Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd. Form S-1/A May 23, 2007 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 23, 2007

Registration No. 333-139993

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSIO WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549	N	
AMENDMENT NO. 6 TO FORM S-1	<u> </u>	
REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933		
Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd.		
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charte	er)	
Cayman Islands (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	6331 (Primary Standard Industrial Classification Number)	Not Applicable (IRS Employer Identification No.)
802 West Bay Road, The Grand Pavilion Grand Cayman, KY1-1205 Cayman Islands Telephone: (345) 745-4573		
(Address, including zip code, and telephone numb	per, including area code, of registran	t's principal executive offices)
Corporation Service Company 1133 Avenue of the Americas Suite 3100 New York, New York 10036-6710 Telephone: (212) 299-5600 (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone	e number, including area code, of ag	ent for service)
Copies to:		

Kerry E. Berchem, Esq.
Bruce Mendelsohn, Esq.
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
590 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022
(212) 872-1000
Fax: (212) 872-1002

Leonard Goldberg
Chief Executive Officer
Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd.
802 West Bay Road, The Grand Pavilion
P.O. Box 31110
Grand Cayman, KY1-1205
Cayman Islands
Telephone: (345) 745-4573

Gary Horowitz, Esq.
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
425 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10017
(212) 455-2000
Fax: (212) 455-2502

Telephone: (345) 745-4573 Facsimile: (345) 745-4576

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this registration statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box:

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered Class A Ordinary Shares, par value \$.10

(2)

Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ \$212,175,000

Amount of Registration Fee \$ 19,866⁽³⁾

- (1) Includes offering price of Class A Ordinary Shares that the underwriters have the option to purchase to cover over-allotments, if any.
- (2) In accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act, the number of shares being registered and the proposed maximum offering price per share are not included in this table.
 - \$18,725 Previously paid.

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 as amended, or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, dated May 23, 2007

Preliminary Prospectus

10,250,000 shares

Class A Ordinary Shares

Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd., or Greenlight Re, is making an initial public offering of its Class A Ordinary Shares. No public market currently exists for the Class A Ordinary Shares. Greenlight Re is offering all of the Class A Ordinary Shares offered by this prospectus. In addition, simultaneously with and contingent upon the completion of this offering and certain other conditions, Greenlight Re, in a concurrent private placement, will sell and David Einhorn, Chairman of our Board of Directors, will purchase \$50.0 million of our Class B Ordinary Shares at a price per share equal to the initial public offering price.

We applied to have our Class A Ordinary Shares included for quotation on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the symbol "GLRE." Nasdaq has approved the Class A Ordinary Shares for listing, subject to notice of issuance, under the symbol "GLRE". We anticipate that the initial public offering price will be between \$16.00 and \$18.00 per share.

Investing in our Class A Ordinary Shares involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 12 of this prospectus.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$	\$
Proceeds to us before expenses	\$	\$

We have granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 1,537,500 Class A Ordinary Shares from us on the same terms and conditions as set forth above if the underwriters sell more than 10,250,000 Class A Ordinary Shares in the offering.

None of the Securities and Exchange Commission, state securities regulators, the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority nor any other governmental or regulatory body in the Cayman Islands has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is unlawful.

The underwriters expect to deliver the Class A Ordinary Shares to purchasers against payment on or about 2007.

LEHMAN BROTH	ERS	UBS Investment Bank
CITI , 2007	DOWLING & PARTNERS SECURITIES	FOX-PITT, KELTON

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You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. Neither we nor any underwriter or agent has authorized any other person to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. Neither we nor any underwriter or agent is making an offer to sell our Class A Ordinary Shares in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should

assume that the information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of our Class A Ordinary Shares.

Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other document are not complete, and in each instance we refer you to the copy of the contract or document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which the prospectus constitutes a part, each of those statements being qualified in all respects by this reference.

Until , 2007 (25 days after the date of this prospectus), all dealers that buy, sell or trade our Class A Ordinary Shares, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to the dealers' obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as underwriters and with respect to their unsold allotments or subscriptions.

For investors outside of the United States: Neither we nor any of the underwriters have done anything that would permit this offering or possession or distribution of this prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required, other than in the United States. You are required to inform yourselves about and to observe any restrictions relating to this offering and the distribution of this prospectus.

No invitation is being made to the public in the Cayman Islands to subscribe for the Class A Ordinary Shares.

Greenlight Re is our trademark. Other trademarks and trade names appearing in this prospectus are the property of their respective holders.

Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd. is incorporated under the laws of the Cayman Islands as an exempted company limited by shares. We were formed in July 2004. Our subsidiary, Greenlight Reinsurance,

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Ltd., is incorporated under the laws of the Cayman Islands as an exempted company limited by shares and has been granted an unrestricted Class B Insurers License from the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority, or CIMA, under the terms of the Insurance Law (as revised) of the Cayman Islands, or the Law. Our principal executive offices are located at 802 West Bay Road, The Grand Pavilion, Grand Cayman, KY1-1205, Cayman Islands. Our telephone number is (345) 745-4573. Our website address is www.greenlightre.ky. The information contained in, or accessible through, our website is not part of this prospectus.

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SUMMARY

This summary highlights certain information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. This summary does not contain

all of the information you should consider before investing in our Class A Ordinary Shares. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, including "Risk Factors" and our financial statements and related notes, before you decide whether to invest in our Class A Ordinary Shares. References to "we," "our," "our company," "us," "Greenlight Re," or "the Con refer to Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd. and our wholly-owned subsidiary, Greenlight Reinsurance, Ltd., unless the context dictates otherwise. References to our "Ordinary Shares" refers collectively to our Class A Ordinary Shares and Class B Ordinary Shares. References to our "Articles" refer to the third amended and restated memorandum and articles of association of Greenlight Re. Investing in our Class A Ordinary Shares involves risks. See "Risk Factors." For your convenience, we have included a glossary beginning on page G-1 of selected reinsurance terms. All dollar amounts referred to in this prospectus are in U.S. dollars unless otherwise indicated. Any discrepancies in the tables included herein between the amounts listed and the totals thereof are due to rounding.

Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd.

Company Overview

We are a Cayman Islands-based specialty property and casualty reinsurer with a reinsurance and investment strategy that we believe differentiates us from our competitors. Our goal is to build long-term shareholder value by selectively offering customized reinsurance solutions, in markets where capacity and alternatives are limited, that we believe will provide favorable long-term returns on equity. We manage our investment portfolio according to a value-oriented philosophy, in which we take long positions in perceived undervalued securities and short positions in perceived overvalued securities.

Our reinsurance strategy is to build a portfolio of select frequency and severity contracts with a focus on contracts customized to meet client needs that are not being met in the traditional reinsurance marketplace. Frequency contracts contain a potentially large number of small losses from multiple events and severity contracts contain the potential for significant losses from one event. We have established a senior team of generalist underwriters and actuaries to operate our reinsurance business. We believe that our generalist underwriting capabilities, together with our customized underwriting approach:

- allow us to deploy our capital opportunistically in a variety of property and casualty lines of business:
- enable us to be the lead underwriter on a majority of the premium we write;
- allow us to better understand our risks and exposures; and
- allow us to structure many of our contracts in such a way that our clients participate in the loss experience of the underlying risks, which should align their interests with ours.

In addition to underwriting customized contracts, we may also, from time to time, participate in traditional reinsurance programs that we believe will provide us with favorable returns on equity. We intend to underwrite contracts only where we believe we can model, analyze and monitor our risks effectively. Our underwriters are responsible for contracts from origination until final disposition, including underwriting, pricing, servicing, monitoring and claims processing. We anticipate that this integrated approach will translate to superior contract management, better client service and superior economic returns over the long term.

Our investment strategy, like our reinsurance strategy, is designed to maximize returns over the long term while minimizing the risk of capital loss. Unlike the investment strategy of many of our competitors, which invest primarily in fixed-income securities either directly or through fixed-fee

arrangements with one or more investment managers, our investment strategy is to invest in long and short positions primarily in publicly-traded equity and corporate debt securities exclusively through a third-party investment advisor that is compensated with both an annual fee and upon the performance of our portfolio. As of March 31, 2007, 96.4% of our investments in securities was invested in publicly-traded equity securities primarily traded on exchanges in North America and Western Europe. DME Advisors, LP, or DME Advisors, our investment advisor, is a value-oriented investment advisor that analyzes companies' available financial data, business strategies and prospects in an effort to identify undervalued and overvalued securities. DME Advisors is controlled by David Einhorn, the Chairman of our Board of Directors and the president of Greenlight Capital, Inc. DME Advisors has the contractual right to manage substantially all of our investable assets until December 31, 2009, and is required to follow our investment guidelines and to act in a manner that is fair and equitable in allocating investment opportunities to us. However, it is not otherwise restricted with respect to the nature or timing of making investments for our account. The returns on our investment portfolio for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2006 and the three months ended March 31, 2007 were 14.2%, 24.4% and (4.2)%, respectively. We note that past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.

We measure our success by long-term growth in book value per share, which we believe is the most comprehensive gauge of the performance of our business. Accordingly, our incentive compensation plans are designed to align employee and shareholder interests. Compensation under our cash bonus plan is based on the ultimate underwriting returns of our business measured over a multi-year period, rather than premium targets or estimated underwriting profitability for the year in which we initially underwrote the business.

We began underwriting business in April 2006, once our senior underwriting team and infrastructure were in place. In August 2006, we received an A– (Excellent) financial strength rating with a stable outlook from A.M. Best & Co. Inc., or A.M. Best, which is the fourth highest of 15 ratings A.M. Best issues. This rating reflects the rating agency's opinion of our financial strength, operating performance and ability to meet obligations and it is not an evaluation directed toward the protection of investors or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold our Class A Ordinary Shares.

For the year ended December 31, 2006, we generated earned premiums of \$26.6 million, net investment income of \$58.5 million, net income of \$57.0 million and incurred losses of \$9.7 million, of which \$4.7 million were paid. As of December 31, 2006, we had total shareholders' equity of \$312.2 million. For the three months ended March 31, 2007, we generated earned premiums of \$20.9 million, net investment loss of \$14.4 million, net loss of \$13.1 million and incurred losses of \$9.0 million, of which none were yet paid. As of March 31, 2007, we had total shareholders' equity of \$299.7 million.

Our combined ratio, which is the sum of our composite ratio and our internal expense ratio, for the three-month period ended March 31, 2007 and the year ended December 31, 2006 was 94.1% and 109.6%, respectively. The composite ratio is the ratio of underwriting losses incurred, loss adjustment expenses and acquisition costs, excluding general and administrative expenses, to premiums earned. The internal expense ratio is the ratio of all general and administrative expenses to premiums earned. For example, a combined ratio of 109.6% signifies a loss of \$0.096 per dollar of premiums earned. The reported combined ratio of 109.6% is high due to general and administrative expenses incurred in connection with the start-up of our reinsurance operations. We expect our internal expense ratio to decrease significantly as we continue to expand our underwriting activities.

Given our limited operating history, the results set forth in the preceding two paragraphs should not be relied upon as a basis for evaluating the potential success of our business strategy.

How We Are Different from Traditional Reinsurers

Our operations are designed to capitalize on inefficiencies that we perceive in the traditional approach to underwriting. We believe that we conduct our business differently from traditional reinsurers in multiple ways, including:

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- we focus on offering select, customized reinsurance solutions rather than pursuing and participating in broadly-available traditional opportunities;
- we aim to build a reinsurance portfolio with favorable ultimate economic results measured after all loss payments have been made rather than focusing on interim results when losses may be incurred but not yet reported or paid;
- we seek to act as the lead underwriter on a majority of the premium we underwrite rather than focusing on taking a minority participation;
- we employ experienced generalist underwriters rather than underwriters who focus on specific lines of business:
- we implement a "cradle to grave" service philosophy where the same individual underwrites and administers each reinsurance contract rather than separating underwriting and administrative duties:
- we compensate our management with a bonus structure largely dependent on our underwriting results over a multi-year period rather than annual metrics;
- we employ a value-oriented investment strategy and invest in long and short positions of equity and corporate debt securities rather than investing predominantly in fixed-income securities; and
- we have a long-term exclusive investment advisory agreement that compensates the advisor with both an annual fee and a performance compensation fee rather than a flat fee.

Because our underwriting and investment strategies differ from other participants in the property and casualty reinsurance market, you may not be able to directly compare our business or prospects with those of other property and casualty reinsurers. Our results from financial accounting period to period may vary significantly and may not be as predictable as many of our competitors'. However, we believe that our operational differences, particularly our focus on writing select, customized contracts, which we believe will allow us to better manage our underwriting risks, and our value-oriented investment strategy, which has the potential to generate higher rates of return than traditional fixed-income strategies, will enable us to generate, over the long term, returns on equity superior to those of traditional reinsurers.

Market Trends and Opportunities

Extended periods of competitive pricing, increases in reserves, rating downgrades, higher than expected losses and rating agency changes in capital requirements for certain lines of business historically have caused capacity shortages in certain product lines in the property and casualty industry. These capacity shortages have created considerable cyclical increases in pricing and changes in terms and conditions that are significantly more favorable for reinsurers as clients may not be able to identify or locate reinsurers that are willing or able to reinsure their underwriting risks.

During the year ended December 31, 2006, we wrote \$74.2 million of premiums from nine contracts that ranged in size from \$0.5 million to \$58.1 million. During the three-month period ended March 31, 2007, we wrote \$38.1 million of gross premiums and wrote seven new contracts that ranged in size from \$0.1 million to \$14.2 million of gross premiums. Although a majority of these contracts have a one-year term, we expect to pay losses on many of these contracts for a number of years. These reinsurance contracts provide coverage of casualty risks that cover a single event but may affect multiple casualty policies, or casualty clash risks, and homeowners', property catastrophe and marine risks. We anticipate that we will see attractive opportunities in casualty clash, homeowners', medical malpractice, workers' compensation, property catastrophe and marine lines in 2007. We believe that these lines of

business will present us with opportunities for the following reasons:

• a limited number of reinsurers underwrite casualty clash reinsurance;

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- in certain states, including Florida, a number of insurers are reducing their homeowners'
 writings, creating opportunity for the remaining insurers that, in turn, will require more
 reinsurance to mitigate their overall exposure;
- legislation in certain states, including tort reform and workers' compensation regulation, has resulted in attractive opportunities for medical malpractice and workers' compensation reinsurance; and
- there continues to be significant demand for property catastrophe and marine reinsurance.

Of the \$38.1 million in gross premiums written in the three-month period ended March 31, 2007 and the \$74.2 million in gross premiums written in 2006, 86.3% and 78.3% was frequency business and 13.7% and 21.7% was severity business, respectively. Our reinsurance coverage of homeowners', health, property catastrophe, medical malpractice and casualty clash accounted for 39.4%, 37.3%, 12.4%, 9.6% and 1.3%, respectively, of our premiums written in the first quarter of 2007. Our reinsurance coverage of homeowners', property catastrophe, casualty clash and marine risks accounted for 78.3%, 13.3%, 5.9% and 2.5%, respectively, of our premiums written in 2006. Approximately 86.6% of our premiums written as of March 31, 2007 were written for risks located in the United States. Approximately 39.4% of the premiums written were written for homeowners' coverage in Florida, which excludes catastrophe events that cause industry insured losses of \$25 million or more.

We may also underwrite other lines of business, such as commercial auto and general liability, although we do not believe that we will see many attractive opportunities in these lines for the foreseeable future as there are many reinsurers currently competing for this type of business.

We intend to continue to monitor market conditions so as to be positioned to participate in future underserved or capacity-constrained markets as they arise and offer products that we believe will generate favorable returns on equity over the long term. Accordingly, our underwriting results and product line concentrations in any given period may not be indicative of our future results of operations.

Our Competitive Strengths

We believe we distinguish ourselves as follows:

- Focus on Customized Products. We focus on offering customized reinsurance solutions at times and in markets where capacity and alternatives are limited. In particular, we focus on business that is difficult for brokers to place, that is not already sold by brokers or that requires an innovative underwriting approach.
- Focus on Economic Results. Our goal is to achieve attractive economic returns on every reinsurance contract we underwrite by focusing on our expected return on equity over the life of the contract, which may span many years. We do not measure our economic success with respect to a contract in any given accounting period but rather after the final loss payments on the contract are made, which could be a number of years beyond the term of the contract.
- Non-traditional Investment Approach. We employ a non-traditional investment approach that has the potential to generate higher rates of return than traditional fixed-income strategies and

take long positions in perceived undervalued securities and short positions in perceived overvalued securities in an effort to maximize investment returns while minimizing the risk of capital loss in both up and down markets. The returns on our investment portfolio for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2006 and the three-month period ended March 31, 2007 were 14.2% 24.4% and (4.2)%, respectively.

• Alignment of Management and Shareholder Interests. Our management incentive compensation plans are designed to align management and employee interests with those of our shareholders over the long term. Most of our cash bonus plan payments each year will be deferred for a multi-year period to reflect actual underwriting results as they develop.

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- Experienced Management and Underwriting Team with Well-Established Market Relationships.
 Our management team has a broad range of relevant skills, experiences and relationships in the reinsurance industry.
- Financial Strength. We currently have no debt in our capital structure and have an A– (Excellent) financial strength rating with a stable outlook from A.M. Best, which is the fourth highest of 15 ratings A.M. Best issues. This rating reflects the rating agency's opinion of our financial strength, operating performance and ability to meet obligations and is not an evaluation directed toward the protection of investors or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold our Class A Ordinary Shares.

Risks That Could Impact Our Business and Competitive Strengths

We face the following risks that could impact our business and competitive strengths:

- Our Operating Results will Fluctuate from Period to Period. Our operating results will
 fluctuate from financial accounting period to period and our short-term results of operations
 may not be indicative of our long-term prospects.
- We Have a Limited Operating History and Are Different from Traditional Reinsurers. We
 have a limited operating history and established competitors with greater resources may make it
 difficult for us to effectively market our products or offer our products at a profit. Accordingly,
 our future performance is difficult to predict. In addition, because our underwriting and
 investment strategies differ from other participants in the property and casualty reinsurance
 market, you may not be able to compare our business or prospects with those of traditional
 property and casualty reinsurers.
- There is Uncertainty With Respect to the Establishment of Reserves. As a relatively new
 reinsurer focused on sizeable transactions and on being the lead underwriter on a majority of
 premium, our estimation of reserves may be less reliable than the reserve estimations of
 reinsurers with a greater volume of business of smaller transactions and an established loss
 history.
- Our Non-traditional Investment Approach May Subject Us to Greater Risks than Traditional
 Fixed-Income Strategies. DME Advisors' value-oriented investment strategy is more volatile
 and presents greater risks than traditional fixed-income investment strategies. In addition,
 making long equity investments in an up or rising market may increase the risk of not
 generating profits on these investments and we may incur losses if the market declines.
 Similarly, making short equity investments in a down or falling market may increase the risk of
 not generating profits on these investments and we may incur losses if the market rises. Our

- investment portfolio is likely to be more volatile than traditional fixed-income portfolios that produce stable streams of income and the risk of loss is greater when compared with other reinsurance companies.
- Loss of Key Personnel Could Delay or Prevent Us from Implementing Our Strategy. If we lose or are unable to retain our senior management and other key personnel and are unable to attract qualified personnel, our ability to implement our business strategy could be delayed or hindered, which, in turn, could significantly and negatively affect our business.
- We Depend upon DME Advisors to Implement Our Investment Strategy. We depend upon DME Advisors to implement our investment strategy. Accordingly, the diminution or loss of the services of DME Advisors or DME Advisors' principals could significantly affect our business.

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Our A.M. Best Rating Potentially is Subject to Downgrade. Our rating is subject to periodic
review by A.M. Best and may be revised downward or revoked at its sole discretion. If A.M.
Best downgrades or withdraws our A- (Excellent) rating we could be severely limited or
prevented from writing any new reinsurance contracts, which would significantly and
negatively affect our ability to implement our business strategy.

Our Strategy

We seek to maximize sustainable long-term growth in book value by pursuing the following strategies:

- Selectively Underwrite Reinsurance Risks. We employ a strict underwriting discipline in an
 attempt to identify and select reinsurance opportunities with favorable returns on equity before
 we commit our capital. We intend to develop a portfolio of select, customized frequency and
 severity contracts of property and casualty lines of business that we believe are underserved or
 are capacity constrained and where each transaction is important to both our client and us. Our
 goal is to produce superior long-term growth in book value per share, rather than pursuing
 short-term premium production targets.
- Operate as a Lead Underwriter on the Majority of the Premium We Underwrite. We have a strong preference to be the lead underwriter of a majority of the premium we underwrite, which we believe allows us to influence the pricing, terms and conditions of the business we write and, accordingly, better enables us to meet or exceed our targeted return on equity.
- Manage Capital Prudently. We intend to manage our capital prudently with respect to our
 underwriting and capital financing activities. Our underwriting activities are centralized, subject
 to written underwriting guidelines and regularly reviewed by the Underwriting Committee of
 our Board of Directors. Additionally, DME Advisors' investment activities on our behalf are
 subject to our investment guidelines and regularly reviewed by our Board of Directors. We
 believe our strategy to monitor and manage our capital will enable us to maintain our A–
 (Excellent) rating from A.M. Best.
- Employ a Differentiated Investment Approach. We manage our investment portfolio pursuant to a value-oriented philosophy and invest primarily in long and short positions in publicly-traded securities that we believe will achieve higher rates of return over the long term than traditional fixed-income investment strategies that are employed by most reinsurers and designed to produce stable streams of income.
- Maintain a Centralized Operating Structure. We believe that our centralized management structure allows us to identify and quickly respond to market opportunities and should allow us

to capitalize on attractive opportunities more efficiently than our competitors and provide superior client service.

Additional Risks Relating to Our Business and This Offering

In addition to the risks described in "—Risks That Could Impact Our Business and Competitive Strengths," the maintenance of our competitive strengths, the implementation of our business strategy and our future results of operations and financial condition are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. We discuss in detail factors that could adversely affect our actual results and performance, as well as the successful implementation of our business strategy, under the heading "Risk Factors" beginning on page 12. Before you invest in our Class A Ordinary Shares, you should carefully consider all of the information in this prospectus, including matters set forth under the heading "Risk Factors" including:

Cyclicality of the Reinsurance Market May Affect the Industry's and Our Profitability. The
property and casualty reinsurance industry is cyclical and subject to unpredictable

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developments which may affect the industry's and our profitability. These include trends of courts granting increasingly larger awards for certain damages, natural disasters, fluctuations in interest rates, changes in laws, changes in the investment environment that affect market prices of investments, inflationary pressures and other events that affect the size of premiums or losses companies and primary insurers experience.

- We Are Dependent upon Letter of Credit Facilities. Certain of our clients require us to obtain letters of credit or provide other collateral through funds withheld or trust arrangements as the jurisdictions in which they are incorporated will not permit them to take credit on their statutory financial statements without us posting a letter of credit or providing other collateral. The inability to renew, maintain or increase our letter of credit facility will significantly limit the amount of reinsurance we can write and may require us to modify our investment strategy. If we fail to renew, maintain or increase our letter of credit facilities, our ability to implement our business strategy could be significantly and negatively affected. We have established a \$200.0 million letter of credit facility. As of March 31, 2007, \$65.6 million in letters of credit were issued.
- Exposure to Natural and Man-made Disasters May Expose Us to Significant Claims. Our reinsurance operations expose us to claims arising out of unpredictable catastrophic events, such as hurricanes, hailstorms, tornados, windstorms, severe winter weather, earthquakes, floods, fires, explosions, volcanic eruptions and other natural and man-made disasters. Claims from catastrophic events could cause substantial volatility in our financial results and could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. As of March 31, 2007, our property catastrophe and casualty clash contracts accounted for 12.4% and 1.3% of our premiums written, respectively.
- We May Not Qualify for an Exemption from the Investment Company Act. We rely upon an exception under the Investment Company Act for a company organized and regulated as a foreign insurance company primarily and predominantly engaged in the reinsurance business. If this exception were deemed inapplicable, we would have to register under the Investment Company Act as an investment company, and as a result we likely would not be permitted to operate our business in the manner in which we currently operate.

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We May be Deemed to be a Passive Foreign Investment Company. Significant adverse tax consequences could result to our shareholders if either Greenlight Re or Greenlight Reinsurance, Ltd. is characterized as a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC. The determination is factual in nature and conducted annually, and we cannot assure you that we will not currently or in the future be characterized as a PFIC. We believe that we were a PFIC in 2006, 2005 and 2004. We do not believe, although we cannot assure you, that we will be a PFIC for 2007 or any future taxable year.

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The Offering

Issuer

Class A Ordinary Shares offered Underwriters' option to purchase additional shares

Number of Class A Ordinary Shares to be outstanding after this offering

Class B Ordinary Shares to be sold in the concurrent private placement (assuming a purchase price of \$17.00 per share)

Listing

Trading symbol Use of proceeds

Dividend policy

Voting rights

Greenlight Capital Re, Ltd. 10,250,000 shares

1,537,500 shares

28,291,023 Class A Ordinary Shares

2,941,176 Class B Ordinary Shares

Nasdaq Global Select Market

GLRE

We estimate net proceeds to us from this offering to be approximately \$160.1 million, based upon an assumed initial offering price of \$17.00 per Class A Ordinary Share, representing the midpoint of the offering range set forth on the cover of this prospectus, and after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses. Additionally, we will receive \$50 million of proceeds from the sale of Class B Ordinary Shares in the concurrent private placement at a price per share equal to the initial public offering price. We presently intend to contribute substantially all of the net proceeds of this offering and the concurrent private placement to Greenlight Reinsurance, Ltd. to increase the underwriting capacity of its reinsurance operations. See "Use of Proceeds."

We currently do not expect to pay any dividends on our Ordinary Shares. See "Dividend Policy."

Except as described herein with regard to adjustments of the aggregate votes conferred by the Ordinary Shares of shareholders holding 9.9% or more of the total voting power of our Ordinary Shares, holders of our Class A

Ordinary Shares have one vote for each Class A Ordinary Share held by them and are entitled to vote on a noncumulative basis at all meetings of shareholders. Holders of our Class B Ordinary Shares are entitled to ten votes for each Class B Ordinary Share held by them, subject to the adjustments described above and a limitation on the maximum voting power of the Class B Ordinary Shares of 9.5%. See "Description of Share Capital—Ordinary Shares—Voting General" and "Risk Factors—Provisions of our Articles may reallocate the voting power of our Class A Ordinary Shares and subject holders of Class A Ordinary Shares to SEC Compliance."

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Except as otherwise indicated, all information contained in this prospectus:

- assumes the underwriters do not exercise their option to purchase additional Class A Ordinary Shares:
- excludes 1,131,000 of our Class A Ordinary Shares issuable upon the exercise of options outstanding as of May 1, 2007, at a weighted average exercise price of \$11.85 per share issued under our 2004 stock incentive plan, as amended, or stock incentive plan;
- excludes 400,000 of our Class A Ordinary Shares issuable upon the exercise of share purchase options granted to First International Securities Ltd., or First International, a service provider, outstanding as of May 1, 2007, at an exercise price of \$10.00 per share; and
- assumes an initial offering price of \$17.00 per Class A Ordinary Share.

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Summary Financial Data

The following table sets forth our summary financial data for the three-month period ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 and the fiscal years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 and the period from inception on July 13, 2004 to December 31, 2004. We were capitalized in August 2004 and commenced underwriting operations in April 2006. We derived the financial data for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 and the period from July 13, 2004 to December 31, 2004 from our audited financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, or U.S. GAAP. The financial data for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2007 and 2006 is derived from our unaudited financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. These historical results are not necessarily indicative of future results and the interim results are not necessarily indicative of our full-year performance. You should read the following summary financial data together with our audited financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus and the information under "Selected Consolidated Financial Data" and "Management's Discussion and

Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

	TD1	M 4 5						1 01		riod from	
	Thr	ee Months E			}	Year Ended D	ecen		Jul	y 13, 2004	
	2007 2006					2006 2005 to					
		(\$ 1n	thous	ands, exce	ept s	share, per sha	re da	ta and ratio	ost))ec		
Summary Statement of Income Data:										2004	
Net premiums written	\$	24,321	\$	\$		74,151	\$	\$ —\$			-
Net premiums earned		20,921		_	_	26,605		_	_		-
Net investment (loss) income		(14,381)		17,196		58,509		27,934		9,636	
Interest income on related party											
promissory note receivable		_		289		1,034		1,323		516	
Total revenues		6,540		17,485		86,148		29,257		10,152	
Loss and loss adjustment expenses											
incurred		8,988		_	_	9,671		_	_		-
Acquisition costs		7,712		_	_	10,415		_	_		-
General and administrative expenses		2,980		2,015		9,063		2,992		3,377	
Total expenses		19,680		2,015		29,149		2,992		3,377	
Net (loss) income	\$	(13,140)		15,470	\$	56,999	\$	26,265	\$	6,775	
(Loss) Earnings Per Share Data ⁽¹⁾ :											
Basic	\$	(0.61)	\$	0.73	\$	2.67	\$	1.24	\$	0.32	
Diluted		(0.61)	\$	0.73		2.66		1.24		0.32	
Weighted average number of											
Ordinary Shares											
Basic	2	1,558,915	21	,227,222	2	21,366,140	2	1,226,868	2	1,225,000	
Diluted	2	1,558,915	21	,302,904	2	21,457,443	2	1,265,801	2	1,234,350	
Selected Ratios (based on U.S.											
GAAP Statement of Income data):											
Loss ratio ⁽²⁾		43.0%		_	_	36.4%		_	_		-
Acquisition cost ratio ⁽³⁾		36.9%		_	_	39.1%		_			-
Internal expense ratio ⁽⁴⁾		14.2%		_	_	34.1%		_	_		-
Combined ratio ⁽⁵⁾		94.1%		_	_	109.6%		_	_		-

⁽¹⁾ Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing net (loss) income by the weighted average number of shares outstanding for the period. For a period in which there is a net loss, stock options and unvested stock awards are excluded from the weighted average number of Ordinary Shares, when computing diluted earnings per share, since their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive for the period.

⁽²⁾ The loss ratio is calculated by dividing loss and loss adjustment expenses incurred by net premiums earned.

⁽³⁾ The acquisition cost ratio is calculated by dividing acquisition costs by net premiums earned.

⁽⁴⁾ The internal expense ratio is calculated by dividing the general and administrative expenses by net premiums earned.

⁽⁵⁾ The combined ratio is the sum of the loss ratio, acquisition cost ratio and the internal expense ratio. 10

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				As of December 31,				
		As of						
	M	arch 31,						
		2007		2006		2005		
	(\$	per sl	nare data)					
Summary Balance Sheet Data:			•		•			
Fixed maturities, trading at fair value	\$	770	\$		\$	238		
Equity investments, trading at fair value		250,337		238,799		216,702		
Other investments, at estimated fair value		8,655		4,723		2,271		
Total investments in securities		259,762		243,522		219,211		
Cash and cash equivalents		54,039		82,704		7,218		
Restricted cash and cash equivalents		191,927		154,720		99,719		
Loss and loss adjustment expense recoverable		2,753						
Unearned premiums ceded		10,306						
Total assets		563,577		518,608		327,935		
Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves		16,717		4,977				
Unearned premium reserves		61,262		47,546				
Total liabilities		263,849		206,441		96,113		
Total shareholders' equity		299,728		312,167		231,822		
Adjusted book value ⁽¹⁾	\$	299,728	\$	312,167	\$	248,034		
Ordinary shares outstanding:								
Basic	21,664,393		2	1,557,228	21,231,666			
Diluted	23,195,393		23,094,900		22,175,000			
Per Share Data:								
Basic adjusted book value per share ⁽²⁾	\$	13.84	\$	14.48	\$	11.68		
Diluted adjusted book value per share ⁽³⁾		13.67		14.27		11.63		

⁽¹⁾Adjusted book value equals total shareholders' equity plus the aggregate principal outstanding on a promissory note from Greenlight Capital Investors, LLC, or GCI, issued in partial payment for 5,050,000 Class B Ordinary Shares, pursuant to the Securities Purchase Agreement dated August 11, 2004 between us and GCI. GCI repaid the outstanding principal amount of the promissory note on December 6, 2006.

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RISK FACTORS

Investing in our Class A Ordinary Shares involves significant risks, including the potential loss of all or part of your investment. These risks could materially affect our business, financial condition and results of operations and cause a

⁽²⁾ Basic adjusted book value per share is calculated by dividing adjusted book value by the number of shares issued and outstanding at the end of the period.

⁽³⁾ Diluted adjusted book value per share is calculated by dividing the aggregate of adjusted book value and the proceeds from the exercise of options by the number of shares and share equivalents outstanding at the end of the period.

decline in the market price of our Class A Ordinary Shares. You should carefully consider all of the risks described in this prospectus, in addition to the other information contained in this prospectus, before you make an investment in our Class A Ordinary Shares.

Risks Relating to Our Business

Our results of operations will fluctuate from period to period and may not be indicative of our long-term prospects.

The performance of our reinsurance operations and our investment portfolio will fluctuate from period to period. Fluctuations will result from a variety of factors, including:

- reinsurance contract pricing;
- our assessment of the quality of available reinsurance opportunities;
- the volume and mix of reinsurance products we underwrite;
- loss experience on our reinsurance liabilities;
- our ability to assess and integrate our risk management strategy properly; and
- the performance of our investment portfolio.

In particular, we seek to underwrite products and make investments to achieve favorable return on equity over the long term. Our investment strategy to invest primarily in long and short positions in publicly-traded equity and corporate debt securities, is subject to market volatility and is likely to be more volatile than traditional fixed-income portfolios that are comprised primarily of investment grade bonds. In addition, our opportunistic nature and focus on long-term growth in book value will result in fluctuations in total premiums written from period to period as we concentrate on underwriting contracts that we believe will generate better long-term, rather than short-term, results. Accordingly, our short-term results of operations may not be indicative of our long-term prospects.

We are a start-up operation and there is limited historical information available for investors to evaluate our performance or a potential investment in our Class A Ordinary Shares.

We have limited operating history. We were formed in July 2004 but we did not begin underwriting reinsurance transactions until April 2006. As a result, there is limited historical information available to help prospective investors evaluate our performance or an investment in our Class A Ordinary Shares. In addition, in light of our limited operating history, our historical financial statements are not necessarily meaningful for evaluating an investment in our Class A Ordinary Shares. Because our underwriting and investment strategies differ from those of other participants in the property and casualty reinsurance market, you may not be able to compare our business or prospects to other property and casualty reinsurers.

In general, reinsurance and insurance companies in their initial stages of development present substantial business and financial risks and may suffer significant losses. They must develop business relationships, establish operating procedures, hire staff, install information technology systems, implement management processes and complete other tasks appropriate for the conduct of their intended business activities. In particular, our ability to implement our strategy to penetrate the reinsurance market depends on, among other things:

- our ability to attract clients;
- our ability to attract and retain personnel with underwriting, actuarial and accounting and finance expertise;
- our ability to maintain at least an A- (Excellent) rating from A.M. Best or a similar financial strength rating from one or more other ratings agencies;

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- our ability to evaluate the risks we assume under reinsurance contracts that we write;
- the risk of being deemed a passive foreign investment company or an investment company if we are unable to implement our business plan and are deemed to not be in the active conduct of an insurance business or to not be predominantly engaged in an insurance business. See "- We are subject to the risk of possibly becoming an investment company under U.S. federal securities law" and "Certain U.S. Tax Considerations Passive Foreign Investment Companies."

We cannot assure you that there will be sufficient demand for the reinsurance products we plan to write to support our planned level of operations, or that we will accomplish the tasks necessary to implement our business strategy. In addition, the business we have written to date is still not mature and may be subject to greater losses than we have anticipated. From April 2006, when we commenced our underwriting operations, through March 31, 2007, we have paid an aggregate of \$4.7 million of losses.

Established competitors with greater resources may make it difficult for us to effectively market our products or offer our products at a profit.

The reinsurance industry is highly competitive. We compete with major reinsurers, many of which have substantially greater financial, marketing and management resources than we do. Competition in the types of business that we underwrite is based on many factors, including:

- premium charges;
- the general reputation and perceived financial strength of the reinsurer;
- relationships with reinsurance brokers;
- terms and conditions of products offered;
- ratings assigned by independent rating agencies;
- speed of claims payment and reputation; and
- the experience and reputation of the members of our underwriting team in the particular lines of reinsurance we seek to underwrite.

Additionally, although the members of our underwriting team have general experience across many property and casualty lines, they may not have the requisite experience or expertise to compete for all transactions that fall within our strategy of offering customized frequency and severity contracts at times and in markets where capacity and alternatives may be limited.

Our competitors include ACE Limited, General Re Corporation, Hannover Re Group, Munich Reinsurance Company, PartnerRe Ltd., Swiss Reinsurance Company, Transatlantic Reinsurance Company and XL Capital Ltd., which are dominant companies in our industry. Although we seek to provide coverage where capacity and alternatives are limited, we directly compete with these larger companies due to the breadth of their coverage across the property and casualty market in substantially all lines of business. We also compete with smaller companies and other niche reinsurers from time to time.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to compete successfully in the reinsurance market. Our failure to compete effectively would significantly and negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations and may increase the likelihood that we may be deemed to be a passive foreign investment company or an investment company. See "— We are subject to the risk of possibly becoming an investment company under U.S. federal securities law" and "Certain U.S. Tax Considerations — Passive Foreign Investment Companies."

Our losses may exceed our loss reserves, which could significantly and negatively affect our business.

Our results of operations and financial condition depend upon our ability to assess accurately the potential losses associated with the risks we reinsure. Reserves are estimates at a given time of claims

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an insurer ultimately expects to pay, based upon facts and circumstances then known, predictions of future events, estimates of future trends in claim severity and other variable factors. The inherent uncertainties of estimating loss reserves generally are greater for reinsurance companies as compared to primary insurers, primarily due to:

- the lapse of time from the occurrence of an event to the reporting of the claim and the ultimate resolution or settlement of the claim;
- the diversity of development patterns among different types of reinsurance treaties; and
- the necessary reliance on the client for information regarding claims.

As a relatively new reinsurer with a focus on being the lead underwriter on sizeable transactions and on a majority of premium we underwrite, our estimation of reserves may be less reliable than the reserve estimations of a reinsurer with a greater volume of business of smaller transactions and an established loss history. Actual losses and loss adjustment expenses paid may deviate substantially from the estimates of our loss reserves contained in our financial statements, to our detriment. If we determine our loss reserves to be inadequate, we will increase our loss reserves with a corresponding reduction in our net income in the period in which we identify the deficiency and such a reduction would negatively affect our results of operations. If our losses exceed our loss reserves, our financial condition may be significantly and negatively affected. As of March 31, 2007, our loss reserves totaled \$16.7 million from seven of our 16 contracts. As of March 31, 2007, we had not established reserves for our other nine contracts as these contracts relate to natural catastrophe exposed business for which there was no event that was estimated to impact any of these contracts and we had not received reports from any of our clients of loss payments or case reserves.

The property and casualty reinsurance market may be affected by cyclical trends.

We write reinsurance in the property and casualty markets. The property and casualty reinsurance industry is cyclical. Primary insurers' underwriting results, prevailing general economic and market conditions, liability retention decisions of companies and primary insurers and reinsurance premium rates influence the demand for property and casualty reinsurance. Prevailing prices and available surplus to support assumed business influence reinsurance supply. Supply may fluctuate in response to changes in rates of return on investments realized in the reinsurance industry, the frequency and severity of losses and prevailing general economic and market conditions.

Continued increases in the supply of reinsurance may have consequences for the reinsurance industry generally and for us, including lower premium rates, increased expenses for customer acquisition and retention and less favorable policy terms and conditions.

Our reinsurance contracts bound in 2006 provide coverage of casualty clash, homeowners', property catastrophe and marine risks. We anticipate that we will see attractive opportunities in selected health, casualty clash, homeowners', medical malpractice, workers' compensation, property catastrophe and marine lines in 2007. We believe that these lines of business will present us with opportunities for the following reasons:

• a limited number of reinsurers underwrite casualty clash reinsurance;

- in certain states, a number of insurers are reducing their homeowners' writings and creating opportunity for the remaining insurers that will require more reinsurance;
- legislation in certain states, including tort reform and workers' compensation regulation, has resulted in attractive opportunities for medical malpractice and workers' compensation reinsurance; and
- there is significant demand for property and catastrophe and marine reinsurance.

We also may offer other lines of business, such as commercial auto and general liability, although we do not believe that we will see many attractive opportunities in these lines as there are many reinsurers currently competing for this type of business.

Unpredictable developments, including courts granting increasingly larger awards for certain damages, natural disasters (such as catastrophic hurricanes, windstorms, tornados, earthquakes and

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floods), fluctuations in interest rates, changes in the investment environment that affect market prices of investments and inflationary pressures, affect the industry's profitability. The effects of cyclicality could significantly and negatively affect our financial condition and results of operations.

A downgrade or withdrawal of our A.M. Best rating would significantly and negatively affect our ability to implement our business strategy successfully.

Companies, insurers and reinsurance brokers use ratings from independent ratings agencies as an important means of assessing the financial strength and quality of reinsurers. A.M. Best has assigned us a financial strength rating of A–(Excellent), which is the fourth highest of 15 ratings that A.M. Best issues. This rating reflects the rating agency's opinion of our financial strength, operating performance and ability to meet obligations. It is not an evaluation directed toward the protection of investors or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold our Class A Ordinary Shares. A.M. Best periodically reviews our rating, and may revise it downward or revoke it at its sole discretion based primarily on its analysis of our balance sheet strength, operating performance and business profile. Factors which may affect such an analysis include:

- if we change our business practices from our organizational business plan in a manner that no longer supports A.M. Best's initial rating;
- if unfavorable financial or market trends impact us;
- if our losses exceed our loss reserves:
- if we are unable to retain our senior management and other key personnel; or
- if our investment portfolio incurs significant losses.

If A.M. Best downgrades or withdraws our rating, we could be severely limited or prevented from writing any new reinsurance contracts which would significantly and negatively affect our ability to implement our business strategy.

While none of our reinsurance contracts written on or before March 31, 2007 provide the client with the right to terminate the agreement or require us to transfer premiums on a funds withheld basis if our A- (Excellent) A.M. Best rating is downgraded, we anticipate that some of our future contracts will contain such termination provisions.

If we lose or are unable to retain our senior management and other key personnel and are unable to attract qualified personnel, our ability to implement our business strategy could be delayed or hindered, which, in turn, could significantly and negatively affect our business.

Our future success depends to a significant extent on the efforts of our senior management and other key personnel to implement our business strategy. We believe there are only a limited number of available, qualified executives with substantial experience in our industry. In addition, we will need to add personnel, including underwriters, to implement our business strategy. We could face challenges attracting personnel to the Cayman Islands. Accordingly, the loss of the services of one or more of the members of our senior management or other key personnel, or our inability to hire and retain other key personnel, could delay or prevent us from fully implementing our business strategy and, consequently, significantly and negatively affect our business.

We do not currently maintain key man life insurance with respect to any of our senior management, including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or Chief Underwriting Officer. If any member of senior management dies or becomes incapacitated, or leaves the company to pursue employment opportunities elsewhere, we would be solely responsible for locating an adequate replacement for such senior management and for bearing any related cost. To the extent that we are unable to locate an adequate replacement or are unable to do so within a reasonable period of time, our business may be significantly and negatively affected.

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Our failure to maintain sufficient letter of credit facilities or to increase our letter of credit capacity on commercially acceptable terms as we grow could significantly and negatively affect our ability to implement our business strategy.

We are not licensed or admitted as a reinsurer in any jurisdiction other than the Cayman Islands. Certain jurisdictions, including the United States, do not permit insurance companies to take credit for reinsurance obtained from unlicensed or non-admitted insurers on their statutory financial statements unless appropriate security measures are implemented. Consequently, certain clients will require us to obtain a letter of credit or provide other collateral through funds withheld or trust arrangements. When we obtain a letter of credit facility, we are customarily required to provide collateral to the letter of credit provider in order to secure our obligations under the facility. Our ability to provide collateral, and the costs at which we provide collateral, are primarily dependent on the composition of our investment portfolio.

Typically, letters of credit are collateralized with fixed-income securities. Banks may be willing to accept our investment portfolio as collateral, but on terms that may be less favorable to us than reinsurance companies that invest solely or predominantly in fixed-income securities. The inability to renew, maintain or obtain letters of credit collateralized by our investment portfolio may significantly limit the amount of reinsurance we can write or require us to modify our investment strategy.

As of March 31, 2007, we had a letter of credit facility, valid until October 11, 2007, from Citibank, N.A. in a maximum amount of \$200 million of which \$65.6 million had been issued. Citibank, N.A. has accepted our investment portfolio as collateral. In the event of a decline in the market value of our investment portfolio that results in a collateral shortfall, as defined in the letter of credit facility, we have the right, at our option, to reduce the outstanding obligations under the letter of credit facility, to deposit additional collateral or to change the collateral composition in order to cure the shortfall. The time that we have to cure a collateral shortfall varies depending on the severity of the shortfall. The time frame in which we must cure a shortfall varies from two hours to five days,

depending on the applicable formula, as laid out in the hypothecation agreement of the letter of credit. Additionally, if the shortfall is not cured within the prescribed time period an event of default will immediately occur. We will be prohibited from issuing additional letters of credit until any shortfall is cured.

We may need additional letter of credit capacity as we grow, and if we are unable to renew, maintain or increase our letter of credit facility or are unable to do so on commercially acceptable terms we may need to liquidate all or a portion of our investment portfolio and invest in a fixed-income portfolio or other forms of investment acceptable to our clients and banks as collateral, which could significantly and negatively affect our ability to implement our business strategy.

The inability to obtain business provided from brokers could adversely affect our business strategy and results of operations.

A substantial portion of our business is primarily placed through brokered transactions, which involve a limited number of reinsurance brokers. Since we began underwriting operations in April 2006, we have placed all of our premiums written through brokers. To lose or fail to expand all or a substantial portion of the brokered business provided through one or more of these brokers, many of whom may not be familiar with our Cayman Islands jurisdiction, could significantly and negatively affect our business and results of operations.

We may need additional capital in the future in order to operate our business, and such capital may not be available to us or may not be available to us on favorable terms. Furthermore, our raising additional capital could dilute your ownership interest in our company and may cause the market price of the Class A Ordinary Shares to decline.

We may need to raise additional capital in the future through public or private equity or debt offerings or otherwise in order to:

- fund liquidity needs caused by underwriting or investment losses;
- replace capital lost in the event of significant reinsurance losses or adverse reserve developments;

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