SMART ONLINE INC Form POS AM May 04, 2005 Table of Contents

Registration No. 333-119385

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 3 2005.

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

## Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 on FORM S-1

to

## FORM SB-2 REGISTRATION STATEMENT Under

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

## SMART ONLINE, INC.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State of Incorporation) 7372 (Primary Standard Classification Code No.) 95-4439334 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

2530 Meridian Parkway Durham, North Carolina 27713 919-765-5000 (Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of Registrant's principal executive offices)

> The Corporation Trust Company Corporation Trust Center 1209 Orange Street Wilmington, DE 19801 New Castle County (302) 658-7581

(Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

Copies of all communications, including all communications sent to the agent for service, should be sent to:

James F. Verdonik, Esq. Daniels Daniels & Verdonik, P.A. P.O. Drawer 12218 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

(919) 544-5444

#### (919) 544-5920 (fax)

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of the registration statement until such time that all of the shares of common stock being offered hereunder have been sold.

### Table of Contents

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. x

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

If this Form is a post-effective amendment 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. o

If the 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. o

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, check the following box. o

TITLE OF EACH CLASS OF SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED	AMOUNT TO BE REGISTERED	PROPOSED MAXIMUM OFFERING PRICE PER SHARE <sup>(2)</sup>	PROPOSED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE OFFERING PRICE <sup>(2)</sup>	AMOUNT OF REGISTRATION FEE <sup>(3)</sup>
Common stock, par value \$0.001 Per share	1,942,833	\$ 5.00	\$ 9,714,165	\$ 1,219.90
TOTAL	1,942,833		\$ 9,714,165	\$ 1,219.90

### CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

- (1) Includes (i) up to 1,260,569 shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted from March 2004 through September 27, 2004 up to 58,226 shares of common stock issued pursuant to registration rights agreements signed in connection with the private placement; (ii) up to 278,678 shares of common stock currently issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in a private placement conducted from March 2004 through June 2004 and up to 2,460 shares of common stock issued upon exercise of warrants issued in the private placement; (iii) 100,000 shares of common stock issued in exchange for a warrant issued in 2001; (iv) up to 242,900 shares of common stock issued or currently issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in November 2003 to a financial adviser for consulting services; and (v) any additional shares of common stock which may become issuable upon exercise of the common stock purchase warrants by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of outstanding shares of common stock.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the registration fee required by Section 6(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and computed pursuant to Rule 457 based upon a sale price of \$5.00 per share by the Company of its Common Stock, which was the last sale prior to filing this registration statement. It is not known how many shares will be purchased under this registration statement or at what price shares will be purchased.
- (3) Fee was 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 OR UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SAID SECTION 8(A), MAY DETERMINE.

### Table of Contents

#### PROSPECTUS SMART ONLINE, INC. 1,942,833 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK

This prospectus covers up to 1,942,833 shares of Smart Online, Inc., ("**Smart Online**") common stock that may be offered for resale by the security holders named in this prospectus and the person(s) to whom such security holders may transfer their shares. The selling security holders named in this prospectus are offering all of the shares of common stock offered through this prospectus. No shares are being offered by Smart Online.

We will not receive proceeds from the resale of the shares by selling security holders. We will bear substantially all expenses of registration of the shares. The selling security holders will pay any underwriting fees, discounts or commissions and transfer taxes in connection with the sale of the shares. The selling security holders and any broker-dealer who may participate in sales of the shares may use this prospectus. See "Plan of Distribution."

Our common stock is trading on the Over the Counter Bulletin Board ("OTC-BB").

The selling security holders will sell shares of our Common Stock at prevailing market prices or at privately negotiated prices.

# AS YOU REVIEW THIS PROSPECTUS, YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE MATTERS DESCRIBED IN "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 2.

We are located at 2530 Meridian Parkway, Durham, North Carolina 27713. Our telephone number is 919-765-5000.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR PASSED ON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED 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 PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL, NOR DOES IT SEEK AN OFFER TO BUY, THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

The date of this prospectus is

May 3, 2005.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
RISK FACTORS	2
USE OF PROCEEDS	19
DETERMINATION OF OFFERING PRICE	19
SELLING SECURITY HOLDERS	19
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	23
DIVIDEND POLICY	25
DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS	25
SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA	41
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND	
RESULTS OF OPERATIONS	42
OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, PROMOTERS AND CONTROL PERSONS	58
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	61
SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL	
OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT	67
CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS	69
DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES	75
MARKET FOR COMMON STOCK	77
LEGAL MATTERS	85
EXPERTS	85
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	85
TABLE OF CONTENTS TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	F-1

### **PROSPECTUS SUMMARY**

Smart Online, Inc. ("Smart Online") was incorporated under the laws of Delaware on August 10, 1993.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf process, the selling security holders may from time to time sell their shares of our common stock in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the common stock being offered. You should read this prospectus, including any documents incorporated herein by reference, together with additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

The registration statement that contains this prospectus, including the exhibits to the registration statement, contains additional information about us and the securities offered under this prospectus. That registration statement can be read at the Securities and Exchange Commission's offices mentioned under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information."

### **Company Overview**

Smart Online develops and markets Internet-delivered Software-as-Service (SaS) software applications and data resources to start, run, protect and grow small businesses (one to fifty employees). When we release the second and third version of our OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> products we intend to begin marketing our products to middle size companies of up to 500 employees. We have many direct small business users through our portal at <u>www.SmartOnline.com</u>, and we reach many small businesses through private label syndication partnering agreements pursuant to which we offer our products on the web sites of major companies and financial institutions and through barter and other transactions with media companies. Expanding this network of relationships with large companies is one of our strategies to generate revenue while minimizing our marketing and sales expenses. We also offer the services and software of other companies on our websites, through integration agreements under which we share revenue from sales of the products and services of our integration partners. Our CD-Rom products are sold primarily through OEM arrangements.

Smart Online has developed numerous sources of revenue as its business plan has changed to adapt to changing business circumstances. These sources of revenue include syndication partners, integration partners, OEMs, monthly subscriptions from small businesses, one-time purchases by small businesses and barter transactions with media companies. Syndication fees consist primarily of fees charged to syndication partners to create a customized private-label site. We also share in revenue generated by our syndication partners in some cases. Integration fees are charged to partners to integrate their products into the Smart Online syndication platform. Integrating third-party content and products has been a component of Smart Online's strategy to continuously expand and enhance its platform offered to syndication partners for various individual Smart Online applications on CD-Roms. Currently, each of these revenue streams is small. Our business plan is designed to utilize existing and future relationships in each revenue source to ratchet up the amount of revenue we derive from all sources. We have described below the key elements of how we plan to achieve this.

Our executive offices are located at 2530 Meridian Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Durham, North Carolina 27713, and our telephone number is (919) 765-5000.

### **Offering Summary**

We are registering for resale by the selling security holders (i) up to 1,260,569 shares of common stock issued in a private placement in March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and up to 58,226 shares of common stock issued pursuant to registration rights agreements executed in connection with the private placement; (ii) up to 278,678 shares

of common stock issuable upon the exercise of common stock purchase warrants of Smart Online held by the selling security holders issued in the same private placement and up to 2,460 shares of common stock issued upon exercise of warrants issued in the private placement; (iii) 100,000 shares of common stock issued in exchange for a warrant issued by Smart Online in 2001; and (iv) up to 242,900 shares of common stock issued or currently issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in November 2003 to a financial adviser for consulting services. In addition, we are also registering for resale any additional shares of common stock which may become issuable with respect to the shares of common stock or upon exercise of the common stock purchase warrants by reason of any stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization or other similar transaction effected without the receipt of consideration which results in an increase in the number of outstanding shares of common stock, and any shares of common stock which may become issuable by reason of antidilution provisions of the warrants.

### Table of Contents

Securities Being Offered	Up to 1,942,833 shares of common stock
Offering Price	The selling security holders can sell our shares at prevailing market prices, if a public market develops for our common stock, or at privately negotiated prices.
Terms of the Offering	The selling security holders will determine when and how they will sell the common stock offered in this prospectus. Refer to "Plan of Distribution."
Securities Issued and to be Issued	12,286,832 shares of our common stock are issued and outstanding as of April 15, 2005. Options to issue 1,940,900 shares of our common stock and warrants to issue 611,110 shares of our common stock are also outstanding as of the date of this prospectus, subject to adjustment pursuant to antidilution provisions contained in the warrants.
Use of Proceeds	All of the common stock to be sold under this prospectus will be sold by existing shareholders and we will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the common stock by the selling security holders. If warrant holders exercise warrants without exercising the cashless exercise provision of the warrants, we would receive the amounts paid to exercise the warrants.

### **RISK FACTORS**

An investment in Smart Online involves significant risks. You should read the risks described below very carefully before deciding whether to invest in Smart Online. The following is a description of what we consider our key challenges and risks.

We operate in a dynamic and rapidly changing business environment that involves substantial risk and uncertainty and these risks may change over time. The following discussion addresses some of the risks and uncertainties that could cause, or contribute to causing, actual results to differ materially from expectations. In evaluating our business, readers should pay particular attention to the descriptions of risks and uncertainties described below and in other sections of this document and our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### We have organized these factors into the following categories below:

- Our Financial Condition
- Our Products and Operations
- Our Market, Customers and Partners
- Our Officers, Directors, Employees and Shareholders
  - Regulatory Matters that Affect Our Business

• Matters Related to This Offering

### **RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH OUR FINANCIAL CONDITION**

# (1) We Have Had Recurring Losses From Operations Since Inception, Have Deficiencies in Working Capital and Equity Capital. If We Do Not Rectify These Deficiencies, We May Have to Cease Operations and Liquidate Our Business. Because We Have Only Nominal Tangible Assets, You May Lose Your Entire Investment.

We have lost an aggregate of \$36.7 million since inception on August 10, 1993. During the year ended December 31, 2004, we suffered a net loss of approximately \$2.7 million. At December 31, 2004, we had a \$1.3 million deficit in working capital. Consequently, our working capital is not sufficient to fund our operations for the next year, unless we substantially increase our revenue, limit expenses or raise substantial additional capital. At December 31, 2004, our cash and cash equivalents were only \$173,000. We had \$173,000 of marketable securities, for total liquid assets of \$395,000 and we had only nominal tangible assets. If we do not rectify these deficiencies, we may have to cease operations and liquidate our business. Because we have only nominal tangible assets, you may lose your entire investment.

# (2) Our Independent Registered Public Accountants Have Indicated That it has Substantial Doubts That Smart Online Can Continue as a Going Concern. Our Independent Registered Public Accountants' Opinion May Negatively Affect Our Ability to Raise Additional Funds, Among Other Things. If We Fail to Raise Sufficient Capital, We Will Not Be Able to Implement Our Business Plan, We May Have To Liquidate Our Business and You May Lose Your Investment.

BDO Seidman, LLP, our independent registered public accountants, has expressed substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern given our recurring losses from operations and deficiencies in working capital and equity, which are described in the first risk factor above. This opinion could materially limit our ability to raise additional funds by issuing new debt or equity securities or otherwise. If we fail to raise sufficient capital, we will not be able to implement our business plan, we may have to liquidate our business and you may lose your investment. You should consider our auditor's comments when determining, if an investment in Smart Online is suitable.

# (3) We Will Require Additional Financing To Fund Our Operations Or Growth. If Financing Is Not Available, We May Have To Liquidate Our Business and You May Lose Your Investment.

In the future, we will be required to seek additional financing to fund our operations or growth. Factors such as the commercial success of our existing services and products, the timing and success of any new services and products,

the progress of our research and development efforts, our results of operations, the status of competitive services and products, and the timing and success of potential strategic alliances or potential opportunities to acquire technologies or assets may require us to seek additional funding sooner than we expect. We cannot assure you that such funding will be available. If sufficient capital is not raised, our ability to achieve or sustain positive cash flows, maintain current operations, fund any potential growth, take advantage of unanticipated opportunities, develop or enhance services or products, or otherwise respond to competitive pressures would be significantly limited. If we fail to raise sufficient capital, we will not be able to implement our business plan, we may have to liquidate our business and you may lose your investment.

# (4) If We Are Able To Raise Capital, But Are Not Able To Obtain Terms That are Favorable To Us, Existing Shareholders and New Investors May Suffer Dilution Of Their Ownership Interests in Our Company Or Otherwise Lose Value In Our Securities.

If we raise additional funds through the issuance of equity securities or debt convertible into equity securities, the percentage of stock ownership by our existing stockholders would be reduced. In addition, such securities could have rights preferences and privileges senior to those of our current stockholders and new investors in this offering, which could substantially decrease the value of our securities owned by them. (5) We Will Not Receive Any of The Proceeds From This Offering And Resales of Shares by Selling Security Holders in This Offering May Impede Our ability to Raise Needed Capital.

The selling security holders will receive all the proceeds of this offering. We will not receive any of the proceeds from this offering and resales of shares by selling security holders in this offering may impede our ability to raise needed capital or our ability to do so on favorable terms. In that event, we may be forced to liquidate our business and investors in this offering may lose their investment or suffer a substantial decrease in the value of their investment.

# (6) We Will Rely Heavily On Successful Development and Market Acceptance of Our Next Generation Platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>

Since 2000, we have generated substantially all of our revenues from our current Internet-based services, content and software applications. Internet-based products are growing in sophistication and customer expectations are rising as

new products are introduced. In March 2005 we released the first version of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, our Next Generation Product, but we do not expect to see substantial revenue increases until after we release and have time to sell the third installment of One Biz Conductor<sup>TM</sup>, which is scheduled to occur at the end of 2005. Our future financial performance and revenue growth will depend upon the successful development, introduction, and customer acceptance of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. We plan to introduce OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> directly to our existing customer base through our online business solution site at www.SmartOnline.com. If OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> has been accepted and modified based on customer feedback on www.SmartOnline.com, it will then be integrated into our private label syndication partners sites so Smart Online can leverage both channels to generate revenue while minimizing our direct marketing expenses.

# (7) We May Not Successfully Develop or Introduce the Next Two Installments of Our Next Generation Product, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, and Other New Products or Enhancements to Existing Products, Which Could Harm Our Business.

Our future financial performance and revenue growth will depend, in part, upon the successful development, introduction, and customer acceptance of our next generation product, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. Thereafter other new products and enhanced versions of our web-native business applications will be critically important to our business. Our business could be harmed if we fail to deliver enhancements that customers desire to our current and future solutions. From time to time, we have experienced delays in the planned release dates of our software (including OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>) and upgrades, and we have discovered software defects in new releases both before and after their introduction. New product versions or upgrades may not be released according to schedule, or may contain certain defects when released. Either situation could result in adverse publicity, loss of sales, delay in market acceptance of our services and products, or customer claims against us, any of which could harm our business. If we do not deliver new product versions, upgrades, or other enhancements to existing services and products on a timely and cost-effective basis, our business will be harmed. We are also continually seeking to develop new offerings. However, we remain subject to all of the risks inherent in product development, including unanticipated technical or other development problems, which could result in material delays in product introduction and acceptance or significantly increased costs. There can be no assurance that we will be able to successfully develop new services or products, or to introduce in a timely manner and gain acceptance of such new services or products in the marketplace.

# (8) We Have Experienced Delays in Developing Our Next Generation Platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. Existing Factors May Result in Further Delays Which Could Harm Our Business.

We had planned to release the first version of our Next Generation Platform during the fourth quarter of 2004. Testing by some customers of the first version began at the end of 2004, but commercial release was delayed until March 2005. In addition to the factors that may delay or prevent completion of any new product development project, some existing factors may further delay or prevent development of our next generation product, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. These factors include the following. OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> requires both enhancing our existing technology platform and adding many new software applications. Integrating so many new applications at the same time is difficult. Another factor that might delay or prevent development of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> is that we have to hire, train and manage new development personnel to complete internal development on time. In addition, for many of the most important new applications of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, such as sales automation, we intend to rely on third party sources, whether through licensing, joint development or purchase. The willingness of third parties to enter into agreements with us and the ability of third parties to perform agreements are totally outside our control. Development of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> is progressing according to schedule as described under "Business-Next Generation Product Development-OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. Our business could be harmed if we fail to deliver the improved performance that customers want with respect to our current and future offerings. There can be no assurance that our next generation platform will achieve widespread market penetration or that we will derive significant revenues from sales of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>.

#### (9) Our Products Might Not Keep Pace with Technological Change, Which Could Harm Our Business.

We must continually modify and enhance our services and products to keep pace with changes in hardware and software platforms, database technology, and electronic commerce technical standards. As a result, uncertainties related to the timing and nature of new product announcements or introductions, or modifications by vendors of operating systems, back-office applications, and browsers and other Internet-related applications, could harm our business.

# (10) Our Business Is Difficult To Evaluate Because Our Business Models and Operating Plans Have Changed As A Result of Forces Beyond Our Control. Consequently, We Have Not Yet Demonstrated That We Have a Successful Business Model or Operating Plan.

We incorporated in 1993 with a CD-ROM based business model. In 1999, we commercially introduced our Internet based Software-as-Service (SaS) business model, when it became clear that the developing Internet world offered a better delivery platform. We began to enter into syndication partnering arrangements during year 2000 primarily as a result of the need to leverage the marketing and sales resources of others. Our business models and operating plans have evolved as a result of changes in our market, the expectations of customers and the behavior of competitors. Today, we anticipate that our future financial performance and revenue growth will depend, in large part, upon our Internet based SaS business model and syndication partnering arrangements, but these business models may again become ineffective due to forces beyond our control that we do not currently anticipate. Consequently, we have not yet demonstrated that we have a successful business model or operating plan. Our evolving business model makes our business operations and prospects difficult to evaluate. Investors in our securities should consider all the risks and uncertainties that are commonly encountered by companies in this stage of business operations, particularly companies, such as ours, that are in emerging and rapidly evolving markets.

#### (11) It Is Important For Us To Continue To Manage Changing Business Conditions. Failure To Do So Could Harm Our Business.

Our future operating results will depend, in part, on our ability to manage changing business conditions, including such conditions as the general economic slowdown, reduced investment in information technology by customers and prospective customers, and reduced business travel and entertainment budgets. If we are unable to manage changing business conditions effectively, our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. Failure to manage our operations with reduced staffing levels may strain our management, financial, and other resources, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

# (12) The Success of Our Business Depends on The Continued Growth and Acceptance of the Internet as a Business Tool. If These Positive Trends Do Not Continue To Develop, Our Business Could Be Harmed.

Expansion in the sales of our service depends on the continued growth and acceptance of the Internet as a communications and commerce platform for enterprises. The Internet could lose its viability as a business tool due to delays in the development or adoption of new standards and protocols to handle increased demands of Internet activity, security, reliability, cost, ease-of-use, accessibility and quality-of-service. The performance of the Internet and its acceptance as a business tool has been harmed by "viruses," "worms" and similar malicious programs, and the Internet has experienced a variety of outages and other delays as a result of damage to portions of its infrastructure. If for any reason the Internet does not remain a widespread communications medium and commercial platform, the demand for our service would be significantly reduced, which would harm our business.

# (13) We Sell Third-Party Software and Web Services That May be Difficult to Replace. If We Are Not Able to Replace Third Party Software And Web Services, Our Business May Be Harmed.

We rely on software licensed from third parties to offer some of our services and software offerings, including merchant services, incorporation services, on-line direct mail services and loan referrals. During 2004, approximately 6% of our revenue was derived from such third party software and services. During 2003 and 2002 approximately 16% and 17%, respectively, of our revenue was derived from such sources. During 2002 approximately 17% of our revenue was derived from such third party software and services. These software and services may not continue to be available on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. We plan to increase our reliance on third party software when we introduce OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> by licensing sales automation software from third parties. The loss or inability to maintain any of these arrangements could result in delays in the sale of our services or software offerings until equivalent technology or services are either developed by us, or, if available, are identified, licensed, and integrated. Any such delay could harm our business.

# (14) If We Acquire Companies, Products, or Technologies, We May Face Risks Associated with Those Acquisitions. These Risks Include, But Are Not Limited to, Difficulty of Integrating, Dilution of Stockholder Value and Disruption of Our Business, Which Could Adversely Affect Our Operating Results.

In the future, we plan to acquire products or technologies. We may not realize the anticipated benefits of our future acquisitions or investments to the extent that we anticipate, or at all. We have had discussions with several companies, but have not yet entered into any purchase agreements. We may have to issue debt or issue equity securities to pay for future acquisitions or investments, the issuance of which could be dilutive to our existing stockholders and investors in this offering. If any acquisition or investment is not perceived as improving our earnings per share, our stock price may decline. In addition, we may incur non-cash amortization charges from acquisitions, which could harm our operating results. Any completed acquisitions would also require significant integration efforts, diverting our attention from our business operations and strategy. We have made limited acquisitions to date, and therefore our ability as an organization to make acquisitions or investments is unproven. Acquisitions and investments involve numerous risks, including:

- · difficulties in integrating operations, technologies, services and personnel;
- · diversion of financial and managerial resources from existing operations;

· risk of entering new markets;

- · potential write-offs of acquired assets;
  - · potential loss of key employees;
- · inability to generate sufficient revenue to offset acquisition or investment costs; and

 $\cdot\,$  delays in customer purchases due to uncertainty.

#### Table of Contents

In addition, if we finance acquisitions by issuing convertible debt or equity securities, our existing stockholders and investors in this offering may be diluted which could affect the market price of our stock. As a result, if we fail to properly evaluate and execute acquisitions or investments, our business and prospects may be seriously harmed.

# (15) We Rely on Third-Party Hardware and Software That May Be Difficult To Replace or Which Could Cause Errors or Failures of Our Service. Such Events May Harm Our Business.

We rely on hardware purchased or leased and software licensed from third parties in order to offer our service. We use commercially available hardware and software from vendors like Oracle, Sun Microsystems, IBM, Microsoft, Verisign, Dell, Apple, HP, Cisco, Nokia, Adobe, Macromedia, Checkpoint, Symantec, Appligent and Quest. We have purchased or licensed all the equipment and software and we have not leased or borrowed to acquire any of them. These software and hardware systems will need periodic upgrades in the future as part of normal operation of business, which will be an added expense.

We also use certain software from leading opensource communities like Sun Microsystems, Apache Group, GNU, Suse (Novell) that are free and available in the public domain. The OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> product will use additional public domain software, if needed for successful implementation and deployment. Using such software does not guarantee us support and upgrades of the software, and therefore could cause disruption in our service, if certain critical defects are discovered in the software at a future date.

The hardware and software we use may not continue to be available on commercially reasonable terms, or at all, or upgrades may not be available when we need them. We are not currently aware of any problems, but any loss of the right to use any of this hardware or software could result in delays in the provisioning of our services until equivalent technology is either developed by us, or, if available, is identified, obtained and integrated, which could harm our business. Any errors or defects in, or unavailability of, third-party hardware or software could result in errors or a failure of our service, which could harm our business.

#### (16) Interruption Of Our Operations Could Significantly Harm Our Business.

Significant portions of our operations depend on our ability to protect our computer equipment and the information stored in such equipment, our offices, and our hosting facilities against damage from fire, power loss, telecommunications failures, unauthorized intrusion, and other events. We backup software and related data files regularly and store the backup files at an off-site location. However, there can be no assurance that our disaster preparedness will eliminate the risk of extended interruption of our operations. In connection with our subscription services, we may engage third-party hosting facility providers to provide the hosting facilities and certain related infrastructure for such services. We also retain third-party telecommunications providers to provide Internet and direct telecommunications connections for our services. These providers may fail to perform their obligations adequately. Any damage or failure that interrupts our operations or destroys some or all of our data or the data of our customers, whether due to natural disaster or otherwise, could expose us to litigation, loss of customers, or other harm to our business.

# (17) Defects in Our Service Could Diminish Demand for Our Service and Subject Us to Substantial Liability, Damage Our Reputation, Or Otherwise Harm Our Business.

Because our service is complex, it may have errors or defects that users identify after they begin using it, which could harm our reputation and our business. Internet-based services frequently contain undetected errors when first introduced or when new versions or enhancements are released. We have from time to time found defects in our service and new errors in our existing service may be detected in the future. Since our customers use our service for important aspects of their business, any errors, defects or other performance problems with our service could hurt our reputation and may damage our customers' businesses. If that occurs, customers could elect not to renew, or delay or withhold payment to us, we could lose future sales or customers may make warranty claims against us, which could result in an increase in our provision for doubtful accounts, an increase in collection cycles for accounts receivable or the expense and risk of litigation.

# (18) Security and Other Concerns may Discourage Use of Our Internet Based Software-as-Service (SaS) Model, Which Could Harm Our Business.

Our service involves the storage and transmission of customers' proprietary information, and security breaches could expose us to a risk of loss of this information, litigation and possible liability. If our security measures are breached as a result of third-party action, employee error, malfeasance or otherwise, and, as a result, someone obtains unauthorized access to one of our customers' data, our reputation will be damaged, our business may suffer and we could incur significant liability. Because techniques used to obtain unauthorized access or to sabotage systems change frequently and generally are not recognized until launched against a target, we may be unable to anticipate these techniques or to implement adequate preventative measures. If an actual or perceived breach of our security occurs, the market perception of the effectiveness of our security measures could be harmed and we could lose sales and customers. If customers determine that our services offerings do not provide adequate security for the dissemination of information over the Internet or corporate extranets, or are otherwise inadequate for Internet or extranet use or if, for any other reason, customers fail to accept our products for use, our business will be harmed. As part of our operations, we receive credit card, employee, purchasing, supplier, and other financial and accounting data, through the Internet or extranets. Although we have security systems in place, there can be no assurance that this information will not be subject to computer break-ins, theft, and other improper activity that could jeopardize the security of information for which we are responsible. Any such lapse in security could expose us to litigation, loss of customers, or other harm to our business. In addition, any person who is able to circumvent our security measures could misappropriate proprietary or confidential customer information or cause interruptions in our operations. We may be required to incur significant costs to protect against security breaches or to alleviate problems caused by breaches. Any general concern regarding security in the marketplace could deter customers or prospects from using the Internet to conduct transactions that involve transmitting confidential information. Our failure to prevent security breaches, or well-publicized security breaches affecting the Internet in general, could significantly harm our business, operating results, and financial condition.

#### **Risks Associated With Our Market Customers and Partners**

#### (19) If Our On-Demand Application Service is Not Widely Accepted, Our Operating Results Will Be Harmed.

Historically, we have derived a small percentage of our revenue from subscriptions to our on-demand application service, but our business plan requires us to substantially increase this source of revenue in the future. As a result, widespread acceptance of our service is critical to our future success. Factors that may affect market acceptance of our service include:

potential reluctance by businesses to migrate to an on-demand application service;

• the price and performance of our service;

 $\cdot\,$  the level of customization we can offer;

· the availability, performance and price of competing products and services; and

· potential reluctance by businesses to trust third parties to store and manage their internal data.

Many of these factors are beyond our control. The inability of our service to achieve widespread market acceptance would harm our business.

# (20) The Market for Our Technology Delivery Model and On-Demand Application Services Is Immature And Volatile, and if It Does Not Develops More Slowly Than We Expect, Our Business Will Be Harmed.

The market for on-demand application services is new and unproven, and it is uncertain whether these services will achieve and sustain high levels of demand and market acceptance. Our success will depend to a substantial extent on the willingness of businesses to increase their use of on-demand application services. Many businesses have invested substantial personnel and financial resources to integrate traditional business software into their businesses, and therefore may be reluctant or unwilling to migrate to on-demand application services. Furthermore, some businesses may be reluctant or unwilling to use on-demand application services because they have concerns regarding the risks associated with security capabilities, among other things, of the technology delivery model associated with these services. If businesses do not perceive the benefits of on-demand application services, then the market for these services may not develop at all, or it may develop more slowly than we expect, either of which would significantly adversely affect our operating results. In addition, because this is an unproven market, we have limited insight into trends that may develop and affect our business. We may make errors in predicting and reacting to relevant business trends,

which could harm our business.

(21) We Do Not Have an Adequate History With Our Subscription Model To Predict the Rate of Customer Subscription Renewals and the Impact These Renewals Will Have on Our Revenue or Operating Results.

#### Table of Contents

Our small business customers do not sign long-term contracts. Our customers have no obligation to renew their subscriptions for our service after the expiration of their initial subscription period and in fact, customers have often elected not to do so. In addition, our customers may renew for a lower priced edition of our service or for fewer users. Many of our customers utilize our services without charge. We have limited historical data with respect to rates of customer subscription renewals for paying customers, so we cannot accurately predict customer renewal rates. Our customers' renewal rates may decline or fluctuate as a result of a number of factors, including when we begin charging for our services, their dissatisfaction with our service and their ability to continue their operations and spending levels. If our customers do not renew their subscriptions for our service, our revenue may decline and our business will suffer.

# (22) We Depend on Small Businesses for Our Revenue. Small Businesses are Often Financially Unstable, Have High Rates of Attrition and can be Expensive Customers to Which to Market Products.

Substantially all our revenue is from small business customers with fifty or fewer employees, whether directly or indirectly from our partners who do business with small businesses. Although this is a large market, it can be very expensive to penetrate this market. Each customer results in only a small amount of revenue. In addition, small businesses are often financially unstable, which can cause them to go out of business. Our small business customers, typically have short initial subscription periods and, based on our experience to date, have had a high rate of attrition and non-renewal. If we cannot replace our small business customers that do not renew their subscriptions for our service with new paying customers quickly enough, our revenue could decline. This adversely affects our ability to develop long-term customer relationships. We must continually attract new customers to maintain the same level of revenue.

#### (23) If We Fail to Develop Our Brand Cost-Effectively, Our Business May Suffer.

We believe that developing and maintaining awareness of the Smart Online brand in a cost-effective manner is critical to achieving widespread acceptance of our existing and future services and is an important element in attracting new customers. Furthermore, we believe that the importance of brand recognition will increase as competition in our market develops. Successful promotion of our brand will depend largely on the effectiveness of our marketing efforts and on our ability to provide reliable and useful services at competitive prices. In the past, our efforts to build our brand have involved significant expense. Brand promotion activities may not yield increased revenue, and even if they do, any increased revenue may not offset the expenses we incurred in building our brand. If we fail to successfully promote and maintain our brand, or incur substantial expenses in an unsuccessful attempt to promote and maintain our brand, we may fail to attract enough new customers or retain our existing customers to the extent necessary to realize a sufficient return on our brand-building efforts, and our business could suffer.

# (24) We Depend on Corporate Partners to Market Our Products Through Their Web Sites and OEM or Integration Relationships Under Relatively Short Term Agreements. Termination of These Agreements Could Cause A Substantial Decline in Our Revenue and a Substantial Increase in Customer Acquisition Costs.

Approximately 93% of total revenue during year 2004 and approximately 83% of total revenue during year 2003 was derived from syndication, integration and OEM agreements with large companies whereby our content, software applications and technology platform are integrated into the web sites of our syndication partners and the software and services of our integration partners is sold on our website, and our CD-Rom products are bundled with the products of others through our OEM relationships. Under these agreements we both derive revenue and we utilize the resources of our partners to reduce our customer acquisition costs. As of April 15, 2005, we have six syndication agreements, where we currently or will have our content and software on the website of large corporate partners. We currently have ten integration partnership agreements where we integrate the content or services of our partners into our technology platform. As of April 15, 2005, we have one OEM relationship through our distributor, PC Treasures. Not all these agreements generate revenue for us at this time. These agreements typically have initial terms of from one to three years. In the event these agreements were to terminate or not be renewed, or their terms substantially renegotiated, we expect that our revenues would decline and our customer acquisition costs would increase. Although our partners are important to our business on a collective basis, no single partner is material to our business. The syndication, integration, and OEM agreement revenue described above includes revenue from an integration agreement between Smart Online and Smart IL, a related party owned by a shareholder of Smart Online. Smart IL accounted for approximately 27.2% of our total revenue in 2003 and approximately 32.9% of total revenue during 2004. We do not expect to receive revenue from Smart IL after 2004. Our dealings with Smart IL are described under "Item 7. Management Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Revenue From Related

#### (25) It is Important for Us to Continue to Develop and Maintain Strategic Relationships. Failure to Do So Could Harm Our Business.

We depend on syndication and integration partners, OEM relationships and referral relationships to offer products and services to a larger customer base than we can reach through direct sales, and other marketing efforts. Approximately 81% of our total revenue during 2002 and approximately 83% of our total revenue during 2003 and approximately 93% of our total revenue during 2004 was derived through such relationships. If we were unable to maintain our existing strategic relationships or enter into additional strategic relationships, we would have to devote substantially more resources to the distribution, sales, and marketing of our products and services. Our success depends in part on the ultimate success of our syndication and integration partners, OEM relationships and referral partners and their ability to market our products and services successfully. Our partners are not obligated to provide potential customers to us. In addition, some of these third parties have entered, and may continue to enter, into strategic relationships with our competitors. Further, many of our strategic partners have multiple strategic relationships, and they may not regard us as significant for their businesses. Our strategic partners may terminate their respective relationships with us, pursue other partnerships or relationships, or attempt to develop or acquire products or services that compete with our products or services. Our strategic partners also may interfere with our ability to enter into other desirable strategic relationships. One of our syndication partnership agreements with Gruner + Jahr USA Publishing, pursuant to which we syndicate our platform and applications to the website www.Inc.com and www.FastCompany.com, contains a prohibition against our syndicating our platform and applications to two competitors of Gruner + Jahr. All of our integration partnership agreements limit our ability to integrate products or services onto our website that compete with the products or services being provided through our websi

# (26) Our Lengthy Sales Cycle with Syndication, Integration Partners and OEM Relationships Could Adversely Affect Our Financial Results.

Our syndication and integration partners and OEM relationships typically commit significant resources to an evaluation of available solutions and require us to expend substantial time, effort, and money educating them about the value of our services and software. Our sales cycle, which is the time between initial contact with a potential partner and ultimately signing a contract, is often lengthy and unpredictable. As a result, we have limited ability to forecast the timing and size of new specific partnering and OEM relationships. In addition, revenue may not begin to flow from such contracts until long after they are signed due to delays in implementing the contracts or the failure of our partners to devote the resources required to promote our products to small businesses. Any delay in signing or implementing syndication, integration and OEM contracts or other strategic agreements could cause our operating results to vary significantly.

#### (27) We Face Significant Competition, Which Could Adversely Affect Our Business.

The market for our solutions is intensely competitive and rapidly changing. The direct competition we face depends on the market segment focus and delivery model capabilities of our competitors. We also, at times have to overcome customer reluctance to move away from existing paper-based systems. We have two primary categories of competitors: companies that offer a broad range of software applications for small businesses and companies that offer one or two applications that compete with our broad range of applications. Our principal direct competition primarily comes from large companies, such as Microsoft, Oracle, Intuit, SAP and Yahoo!, who provide multiple software products used by many small businesses. In addition, we face competition from other competitors. Many of our competitors have longer operating histories, greater financial, technical, marketing, and other resources, greater name recognition, and a larger total number of customers for their products and other vendors and service providers. These competitors may also be able to respond more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements, or to devote greater resources to the development, promotion, and sale of their products, than we may. In addition, we anticipate new competitors will enter the market in the future. Increased competition may result in price reductions, reduced gross margins, and change in market share and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

# (28) We Depend on Nonrecurring Revenue, Which May Cause Our Revenue to Fluctuate Substantially From One Quarter to Another or to Decline Permanently as Market Conditions Change.

We depend on nonrecurring revenue. Nonrecurring revenue is primarily derived from integration fees and other up-front payments received upon signing syndication and integration agreements with corporate partners for which we charge a one-time fee. This revenue is recognized on a monthly basis over the initial term of the integration and syndication contracts and may fluctuate substantially from one quarter to another. All of our integration revenues were from nonrecurring sources during the years ended December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2004. Approximately, 68% of our syndication revenues for 2004 and 48.1% of our syndication revenues for 2003 were from nonrecurring sources. In addition, such revenue may substantially decrease on a permanent basis due to market conditions over which we have little or no control, including competitors introducing new products to the market or reducing the price of competing products.

## (29) We Depend on Web Services Revenues; Our Future Growth is Substantially Dependent on Customer Demand for Our Subscription Services Delivery Models. Failure to Increase This Revenue Could Harm Our Business.

Revenues from small businesses for our Web Services, which include subscriptions, revenue share, e-commerce fees, hosting fees, loan origination fees and marketing fees, represented approximately 6.2% of our total revenue for 2004 and approximately 16.5% of total revenue for fiscal 2003. We anticipate that Web Services revenues will continue to represent a significant percentage of our total revenues and that our future financial performance and revenue growth will depend, in large part, upon the growth in customer demand for our outsourced services delivery models. As such, we have invested significantly in infrastructure, operations, and strategic relationships to support these models, which represent a significant departure from the delivery strategies that other software vendors and we have traditionally employed. To maintain positive margins for our small business services, our revenues will need to continue to grow more rapidly than the cost of such revenues. There can be no assurance that we will be able to maintain positive gross margins in our subscription services delivery models in future periods. If our subscription services business does not grow sufficiently, we could fail to meet expectations for our results of operations, which could harm our business.

Any delays in implementation may prevent us from recognizing subscription revenue for periods of time; even when we have already incurred costs relating to the implementation of our subscription services. Additionally, customers can cancel our subscription services contracts at any time and, as a result, we may recognize substantially less revenue than we expect. If large numbers of customers cancel or otherwise seeks to terminate subscription agreements quicker than we expect, our operating results could be substantially harmed. To become successful, we must cause subscribers who do not pay fees to begin paying fees and increase the length of time subscriptors pay subscription fees.

# (30) There are Risks Associated with International Operations, Which We Expect Will Become a Bigger Part of Our Business in the Future.

We currently do not generate substantial revenue from international operations, but we plan to conduct greater international operations in the future. Our international operations will be subject to risks associated with operating abroad. We expect international operations will become an important component of our business. These international operations are subject to a number of difficulties and special costs, including:

- · costs of customizing products for foreign countries;
- · laws and business practices favoring local competitors;
  - · uncertain regulation of electronic commerce;
- · compliance with multiple, conflicting, and changing governmental laws and regulations;
  - · longer sales cycles; greater difficulty in collecting accounts receivable;
    - · import and export restrictions and tariffs;

· potentially weaker protection for our intellectual property than in the United States, and practical difficulties in enforcing such rights abroad;

· difficulties staffing and managing foreign operations;

· multiple conflicting tax laws and regulations; and

 $\cdot\,$  political and economic instability.

#### Table of Contents

Our international operations will also face foreign currency-related risks. To date, most of our revenues have been denominated in United States Dollars, but we believe that an increasing portion of our revenues will be denominated in foreign currencies. We currently do not engage in foreign exchange hedging activities, and therefore our international revenues and expenses are currently subject to the risks of foreign currency fluctuations.

We must also customize our services and products for international markets. This process is much more complex than merely translating languages. For example, our ability to expand into international markets will depend on our ability to develop and support services and products that incorporate the tax laws, accounting practices, and currencies of applicable countries. Since a large part of our value proposition to customers is that our products have been developed with the peculiar needs of small businesses in mind, any variation in business practice from one country to another may substantially decrease the value of our products in that country, unless we identify the important differences and customize our product to address the differences.

Our international operations also increase our exposure to international laws and regulations. If we cannot comply with foreign laws and regulations, which are often complex and subject to variation and unexpected changes, we could incur unexpected costs and potential litigation. For example, the governments of foreign countries might attempt to regulate our services and products or levy sales or other taxes relating to our activities. In addition, foreign countries may impose tariffs, duties, price controls or other restrictions on foreign currencies or trade barriers, any of which could make it more difficult for us to conduct our business in international markets.

We intend to continue to expand our international sales and marketing activities and enter into relationships with additional international distribution partners. We are in the early stages of developing our indirect distribution channels in markets outside the United States. We may not be able to attract and retain distribution partners that will be able to market our products effectively.

# (31) Substantial Amounts of Our Revenue Is Derived From Transactions with Related Parties, Which Means That Our Revenue May Not Reflect the True Commercial Viability of Our Business and That Our Revenue May Decline If We Cannot Replace this Revenue With Revenue From Unrelated Third Parties.

During 2004, approximately \$330,000 of our total revenue, constituting approximately 32.9% of total 2004 revenue, was derived from related party transactions. During 2003, approximately \$513,057 of our total revenue, constituting approximately 40.7% of 2003 total revenue, was derived from transactions with parties in which our officers, directors and stockholders have a direct or indirect interest. For year 2002, related party transactions provided approximately \$140,149 of our revenue, constituting approximately 10.1% of 2002 total revenue. These transactions are described in "Note 12 of Notes to Financial Statements."

Because our officers, directors and stockholders derive a benefit from promoting the success of our business, these transactions may have been entered into by these related parties to promote our business. Consequently, revenue derived from these transactions may not be as indicative of the true commercial viability of our business as revenue derived from transactions with unrelated parties.

Our officers, directors and stockholders have limited resources and will not be able to enter into the same dollar volumes of transactions in the future as in the past. Having high amounts of revenue from related party transactions, therefore, means our revenue will decrease, if we are not able to replace this revenue with revenue from transactions with unrelated parties. Specifically, one related party, Smart IL, which accounted for approximately 32.9% of our total revenue during 2004 and approximately 27.2% of our total revenue during 2003, is not expected to contribute to our revenue in the future. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Revenue from Related Parties," for a description of our dealings with Smart IL.

#### Risks Associated With Our Officers, Directors, Employees and Stockholders

#### (32) Any Failure to Adequately Expand Our Direct Sales Force Will Impede Our Growth, Which Could Harm Our Business.

We expect to be substantially dependent on our direct sales force to obtain new customers. We believe that there is significant competition for direct sales personnel with the advanced sales skills and technical knowledge we need. Our ability to achieve significant growth in revenue in the future will depend, in large part, on our success in recruiting, training and retaining sufficient direct sales personnel. New hires require significant training and may, in some cases, take more than a year before they achieve full productivity. Our recent hires and planned hires may not become as productive as we would like, and we may be unable to hire sufficient numbers of qualified individuals in the future in the markets where we do business. If we are unable to hire and develop sufficient numbers of productive sales personnel, sales of our services will suffer.

# (33) Because Competition for Our Target Employees Is Intense, We May Not Be Able to Attract and Retain the Highly Skilled Employees We Need to Support Our Planned Growth, Which Could Harm Our Business.

To execute our growth plan, we must attract and retain highly qualified personnel. Competition for these personnel is intense, especially for engineers with high levels of experience in designing and developing software and Internet-related services and senior sales executives. We may not be successful in attracting and retaining qualified personnel. We have from time to time in the past experienced, and we expect to continue to experience in the future, difficulty in hiring and retaining highly skilled employees with appropriate qualifications. Many of the companies with which we compete for experienced personnel have greater resources than we have. In addition, in making employment decisions, particularly in the Internet and high-technology industries, job candidates often consider the value of the stock options they are to receive in connection with their employment. Significant volatility in the price of our stock after this offering may, therefore, adversely affect our ability to attract or retain key employees. Furthermore, proposed changes to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States relating to the expensing of stock options may discourage us from granting the size or type of stock options awards that job candidates require to join our company. If we fail to attract new personnel or fail to retain and motivate our current personnel, our business and future growth prospects could be severely harmed.

# (34) Our Growth Could Strain Our Personnel and Infrastructure Resources, and if We Are Unable to Implement Appropriate Controls and Procedures To Manage Our Growth, We May Not Be Able to Successfully Implement Our Business Plan.

We plan to have a period of rapid growth in our headcount and operations, which has placed, and will continue to place, a significant strain on our management, administrative, operational and financial infrastructure. We anticipate that further growth will be required to address increases in our customer base, as well as our expansion into new geographic areas.

Our success will depend in part upon the ability of our senior management to manage this growth effectively. To do so, we must continue to hire, train and manage new employees as needed. If our new hires perform poorly, or if we are unsuccessful in hiring, training, managing and integrating these new employees, or if we are not successful in retaining our existing employees, our business may be harmed. To manage the expected growth of our operations and personnel, we will need to continue to improve our operational, financial and management controls and our reporting systems and procedures. The additional headcount and capital investments we are adding will increase our cost base, which will make it more difficult for us to offset any future revenue shortfalls by offsetting expense reductions in the short term. If we fail to successfully manage our growth, we will be unable to execute our business plan.

# (35) Our Executive Management Team is Critical to the Execution of Our Business Plan and the Loss of Their Services Could Severely Impact Negatively on Our Business.

Our success depends significantly on the continued services of our management personnel, including, Michael Nouri, who is our chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer, and Henry Nouri, our chief technical officer. Losing any one of our officers could seriously harm our business. Competition for executives is intense. If we had to replace any of our officers, we would not be able to replace the significant amount of knowledge that they have about our operations. We do not maintain key man insurance policies on anyone.

# (36) Officers, Directors and Principal Stockholders Control Us. This Might Lead Them to Make Decisions that do not Benefit the Stockholder Interests.

At April 15, 2005, our officers and directors beneficially owned approximately 4,783,995 (approximately 34%) of our outstanding stock, which includes approximately 730,000 shares which can be acquired upon exercise of options within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. These shares included approximately 3,892,658 shares beneficially owned by Michael Nouri and Henry Nouri, who are brothers and Ronna Loprete, who is Michael Nouri's wife. In addition, 95,000 shares are subject to issuance upon exercise of options owned by the officers and directors, which options cannot be exercised within sixty days after April 15, 2005, and therefore are not counted as being beneficially owned at that date. As a result, these persons, acting together, will have the ability to control substantially all matters submitted to our stockholders for approval (including the election and removal of directors and any merger, consolidation or sale of all or substantially all of our assets) and to control our management and affairs. Accordingly, this concentration of ownership may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of us, impeding a merger, consolidation, takeover or other business combination involving us or discouraging a potential acquirer from making a tender offer or otherwise attempting to obtain control of us, which in turn could materially and adversely affect the market price of the common stock.

#### (37) Sales by Officers and Directors Could Adversely Affect of Our Stock Price.

Sales of significant amounts of shares held by our directors and executive officers after their contractual lock-up provisions expire, or the prospect of these sales, could adversely affect our common stock price, both because significant sales could depress prices, and because sales by management could provide a negative signal to the market about our prospects.

# (38) All of the Shares of Common Stock Owned by Our Officers, Directors and Consultants Will be Registered Later in a Registration on Form S-8 and May be Resold by Them, Which May Have a Negative Impact on Their Interest in Smart Online's Future.

We intend to register all of the shares of our outstanding common stock, including all of the shares held by our officers, directors and consultants. This will allow our officers, directors and consultants to more easily sell all of their Smart Online stock after their contractual lock-up restrictions expire, which may have a negative impact on their interest in the future success of Smart Online. Shares owned by officers and directors are deemed to be "control" securities and, until Smart Online meets certain criteria, resales by officers and directors pursuant to a Form S-8 registration statement are subject to the volume limitations of Rule 144(e), which means that an officer or director would be entitled to sell within any three-month period a number of shares that does not exceed (i) 1% of the number of shares of common stock then outstanding, or (ii) the average weekly trading volume of the common stock during the four calendar weeks preceding the filing of a Form 144 with respect to such sale.

#### **Regulatory Risks**

#### (39) Our Revenue Recognition Policy May Change And Affect Our Earnings, Which Could Adversely Affect Our Stock Price.

We believe our current revenue recognition policies and practices are consistent with applicable accounting standards. However, revenue recognition rules for software and service companies are complex and require significant interpretations by management. Changes in circumstances, interpretations, or accounting guidance may require us to modify our revenue recognition policies. Such modifications could impact the timing of revenue recognition and our operating results. See "Item 7. Management's Discussion And Analysis Of Financial Condition And Results Of Operations" regarding our current revenue recognition policies.

#### (40) Compliance With New Regulations Governing Public Company Corporate Governance and Reporting is Uncertain and Expensive. Our Difficulties in Complying with Public Company Reporting Obligations Are Greater, Because Our Chief Financial Officer Does Not Have Prior Experience with a Public Company.

As a public company, we have incurred and will incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not incur as a private company. We will incur costs associated with our public company reporting requirements. We also anticipate that we will incur costs associated with recently adopted corporate governance requirements, including requirements under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as well as new rules implemented by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the NASD. We expect these rules and regulations to increase our legal and financial compliance costs and to make some activities more time-consuming and costly. Any unanticipated difficulties in preparing for and implementing these reforms could result in material delays in complying with these new laws and regulations or significantly increase our costs. Our ability to fully comply with these new laws and regulations is also uncertain. Our failure to timely prepare for and implement the reforms required by these new laws and regulations could significantly harm our business, operating results, and financial condition. Our current chief financial officer does not have public company experience. Consequently, we will have greater difficulty complying with public company reporting requirements than most public companies. We also expect these new rules and regulations may make it more difficult and more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance and we may be required to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the same or similar coverage. As a result, it may be more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified individuals to serve on our board of directors or as executive officers. We are currently evaluating and monitoring developments with respect to these new rules. We estimate this will add approximately \$500,000 to our expenses during our first year as a public company, but there can be no assurance that costs will not be higher.

# (41) Our Reported Financial Results May Be Adversely Affected By Changes in Accounting Principles Generally Accepted in the United States, Which Could Adversely Affect the Price of Our Stock.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States are subject to interpretation by the Financial Accounting Standards Board, or FASB, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, and various bodies formed to promulgate and interpret appropriate accounting principles. A change in these principles or interpretations could have a significant effect on our reported financial results, and could affect the reporting of transactions completed before the announcement of a change.

For example, we currently are not required to record stock-based compensation charges, if the employee's stock option exercise price is equal to or exceeds the deemed fair value of our common stock at the date of grant. However, some companies have recently elected to change their accounting policies and have begun to record the fair value of stock options as an expense. Although the standards have not been finalized and the timing of a final statement has not been established, FASB has announced its support for recording expense for the fair value of stock options granted. If we were required to change our accounting policy in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation and SFAS No. 148.Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation—Transition and Disclosure, and retroactively restate prior periods as if we had adopted these standards for all periods presented, then our cost of revenues and operating expenses would have increased by approximately \$2,142 for the year ended December 31, 2002, \$426,234 for the year ended December 31, 2003, and \$294,301 for the year ended December 31, 2004.

#### (42) Privacy Concerns are Increasing, Which Could Result in Regulatory Changes that may Harm Our Business.

Personal privacy has become a significant issue in the United States and many other countries in which we operate or plan to operate. The United States and various other countries have recommended limitations on, or taken actions to limit, the use of personal information by those collecting such information. For example, in 1999, Congress enacted the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, which contains provisions protecting the privacy of consumer non-public personal information collected by financial institutions. Any new or existing privacy laws, if applicable to our business, could impose additional costs and could limit our use and disclosure of such information. If such privacy laws were deemed to apply to us, we may be required to change our activities and revise or eliminate our services, which could significantly harm our business.

#### (43) Evolving Regulation of the Internet May Harm Our Business.

As Internet commerce continues to evolve, increasing regulation by federal, state or foreign agencies becomes more likely. For example, we believe increased regulation is likely in the area of data privacy, and laws and regulations applying to the solicitation, collection, processing or use of personal or consumer information could affect our customers' ability to use and share data, potentially reducing demand for our services and restricting our ability to store, process and share data with our customers. In addition, taxation of services provided over the Internet or other charges imposed by government agencies or by private organizations for accessing the Internet may also be imposed. Any regulation imposing greater fees for Internet use or restricting information exchange over the Internet could result in a decline in the use of the Internet and the viability of Internet-based services, which could harm our business.

# (44) Our Ability to Protect Our Intellectual Property is Limited and Our Products may be Subject to Infringement Claims by Third Parties.

Our success depends, in part, upon our proprietary technology, processes, trade secrets, and other proprietary information, and our ability to protect this information from unauthorized disclosure and use. We rely on a combination of copyright, trade secret, and trademark laws, confidentiality procedures, contractual provisions, and other similar measures to protect our proprietary information.

We do not own any issued patents or have any patent applications pending. Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy aspects of our products or to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary, and third parties may attempt to develop similar technology independently. Policing unauthorized use of our products is difficult, particularly because the global nature of the Internet makes it difficult to control the ultimate destination or security of software or other data transmitted. While we are unable to determine the extent to which piracy of our software products exists, software piracy can be expected to be a persistent problem.

In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect our proprietary rights to as great an extent as do the laws of the United States, and we expect that it will become more difficult to monitor use of our products as we increase our international presence. Over the past several years, we have made numerous changes in our product names. Although we own registered trademarks in the United States and have filed trademark applications in the United States and in certain other countries, we do not have assurance that our strategy with respect to our trademark portfolio will be adequate to secure or protect all necessary intellectual property. There can be no assurance that our means of protecting these proprietary rights will be adequate, or that our competitors will not independently develop similar technology.

The software and Internet industries are characterized by the existence of a large number of patents, trademarks and copyrights and by frequent litigation based on allegations of infringement or other violations of intellectual property rights. As the number of entrants into our market increases, the possibility of an intellectual property claim against us grows. Our technologies may not be able to withstand any third-party claims

or rights against their use. Any intellectual property claims, with or without merit, could be time-consuming and expensive to litigate or settle, and could divert management attention from executing our business plan. In addition, our agreements often require us to indemnify our syndication partners for third-party intellectual property infringement claims, which would increase the cost to us of an adverse ruling in such a claim. An adverse determination could also prevent us from offering our service to others. No third party has asserted any intellectual claims against us.

14

#### Table of Contents

# (45) Anti-Takeover Effects of Charter Documents and Delaware Law Could Discourage or Prevent a Change in Control, Even If a Change of Control Would Be Beneficial to Shareholders and Investors.

Provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, as amended and restated, as well as provisions of Delaware law may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control or changes in our management even if a change of control would be beneficial to our shareholders and investors. These provisions include the following:

- Our board of directors is divided into three classes whenever the number of Directors is six or more, in which case, approximately one-third of our board of directors will be elected each year. This delays the ability of shareholders, including any acquiror, to change our board of directors.
- Our board of directors has the right to elect directors to fill a vacancy created by the expansion of the board of directors or the resignation, death or removal of a director, which prevents stockholders from being able to fill vacancies on our board of directors.
- Cumulative voting in the election of directors is not authorized by our certificate of incorporation. This limits the ability of minority stockholders to elect director candidates.
- Stockholders must provide advance notice to nominate individuals for election to the board of directors or to propose matters that can be acted upon at a stockholders' meeting. This requirement may discourage or deter a potential acquiror from conducting a solicitation of proxies to elect the acquiror's own slate of directors or otherwise attempting to obtain control of our company.
- Our board of directors may issue, without stockholder approval, shares of undesignated preferred stock. The ability to authorize undesignated preferred stock makes it possible for our board of directors to issue preferred stock with voting or other rights or preferences that could impede the success of any attempt to acquire us.

As a Delaware corporation, we are also subject to certain Delaware anti-takeover provisions. Under Delaware law, a corporation may not engage in a business combination with any holder of 15% or more of its capital stock, unless the holder has held the stock for three years or, among other things, the board of directors has approved the transaction. Our board of directors could rely on Delaware law to prevent or delay an acquisition of us even if a change of control would be beneficial to stockholders and investors. For a description of our capital stock, see "Description of Capital Stock."

#### **Risks Associated With The Market For Our Securities**

# (46) Our Common Stock Began Being Quoted for Trading on the Over-the-Counter Electronic Bulletin Board in April 2005, but There Is No Assurance Volume Trading Will Develop. Therefore You may be Unable to Sell Your Shares.

A market maker received approval in March 2005 to quote our common stock for trading on the Over-the-Counter Electronic Bulletin Board ("**OTCBB**" or "**Bulletin Board**"), and trading started during April 2005. There is no assurance that volume trading will develop. Other public markets, such as NASDAQ or a national securities exchange, have qualitative and quantitative listing criteria that we do not currently meet. These criteria include operating results, net assets, corporate governance, minimum trading price and minimums for public float, which is the amount of stock not held by affiliates of the issuer.

To remain eligible to have our securities quoted on OTCBB, we must file reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Act of 1933 and we must remain current in our periodical reporting obligations. A broker/dealer must also file a Form 211 with the National Association of Securities Dealers ("**NASD**") to allow our common stock to be quoted on the OTCBB. For more information on the OTCBB see its web site at <u>www.otcbb.com</u>.

There can be no assurance our market maker will continue to quote our stock. If for any reason, our securities are not eligible for continued quotation on the Bulletin Board or a public trading market does not develop, purchasers of the shares may have difficulty selling their securities should they desire to do so. If we are unable to satisfy the requirements for quotation on the Bulletin Board, any trading in our common stock would be conducted in the over-the-counter market in what are commonly referred to as the "pink sheets." The "pink sheets" are operated by a private company and are not affiliated with the NASD. However, a broker-dealer must file a Form 211 and undergo NASD review before it can quote securities on the "pink sheets." Companies quoted on the "pink sheets" need not file periodic reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Trading volume for securities traded only on the "pink sheets" is generally lower than for securities traded on OTCBB. If our

securities quoted for trading only on the "pink sheets," an investor may find it more difficult to dispose of, or to obtain accurate quotations as to the price of, the securities offered hereby.

The above-described rules may materially adversely affect the liquidity of the market for our securities. There can be no assurance that an active trading market will ever develop or, if it develops, will be maintained. Failure to develop or maintain an active trading market could negatively affect the price of our securities, and you will be unable to sell your shares. If so, your investment will be a complete loss.

15

# (47) If Securities Analysts Do Not Publish Research or Reports About Our Business or If They Downgrade Our Stock, the Price of Our Stock Could Decline.

The trading market for our common stock will rely in part on the research and reports that industry or financial analysts publish about us or our business. If we do not succeed in attracting analysts to report about our company, most investors will not know about our company even if we are successful in implementing our business plan. We do not control these analysts. There are many large, well established publicly traded companies active in our industry and market, which may mean it will be less likely that we receive widespread analyst coverage. Furthermore, if one or more of the analysts who do cover us downgrade our stock, our stock price would likely decline rapidly. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company, we could lose visibility in the market, which in turn could cause our stock price to decline. Lower trading volume may also mean that you could not resell your shares.

# (48) Our Quarterly Revenues and Operating Results may Fluctuate in Future Periods and We may Fail to Meet Expectations of Investors and Public Market Analysts, Which Could Cause the Price of Our Common Stock to Decline.

Our quarterly revenues and operating results may fluctuate significantly from quarter to quarter. If quarterly revenues or operating results fall below the expectations of investors or public market analysts, the price of our common stock could decline substantially. Factors that might cause quarterly fluctuations in our operating results include:

· the evolving demand for our services and software;

· spending decisions by our customers and prospective customers;

 $\cdot$  our ability to manage expenses;

· the timing of new product releases;

· changes in our pricing policies or those of our competitors;

• the timing of execution of large contracts;

· changes in the mix of our services and software offerings;

 $\cdot$  the mix of sales channels through which our services and software are sold;

· costs of developing new products and enhancements; and

· global economic and political conditions.

16

#### Table of Contents

In addition, due to a slowdown in the general economy and general uncertainty of the current geopolitical environment, a existing and potential customer may reassess or reduce their planned technology and Internet-related investments and defer purchasing decisions. Further delays or reductions in business spending for technology could have a material adverse effect on our revenues and operating results.

#### (49) Our Stock Price is Likely to be Highly Volatile and May Decline.

The trading price of our common stock is expected to fluctuate widely as a result of a number of factors, many of which are outside our control, such as:

· variations in our actual and anticipated operating results;

· changes in our earnings estimates by analysts;

• the volatility inherent in stock prices within the emerging sector within which we conduct business;

• and the volume of trading in our common stock, including sales of substantial amounts of common stock issued upon the exercise of outstanding options and warrants.

In addition, Over-the-Counter Bulletin Board, administered by the NASD, on which our stock is quoted has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have affected the trading prices of many technology and computer software companies, particularly Internet-related companies. Such fluctuations have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of these companies. These broad trading fluctuations could adversely affect the trading price of our common stock.

Further, securities class action litigation has often been brought against companies that experience periods of volatility in the market prices of their securities. Securities class action litigation could result in substantial costs and a diversion of our management's attention and resources. If such a suit is brought against us, we may determine, like many defendants in such lawsuits, that it is in our best interests to settle such a lawsuit even if we believe that the plaintiffs' claims have no merit, to avoid the cost and distraction of continued litigation. Any liability we incur in connection with this lawsuit could materially harm our business and financial position and, even if we defend ourselves successfully, there is a risk that management's distraction in dealing with this type of lawsuit could harm our results.

#### (50) Shares Eligible for Public Sale After this Offering Could Adversely Affect Our Stock Price.

At April 15, 2005, 12,286,832 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding and 2,552,010 shares may be issued pursuant to the exercise of warrants and options that are exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2005. Of these shares, the 1,925,265 shares registered in this offering will be freely tradable, except for any shares purchased by our "affiliates" as defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act. The remaining shares will be "restricted securities," subject to the volume limitations and other conditions of Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

We cannot predict if future sales of our common stock, or the availability of our common stock held for sale, will materially and adversely affect the market price for our common stock or our ability to raise capital by offering equity securities. Our stock price may decline, if the resale of shares under Rule 144, in addition to the resale of registered shares, at certain time in the future, exceeds the market demand for our stock.

Unless a trading market for our shares develops, you will not be able to resell your stock, and, market makers may influence the stock price. Market conditions and market makers may cause your investment in our common stock to significantly diminish and may become very illiquid.

# (51) Our Securities May Be Subject to "Penny Stock" Rules, Which Could Adversely Affect Our Stock Price and Make It More Difficult for You to Resell Our Stock.

The Securities Exchange Commission has adopted rules that regulate broker-dealer practices in connection with transactions in penny stocks. Penny stocks are generally equity securities with a price of less than \$5.00 (other than securities registered on certain national securities exchanges or quoted on NASDAQ, provided that reports with respect to transactions in such securities are provided by the exchange or quotation system pursuant to an effective transaction reporting plan approved by the Commission.)

#### Table of Contents

The penny stock rules require a broker-dealer, prior to a transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from those rules, to deliver a standardized risk disclosure document prepared by the Commission, which:

- · Contains a description of the nature and level of risk in the market for penny stocks in both public offerings and secondary trading;
- Contains a description of the broker's or dealer's duties to the customer and of the rights and remedies available to the customer with respect to a violation to such duties or other requirements;
- Contains a brief, clear, narrative description of a dealer market, including "bid" and "ask" prices for penny stocks and the significance of the spread between the bid and ask price;
  - $\cdot$  Contains a toll-free telephone number for inquiries on disciplinary actions;
  - · defines significant terms in the disclosure document or in the conduct of trading penny stocks;
- · Contains such other information and is in such form (including language, type, size, and format) as the Commission shall require; and

#### $\cdot$ by rule or regulation;

The broker-dealer also must provide, prior to effecting any transaction in a penny stock, the customer:

 $\cdot$  with bid and offer quotations for the penny stock;

- $\cdot\,$  the compensation of the broker-dealer and its sales person in the transaction;
- the number of shares to which such bid and ask prices apply, or other comparable information relating to the depth and liquidity of the market for such stock; and
  - · Monthly account statements showing the market value of each penny stock held in the customer's account.

In addition, the penny stock rules require that prior to a transaction in a penny stock not otherwise exempt from those rules; the broker-dealer must make a special written determination that the penny stock is a suitable investment for the purchaser and receive the purchaser's written acknowledgment of the receipt of a risk disclosure statement, a written agreement to transactions involving penny stocks, and a signed and dated copy of a written suitability statement. These disclosure requirements will have the effect of reducing the trading activity in the secondary market for our stock because it will be subject to these penny stock rules. Therefore, stockholders may have difficulty selling those securities.

#### Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Registration Statement contains forward-looking statements regarding our plans, objectives, expectations, intentions, future financial performance, future financial condition, and other statements that are not historical facts. You can identify these statements by our use of the future tense, or by forward-looking words such as "may," "will," "expect," "anticipate," "believe," "intend," "estimate," "continue," and other similar words and phrases. Examples of sec containing forward-looking statements include "Business" and "Management's Discussion And Analysis Of Financial Condition And Results Of Operations." These forward-looking statements involve many risks and uncertainties. Examples of such risks and uncertainties are described under "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this report, as well as in other filings we may make from time to time with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. You should be aware that the occurrence of any of these risks and uncertainties may cause our actual results to differ materially from those anticipated in our forward-looking statements, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, and financial condition. All forward-looking statements included in this report are based on information available to us as of the date of this report. We assume no obligation or duty to update any such forward-looking statements.

### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

Smart Online will receive none of the proceeds of resales of common stock by selling security holders in this offering. All offering proceeds from resales of common stock by the selling security holders will be received by the selling security holders. See "Selling Security Holders." If warrants are exercised and warrant holders choose not to exercise the warrants using the cashless exercise provision of the warrants, Smart Online will receive \$3.50 per share issued on exercise of the warrants to purchase 278,678 shares from warrants issued to investors in a private placement during 2004 for an aggregate exercise price of \$975,233 and \$1.30 per share issued on exercise of warrants to purchase 175,332 shares from warrants issued in November 2003 to a financial adviser for consulting services for an additional \$227,931. Smart Online does not know if the warrants will be exercise of warrants will be used as determined by Smart Online in its sole discretion.

### **DETERMINATION OF OFFERING PRICE**

No public market currently exists for shares of our common stock. The price of the shares the Selling Security Holders are offering is arbitrarily determined. The offering price bears no relationship whatsoever to our assets, earnings, book value or other criteria of value.

### SELLING SECURITY HOLDERS

The shares of common stock being offered by the selling security holders (i) were issued in a private placement conducted through March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to registration rights agreements executed in connection with the private placement; or (ii) are issuable upon exercise of common stock purchase warrants or were issued upon exercise of such warrants; or (iii) were issued in exchange for a warrant. We are registering these shares of our common stock for resale by the selling security holders identified below. The shares are being registered to permit public secondary trading of the shares, and the selling security holders may offer the shares for resale from time to time. See "Plan of Distribution." It is possible that the selling security holders may not sell all of the securities being offered. The following table and the footnotes to the table sets forth:

• the names of the selling security holders;

- the number of shares of our common stock issued to the selling security holders in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to registration rights agreements executed in connection with the private placement and the number of shares issuable upon exercise of the common stock purchase warrants issued in that private placement, and other shares of common stock beneficially owned as of December 31, 2004 are all included in the column "Number of Shares of Common Stock Held Before Offering;
- the number of shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of warrants issued in 2003 to a financial advisor for consulting services;
- the number of shares of our common stock that may be offered for resale for the account of each of the selling security holders pursuant to this prospectus; and
- the number of shares of our common stock to be held by the selling security holders after the sale of all of the shares offered for resale by the selling security holders pursuant to this prospectus.

This information is based upon information provided by each respective selling security holder to Smart Online. The term "selling security holders" includes the security holders listed below and their transferees, pledgees, donees or other successors. To our knowledge, the named persons beneficially own and have sole voting and investment power over all shares or rights to these shares, except where indicated otherwise. The numbers in this table assume that none of the selling security holders sells shares of common stock not being offered in this prospectus or purchases additional shares of common stock, and assumes that all shares offered are sold. The percentages are based on 12,740,842 shares of common stock outstanding on April 15, 2005 which figure includes 454,010 warrants owned by selling security holders that are exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2005.

Selling Security holder Name	Number of Shares of Common Stock Held Before Offering <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares of Common Stock to be Offered by Selling Security holder <sup>(2)</sup>	Common Stock to be Owned by Selling Security holder after Completion of Offering
Daniel R. Flebotte <sup>(4)</sup>	29,232	18,142	(3)
John H. Smith <sup>(5)</sup>	50,124	38,240	(3)
Atlas Capital SA <sup>(6)</sup>	1,176,341	1,176,341	
Brenda Jernigan <sup>(7)</sup>	40,691	6,056	(3)
James Joel Lyon, Jr. <sup>(8)</sup>	2,120	2,120	0%
Christine Fountain <sup>(9)</sup>	18,142	18,142	0%
Danny and Joyce Eason (10)	7,257	7,257	0%
Rebecca Guin <sup>(11)</sup>	19,050	19,050	0%
Michael J. Hensley <sup>(12)</sup>	10,886	10,886	0%
Douglas E. Smith <sup>(13)</sup>	44,400	44,400	0%
Martin L. Wachtel, III <sup>(14)</sup>	7,620	7,620	0%
Edward S. Finley, Jr. (15)	7,256	7,256	0%
William M. Rhyne <sup>(16)</sup>	7,256	7,256	0%
Jeffrey Clifford Davis <sup>(17)</sup>	7,256	7,256	0%
David L. Young <sup>(18)</sup>	7,256	7,256	0%
David and Judy Nichols (19)	18,143	18,143	0%
Eddie G. Hatch, III <sup>(20)</sup>	7,256	7,256	0%
Sandra and Gilbert Burnett <sup>(21)</sup>	7,256	7,256	0%
J P Morgan Chase & Co.	100,000	100,000	0%
Leon Sokolic	69,965	30,000	(3)
Steven B. Andreaus	10,000	10,000	
Richard C. Vaughn, Jr	20,000	20,000	0%
Lea Bar	128,383	90,000	1%
Richmond G. Bernhardt, III	28,800	11,800	(3)
David D. Perkins - Perkins Holdings LLC <sup>(22)</sup>	28,800	11,800	(3)
William S. Hoyle, III <sup>(22)</sup>			(3)
=	21,600		(3)
J. Fielding Miller <sup>(22)</sup>	28,800	11,800	\~/
Tryon Capital Ventures, LLC (23)	225,332	225,332	0%
Total	2,129,222	1,925,265	1%

(1) The preceding table was prepared based solely upon information furnished to us by the selling security holders listed above and stock transfer records of Smart Online as of April 15, 2005. The selling security holders identified above may have sold, transferred or otherwise disposed of, in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act, all or a portion of their shares since the date on which the information in the preceding table is presented. Under Rule 13d-3, a beneficial owner of a security

includes any person who, directly or indirectly, through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship, or otherwise has or shares: (i) voting power, which includes the power to vote, or to direct the voting of shares; and (ii) investment power, which includes the power to dispose or direct the disposition of shares. Certain shares may be deemed to be beneficially owned by more than one person (if, for example, persons share the power to vote or the power to dispose of the shares). In addition, shares are deemed to be beneficially owned by a person if the person has the right to acquire the shares (for example, upon exercise of an option or a warrant) within 60 days of the date as of which the information is provided. In computing the percentage ownership of any person, the amount of shares outstanding is deemed to include the number of shares beneficially owned by such person (and only such person) by reason of these acquisition rights. As a result, the percentage of outstanding shares of any person as shown in this table does not necessarily reflect the person's actual ownership or voting power with respect to the number of shares issued and outstanding, which number includes 454,010 warrants owned by the selling security holders which are exercisable within 60 days of April 15, 2005.

- (2) Includes an aggregate of 454,010 shares of common stock the Selling Security Holders may acquire pursuant to the exercise of outstanding warrants, which may be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (3) Less than 1% assuming sale of all shares registered in this offering.
- (4) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 3,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (5) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 7,500 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (6) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 237,428 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share. Decisions about how to vote, or whether to sell, the shares owned by Atlas are shared by Atlas personnel as follows: Moise Dwek, Robert Dwek, Mayer Dwek, Avy Lugassy, Waller Clarissa, and Maurice Papilloud.
- (7) Includes shares of common stock issued in 1998 and converted from preferred to common and shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement.
- (8) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement.
- (9) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 3,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (10) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issued upon exercise of common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement.
- (11) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 3,150 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.

- (12) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,800 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (13) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 12,600 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (14) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,260 shares of common stock issued upon exercise of common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement.
- (15) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.

Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that

(16) private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.

- (17) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (18) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (19) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 3,000 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (20) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (21) Includes shares of common stock issued in a private placement conducted during March 2004 through September 27, 2004 and pursuant to a registration rights agreement signed in connection with that private placement and approximately 1,200 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of immediately exercisable common stock purchase warrants issued in the same private placement having an exercise price of \$3.50 per share.
- (22) Includes 17,000 shares which may be acquired upon exercise of outstanding warrants owned by Cap Partners LLC, which is controlled by Messrs. Bernhardt, Perkins, Hoyle and Miller. These warrants may be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. These shares are not included in this offering. Does not include 10,000 shares subject to outstanding stock options of Mr. Bernhardt, which options cannot be exercised within sixty days after April 15, 2005.
- (23) Tryon Capital Ventures LLC held common stock purchase warrants for 242,900 shares. These warrants were issued in November 2003 to Tryon Capital Ventures LLC for financial consulting services. Upon Tryon exercising a portion of the warrants utilizing the cashless exercise provision, it received 50,000 shares of common stock, but the warrants were reduced by 67,568 shares. Tryon now holds 175,332 warrants, which are included in the table above.

### **Relationships of Selling Security Holders**

Except as described herein, during the three years prior to the effective date of this registration statement, none of the selling security holders:

- 1. has had a material relationship with us other than as a security holder at any time within the past three years, except for agreements entered into in connection with their investments and described herein ; or
- 2. has ever been one of our officers or directors; or

## 3. are broker-dealers or affiliated with broker-dealers.

Bank One, NA, an affiliate of J P Morgan Chase & Co. which owns shares of common stock we are registering for re-sale, is a private label syndication partner of Smart Online. The shares were issued to J P Morgan Chase & Co. in exchange for a warrant Smart Online issued to Bank One, NA at the time the private label syndication contract was signed in year 2001. The selling securities holder, J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., is not a registered broker-dealer, but owns the following broker-dealers: Banc One Capital Markets (BOCM), Banc One Securities Corp (BOSC), PMG Securities Corporation (PMG), One Group Dealer Services (OGDS), Investors Brokerage Services, Inc. (IBS), Security Capital Research and Management Capital Markets Incorporated (SCRM), Bank One Securities Corporation, Chase Investment Services Corp., Investors Brokerage Services, Inc., J.P. Morgan Institutional Investments Inc., J.P. Morgan Invest LLC, J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., One Group Dealer Services Inc., PMG Securities Corporation and Winton Associates Inc.

Tryon Capital Ventures LLC provides financial consulting services to Smart Online, including in connection with its reorganization completed in March 2004 and in connection with potential acquisitions. Tryon Capital Ventures LLC is not a registered broker-dealer or a registered investment adviser and is not affiliated with a registered broker-dealer or registered investment adviser. The members of Tryon Capital Ventures LLC are Peter Coker and Peter Reichard, none of whom is a registered broker-dealer or a registered investment adviser or a filiated with a registered broker-dealer or a registered investment adviser or a filiated with a registered broker-dealer.

Four of the selling security holders (Richmond Bernhardt, David Perkins, William Hoyle and J. Fielding Miller) control two companies that have consulting relationships with us involving assisting us to develop new integration partners. One of those entities, Cap Financial Partners LLC, is a registered broker-dealer and a registered investment advisor. These selling securities holders are, therefore, affiliates of a registered broker-dealer. Richmond Bernhardt is also a member of our Board of Advisors.

None of the selling security holders had at the time of purchase any agreement with any other person, directly or indirectly, to distribute securities of Smart Online.

The affiliates of registered broker-dealers described above, acquired their securities of Smart Online for investment and not as part of any broker-dealer operations of their affiliates.

### **Agreements With Selling Security Holders**

At the time of their investment in Smart Online, we entered into registration rights agreements with the selling security holders. In accordance with registration rights granted to the selling security holders, we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, under the Securities Act, a registration statement on Form SB-2, which is being amended to become a registration statement on Form S-1, of which this prospectus forms a part, with respect to the re-sales of the shares from time to time on the Over the Counter Bulletin Board or in other markets in which shares of our common stock may be traded from time to time, in privately-negotiated transactions, or otherwise, and have agreed to prepare and file such amendments and supplements to the registration statement as may be necessary to keep such registration statement effective until earlier of (i) 270 days after the effective date of this registration statement, (ii) the date on which all the registered securities have been sold by the selling security holders, and (iii) all the shares registered hereunder can be resold by the selling security holders without a registration statement being in effect. Smart Online issued approximately 58,226 shares of its common stock to certain of the Selling Security Holders pursuant to a provision of the registration rights agreement that imposes a penalty on Smart Online, because the registration statement was not filed by July 1, 2004. We also have a private label syndication agreement with Bank One, NA, an affiliate of J P Morgan Chase & Co.

At the same time, the selling security holders agreed to restrict the number of shares of our common stock they can sell during any month. Refer to "Market for Common stock – Lock-up Agreements Applicable to Certain Holders of Our Common Stock" for a description of these contractual restrictions on resale of common stock by the selling security holders.

In March 2004 and August 2004 Atlas Capital SA also entered into put agreements with two of our stockholders whereby Atlas has the right to require these two stockholders to purchase from Atlas all the shares of Smart Online stock and warrants owned by Atlas under certain circumstances. The put agreements were terminated in March 2005 by agreement of Atlas. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" for a description of the terms of this put agreement.

## PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The shares of common stock may be sold from time to time by the selling security holders in one or more transactions at fixed prices, at market prices at the time of sale, at varying prices determined at the time of sale or at negotiated prices. The selling security holders may offer their shares of common stock in one or more of the following transactions, including block transactions:

- on any national securities exchange or quotation service at which the common stock may be listed or quoted at the time of sale;
- in the over-the-counter market;
- in private transactions;
- through writing options on common stock; in short sales;
- by pledge to secure debts and other obligations; and
- in any combination of one or more of these methods of distribution.

When we use the term "selling security holder" in this prospectus, it includes donees, pledgees and other transferees who are selling shares received after the date of this prospectus from a selling security holder whose name appears in "Selling Security Holders." If we are notified by a selling security holder that a donee, pledgee or other transferee intends to sell more than 25,000 shares, we will file a prospectus supplement if required by law. In addition, if required, we will distribute a supplement to this prospectus to describe any material changes in the terms of the offering.

The shares of common stock described in this prospectus may be sold from time to time directly by the selling security holders. Alternatively, the selling security holders may from time to time offer shares of common stock to or through underwriters, broker/dealers or agents. The selling security holders and any underwriters, broker/dealers or agents that participate in the distribution of the shares of common stock may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") and will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act. Any profits on the resale of shares of common stock and any compensation received by any underwriter, broker/dealer or agent may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act.

### Table of Contents

There is not yet a market for shares of our Common Stock. The selling security holders will sell shares of our Common Stock at a price of \$5.00 per share or at privately negotiated prices until our shares are quoted on the OTC Bulletin Board and thereafter at prevailing market prices or at privately negotiated prices.

Any shares covered by this prospectus which qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act may, in the discretion of each selling securityholder, be sold under Rule 144 rather than under the terms of this prospectus. Refer to "Market for Common Stock" for a description of Rule 144. The selling security holders may decide not to sell all of the shares offered pursuant to this prospectus. The selling security holders may transfer such shares by will, gift or other means not described in this prospectus.

To comply with the securities laws of certain jurisdictions, the Common Stock must be offered or sold only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in certain jurisdictions, the Common Stock may not be offered or sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale or an exemption is available in that jurisdiction and complied with. At this time, we do not plan to register or qualify our securities with any state, although we reserve the right to do so in the future. We are included in the Standard and Poor's Corporation Record. Inclusion in that publication can provide an exemption for resale of our Common Stock in approximately thirty-five states. Since some of these states impose additional requirements for this exemption, the exemption is not automatic in all states, but Smart Online believes resales will qualify over time for the exemption in most of the states which afford this form of exemption.

The selling security holders may also sell their shares directly to market makers acting as principals or brokers or dealers, who may act as agent or acquire the common stock as a principal. Any broker or dealer participating in such transactions as agent may receive a commission from the selling security holders, or, if they act as agent for the purchaser of such common stock, from such purchaser. The selling security holders will likely pay the usual and customary brokerage fees for such services. Brokers or dealers may agree with the selling security holders to sell a specified number of shares at a stipulated price per share and, to the extent such broker or dealer is unable to do so acting as agent for the selling security holders, to purchase, as principal, any unsold shares at the price required to fulfill the respective broker's or dealer's commitment to the selling security holders. Brokers or dealers who acquire shares as principals may thereafter resell such shares from time to time in transactions in a market or on an exchange, in negotiated transactions or otherwise, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale or at negotiated prices, and in connection with such re-sales may pay or receive commissions to or from the purchasers of such shares. These transactions may involve cross and block transactions that may involve sales to and through other brokers or dealers. If applicable, the selling security holders may distribute shares to one or more of their partners who are unaffiliated with us. Such partners may, in turn, distribute such shares as described above. We can provide no assurance that all or any of the common stock offered will be sold by the selling security holders.

Under the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), any person engaged in the distribution of the common stock may not bid for or purchase shares of common stock during a period which commences one business day (5 business days, if Smart Online's public float is less that \$25 million or the average daily trading volume of its stock is less than \$100,000) prior to such person's participation in the distribution, subject to exceptions for certain passive market making activities. In addition and without limiting the foregoing, each selling security holder will be subject to the applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, including, without limitation, Regulation M, which provisions may limit the timing of purchases and sales of shares of Smart Online's common stock by such selling security holder or any such other person. These factors may affect the marketability of the common stock and the ability of brokers or dealers to engage in market-making activities.

Smart Online agreed to register the shares under the Securities Act and to indemnify and hold the selling security holders harmless against certain liabilities under the Securities Act that could arise in connection with the sale of the shares by the selling security holders. Smart Online has agreed to pay all reasonable fees and expenses incident to the

filing of this registration statement. The selling security holder will pay all brokerage commissions and similar selling expenses, if any, attributable to its sale of shares. Refer to "Selling Security Holders" for a description of the registration rights of the selling security holders.

Resale of the shares registered hereunder is subject to restriction by contractual agreements between Smart Online and the selling security holders. Refer to "Market For Common Stock – Lock-up Agreements Applicable to Certain Holders of Our Common Stock" for a description of these contractual restrictions. In addition, Atlas Capital SA, a selling security holder, has the right to require two other stockholders of Smart Online to purchase all shares of common stock and warrants of Smart Online. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" for a description of the terms of this put agreement.

Any dealer or broker participating in any distribution of the common stock may be required to deliver a copy of this prospectus, including a prospectus supplement, if any, to any person who purchases any of the shares from or through this dealer or broker.

24

### DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid any cash dividends on our common stock. We anticipate that any earnings will be retained for development and expansion of our business and we do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Our board of directors has sole discretion to pay cash dividends, based on our financial condition, results of operations, capital requirements, contractual obligations and other relevant factors. We have agreed to pay certain of our existing stockholders a percentage of the equity capital we raise during 2004 in connection with a reorganization of our capital structure in the first quarter of 2004. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions – Corporate Reorganization" for a description of this payment obligation.

### **DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

### BUSINESS

Smart Online, Inc. ("**Smart Online**") was incorporated under the laws of Delaware on August 10, 1993. Our executive offices are located at 2530 Meridian Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Durham, North Carolina 27713, and our telephone number is (919) 765-5000.

Refer to "Risk Factors" and a "Special Note Regarding Forward Looking Statements."

#### Overview

Smart Online develops and markets Internet-delivered Software-as-Service (SaS) software applications and data resources to start, run, protect and grow small businesses (one to fifty employees). When we release the second and third version of our OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> product, we intend to begin marketing our products to middle size companies of up to 500 employees. Many small business users access our product directly through our portal at <u>www.SmartOnline.com</u>, and we reach many small businesses through private label syndication partnering agreements pursuant to which we offer our products on the web sites of major companies and financial institutions and through barter and other transactions with media companies. Expanding this network of relationships with large companies is one of our key strategies to generate revenue while minimizing our marketing and sales expenses. We also offer the services and software of other companies on our websites, through integration agreements under which we share revenue from sales of products and services of our integration partners. Our CD-Rom products are sold primarily through OEM arrangements.

Incorporated in Delaware in 1993, Smart Online pioneered the market for small business software applications. Our initial offerings were on diskettes and later became CD-ROM-based. Since inception, we have distributed over two million copies of CD-ROM based products through direct sales, distributors and other means. Since year 2000, our products have been primarily offered through an Internet-based platform.

Smart Online has developed numerous sources of revenue as its business plan has changed to adapt to changing business circumstances. These sources of revenue include syndication partners, integration partners, OEMs, monthly subscriptions from small businesses, one-time purchases by small businesses and barter transactions with media companies. Syndication fees consist primarily of fees charged to syndication partners to create a customized private-label site. We also share in revenue generated by our integration partners in some cases. Integration fees are charged to partners to integrate their products into the Smart Online syndication platform. Integrating third-party content and products has been a component of Smart Online's strategy to continuously expand and enhance its platform offered to syndication partners and its own customer base. OEM arrangements are through a distributor with third-party computer manufacturers for various individual Smart Online applications on CD-Roms. Currently, each of these revenue streams is small. Our business plan is designed to utilize existing and future relationships in each revenue source to ratchet up the amount of revenue we derive from all sources. We have described below the key elements of how we plan to achieve this.

Software-as-Service (SaS) Advantages. Our Software-as-Service (SaS) model is beneficial to small business owners because:

- SaS is less expensive compared to software distributed by other means and offers predictable implementation and management costs. Companies pay a monthly or annual per-user subscription fee for access to software services and are spared up-front costs of buying hardware and software and hiring specialized IT personnel. The price tag of SaS solutions typically runs about one-third of the cost of deploying similar software in-house.
- SaS offers customers lower risk and faster return-on-investment. With reduced overhead investment and quicker implementation, customers can afford to try SaS applications and gain benefits more quickly.

- SaS is easier to use, requiring less training. Use of familiar Web interfaces makes it easy for customer administrators and end users to use new software, resulting in higher end-user adoption and lower training costs.
- SaS enables vendors to provide more responsive service and support. SaS vendors know in real-time how their customers use the system and which features work and don't work. Problems need be fixed only once for the benefit of all customers.

**Small Business Focus.** Smart Online's exclusive market focus is small businesses. We define small businesses as companies that have between one and fifty employees. Our solutions are designed to automate and streamline business processes, reduce operating costs and improve internal controls. We believe our new product, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, may be attractive to middle size companies when we complete development later this year. Accordingly, we intend to begin marketing to middle size companies of up to 500 employees later this year.

25

#### Table of Contents

**Market Channels.** Our products and services are sold through private label syndication on major corporation and financial institution web sites (such as Bank One, Union Bank of California, Gruner +Jahr USA Publishing for its <u>www.Inc.com</u> and <u>www.FastCompany.com</u> web sites, J.P. Morgan Chase, Business Week, -and through OEM distribution deals by our distributor, PC Treasures, including Dell and Gateway, and directly to small business owners at <u>www.smartonline.com</u>.

**Integration Partners.** Smart Online distributes the products and services of other companies on its website and the websites of its syndication partners. These integration partners include providers of webconference, incorporation services and loans to small businesses. Integration partners share revenue with Smart Online.

Value Proposition. We deliver value to small business users and to our syndication, integration and OEM partners through a combination of three factors. First, like other vendors we have a wide range of useful business productivity software applications and content. Unlike most other vendors, however, both our applications and our content have been designed and redesigned utilizing the experience we have gained through dealing with large numbers of small businesses over a period of more than eleven years. With over two million copies of CD-ROM based products distributed, our Internet-based products incorporate the input we obtained from CD-ROM customers. In short, trial and error has taught us what works for small business users and what doesn't. Finally, our robust, proprietary technology platform delivers our applications and content in ways that maximize usefulness and efficiency. We believe this combination of factors provides our customers with both substantial savings and easy-to-use solutions for the most common issues faced by small businesses.

Software Applications. We offer approximately two dozen applications and information resources that assist small businesses with:

Business planning, research and development
 Financial analysis, planning and reporting
 Marketing planning, sales and program execution

 Legal issues, compliance and forms
 Human resources issues

 Business communications, internal and external

We provide extensive data resource offerings that cover a broad range of business, financial, legal, human resources, operations, and marketing and sales issues, as well as real-time contact with experts in each of these functional areas.

**Technology Platform.** Our proprietary technology platform delivers our products and services in ways that best suit small business users and our syndication, integration and OEM partners.

- User Interface Wizards. Smart Online products and services feature easy-to-use wizard interfaces that utilize a series of fill-in-the-blank questionnaires. In addition, once the user inputs data, it is shared as appropriate throughout the platform so information need only be input once. This important feature of our current platform will be substantially more robust in our next generation platform.
- Single Sign On For Third Party Content Integration. Our platform allows us to distribute third-party partner content seamlessly to small business users using proprietary single sign-on methodology. After the user signs onto our web site, the user does not have to re-register with our integration partners to use applications supplied by our partners.
- Contextual Integration Engine (CI Engine). Our CI Engine delivers to small business users those products and services of Smart Online and our integration partners that we believe is most pertinent to the user.
- Private Label Syndication Engine. (SYNGEN) Smart Online's proprietary SYNGEN automatically replicates and delivers the products and services our private label syndication partners want delivered to users of their web sites and bundles those products and services with the look and feel of their web sites. The SYNGEN thereby automates the process by which we integrate our products and services onto our partners' web sites and allows each partner to select different groupings of products and services.

26

#### Table of Contents

Our platform was developed using modular methodology, which allows various components to be assembled for rapid new application development and enhancement. In addition, all sensitive information is encrypted and stored in secured servers. All applications are operated from an environment with integrated security to protect against loss, misuse and data tampering. Secure Socket Layer technology protects data and provides security during transmission of sensitive financial data. The platform also integrates e-commerce services that can be customized based on the partner's business model.

Customer Service. Smart Online offers customer and technical support M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST.

#### Next Generation Platform — OneBiz Conduct®

We are currently developing a next generation platform, called OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, which will make significant enhancements to our technology platform and add additional applications to our product offerings. We plan to accomplish this through a combination of internal development, joint development, licensing from other companies and acquisitions. We plan to introduce our next generation platform to the market in three installments. The first installment, which primarily consisted of new user interfaces and user planning tools on our new Dashboard, was released in March 2005. Commercial releases of the other two installments, both of which will have both enhancements to the Dashboard and new software applications, are expected by the end of the third quarter of 2005 through the end of the fourth quarter of 2005. See "Next Generation Product Development — OneBiz Conductor"

#### **Current Products and Services**

We provide a wide range of Internet-based software applications, content, data and services to and for small businesses. We also continue to sell a very small number of CD-ROM products. Our current products are organized in the following four categories:

Starting Business
 Protecting Business
 Growing Business
 Managing Operations

Each of these categories is described below. We believe this wide range of applications, content, data and services provide us with a competitive advantage over our competitors in the small business market for companies with fewer than fifty employees. These are available to subscribers for a monthly subscription fee that allows unlimited use by one user at a time, except where noted below. Some products, identified below, are available to non-subscribers for one-time fees.

Starting Business. Our Starting Business category of products and services include those related to:

Incorporation
 Business Plans

 Finance

 Market Research
 Self Assessment

**Incorporation.** We assist businesses to incorporate quickly and efficiently using Smart Incorporator and the services of our partner, Business Filings, a leader in providing incorporation services to small business owners. We provide information about the incorporation process and different types of business structures to allow businesses to determine which structure is best for their business. Utilizing our services, subscribers can form a corporation, limited liability company, or nonprofit corporation in any of the 50 states. The process can take as little as 10 minutes. We provide our subscribers with 24-hour-a-day, seven days a week access to their accounts and important documents via our Online Business Center. Our subscribers can also obtain registered agent services in the state where their company is formed. We also sell subscribers personalized corporate or LLC kits, including corporate seal, stock certificates, stock transfer ledger, and sample forms, bylaws and minutes for both corporations and limited liability companies. Our subscribers can also order other services through us, such as Professional Corporation or LLC, S Corporation Election, Shelf Corporation, Foreign Qualifications, Federal Tax ID (EIN) and non-profit corporation. We offer this service in connection with our partner, BizFilings, with which we share revenue.

#### Table of Contents

**Business Plans.** Our Smart Business Plan software application is designed to ease the process of creating business plans to help entrepreneurs obtain the capital they require for their new or existing businesses. After answering a few simple questions, the user is ready to begin composing a full business plan — complete with financial tables and graphs. Smart Business Plan provides an easy-to-use interface and split screen design with complete guidance, instructions, and organization that provides even the most basic computer users with advanced functionality and planning capability. The application was designed for user collaboration as it allows users to share a plan with other registered users. By collaborating, users can get the assistance and feedback they need in a quick and timely fashion. After the user creates a business plan, it can be saved in a secure, private location for easy access from anywhere, at anytime. This application is part of our subscription package, but is also available to non-subscribers for a one-time fee.

**Finance.** Our subscribers can apply online for loans, lines of credit and SBA loans. Smart Online's financing partners provides financing and approve or reject applications. We may receive a referral fee from our financing partners for applications that are approved by our financing partners.

**Market Research - US and Global.** Our Smart Market Research software application is designed to assist users to research statistical information. Users can research and analyze U.S. or global demographic statistics. This application enables users to pinpoint statistical data from multiple markets to assist to target the right customers, in the right locations. The U.S. database features information for U.S. regions, states, counties, and cities with populations of 25,000 or more. The Global Statistics database features demographic information and projections for most countries and areas of the world. Information included in the databases cover the following general topics: age, agriculture, ancestry, banking, business, construction, crime, education, federal government, housing, local government, Hispanic-origin, households, housing, labor force and employment, land area, manufactures, money income, personal income and earnings, earnings by industry, population, poverty, retail trade, service industries, veterans, vital statistics, and wholesale trade. The information is not owned by Smart Online and can be researched through sources other than Smart Online. Our value to users is that we have aggregated these databases in one location and we facilitate compilation and presentation of the search results. The results of market research inquiries are displayed in both table and graph formats online and can be downloaded to a user's local hard drive for future reference. This application is part of our subscription package.

**Self-Assessment of Strengths and Weaknesses.** Our Smart Entrepreneur tool allows users to determine entrepreneurial strengths and weaknesses, and provides users with instant feedback to help gauge potential. After a user answers a series of detailed questions, Smart Entrepreneur provides an extensive report on the capabilities of the interviewee and provides helpful suggestions and hints for how to improve entrepreneurial strengths and maximize performance. Smart Entrepreneur also helps users determine how they will measure personal and business success, and understand how to overcome the obstacles between them and their goals. Users are encouraged to match their strengths with suggested strategies for business growth to increase the probability of succeeding with their business.

Protecting Business. Our Protecting Business category includes the following products and services:

Business and Legal Forms
 Intellectual Property Service

 Government Forms
 Corporate and Legal Guides

 Financial Guides

**Business and Legal Forms.** Our Smart Legal Forms library is designed to automate and simplify legal communications, address everyday business and personal needs, minimize costly legal fees, and reduce the liability associated with running a business by providing easy-to-use interactive forms. This extensive collection of do-it-yourself legal forms is fully interactive, enabling users to select, preview, edit, save within our servers or download over 2,000 forms online with minimal delay for composition and preparation. Smart Legal Forms' professionally formatted documents include interactive forms in the following 16 categories: Loan and Credit, Business and Trade, Leasing, Buying and Selling of Goods, Construction, Human Resources, Corporate/LLC, Partnership/Joint Venture, Intellectual Property, Real Estate, Agency/Broker, Franchises, Personal and Family, Bankruptcy, Wills and Trusts, and other General Forms. This library is part of our monthly subscription package, but non-subscribers can also purchase forms for a one-time fee.

#### Table of Contents

**Intellectual Property.** We explain about different kinds of intellectual property and provide links to search US databases for trademarks, patents and copyrights.

**Government Forms.** Our Smart Government Forms application is an electronic library of government statutory and legal forms, designed to make forms processing quick and easy by providing instant access to commonly used official forms. Use of forms is easy and fully automated, enabling users to complete the forms directly from their Web browsers, and e-mail, download, print, or share with others for collaboration. The completed documents with user's input are saved in a secure private location for future access. This extensive library is continuously updated. Smart Government Forms includes official forms from the following agencies: Small Business Administration, Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Copyright Office, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Export-Import Bank of the United States, Immigration and Naturalization, Customs and Border Protection, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Food and Drug Administration, Social Security Administration and Federal Emergency Management Agency. This library is part of our monthly subscription package, but non-subscribers can also purchase forms for a one-time fee.

Corporate Legal Guides. We provide information about corporations, partnerships and limited liability companies.

**Financial Guides.** We provide information about: Creating Strategy, Goals and Objectives, Options to Fund a Business, SBA Financial Assistance Programs, Steps to Funding a Business, Venture Capital Firms, and Other Financial Resources.

Growing the Business. Our Growing the Business category includes the following products and services:

Marketing Plans
 Landlord/Tenant Issues
 Press Releases
 Import/Export Information
 Business Letter Forms

**Marketing Plans.** Our Smart Marketing Plan software application is designed to assist users to establish sales goals and identify the resources and programs required to meet those goals. After answering a small number of questions, the user can begin to establish marketing and revenue goals. Detailed instructions and examples are provided at every step to help the user create a clear, concise, well thought-out document. Users can further customize their plan by adding, removing, rearranging or changing the names of chapters and sections. The final product is a professional document that includes tables and colorful 3-D graphs, which can be used for strategic planning to increase revenue and to meet goals and objectives. The application was designed for user collaboration as it allows the user to share a plan with other registered users. By collaborating, users can get the assistance and feedback they need quickly. After a user creates a business plan, it will be saved in a secure, private location for easy access from anywhere, at any time. This application is part of our monthly subscription package, but is also available to non-subscribers for a one-time fee.

Landlord and Tenant Issues. Our Smart Rental software application is designed to allow users to protect their legal rights and increase efficiency when renting, leasing or managing real estate properties. Information is provided about landlord-tenant laws in each of the fifty states as well as Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The application provides an overview of some of the highlights of landlord-tenant laws in each state and a summary of the states' significant landlord-tenant codes, as well as the actual state codes. Information provided in this application enables users to understand and act on pertinent landlord-tenant issues. The easy-to-use and interactive design of this application simplifies the process of finding the relevant information. An extensive library of landlord-tenant forms and useful resources are also included.

**Press Releases.** Our Smart Press Release Writer software application is designed to simplify media relations. This professional writing service crafts a customized press release that's formatted ready for distribution.

#### Table of Contents

The Smart Press Release Writer covers press releases for 14 news categories. Users select a category and answer questions prompted by our software application. Professional writers at our partner, Reputations Inc., then write the press release. Users can review the press release and request changes. Both subscribers and non-subscribers pay a fee for this service. Fees are shared with our partner, Reputations, Inc., which performs the press release service for our customers.

**Import/Export Information.** Users can access the current U.S. trade database for over 220 countries, compiled from tariff and trade data by the U.S. International Trade Commission, including year-to-date data at all levels for both exports and imports.

**Business Letter Forms.** Our Smart Business Letters library is designed to automate and simplify business communications and correspondence. Smart Business Letters helps users create a paper trail for their business records, and assists in starting and building relationships with customers, suppliers, and investors. Smart Business Letters' professionally formatted, easy-to-use interactive documents enable users to select, preview, edit, and download over 1,000 quality letters online. Users can save the completed forms in a secure private location for future reference, and access them from any web browser. The library of interactive letters includes localized letters for the United States, United Kingdom, Spain, and Germany, which take into account the different business practices of each country. This library is part of our monthly subscription package, but non-subscribers can also purchase forms for a one-time fee.

Managing Operations. Our Managing Operations category includes the following products and services:

- · Employee Policies
- · Research Database
- Merchant Services
- Job Descriptions
- Instant Messaging
- Webconferencing

· Healthcare Savings Plan & Employee Tax benefit program

**Employee Policies.** Our Smart Policy Manual is designed to allow employers to quickly and easily build an entire employee policy manual or create individual policies. After an employer selects a company type and answers some general questions, a completed policy manual is created and can be downloaded and or published to the Internet. Complete customization is available for employers who have unique elements to their businesses or just want to add a more personal touch. This application will also allow collaboration with other registered users. By collaborating, employers can get the feedback and assistance they need in a timely fashion. Publishing the policy manual to the Internet allows employees to access it at anytime, anywhere, while allowing the employer the flexibility to update and maintain the manual. This application is part of our monthly subscription package, but is also available to non-subscribers for a one-time fee.

Research Databases. We provide users with the following:

· Real-time, up-to-the-minute information and profiles of over 450,000 companies

· Financial data, contact information, product descriptions, industry comparisons, rankings, media reports and other valuable data

· Professionally formatted reports, ready for online viewing, email, download, and printing

· Instant access to over 3,000 media, industry, research and trade publication sources, both on and off the Internet

· Time-sensitive, in-depth intelligence on companies, people, news and more

These allow our users to monitor key topics and company information with automatic daily email alerts and update notifications. Users can generate electronic newsletters and e-mails for their customer bases. Users can also publish business topics and reports directly on their web sites, complete with their company's branding. These services are provided through our partner Net Content, with whom we share revenue.

Merchant Services. Smart Online and our partner, Moneris Solutions, provide credit card processing services. We share fees with Moneris Solutions.

#### Table of Contents

**Job Descriptions.** We assist users to create professional job descriptions quickly and effortlessly. Our users can access a library of more than a thousand job descriptions complying with the latest Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT). Users can also preview job descriptions and postings online in HTML format, download them to their personal computers, or e-mail them to their colleagues.

**Instant Messaging Services.** Our Smart Instant Messenger is private. All messages are encrypted end-to-end. All access is password protected so only authorized users are allowed on the network.

**Web Conferencing.** We provide live collaboration and web conferencing services through our partner, Convoq, a leader in the web conferencing industry. Using this innovative application, users can instantly gather the right people at the right time in a rich-media environment and demonstrate products & services, show PowerPoint presentations, use live video and audio (Voice over IP) technology, and view, annotate, or edit documents in real time. The web conferencing application also automatically integrates with the users existing Instant Messenger (IM) applications, and furthermore interfaces directly with Outlook so that meeting invitations can be added directly to Outlook calendars. This application is part of our subscription package, but is also available to non-subscribers for a monthly fee.

Healthcare Savings Program and Employer/Employee Tax Benefit Programs. We provide small businesses and their employees the ability to choose from innovative non-insurance healthcare savings programs, pre-tax reimbursement accounts, such as Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) and Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs); and employer group sponsored Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs), through our partnership with Foresight, Inc. This can save both employers and employees thousands of dollars each year. The healthcare savings program provides members access to medical providers in national networks at contracted rates. These reduced fees apply to everything from doctor visits, hospitals, and specialists for prescription drugs, dental, vision and more. The healthcare savings program is available to non-subscribers for a monthly fee, and fees vary for the employer/employee tax benefit programs.

**CD-ROM Products.** Since our inception, we have distributed more than two million copies of CD-ROM products through a combination of direct sales, distributors and other means. Currently, our Business Plan and Legal Issues products are available online, as CD-ROMs and are loaded onto computers by some of our OEM partners. Approximately 0.4% of our 2004 revenue, 3.9% of our 2003 revenue, and 1.9% of our 2002 revenue was from CD-ROM Products.

#### Next Generation Product Development - OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>

We are implementing an aggressive development, partnering and technology acquisition strategy to introduce the small business industry's first comprehensive business resource center portal, to be called, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. This will improve our already robust modular platform. We plan to release OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> in three versions. The first version was released during the first quarter of 2005. The second and third versions are expected to be released at the end of the third quarter 2005 and the end of the fourth quarter 2005, respectively. We believe we will have a competitive advantage in the market, if our small business customers can access substantially all their management software applications and data online at the Smart Online web site and the web sites of our syndication partners. To move us toward that goal, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> is being designed to provide users with:

- A centralized dashboard/console that can be customized to show the critical business operations information a user needs from a single web page.
- Seamless data exchange between all appropriate applications so information can be input once and automatically accessed as needed in connection with multiple applications, providing significant time and cost savings as well as reducing input errors.
- Collaboration capabilities so various employees and/or outside service providers can work together on documents and applications as appropriate, significantly improving workflow efficiency and generating higher quality output in record time.
- Personalized company profiles that dynamically change as the customer uses OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. These profiles personalize the way applications work and drive contextual advertising so that the same platform serves different customers in different ways. We believe this feature will create customer loyalty to our platform, because switching to a competitive platform will cause subscribers to lose this history.
- New functionality, primarily in the operations management arena: Financial management (accounting,) sales automation, inventory/supplies management and human resources.

Architecture. OneBiz Conductor's core consists of the business services that provide common platform functionality like e-commerce, authentication, session management etc. At the heart of the core will be the Contextual Dynamic OneBiz Profile. A distinct profile will be created for every company using our Company Creation wizard when users signup and register. This feature is an enhancement of the

functionality of our current proprietary technology platform. The profile will continually update itself based on operations performed and information requested by each company as it uses OneBiz. Business intelligence accumulated and deduced using this OneBiz profile will provide the platform with what we call "the *state*" of each small business. Various OneBiz attributes are defined and inherited by the small business based on this "state." This OneBiz profile also will provide varying role-based access to the platform based on security privileges assigned to each user by the business owner.

The OneBiz profile will feature our expanded contextual business personalization and contextual advertising server engines that will change the characteristics of the OneBiz platform dynamically to meet the needs of each user without any human intervention. Examples of some behavioral patterns could be an automated GUI change, added features or an automated background action (for example: sending automated emails and reminders.)

OneBiz Conductor's Business Process rules engine and the corresponding best business practices process rules and workflows will help users to realize significant cost reductions and efficiencies by automating business process flows, eliminating human intervention, and allowing small business applications to communicate and intelligently share information.

Our OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> platform is designed to be completely modular, with numerous plug-in connection points for existing and new functionality developed in-house or obtained through third-party partnerships and acquisitions.

Data exchange to and from each product or functional component will be handled seamlessly by the OneBiz integration platform. In addition, multiple users will be able to collaborate on the same function, application or document providing maximized workflow efficiencies. Finally, users will be able to work offline on various applications and later upload their work to OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> for synchronization.

New Functionality. OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> will focus on the following key categories of services:

Dashboard
 Calendaring System / Day planner
 Business Contacts Management
 Collaboration Services
 Accounting / Financial Management
 Human Resources (employee management, payroll integration, benefits integration, etc.)

 Sales Automation
 Shipping
 Inventory / Order Management
 Comprehensive Business Resource Center Portal

**Development Timeline.** To achieve our goal of completing development of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> before the end of the fourth quarter of 2005, we plan to release OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> in three versions. The first version was commercially released in the first quarter of 2005. Each release will have improved platform features and additional software applications.

OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> Version 1, which was released to the market during the the first quarter of 2005, included:

Platform Implementation (initial features)
 Dashboard — Quick Access to Information

 Dashboard - Role-based Summaries
 Dashboard - Alerts, Notifications

 Dashboard - Customized look and feel (initial features)

 Calendaring System / Day Planner
 Business Contact Management
 Smart Online Business Resource Center

**OneBiz Conductor**<sup>SM</sup> Version 2, which we plan to introduce to the market before the end of the third quarter of 2005, is expected to include:

· Platform Implementation (additional feature enhancements)

· Dashboard - Detailed drill-down views & capabilities

· Dashboard - Customized look and feel

· Dashboard - Mobile interface (WAP, PDA, etc.)

· Accounting & Financial Management (initial features)

· HR - Company/Employee Directory · HR - Timesheets (Time Tracking and Management) · HR - Attendance Records · HR - Vacation Tracking · HR - Dependant/Beneficiary · HR - Compensation Tracking · HR - Mini-dashboard · HR - Employee Compliance (forms, employment contracts, W-4, benefits, etc.) • HR - Termination (Exit interview and compliance) · Shipping (advanced features) · Groupware services among company users OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> Version 3, which we plan to introduce to the market before the end of the fourth quarter of 2005, is expected to include: · Platform Implementation (advanced feature enhancements) · Dashboard - Detailed drill-down views & capabilities · Dashboard - Dynamically update based on state of business · Dashboard - Mobile interface (WAP, PDA, etc.) · Accounting and Financial Management (advanced features)

- · HR Performance Reviews
- · HR Company Announcements/News
- $\cdot\,$  HR Online Interview & Applicant Screening
  - HR Company Compliance
- · HR Professional Training (Continuing Education)
  - · Shipping (advanced features)
  - Printing & Copying Services

**OneBiz Conductor**<sup>SM</sup> **may also include the following**, if agreements can be reached with other companies to integrate these services into OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>:

Payroll partners
 Insurance / Benefits partners
 Investment / 401(k) partners
 Sales Automation
 Inventory / Order Management partners
 Offline Capabilities for OneBiz services

**Technology Platform License Revenue.** Smart Online is in the process of determining whether its technology platform can become a licensable product for applications and content providers interested in creating their own syndication and online delivery business model. It is too early in our evaluation process to determine whether this will develop into another source of revenue.

**Product Development Team.** Our software engineering organization is responsible for developing our platform and new applications, as well as enhancing our existing platform and software. We believe that a technically skilled, quality-oriented, and highly productive software engineering organization is important for the success of new product offerings. We have increased our development team and may add additional developers to meet our schedule for developing OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. We may also use independent development firms or contractors to expand the capacity and technical expertise of our internal research and development team. Additionally, we may license from third parties or otherwise acquire technology that is incorporated into our products. We have a well-defined software development methodology that we believe allows us to deliver products that satisfy business needs and meet commercial quality expectations.

32

#### Table of Contents

Acquisitions from Outside Sources. We plan to engage in a targeted and strategically defined plan to acquire selected applications or businesses from unrelated third parties within the highly fragmented application service provider and software development industries. These transactions may include a combination of licenses from other companies, joint development and purchases. We expect that some of these licenses will be for our nonexclusive use. In some cases, we may purchase technology or acquire the companies that own the technology. We have had discussions with several companies about potential acquisitions, but we have not reached agreement on terms with any of these companies. We do not expect any acquisitions of companies will occur until after a public market develops for our securities.

We plan to add the following software applications through such third party transactions:

Payroll
 Insurance / Benefits
 Investment / 401(k)
 Sales Automation
 Inventory / Order Management
 Offline Capabilities for OneBiz Services

Because of many factors related to third party transactions are outside our control, we cannot predict whether or when these features will be added to OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>.

Following license or other acquisition of these applications, we will have to do integration work before we can offer these applications on our OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> platform.

#### Market

**Small Business Market.** We offer small businesses a wide range of software applications and other products and services that help owners start, run, protect and grow their small businesses. We define small businesses as companies with between one and fifty employees. When we complete development of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> later this year, we believe our products may also become attractive to middle size businesses of up to 500 employees. At that time, we intend to begin marketing to such middle size companies.

**Market Resources.** We spent \$9,766 during 2002 and \$3,167 during 2003 on advertising. During 2004, we incurred advertising and marketing expenses of \$170,774 including barter advertising. Additionally, during 2004, we increased our budget for sales and marketing, including hiring additional people. Smart Online markets and sells its products directly to businesses through its <u>www.smartonline.com</u> web site, through private label syndication partnerships with major corporations and financial institutions and through OEM relationships. No single customer or partner accounted for more than 10% of our total revenue during 2002. During 2003, integration revenues from a related party, Smart IL, Ltd., accounted for 27.2% of total revenue and consulting revenues from a second related party, Parson & Shearson, Inc., accounted for 11.9% of revenue. During 2004, integration revenue from Smart IL Ltd. accounted for 32.9% of total revenue. No other customers accounted for more than 10% of our total revenue from Smart IL Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and Notes to Financial Statements for discussion of our major customers.

**Web Services Sales.** Small businesses often cease operating or are sold. In other cases, their needs change. We must constantly recruit new subscribers to replace existing subscribers. We engage in a variety of marketing activities directed to small businesses, including e-mail and direct mail campaigns, co-marketing strategies designed to leverage existing strategic relationships, public relations campaigns, speaking engagements and forums, and industry analyst visibility initiatives. Web Services sales to small businesses, accounted for approximately 6.2%, 16.5%, and 17% of our revenue during 2004, 2003, and 2002, respectively.

**Subscriptions, Customer Orders and Accounts Receivable.** We typically do not have a backlog of customer orders as our services are delivered instantaneously over the Internet. Substantially all of our small business customers pay via credit cards. We typically offer new subscribers an initial period of free subscription service. Our subscribers can cancel their subscriptions at any time without penalty.

33

#### Table of Contents

**Syndication Partners.** We private-label and customize our platform for our syndication partners. This enables them to provide their own web site users with our resources and applications. The motivation of our syndication partners is to acquire and retain small business customers. Companies that utilize private-label Smart Online products and services include: Bank One, J.P. Morgan Chase, BusinessWeek, Union Bank of California, Gruner + Jahr USA for *Inc*.and *FastCompany* magazines and Cole Taylor Bank of Chicago. Our syndication contracts range from one to three years in length. Some contain automatic renewal provisions, which provide for one year renewals, unless notice of non-renewal is provided.

We currently rely upon direct marketing to major corporations to establish private label syndication and marketing partnerships. Our sales efforts to syndication, integration and OEM partners involves contact with multiple decision makers, frequently including the prospective customer's officer level personnel. While the average sales cycle varies substantially, it has generally ranged from two to six months. These partners promote the Smart Online product line through a variety of marketing communications vehicles, including advertising and special promotions.

Revenue from our private label syndication amounted to approximately 14.5% of our total revenue in 2002, approximately 9.2% in 2003, and 17.6% in 2004.

One of our syndication partnership agreements with Gruner + Jahr USA Publishing, pursuant to which we syndicate our platform and applications to the website www.Inc.com and www.FastCompany.com, contains a prohibition against our syndicating our platform and applications to two competitors of Gruner + Jahr.

**Integration Partners.** Our contracts with certain integration partners terminated earlier than originally contemplated in the contracts with these partners following changes in the businesses of our integration partners, which made the integration partnership agreements less useful to us and to our integration partners. For example, some of our partners were not able to deploy the technology required to deliver their products or services through our website. In other cases, the partner discontinued Internet based products or services to small businesses. Revenues from small businesses using our website and the websites of our current and former syndication partners and integration partners have been insignificant to date. To maintain existing relationships and attract new relationships, we must generate substantially greater revenue from small businesses. See "Marketing Strategy" below for our plan to achieve this. Our integration contracts have initial terms ranging from one to three years. Most contain automatic renewal provisions, which provide for one year renewals, unless notice of non-renewal is provided.

We believe large companies, who desire to acquire and retain small business customers, represent a significant market opportunity for us. We intend to expand our syndication channel to include partners in the financial services/banking, media and broadcasting, telecommunications, insurance and real estate markets.

All of our integration partnership agreements limit our ability to integrate products or services onto our website that compete with the products or services being provided through our website by our integration partners.

**OEM Sales.** Our distributor, PC Treasures, sells some of our CD-ROM products to Dell Computers and Gateway, which bundle our products with some of their computers on an OEM basis. We believe the primary value of our OEM relationships is to help develop our brand name to generate sales of our web-based products.

**Product Pricing.** Price is an important factor in the small business market. Currently, most of our small business users are permitted to access a substantial part of our website without charge. Our longer-term pricing model allows customers to purchase use of substantially all our applications for a monthly subscription fee that provides unlimited usage for one user at a time. Certain applications, such as business planning, market research and planning, employment policies and government forms, are also available to non-subscribers, for a flat fee. After we release the second version of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> at the end of the third quarter of 2005, we plan to have monthly subscription rates for new subscribers direct through www<u>smartonline.com</u>, for \$29.95 to \$49.95 per month after a free trial period. We generally expect to receive lower fees from subscribers at the private label syndication web sites of our partners. We share revenue with our syndication partners. Currently, most of our syndication agreements call for us to receive 50% of revenue generated. We realize revenue from license fees to syndication partners, which is usually paid in a lump sum at the beginning of the relationship. By integrating third-party products onto our web site, such as web conference, loan referral, incorporation services merchant services and health care service program, we share revenue from sales of third party services. We also realize revenue from OEM deals by our distributor, PC Treasures, with manufacturers, such as Dell Computer and Gateway, for which we receive nominal payments for copies of our CD-ROM products bundled with computers.

**Future Possible Revenue Streams.** We plan to seek to generate additional streams of revenue from international operations, licensing our technology platform and selling advertising. Of these, we have invested most in preparing for international operations.

#### Table of Contents

**Contract Terms.** A significant portion of revenue from syndication contracts is received upfront with monthly maintenance payments. Customers typically have the right to terminate their contracts for cause, if we fail to perform. We generally invoice our syndication customers in annual or monthly installments and typical payment terms provide that our customers pay us within 30 days of invoice. In general, we collect our billings in advance of the service period.

#### **Smart Online Europe Penetration Plan**

We currently generate no revenue from international operations. We have conducted certain test marketing in the United Kingdom and France, but we have not yet commercially launched in either country. We had previously launched a French web site, but terminated commercial operations in 2002 as part of our cost cutting efforts. Smart Online has localized its platform and applications for the United Kingdom (we estimate it is 80 percent complete) and we are a licensed provider of U.K. governmental forms. We do not, however, have a projected launch date for our UK web site, because we are focusing our development resources on our OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> platform launch. Localizations for Germany, Spain and France are approximately 20-30 percent complete.

As we have done in the U.S., Smart Online plans to seek syndication and channel partners in Europe to more quickly and cost-effectively reach the large and diverse small business market segments in each of the targeted countries.

Challenges to Marketing in Europe. There are numerous challenges for a U.S.-based company moving into European markets. These include:

• Pricing sensitivities that vary from country to country.

• A native sales force is necessary to avoid cultural and language pitfalls.

· Historical data shows a slower market adaptation to web-based/SaS business model in Europe than in the U.S.

· Localization must be perfected to ensure easy adoption and usage.

Key Factors to Entering the European Markets. In general, our European business development will be focusing on the following major tasks:

· Identify and develop relationships with local communities and government entities that have established web initiatives.

· Gain licensing for governmental forms.

· Establish key strategic channel partners that can represent Smart Online in each targeted country.

**Packaging Smart Online for Different Countries and Partners.** We plan to offer a modular or slimmed-down version of Smart Online in European countries with fewer applications than the U.S. web site. The Smart Online platform will be repackaged as appropriate for each country or channel partner and may include only a few applications. After we hire sales associates for each country, their input will assist Smart Online in determining the "package" that will be promoted and sold in each country.

**Other International Operations**. Smart Online currently has a distribution licensing agreement with MYOB Ltd., for sales of two of its shrink-wrap products in Australia and New Zealand. According to the three-year contract signed in 2003, MYOB will share 15 percent of gross sales of these products with Smart Online. If MYOB recruits syndication partners using the online versions of these two products, MYOB is required to pay us 50 percent of syndication fees.

35

#### Table of Contents

### Marketing Strategy

Web-based products are distributed through <u>www.SmartOnline.com</u> and its companion United Kingdom web site, as well as through the web sites of our syndication partners discussed below. CD-ROM based products are sold directly to customers by Smart Online, but most CD-ROM based products are distributed through OEM relationships. For example, through our distributor PCsTreasures, Dell Computer packages Smart Online CD-ROM products with some of its computers.

Although Smart Online has generated revenue from both our web-based and CD-ROM products, to date Smart Online has focused primarily on developing our web-based products, distributing a large number of CD-ROMs and free promotional codes to use our web-based products, testing and validating our technology infrastructure to prepare to accommodate a high volume of simultaneous users, and evaluating user feedback.

Our primary marketing strategy to date has been price-based promotions, which gains us users, but limits our revenue. For example, CD-ROM products are provided to OEMs for a nominal charge. In addition, Smart Online has permitted many customers to use its web-based products for free, either by offering free initial service or by allowing users that fail to pay our monthly subscription fees to continue to access our web-based products.

Our strategy in the past has been to trade revenue opportunities for the opportunity to learn from our small business customers what features are most important for their businesses, while at the same time building a leads database consisting of users of our web-based products and persons to whom CD-ROM products have been distributed.

We believe the end of the third quarter of 2005, when we plan to introduce the second version of our Next Generation Platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, will be the appropriate time to begin to seek to generate greater revenue from our technology, content, customer preference knowledge and database of current and past users.

Our plan is to generate greater revenue through a combination of two factors: greater marketing and sales efforts and introducing new products of greater value to small businesses.

**Higher Value New Products.** Our next generation platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, is the key to adding higher value products. Based on our experience with small businesses, we believe accounting software is the critical application most small businesses must have. We plan to add accounting software and sales automation software to our product offerings as we roll out OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> from the end of the first quarter of 2005 to the end of the fourth quarter of 2005, together with the new dashboard features of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> described elsewhere. We believe that when these applications and features are available, we will greatly increase the value proposition of our web-based products to small businesses. This additional value will then justify our allocating greater resources to sales and marketing.

**Greater Marketing and Sales Efforts.** We plan to increase our sales force from one person in 2003, to between 15 and 20 people by the end of 2005. This increase will be timed to coincide with the rollout of our next generation platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, described above. We will utilize these additional resources for a number of sales and marketing initiatives, but we plan to emphasize contacting people who currently utilize our internet-based products through our web sites and the web sites of our syndication partners. We plan to cut off access to OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> for users who fail to pay for service. At the same time, we will begin to contact people who have our CD-ROM products to convince them to upgrade to become subscribers to our OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> product. We expect the success of our sales efforts to people already familiar with our current web-based and CD-ROM products will depend upon the additional value provided to businesses by OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, particularly the planned new accounting software and sales automation applications and dash board capabilities.

We believe these factors will enable us to leverage our current and new assets to generate greater revenue from existing users and to add new paying customers as we shift people from whom we currently generate no revenue or nominal revenue to paying customers.

#### Competition

The market for small business software applications is highly competitive and subject to rapid change. The direct competition we face depends on the market segment focus and delivery model capabilities of our competitors. We also face indirect competition from potential customers' internal development efforts and, at times, we have to overcome their reluctance to move away from existing paper-based systems.

We have two primary categories of competitors: large companies that offer a wide range of products for small to medium businesses and other companies that offer only one or two products that compete with our broad range of products.

#### Table of Contents

Our principal direct competition comes from several large vendors of Internet-based software for small businesses that sell many products similar to ours. Most of these competitors also sell other products and services not specifically targeted to small businesses. These competitors include, but are not limited to, Microsoft, Oracle, Intuit, SAP and Yahoo. We also expect to face competition from new entrants that do not already market products similar to ours. Among the many companies that offer a narrower range of products that compete with us is SalesForce.com.

We have set forth below the primary competitive factors on which we believe small businesses of fifty or fewer employees make their information technology purchasing decisions and our opinion of how we meet each of these competitive factors compared to most of our competitors.

#### **Competitive Factors**

#### **Smart Online**

Customer Awareness Access. Most small businesses do not spendMany of our competitors have widely known brand names, large substantial time researching and evaluating solutions. Most purchasemarketing budgets, and are widely available. Through our what is most readily available. syndication, integration and OEM partnering programs, we believe

we are able to gain greater customer awareness and access to our products at relatively moderate cost to us. While Smart Online may lack the marketing dollars to compete with industry giants, we believe our corporate syndication partners will allow us to compete effectively.

Suppliers must be able to supply the applications and featuresWe believe we offer more applications and features specifically customers need. targeted to small businesses than most of our competitors.

Applications must be user friendly and require little trainingWe have designed our applications to be highly user friendly and Customers generally do not have IT departments to train employees require little or no training. We also offer free telephone support and support software.

Compatibility with other information technology	We have designed our platform and technology to be compatible with the information technology most often used by small businesses, which include personal computer operating systems, internet access software, email and instant messaging.
Price. Most small businesses are price sensitive.	Our pricing structure requires very little initial investment by small businesses and is cost competitive with the products of competitors over the long-term. Our product delivery model also includes automatic free updates.
Obsolescence	We are always improving our platform and expanding our content and applications. We believe the release of our next generation platform, OneBiz Conductor <sup>SM</sup> , will demonstrate our commitment to industry leadership in this area.

We expect competitors will seek to offer products with similar features to Smart Online. Since we have no patents, we are unable to prevent this. We believe the key barrier competitors will face in trying to develop competing products that provide small businesses with quality equivalent to our products is that we have developed products utilizing our more than eleven years of experience addressing the needs of the many small business users of our CD-ROMs and Internet based products. During this time, we have learned by trial and error what works and what doesn't work for small businesses. We have incorporated into our products the feedback of our small business customers. We believe this specialization on small businesses has been a key factor in our ability to attract syndication partners. One advantage of providing Internet-based services is that we can monitor customer usage and determine what works and what doesn't work by the volume of usage. We do not have to wait for customer complaints to identify areas for improvements. We believe that competitors who serve personal users and larger businesses with 50 or fewer employees. When we complete development and release the third version of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> later in 2005, we believe our products will become more attractive to middle sized companies of up to 500 employees. At that time, we intend to begin marketing to such middle sized companies that already serve that market.

Although we believe we offer highly competitive services and software, many of our competitors have greater financial, technical, marketing, and other resources, greater name recognition, and a larger number of total customers for their products and services. Moreover, a number of our competitors, particularly Microsoft, Intuit, Oracle and Yahoo sell many products to our current and potential customers, as well as to systems integrators and other vendors and service providers. In addition, these competitors may be able to respond more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements, or to devote greater resources to the development, promotion, and sale of their products, than we can. It is also possible that new competitors or alliances among competitors or other third parties may emerge and rapidly acquire market share. Increased competition may result in price reductions, reduced gross margins, and change in market share, any of which could harm our business.

#### **Intellectual Property Rights**

Our success depends, in part, upon our proprietary technology, processes, trade secrets, and other proprietary information, and our ability to protect this information from unauthorized disclosure and use. We rely on a combination of copyright, trade secret, and trademark laws, confidentiality procedures, contractual provisions, and other similar measures to protect our proprietary information. We do not own any issued patents or have any patent applications pending.

Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy aspects of our products or to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary, and third parties may attempt to develop similar technology independently. Policing unauthorized use of our products is difficult, particularly because the global nature of the Internet makes it difficult to control the ultimate destination or security of software or other data transmitted. While we are unable to determine the extent to which piracy of our software products exists, software piracy can be expected to be a persistent problem. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect our proprietary rights to as great an extent as do the laws of the United States, and we expect that it will become more difficult to monitor use of our products as we increase our international presence.

We have registered trademarks and registered service marks on more than a dozen products and data services with other applications for registered trademarks pending. Over the past several years, we have made numerous changes in our product names. Although we own registered trademarks in the United States and have filed trademark applications in the United States and in certain other countries, we do not have assurance that our strategy with respect to our trademark portfolio will be adequate to secure or protect all necessary intellectual property. There can be no assurance that our means of protecting these proprietary rights will be adequate, or that our competitors will not independently develop similar technology.

As part of our efforts to protect our proprietary information, we enter into license agreements with our customers and nondisclosure agreements with certain of our employees, consultants and corporate partners. These agreements generally contain restrictions on disclosure, use, and transfer of our proprietary information. We also employ various physical security measures to protect our software source codes, technology, and other proprietary information.

Currently, we do not own any issued patents nor have any patent applications pending.

The software and Internet industries are characterized by the existence of a large number of patents, trademarks and copyrights and by frequent litigation based on allegations of infringement or other violations of intellectual property rights. As the number of entrants into our market increases, the possibility of an intellectual property claim against us grows. Our technologies may not be able to withstand any third-party claims or rights against their use. Any intellectual property claims, with or without merit, could be time-consuming and expensive to litigate or settle, and could divert management attention from executing their business plan. In addition, our agreements often require us to indemnify our partners for third-party intellectual property infringement claims, which would increase the cost to us of an adverse ruling in such a claim. An adverse determination could also prevent us from offering our service to others. No third party has asserted any intellectual property claims against us.

#### Table of Contents

While we are not aware that our products, trademarks, copyrights, or other proprietary rights infringe the proprietary rights of third parties, and no such claim has been asserted by any third party, third parties may assert infringement claims against us in the future with respect to current or future products. Further, we expect that we may become subject to infringement claims as the number of products and competitors in our industry segment grows and the functionality of products in different industry segments overlaps. From time to time, we hire employees and retain consultants who have worked for independent software vendors or other companies developing products similar to those offered by us. Such vendors or companies may claim that our products are based on their products and that we have misappropriated their intellectual property. Any such claims, with or without merit, could cause a significant diversion of management attention, result in costly and protracted litigation, cause product shipment delays or require us to enter into royalty or licensing agreements with third parties. Such royalty or licensing agreements, if required, may not be available on terms acceptable to us or at all, which would have a material adverse effect upon our business and financial position.

#### Employees

As of December 31, 2004, we had 18 full-time employees, which increased to 22 full-time employees at March 15, 2005. We plan to expand our staff to add additional employees in software development, sales and marketing and internal auditing and accounting. No employees are known by us to be represented by a collective bargaining agreement, and we have never experienced a strike or similar work stoppage. We consider our relations with our employees to be good. As of March 1, 2005, we repaid all indebtedness owed to our employees at December 31, 2004. See "Note 6 of Notes to Financial Statements."

#### Properties

Our principal administrative, sales, marketing, and research and development facility is located in Durham, North Carolina near Research Triangle Park and consists of over 5,000 square feet of office space held under a lease that expire on October 31, 2005.

### Legal Proceedings

<u>U.S. News & World Report v. Smart Online, Inc.</u> - U.S. News instituted this action against Smart Online in January 2003 in New York (Case No. 102959/03) for breach of contract, due to Smart Online's refusal to pay the sum of \$92,204.17 for an advertising insert, which Smart Online asserts was faulty. On October 27, 2003, the New York action was dismissed by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, because the State of New York had no jurisdiction over this suit. On February 6, 2004, U.S. News filed a similar claim in the District Court of Durham County, North Carolina (Case No. 04-CVD-00575). On April 9, 2004, Smart Online filed its answer to U.S. News' claim, together with counterclaims for breach of contract and a motion to transfer the case to the Superior Court division. Plaintiff filed its reply to Smart Online's counterclaims. As a result of the July 12, 2004 hearing, Smart Online's motion to transfer the case to Superior Court was granted. Trial was scheduled for April 25, 2005. On April 7, 2005, the parties entered into a settlement agreement whereby U.S. News agreed to dismiss its claims in consideration for Smart Online paying \$50,000.00 and dismissing its counterclaims. The suit has been voluntarily dismissed with prejudice.

Infopia, Inc. v. Smart Online, Inc.- Infopia instituted this action against Smart Online on August 6, 2003 in District Court, Wake County, North Carolina (Case No. 03-CVD-10567) for breach of contract, unfair and deceptive trade practices, and punitive damages, alleging that Smart Online improperly refused to refund the \$32,500 integration fee paid by Infopia to Smart Online for Smart Online's integration of Infopia's products into Smart Online's platform. Smart Online answered the complaint on October 31, 2003, and denied all claims for relief. Smart Online also filed a counterclaim for breach of contract against Infopia for Infopia's failure to pay Smart Online certain sums it was due under the revenue sharing plan set forth in the contract between the parties. Smart Online believes plaintiff's claims for unfair and deceptive trade practice and punitive damages are without merit. The case is currently in the fact discovery phase. No trial date has been set.

Smart Online, Inc. v. Genuity, Inc.- Smart Online instituted this action against Genuity on May 22, 2001, in the Superior Court of Wake County, North Carolina, Civil Action No. 01-CVS-06277. Smart Online brought claims against Genuity for breached of contract, breach of express warranty, breach of implied warranty of merchantability, breach of warranty of fitness for a particular purpose, conversion, unfair and deceptive trade practices, negligent misrepresentation and fraud arising from Genuity's failure to perform properly under contracts between the parties, from Genuity's failure to return certain property belonging to Smart Online, and from certain representations made by Genuity with regard to the services needed by Smart Online under the contracts. On or about July 23, 2001,

#### Table of Contents

Genuity filed its answer to the complaint along with counterclaims against Smart Online. In its counterclaims, Genuity brought claims for breach of contract alleging that Smart Online failed to pay for the services rendered by Genuity. On October 22, 2002, the court denied Defendant's request to dismiss Smart Online's breach of contract claim, allowed Smart Online to amend its complaint to restate its claim for breach of contract, and dismissed Smart Online's claims for breach of implied warranties. The parties were completing discovery and preparing for trial when the case was automatically stayed as a result of Genuity's filing for bankruptcy. This case is still subject to the automatic stay.

Internal Revenue Service Claim.- Smart Online, Inc. resolved a federal employment tax liability of approximately Five Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$560,000) relating to the periods beginning December 31, 2000 and continuing through December 31, 2003. On February 18, 2005, the Internal Revenue Service agreed to accept Smart Online, Inc.'s offer in compromise (Form 656) in settlement of all of Smart Online's outstanding federal tax liabilities. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Smart Online, Inc. paid Twenty-Six Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$26,100), and agreed to surrender all credits and refunds for 2005 or earlier tax periods, and remain in compliance with all federal tax obligations for a term of five years.

### SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

### 5-Year Summary of Selected Financial Data

The following table sets forth the periods indicated, selected consolidated financial data that has been derived from our audited financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, and unaudited financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000. The following selected financial data should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and related notes thereto, and with Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS					
DATA					
Revenues	\$ 1,002,970 \$	1,261,223 \$	1,391,645 \$	3,193,078 \$	1,549,498
Loss from Operations	\$ (2,801,935) \$	(1,865,282) \$	(999,765) \$	(1,993,879) \$	(12,523,510)
Net Loss Attributable to Common					
Stockholders	\$ (8,319,049) \$	(4,375,836) \$	(1,766,606) \$	(1,994,203) \$	(12,439,945)
Net Loss per Share - Basic and Diluted	\$ (0.82) \$	(0.60) \$	(0.25) \$	(0.27) \$	(2.00)
Number of Shares Used in Per Share					
Calculation	10,197,334	7,254,978	7,181,759	7,286,965	6,213,526
	, , ,		, ,		
BALANCE SHEET DATA					
Total Assets	\$ 773,701 \$	306,072 \$	252,579 \$	724,349 \$	4,679,503
Long-term Obligations	\$ 1,091,814 \$	1,193,211 \$	958,925 \$	722,309 \$	334,155
Redeemable Preferred Stock	\$ - \$	17,509,214 \$	14,692,150 \$	12,128,130 \$	12,128,130
Stockholders' Deficit	\$ (1,911,090) \$	(22,014,156) \$	(19,268,323) \$	(15,864,201) \$	(13,931,594)

### Table of Contents

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our financial statements and related notes that appear in this prospectus. In addition to historical financial information, the following discussion contains forward-looking statements that reflect our plans, estimates and beliefs. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to these differences include those discussed below and elsewhere in this prospectus, particularly in "Risk Factors."

### Overview

Smart Online develops and markets Internet-delivered or Software-as-Services (SaS) software applications and data resources to start, run, protect, and grow small businesses. Many of our users are provided free use of our products. In addition, we reach small businesses through our own website www.smartonline.com and through private-label syndication arrangements with large corporations that private-label the Smart Online offering through their corporate web sites. Our syndication relationships provide a cost- and time-efficient way to market to the extremely large and diverse small business sector.

Smart Online has developed numerous sources of revenue as its business plan has changed to adapt to changing business circumstances. These sources of revenue include syndication partners, integration partners, OEMs, subscriptions from small businesses, one-time purchases by small businesses and barter transactions with media companies. Currently, each of these revenue streams is small. Our business plan is designed to utilize existing and future relationships in each revenue source to ratchet up the amount of revenue we derive from all sources. We have described in this prospectus the key elements of how we plan to achieve this.

Incorporated in Delaware in 1993, Smart Online pioneered the market for small business software applications. Our initial offerings were sold as shrink-wrapped products through major retail chains such as Staples, Office Depot and Egghead Software. Since 2000, our products have been primarily offered through an Internet-based platform. Smart Online also pioneered the syndication or private-label distribution model to more efficiently and effectively reach the large and diverse small business sector. Market analyst firm Summit Strategies says, "Smart Online's proprietary distribution platform enables the vendor to quickly customize for and integrate with its partners' services, making their joint services accessible to customers via a single sign-on."

Smart Online is currently developing the next generation of its services portal, called OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, which will include significant enhancements to the technology platform and add additional applications to our product offerings. We plan to accomplish this through a combination of internal development, joint development, licensing from other companies, and acquisitions. One Biz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> will be released in three versions. The first version was released during the first quarter of 2005. The second and third versions are expected to be released at the end of the third quarter of 2005 and the end of the fourth quarter 2005, respectively.

Our objective is to be a leading provider of on-demand business software application services for small businesses. We also believe that, when we complete development of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> later this year, our products will be more attractive to middle size companies with up to 500 employees. At that time, we intend to begin marketing to such middle size companies. To address the significant market opportunity, our management team is focused on a number of short and long-term challenges, including strengthening and extending our service offerings, converting our registered users to paying customers, beginning when we release the second version of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, which we expect will occur before the end of the third quarter of 2005, and expanding our sales efforts by focusing on the specific need of our customers. Since 2000, Smart Online's major focus has been on developing and validating our online content, applications, services, delivery platform and user interface. To validate the platform, services, and

products, many customers received access to the Smart Online products and portal free-of-charge in exchange for their evaluation and feedback. We have also used a number of different marketing approaches to test and validate the best techniques to acquire and retain small business customers.

With this validation and analysis nearly complete, we intend to increase our focus on revenue generation. Smart Online has recently begun to develop targeted programs to market and sell the Smart Online offerings. These efforts are targeted to direct customer acquisition and retention, recovery of former customers and closing on new syndication partnerships.

During 2004, Smart Online recognized \$1.0 million of revenue. In addition, Smart Online had deferred revenue of approximately \$722,000 at December 31, 2004. Smart Online recognized revenue totaling \$1.3 million in 2003 and \$1.4 million in 2002. During 2004, Smart Online entered into several new syndication and integration agreements totaling approximately \$1.2 million, including \$640,000 of barter transactions. We are planning to substantially increase our advertising and marketing in future years. We have started to enter into new syndication partnerships that target strategic partners for bartering arrangements for advertising and joint marketing programs to take advantage of discounted advertising rates and to provide an opportunity for us to share in the revenue generated by our syndication partners from use of our platform. We began targeting small business media companies during the first quarter of 2004, such as Inc. Magazine, FastCompany Magazine, and Business Week, who have small-business customer bases. Smart Online anticipates the revenue share arrangements with the media companies will enable it to increase web services revenue for both Smart Online and its private label syndication partners as we begin to share in the revenue our partners generate from their websites. We expect to create these arrangements in the future with media companies who offer the ability to reach small-business customers and assist in off-setting Smart Online's cash expenditures for print and online advertising and marketing. While we intend to derive a majority of our syndication revenue from traditional non-barter transactions, we will evaluate barter transactions on a case-by-case basis when we believe such transactions make economic or strategic sense. Pursuant to the requirements of Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) No. 93-11, "Accounting for Barter Transactions Involving Barter Credits," and EITF 99-13, "Accounting for Advertising Barter Transactions," for the year ended December 31, 2004, Smart Online recognized approximately \$113,000 of barter revenue.

To increase our revenues and take advantage of our market opportunity, we will need to add substantial numbers of paying subscribers. We define paying subscriptions as unique user accounts. We plan to re-invest earnings for the foreseeable future in the following ways: hiring additional personnel, particularly in marketing and sales; expanding marketing and sales activities; increasing our research and development activities to upgrade and extend our service offerings and to develop new services and technologies; adding to our infrastructure to support our growth; and formalizing our operational and financial systems to manage a growing business. Worldwide growth of software subscriptions will outstrip perpetual licenses, according to IDC, a leading global market intelligence and advisory firm in the information technology and telecommunications industries that provides local expertise and insights on technology markets in the US and 50 other countries, "Subscription licensing will grow at 16.6%, compounded, from 2004 to 2008 while perpetual licenses will experience negative growth of three-tenths of one percent in that time frame. By 2008, subscription license revenues will hit \$43 billion worldwide, or 34% of the total software market."

We expect sales and marketing costs, which included third-party advertising and marketing expenses of approximately \$16,000, \$130,000, and \$171,000 for 2002, 2003, and 2004, respectively, to increase substantially in dollars and as a percent of total expenses in the future as we seek to add and manage more paying subscribers, build brand awareness and increase the number of marketing and sales programs implemented.

### **Fiscal Year**

Our fiscal year ends on December 31. References to fiscal 2004, for example, refer to the calendar year ended December 31, 2004.

## **Sources of Revenue**

Smart Online currently derives revenues from the following sources:

· Syndication Fees - fees consisting of:

o Fees charged to syndication partners to create a customized private-label site.

o Barter revenue derived from syndication agreements with media companies.

• Integration Fees - fees charged to partners to integrate their products into the Smart Online syndication platform. Integrating third-party content and products has been a key component of Smart Online's strategy to continuously expand and enhance its platform offered to syndication partners and its own customer base.

- Web Services fees comprised of the following:
  - o E-commerce sales directly to end-users:
    - · Subscription
- · Multiuser subscription paid by enterprises for their business customers
  - $\cdot$  A la carte
  - · E-commerce revenue sharing with integration partners
    - · One Biz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> licensing
    - · Contextual integration ("CI") advertising fee
      - o Hosting and maintenance fees
    - o E-commerce Website Design and Build
      - o Loan origination fees
  - o Online marketing to our syndication/integration partners
  - o Marketing fee for loan request through the integrated platform
- · OEM agreements with third-party computer manufacturers for various individual Smart Online applications.
- · Other Revenues Includes revenues generated from consulting fees and the sale of legacy shrink-wrapped products.

Smart Online also plans to seek new sources of revenue, including the following sources:

• Technology Platform Licensing Revenue - We plan to seek to generate revenue from licensing our technology platform.

· Advertising Revenue - We plan to add direct advertising revenue in the future.

During 2004, we entered into several new syndication and integration partnerships with targeted strategic partners, whereby we will receive a percentage of the revenue generated by our partners from their websites. These agreements also included bartering arrangements for advertising and joint marketing programs to take advantage of discounted advertising rates and to provide an opportunity for revenue sharing. These new partnerships extend Smart Online's reach to more than 4 million new small business prospects. Smart Online embarked on this program based on the

success of the revenue share strategy, illustrated by Google, Overture, and Career Builder, where media companies provide these services to their customers to increase revenue for both companies. Smart Online began targeting small business media companies during the first quarter of 2004, such as Inc. Magazine, FastCompany Magazine, and Business Week, who have small business customer bases. We estimate our revenue share arrangements with the media companies will enable us to increase web services revenue for both Smart Online and our private label syndication partners while creating an advantage over potential competitors. Smart Online expects to create certain types of these arrangements in the future with media companies who offer the ability to reach small business customers and will assist in off-setting Smart Online's outlay of cash for more costly print and online advertising and marketing. While we intend to derive a majority of our syndication revenue from traditional non-barter transactions, we will evaluate barter transactions on a case-by-case basis when we believe such transactions make economic or strategic sense. During 2004Smart Online signed syndication contracts with Inc. Magazine, FastCompany Magazine, and Business Week. In addition we have embarked on a telesales effort to up sell current users to additional Smart Online services and to bring former users back to Smart Online.

Both syndication and integration fees are recognized on a monthly basis over the life of the contract, although a significant portion of the fee from integration is received upfront. Our contract and support contracts are noncancelable, though customers typically have the right to terminate their contracts for cause if we fail to perform. We generally invoice our paying customers in annual or monthly installments and typical payment terms provide that our customers pay us within 30 days of invoice. Amounts that have been invoiced are recorded in accounts receivable and in deferred revenue or revenue depending on whether the revenue recognition criteria have been met. In general, we collect our billings in advance of the service period. Online marketing, which consists of marketing services provided to our integration and syndication partners have in the past generated additional revenue. In addition, certain users have requested that Smart Online implement online marketing initiatives for them, such as promoting their products through Google or Overture services. Online marketing has not been a material source of past income. We intend to see an increase in the level of online marketing services in the future.

Web Services revenues are comprised of e-commerce sales directly to end-users, hosting and maintenance fees, e-commerce website design fees and online loan origination fees. E-commerce sales are made either on a subscription or a la carte basis. Subscription, which is access to most Smart Online offering is payable in advance on a monthly basis and is targeted at small companies or divisions of large companies. We will seek to grow our revenue, including monthly subscription volume, substantially over the next 24 months as new versions of Smart Online's platforms (OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>) are released. To date, most of our users have been given free use of our products. We plan to change that policy when we release the second version of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, which is planned to occur at the end of the third quarter of 2005. We expect monthly subscription fees will typically be \$29.95 to \$49.95 for new subscribers direct through <u>www.smartonline.com</u> after a free trial period. We expect lower fees from subscribers at the private label syndication websites of our partners. Currently, most of our syndication agreements call for us to receive 50% of revenue generated. A la carte pricing, which allows customers to purchase one-time use of a specific software or content service, ranges from \$10 to \$300, which can include third-party charges when applicable, such as state and federal fees associated with incorporating a business or additional fees associated with having a press release written and revised.

Additionally, Smart Online receives a portion of third-party sales of products and services through revenue sharing arrangements, which involves a split of realized revenues. Hosting and maintenance fees are charged for supporting and maintaining the private-label portal and providing customer and technical support directly to our syndication partner's users and are recognized on a monthly basis. E-commerce website design fees which are charged for building and maintaining corporate websites or to add the capability for e-commerce transactions, are recognized over the life of the project. We have discontinued our third-party arrangement for online web design. We expect to resume this service after a new partner is under contract. Online loan origination fees are charged to provide users online financing option by which Smart Online receives payments for loan or credit provided. We intend to become more aggressive about promoting this line item in the future.

Technology Platform License Revenue: Smart Online is in the process of determining whether its technology platform can become a licensable product for applications and content providers interested in creating their own syndication and online delivery business model. It is too early in our evaluation process to determine whether this will develop into another source of revenue.

Revenues from OEM arrangements are reported and paid to Smart Online on a quarterly basis based on actual sales, subject to certain contractual minimum volumes.

Other revenues consist primarily of traditional shrink-wrap sales, which are not a core revenue source for Smart Online. We expect that consulting fees, which in the past have generated significant revenues, will not be a material revenue source in the future.

# **Revenue From Related Parties**

Approximately 32.9% and 27.2% of total revenues for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively, were from a single customer, Smart IL Ltd. ("SIL"), formerly known as Smart Revenue Europe Ltd., an Israeli based software company that specialized in secured instant messaging products. During March 2004 SIL ceased further development of its technology and laid-off all employees after SIL completed development of, and delivered to us, its instant messenger product. SIL is currently seeking to license or sell its technology, however, we do not expect to receive substantial revenue from SIL in the future. SIL is owned by Doron Roethler, a shareholder of Smart Online.

On August 13, 2002, Smart Online entered into an integration agreement with SIL to incorporate its products into Smart Online's platform. As part of this agreement, SIL paid \$300,000 for such integration, and the parties agreed to share future revenues generated from the sales of the products. On August 30, 2002, the parties signed an

amendment to the original agreement, in order for Smart Online to provide SIL certain co-development services, which includes instant messenger and video conferencing. In exchange, SIL paid Smart Online an additional \$300,000. The parties further agreed that the products developed as a result of both companies' efforts will be owned by both parties. On April 30, 2003, Smart Online and SIL signed a new amendment and restated the integration program agreement. According to this new amendment and restated agreement, Smart Online agreed to fund the future development of the products. In exchange SIL agreed to limit future amounts payable by Smart Online under the original share revenue agreement to \$1.7 million. This cap on revenue sharing was removed by amendment on October 29, 2003.

In addition to the agreements described above, on August 30, 2002, Smart Online and SIL also entered into a reseller agreement whereby SIL paid Smart Online \$200,000 for nonexclusive rights to distribute Smart Online's products in the territories of Israel, United Kingdom, France, Italy, Netherlands, and Spain, in exchange for Smart Online's marketing support and a twenty percent commission from the gross sales generated by SIL. On March 17 and 27, 2003, the parties subsequently modified the original re-seller agreement to restrict the territory to only Israel and Netherlands. We expect no revenue from SIL, unless SIL hires employees to sell our products. We do not know whether SIL intends to hire employees to sell our products. Additionally, on December 22, 2003, Smart Online signed a private label syndication agreement with SIL for Smart Online to provide website development for SIL's website.

Smart Online paid \$3,300 to SIL for moving expenses with regard to the SIL development team visiting Smart Online from Israel in January of 2003. Smart Online also paid SIL \$25,000 as a reseller payment for the Moneris Integration contract they secured pursuant to their re-seller agreement in May of 2003. Smart Online also paid SIL \$90,000 pursuant to their contract dated December 20, 2003 for technical co-development work, which includes instant messenger and video conferencing, on a monthly payment of \$15,000 starting in December of 2003 and ending in May of 2004.

During 2003, Smart Online provided \$20,200 in consulting services to Small Business Lending Institute, Inc. ("SBLI"). This constituted approximately 1.6% of Smart Online's revenue during 2003. Tamir Sagie, an officer of Smart Online at the time, is an officer of SBLI. Michael Nouri, the Chief Executive Officer of Smart Online is a shareholder in SBLI. Smart Online paid \$221,517 to SBLI during the first three months of 2004, because SBLI paid Smart Online's employees during the first quarter of 2004 while Smart Online was dealing with a tax matter with the Internal Revenue Service. The temporary transfer of Smart Online's employees to SBLI allowed Smart Online to obtain a clean cut off to determine the extent of its tax liability.

Approximately 11.9% of total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2003, and 0% for the year ended December 31, 2004, were from a third related company, Parson and Shearson, Inc., which is owned 50% by the CEO of Smart Online, Michael Nouri, and 50% by his brother Eric Nouri. This revenue related to services performed by Smart Online for the development of web-based human resources and inventory applications for Parson and Shearson. Parson and Shearson has paid in full for all services and has no outstanding amounts payable to Smart Online.

The following is a summary of related party revenues for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002:

Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
December 31,	December 31,	December 31,
2004	2003	2002
\$ 330,050	\$ 342,857	

-0-	150,000	11,578
-0- 330,050	20,200 \$ 513,057	-0- \$ 140,149
	-0-	

Accordingly, approximately 32.9% of year 2004 and 40.7% of year 2003 total revenue were derived from related parties. Smart Online expects revenue from related parties will not continue to be a significant part of Smart Online's revenue. If Smart Online fails to replace revenue from related parties with revenue from unrelated parties, Smart Online's revenue will decrease.

## **Cost of Revenues**

*Cost of Revenues*. To date Smart Online has not capitalized any costs associated with the development of its products and platform. Smart Online has not capitalized any direct or allocated overhead associated with the development of software products prior to general release. SFAS No. 86, "Accounting for the Costs of Software to be Sold, Leased or Otherwise Marketed", requires capitalization of certain software development costs subsequent to the establishment of technological feasibility. Based on the Smart Online's product development process, technological feasibility is established upon completion of a working model. Costs related to software development incurred between completion of the working model and the point at which the product is ready for general release have been insignificant. Cost of revenues is comprised primarily of salaries and related employee expenses associated with employees who provide maintenance and support services. Additionally, during 2002 and a portion of 2003 cost of revenues included third-party website hosting fees.

# **Operating Expenses**

During 2002, 2003, and 2004 our efforts were primarily focused on product development and integration. During the first quarter of 2002, we substantially reduced the number of people we employed. Smart Online employed approximately 13 full-time equivalent employees during 2002 and 2003. During 2004, Smart Online hired additional development and sales staff and had 18 full-time employees at December 31, 2004. Most employees performed multiple functions.

*Research and Development.* We have historically focused our research and development activities on increasing the functionality and enhancing the ease of use of our on-demand application service. Because of our proprietary, scalable and secure multi-user architecture, we are able to provide all customers with a service based on a single version of our application. As a result, we do not have to maintain multiple versions, which enables us to have relatively low research and development expenses as compared to traditional enterprise software business models. We expect that in the future, research and development expenses will increase substantially in absolute dollars as we upgrade and extend our service offerings and develop new technologies. We expect this to be particularly true during 2004 and 2005 as we incur expenses to develop our next generation platform One Biz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>.

*Marketing and Sales.* During 2002, 2003, and 2004, Smart Online has spent limited funds on marketing, advertising, and public relations. We expect these expenditures to increase significantly starting in 2005 and expect this trend to continue as we strive to grow our revenue. Smart Online has also embarked on an effort to develop programs similar to marketing efforts by Google, Overture, and Career Builder where media companies provide Smart Online's Private Label Syndication services to their small business end users. Smart Online began targeting small business media companies in the first quarter of 2004, such as Inc. Magazine, FastCompany Magazine, and Business Week, who have small business customer bases. The strategy has been to implement Private Label Syndication platforms in exchange for advertising and joint marketing programs with these companies. Smart Online estimates the revenue capabilities from its back-end revenue share arrangements with these contracts will enable it to increase web services revenue for both Smart Online and its partners beginning after we release the second version of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, which is planned to occur before the end of the third quarter of 2005, although substantial revenue increases over the twenty-four month period after we release our new product are expected to occur only after we have sufficient time to sell our new product and after we invest substantially greater amounts in marketing and sales. Smart Online expects to

create certain types of these arrangements in the future with media companies who offer the ability to reach small business customers and will assist in off-setting Smart Online's outlay of cash for print and online advertising and marketing while providing reduced advertising prices. Media companies are requesting such services to assist in driving additional revenue.

Generally, we expect we will have to increase marketing and sales expenses before we can substantially increase our revenue from sales of subscriptions. We plan to invest heavily in marketing and sales by increasing the number of direct sales personnel and increase penetration within our existing customer base, expanding our domestic and international selling and marketing activities, building brand awareness and participating in additional marketing programs. We expect that in the future, marketing and sales expenses will increase in absolute dollars and will be a significant cost.

*General and Administrative*. General and administrative expenses consist of salaries and related expenses for executive, finance and accounting, human resources, and management information systems personnel, professional fees, and other corporate expenses, including facilities costs. We expect that in the future, general and administrative expenses will increase as we add personnel and incur additional professional fees and insurance costs related to the growth of our business and to our operations as a public company.

*Stock-Based Expenses.* Our operating expenses include stock-based expenses related to options and warrants issued to employees and non-employees. These charges have been significant and are reflected in our historical financial results.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

Our discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations are based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. "Critical accounting policies and estimates" are defined as those most important to the financial statement presentation and that require the most difficult, subjective, or complex judgments. We base our estimates on historical experience and on various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Under different assumptions and/or conditions, actual results of operations may materially differ. We periodically re-evaluate our critical accounting policies and estimates, expected lives of customer relationships, useful lives of intangible assets and property and equipment, provision for income taxes, valuation of deferred tax assets and liabilities, and contingencies and litigation reserves. We presently believe the following critical accounting policies involve the most significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

*Revenue Recognition* - We recognize revenue in accordance with accounting standards for software and service companies including the United States Securities Exchange Commission ("SEC") Staff Accounting Bulletin 104 "Revenue Recognition" ("SAB 104"), Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 00-21 "Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables" ("EITF 00-21"), and related interpretations including American Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("AICPA") Technical Practice Aids. We also utilize interpretative guidance from regulatory and accounting bodies, which include, but are not limited to, the SEC, the AICPA, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), and various professional organizations.

We recognize revenue when all of the following conditions are satisfied: (1) there is persuasive evidence of an arrangement; (2) the service has been provided to the customer; (3) the collection of our fees is probable; and (4) the amount of fees to be paid by the customer is fixed or determinable. EITF 00-21 states that revenue arrangements with multiple deliverables should be divided into separate units of accounting if the deliverables in the arrangement meet the following criteria: 1) the delivered item has value to the customer on a standalone basis; 2) there is objective and reliable evidence of the fair value of the undelivered item; and 3) if the arrangement includes a general right of return relative to the delivered item, delivery or performance of the undelivered item is considered probable and substantially in control of the vendor. Smart Online's syndication and integration agreements typically include multiple deliverables including the grant of a non-exclusive license to distribute, use and access the Smart Online platform, fees for the integration of content into the Smart Online platform, maintenance and hosting fees, documentation and training, and technical support and customer support fees. Smart Online cannot establish fair value of the individual revenue deliverables based on objective and reliable evidence because Smart Online does not have a long, consistent history of standard syndication and integration contractual arrangements, there have only been a few contracts that have continued past the initial contractual term, Smart Online does not have any contracts in which these elements have been sold as stand-alone items, and there is no third-party evidence of fair value for products or services that are interchangeable and comparable to the Smart Online's products and services. As such, Smart Online can not allocate revenue to the individual deliverables and must record all revenues received as a single unit of accounting as further

described below. Additionally, Smart Online has evaluated the timing and substantive nature of the performance obligations associated with the multiple deliverables noted above, including the determination that the remaining obligations are essential to the on-going usability and functionality of the delivered products, and determined that revenue should be recognized over the life of the contracts, commencing on the date the site goes on-line, due to such factors as the length of time over which the remaining obligations will be performed, the complex nature of integrating and maintaining customer content with Smart Online's platform which services are unavailable from other vendors, and the timing of payment of a portion of the contract price such as monthly hosting payments.

Syndication fees consist primarily of fees charged to syndication partners to create and maintain a customized private-label site and ongoing support, maintenance and customer service. Our syndication agreements typically include an advance fee and monthly hosting fees. We generally invoice our customers in annual or monthly installments and typical payment terms provide that our customers pay us within 30 days of invoice. Amounts that have been invoiced are recorded in accounts receivable and in deferred revenue and the revenue is recognized ratably over the specified lives of the contracts, commencing on the date the site goes on-line. In general, we collect our billings in advance of the service period. Our hosting fees are typically billed on a monthly basis. We continue to evaluate and adjust the length of these amortization periods as we gain more experience with implementation schedules and contract cancellations. At present, Smart Online has insufficient historical data to determine if the relationship with its existing customers will extend beyond the initial term with the customer continuing to benefit from the advance fee. If Smart Online determines that existing and/or future contracts are expected to extend beyond the initial term whereby the customer continuing to benefit from the advance fee, Smart Online will extend the revenue recognition period accordingly to include the extended term. Our syndication contracts and support contracts typically provide for early termination only upon a material breach by either party that is not cured in a timely manner. If a contract terminates earlier than its term, we recognize the remaining deferred revenue upon termination. Based on that experience, it is possible that, in the future, the estimates of expected duration of customer contract lives may change and, in such event, the period over which such syndication revenues are amortized will be adjusted. Any such change in specified contract lives will affect our future results of operations. Additionally, the syndication contracts typically include revenue sharing arrangements whereby syndication partners typically charge their customers a monthly fee to access the private-label site. In most cases, the syndication agreements provide for Smart Online to receive a percentage of these fees. Fees derived from such revenue sharing arrangements are recorded when earned. To date, such revenue sharing fees have been negligible.

Integration fees consist primarily of fees charged to integration partners to integrate their products into the Smart Online syndication platform. Integrating third-party content and products has been a key component of Smart Online's strategy to continuously expand and enhance its platform offered to syndication partners and its own customer's base. We generally invoice our customers in advance of the service period in annual or monthly installments and typical payment terms provide that our customers must pay us within 30 days of invoice. Amounts that have been invoiced are recorded in accounts receivable and in deferred revenue and the revenue is recognized ratably over the specified lives of the contracts, commencing on the date the site goes on-line. We continue to evaluate and adjust the length of these amortization periods as we gain more experience with implementation schedules and contract cancellations. At present, Smart Online has insufficient historical data to determine if the relationship with its existing customers will extend beyond the initial term with the customer continuing to benefit from the advance fee. If Smart Online determines that existing and/or future contracts are expected to extend beyond the initial term whereby the customer continuing to benefit from the advance fee, Smart Online will extend the revenue recognition period accordingly to include the extended term. Our integration contracts and support contracts typically provide for early termination only upon a material breach by either party that is not cured in a timely manner. If a contract terminates earlier than its term, we recognize the remaining deferred revenue upon termination. Based on that experience, it is possible that, in the future, the estimates of expected implementation periods and customer lives may change. In such event, the period over which such syndication revenues are amortized will be adjusted. Any such change in specified contract lives will affect our future results of operations. Additionally, integration agreements typically include an upfront fee and a revenue sharing component. Fees derived from such revenue sharing arrangements are recorded when earned. To date, such revenue sharing fees have been negligible.

Both syndication and integration fees are recognized on a monthly basis over the life of the contract, although a significant portion of the fee from integration agreements is received upfront. Our syndication and integration

contracts and support contracts typically provide that customers have the right to terminate their contracts only for cause if we fail to perform. We generally invoice our customers in annual or monthly installments and typical payment terms provide that our customers are required to pay us within 30 days of invoice. Amounts that have been invoiced are recorded in accounts receivable and in deferred revenue or revenue depending on whether the revenue recognition criteria have been met. In general, we collect our billings in advance of the service period. Online marketing, which consists of marketing services provided to our integration and syndication partners have in the past generated additional revenue. In addition, certain users have requested that Smart Online implement online marketing initiatives for them, such as promoting their products through Google or Overture services. Online marketing has not been a material source of revenue in the past. We expect to increase our online marketing services revenue in the future.

Web Services revenues are comprised of e-commerce sales directly to end-users, hosting and maintenance fees, e-commerce website design fees and online loan origination fees. E-commerce sales are made either on a subscription or a la carte basis. Subscription, which provides users with access to most of our products is payable in advance on a monthly basis and is targeted at small companies or small divisions of large companies. We will seek to grow our monthly subscription volume substantially over the 24 months after new versions of Smart Online's platforms (OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>) are released and we have time to market and invest more in marketing and sales. We expect monthly subscription fees will typically be \$29.95 to \$49.95 for new subscribers at <u>www.smartonline.com</u>, although to date we have given free access to our web services to most users. We expect lower fees from subscribers at the private label syndication websites of our partners. Currently, most of our syndication agreements call for us to receive 50% of revenue generated. A la carte pricing, which allows customers to purchase one-time use of a specific software or content service, ranges from \$10 to \$300, which includes third-party charges when applicable, such as state and federal fees associated with incorporating a business or additional fees associated with having a press release written and revised.

Additionally, Smart Online receives a portion of revenue from third-party sales of products and services through our website and websites of our syndication partners from revenue sharing arrangements, which involves a split of realized revenues. Hosting and maintenance fees are charged for supporting and maintaining the private-label portal and providing customer and technical support directly to our syndication partner's users and are recognized on a monthly basis. E-commerce website design fees, which are charged for building and maintaining corporate websites or to add the capability for e-commerce transactions, are recognized over the life of the project. We have discontinued our third-party arrangement for online web design. We expect to resume this service after a new partner is under contract. Online loan origination fees are charged to provide users online financing options. Smart Online receives payments for loans or credit provided. We intend to become more aggressive about promoting this service in the future.

Subscription revenue is recognized ratably over the subscription period (usually one year). Third-party premium products are shared with integration partners.

OEM revenues are recorded based on the greater of actual sales or contractual minimum guaranteed royalty payments. Smart Online records the minimum guaranteed royalties monthly and receives payment of the royalties on a quarterly basis, thirty days in arrears. To the extent actual royalties exceed the minimum guaranteed royalties, the excess is recorded in the quarter Smart Online receives notification of such additional royalties.

Consulting revenues are recognized over the term of the consulting engagement as services are performed, which is typically one to three months. Advance payments for consulting services, if billed and paid prior to completion of the project, are recorded as deferred revenue when received. If the fees are not fixed or determinable, revenue is recognized as payments are received from the customer.

*Barter Transactions* - Barter revenue relates to syndication and integration services provided by Smart Online to business customers in exchange for advertising in the customers' trade magazines and on their Web sites. Barter expenses reflect the expense offset to barter revenue. The amount of barter revenue and expense is recorded at the estimated fair value of the services received or the services provided, whichever is more objectively determinable, in the month the services and advertising are exchanged. Smart Online applies APB 29, Accounting for Non-Monetary Transactions, the provisions of EITF 93-11, "Accounting for Advertising Barter Transactions Involving Barter Credits" and EITF 99-13, "Accounting for Advertising and Barter Transactions" and, accordingly, recognizes barter revenues only to the extent that Smart Online has similar cash transactions within a period not to exceed six months prior to the date of the barter transaction. To date the amount of barter revenue to be recognized has been more objectively

determinable based on integration and syndication services provided. For revenue from integration and syndication services provided for cash to be considered similar to the integration and syndication services provided in barter transactions, the services rendered must have been in the same media and similar term as the barter transaction. Further, the quantity or volume of integration or syndication revenue recorded in a qualifying past cash transaction can only evidence the fair value of an equivalent quantity or volume of integration or syndication revenue recorded in subsequent barter transactions. In other words, a past cash transaction can only support the recognition of revenue on integration and syndication contracts barter transactions up to the dollar amount of the cash transactions. When the cash transaction has been used to support an equivalent quantity and dollar amount of barter revenue, that transaction cannot serve as evidence of fair value for any other barter transaction. Once the value of the barter revenue has been determined, Smart Online follows the same revenue recognition principals as it applies to cash transactions with unearned revenues being deferred as described more fully under the caption "*Revenue Recognition*" above. At the time the barter revenue is recorded, an offsetting pre-paid barter advertising asset is recorded on Smart Online's balance sheet. This pre-paid barter advertising asset is amortized to expense as advertising services are received such as when an advertisement runs in a magazine. Where more than one deliverable exists, such as when the barter partner is to provide advertising in four issues of a magazine, the expense

is recognized pro-rata as the advertising deliverable is provided. Barter revenues totaled approximately \$113,000 during 2004. Smart Online did not have any barter transactions for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002.

*Marketable Securities* - Management determines the appropriate classification of investments in marketable securities at the time of purchase in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 115, *Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities* and reevaluates such determination at each balance sheet date. Securities, which are classified as available for sale at December 31, 2004, are carried at fair value, with the unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity. Fair value is determined based on quoted market rates. Realized gains and losses and declines in value judged to be other-than-temporary on securities available for sale are included as a component of interest income. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific-identification method. Interest on securities classified as available for sale is also included as a component of interest income.

*Impairment of Long Lived Assets* - Long-lived assets and certain identifiable intangibles are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to future net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets. Assets to be disposed of are reported at the lower of the carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell.

*Income Taxes.* We are required to estimate our income taxes in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. This involves estimating our current tax liabilities in each jurisdiction, including the impact, if any, of additional taxes resulting from tax examinations as well as making judgments regarding our ability to realize our deferred tax assets. Such judgments can involve complex issues and may require an extended period to resolve. In the event we determine that we will not be able to realize all or part of our net deferred tax assets, an adjustment would be made in the period such determination is made. We recorded no income tax expense in any of the periods presented, as we have experienced significant operating losses to date. If utilized, the benefit of our total net operating loss carryforwards may be applied to reduce future tax expense. Since our utilization of these deferred tax assets is dependent on future profits, which are not assured, we have recorded a valuation allowance equal to the net deferred tax assets. These carryforwards would also be subject to limitations, as prescribed by applicable tax laws. As a result of prior equity financings and the equity issued in conjunction with certain acquisitions, we have incurred ownership changes, as defined by applicable tax laws. Accordingly, our use of the acquired net operating loss carryforwards may be limited. Further, to the extent that any single year loss is not utilized to the full amount of the limitation, such unused loss is carried over to subsequent years until the earlier of its utilization or the expiration of the relevant carryforward period.

# Overview of Results of Operations for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2004

Revenues during fiscal 2004 totaled approximately \$1.0 million as compared to \$1.3 million for fiscal 2003 representing a decrease of \$300,000. Approximately, \$183,000 of this decrease is attributable to a reduction in related party revenue as Smart Online decreased its dependence on related entities. Operating expenses increased from \$2.9 million in 2003 to \$3.6 million in 2004 primarily as a result of legal and professional costs incurred in preparing to become a public company. The net loss during fiscal 2004 was approximately \$2.7 million compared to a net loss of \$1.6 million for fiscal 2003.

# Fiscal Years Ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002

# **Results of Operations**

The following tables set forth selected statements of operations data for each of the periods indicated.

### Revenues

	For the years ended December 31:							
	2004		2003		2002			
Integration fees	\$ 374,055	\$	367,617	\$	740,561			
Syndication fees	176,471		115,544		202,368			
OEM revenue	55,936		48,620		43,608			
Web services	62,365		207,570		241,420			
Other revenues	4,093		29,015		23,539			
Related party revenues	330,050		492,857		140,149			
Total Revenues	\$ 1,002,970	\$	1,261,223	\$	1,391,645			

#### Fiscal 2004 vs. 2003

Total revenues were \$1,002,970 in fiscal 2004 compared to \$1,261,223 in fiscal 2003 representing a decrease of \$258,253, or 20.5 percent.

During 2004 the Company focused on entering into integration and syndication agreements with third parties who have significant small-business customer bases as it prepares for the launch of its OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> product. This focus resulted in nine new integration and syndication partners, including several major business publications such as Inc. Magazine, FastCompany Magazine and BusinessWeek, and a 7.9 percent increase in integration and syndication revenue as compared to 2003. The 2004 integration revenues included approximately \$113,000 of revenue from barter transactions as compared to \$0 in 2003. Barter revenues are expected to increase in 2005 as a result of new and existing integration and syndication barter arrangements.

Additionally, as a result of the focus on integration and syndication services, web services and other revenues decreased by approximately \$145,000 and \$25,000, respectively. Also during 2004, Smart Online continued to rely less on relationships with related parties resulting in a \$162,807 decrease in related party revenues. Management does not expect related party revenues to be a significant source of income commencing with fiscal 2005.

### Fiscal 2003 vs. 2002

Total revenues were \$1,261,223 in fiscal 2003 compared to \$1,391,645 in fiscal 2002, a decrease of \$130,422, or 9.4 percent. The decrease in revenues was primarily due to the management and officers of Smart Online focusing their efforts during the last half of 2003 on strategic planning, negotiating and evaluating a potential sale of the company, and structuring and negotiating a corporate reorganization in which preferred stock owners converted to common stock. These major efforts took time and focus away from all employees of Smart Online and resulted in a significant reduction in the sales effort. This reduction in sales effort was off-set in part by revenue from performing services for a related party in 2003. Revenue from related parties accounted for \$140,149 or approximately 10.1%, of the 2002 revenues and \$513,057 or approximately 40.7%, of the 2003 revenues. See "Revenue from Related Parties" and Note 12 of Notes to Financial Statements for a description of related party transactions. Additionally, the 2002 period included \$133,979 of non-recurring revenue recognized upon the early termination of six integration agreements. During the 2003 period \$76,389 of revenue was recognized from the early termination of a single integration contract.

Integration fees from unrelated parties decreased from \$740,561 in fiscal 2002 to \$367,617 in fiscal 2003, a decrease of \$372,944, or 50.4%. As noted above, Smart Online's 2003 sales and marketing efforts were significantly reduced resulting in a significant reduction in the signing of new integration partners with the number of new integration customers decreasing from 7 in 2002 to 3 in 2002. Additionally, Smart Online's integration contracts with related

parties resulted in related party integration revenue of \$342,857 in 2003 compared to \$128,571 in 2002.

Syndication fees decreased from \$202,368 in fiscal 2002 to \$115,544 in fiscal 2003, a decrease of \$86,824, or 42.9%. This decrease in syndication fees is primarily attributable to the expiration of a large syndication contract that accounted for approximately \$108,000 of syndication revenue in 2002 and \$0 in 2003. The impact of the contract termination was offset in part by the signing of a new syndication partner in April 2002. 2003 syndication fees from this new partner were approximately \$21,000 higher than in 2002 as the 2003 period covered a full year whereas the 2002 revenues related to only the last nine months of 2002.

2003 and 2002 OEM and "other revenues" were comparable with web services revenues decreasing by \$33,850 as Smart Online focused on its syndication and integration lines of business.

As noted above, integration revenues from related parties accounted for \$128,571 and \$342,857 of related party revenues during 2002 and 2003, respectively. In addition, as discussed in Note 12 of Notes to Financial Statements, during 2003 Smart Online performed \$150,000 of consulting services to an entity owned by an officer of Smart Online and by the officer's brother, who is also an employee of Smart Online.

### **Cost of Revenues**

	For the years ended December 31:						
	2004	2003	2002				
Cost of Revenues	\$ 211,616	\$	187,064	\$	267,058		

### Fiscal 2004 vs. 2003

Cost of revenues is comprised primarily of salaries and wages associated with maintaining and supporting integration and syndication partners. Cost of revenues increased 13.1% from \$187,064 in 2003 to \$211,616 in 2004 primarily as a result of the increased number of integration and syndication partners. Cost of revenues are expected to continue to grow in the future commensurate with growth in integration and syndication partners and as users are added following the 2005 release of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>.

### Fiscal 2003 vs. 2002

Cost of revenues decreased by approximately \$80,000 in 2003 as compared to 2002. The 2002 period included approximately \$37,000 of third-party website hosting fees while the 2003 period only included approximately \$1,000 as a result of Smart Online bringing the website hosting function in-house. The remainder of the decrease was primarily attributable to a decrease in employee costs.

Cost of revenues is comprised primarily of salaries and related employee expenses associated with employees who provide maintenance and support services. Additionally, during 2002 and a portion of 2003 cost of revenues included third-party website hosting fees. The 2002 period included approximately \$37,000 of third party website hosting fees as compared to approximately \$1,000 in the 2003 period as Smart Online brought website hosting in-house. Excluding website hosting fees, cost of revenues represented 17% and 15% of revenues in 2002 and 2003, respectively.

# **Operating Expenses**

	For the years ended December 31:							
	2004			2003		2002		
Operating Expenses								
General and administrative	\$	2,432,928	\$	1,941,920	\$	1,392,658		
Sales and marketing		596,989		321,049		300,653		
Development		563,372		676,472		431,041		
Total Operating Expenses	\$	3,593,289	\$	2,939,441	\$	2,124,352		

## Fiscal 2004 vs. 2003

*General and Administrative* - General and administrative expenses increased by approximately \$491,000 from \$1.9 million in 2003 to \$2.4 million in 2004. The 2004 period included \$350,000 of expense associated with the conversion of certain warrants to common stock during September 2004. Additionally, the 2004 period included \$66,287 of stock based compensation expense as compared to \$733,500 of stock based compensation expense included in the 2003 period related to stock options issued to the CEO of Smart Online and warrants issued to a financial advisor. Legal and professional fees, including those associated with conducting financial statements audits for 2002 and 2003 and one-time expenses associated with preparing to become a public company, totaled \$770,000 in 2004 as compared to \$355,000 in 2003. The 2003 legal and professional fees were primarily related to litigation and settlements obtained regarding outstanding liabilities.

Smart Online anticipates hiring additional staff during 2005. Management anticipates that the incremental cost of these additions will be offset by a reduction in legal and professional fees for non-recurring expenses incurred in 2004, but that the costs of compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and other public company-related expenses will increase general and administrative expenses during 2005.

*Sales and Marketing* - Sales and marketing increased from \$321,049 in 2003 to \$596,989 in 2004, an increase of approximately \$276,000. The 2004 increase was primarily attributable to barter advertising expense that commenced in 2004 and the hiring of additional sales staff. The 2004 period included approximately \$206,000 of barter advertising expense as compared to \$0 for the 2003 period.

Generally, we expect we will have to increase marketing and sales expenses before we can substantially increase our revenue from sales of subscriptions. We plan to invest heavily in marketing and sales by increasing the number of direct sales personnel and increase penetration within our existing customer base, expanding our domestic and international selling and marketing activities, building brand awareness and participating in additional marketing programs. We expect that in the future, marketing and sales expenses will increase in absolute dollars and will be a significant cost.

*Development* - Development expense decreased from \$676,472 in 2003 to \$563,372 in 2004. The 2003 period included approximately \$268,000 of stock based compensation expense related to stock options issued to an officer as compared to approximately \$41,000 included in the 2004 year. Excluding the 2003 stock based compensation expense, development expense increased by approximately \$114,000 as Smart Online added additional programming, database management, quality assurance, and project management resources to support the on-going development of the OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> product.

Smart Online expects development expenses to increase during 2005 as a result of anticipated hiring of additional development, database management, and project management resources.

### Fiscal 2003 vs. 2002

*General and Administrative* - General and administrative expenses increased by \$549,261 from \$1,392,658 in 2002 to \$1,941,920 in 2003. The 2003 period included approximately \$733,500 of stock based compensation expense related to stock options issued to the CEO of Smart Online and warrants issued to a financial advisor. This increase was offset in part by a \$50,000 decrease in salaries and wages which in part reflected the departure of the company's full-time chief financial officer and approximately \$183,000 of lower book depreciation expense as assets became fully depreciated. Additionally, these decreases were offset by an increase of approximately \$36,000 in accounting and professional fees which included payments to a contractor that replaced the chief financial officer.

*Sales and Marketing* - Sales and marketing increased from \$300,653 in 2002 to \$321,049 in 2003 primarily as a result of increased use of consultants. The 2003 period included \$78,333 of consulting expense, including \$27,083 paid to a consulting firm owned by one Smart Online's officers to provide strategic international sales and marketing, as compared to \$0 for 2002. This increase in consulting expense was offset in part by a \$22,238 reduction in marketing expense and a \$38,299 reduction in compensation cost primarily attributable to a reduction in sales and marketing wages.

*Development* - Development expense increased from \$431,041 in 2002 to \$676,472 in 2003. The 2003 period included approximately \$267,500 of stock based compensation expense related to stock options issued to an office. The 2002 period included approximately \$17,000 of contract development expenses for which there was no comparable 2003 expense. Additionally, 2003 development salaries and wages were \$27,498 lower than 2002 due to the elimination of one position. These decreases were offset in part by \$15,000 of consulting expense incurred during 2003.

## **Other Income (Expense)**

	For the years ended December 31:							
		2004		2003		2002		
Other Income & Expenses								
Interest expense, net	\$	(119,389)	\$	(186,248)	\$	(89,912)		
Gain from debt forgiveness		249,395		492,757		338,866		
Loss on disposal of assets		-		-		(54,595)		
Total Other Income & Expenses	\$	130,006	\$	306,509	\$	194,359		

#### Fiscal 2004 vs. 2003

Smart Online incurred net interest expense of \$119,389 and \$186,248 during 2004 and 2003, respectively. The 2004 and 2003 interest expense amounts each included \$75,000 of interest related to the issuance of 150,000 shares of common stock to a relative of one of Smart Online's officers in consideration for extending the term of a loan and loaning additional funds to the corporation as describe in Note 7 to the accompanying audited financial statements. The remainder of the 2004 and 2003 interest expense is primarily attributable to interest due on deferred compensation owed to officers of Smart Online and interest related to unpaid payroll tax obligations. Both the deferred compensation and income tax obligations were relieved during the first quarter of 2005, therefore, management expects that interest expense will be significantly lower in 2005.

During 2004 and 2003, Smart Online realized gains totaling \$249,395 and \$492,757, respectively, from negotiated and contractual releases of outstanding liabilities. The gains from debt forgiveness resulted from unrelated third parties, primarily trade creditors who had performed services for Smart Online, agreeing to accept as payment in full a lesser amount than the stated liability in consideration for timely payment of the negotiated settlement. With the exception of a negotiated settlement with the Internal Revenue Service that resulted in a gain of approximately \$547,000 in the first quarter of 2005 (see Note 15 to the accompanying audited financial statements), Smart Online does not expect gains from debt forgiveness to be material in future periods.

### Fiscal 2003 vs. 2002

During 2003 and 2002 Smart Online realized gains totaling \$492,757 and \$338,866, respectively, resulting from negotiated and contractual releases of outstanding liabilities. The gains from debt forgiveness resulted from unrelated third parties, primarily trade creditors who had performed services for Smart Online, agreeing to accept as payment in full a lesser amount than the stated liability in consideration for timely payment of the negotiated settlement. Additionally, during 2002 Smart Online realized a loss of \$54,595 in connection with disposing of assets principally related to Smart Online moving to new office space.

### **Provision for Income Taxes**

We have not recorded a provision for income tax expense because we have been generating net losses. Furthermore, we have not recorded an income tax benefit for fiscal 2004, 2003, and 2002 primarily due to continued substantial uncertainty regarding our ability to realize our deferred tax assets. Based upon available objective evidence, there has been sufficient uncertainty regarding the ability to realize our deferred tax assets, which warrants a full valuation allowance in our financial statements. Smart Online has approximately \$29,000,000 in net operating loss carryforwards, which may utilized to offset future taxable income.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

At December 31, 2004, our principal sources of liquidity were cash and cash equivalents totaling \$173,339, marketable securities totaling \$395,000, and accounts receivable of \$30,904. We do not have a bank line of credit.

At December 31, 2004, we had approximately a \$1.3 million deficit in working capital, which is not sufficient to fund our operations for the next year, unless we substantially increase our revenue, limit expenses or raise substantial additional capital.

Smart Online leases its facility under a renewable, operating lease agreement, which current term expires in October 2005. As of December 31, 2004, future minimum operating lease payments total \$102,040 all of which is payable in 2005.

Our primary source of liquidity during 2004 was from sales of our securities. During the 2004, Smart Online generated net cash from financing activities, including the sales of common stock, of approximately \$4.2 million. During the same period Smart Online consumed approximately \$3.7 million of cash in operations, including payment of \$1,126,485 paid related to outstanding payroll tax liabilities.

**Going Concern.** Our auditors have issued an explanatory paragraph in its report in which they express substantial doubt as to our ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded asset amounts or the amounts or classification of liabilities that might be necessary should Smart Online be unable to continue as a going concern. Smart Online's continuation as a going concern is dependent upon its ability to generate sufficient cash flows to meets its obligations on a timely basis, to obtain additional financing as may be required and ultimately to attain profitable operations and positive cash flows. As is discussed below, management has plans, which it believes will enable Smart Online to raise capital and generate greater cash flows from operations. However, there can be no assurance that these efforts will be successful. If our efforts are unsuccessful, we may have to cease operations and liquidate our business.

**Recent Developments.** As of March 31, 2005, Smart Online raised an additional \$2,735,000 of proceeds, net of stock issuance costs of \$290,000, through the sale of additional shares of Common Stock and a warrant to purchase 50,000 shares of Common Stock. Approximately, \$1.1 million of the proceeds were used in the first quarter of 2005 to pay-off the deferred compensation to our officers and related accrued interest amounts. Additionally, during February 2005, Smart Online reached a settlement with the Internal Revenue Service, paid \$26,100, surrendered all credits and refunds for 2005 or earlier tax periods, and agreed to remain in compliance with all federal tax obligations for a term of five years to resolve all outstanding federal tax issues (see Note 15 to the audited financial statements). In April 2004, Smart Online settled for \$50,000 claims made by U.S. News & World Reports.

As a result of the 2005 cash infusion from stock sales, payment of the deferred compensation and accrued interest, settlement of the Internal Revenue Service matter, and based upon current cash-on-hand and contracts signed to date, management of Smart Online believes the Company has sufficient working capital to fund operations through August 2005. Management is actively evaluating additional financing options through existing and new shareholders for 2005, signing additional syndication partners, signing additional integration partners, and continuing to grow its base of subscription customers.

**Future Capital Raising and Acquisitions.** Although we are currently not a party to any agreement or letter of intent with respect to potential investments in, or acquisitions of, complementary businesses, services or technologies, we may enter into these types of arrangements in the future, which could also require us to seek additional equity or debt financing. Additional funds may not be available on terms favorable to us or at all. If we cannot raise the capital we need, we may be forced to liquidate our business and investors could lose their entire investment.

Anticipated Increases in Expenses to Fund Growth In Revenue. With the release of our, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup> next generation platform and the expenses associated with becoming a public company, we believe our capital requirements in 2005 and beyond will be greater than in past years. As such, our historical cash flows may not be indicative of future cash flows. The following is a discussion of factors that we consider important to our future capital requirements and which will affect the amount of additional capital we need to raise.

Our future capital requirements will depend on many factors, including our rate of revenue growth, the expansion of our marketing and sales activities, the timing and extent of spending to support product development efforts and expansion into new territories, the timing of introductions of new services and enhancements to existing services, and the market acceptance of our services

Primary drivers for future operating cash flows include the commercial success of our existing services and products and the timing and success of any new services and products. Smart Online will continue to seek additional integration and syndication customers who typically pay an upfront fee and to increase revenues generated from small business end users.

**Integration, Syndication and Other Contracts.** Upfront payments totaling approximately \$330,000, primarily related to new integration and syndication contracts, positively impacted operating cash flows for the year-ended December 31, 2004. We are devoting greater efforts to enter into syndication and integration agreements as we release our Next Generation Platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>. Smart Online is in discussions with several potential integration, syndications, and technology platform licensing partners that, if successful, could result in positive cash flow from operations, including greater upfront payments, although there can be no assurance tat our efforts will result in signed new contracts.

**Receivables.** If we are successful in signing new contracts, we anticipate our receivables and collections from integration, syndication, and end-user licensing opportunities to increase significantly starting during the first quarter of 2006. Smart Online's receivables are primarily from major companies or banking institutes, and not end users. Management has evaluated the need for an allowance for doubtful accounts and determined that no provision for uncollectible accounts is required as of December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002.

**Media and Barter Transactions.** Smart Online expects to create arrangements in the future with media companies who offer the ability to reach small business customers and will assist in off-setting Smart Online's outlay of cash for more costly print and online advertising and marketing. While we intend to derive a majority of our syndication revenue from traditional non-barter transactions, we will evaluate barter transactions on a case-by-case basis when we believe such transactions make economic or strategic sense to the Company.

End User Customer Revenue. We currently allow many users of our web-based products to access our products without charge. Our primary marketing strategy to date has been price-based promotions, which gains us users, but limits our revenue. For example, CD-ROM products are provided to OEMs for a nominal charge. In addition, Smart Online has permitted many customers to use its web-based products for free, either by offering free initial service or by allowing users that fail to pay our monthly subscription fees to continue to access our web-based products. We plan to continue to offer free or discounted pricing on our products until we introduce the second version of our Next Generation Platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, which is expected to occur at the end of the third quarter of 2005. We will seek to grow our monthly subscription volume substantially over the 24 months following the release of later versions of OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM</sup>, although we expect substantial increases only after we have sufficient time to sell our new product and after we invest substantially greater amounts in marketing and sales. We expect monthly subscription fees will typically be \$29.95 to \$49.95 for new subscribers at www.smartonline.com, although to date we have given free access to our web services to most users. We expect lower fees from subscribers at the private label syndication websites of our syndication partners. Currently, most of our syndication agreements call for us to receive 50% of revenue generated. A la carte pricing, which allows customers to purchase one-time use of a specific software or content service, ranges from \$10 to \$300, which includes third-party charges when applicable, such as state and federal fees associated with incorporating a business or additional fees associated with having a press release written and revised. However, here can be no assurance that we will be successful in attracting new customers or that customers will pay for our products after we introduce our Second Generation Platform.

**Marketing and Sales Expense Increases**. At the end of the third quarter of 2005, we plan to invest heavily in marketing and sales by increasing the number of direct sales personnel and increase penetration within our existing customer base, expanding our domestic and international selling and marketing activities, building brand awareness and participating in additional marketing programs. This increase is being timed to coincide with the planned release of the second version of our Next Generation Platform, OneBiz Conductor<sup>SM.</sup>

**Gains From Debt Foregiveness.** During 2004, 2003, and 2002 Smart Online realized gains totaling \$249,395, \$492,757, and \$338,866, respectively, resulting from negotiated and contractual releases of outstanding liabilities. The gains from debt foregiveness resulted from unrelated third parties, primarily trade creditors who had performed services for Smart Online, agreeing to accept as payment in full a lesser amount than the stated liability in consideration for timely payment of the negotiated settlement. Had Smart Online been unable to reach agreement with these creditors, Smart Online's liabilities and future cash flow requirements would have been higher by the amount of the debt foregiven.

**Public Company Expenses.** As a public company, we will incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not incur as a private company. We will incur costs associated with our public company reporting requirements. We also anticipate that we will incur costs associated with recently adopted corporate governance

requirements, including requirements under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as well as new rules implemented by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the NASD. We expect these rules and regulations to increase our legal and financial compliance costs and to make some activities more time-consuming and costly. Any unanticipated difficulties in preparing for and implementing these reforms could result in material delays in complying with these new laws and regulations or significantly increase our costs. Our ability to fully comply with these new laws and regulations could significantly harm our business, operating results, and financial condition. We are currently evaluating and monitoring developments with respect to these new rules, and we cannot predict or estimate the amount of additional costs we may incur or the timing of such costs. We estimate this will add approximately \$500,000 to our expenses during our first year as a public company.

**Legal Claims.** Smart Online is subject to other claims and suits that arise from time to time in the ordinary course of business. While management currently believes that resolving these matters, individually or in aggregate, will not have a material adverse impact on Smart Online's financial position or results of operations, the litigation and other claims noted above are subject to inherent uncertainties and management's view of these matters may change in the future. Were an unfavorable final outcome to occur, there exists the possibility of a material adverse impact on Smart Online's financial position for the period in which the effect becomes reasonably estimable. See "Description of Business — Legal Proceedings" for a description of current litigation.

#### <u>Table of Contents</u> Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

#### Foreign currency exchange risk

During 2004, 2003, and 2002, all of our contracts and transactions were U.S. dollar denominated. As a result our results of operations and cash flows are not subject to fluctuations due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

#### Interest rate sensitivity

We had unrestricted cash and cash equivalents totaling \$173,339, \$101,486, and \$26,940 at December 31, 2004, 2003, and 2002, respectively. These amounts were invested primarily in demand deposit accounts and money market funds. The unrestricted cash and cash equivalents are held for working capital purposes. We do not enter into investments for trading or speculative purposes. Due to the short-term nature of these investments, we believe that we do not have any material exposure to changes in the fair value of our investment portfolio as a result of changes in interest rates. Declines in interest rates, however, will reduce future investment income.

#### OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, PROMOTERS AND CONTROL PERSONS

#### **Executive Officers and Directors**

The names of our directors and executive officers are listed below. None of the officers and directors of Smart Online named below serve on the Board of Directors of any other public reporting company. Our executive officers are appointed by our board of directors to hold office until their successors are appointed the terms of all directors expire at the next annual meeting of stockholders and upon election of their successors. The terms of all officers expire upon the next annual meeting of Directors and upon the election of the successors to such officers.

Name		Age	Position
Dennis Michael Nouri(1)(2)(3)		51	President, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Director
Henry Nouri(2)		48	Executive Vice President
Ronna Loprete(3)		35	Vice President, Administrator, Director
Thomas Furr		38	Vice President, Sales, Director
Anil Kamath		38	Vice President Technology
Jose Collazo		32	Vice President, Internet Development
Scott Whitaker		34	Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting
			Officer
David S. Y. Sarna	56		Director
Frank Coll		45	Director

(1) Michael Nouri's full name is Dennis Michael Nouri.

(2) Dennis Michael Nouri and Henry Nouri are brothers

(3) Michael Nouri and Ronna Loprete are married.

**Michael Nouri, President and Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board and Director.** Michael Nouri's full name is Dennis Michael Nouri. Mr. Nouri co-founded Smart Online in 1993 to develop and market business productivity software to provide small businesses with cost-effective tools that address critical business issues and enhance their competitive positioning. He has been President, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Board and a Director of Smart Online since it was started. Prior to founding Smart Online, Mr. Nouri was founder and CEO of the Nouri Group of Companies from 1980 to 1991. The Nouri Group of Companies acquired a number of government-owned manufacturers in Europe and privatized them. The Nouri Group was a multi-national conglomerate with diversified activities in real estate development, investment, construction, motor yacht manufacturing, high-end home design and architecture, marketing and publishing and stock trading. More than half of the company's business was derived from real estate development and investment and joint ventures. Another third of the company's business was derived from construction and motor yacht manufacturing.

**Henry Nouri, Executive Vice President, Research and Development.** Mr. Nouri co-founded Smart Online in 1993 and has been its Vice President, Research and Development and a Director since that time. Currently, he manages Smart Online's research and development teams. He is responsible for development of the company's CD-ROM and Internet-hosted applications, for creating the extensive research and information management systems required to control the flow of vital validated business data and the effective delivery of that information to the business user.

**Ronna Loprete, Vice President, Administration and Director.** Ms. Loprete is responsible for all administrative and office operations activities. In addition, she manages Smart Online's relationships with legal advisors and develops and defines all corporate and organizational

policies. She joined Smart Online in 1995. In 1998 she became Vice President, Administration. In 1996 she became a Director of Smart Online. Prior to joining Smart Online in 1995, she was a territory supervisor/administrator for Markel Corporation, a high-risk insurance company.

#### Table of Contents

**Thomas Furr, Vice President, Sales and Director.** Mr. Furr is responsible for developing and implementing strategies to leverage existing direct and indirect distribution channels. He has been Vice President, Sales of Smart Online since 2001. In 2002 he also became a Director. He was a co-founder and president of Kinetics, Inc., one of the first online commerce providers for the small business industry, from 1994 until 1995. Smart Online purchased Kinetics in 1995. After founding Kinetics, Mr. Furr was with the Plurimus Corporation from 1999 until 2001, where he managed Plurimus' southeast direct sales efforts. Previously, from 1996 until 1999 he managed East Coast direct sales and channel efforts in Canada and South Africa for Information Retrieval Corporation (IRC), a leading multi-national back-end CRM/help desk company. Mr. Furr holds a bachelor's degree in finance from East Carolina University.

Anil Kamath, Vice President, Technology. Mr. Kamath joined Smart Online as Director of Database Implementation in July 1999 and became Vice President, Technology in 2000. Mr. Kamath is responsible for the architecture of the web-native (SaS) platform at SmartOnline; supervises the development team, and provides architectural design direction for new software and hardware implementations. Before joining Smart Online he was the senior database architect for A-4 Health Systems from 1998 to 1999 and senior software architect and technical manager of BSG Imonics) from 1991 until 1997. He holds a master's degree in computer and information sciences from the University of Florida.

Jose Collazo, Vice President, Internet Development. Mr. Collazo is responsible for overseeing all aspects of software development. Joining Smart Online in 1995, he has been a major contributor to Smart Online's extensive suite of offline and online applications. Mr. Collazo is an expert is using core web technologies, such as Java, HTML, XML / XSL, and was instrumental in the development of the syndication platform used by Smart Online for its syndication partners. Mr. Collazo holds a bachelor's degree in computer science from the University of Georgia.

**Scott Whitaker, Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer.** Mr. Whitaker, 34 years old, has been responsible for supporting the efforts of other officers of Smart Online with respect to internal controls and other internal accounting functions of Smart Online. He joined Smart Online in 1998 as accounting manager, was promoted to Controller in 2002 and was appointed Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer in March 2005.

**David S. Y. Sarna, Director.** Mr. Sarna became a Director of Smart Online during April 2005. Since August, 2002, Mr. Sarna has worked through Hendon, Stamford Hill & Co., and Securities Acquisition New York, LLC (SANY), an investment and mergers and acquisitions firm. Mr. Sarna founded ObjectSoft Corporation, a developer and operator of kiosks in 1990. He was the Chairman and a director of ObjectSoft Corporation from December 1990 to April 2001. ObjectSoft Corporation filed for bankruptcy protection in July 2001, after Mr. Sarna had left ObjectSoft, and its assets were later acquired by SANY, which Mr. Sarna owns. Mr. Sarna also founded Image Business Systems Corporation (IBS) in 1988, a software company specializing in document image. Prior to founding IBS, Mr. Sarna was Executive Vice President and a co-founder of International Systems Services Corporation, a consulting and software company and, prior to that, he was employed by Price Waterhouse & Co., IBM and Honeywell. Mr. Sarna is a co-author of *PC Magazine Windows Rapid Application Development* (published by Ziff- Davis Press in 1994), several other books and over 80 articles published in professional magazines. Mr. Sarna is also the co-inventor of patented software for the recognition of bar-codes and other software for the control of kiosks. Mr. Sarna is a well-known lecturer and has appeared on television many times, including national appearances on the Fox Network and CNN.

**Frank Coll, Director.** Mr. Coll became a Director of Smart Online during April 2005. Mr. Coll has been with AmSurg Corporation, which develops, acquires and manages single specialty ambulatory surgery centers in partnership with surgical and other group physician practices since February 2005 as Senior Vice President, Operations. From November 2001 until joining AmSurge, Mr. Coll served as President and Principal of The Bottom Line Solution, a private management consulting company. From November 1999 until October 2001, he served as Senior Vice President, Operations for WebMD/Envoy Corporation, which primarily provides electronic transaction processing services to the healthcare industry.

Except as disclosed below, none of the directors or executive officers has, during the past five years:

- (a) Had any bankruptcy petition filed by or against any business of which such person was a general partner or executive officer either at the time of the bankruptcy or within two years prior to that time;
- (b) Been convicted in a criminal proceeding or subject to a pending criminal proceeding;
- (c) Been subject to any order, judgment, or decree, not subsequently reversed, suspended or vacated, of any court of competent jurisdiction, permanently or temporarily enjoining, barring, suspending or otherwise limiting his involvement in any type of business, securities, futures, commodities or banking activities; and
- (d) Been found by a court of competent jurisdiction (in a civil action), the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to have violated a federal or state securities or commodities law, and the judgment has not been reversed, suspended, or vacated.

Michael Nouri and Henry Nouri were officers and directors of two companies in Italy, which were ordered into bankruptcy by Italian courts in 1993. Under Italian laws, Michael Nouri and Henry Nouri cannot serve as an officer or director of any Italian company, because of these bankruptcies. David S. Y. Sarna was President and a Director of Object Soft Corporation until April 2001. ObjectSoft Corporation filed for bankruptcy protection in July 2001, after Mr. Sarna had left ObjectSoft, and its assets were later acquired by SANY, which Mr. Sarna owns.

#### Table of Contents

#### **Board of Directors.**

Currently, a majority of our Directors are also officers of Smart Online. Only David S. Y. Sarna and Frank Coll are "independent" as defined by Securities and Exchange Commission, stock exchange and NASDAQ rules regarding board members, committees and other corporate governance standards. We have not yet established any committees of the Board of Directors. We will seek to change our Board of Directors to meet these standards when we identify qualified people who are willing to serve on our Board of Directors. We do not currently have in place any procedures for our shareholders to recommend nominees to serve on our board of directors.

Number of Directors. Our Board of Directors currently consists of five persons. Our bylaws provide that the whole Board of Directors may consist of that number of directors as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time.

**Term of Office.** Our Directors are currently elected to hold office until the next annual meeting of our stockholders and until their respective successors have been elected and qualified, but our Bylaws provide that when the number of directors increases to six or more members our directors will have staggered terms of three years so that each year the terms of approximately one third of the entire Board of Directors will expire. The last annual meeting or written consent in lieu of annual meeting of our stockholders to elect the Board of Directors was held on January 1, 2005.

**Independent Directors.** Less than a majority of our Directors are "independent," as defined in Securities and Exchange Commission or stock exchange or NASDAQ rules. We intend to search for independent Directors and add them to our Board when we identify suitable candidates who are willing to serve as directors.

**Committees.** Our Board of Directors currently does not have any audit committee or any other committee. We believe David S. Y. Sarna has the experience and qualification to meet the definition of a "financial expert" under Securities and Exchange Commission rules governing audit committees. We intend to form an audit committee and other committees of our Board at the beginning of the third quarter of 2005.

**Code of Ethics.** We have adopted a code of ethics applicable to our executives, including our principal executive officer, principal accounting officer and principal financial officer, as defined by applicable rules of the SEC. It is publicly available on our web site at *www.smartonline.com*. If we make any amendments to our code of ethics other than technical, administrative, or other non-substantive amendments, or grant any waivers, including implicit waivers, from a provision of our code of ethics to our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, or certain other finance executives, we will disclose the nature of the amendment or waiver, its effective date and to whom it applies on our web site at *www.smartonline.com* or in a report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC.

#### **User Advisory Board**

We have organized an User Advisory Board, consisting of up to 10 professionals representing expertise in a broad range of business areas to assist Smart Online marketing and sales executives with ongoing product development planning, pricing, partnerships, new product development and other issues, including customer acquisition and retention. User Advisory Board members provide advice to Smart Online's management, but do not have any power to make decisions. User Advisory Board members also do not have the same duties and liabilities as members of Board of Directors have. Each of our User Advisory Board members has been granted nonqualified options to purchase 10,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$3.50 per share, which options vest in equal increments of 1,250 per meeting attended, provided the member remains on the Advisory Board for at least one year. At present, members of the User Advisory Board include Mark Self, Rick Bernhardt, Brian Kinahan, Felix Mulhebach, Thomas Martignon and William Eldridge.

### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

## **Summary Compensation Table**

The table below summarizes all compensation awarded to, earned by, or paid to those persons who in calendar year 2004 were our five highest-paid executive officers for all services rendered in all capacities to us for the calendar years listed below.

							01	THER I	RESTRICTED	SARS/OPTIONS			
													ALL
							AN	NUAL	STOCK	GRANTED	LTIP	0	THER
NAME	TITLE	YEAR	SA	ALARYB	ON	ISN	<b>MPE</b>	NSAT	<b>OW</b> ARDED	CON	<b>IPENSAC</b>	CIMR	ENSATIO
Dennis													
Michael													
Nouri (1)	CEO	2004	\$	170,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	0	\$ 0	\$	14,616
										250,000			
		2003		150,000		0	\$	0	none	options		\$	14,684
		2002	\$	150,000	\$	0		0	none	0		\$	11,226
		2001	\$	150,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	0	\$ C	\$	10.212
	Executive												
Henry Nouri	Vice												
(2)	President	2004	\$	150,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	0	\$ C	\$	9,303
										250,000			
		2003	\$	150,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	options	\$ 0	\$	9,636
				150,000		0	\$	0	none	0		\$	6,528
		2001	\$	150,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	0	\$ 0	\$	5,650
Ronna													
Loprete (3)										75,000			
(4)	VP			120,000		0		0	none	options		\$	0
				120,000				0	none	0		\$	0
		2002	\$	120,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	0	\$ 0	\$	0
									220,000				
		2001	\$	120,000	\$	0	\$	0	shares	0			
Jose Collazo										75,000			
(4)	VP			100,000		0		0	none	options		\$	0
		2003		120,000		0		0	none	0		\$	0
		2002	\$	100,000	\$	0	\$	0	none	0	\$ C	\$	0
									200,000				
		2001	\$	105,000	\$	0	\$	0	shares	0			
Anil Kamath										75,000			
(4)	VP			125,000		0		0	none	options		\$	0
		2003		100,000				0	none	0		\$	0
				100,000		0		0	none	0		\$	0
		2001	\$	106,250	\$	0	\$	0	200,000	0	\$ C	\$	0

shares

- (1) The amounts of salary in the table above reflect amounts that accrued under an employment agreement. Because Dennis Michael Nouri agreed to allow Smart Online to defer part of his accrued compensation he received only the following amounts of salary: \$113,750 in 2004; \$35,000 in 2003, \$26,250 in 2002, \$37,500 in 2001, \$150,000 in 2000 and \$150,000 in 1999. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Interested Transactions" for a description of salary deferrals. All deferred compensation was paid in full before the end of February 2005. "Other Compensation" consists of payments for health insurance for family members of Mr. Nouri.
- (2) The amounts of salary in the table above reflect amounts that accrued under an employment agreement. Because Henry Nouri agreed to allow Smart Online to defer part of his accrued compensation he received only the following amounts of salary: \$102,083 in 2004. \$35,000 in 2003, \$26,250 in 2002, \$37,500 in 2001, \$143,300 in 2000 and \$89,300 in 1999. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Interested Transactions" for a description of salary deferrals. All deferred compensation was paid in full before the end of February 2005. "Other Compensation" consists of payments for health insurance for family members of Mr. Nouri.
- (3) The amounts of salary in the table above reflect amounts that accrued under an employment agreement. Because Ronna Loprete agreed to allow Smart Online to defer part of her accrued compensation she received only the following amounts of salary: \$107,500 in 2004, \$90,000 in 2003, \$90,000 in 2002, \$97,500 in 2001, \$113,300 in 2000 and \$80,000 in 1999. All deferred compensation was paid in full before the end of February 2005. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Interested Transactions" for a description of salary deferrals.
- (4) The shares of restricted stock in the table above were purchased in 2001 at a purchase price of \$0.02 per share, which Smart Online determined to be the fair market value of the shares at that time.

# <u>Table of Contents</u> Aggregated Option Grants in Year 2004 and Option Values at December 31, 2004

The following table provides information concerning unexercised options held as of December 31, 2004, by each of our executive officers:

	Underlying Un	of Securities exercised Options ber 31, 2004	Value of Unexercised In-the-Money Options at December 31, 2004 <sup>(1)</sup>				
Name	Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable	Unexercisable			
Michael Nouri	250,000	0	\$892,500	0			
Henry Nouri	250,000	0	\$892,500	0			
Ronna Loprete	75,000	0	\$277,500	0			
Thomas Furr	75,000	0	\$277,500	0			
Anil Kamath	0	75,000	\$ 0	\$112,500			
Tamir Sagie	200,000	0	\$740,000	0			
Jose Collazo	0	75,000	\$ 0	\$112,500			
Deb Lovig	0	75,000	\$ 0	\$112,500			
Scott Whitaker	0	25,000	\$ 0	\$112,500			

Based on the last price at which Smart Online sold shares of Common Stock at \$5.00 per share in April 2005, minus the exercise price, multiplied by the number of shares issued upon the exercise of, or subject to, the option, without taking into account any taxes that may be payable in connection with the transaction.
 Option Grants During Year 2004

The following options to purchase shares of our common stock were granted to executive officers during the year ended December 31, 2004:

Named	Number of Shares	% of Total Options Granted to Employees				Poter Realizable Assumed Ann Stock Price A For Optic	Value At nual Rates of Appreciation
Executive	Subject to	During	Date of	Exercise	Expiration	<b>5%</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>10%</b> <sup>(1)</sup>
Officer	Options	Period	Grant	Price	Date		
Michael Nouri	0	0					
Henry Nouri	0	0					
Thomas Furr	75,000	12.4 %	02/05/04	\$ 1.30	02/05/09	\$141,803	\$204,471
Ronna Loprete	75,000	12.4 %	02/05/04	\$ 1.30	02/05/09	\$141,803	\$204,471
Anil Kamath	75,000	12.4 %	05/01/04	\$ 3.50	05/01/14	\$165,085	\$418,357
Jose Collazo	75,000	12.4 %	05/01/04	\$ 3.50	05/01/14	\$165,085	\$418,357
Deb Lovig	75,000	12.4%	07/01/04	\$ 3.50	07/01/14	\$165,085	\$418,357
Scott Whitaker	25,000	4.1%	04/01/04	\$ 3.50	04/01/14	\$ 55,028	\$139,452

(1) In accordance with SEC rules, these columns show gains that could accrue for the respective options, assuming that the market price of Smart Online common stock appreciates from the date of grant over the maximum life of the option at an annualized rate of 5% and 10%, respectively. If the stock price does not increase above the exercise price at the time of exercise, realized value to the named executives from these options will be zero. Rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission permit Smart Online to use 5% and 10% in this table. There can be no assurance that the price of Smart Online's stock will increase and this table does not constitute any prediction of the future value of its stock by Smart Online.

## **Employment Agreements**

We have the following employment agreements with the five executive officers named in the compensation table above.

Dennis Michael Nouri. Elsewhere in this document, Mr. Nouri is referred to as Michael Nouri, because he uses his middle name instead of his first name in most business dealings. Effective April 1, 2004, covering employment commencing as of June 1, 2004 Smart Online and Michael Nouri entered into an employment agreement, which provided for an initial base salary of \$170,000. The agreement replaced an employment agreement dated July 14, 1999 that was about to expire. The new agreement has a termination date of December 31, 2005, but it will be automatically extended for additional two-year terms, unless either Mr. Nouri or Smart Online provides the other with written notice of intention not to renew at least 180 days prior to the end of the term or the end of any renewal period. The agreement requires Smart Online to make a severance payment to Mr. Nouri in an amount equal to twelve months of base salary, if either Smart Online terminates Mr. Nouri's employment without "cause" (as defined in the agreement) or Mr. Nouri terminates his employment for "good reason" (as defined in the agreement). The agreement also contains a retention provision designed to incentivise Mr. Nouri to remain employed by Smart Online following a "change of control" as defined in the agreement. Under this retention provision, if Mr. Nouri remains employed by the surviving entity for a period of time after the change of control occurs designated by the Board of Directors of the surviving entity, and either his employment is terminated by the surviving entity without cause or by Mr. Nouri for good reason, the surviving entity must pay Mr. Nouri an amount equal to 299% of his highest annual salary and bonuses during the preceding five years. This retention payment is in addition to other severance payments described above. Mr. Nouri's agreement contains non-competition and non-solicitation provisions. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Interested

Transactions" for a description of the salary deferral and standstill agreements between Mr. Nouri and Smart Online, which continue in effect.

Henry Nouri. Effective April 1, 2004, covering employment commencing as of June 1, 2004 Smart Online and Henry Nouri entered into an employment agreement, which provided for an initial base salary of \$150,000. The agreement replaced an employment agreement dated July 14, 1999 that was about to expire. The new agreement has a termination date of December 31, 2005, but it will be automatically extended for additional two-year terms, unless either Mr. Nouri or Smart Online provides the other with written notice of intention not to renew at least 180 days prior to the end of the term or the end of any renewal period. The agreement requires Smart Online to make a severance payment to Mr. Nouri in an amount equal to twelve months of base salary, if either Smart Online terminates Mr. Nouri's employment without "cause" (as defined in the agreement) or Mr. Nouri terminates his employment for "good reason" (as defined in the agreement). The agreement also contains a retention provision designed to incentivise Mr. Nouri to remain employed by Smart Online following a "change of control" as defined in the agreement. Under this retention provision, if Mr. Nouri remains employed by the surviving entity for a period of time after the change of control occurs designated by the Board of Directors of the surviving entity, and either his employment is terminated by the surviving entity without cause or by Mr. Nouri for good reason, the surviving entity must pay Mr. Nouri an amount equal to 299% of his highest annual salary and bonuses during the preceding five years. This retention payment is in addition to other severance payments described above. Mr. Nouri's agreement contains non-competition and non-solicitation provisions. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Interested Transactions" for a description of the salary deferral and standstill agreements between Mr. Nouri and Smart Online, which continue in effect.

**Ronna Loprete**. Effective April 1, 2004, covering employment commencing as of June 1, 2004 Smart Online and Ronna Loprete entered into an employment agreement which provided for an initial base salary of \$120,000. The agreement replaced an employment agreement dated June 29, 1999 that was about to expire. The new agreement has a termination date of December 31, 2005, but it will be automatically extended for additional one-year terms, unless either Ms. Loprete or Smart Online provides the other with written notice of intention not to renew at least 30 days prior to the end of the term or the end of any renewal period. The agreement requires Smart Online to make a severance payment to Ms. Loprete in an amount equal to three months of base salary, if either Smart Online terminates Ms. Loprete's employment without cause (as defined in the agreement) or Ms. Loprete terminates her employment for "good reason" (as defined in the agreement). Ms. Loprete's agreement contains non-competition and non-solicitation provisions. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Interested Transactions" for a description of the salary deferral and standstill agreements between Ms. Loprete and Smart Online, which continue in effect.

**Jose Collazo**. Effective May 1, 2004, covering employment commencing as of June 1, 2004 Smart Online and Jose Collazo entered into an employment agreement, which provided for an initial base salary of \$120,000. The agreement replaced an employment agreement dated August 1, 2000 that would expire later this year. The new agreement has a termination date of December 31, 2005, but it will be automatically extended for additional one-year terms, unless either Mr. Collazo or Smart Online provides the other with written notice of intention not to renew at least 30 days prior to the end of the term or of any renewal period. The agreement requires Smart Online to make a severance payment to Mr. Collazo in an amount equal to three months of base salary, if either Smart Online terminates Mr. Collazo's employment without cause (as defined in the agreement) or Mr. Collazo terminates his employment for "good reason" (as defined in the agreement). Mr. Collazo's agreement contains non-competition and non-solicitation provisions. The new agreement was accompanied by a grant of incentive stock options for seventy-five thousand (75,000) shares of common stock at an exercise price of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) vesting over a two (2) year period in four (4) equal installments and exercisable for nine (9) years and eleven (11) months. Option vesting is accelerated upon a change of control or corporate reorganization such that all options would vest immediately.

Anil Kamath. Effective May 1, 2004, covering employment commencing as of June 1, 2004 Smart Online and Anil Kamath entered into an employment agreement which provided for an initial base salary of \$125,000. The agreement replaced an employment agreement dated October 16, 2000 that would expire later this year. The new agreement has a termination date of December 31, 2005, but it will be automatically extended for additional one-year terms, unless either Mr. Kamath or Smart Online provides the other with written notice of intention not to renew at least 30 days prior to the end of the term or of any renewal period. The agreement requires Smart Online to make a severance

payment to Mr. Kamath in an amount equal to three months of base salary, if either Smart Online terminates Mr. Kamath's employment without cause (as defined in the agreement) or Mr. Kamath terminates his employment for "good reason" (as defined in the agreement). Mr. Kamath's agreement contains non-competition and non-solicitation provisions. The new agreement was accompanied by a grant of incentive stock options for seventy-five thousand (75,000) shares of common stock at an exercise price of three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) vesting over a two (2) year period in four (4) equal installments and exercisable for nine (9) years and eleven (11) months. Option vesting is accelerated upon a change of control or corporate reorganization such that all options would vest immediately.

# Table of Contents Stock Option Grants to Senior Executives

None of the executive officers named above has exercised options to purchase shares of Smart Online's common stock.

The foregoing option grants are subject to the terms and conditions of the three plans under which the options were granted. Set forth below is a summary of the terms of each of these plans. These are only summaries and do not include all the provisions of these plans, which can only be understood by reading the full plans.

## 2004 Equity Compensation Plan

We adopted our 2004 Equity Compensation Plan as of March 31, 2004. The 2004 plan provides for the grant of options intended to qualify as "incentive stock options," options that are not intended to so qualify or "nonstatutory stock options" and restricted stock and other direct stock awards. The total number of shares of common stock reserved for issuance under the 2004 plan is 5,000,000 shares, subject to adjustment in the event of stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization or similar capital change. At April 15, 2005, options to purchase 727,500 shares of our common stock were outstanding under the 2004 plan.

The plan is administered by our Board of Directors, which selects the eligible persons to whom options or stock awards shall be granted, determines the number of shares subject to each option or stock award, the exercise price therefore and the periods during which options are exercisable, interprets the provisions of the 2004 plan and, subject to certain limitations, may amend the 2004 plan. Each option or stock award granted under the 2004 plan shall be evidenced by a written agreement between Smart Online and the grantee. Grants may be made under the 2004 plan to employees (including officers) and directors of Smart Online as well as to certain consultants and advisors.

The exercise price for incentive stock options granted under the 2004 plan is required to be no less than the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option is granted, except for options granted to 10% stockholders, which are required to have an exercise price of not less than 110% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option is granted. Incentive stock options granted under the 2004 plan have a maximum term of 10 years, except for option grants to 10% stockholders, which are subject to a maximum term of 5 years. Nonstatutory stock options granted under the 2004 plan have a term determined by the Board of Directors. Options granted under the 2004 plan are not transferable, except by will and the laws of descent and distribution.

## 2001 Equity Compensation Plan

We adopted our 2001 Equity Compensation Plan on May 31, 2001. The 2001 plan provides for the grant of options intended to qualify as "incentive stock options," options that are not intended to so qualify or "nonstatutory stock options" and restricted stock. As of April 15, 2005, the total number of shares of our common stock reserved for issuance under the 2001 plan is 870,000 shares, subject to adjustment in the event of stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization or similar change. Options to purchase 870,000 shares granted under the 2001 plan are outstanding at April 15, 2005, and Smart Online may not make any further grants under the 2001 plan.

The plan is administered by our Board of Directors, which selected the eligible persons to whom awards could be made, determined the number of shares subject to each option or stock award, the exercise price therefore and the periods during which the options were exercisable. The Board of Directors also interprets the provisions of the 2001 plan and, subject to certain limitations, may amend the 2001 plan. Each option or grant of restricted stock made under the 2001 plan is evidenced by a written agreement between Smart Online and the grantee. Grants could be made under the 2001 plan to employees, directors and certain consultants and advisors of Smart Online.

The exercise price for incentive stock options granted under the 2001 plan was required to be no less than the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option was granted, except for options granted to 10% stockholders,

which were required to have an exercise price of not less than 110% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option was granted. Incentive stock options granted under the 2001 plan have a maximum term of 10 years, except for option grants to 10% stockholders, which were subject to a maximum term of 5 years. Nonstatutory stock options granted under the 2001 plan had a term determined by the Board of Directors. Options granted under the 2001 plan are not transferable, except by will and the laws of descent and distribution.

## **1998 Stock Option Plan**

We adopted our 1998 Stock Option Plan on November 12, 1998. The 1998 plan provides for the grant of options intended to qualify as "incentive stock options," and options that are not intended to so qualify or "nonstatutory stock options." As of April 15, 2005, the total number of shares of our common stock reserved for issuance under the 1998 plan is 193,400 shares, subject to adjustment in the event of stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization or similar change. Options to purchase 193,400 shares have been granted under the 1998 plan and remain outstanding at April 15, 2005, and Smart Online may not make any further grants under the 1998 plan.

The plan is administered by our Board of Directors, which selected the eligible persons to whom awards could be made, determined the number of shares subject to each option or stock award, the exercise price therefore and the periods during which the options were exercisable. The Board of Directors also interprets the provisions of the 1998 plan and, subject to certain limitations, may amend the 1998 plan. Each option granted under the 1998 plan is evidenced by a written agreement between Smart Online and the optionee. Grants could be made under the 1998 plan to key employees, directors and independent contractors of Smart Online.

The exercise price for incentive stock options granted under the 1998 plan was required to be no less than the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option was granted, except for options granted to 10% stockholders, which were required to have an exercise price of not less than 110% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date the option was granted. Stock options granted under the 1998 plan have a maximum term of 10 years, except for incentive stock option grants to 10% stockholders, which were subject to a maximum term of 5 years. Options granted under the 1998 plan are not transferable, except by will and the laws of descent and distribution.

#### **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

Plan category	Number of shares of Common Stock to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights <sup>(1)</sup> (a)	exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of shares of Common Stock remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding shares of Common Stock reflected in column (a)) <sup>(2)</sup> (c)
Equity Compensation plans approved by security holders	2,119,578	\$2.95	4,272,500
Equity Compensation plans not approved by security holders	432,432	\$2.58	N/A
Total	2,552,010		4,272,500

(1) The foregoing table includes 432,432 shares issuable pursuant to warrants and options granted to consultants, advisors, employees, officers or directors pursuant to individual compensation arrangements not under any equity compensation plan.

(2) Includes 4,272,500 shares remaining under the 2004 Equity Compensation Plan. No shares remain available for grants under either the 2001 Equity Compensation Plan or the 1998 Stock Option Plan. **Board of Directors** 

Three of our Directors are officers and empoyees of Smart Online. We do not pay employee Directors any additional amounts for serving on our Board of Directors. Directors who are not officers or employees of Smart Online are compensated with a combination of cash and stock options with the number of shares and the amount of cash based on estimates of the amount of work involved in the expected committee assignments for each Director. Non-management Directors receive \$5,000 upon joining the Board, \$1,000 per Board meeting attended and \$250 per committee meeting attended, except that the Chairman of the Audit Committee will be paid \$2,000 per meeting of the Board of Directors and of the Audit Committee. Frank Coll was granted 10,000 options in April 2005. David Sarna was granted 24,000 options in April 2005 for agreeing to serve as chairman of the Audit Committee when the Audit Committee is formed. The options vest quarterly over a one -year period with the exercise price equal to the value of the stock on the grant date.

#### Disclosure of Commission Position on Indemnification for Securities Act Liabilities

Our directors and officers are indemnified as provided by the Delaware Business Corporations Act (the "Delaware Corporations Act") and our Certificate of Incorporation. We have been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act, and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against

such liabilities is asserted by one of our directors, officers, or controlling persons in connection with the securities being registered, we will, unless in the opinion of our legal counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit the question of whether such indemnification is against public policy to a court of appropriate jurisdiction. We will then be governed by the court's decision.

# SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of our common stock as of April 15, 2005: (i) by each person who is known by us to beneficially own more than 5% of our common stock and after completion of this offering; (ii) by each of our officers and directors; and (iii) by all of our officers and directors as a group.

Beneficial Owner Name and Address	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	Percentage <sup>(3)</sup> At March 15, 2005
Dennis Michael Nouri <sup>(4)(5)</sup> c/o Smart Online, Inc. 2530 Meridian Parkway Durham, North Carolina 27713	3,302,027	27%
Henry Nouri <sup>(4)(6)</sup> c/o Smart Online, Inc. 2530 Meridian Parkway Durham, North Carolina 27713	3,091,984	25%
Ronna Loprete <sup>(7)</sup> C/o Smart Online, Inc. 2530 Meridian Parkway Durham, North Carolina 27713	3,091,984	3%
Thomas Furr <sup>(8)</sup> c/o Smart Online, Inc. 2530 Meridian Parkway Durham, North Carolina	410,637	3%

27713		
Anil Kamath <sup>(9)</sup>		
c/o Smart		
Online, Inc.		
2530 Meridian		
Parkway		
Durham,		
North		
Carolina		
27713	218,750	2%
Tamir	210,750	270
Sagie <sup>(10)(11)</sup>		
c/o Smart		
Online, Inc.		
2530 Meridian		
Parkway		
Durham,		
North		
Carolina		
27713	400.000	3%
Atlas Capital	400,000	3%
$SA^{(12)}(13)$		
116 Rue du		
Rhone		
CH-1204		
Geneva, Switzerland	1,176,341	10%
Doron	1,170,541	1070
Roethler <sup>(14)</sup>		
c/o Michal		
Ravivat		
Granot,		
Strauss, Adar		
& Co.		
28 Bezalel		
Street		
Ramat Gan		
52521, Israel	1,754,735	15%
Jose Collazo	1,754,755	1370
(15)		
c/o Smart		
Online, Inc.		
2530 Meridian		
Parkway		
Durham,		
North		
Carolina		
27713	219,450	2%
Scott	5,000	0%
Whitaker <sup>(16)</sup>		

c/o Smart		
Online, Inc.		
2530 Meridian		
Parkway		
Durham,		
North		
Carolina		
27713		
David S. Y.		
Sarna <sup>(17)</sup>		
c/o Smart		
Online, Inc.		
2530 Meridian		
Parkway		
Durham,		
North		
Carolina	-	0%
27713		
Frank Coll		
(18)		
c/o Smart		
Online, Inc.		
2530 Meridian		
Parkway		
Durham,		
North		
Carolina	-	0%
27713		
All officers		
and directors		
as a group (10		
persons) <sup>(19)</sup>	4,783,995	37%

- (1) All shares are common stock. Unless otherwise indicated by footnotes, all beneficial ownership is direct and is not shared with others.
- (2) The preceding table was prepared based solely upon the information furnished to us by officers, directors and stockholders as of April 15, 2005 and from corporate stock transfer ledgers. The number and percentage of shares beneficially owned is determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and the information is not necessarily indicative of beneficial ownership for any other purpose. Under Rule 13d-3, a beneficial owner of a security includes any person who, directly or indirectly, through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship, or otherwise has or shares: (i) voting power, which includes the power to vote, or to direct the voting of shares; and (ii) investment power, which includes the power to dispose or direct the disposition of shares. Certain shares may be deemed to be beneficially owned by more than one person (if, for example, persons share the power to vote or the power to dispose of the shares). In addition, shares are deemed to be beneficially owned by a person if the person has the right to acquire the shares (for example, upon exercise of an option or a warrant) within 60 days of the date as of which the information is provided. In computing the percentage ownership of any person, the number of shares outstanding is deemed to include the amount of shares beneficially owned by such person (and only such person) by reason of these acquisition rights. As a result, the percentage of outstanding shares of any person as shown in this table does not necessarily reflect the person's actual ownership or voting power with respect to the number of shares of common stock actually outstanding on April 15, 2005. As of April 15, 2005, there were 12,286,832 shares issued and outstanding and our officers and directors beneficially owned approximately 730,000 shares which can be acquired upon exercise of stock options within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005, which options were treated the same as outstanding shares in calculating the percentage ownership of our officers and directors.
- (3) Assumes that all securities offered hereby will be sold.
- (4) Includes 2,841,984 shares owned by American Investment Holding Group, owned by Michael and Henry Nouri, and as to which they share the power to vote and the power to dispose of such shares, and solely with respect to Michael Nouri also includes 87,043 shares owned by Charter Holding LLC, owned by Michael Nouri, which includes 23,000 shares of common stock owned by a trust for which Michael Nouri is the trustee and is not a beneficiary. Does not include shares owned by Ronna Loprete, wife of Michael Nouri.
- (5) Includes 250,000 shares which can be acquired upon the exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within the sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (6) Includes 250,000 shares which can be acquired upon the exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within the sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.

Includes 75,000 shares which can be acquired upon the exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within the sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. Does not include shares beneficially owned by Michael Nouri, husband of Ronna Loprete.

- (8) Includes 75,000 shares which can be acquired upon the exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within the sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (9) Includes 37,500 shares which can be acquired upon exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. Does not include 37,500 shares subject to options which cannot be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (10) Mr. Sagie was an officer at December 31, 2004, but ceased to be an officer in January 2005. Includes 200,000 shares which can be acquired upon the exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within the sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (11) Includes 60,000 shares owned by Nen, Inc. as to which Mr. Sagie is sole owner and 125,000 shares Mr. Sagie received in February 2005 from Greenleaf Ventures Ltd. in exchange for his ownership interest in Greenleaf.
- (12) Includes 237,428 shares which can be acquired upon exercise of warrants which can be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (13) Atlas Capital SA had the right to require two other stockholders to purchase all its common stock and warrants under certain circumstances. This right was terminated by agreement with Atlas Capital SA on March 18, 2005. Refer to "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" for a description of this put agreement.
- (14) Includes (i) 1,323,619 shares owned by Greenleaf Ventures Ltd., a British Virgin Islands company, owned by Doron Roethler, (ii) 121,116 shares owned by Crystal Management Ltd., a company registered in Anguilla, owned by Doron Roethler, and (iii) 310,000 shares of common stock owned directly by Doron Roethler.

- (15) Includes 37,500 shares which can be acquired upon exercise of options which can be exercised at any time within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. Does not include 37,500 shares subject to options which cannot be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (16) Includes 5,000 shares which can be acquired upon exercise of options which can be exercised to any time within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. Does not include 20,000 shares subject to options which cannot be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005, 2007.
- (17) Does not include 24,000 shares subject to options which cannot be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (18) Does not include 10,000 shares subject to options which cannot be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005.
- (19) Includes 930,000 shares which can be acquired upon the exercise of options at any time within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005 and does not include 95,000 shares subject to options which cannot be exercised within sixty (60) days after April 15, 2005. Includes shares owned by Tamir Sagie who ceased to be an officer in January 2005.

# CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

Except as disclosed below, none of the following persons has, since January 1, 2002, had any material interest, direct or indirect, in any transaction with us or in any presently proposed transaction that has or will materially affect us:

- Any of our directors or officers;
- Any person proposed as a nominee for election as a director;
- Any person who beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, shares carrying more than 10% of the voting rights attached to our outstanding shares of common stock;
- Any of our promoters;
- Any relative or spouse of any of the foregoing persons who lives in the same house as such person.

#### Loans, Salary Deferrals and Security Interests of Certain Officers, Employees and Relatives

During years 2001 through the beginning of 2004, while Smart Online was experiencing severe cash flow problems and was unable to raise sufficient capital, Smart Online substantially reduced expenses by laying off employees, terminating its lease, borrowing from certain officers and their relatives and deferring salary and commission payments to certain officers and employees. Smart Online believes all these transactions were made on terms no less favorable to Smart Online than could have been obtained from independent third parties in arms-length negotiations.

Smart Online continues to evaluate the need for these loans and deferrals. Since May 1, 2004, Smart Online has ceased deferring payment of new salary and commissions, because it believes it can obtain funds at less than the interest rate called for by these arrangements with officers and employees. Smart Online intends to repay all amounts as soon as funds not necessary to operate and grow its business become available to reduce the interest burden on Smart Online, notwithstanding that repayment was not due until December 31, 2005. Effective June 1, 2004, the

officers and employees voluntarily reduced the interest rate on all these loans from 15% to 8% per annum. This was done, because the officers and employees believe the improved economic condition of Smart Online made Smart Online a better credit risk, which would warrant a lower interest rate in current market conditions.

Michael Nouri. From 1999 until September 2003, Smart Online deferred making salary payments to Mr. Nouri totaling \$296,667, which were due to him under his employment agreement dated July 14, 1999, which called for a base salary of \$150,000 per year. Loans and deferrals earned interest at a rate of 15% compounded annually. In October 2003, Mr. Nouri agreed to continue to defer \$9,583 of salary per month for salary that accrued after October 1, 2003. On October 13, 2003, Smart Online and Mr. Nouri entered into an agreement whereby the salary deferrals through October 1, 2003 were evidenced by a promissory note in the principal amount of \$358,229 for deferrals of salary that accrued prior to October 1, 2003. During the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004, Smart Online deferred an additional \$63,437 of Mr. Nouri's compensation. On April 30, 2004, the promissory note dated October 13, 2003 was cancelled and replaced by a successor promissory note in the amount of \$418,750 representing the principal balance of the original note plus the additional accrued compensation. Subsequently during 2004, \$125,000 of principal was paid to Mr. Nouri. The outstanding balance due on the successor note bears interest of 15% interest compounded annually (reduced to 8% effective June 1, 2004 as described above). This note and all other obligations of Smart Online to Mr. Nouri arising out of loans and salary deferrals are secured by all the assets of Smart Online, which lien Mr. Nouri shares with Henry Nouri, Ronna Loprete, Thomas Furr and Eric Nouri to secure the obligations to them described below. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien, the security interest is now a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. The note is due May 31, 2005, but Mr. Nouri has entered into a standstill agreement not to demand payment on the due date to induce holders of outstanding shares of Preferred Stock to convert to shares of Common Stock in a reorganization. The standstill agreement, as amended as of December 22, 2004, continued through the earlier of June 30, 2006 or the closing after January 1, 2005 of a financing with gross proceeds to Smart Online of \$2,000,000 or more. After Smart Online raised \$2,500,000 from a sale of securities to a foreign investor in February 2005, Smart Online paid in full the \$296,667 of deferred compensation and accrued interest and cancelled the related promissory notes. The notes and all other obligations of Smart Online arising out of loans and salary deferrals were secured by all the assets of Smart Online. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien (William Furr), the security interest became a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. The lien was removed when the notes were paid.

Additionally, from 2001 until 2003, Michael Nouri and a trust for the benefit of the children of Michael Nouri made loans to Smart Online in the amount of \$174,572. These loans were repaid in part from June 2003 until October 2003 at which time \$83,733 remained unpaid. On October 13, 2003, Smart Online and Mr. Nouri entered into an agreement whereby all the loans and salary deferrals through October 1, 2003 were evidenced by promissory notes in the principal amount of \$83,733 for loans made by Mr. Nouri. On April 30, 2004, Smart Online repaid \$25,000 of the outstanding balance on this note. On April 30, 2004, the promissory note dated October 13, 2003 was replaced by a successor promissory note in the amount of \$64,603 representing the remaining principal balance of the original note, \$58,733, plus accrued interest of \$5,870. Subsequently during 2004, this note plus accrued interest of \$1,526 was repaid in full. While outstanding, these notes bore interest at a rate of 15% per annum.

**Henry Nouri.** From 1999 until September 2003,Smart Online deferred making salary payments to Mr. Nouri totaling \$398,383, which were due to him under his employment agreement dated July 14, 1999, which called for a base salary of \$150,000 per year. In October 2003, Mr. Nouri agreed to continue to defer \$9,583 of salary per month for salary that accrued after October 1, 2003. Deferrals earned interest at a rate of 15% compounded annually. On October 13, 2003, Smart Online and Mr. Nouri entered into an agreement whereby all salary deferrals through October 1, 2003 were evidenced by a promissory note in the principal amount of \$346,812 for deferrals of salary that accrued prior to October 1, 2003. During the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004, Smart Online deferred an additional \$60,521 of Mr. Nouri's compensation and \$8,950 of the original principal was repaid. On April 30, 2004, the promissory note dated October 13, 2003 was cancelled and replaced by a successor promissory note in the amount of \$398,383 representing the unpaid principal balance of the original note plus the additional accrued compensation. This note, which remains unpaid, and all deferred salary bear 15% interest compounded annually (reduced to 8% effective June 1, 2004, as described above). The note and all other obligations of Smart Online to Mr. Nouri arising out of salary deferrals are secured by all the assets of Smart Online, which lien Mr. Nouri shares with Michael Nouri,

Ronna Loprete, Thomas Furr and Eric Nouri to secure the obligations to them described herein. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien, the security interest is now a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. The notes are due May 31, 2005, but Mr. Nouri has entered into a standstill agreement not to demand payment on the due date to induce holders of outstanding shares of Preferred Stock to convert to shares of Common Stock in a reorganization. The standstill agreement, as amended as of December 22, 2004, continued through the earlier of June 30, 2006 or the closing after January 1, 2005 of a financing with gross proceeds to Smart Online of \$2,000,000 or more. After Smart Online raised \$2,500,000 from a sale of securities to a foreign investor in February 2005, Smart Online paid in full the \$398,383 of deferred compensation and accrued interest and cancelled the related promissory notes. The notes and all other obligations of Smart Online arising out of loans and salary deferrals were secured by all the assets of Smart Online. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien (William Furr), the security interest became a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. This lien was removed when the notes were paid.

Thomas Furr. From 2001 until September 2003, Smart Online deferred making salary and commission payments to Thomas Furr totaling \$117,810, which were due to him under his employment agreement dated September 11, 2001, which called for a base salary of \$70,000 per year, plus 5% sales commissions. Deferrals earned interest at a rate of 15% compounded annually. In October 2003, Mr. Furr agreed to continue to defer all commissions per month for salary or commissions that accrue after October 1, 2003. On October 15, 2003, Smart Online and Mr. Furr entered into an agreement whereby all the loans and salary or commission deferrals through October 1, 2003 were evidenced by a promissory note in the principal amount of \$114,190 for deferrals of salary that accrued prior to October 1, 2003. During the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004, Smart Online deferred an additional \$2,318 of Mr. Furr's compensation. On April 30, 2004, the promissory note dated October 13, 2003 was cancelled and replaced by a successor promissory note in the amount of \$116,508 representing the unpaid principal balance of the original note plus the additional accrued compensation. The note, plus \$1,302 of compensation subsequently deferred during 2004, and all deferred commissions bears 15% interest compounded annually (reduced to 8% effective June 1, 2004 as described above). The note and all other obligations of Smart Online to Mr. Furr arising out of salary or commission deferrals are secured by all the assets of Smart Online, which lien Mr. Furr shares with Michael Nouri, Henry Nouri, Ronna Loprete and Eric Nouri to secure the obligations to them described herein. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien, the security interest is now a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. The note is due May 31, 2005, but Mr. Furr has entered into a standstill agreement not to demand payment on the due date to induce holders of outstanding shares of Preferred Stock to convert to shares of Common Stock in a reorganization. The standstill agreement, as amended as of December 22, 2004, continued through the earlier of June 30, 2006 or the closing after January 1, 2005 by Smart Online of a financing with gross proceeds to Smart Online of \$2,000,000 or more. After Smart Online raised \$2,500,000 from a sale of securities to a foreign investor in February 2005, Smart Online paid in full the \$92,500 of deferred compensation and accrued interest and cancelled the related promissory notes. The 2003 Notes and 2004 Notes and all other obligations of Smart Online arising out of loans and salary deferrals were secured by all the assets of Smart Online. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien (William Furr), the security interest became a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. This lien was removed when the notes were paid.

Ronna Loprete. From 2001 until September 2003, Smart Online deferred making salary payments to Ms. Loprete totaling \$92,500, which were due to her under her employment agreement dated June 29, 1999, which called for a base salary of \$80,000 per year. In October 2003, Ms. Loprete agreed to continue to defer \$2,500 of salary per month for salary that accrued after October 1, 2003. Deferrals earned interest at a rate of 15% compounded annually. On October 15, 2003, Smart Online and Ms. Loprete entered into an agreement whereby all salary deferrals through October 1, 2003 were evidenced by a promissory note in the principal amount of \$92,500 for deferrals of salary that accrued prior to October 1, 2003. During the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004, Smart Online deferred an additional \$625 of Ms. Loprete's compensation. On April 30, 2004, the promissory note dated October 15, 2003 was cancelled and replaced by a successor promissory note in the amount of \$92,500 representing the unpaid principal balance of the original note plus the additional accrued compensation. This note, which remains unpaid, and all deferred salary bears 15% interest compounded annually (reduced to 8% effective June 1, 2004 as described above). The note and all other obligations of Smart Online to Ms. Loprete arising out of salary deferrals are secured by all the assets of Smart Online, which lien Ms. Loprete shares with Michael Nouri, Henry Nouri, Thomas Furr and Eric Nouri to secure the obligations to them described herein. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien, the security interest is now a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. The note is due May 31, 2005, but Ms. Loprete has entered into a standstill agreement not to demand payment to induce holders of outstanding shares of Preferred Stock to convert to shares of Common Stock in a reorganization. The standstill agreement, as amended as of December 22, 2004, continued through the earlier of June 30, 2006 or the closing after January 1, 2005 by Smart Online of a financing with gross proceeds to Smart Online of \$2,000,000 or more. After Smart Online raised \$2,500,000 from a sale of securities to a foreign investor in February 2005, Smart Online paid in full the \$117,800 of deferred compensation and accrued interest and cancelled the related promissory notes. The notes and all other obligations of Smart Online arising out of

loans and salary deferrals were secured by all the assets of Smart Online. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien (William Furr), the security interest became a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. This lien was removed when the notes were paid.

Eric Nouri. From 2002 until September 2003, Smart Online deferred making salary payments to Eric Nouri totaling \$44,417, which were due to him under his employment agreement dated April 1, 2002 which called for a base salary of \$60,000 per year. Deferrals earned interest at a rate of 15% compounded annually. Eric Nouri is the brother of officers and directors of Smart Online, Michael Nouri and Henry Nouri. In October 2003, Mr. Nouri agreed to continue to defer \$2,500 of salary per month for salary that accrued after October 1, 2003. On October 13, 2003, Smart Online and Mr. Nouri entered into an agreement whereby all salary deferrals through October 1, 2003 were evidenced by a promissory note in the principal amount of \$54,925 for deferrals of salary that accrued prior to October 1, 2003. During the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004, Smart Online deferred an additional \$9,000 of Mr. Nouri's compensation and \$16,185 of principal was paid. On April 30, 2004, the promissory note dated October 13, 2003 was cancelled and replaced by a successor promissory note in the amount of \$47,740 representing the unpaid principal balance of the original note plus the additional accrued compensation. Subsequently during 2004, Smart Online deferred an additional \$3,323 of Mr. Nouri's compensation. This note, which remains unpaid, bear 15% interest compounded annually (reduced to 8% effective June 1, 2004 as described above). The note and all other obligations of Smart Online to Mr. Nouri arising out of salary deferrals are secured by all the assets of Smart Online, which lien Mr. Nouri shares with Michael Nouri, Henry Nouri, Ronna Loprete and Thomas Furr to secure the obligations to them described herein. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien, the security interest is now a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. The note is due May 31, 2005, but Mr. Nouri has entered into a standstill agreement not to demand payment on the due date to induce holders of outstanding shares of Preferred Stock to convert to shares of Common Stock in a reorganization. The standstill agreement, as amended as of December 22, 2004, continues through the earlier of June 30, 2006 or the closing after January 1, 2005 by Smart Online of a financing with gross proceeds to Smart Online of \$2,000,000 or more. After Smart Online raised \$2,500,000 from a sale of securities to a foreign investor in February 2005, Smart Online paid in full the \$44,417 of deferred compensation and accrued interest and cancelled the related promissory notes. The notes and all other obligations of Smart Online arising out of loans and salary deferrals were secured by all the assets of Smart Online. The security interest was originally a second lien on all the assets, but with repayment of all amounts owed to the holder of the first lien (William Furr), the security interest became a first lien on all the assets of Smart Online. This lien was removed when the notes were paid.

#### Table of Contents

**Tamir Sagie.** Tamir Sagie was a consultant with and owned Nen, Inc. Nen, Inc. was a consultant to Smart Online and was paid at an annual rate of \$70,000 per year in addition to Mr. Tagie's salary of \$30,000. Nen, Inc. also had an equity interest in Smart IL, Ltd., from April 2002 to July 2003. Smart IL became an integration partner with Smart Online in August 2002 through the efforts of Nen, Inc. Mr. Sagie ended his consulting arrangement with Smart IL in August 2003 when he became an employee and officer of Smart Online. Mr. Sagie's shares in Smart IL were transferred back to the Smart IL at this time. In addition, Mr. Sagie owned 29.5% of Green Leaf Ventures, Ltd., and as such had a financial interest in the 1,448,618 Smart Online shares owned by Green Leaf Ventures. He was not an officer or director of Green Leaf Ventures.

**William Furr.** William Furr is the father of Thomas Furr, who is Vice President Sales and a Director of Smart Online, and the owner of 436,011 shares of Smart Online. During 2002, William Furr lent Smart Online \$270,000. In consideration for this loan, Smart Online issued 20,000 shares of restricted stock to this individual without additional consideration by Mr. Furr. Subsequently during 2002, Smart Online repaid \$225,000 of this indebtedness. This loan was evidenced by an unsecured promissory note bearing interest at a rate of 6%. . In 2003, Smart Online borrowed an additional \$190,000 from this individual and repaid \$10,000. In consideration for extending the term of the 2002 borrowings and for loaning the additional \$190,000, Smart Online issued this individual an additional 150,000 shares of Common Stock. Smart Online recorded interest expense of \$75,000 in 2003 and 2004 related to this issuance. In additional, this note accrued interest at a rate of 15% per annum. . At that time, Mr. Furr extended the due date of the first loan and evidenced the loan extension with a second note in the amount of the \$42,473 unpaid principal and interest from the first loan. The new note was also due May 13, 2004 and accrues 15% interest compounded annually. At the time of the second loan, Smart Online granted William Furr, a security interest in all the assets of Smart Online, which was a first priority lien to accrue all amounts owed to Mr. Furr. Smart Online repaid all amounts owed to William Furr on March 24, 2004.

## Put Agreements In Connection With Private Placement Investor

Michael Nouri and Doron Roethler ("Grantors") entered into a Put Agreements dated March 10, 2004 and August 13, 2004 with Atlas Capital, SA ("Atlas"). Smart Online is not a party to this agreement, but these agreements were entered