COMSCORE, INC. Form 10-K March 12, 2010

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

Form 10-K

(Mark One)

- **ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**
 - For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2009

OR

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

Commission File Number 000-1158172

COMSCORE, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Delaware

54-1955550

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

11950 Democracy Drive, Suite 600 Reston, Virginia 20190

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(703) 438-2000

(Registrant s Telephone Number, Including Area Code)
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class

Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered

Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

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 o No b

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 o No b

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 b No o

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 o No o

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

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

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

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

The aggregate market value of the registrant s voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the registrant on June 30, 2009, the last business day of the registrant s most recently completed second fiscal quarter, was \$283.9 million (based on the closing sales price of the registrant s common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Global Market on that date). Shares of the registrant s common stock held by each officer and director and each person who owns more than 10% or more of the outstanding common stock of the registrant have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant s classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date: As of March 10, 2010, there were 30,928,905 shares of the registrant s common stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Specified portions of the registrant s Proxy Statement with respect to its 2010 annual meeting of stockholders, anticipated to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than 120 days following the registrant s fiscal year ended December 31, 2009, are incorporated by reference in Part III of this annual report on Form 10-K.

COMSCORE, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K FOR THE PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I		1
Item 1.	Business	1
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	18
Item 1B.	Unresolved Staff Comments	38
Item 2.	Properties Properties	39
Item 3.	Legal Proceedings	39
Item 4.	(Removed and Reserved)	39
PART II		39
Item 5.	Market for Registrant s Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer	
	Purchases of Equity Securities	39
Item 6.	Selected Financial Data	43
Item 7.	Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	45
Item 7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	63
Item 8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	64
<u>Item 9.</u>	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	102
Item 9A.	Controls and Procedures	102
Item 9B.	Other Information	104
PART III		104
<u>Item 10.</u>	Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance	104
<u>Item 11.</u>	Executive Compensation	104
<u>Item 12.</u>	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related	
	Stockholder Matters	104
<u>Item 13.</u>	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	104
<u>Item 14.</u>	Principal Accounting Fees and Services	105
PART IV		105
Item 15.	Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules	105
<u>SIGNATURES</u>		108

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section in Item 7 of this report, and other materials accompanying this Annual Report on Form 10-K contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of and safe harbor provided by Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. We attempt, whenever possible, to identify these forward-looking statements by words such as intends, will, plans, anticipates, expects, may, estimates, believes, should, projects, or continue, or the negative of those words and other conditions or intentions are also forward-looking statements. These statements may relate to, but are not limited to, expectations of future operating results or financial performance, capital expenditures, introduction of new products, regulatory compliance, plans for growth, expected economic conditions, and future operations, as well as assumptions relating to the foregoing.

These statements are based on current expectations and assumptions regarding future events and business performance and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual events or results to be materially different from any future events or results expressed or implied by these statements. These factors include those set forth in the following discussion and within Item 1A Risk Factors of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and elsewhere within this report.

You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. You should carefully review the risk factors described in other documents that we file from time to time with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. Except as required by applicable law, including the rules and regulations of the SEC, we do not plan to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of any new information, future events or otherwise, other than through the filing of periodic reports in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

We provide a leading digital marketing intelligence platform that helps our customers make better-informed business decisions and implement more effective digital business strategies. Our products and solutions offer our customers deep insights into consumer behavior, including objective, detailed information regarding usage of their online properties and those of their competitors, coupled with information on consumer demographic characteristics, attitudes, lifestyles and offline behavior.

Our digital marketing intelligence platform is comprised of proprietary databases and a computational infrastructure that measures, analyzes and reports on digital activity. The foundation of our platform is data collected from our comScore panel of approximately two million Internet users worldwide, which is comprised of persons and households with at least one computer being actively measured by us within the previous thirty-day period that have granted us explicit permission to confidentially measure their Internet usage patterns, online and certain offline buying behavior and other activities. By applying advanced statistical methodologies to our panel data, we project consumers online behavior for the total online population and a wide variety of user categories. Beginning in Summer 2009, the panel information has been complemented by comScore Media Metrix 360, a Unified Digital Measurement solution to digital audience measurement that blends panel and server methodologies into an approach that provided a direct linkage and reconciliation between server and panel measurement.

We deliver our digital marketing intelligence through our comScore Media Metrix product family and through our comScore Marketing Solutions products. Media Metrix delivers digital media intelligence by providing an independent, third-party measurement of the size, behavior and characteristics of Web site and online advertising network audiences among home, work, mobile and university Internet users as well as insight into the effectiveness of online advertising. Our Marketing Solutions products combine the proprietary information gathered from the comScore panel with the vertical industry expertise of comScore analysts to deliver digital marketing intelligence, including the measurement of online advertising effectiveness, customized for specific industries. We typically deliver our Media Metrix products electronically in the form of weekly, monthly or quarterly reports. Customers can access current and historical Media Metrix data and analyze these data anytime online. Our Marketing Solutions products are typically delivered on a monthly, quarterly or ad hoc basis through electronic reports and analyses.

Industry Background

Growth of Digital Commerce, Content, Advertising and Communications

The Internet is a global digital medium for commerce, content, advertising and communications. According to IDC, more than 1.6 billion devices worldwide were used to access the Internet in 2009, including PCs, mobile phones, and online videogame consoles. By 2013, the total number of devices accessing the Internet is projected to increase to more than 2.7 billion. As the online population continues to grow, the Internet is increasingly becoming a tool for research and commerce and for distributing and consuming media. According to eMarketer, the global business-to-consumer eCommerce market is projected to grow from approximately \$600 billion in 2007 to \$1.1 trillion in 2011. According to Jupiter Research, 86% of online users in the United States research offline purchases using the Internet, making the Internet an important channel for both online and offline merchants. Consumers are also using the Internet to access an increasing amount of digital content across media formats including video, music, text

and games. According to IDC, global online video revenue is expected to reach \$12 billion by 2012, with more than \$9 billion coming from the U.S. market.

As consumers increasingly use the Internet to research and make purchases and to consume digital media, advertisers are shifting more of their marketing budgets to digital channels. Despite the size and growth of the digital marketing sector, the shift of traditional advertising spending to the Internet has yet to match the rate of consumption of online media. According to Forrester Research report titled U.S. Interactive Marketing Forecast, 2009-2014, interactive marketing is projected to near \$55 billion, representing 21% of all marketing spend in 2014 as marketers are expected to shift dollars away from traditional media and toward search marketing, display

1

advertising, email marketing, social media, and mobile marketing. As advertisers spend more of their marketing budgets to reach Internet users, we believe that digital marketing will continue to grow.

In addition to the growth in online commerce, content and marketing, a number of new digital technologies and devices are emerging that enable users to access content and communicate in new ways. Internet-enabled mobile phones allow users to access digital content such as games, music, video and news on their mobile devices through a wireless connection to the Internet. By 2013, IDC forecasts that worldwide shipments of converged mobile devices, also known as smartphones, will surpass 390 million units, growing at a compound annual growth rate of 20.9% for the 2009-2013 forecast period. Other digital communications technologies such as voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) utilize the Internet network infrastructure to enable efficient and cost-effective personal communications such as chat and VoIP-based telephony. According to Infonetics, the worldwide number of VoIP subscribers is projected to exceed 225 million by 2013. Delivery of digital television services over a network infrastructure using Internet Protocol, or IPTV, has a number of advantages over conventional television, including two-way communications, digital content and features, and interactivity. According to Infonetics, the worldwide number of IPTV subscribers is projected to grow to 155 million by 2013. We believe these and other new digital media and communications devices and services offer a similar opportunity as the Internet for us to measure and analyze user behavior.

Importance of Digital Marketing Intelligence

The interactive nature of digital media such as the Internet on computers and mobile devices enables businesses to access a wealth of user information that was virtually unavailable through offline audience measurement and marketing intelligence techniques. Digital media provide businesses with the opportunity to measure detailed user activity, such as how users interact with Web page content; to assess how users respond to online marketing, such as which online ads users click on to pursue a transaction; and to analyze how audiences and user behavior compare across various Web sites. This type of detailed user data can be combined with demographic, attitudinal and transactional information to develop a deeper understanding of user behavior, attributes and preferences. Unlike offline media such as television and radio, which generally only allow for the passive measurement of relative audience size, digital media enable businesses to actively understand the link between digital content, advertising and user behavior.

We believe that the growth in the online and digital media markets for digital commerce, content, advertising and communications creates an unprecedented opportunity for businesses to acquire a deeper understanding of both their customers and their competitive market position. Businesses can use accurate, relevant and objective digital marketing intelligence to develop and validate key strategies and improve performance. For example, with a deep understanding of the size, demographic composition and other characteristics of its audience, an online content provider can better communicate the value of its audience to potential advertisers. With detailed metrics on the effectiveness of an online advertising campaign and how that campaign influences online and offline purchasing behavior, a business can refine its marketing initiatives. With insight into market share and customer behavior and preferences, a business can understand not only how its digital business is performing relative to its competitors but also the drivers behind such performance. Moreover, by using the appropriate digital marketing intelligence, businesses can refine their digital content, commerce, advertising and communications initiatives to enhance the effectiveness and return on investment of their marketing spending, enabling them to build more successful businesses.

Challenges in Providing Digital Marketing Intelligence

While the interactive and dynamic nature of digital markets creates the opportunity for businesses to gain deep insights into user behavior and competitive standing, there are a number of issues unique to the Internet that make it challenging for companies to provide digital marketing intelligence. Compared to offline media such as television or radio, the markets for digital media are significantly more fragmented, complex and dynamic. As of December 31,

2009, we believe that there were approximately 18,000 global Web sites that each receive at least 500,000 unique visitors per month, as compared to only a few hundred channels typically available with standard digital cable or satellite television and broadcast or satellite radio. The complexities of online user activity and the breadth of digital

content and advertising make providing digital marketing intelligence a technically challenging and highly data-intensive process.

Digital media continues to develop at a rapid pace and includes numerous formats such as textual content, streaming and downloadable video and music, instant messaging, VoIP telephony, online gaming and email. Digital advertising also includes multiple formats such as display, search, rich media and video. Detailed user activity such as viewing, clicking or downloading various components of a Web page across digital media or interacting with various advertising formats creates a substantial amount of data that must be captured on a continuous basis. The data must also be cleansed for quality, relevancy and privacy protection and be organized to enable companies to obtain relevant digital marketing intelligence. This capture of audience data can prove extremely challenging when it involves millions of Internet users with varying demographic characteristics accessing tens of thousands of Web sites across diverse geographies. In addition, the ongoing development of digital media programming languages and technologies contributes to the challenge of accurately measuring user activity. For example, online publishers and advertisers have started to use Asynchronous JavaScript and XML, or AJAX, a development technique that allows Web applications to quickly make incremental updates without having to refresh the entire Web page. Prior to AJAX, marketers relied heavily on page view statistics to plan and evaluate their online media spending programs. With AJAX, we believe marketers are beginning to question the definition of, and need for, page views, and are seeking alternative metrics for measuring the usage and effectiveness of online media. To maintain their relevance, audience and media measurement technologies must keep pace with the continued evolution and increasing complexity of digital media.

Need for Accuracy and Reliability. Relevant digital marketing intelligence requires access to accurate and reliable global data that measure online user activity. Existing data collection methodologies, including those that rely on third party sources, surveys or panels, face significant challenges and limitations. Survey or panel methodologies must measure a sufficiently large and representative sample size of Internet users to accurately capture data that is statistically projectable to the broader Internet population. In addition, the international composition of Internet audiences requires a geographically dispersed sample to accurately capture global digital activity. Digital marketing intelligence that depends on third-party sources to obtain Internet audience usage data has the potential to be biased, may be constrained by the data that the third party is capable of capturing, and may be limited in its application. For example, a solution that relies on data supplied by an Internet service provider, or ISP, may show a bias toward the demographic composition or other characteristics of that ISP s users. We believe that a meaningful digital media sourcing methodology must be based on data sourced from a large, representative global sample of online users that can be parsed, enhanced, mined and analyzed; must evolve rapidly and be flexible to adapt to changing technologies; and must be able to provide actionable digital marketing intelligence that can be used to improve business decision-making.

Need for Third-Party Objectivity. We believe that the availability of objective third-party data that measure digital audience size, behavior, demographic and attitudinal characteristics represents a key factor in the continued growth of digital content, advertising and commerce. This is similar to offline media markets, such as television and radio, whose development was significantly enhanced by the introduction of third-party audience measurement ratings that provided a basis for the pricing of advertising in those media. As the buying and selling of online advertising continues to grow, we believe that companies on both sides of the advertising transaction will increasingly seek third-party marketing intelligence to assess the value and effectiveness of digital media. In addition, as advertisers work with Web site publishers to target online advertising campaigns to reach a specific demographic or behavioral user profile, the need for objective audience and user information, unbiased by either party to the transaction, will become increasingly important.

Need for Competitive Information. In addition to the scope, complexity and rapid evolution of online digital media, the lack of data on competitors makes it difficult for companies to gain a comprehensive view of user behavior beyond their own digital businesses. While products and tools exist that enable companies to understand user activity on their

own Web sites, these products are unable to provide a view of digital audience activity on other Web sites or offline. In order for publishers, marketers, merchants and service providers to benefit from accurate and comprehensive digital marketing intelligence they need to understand user activity on Web sites across the Internet and how online consumer behavior translates into offline actions.

The comScore Digital Marketing Intelligence Platform

We provide a leading digital marketing intelligence platform that enables our customers to devise and implement more effective digital business strategies. Our platform is comprised of proprietary databases and a computational infrastructure that measures, analyzes and reports digital activity from our global panel of approximately two million Internet users. This panel information is complemented by a Unified Digital Measurement solution to digital audience measurement. Unified Digital Measurement blends panel and server methodologies into a solution that provides a direct linkage and reconciliation between server and panel measurement. We offer our customers deep insights into consumer behavior on their own online properties and those of their competitors, including objective, detailed information on users demographic characteristics, attitudes, lifestyles and multi-channel buying activity. We also provide industry-specific metrics to our customers.

We deliver our digital marketing intelligence through our comScore Media Metrix product family, comScore Marketing Solutions products and mobile media measurement products. Media Metrix provides intelligence on digital media usage, including a measurement of the size, behavior and characteristics of the audiences for individual Web sites and advertising networks within the global home, work and university Internet user populations as well as insight into the effectiveness of online advertising. Our Marketing Solutions products combine the proprietary information gathered from our user panel with the vertical industry expertise of comScore analysts to deliver digital marketing intelligence customized for specific industries. Media Metrix and Marketing Solutions products are typically delivered electronically in the form of periodic reports, through customized analyses or are generally available online via a user interface on the comScore Web site.

Key attributes of our platform include:

Panel of global Internet users. Our ability to provide digital marketing intelligence is based on information continuously gathered from a broad cross-section of approximately two million Internet users worldwide who have granted us explicit permission to confidentially measure their Internet usage patterns, online and certain offline buying behavior and other activities. Through our proprietary technology, we measure detailed Internet audience activity across the spectrum of digital content and marketing channels. Many comScore panelists also participate in online survey research that captures and integrates demographic, attitudinal, lifestyle and product preference information with Internet behavior data. The global nature of our Internet panel enables us to provide digital marketing intelligence for over 30 individual countries. Our global capability is valuable to companies based in international markets as well as to multi-national companies that want to better understand their global Internet audiences and the effectiveness of their global digital business initiatives. This panel information is complemented by a Unified Digital Measurement solution to digital audience measurement. Unified Digital Measurement blends panel and server methodologies into a solution that provides a direct linkage and reconciliation between server and panel measurement.

Census data collection and measurement. Our Unified Digital Measurement solution combines panel measurement of people and audience demographics with a comprehensive and accurate representation of the consumption of a site s media, which is accomplished by site owners including comScore beacons or reporting pixels on all of their site content. Census measurement using web beacons reports every server call that the site owner would register from all locations and devices, allows for full representation of these audiences and devices, and fully reconciles Media Metrix site audience measurement with publisher s internal server logs or web analytics metrics.

Scalable technology infrastructure. We developed our databases and computational infrastructure to support the growth in online activity among our global Internet panel and the increasing complexity of digital content formats, advertising channels and communication applications. The design of our technology infrastructure is

based on distributed processing and data capture environments that allow for the collection and organization of vast amounts of data on online activity, including usage of proprietary networks such as AOL, instant messaging and audio and video streaming. Our database infrastructure currently captures approximately 11.7 billion URL records each week from our global Internet panel, resulting in over 52 billion URLs and 52 terabytes of data collected by our platform each month. We believe that our efficient and scalable technology infrastructure allows us to operate and expand our data collection infrastructure on a

cost-effective basis. In recognition of the scale of our data collection and warehousing technology, we have received multiple awards, including the 2001, 2003 and 2005 Winter Corporation Grand Prize for Database Size on a Windows NT Platform.

In addition to the ability to scale linearly and efficiently in processing panel based data, we have also added the ability to scale quickly and efficiently in the support of our Media Metrix 360 effort. In April 2009, we were capturing more than 10 billion tracking events per month outside of the panel. In January 2010, we captured more than 193 billion tracking events outside of the panel to support the processing for Media Metrix 360. While supporting this large growth in tracking events we also reduced the processing time for delivering this data to our clients in our comScore Direct web interface to a few hours after event recordation.

Benefits of our platform include:

Advanced digital marketing intelligence. We use our proprietary technology to compile vast amounts of data on Internet user activity and to organize the data into discrete, measurable elements that can be used to provide actionable insights to our customers. We believe that our digital marketing intelligence platform enables companies to gain a deeper understanding of their digital audiences, which allows them to better assess and improve their company and product-specific competitive position. Because our marketing intelligence is based on a large sample of global Internet users and can incorporate multi-channel transactional data, we are able to provide companies with an enhanced understanding of digital audience activity beyond their own Web sites and the ability to better assess the link between digital marketing and offline user activity. Digital content providers, marketers, advertising agencies, merchants and service providers can use the insights our platform provides to craft improved marketing campaigns and strategies and to measure the effectiveness and return on investment of their digital initiatives.

Objective third-party resource for digital marketing intelligence. We are an independent company that is not affiliated with the digital businesses we measure and analyze, allowing us to serve as an objective third-party provider of digital marketing intelligence. Because businesses use our data to plan and evaluate the purchase and sale of online advertising and to measure the effectiveness of digital marketing, it is important that we provide unbiased data, marketing intelligence, reports and analyses. We deploy advanced statistical methodologies in building and maintaining the comScore global Internet user panel and utilize proven data capture, and computational practices in collecting, statistically projecting, aggregating and analyzing information regarding online user activity. We believe that our approach ensures that the insights we provide are as objective as possible and allows us to deliver products and services that are of value to our customers in their key business decision-making. We believe that the media industry views us as a highly recognized and credible resource for digital marketing intelligence. For example, between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009, our information on digital activity was cited more than 113,000 times by third-party media outlets, an average of approximately 311 citations per day. Our data are regularly cited by well-known media outlets such as the Associated Press, Reuters, Bloomberg, CNBC, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal. Moreover, many of the leading Wall Street investment banks also purchase and cite our data in their published research reports prepared by financial analysts that cover Internet businesses.

Vertical industry expertise. We have developed expertise across a variety of industries to provide digital marketing intelligence specifically tailored to the needs of our customers operating in specific industry sectors. We have dedicated personnel to address the automotive, consumer packaged goods, entertainment, financial services, media, pharmaceutical, retail, technology, telecommunications and travel sectors. We believe that companies across different industries have distinct information and marketing intelligence needs related to understanding their digital audiences and buyers, evaluating marketing initiatives and understanding company or product-specific competitive position. For example, a pharmaceutical company may want to understand how

online research by consumers influences new prescriptions for a particular drug, while a financial services company may want to assess the effectiveness of its online advertising campaigns in signing up new consumers and how this compares to the efforts of its competitors. By working with companies in various industries over the course of multiple years, we have developed industry-specific applications of our data and our client service representatives have developed industry-specific knowledge and expertise that allow us to deliver relevant and meaningful marketing insight to our customers.

Ease of use and functionality. The comScore digital marketing intelligence platform is designed to be easy to use by our customers. Our Media Metrix products are available through the Internet using a standard browser. Media Metrix customers can also run customized reports and refine their analyses using an intuitive interface available on our Web site. Our Marketing Solutions products are available either through the Internet or by using standard software applications such as Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint or SPSS analytical software. Our customers do not need to install additional hardware or complex software to access and use our products.

Strategy

Our objective is to be the leading provider of global digital marketing intelligence products. We plan to pursue our objective through internal initiatives and, potentially, through acquisitions and other investments. The principal elements of our strategy are to:

Deepen relationships with current customers. We intend to work closely with our customers to enable them to continuously enhance the value they obtain from our digital marketing intelligence platform. Many of our customers are Fortune 2000 companies that deploy multiple marketing initiatives, and we believe many of our customers would benefit from more extensive use of our product offerings to gain additional insights into their key digital initiatives. We will work to develop and expand our customer relationships to increase our customers use of our digital marketing intelligence platform.

Grow our customer base. As the digital media, commerce, marketing and communications sectors continue to grow, we believe the demand for digital marketing intelligence products will increase. To meet this increase in market demand, we intend to invest in sales, marketing and account management initiatives in an effort to expand our customer base. We intend to offer both general and industry-specific digital marketing products that deliver value to a wide range of potential customers in current and new industry verticals.

Expand our digital marketing intelligence platform. We expect to continue to increase our product offerings through our digital marketing intelligence platform. As digital markets become more complex, we believe that companies will require new information and insights to measure, understand and evaluate their digital business initiatives. We intend to develop new applications that leverage our digital marketing intelligence platform to be able to provide the most timely and relevant information to our customers.

Address emerging digital media. The extension of digital media and communications to include new formats such as content for mobile phones, VoIP, IP television, and next generation gaming consoles creates new opportunities to measure and analyze emerging digital media. We intend to extend our digital marketing platform to capture, measure and analyze user activity in these emerging digital media and communications formats. To this end, we acquired M:Metrics in May 2008.

Extend technology leadership. We believe that the scalability and functionality of our database and computational infrastructure provide us with a competitive advantage in the digital media intelligence market. Accordingly, we intend to continue to invest in research and development to extend our technology leadership. We intend to continue to enhance our technology platform to improve scalability, performance and cost effectiveness and to expand our product offerings.

Build brand awareness through media exposure. Our digital media, commerce and marketing information are frequently cited by media outlets. In addition, we proactively provide them with data and insights that we believe may be relevant to their news reports and articles. We believe that media coverage increases awareness

and credibility of the comScore and Media Metrix brands and supplements our marketing efforts. We intend to continue to work with media outlets, including news distributors, newspapers, magazines, television networks, radio stations and online publishers, to increase their use of comScore data in content that discusses digital sector activity.

Grow internationally. While we are currently in the early stages of providing customers with international services, we believe that a significant opportunity exists to provide our product offerings to multi-national and international companies. Approximately half of the existing comScore Internet user panel resides

6

outside of the United States. We plan to expand our sales and marketing and account management presence outside the U.S. as we provide a broader array of digital marketing intelligence products that are tailored to local country markets as well as the global marketplace. In furtherance of that effort, in July 2006, we launched World Metrix, a product that measures global digital media usage. World Metrix is based on a sample of online users from countries that comprise approximately 95% of the global Internet population. In November 2009, we also completed our acquisition of Certifica, a leading analyst of Internet traffic measurement in Latin America. Founded in 2000, Certifica has won the endorsement of the IAB in several Latin American countries to publish cross site statistics on Internet usage. Based in Santiago, Chile, Certifica has offices throughout Latin America, including Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia and Peru. This acquisition is expected to strengthen our presence in the region and enable us to offer hybrid measurement as part of our Media Metrix 360 initiative using the same state-of-the-art measurement technologies we use elsewhere in the world.

Our Product Offerings

We deliver our digital marketing intelligence through our comScore Media Metrix product family and through our comScore Marketing Solutions and mobile audience measurement products.

comScore Media Metrix

Media Metrix provides its subscribers, consisting primarily of publishers, marketers, advertising agencies and advertising networks, with intelligence on digital media usage and a measurement of the size, behavior and characteristics of the audiences for Web sites and advertising networks among home, work and university Internet populations. Media Metrix also provides insights into the effectiveness of online advertising. Media Metrix data can be used to accurately identify and target key online audiences, evaluate the effectiveness of digital marketing and commerce initiatives, support the selling of online advertising by publishers, and to identify and exploit relative competitive standing. The vast majority of our Media Metrix subscribers access selected reports and analyses through the MyMetrix user interface on our Web site.

Our flagship product, Media Metrix, details the online activity and site visitation behavior of Internet users, including use of instant messaging, e-mail, and other digital applications. Beginning in summer 2009, Media Metrix was made available on the Media Metrix 360 Unified Digital Measurement platform, which combines panel measurement of people and audience demographics with a full and accurate representation of the consumption of a site s media. Our customers subscribe to ongoing access to our digital marketing intelligence reports and analyses, including:

comprehensive reports detailing online behavior for home, work and university audiences;

demographic characteristics of visitors to Web sites and properties;

buying power metrics that profile Web site audiences based on their online buying behavior;

detailed measurement and reporting of online behavior for 37 countries and over 100 U.S. local markets;

measurement of key ethnic segments, including the online Hispanic population; and

reach and frequency metrics for online advertising campaigns that show the percent of a target audience reached and the frequency of exposure to advertising messages.

In addition to our core offering, customers can subscribe to the following additional products in the Media Metrix product family:

Plan Metrix. Plan Metrix is a product that combines the continuously and passively observed Internet behavior provided by Media Metrix with comprehensive attitude, lifestyle and product usage data collected through online surveys of our U.S. Internet user panel. Plan Metrix provides advertising agencies, advertisers and publishers with multiple views of Web site audiences including their online behavior, demographics, lifestyles, attitudes, technology product ownership, product purchases and offline media usage. These data are used in the design and evaluation of online marketing campaigns. For example, an online auto retailer could

7

use Plan Metrix to help understand which Web sites a prospective automobile purchaser is most likely to visit prior to making a purchase decision.

World Metrix. We provide insights into worldwide Internet activity through our World Metrix product, which delivers aggregate information about the behavior of online users on a global basis, for approximately 30 individual countries and for regional aggregations such as Latin America, Europe and Asia Pacific. For example, a content publisher can understand its market share of the global Internet audience using our World Metrix product.

Video Metrix. Video Metrix provides insights into the viewing of streaming video by U.S. Internet users. The product measures a wide range of video players and formats, including Windows Media, Flash, RealMedia and QuickTime. Video Metrix offers site-level measurement and audience ratings by demographics and time-of-day to assist agencies, advertisers and publishers in designing and implementing media plans that include streaming video. For example, an advertiser that is seeking to maximize the exposure of its streaming video ads to its target audience could use Video Metrix to help understand on which sites and at what times of the day its target audience is viewing the most streaming video.

Ad Metrix. Available through the Media Metrix client interface, Ad Metrix provides advertisers, agencies and publishers with a variety of online advertising metrics relating to impressions, or advertisements on a Web site that reach a target audience. Ad Metrix helps customers determine the impressions delivered by advertising campaigns across Web sites and online properties, including how many visitors are reached with advertisements and how often. In addition, Ad Metrix allows customers to determine the demographic profile of the advertising audience at a particular site, as well as how the volume of impressions changes over time on that site. The Ad Metrix data are consistent with offline media planning metrics such as GRPs, or gross rating points, which measure the percent of a target audience that is reached with an advertisement weighted by the number of exposures. For example, an advertiser might use Ad Metrix to plan the online portion of an advertising campaign for a sports product on sites that have previously successfully delivered advertising impressions to a target demographic audience. A publisher might use Ad Metrix data to measure its share of advertising impressions relative to competitive publishers. Ad Metrix was launched in the third quarter of 2007.

Segment Metrix. Segment Metrix is a product that enables media owners, agencies and advertisers to track, analyze and report Internet activity on their most important consumer groups. Segment Metrix provides the flexibility to integrate behavioral, geographic, demographic and proprietary, client-defined segments with our comScore panel. Agencies and advertisers can use Segment Metrix to gain better insights into how to reach important target customers and advertisers and can use the product to better integrate offline marketing segmentation schemes with our online panel to allow them to track, analyze and report online behavior on a segmented basis. Segment Metrix was launched in the third quarter of 2007.

comScore Marketer. comScore Marketer is an interactive search intelligence service that enables search marketers and Web site operators to benchmark their performance versus that of their competitors and optimize their search marketing efforts. comScore Marketer helps enhance search strategy by delivering insight into paid and organic search results, including an analysis of searcher demographics and online behavior. For example, customers can use comScore Marketer to create more efficient and cost-effective search campaigns, identify better-performing search terms and analyze their competitors—search marketing strategies.

MobiLens. MobiLens provides our customers with market-wide metrics on mobile subscribers, mobile handset adoption and use, and mobile media consumption in the U.S. and certain major markets in Europe. MobiLens provides monthly market projections detailing mobile media consumption, the demographic profiles of mobile subscribers, and granular technology profiles of every handset in active use in the U.S. and supported European markets.

M:Metrics Mobile Metrix. Mobile Metrix measures the actual behavior of the most active segment of mobile media consumers so customers can evaluate audience demographics, brand reach, frequency and duration of usage. Mobile Metrix continuously captures detailed information on mobile user behavior via on-device meters with an opt-in panel of smartphone owners and delivers it monthly via an intuitive Web query.

Ad Metrix Mobile. Ad Metrix Mobile tracks mobile display advertising in the U.S. and UK to provide clients with insight into which brands are advertising with which publishers on the mobile Web.

Some examples of Media Metrix digital marketing intelligence measurements and their customer uses are described in the following table.

Digital Marketing Intelligence Measurement

Examples of Customer Uses

Digital Marketing Intelligence Measurement	Examples of Customer Uses
Site Traffic & Usage Intensity	rank Web sites based on online usage metrics such as unique visitors, page views or minutes of use drill-down to standard or customer-defined site subsets such as channels or sub-channels (such as Yahoo! Finance and Yahoo! Sports) analyze statistics over time such as trends in site visitors within demographic segments assess which Web site audiences are growing or declining,
	which sites are most attractive to particular demographic segments or which sites or digital applications have the highest level of usage identify the source of traffic to a particular Web site or channel within a site
Quantitative Consumer Information	profile site users based on life-stage or offline behavior such as panelist-reported TV usage, car ownership, health conditions or offline purchases
	efficiently identify and target a particular user segment (e.g., people who say they are likely to buy a car in the next six months)
	quantify the audience overlap between different consumer segments or Web sites to identify the number of unique visitors reached
Online Buying Power	quantify the propensity of a particular Web site s audience to purchase certain categories of products (e.g., consumer electronics) online
Competitive Intelligence	compare the standings of Web sites within particular content categories, such as finance or health information quantify audience size relative to competitors, including share of usage within a category and usage trends across competitors track major competitors, quantify their growth, and identify initiatives to promote growth and market share
Reach and Frequency	identify and quantify the size of audiences reached by individual Web sites and determine how often they reach those audiences assist with the planning of online advertising campaigns that need to achieve specific reach or frequency objectives against a targeted audience across multiple Web sites design the most cost-effective media plans that can achieve campaign objectives for reach and frequency

comScore Marketing Solutions products use our global database, computational infrastructure and our staff of experienced analytical personnel to help customers design more effective marketing strategies that increase sales, reduce costs, deepen customer relationships and ultimately enhance a customer s competitive position. We offer solutions tailored for specific industry verticals, including the automotive, consumer packaged goods, entertainment, financial services, media, pharmaceutical, retail, technology, telecommunications and travel sectors. Many of our Marketing Solutions products are delivered to subscribers on a recurring schedule such as monthly or quarterly. In some cases, we provide customized reports and analyses that combine our expertise with other proprietary information to address a specific customer need.

The core information products offered by comScore Marketing Solutions include:

Market Share Reports. These reports track a company s share of market as measured by industry-specific performance metrics. The metrics of choice vary by industry vertical, including as examples: share of online credit card spending for credit card issuers; share of online travel spending for travel companies; or share of subscribers for ISPs. In each case, market share reports provide an ongoing measurement of competitive performance and insight into the factors driving changes in market share.

Competitive Benchmark Reports. These reports allow customers to compare themselves to competitors using various industry-specific metrics. For example, retailers may look at metrics such as the rate of conversion of site visitors to buyers, average order size or rate of repeat purchases among existing customers. Banks may focus on the percentage of bank customers using online bill payment services, or compare the effectiveness of customer acquisition programs as reflected by the percentage of leads they acquire that ultimately sign up for an online account. In each case, a customer may define and obtain best-of-category metrics and use them as a benchmark to monitor its business performance over time.

Loyalty and Retention Analysis. These analyses provide an understanding of the extent to which consumers are also engaged with competitors, and identify loyalty drivers to assist customers in capturing a higher share of the consumer s wallet. For example, a travel company might quantify the potential business lost when consumers visit its site, do not complete a purchase but then visit a competing site to book a travel reservation. Retention or churn analyses quantify consumer losses to competitors and the key drivers of such losses. For example, a narrowband Internet service provider may track the rate of attrition among its customer base, identify which competitors are capturing those lost customers, and analyze the characteristics of the lost customers in order to gain insight into ways to improve retention.

Customer Satisfaction Reports. These reports are based on panelist responses to survey questionnaires that ascertain the degree of satisfaction with various products or services offered to consumers. This information is often integrated with the online usage information that we collect from our panelists in order to identify which digital media usage activities affect customer satisfaction. For instance, a sports portal may use these reports to determine which features, such as participating in fantasy sports leagues or viewing streaming video clips, affect customer satisfaction and loyalty the most.

qSearch. This product is a monthly scorecard of the search market that provides a comparison of search activity across portals and major search engines. It helps identify the reach of a search engine, the loyalty of its user base, the frequency of search queries, and the effectiveness of sponsored links displayed on search result pages in driving referrals to advertiser sites. qSearch is used by major search engines and advertising agencies in planning search campaigns. In August 2007 we released qSearch 2.0 with new features designed to improve its accuracy, consistency and comprehensiveness.

Ad Effx Campaign Essentials (formerly Campaign Metrix). This product provides detailed information about specific online advertising campaigns. These reports, available through a Web-based interface, describe for each advertising image, or creative within an advertising campaign, the size and demographic composition of the audience exposed to that particular advertisement, the average number of impressions delivered and other details regarding ad formats and ad sizes used in the campaign. An advertiser, agency or publisher could use Ad Effx Campaign Essentials to gain insight into the effectiveness of an online advertising campaign by examining the number of unique users exposed to the campaign, the number of times on average that a unique user was exposed to the campaign and whether the campaign reached the targeted audience demographic.

Ad Effx Brand Lift and Action Lift (formerly Brand Metrix). Ad Effx Brand Lift provides reports showing the test compared to control effectiveness of a campaign using survey-based metrics that we collect from our Ad Recruit

technology. For example, a Brand Lift report would illustrate the changes in brand awareness, intent and attitudes that were driven by an advertising campaign. Ad Effx Action Lift measures the lift in the advertiser s site visitation and the lift in searching for the brand s trademark. Each report can be customized to the advertisers needs and typically delivered in PowerPoint, Excel and SPSS data files, often with a return on investment analysis.

Ad Effx Online Lift and Offline Lift. These services provide an understanding of the effectiveness of particular advertising campaigns by measuring the online and offline behavior of a target group of comScore panelists, following their exposure to a particular advertisement, and comparing their behavior to that of a control group of comScore panelists who were not exposed to such advertisements. These services allow a marketer to understand the impact of their advertising campaign and to estimate the return on their investment in online marketing.

Survey-Based Products. These products leverage our ability to administer surveys to our panel members to obtain valuable information that can be seamlessly integrated with online behavioral data to provide our clients with additional insights into the drivers of consumer behavior.

Customers

As of December 31, 2009, we had 1,273 customers, including 82 Fortune 500 customers. Our customers include:

eighteen of the top twenty online properties, based on total unique visitors, as ranked by our Media Metrix database for the month of February 2010, including Microsoft, Yahoo!, AOL and Google;

nine of the top ten U.S. Internet service providers, based on publically released data;

nine of the top ten investment banks, based on global investment banking fees revenues as of September 2009, as ranked by Thomson Reuters/Freeman & Co.;

45 of the top 50 creative, media and digital agencies, based on Ad Age;

six of the top seven consumer banks, based on total U.S. deposits as of June 30, 2009, as ranked by the FDIC;

all of the top four wireless carriers, based on CTIA as of December 31, 2009;

nine of the top ten pharmaceutical companies, based on 2008 worldwide sales, as ranked by Biodollars.com Top 25 Pharma Companies Report;

nine of the top ten credit card issuers, based on total credit card outstandings as of June 30, 2009, as ranked by the Nilson Report; and

nine of the top ten consumer package goods companies, based on the 2009 Fortune 500 list.

One of our customers, Microsoft Corporation, accounted for 12%, 12% and 13% of our revenues in the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

Selling and Marketing

We sell the majority of our products through a direct sales force. Sales of the comScore Media Metrix product suite to new clients are managed by sales representatives assigned specifically to new business development. A separate group of account managers within our sales organization is assigned to manage, renew and increase sales to existing Media Metrix customers. The comScore Marketing Solutions sales organization is organized vertically by industry with account executives dedicated to selling into the automotive, consumer packaged goods, entertainment, financial services, media, pharmaceutical, retail, technology, telecommunications and travel sectors and other industries. Marketing Solutions account executives are tasked with both identifying and generating new business in specific verticals as well as servicing existing customers. Our sales and account representatives receive a base salary and are

eligible for bonuses or commissions based on performance.

Our marketing communications staff is primarily focused on leveraging the use of comScore data and insights by the media and maximizing the number of times that comScore is cited as a source of information. We believe that the use of our data by general and industry-specific media outlets increases recognition of the comScore brand name and serves to help validate the value of the analyses and products we provide. In order to accomplish this goal, we seek to maintain relationships with key news distributors, publications, TV networks, reporters and other media

outlets. We believe that the media views us as a highly recognized and credible resource for digital marketing intelligence. For example, between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009, comScore data were cited more than 113,000 times by third-party media outlets, an average of over 311 citations per day. Moreover, we are regularly cited by well-known news distributors, publications and TV networks such as the Associated Press, Reuters, Bloomberg, CNBC, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal. We also target various industry conferences and tradeshows as part of our marketing efforts. These events are typically focused on a particular industry, allowing us to demonstrate to industry participants the value of our products to businesses in that industry.

Panel and Methodology

The foundation of our digital marketing intelligence platform is data collected from our comScore panel, which includes approximately two million persons worldwide, whose online behavior we have explicit permission to measure on a continuous, passive basis. We believe that our panel is one of the largest global panels of its kind, delivering a multi-faceted view of digital media usage and transactional activity as well as selected offline activity. By applying advanced statistical methodologies to our panel data, we project the behavior of the total online population.

We recruit our panel through a variety of online recruitment pro