through this acquisition we began providing pool distribution services throughout the Southeast, Midwest and Southwest continental United States.

Results from Operations

During the year ended December 31, 2009, compared to the year ended December 31, 2008, we experienced significant year-over-year decreases in our consolidated revenues and results from operations. We largely attribute the decline in Forward Air revenue and income from operations to the economic recession experienced throughout 2009 and its effects on our overall business volumes and the rates we are able to charge for our core services. FASI revenue continued to increase substantially year over year primarily as a result of our 2008 acquisitions of Pinch and Service Express and new business wins. However, revenues have not reached expected levels and losses have been higher than expected largely due to the economic recession reducing business volumes. Despite significant new business wins, FASI revenue growth will slow in 2010 as we have now reached the anniversary dates of our 2008 acquisitions.

Declining fuel prices also adversely affected our revenues and results of operations during 2009 as compared with 2008. Our net fuel surcharge revenue is the result of our fuel surcharge rates, which are set weekly using the national average for diesel price per gallon, and the tonnage transiting our network. The decline in tonnage levels combined with the continuing decline in diesel fuel prices have resulted in a significant reduction in our net fuel surcharge revenue and results from operations during 2009 as compared to 2008. Total net fuel surcharge revenue decreased 59.6% during the year ended December 31, 2009, as compared to 2008. However, fuel prices and our related fuel surcharge rates reached comparable year over year levels during the fourth quarter of 2009.

In February 2010, we notified one of FASI's largest customers that we would cease providing services beginning in the second quarter of 2010. During 2009 revenues from this customer were approximately \$9.1 million and accounted for 12.5% of FASI's operating revenue and 2.2% of our consolidated operating revenue. While going forward the loss of this customer will reduce FASI's operating revenue we do not anticipate FASI's results of operations will be adversely impacted due to the historically low yields obtained from this business.

Goodwill

During the first quarter of 2009, we determined there were indicators of potential impairment of the goodwill assigned to the FASI segment. This determination was based on the continuing economic recession, declines in current market valuations and FASI operating losses in excess of expectations. As a result, we performed an interim impairment test as of March 31, 2009 in accordance with our accounting policy. We calculated the fair value of the FASI segment using a combination of discounted cash flows and current market valuations for comparable companies. Based on the results of the interim impairment test, we concluded that an impairment loss was probable and could be reasonably estimated. Consequently, we recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment charge of \$7.0 million related to the FASI segment during the first quarter of 2009.

In accordance with our accounting policy, we conducted our annual impairment test of goodwill for each reportable segment as of June 30, 2009 and no additional impairment charges were required.

As of December 31, 2009, the carrying value of goodwill related to our Forward Air and FASI segments was \$37.9 million and \$5.4 million, respectively. Earnings estimated to be generated related to our Forward Air segment are expected to support the carrying value of its goodwill. Our FASI segment is currently facing the challenges of building and expanding a business during difficult economic times. If these overall economic conditions worsen or continue for an extended period of time, we may be required to record an additional impairment charge against the carrying value of goodwill related to our FASI segment.

Segments

Our operations can be broadly classified into two principal segments: Forward Air and FASI.

Our Forward Air segment includes our airport-to-airport network, Forward Air Complete™, and TLX services as well as our other accessorial related services such as warehousing; customs brokerage; and value-added handling services.

Our FASI segment includes our pool distribution business.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth our historical financial data for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 (in millions):

	Year ended			
	December	December		Percent
	31,	31,	Change	Change
	2009	2008		
Operating revenue	\$ 417.4	\$ 474.4	\$ (57.0)	(12.0)%
Operating expenses:				
Purchased transportation	174.4	189.0	(14.6)	(7.7)
Salaries, wages, and employee benefits	118.8	116.5	2.3	2.0
Operating leases	27.3	24.4	2.9	11.9
Depreciation and amortization	19.7	16.6	3.1	18.7
Insurance and claims	9.7	8.1	1.6	19.8
Fuel expense	7.3	11.5	(4.2)	(36.5)
Other operating expenses	34.4	38.0	(3.6)	(9.5)
Impairment of goodwill	7.2	--	7.2	100.0
Total operating expenses	398.8	404.1	(5.3)	(1.3)
Income from operations	18.6	70.3	(51.7)	(73.5)
Other income (expense):				
Interest expense	(0.7)	(1.2)	0.5	(41.7)
Other, net	0.1	0.3	(0.2)	(66.7)

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

Total other (expense) income	(0.6)	(0.9)	0.3	(33.3)
Income before income taxes	18.0	69.4	(51.4)	(74.1)
Income taxes	8.2	26.9	(18.7)	(69.5)
Net income	\$ 9.8	\$ 42.5	\$ (32.7)	(76.9)%

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

The following table sets forth our historical financial data for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 (in millions):

	December 31, 2009	Percent of Revenue	Year ended December 31, 2008	Percent of Revenue	Change	Percent Change
Operating revenue						
Forward Air	\$ 346.3	83.0%	\$ 421.2	88.8%	\$ (74.9)	(17.8)%
FASI	72.5	17.4	55.3	11.6	17.2	31.1
Intercompany Eliminations	(1.4)	(0.4)	(2.1)	(0.4)	0.7	(33.3)
Total	417.4	100.0	474.4	100.0	(57.0)	(12.0)
Purchased transportation						
Forward Air	160.3	46.3	179.9	42.7	(19.6)	(10.9)
FASI	15.4	21.2	11.2	20.2	4.2	37.5
Intercompany Eliminations	(1.3)	92.9	(2.1)	100.0	0.8	(38.1)
Total	174.4	41.8	189.0	39.9	(14.6)	(7.7)
Salaries, wages and employee benefits						
Forward Air	85.7	24.7	92.5	22.0	(6.8)	(7.4)
FASI	33.1	45.6	24.0	43.4	9.1	37.9
Total	118.8	28.5	116.5	24.6	2.3	2.0
Operating leases						
Forward Air	18.7	5.4	18.5	4.4	0.2	1.1
FASI	8.6	11.9	5.9	10.7	2.7	45.8
Total	27.3	6.5	24.4	5.1	2.9	11.9
Depreciation and amortization						
Forward Air	16.1	4.6	14.4	3.4	1.7	11.8
FASI	3.6	5.0	2.2	4.0	1.4	63.6
Total	19.7	4.7	16.6	3.5	3.1	18.7
Insurance and claims						
Forward Air	7.6	2.2	7.3	1.7	0.3	4.1
FASI	2.1	2.9	0.8	1.4	1.3	162.5
Total	9.7	2.3	8.1	1.7	1.6	19.8
Fuel expense						
Forward Air	3.1	0.9	5.8	1.4	(2.7)	(46.6)
FASI	4.2	5.8	5.7	10.3	(1.5)	(26.3)
Total	7.3	1.8	11.5	2.4	(4.2)	(36.5)
Other operating expenses						

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

Forward Air	27.7	8.0	32.1	7.6	(4.4)	(13.7)
FASI	6.8	9.4	5.9	10.7	0.9	15.3
Intercompany Eliminations	(0.1)	7.1	--	--	(0.1)	100.0
Total	34.4	8.3	38.0	8.0	(3.6)	(9.5)
Impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets						
Forward Air	0.2	0.1	--	--	0.2	100.0
FASI	7.0	9.6	--	--	7.0	100.0
Total	7.2	1.7	--	--	7.2	100.0
Income (loss) from operations						
Forward Air	26.9	7.8	70.7	16.8	(43.8)	(62.0)
FASI	(8.3)	(11.4)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(7.9)	1,975.0
Total	\$ 18.6	4.4%	\$ 70.3	14.8%	\$ (51.7)	(73.5)%

Edgar Filing: FORWARD AIR CORP - Form 10-K

The following table presents the components of the Forward Air segment's operating revenue and purchased transportation for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 (in millions):

	2009	Percent of Revenue	2008	Percent of Revenue	Change	Percent Change
Forward Air revenue						
Airport-to-airport	\$ 268.8	77.6%	\$ 336.2	79.8%	\$ (67.4)	(20.0)%
Logistics	54.4					