

HARRIS & HARRIS GROUP INC /NY/
Form 10-K
March 16, 2011

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

Form 10-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010

or

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

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File No. 0-11576

HARRIS & HARRIS GROUP, INC.®
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

New York
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation or Organization)

13-3119827
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1450 Broadway, New York, New York
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

10018
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (212) 582-0900

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each Class	Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered
Common Stock, \$.01 par value	Nasdaq Global Market

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None
(Title of Class)

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data file required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Large accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/> Accelerated filer
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/> Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The aggregate market value of the common stock held by non-affiliates of Registrant as of June 30, 2010 was \$124,675,809 based on the last sale price as quoted by the Nasdaq Global Market on such date (only officers and directors are considered affiliates for this calculation).

As of March 15, 2011, the registrant had 30,941,139 shares of common stock, par value \$.01 per share, outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

INCORPORATED AT

Harris & Harris Group, Inc. Proxy Statement for the 2011 Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Part III, Items 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14

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PART I

Item 1. Business.

Harris & Harris Group, Inc.® (the "Company," "us," "our," and "we"), is an internally managed venture capital company specializing in nanotechnology and microsystems that has elected to operate as a business development company ("BDC") under the Investment Company Act of 1940, which we refer to as the 1940 Act. For tax purposes, we have elected to be a regulated investment company ("RIC") under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Our primary investment objective is to achieve long-term capital appreciation by making venture capital investments. Generation of current income is a secondary objective. We define venture capital investments as the money and resources made available to privately held start-up firms and privately held and publicly traded small businesses with exceptional growth potential. We incorporated under the laws of the state of New York in August 1981. Our investment approach is comprised of a patient examination of available opportunities, thorough due diligence and close involvement with management. As a venture capital company, we invest in and provide managerial assistance to our portfolio companies, many of which, in our opinion, have significant potential for growth. We are overseen by our Board of Directors and managed by our officers and have no investment advisor.

We make venture capital investments exclusively in companies commercializing or integrating products enabled by nanotechnology or microsystems. This investment focus is not a fundamental policy and accordingly may be changed without shareholder approval, although we intend to give shareholders at least 60 days' prior notice of any change in investment focus.

Nanotechnology is measured in nanometers, which are units of measurement in billionths of a meter. Microsystems are measured in micrometers, which are units of measurement in millionths of a meter. We sometimes use "tiny technology" to describe both of these disciplines. Nanotechnology and microsystems are multidisciplinary and widely applicable, and they incorporate technology that was not previously in widespread use. Products enabled by nanotechnology and microsystems are applicable to a large number of industries including pharmaceuticals, medical devices, telecommunications, electronics and semiconductors, and industries that seek to address global problems related to resource constraints (cleantech).

We consider a company to fit our investment thesis if the company employs or integrates or intends to employ or integrate technology that we consider to be at the microscale or smaller and if the employment of that technology is material to its business plan. Because it is in many respects a new field, tiny technology has significant scientific, engineering and commercialization risks.

As of December 31, 2010, our venture capital portfolio comprised 71 percent of our total assets, our U.S. Treasury obligations and cash comprised 28 percent of our total assets, and other assets comprised the remaining one percent of our total assets. As of December 31, 2010, we had no debt outstanding.

Neither our investments, nor an investment in us, is intended to constitute a balanced investment program. We expect to be risk seeking rather than risk averse in our investment approach. To such end, we reserve the fullest possible freedom of action, subject to our certificate of incorporation, applicable law and regulations, and policy statements contained herein. There is no assurance that our investment objective will be achieved.

We expect to invest a substantial portion of our assets in securities that we consider to be private venture capital equity investments. These private venture capital equity investments usually do not pay interest or dividends and usually are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale that may adversely affect the liquidity and marketability of such securities. We expect to invest a minority portion of our assets in debt securities issued to us by privately held and publicly traded small businesses. These investments usually pay interest and may include payment of fees and issuance of warrants for the purchase of equity securities at a future date.

We expect to make speculative venture capital investments with limited marketability and a greater risk of investment loss than less speculative investments. We make venture capital investments in companies commercializing and integrating products enabled by nanotechnology and microsystems. Such technology is enabling technology applicable to a wide range of industries and businesses. We do not limit our investments to any particular industries or categories of investments within this thesis. Our securities investments may consist of private, public or governmental issuers of any type. Subject to the diversification requirements applicable to a RIC, we may commit all of our assets to only a few investments.

Achievement of our investment objective is basically dependent upon the judgment of a team of four professional, full-time members of management, three of whom are designated as Managing Directors: Douglas W. Jamison, Alexei A. Andreev and Daniel B. Wolfe, and a Vice President, Misti Ushio. One of our directors, Lori D. Pressman, is also a consultant to us. This team collectively has expertise in venture capital investing, intellectual property and nanotechnology. There can be no assurance that a suitable replacement could be found for any of our officers upon their retirement, resignation, inability to act on our behalf, or death.

Subject to continuing to meet the compliance tests applicable to BDCs, there are no limitations on the types of securities or other assets in which we may invest. Investments may include the following:

- Venture capital investments, whether in corporate, partnership or other form, including development-stage or start-up entities;
- Equity, equity-related securities (including warrants) and debt with equity features from either private or public issuers;
- Debt obligations of all types having varying terms with respect to security or credit support, subordination, purchase price, interest payments and maturity;
- Foreign securities;

- Intellectual property or patents or research and development in technology or product development that may lead to patents or other marketable technology; and
- Miscellaneous investments.

Investments and Strategies

The following is a summary description of the types of assets in which we may invest, the investment strategies we may use and the attendant risks associated with our investments and strategies.

Venture Capital Investments

We define venture capital as the money and resources made available to privately held start-up firms and privately held and publicly traded small businesses with exceptional growth potential. These businesses can range in stage from pre-revenue to generating positive cash flow. Substantially all of our long-term venture capital investments are in thinly capitalized, unproven, small companies focused on commercializing risky technologies. These businesses also tend to lack management depth, to have limited or no history of operations and to have not attained profitability. Because of the speculative nature of these investments, these securities have a significantly greater risk of loss than traditional investment securities. Some of our venture capital investments will never realize their potential, and some will be unprofitable or result in complete loss of our investment.

We may own 100 percent of the securities of a start-up investment for a period of time and may control the company for a substantial period. Start-up companies are more vulnerable to adverse business or economic developments than better capitalized companies. Start-up businesses generally have limited product lines, markets and/or financial resources. Start-up companies are not well-known to the investing public and are subject to general movements in markets, to perceptions of potential growth and to potential bankruptcy.

In connection with our venture capital investments, we may participate in providing a variety of services to our portfolio companies, including the following:

- recruiting management;
- formulating operating strategies;
- formulating intellectual property strategies;
- assisting in financial planning;
- providing management in the initial start-up stages; and
- establishing corporate goals.

We may assist in raising additional capital for these companies from other potential investors and may subordinate our own investment to that of other investors. We typically find it necessary or appropriate to provide additional capital of our own. We may introduce these companies to potential joint venture partners, suppliers and customers. In addition, we may assist in establishing relationships with investment bankers and other professionals. We may also assist with mergers and acquisitions ("M&As"). We do not currently derive income from these companies for the performance of any of the above services.

We may control, be represented on, or have observer rights on the Board of Directors of a portfolio company through one or more of our officers or directors, who may also serve as officers of the portfolio company. We indemnify our officers and directors for serving on the Boards of Directors or as officers of portfolio companies, which exposes us to additional risks. Particularly during the early stages of an investment, we may, in rare instances, in effect be conducting the operations of the portfolio company. As a venture capital-backed company emerges from the developmental stage with greater management depth and experience, we expect that our role in the portfolio company's operations will diminish. Our goal is to assist each company in establishing its own independent capitalization, management and Board of Directors. We expect to be able to reduce our involvement in those start-up companies that become successful, as well as in those start-up companies that fail.

Equity, Equity-Related Securities and Debt with Equity Features

We may invest in equity, equity-related securities and debt with equity features. These securities include common stock, preferred stock, debt instruments convertible into common or preferred stock, limited partnership interests, other beneficial ownership interests and warrants, options or other rights to acquire any of the foregoing.

We may make investments in companies with operating histories that are unprofitable or marginally profitable, that have negative net worth or that are involved in bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings. These investments would involve businesses that management believes have potential through the infusion of additional capital and management assistance. In addition, we may make investments in connection with the acquisition or divestiture of companies or divisions of companies. There is a significantly greater risk of loss with these types of securities than is the case with traditional investment securities.

Warrants, options and convertible or exchangeable securities generally give the investor the right to acquire specified equity securities of an issuer at a specified price during a specified period or on a specified date. Warrants and options fluctuate in value in relation to the value of the underlying security and the remaining life of the warrant or option, while convertible or exchangeable securities fluctuate in value both in relation to the intrinsic value of the security without the conversion or exchange feature and in relation to the value of the conversion or exchange feature, which is like a warrant or option. When we invest in these securities, we incur the risk that the option feature will expire worthless, thereby either eliminating or diminishing the value of our investment.

Most of our current portfolio company investments are in the equity securities of private companies. Investments in equity securities of private companies often involve securities that are restricted as to sale and cannot be sold in the open market without registration under the Securities Act of 1933 or pursuant to a specific exemption from these registrations. Opportunities for sale are more limited than in the case of marketable securities, although these investments may be purchased at more advantageous prices and may offer attractive investment opportunities. Even if one of our portfolio companies completes an initial public offering ("IPO"), we are typically subject to a lock-up agreement for 180 days, and the stock price may decline substantially before we are free to sell.

We may also invest in publicly traded securities of whatever nature, including relatively small, emerging growth companies that management believes have long-term growth potential. These investments may be through open-market transactions or through private placements in publicly traded companies ("PIPEs"). Securities purchased in PIPE transactions are typically subject to a lock-up agreement for 180 days, or are issued as unregistered securities that are not freely available for six months.

Even if we have registration rights to make our investments in privately held and publicly traded companies more marketable, a considerable amount of time may elapse between a decision to sell or register the securities for sale and the time when we are able to sell the securities. The prices obtainable upon sale may be adversely affected by market conditions or negative conditions affecting the issuer during the intervening time. We may elect to hold formerly restricted securities after they have become freely marketable, either because they remain relatively illiquid or because we believe that they may appreciate in value, during which holding period they may decline in value and be especially volatile as unseasoned securities. If we need funds for investment or working capital purposes, we might need to sell marketable securities at disadvantageous times or prices.

Debt Obligations

We may hold debt securities, including in privately held and thinly traded public companies, for income and as a reserve pending more speculative investments. Debt obligations may include U.S. government and agency securities, commercial paper, bankers' acceptances, receivables or other asset-based financing, notes, bonds, debentures, or other debt obligations of any nature and repurchase agreements related to these securities. These obligations may have varying terms with respect to security or credit support, subordination, purchase price, interest payments and maturity from private, public or governmental issuers of any type located anywhere in the world. We may invest in debt obligations of companies with operating histories that are unprofitable or marginally profitable, that have negative net worth or are involved in bankruptcy or reorganization proceedings, or that are start-up or development-stage entities. In addition, we may participate in the acquisition or divestiture of companies or divisions of companies through issuance or receipt of debt obligations. As of December 31, 2010, the debt obligations held in our portfolio consisted of convertible bridge notes, senior secured non-convertible debt through a participation agreement and U.S. Treasury securities. The convertible bridge notes generally do not generate cash payments to us, nor are they held for that purpose. Our convertible bridge notes and the interest accrued thereon are held for the purpose of potential conversion into equity at a future date.

Our investments in debt obligations may be of varying quality, including non-rated, unsecured, highly speculative debt investments with limited marketability. Investments in lower-rated and non-rated securities, commonly referred to as "junk bonds," including our venture debt investments, are subject to special risks, including a greater risk of loss of principal and non-payment of interest. Generally, lower-rated securities offer a higher return potential than higher-rated securities, but involve greater volatility of price and greater risk of loss of income and principal, including the possibility of default or bankruptcy of the issuers of these securities. Lower-rated securities and comparable non-rated securities will likely have large uncertainties or major risk exposure to adverse conditions and are predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligation. The occurrence of adverse conditions and uncertainties to issuers of lower-rated securities would likely reduce the value of lower-rated securities held by us, with a commensurate effect on the value of our shares.

The markets in which lower-rated securities or comparable non-rated securities are traded generally are more limited than those in which higher-rated securities are traded. The existence of limited markets for these securities may restrict our ability to obtain accurate market quotations for the purposes of valuing lower-rated or non-rated securities and calculating net asset value or to sell securities at their fair value. Any economic downturn could adversely affect the ability of issuers' lower-rated securities to repay principal and pay interest thereon. The market values of lower-rated and non-rated securities also tend to be more sensitive to individual corporate developments and changes in economic conditions than higher-rated securities. In addition, lower-rated securities and comparable non-rated securities generally present a higher degree of credit risk. Issuers of lower-rated securities and comparable non-rated securities are often highly leveraged and may not have more traditional methods of financing available to them, so that their ability to service their debt obligations during an economic downturn or during sustained periods of rising interest rates may be impaired. The risk of loss owing to default by these issuers is significantly greater because lower-rated securities and comparable non-rated securities generally are unsecured and frequently are subordinated to the prior payment of senior indebtedness. We may incur additional expenses to the extent that we are required to seek recovery upon a default in the payment of principal or interest on our portfolio holdings.

The market value of investments in debt securities that carry no equity participation usually reflects yields generally available on securities of similar quality and type at the time purchased. When interest rates decline, the market value of a debt portfolio already invested at higher yields can be expected to rise if the securities are protected against early call. Similarly, when interest rates increase, the market value of a debt portfolio already invested at lower yields can be expected to decline. Deterioration in credit quality also generally causes a decline in market value of the security, while an improvement in credit quality generally leads to increased value.

Foreign Securities

We may make investments in securities of issuers whose principal operations are conducted outside the United States, and whose earnings and securities are stated in foreign currency. In order to maintain our status as a BDC, our investments in non-qualifying assets, including the securities of companies organized outside the U.S., would be limited to 30 percent of our assets, because we must invest at least 70 percent of our assets in "qualifying assets," and securities of foreign companies are not "qualifying assets."

Compared to otherwise comparable investments in securities of U.S. issuers, currency exchange risk of securities of foreign issuers is a significant variable. The value of these investments to us will vary with the relation of the currency in which they are denominated to the U.S. dollar, as well as with intrinsic elements of value such as credit risk, interest rates and performance of the issuer. Investments in foreign securities also involve risks relating to economic and political developments, including nationalization, expropriation of assets, currency exchange freezes and local recession. Securities of many foreign issuers are less liquid and more volatile than those of comparable U.S. issuers. Interest and dividend income and capital gains on our foreign securities may be subject to withholding and other taxes that may not be recoverable by us. We may seek to hedge all or part of the currency risk of our investments in foreign securities through the use of futures, options and forward currency purchases or sales.

Intellectual Property

We believe there is a role for organizations that can assist in technology transfer. Scientists and institutions that develop and patent intellectual property perceive the need for and rewards of entrepreneurial commercialization of their inventions.

Our form of investment may be:

- funding research and development in the development of a technology;
- obtaining licensing rights to intellectual property or patents;
- acquiring intellectual property or patents; or
- forming and funding companies or joint ventures to commercialize further intellectual property.

Income from our investments in intellectual property or its development may take the form of participation in licensing or royalty income, fee income, or some other form of remuneration. In order to satisfy RIC requirements, these investments will normally be held in an entity taxable as a corporation. Investment in developmental intellectual property rights involves a high degree of risk that can result in the loss of our entire investment as well as additional risks, including uncertainties as to the valuation of an investment and potential difficulty in liquidating an investment. Further, investments in intellectual property generally require investor patience, as investment return may be realized only after or over a long period. At some point during the commercialization of a technology, our investment may be transformed into ownership of securities of a development-stage or start-up company, as discussed under "Venture Capital Investments" above.

Borrowing and Margin Transactions

We may from time to time borrow money or obtain credit by any lawful means from banks, lending institutions, other entities or individuals, in negotiated transactions. We may issue, publicly or privately, bonds, debentures or notes, in series or otherwise, with interest rates and other terms and provisions, including conversion rights, on a secured or unsecured basis, for any purpose, up to the maximum amounts and percentages permitted for BDCs under the 1940 Act. The 1940 Act currently prohibits us from borrowing any money or issuing any other senior securities (including preferred stock but excluding temporary borrowings of up to five percent of our assets), if after giving effect to the borrowing or issuance, the value of our total assets less liabilities not constituting senior securities would be less than 200 percent of our senior securities. We may pledge assets to secure any borrowings. As of December 31, 2010, we had no debt and have no current intention to issue preferred stock.

A primary purpose of our borrowing power is for leverage, to increase our ability to acquire venture debt investments both by acquiring larger positions and by acquiring more positions while maintaining a substantial balance of cash on our balance sheet. As discussed in more detail below in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, we believe we need a strong balance sheet to have access to the best deal flow. Borrowings for leverage accentuate any increase or decrease in the market value of our investments and thus our net asset value. Because any decline in the net asset value of our investments will be borne first by holders of common stock, the effect of leverage in a declining market would be a greater decrease in net asset value applicable to the common stock than if we were not leveraged. Any decrease would likely be reflected in a decline in the market price of our common stock. To the extent the income derived from assets acquired with borrowed funds exceeds the interest and other expenses associated with borrowing, our total income will be greater than if borrowings were not used. Conversely, if the income from assets is not sufficient to cover the borrowing costs, our total income will be less than if borrowings were not used. If our current income is not sufficient to meet our borrowing costs (repayment of principal and interest), we might have to liquidate some or all of our investments when it may be disadvantageous to do so. Our borrowings for the purpose of buying most liquid equity securities will be subject to the margin rules, which require excess liquid collateral marked to market daily. If we are unable to post sufficient collateral, we will be required to sell securities to remain in compliance with the margin rules. These sales might be at disadvantageous times or prices.

Repurchase of Shares

Our shareholders do not have the right to compel us to redeem our shares. We may, however, purchase outstanding shares of our common stock from time to time, subject to approval of our Board of Directors and compliance with applicable corporate and securities laws. The Board of Directors may authorize purchases from time to time when they are deemed to be in the best interests of our shareholders, but could do so only after notification to shareholders. The Board of Directors may or may not decide to undertake any purchases of our common stock.

Our repurchases of our common shares would decrease our total assets and would therefore likely have the effect of increasing our expense ratio. Subject to our investment restrictions, we may borrow money to finance the repurchase of our common stock in the open market pursuant to any tender offer. Interest on any borrowings to finance share repurchase transactions will reduce our net assets. If, because of market fluctuations or other reasons, the value of our assets falls below the required 1940 Act coverage requirements, we may have to reduce our borrowed debt to the extent necessary to comply with the requirement. To achieve a reduction, it is possible that we may be required to sell portfolio securities at inopportune times when it may be disadvantageous to do so.

Portfolio Company Turnover

Changes with respect to portfolio companies will be made as our management considers necessary in seeking to achieve our investment objective. The rate of portfolio turnover will not be treated as a limiting or relevant factor when circumstances exist, which are considered by management to make portfolio changes advisable.

Although we expect that many of our investments will be relatively long term in nature, we may make changes in our particular portfolio holdings whenever it is considered that an investment no longer has substantial growth potential or has reached its anticipated level of performance, or (especially when cash is not otherwise available) that another investment appears to have a relatively greater opportunity for capital appreciation. We may also make general portfolio changes to increase our cash to position us in a defensive posture. We may make portfolio changes without regard to the length of time we have held an investment, or whether a sale results in profit or loss, or whether a purchase results in the reacquisition of an investment that we may have only recently sold. Our investments in privately held companies are illiquid, which limits portfolio turnover. The portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly during a year as well as from year to year and may also be affected by cash requirements.

Competition

Numerous companies and individuals are engaged in the venture capital business, and such business is intensely competitive. We believe the perpetual nature of our corporate structure enables us to be a better long-term partner for our portfolio companies than if we were organized as a traditional private equity fund that typically has a limited life. We believe that we have invested in more nanotechnology-enabled companies than any venture capital firm and that we have assembled a team of investment professionals that have scientific and intellectual property expertise that is relevant to investing in nanotechnology. Nevertheless, many of our competitors have significantly greater financial and other resources than we do and are, therefore, in certain respects, in a better position than we are to obtain access to attractive venture capital investments. There can be no assurance that we will be able to compete against these venture capital businesses for attractive investments, particularly in capital-intensive companies.

Regulation

The Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 added the provisions of the 1940 Act applicable only to BDCs. BDCs are a special type of investment company. After a company files its election to be treated as a BDC, it may not withdraw its election without first obtaining the approval of holders of a majority of its outstanding voting securities. The following is a brief description of the 1940 Act provisions applicable to BDCs, qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the 1940 Act and the rules issued thereunder by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

Generally, to be eligible to elect BDC status, a company must primarily engage in the business of furnishing capital and making significant managerial assistance available to companies that do not have ready access to capital through conventional financial channels. Such companies that satisfy certain additional criteria described below are termed "eligible portfolio companies." In general, in order to qualify as a BDC, a company must: (i) be a domestic company; (ii) have registered a class of its securities pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"); (iii) operate for the purpose of investing in the securities of certain types of portfolio companies, including early-stage or emerging companies and businesses suffering or just recovering from financial distress (see following paragraph); (iv) make available significant managerial assistance to such portfolio companies; and (v) file a proper notice of election with the SEC.

An eligible portfolio company generally is a domestic company that is not an investment company or a company excluded from investment company status pursuant to exclusions for certain types of financial companies (such as brokerage firms, banks, insurance companies and investment banking firms) and that: (i) has a fully diluted market capitalization of less than \$250 million and has a class of equity securities listed on a national securities exchange, (ii) does not have a class of securities listed on a national securities exchange, or (iii) is controlled by the BDC by itself or together with others (control under the 1940 Act is presumed to exist where a person owns at least 25 percent of the outstanding voting securities of the portfolio company) and has a representative on the Board of Directors of such company.

We may be periodically examined by the SEC for compliance with the 1940 Act.

As with other companies regulated by the 1940 Act, a BDC must adhere to certain substantive regulatory requirements. A majority of the directors must be persons who are not interested persons, as that term is defined in the 1940 Act. Additionally, we are required to provide and maintain a bond issued by a reputable fidelity insurance company to protect the BDC. Furthermore, as a BDC, we are prohibited from protecting any director or officer against any liability to us or our shareholders arising from willful malfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such person's office.

The 1940 Act provides that we may not make an investment in non-qualifying assets unless at the time at least 70 percent of the value of our total assets (measured as of the date of our most recently filed financial statements) consists of qualifying assets. Qualifying assets include: (i) securities of eligible portfolio companies; (ii) securities of certain companies that were eligible portfolio companies at the time we initially acquired their securities and in which we retain a substantial interest; (iii) securities of certain controlled companies; (iv) securities of certain bankrupt, insolvent or distressed companies; (v) securities received in exchange for or distributed in or with respect to any of the foregoing; and (vi) cash items, U.S. government securities and high quality short-term debt. The SEC has adopted a rule permitting a BDC to invest its cash in certain money market funds. The 1940 Act also places restrictions on the nature of the transactions in which, and the persons from whom, securities can be purchased in some instances in order for the securities to be considered qualifying assets.

We are permitted by the 1940 Act, under specified conditions, to issue multiple classes of debt and a single class of preferred stock if our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least 200 percent after the issuance of the debt or the preferred stock (i.e., such senior securities may not be in excess of our net assets). Under specific conditions, we are also permitted by the 1940 Act to issue warrants.

Except under certain conditions, we may sell our securities at a price that is below the prevailing net asset value per share only during the 12-month period after (i) a majority of our directors and our disinterested directors have determined that such sale would be in the best interest of us and our stockholders and (ii) the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities and the holders of a majority of our voting securities held by persons who are not affiliated persons of ours approve our ability to make such issuances. A majority of the disinterested directors must determine in good faith that the price of the securities being sold is not less than a price which closely approximates the market value of the securities, less any distribution discount or commission.

Certain transactions involving certain closely related persons of the Company, including its directors, officers and employees, may require the prior approval of the SEC. However, the 1940 Act ordinarily does not restrict transactions between us and our portfolio companies.

Subchapter M Status

We elected to be treated as a RIC, taxable under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"), for federal income tax purposes. In general, a RIC is not taxable on its income or gains to the extent it distributes such income or gains to its shareholders. In order to qualify as a RIC, we must, in general, (1) annually derive at least 90 percent of our gross income from dividends, interest and gains from the sale of securities and similar sources (the "Income Source Rule"); (2) quarterly meet certain investment asset diversification requirements; and (3) annually distribute at least 90 percent of our investment company taxable income as a dividend (the "Income Distribution Rule"). Any taxable investment company income not distributed will be subject to corporate level tax. Any taxable investment company income distributed generally will be taxable to shareholders as dividend income.

In addition to the requirement that we must annually distribute at least 90 percent of our investment company taxable income, we may either distribute or retain our realized net capital gains from investments, but any net capital gains not distributed may be subject to corporate level tax. It is our current intention not to distribute net capital gains. Any net capital gains distributed generally will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains.

In lieu of actually distributing our realized net capital gains, we as a RIC may retain all or part of our net capital gains and elect to be deemed to have made a distribution of the retained portion to our shareholders under the "designated undistributed capital gain" rules of the Code. We currently intend to retain and so designate all of our net capital gains. In this case, the "deemed dividend" generally is taxable to our shareholders as long-term capital gains. Although we pay tax at the corporate rate on the amount deemed to have been distributed, our shareholders receive a tax credit equal to their proportionate share of the tax paid and an increase in the tax basis of their shares by the amount per share retained by us.

To the extent that we declare a deemed dividend, each shareholder will receive an IRS Form 2439 that will reflect each shareholder's receipt of the deemed dividend income and a tax credit equal to each shareholder's proportionate share of the tax paid by us. This tax credit, which is paid at the corporate rate, is often credited at a higher rate than the actual tax due by a shareholder on the deemed dividend income. The "residual" credit can be used by the shareholder to offset other taxes due in that year or to generate a tax refund to the shareholder. Tax exempt investors may file for a refund.

The following simplified examples illustrate the tax treatment under Subchapter M of the Code for us and our individual shareholders with regard to three possible distribution alternatives, assuming a net capital gain of \$1.00 per share, consisting entirely of sales of non-real property assets held for more than 12 months.

Under Alternative A: 100 percent of net capital gain declared as a cash dividend and distributed to shareholders:

1. No federal taxation at the Company level.
2. Taxable shareholders receive a \$1.00 per share dividend and pay federal tax at a rate not in excess of 15 percent* or \$.15 per share, retaining \$.85 per share.
3. Non-taxable shareholders that file a federal tax return receive a \$1.00 per share dividend and pay no federal tax, retaining \$1.00 per share.

Under Alternative B (Current Tax Structure Employed): 100 percent of net capital gain retained by the Company and designated as "undistributed capital gain" or deemed dividend:

1. The Company pays a corporate-level federal income tax of 35 percent on the undistributed gain or \$.35 per share and retains 65 percent of the gain or \$.65 per share.
2. Taxable shareholders increase their cost basis in their stock by \$.65 per share. They pay federal capital gains tax at a rate not in excess of 15 percent* on 100 percent of the undistributed gain of \$1.00 per share or \$.15 per share in tax. Offsetting this tax, shareholders receive a tax credit equal to 35 percent of the undistributed gain or \$.35 per share.
3. Non-taxable shareholders that file a federal tax return receive a tax refund equal to \$.35 per share.

*Assumes all capital gains qualify for long-term rates of 15 percent, which may increase for gains realized after December 31, 2010.

Under Alternative C: 100 percent of net capital gain retained by the Company, with no designated undistributed capital gain or deemed dividend:

1. The Company pays a corporate-level federal income tax of 35 percent on the retained gain or \$.35 per share plus an excise tax of four percent of \$.98 per share, or about \$.04 per share.
2. There is no tax consequence at the shareholder level.

Although we may retain income and gains subject to the limitations described above (including paying corporate level tax on such amounts), we could be subject to an additional four percent excise tax if we fail to distribute 98 percent of our aggregate annual taxable income.

As noted above, in order to qualify as a RIC, we must meet certain investment asset diversification requirements each quarter. Because of the specialized nature of our investment portfolio, in some years we have been able to satisfy the diversification requirements under Subchapter M of the Code primarily as a result of receiving certifications from the SEC under the Code with respect to each taxable year beginning after 1998 that we were "principally engaged in the furnishing of capital to other corporations which are principally engaged in the development or exploitation of inventions, technological improvements, new processes, or products not previously generally available" for such year.

Although we received SEC certifications for 1999-2009, there can be no assurance that we will receive such certification for subsequent years (to the extent we need additional certifications as a result of changes in our portfolio). In 2010, we qualified for RIC treatment even without certification. If we require, but fail to obtain, the SEC certification for a taxable year, we may fail to qualify as a RIC for such year. We will also fail to qualify as a RIC for a taxable year if we do not satisfy the Income Source Rule or Income Distribution Rule for such year. In the event we do not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year, we will be subject to federal tax with respect to all of our taxable income, whether or not distributed. In addition, all our distributions to shareholders in that situation generally will be taxable as ordinary dividends.

Although we generally intend to qualify as a RIC for each taxable year, under certain circumstances we may choose to take action with respect to one or more taxable years to ensure that we would be taxed under Subchapter C of the Code (rather than Subchapter M) for such year or years. We will choose to take such action only if we determine that the result of the action will benefit us and our shareholders.

Subsidiaries

Harris & Harris Enterprises, Inc.SM ("Enterprises"), is a 100 percent wholly owned subsidiary of the Company and is consolidated in our financial statements. Enterprises holds the lease for our office space in Palo Alto, California, is a partner in Harris Partners I, L.P. SM, and is taxed as a C Corporation. Harris Partners I, L.P., is a limited partnership. The partners of Harris Partners I, L.P., are Enterprises (sole general partner) and the Company (sole limited partner). Enterprises, as the sole general partner, consolidates Harris Partners I, L.P.

Available Information

Additional information about us, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, are available free of charge on our website at www.HHVC.com. Information on our website is not part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Employees

We currently employ directly 10 permanent, full-time employees.

Item 1A. Risk Factors.

Investing in our common stock involves significant risks relating to our business and investment objective. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below before you purchase any shares of our common stock. These risks and uncertainties are not the only ones we face. Unknown additional risks and uncertainties, or ones that we currently consider immaterial, may also impair our business. If any of these risks or uncertainties materialize, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected. In this event, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

Risks related to the companies in our portfolio.

The difficult venture capital investment and capital market climates could increase the non-performance risk for our portfolio companies.

While the public markets have rebounded from the lows of March 2009 and corporate profits and growth are improving, unemployment remains high, and there are global instabilities, including sovereign debt issues and the potential for inflation. Even with signs of economic improvement, the availability of capital for venture capital firms and venture-backed companies continues to be limited. Currently, financing for capital-intensive companies remains difficult. Historically, difficult venture environments have resulted in a higher than normal number of companies not receiving financing and being subsequently closed down with a loss to venture investors, and other companies receiving financing but at significantly lower valuations than the preceding financing rounds. This issue is compounded by the fact that many existing venture capital firms have few remaining years of investment and available capital owing to the finite lifetime of the funds managed by these firms. Additionally, even if a firm was able to raise a new fund, commonly new funds are not permitted to invest with old funds in existing investments. As such, the currently improving exit environment for venture-backed companies through IPOs and M&A transactions and the currently improving public markets in general may not translate to an increase in the available capital to venture-backed companies, particularly those that have investments from funds that are in the latter stage of life unless it continues for some time into the future.

We believe that these factors continue to introduce significant non-performance risk for venture-backed companies that need to raise additional capital or that require substantial amounts of capital to execute on their business plans. We define non-performance risk as the risk that a portfolio company will be: (a) unable to raise capital, will need to be shut down and will not return our invested capital; or (b) able to raise capital, but at a valuation significantly lower than the implied post-money valuation. In these circumstances, the portfolio company could be recapitalized at a valuation significantly lower than the post-money valuation implied by our valuation method, sold at a loss to our investment or shut down. In addition, significant changes in the capital markets, including the recent extreme volatility and disruption, have had, and may in the future have, a negative effect on the valuations of our investments and on the potential for liquidity events involving our investments. We believe further that the long-term effects of the difficult venture capital investment and difficult, but improving, exit environments will continue to affect negatively the fundraising ability of some companies regardless of near-term improvements in the overall global economy and public markets.

The average length of time from founding to a liquidity event is at historical highs, which could result in companies remaining in our portfolio longer, leading to lower returns, write-downs and write-offs.

Beginning in about 2001, many fewer venture capital-backed companies per annum have been able to complete IPOs than in the years of the previous decade. The IPO and M&A markets improved in 2010 from those in 2009. On average, however, more capital and more time than in previous decades are required for companies to reach these liquidity events. This trend could lead to companies staying longer in our portfolio as private entities that may require additional funding. In the best case, such stagnation would dampen returns, and in the worst case, could lead to write-downs and write-offs as some companies run short of cash and have to accept lower valuations in private financings or are not able to access additional capital at all. The difficult venture capital climate is also causing some venture capital firms to change their investment strategies. Accordingly, some venture capital firms are reducing funding of their portfolio companies, making it more difficult for such companies to access capital and to fulfill their potential. In some cases this leads to write-downs and write-offs of such companies by other venture capital firms, such as ourselves, who are co-investors in such companies.

Investing in small, privately held and publicly traded companies involves a high degree of risk and is highly speculative.

We have invested a substantial portion of our assets in privately held companies, the securities of which are inherently illiquid. We also seek to invest in small publicly traded companies that we believe have exceptional growth potential. Although these companies are publicly traded, their stock may not trade at high volumes and prices can be volatile, which may restrict our ability to sell our positions. These privately held and publicly traded businesses tend to lack management depth, to have limited or no history of operations and to have not attained profitability. Companies commercializing products enabled by nanotechnology or microsystems are especially risky, involving scientific, technological and commercialization risks. Because of the speculative nature of these investments, these securities have a significantly greater risk of loss than traditional investment securities. Some of our venture capital investments are likely to be complete losses or unprofitable, and some will never realize their potential. We have been and will continue to be risk seeking rather than risk averse in our approach to venture capital and other investments. Neither our investments nor an investment in our common stock is intended to constitute a balanced investment program.

We may invest in companies working with technologies or intellectual property that currently have few or no proven commercial applications.

Nanotechnology, in particular, is a developing area of technology, of which much of the future commercial value is difficult to estimate and subject to widely varying interpretations. It is a general purpose technology that is applicable to a diverse set of industries. As such, nanotechnology-enabled products must compete against existing products or enable a completely new product in an emerging or existing industry. The timing of additional future commercially available nanotechnology-enabled products and the industries on which nanotechnology will have the most significant impact are highly uncertain. To date, some of our portfolio companies have not developed any commercially available products. In addition, our portfolio companies may not be able to manufacture successfully or to market their products in order to achieve commercial success. Further, the products may never gain commercial acceptance.

Our portfolio companies working with nanotechnology and microsystems may be particularly susceptible to intellectual property litigation.

Research and commercialization efforts in nanotechnology and microsystems are being undertaken by a wide variety of government, academic and private corporate entities. As additional commercially viable applications of nanotechnology emerge, ownership of intellectual property on which these products are based may be contested. From time to time, our portfolio companies are or have been involved in intellectual property disputes and litigation. Any litigation over the ownership of, or rights to, any of our portfolio companies' technologies or products could have a material adverse effect on those companies' values.

The value of our portfolio could be adversely affected if the technologies utilized by our portfolio companies are found, or even rumored or feared, to cause health or environmental risks, or if legislation is passed that limits the commercialization of any of these technologies.

Nanotechnology has received both positive and negative publicity and is the subject increasingly of public discussion and debate. For example, debate regarding the production of materials that could cause harm to the environment or the health of individuals could raise concerns in the public's perception of nanotechnology, not all of which might be rational or scientifically based. Nanotechnology in particular is currently the subject of health and environmental impact research. If health or environmental concerns about nanotechnology or microsystems were to arise, whether or not they had any basis in fact, our portfolio companies might incur additional research, legal and regulatory expenses, and might have difficulty raising capital or marketing their products. Government authorities could, for social or other purposes, prohibit or regulate the use of nanotechnology. Legislation could be passed that could circumscribe the commercialization of any of these technologies.

Our Nanotech for CleantechSM, Nanotech for ElectronicsSM and Nanotech for HealthcareSM portfolios are currently the largest portion of our venture capital portfolio, and, therefore, fluctuations in the value of the companies in these portfolios may adversely affect our net asset value per share to a greater degree than other sectors of our portfolio.

The three largest portions of our portfolio are our Nanotech for CleantechSM, Nanotech for ElectronicsSM and Nanotech for HealthcareSM portfolios. Our Nanotech for CleantechSM portfolio consists of companies commercializing nanotechnology-enabled products targeted at cleantech-related markets. There are risks in investing in companies that target cleantech-related markets, including the rapid and sometimes dramatic price fluctuations of commodities, particularly oil and sugar, and of public equities, the reliance on the capital and debt markets to finance large capital outlays, change in climate, including climate-related regulations, and the dependence on government subsidies to be cost-competitive with non-cleantech solutions. For example, the attractiveness of alternative methods for the production of biobutanol and biodiesel can be adversely affected by a decrease in the demand or price of oil. The demand for solar cells is driven partly by government subsidies and the availability of credit to finance the purchase and installation of the system. Adverse developments in any of these sectors may significantly affect the value of our Nanotech for CleantechSM portfolio, and thus our venture capital portfolio as a whole. Additionally, companies with cleantech platforms are currently in favor with the media and investors. Cleantech companies in general may have a harder time accessing capital in the future if this level of interest subsides.

Our Nanotech for ElectronicsSM portfolio consists of companies commercializing and integrating nanotechnology-enabled products targeted at electronics-related markets. There are risks in investing in companies that target electronics-related markets, including rapid and sometimes dramatic price erosion of products, the reliance on capital and debt markets to finance large capital outlays, including fabrication facilities, the reliance on partners outside of the United States, particularly in Asia, and inherent cyclicity of the electronics market in general. Additionally, electronics-related companies are currently out of favor with many venture capital firms. Therefore, access to capital may be difficult or impossible for companies in our portfolio that are pursuing these markets.

Our Nanotech for HealthcareSM portfolio consists of companies that commercialize and integrate products enabled by nanotechnology and microsystems in healthcare-related industries, including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics and medical devices. There are risks in investing in companies that target healthcare-related industries, including but not limited to the uncertainty of timing and results of clinical trials to demonstrate the safety and efficacy of products; failure to obtain any required regulatory approval of products; failure to develop manufacturing processes that meet regulatory standards; competition, in particular from companies that develop rival products; and the ability to protect proprietary technology. Adverse developments in any of these areas may adversely affect the value of our Nanotech for HealthcareSM portfolio.

The three main industry clusters around which our nanotechnology investments have developed are all capital intensive.

The industry clusters where nanotechnology and microsystems are gaining the greatest traction, cleantech, electronics and healthcare, are all capital intensive. Currently, financing for capital-intensive companies remains difficult. In some successful companies, we believe we may need to invest more than we currently have planned to invest in these companies. There can be no assurance that we will have the capital necessary to make such investments. In addition, investing greater than planned amounts in our portfolio companies could limit our ability to pursue new investments and fund follow-on investments. Both of these situations could cause us to miss investment opportunities or limit our ability to protect existing investments from dilution or other actions or events that would decrease the value and potential return from these investments.

Our portfolio companies may generate revenues from the sale of products that are not enabled by nanotechnology.

We consider a company to be enabled by nanotechnology or microsystems if a product or products, or intellectual property covering a product or products, that we consider to be at the microscale or smaller is material to its business plan. The core business of some of these companies may not be nanotechnology-enabled products, and, therefore, their success or failure may not be dependent upon the nanotechnology aspects of their business. In addition to developing products that we consider nanotechnology, some of these companies may also develop products that we do not consider enabled by nanotechnology. Some of these companies will generate revenues from the sale of non-nanotechnology-enabled products. Additionally, it is possible that a portfolio company may decide to change its business focus after our initial investment and decide to develop and commercialize non-nanotechnology-enabled products.

Our venture debt investments may be extremely risky, and we could lose all or part of our investments.

A portfolio company's failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, termination of its loans and foreclosure on its assets, which could trigger cross-defaults under other agreements and jeopardize our portfolio company's ability to meet its obligations under the debt securities that we hold. We may incur expenses to the extent necessary to seek recovery upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting portfolio company. In addition, if a portfolio company goes bankrupt, even though we may have structured our interest as senior debt, depending on the facts and circumstances, including the extent to which we actually provided significant "managerial assistance" to that portfolio company, a bankruptcy court might recharacterize our debt holding and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of another creditor.

When we make a senior secured term loan investment in a portfolio company, we generally take a security interest in the available assets of the portfolio company, including the equity interests of its subsidiaries, which we expect to help mitigate the risk that we will not be repaid. However, there is a risk that the collateral securing our loans may decrease in value over time, may be difficult to sell in a timely manner, may be difficult to appraise and may fluctuate in value based upon the success of the business and market conditions, including as a result of the inability of the portfolio company to raise additional capital, and, in some circumstances, our lien could be subordinated to claims of other creditors. In addition, deterioration in a portfolio company's financial condition and prospects, including its inability to raise additional capital, may be accompanied by deterioration in the value of the collateral for the loan. Consequently, the fact that a loan is secured does not guarantee that we will receive principal and interest payments according to the loan's terms, or at all, or that we will be able to collect on the loan should we be forced to enforce our remedies.

To the extent we use debt to finance our venture debt investments, changes in interest rates will affect our cost of capital and net investment income.

To the extent we borrow money to make venture debt investments, our net investment income will depend, in part, upon the difference between the rate at which we borrow funds and the rate at which we invest those funds. As a result, we can offer no assurance that a significant change in market interest rates will not have a material adverse effect on our net investment income in the event we use debt to finance our venture debt investments. In periods of rising interest rates, our cost of funds could increase, which could reduce our net investment income. Currently, our one venture debt investment is at a fixed rate. Some of our future debt investments may bear interest at variable rates and the interest income from these investments could be negatively affected by decreases in market interest rates. In addition, an increase in interest rates would make it more expensive to use debt to finance our investments. As a result, a significant increase in market interest rates could increase our cost of capital, which would reduce our net investment income. A decrease in interest rates may have an adverse impact on our returns by requiring us to seek lower yields on our debt investments and by increasing the risk that our portfolio companies will prepay our debt investments, resulting in the need to redeploy capital at potentially lower rates. A decrease in market interest rates may also adversely impact our returns on our cash invested in treasury securities, which would reduce our net investment income.

On February 24, 2011, the Company established a new \$10 million three-year revolving credit facility with TD Bank, N.A., to be used in conjunction with its investments in venture debt. As of March 15, 2011, we had \$1,250,000 outstanding from our \$10 million credit facility.

Our portfolio companies may incur debt that ranks senior to our investments in such companies.

We may make investments in our portfolio companies in the form of bridge notes that typically convert into preferred stock issued in the next round of financing of that portfolio company or other forms of convertible and non-convertible debt securities. The portfolio companies usually have, or may be permitted to incur, other debt that ranks senior to the debt securities in which we invest. By their terms, debt instruments may provide that the holders are entitled to receive payment of interest and principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments in respect of the debt securities in which we invest. Also, in the case of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of debt instruments ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company would typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any distribution in respect of our investment. After repaying such senior creditors, such portfolio company may not have any remaining assets to use for repaying its obligations to us. In addition, in companies where we have made investments in the form of bridge notes or other debt securities, we may also have investments in equity in the form of preferred shares. In such a case, a bankruptcy court may subordinate our bridge notes and/or other debt securities to debt holders that do not have equity in the portfolio company.

Our portfolio companies face risks associated with international sales.

We anticipate that certain of our portfolio companies could generate revenue from international sales. Risks associated with these potential future sales include:

- Political and economic instability;
- Export controls and other trade restrictions;
- Changes in legal and regulatory requirements;
- U.S. and foreign government policy changes affecting the markets for the technologies;
- Changes in tax laws and tariffs;
- Convertibility and transferability of international currencies; and
- International currency exchange rate fluctuations.

The effect of global climate change may impact the operations of our portfolio companies.

There may be evidence of global climate change. Climate change creates physical and financial risk, and some of our portfolio companies may be adversely affected by climate change. For example, the needs of customers of energy companies vary with weather conditions, primarily temperature and humidity. To the extent weather conditions are affected by climate change, energy use could increase or decrease depending on the duration and magnitude of any changes. Increases in the cost of energy could adversely affect the cost of operations of our portfolio companies if the use of energy products or services is material to their business. A decrease in energy use due to weather changes may affect some of our portfolio companies' financial condition through decreased revenues. Extreme weather conditions in general require more system backup, adding to costs, and can contribute to increased system stresses, including service interruptions.

Risks related to the illiquidity of our investments.

We invest in illiquid securities and may not be able to dispose of them when it is advantageous to do so, or ever.

Most of our investments are or will be equity, equity-linked, or debt securities acquired directly from small companies. These securities are generally subject to restrictions on resale or otherwise have no established trading market. The illiquidity of most of our portfolio of securities may adversely affect our ability to dispose of these securities at times when it may be advantageous for us to liquidate these investments. We may never be able to dispose of these securities.

Unfavorable regulatory changes could impair our ability to engage in liquidity events.

Recent government reforms affecting publicly traded companies, stock markets, investment banks and securities research practices have made it more difficult for privately held companies to complete successful IPOs of their equity securities, and such reforms have increased the expense and legal exposure of being a public company. Public equity market response to companies offering nanotechnology-enabled products is uncertain. An inability to exit investments in our portfolio could negatively affect our liquidity, our reinvestment rate in new and follow-on investments and the value of our portfolio.

Even if some of our portfolio companies complete IPOs, the returns on our investments in those companies would be uncertain.

When companies in which we have invested as private entities complete IPOs of their securities, these newly issued securities are by definition unseasoned issues. Unseasoned issues tend to be highly volatile and have uncertain liquidity, which may negatively affect their price. In addition, we are typically subject to lock-up provisions that prohibit us from selling our investments into the public market for specified periods of time after IPOs. The market price of securities that we hold may decline substantially before we are able to sell these securities. Government reforms that affect the trading of securities in the United States have made market-making by broker-dealers less profitable, which has caused broker-dealers to reduce their market-making activities, thereby making the market for unseasoned stocks less liquid than they might be otherwise.

Risks related to our Company.

Our business may be adversely affected by the state of the venture capital market and capital markets in general.

The economies of the United States and many other countries are just emerging from recession. While the public markets have rebounded from the lows of March 2009 and corporate profits and growth are improving, unemployment remains high, and there are global instabilities, including sovereign debt issues, popular revolts against established governments and the potential for inflation. These issues may persist for a substantial period and may slow or reverse the recovery of the global economy, which could be detrimental to the recovery of the venture capital industry.

Our business and results of operations could be impacted adversely by a number of follow-on effects of the difficult venture capital market that resulted from the recent financial crisis, including the inability of our portfolio companies to obtain sufficient financing to continue to operate as a going concern, an increase in our funding costs or the limitation on our access to the capital markets. A prolonged period of market illiquidity may have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations. Our nonperforming assets may increase, and the value of our portfolio may decrease if this period of market illiquidity persists. These events could limit our investment activity, limit our ability to grow and negatively impact our operating results.

Changes in regulations of the financial industry have adversely affected coverage of us by financial analysts. A number of analysts that have covered us in the past are no longer able to continue to do so owing to changes in employment, to restrictions on the size of companies they are allowed to cover and/or their firms have shut down operations. An inability to attract analyst coverage may adversely affect our ability to raise capital from investors, particularly institutional investors. Our inability to access the capital markets on favorable terms, or at all, may adversely affect our future financial performance. The inability to obtain adequate financing capital sources could force us to seek debt financing, self-fund strategic initiatives or even forgo certain opportunities, which in turn could potentially harm our current and future performance.

Because there is generally no established market in which to value our investments, our Valuation Committee's value determinations may differ materially from the values that a ready market or third party would attribute to these investments.

There is generally no public market for the private equity securities in which we invest. Pursuant to the requirements of the 1940 Act, we value all of the privately held equity and debt securities in our portfolio at fair value as determined in good faith by the Valuation Committee, a committee made up of all of the independent members of our Board of Directors, pursuant to Valuation Procedures established by the Board of Directors. Determining fair value requires that judgment be applied to the specific facts and circumstances of each portfolio investment pursuant to specified valuation principles and processes. We are required by the 1940 Act to value specifically each individual investment on a quarterly basis and record unrealized depreciation for an investment that we believe has become impaired. Conversely, we must record unrealized appreciation if we believe that a security has appreciated in value. Our valuations, although stated as a precise number, are necessarily within a range of values that vary depending on the significance attributed to the various factors being considered.

We use the Black-Scholes-Merton option pricing model to determine the fair value of warrants held in our portfolio. Option pricing models, including the Black-Scholes-Merton model, require the use of subjective input assumptions, including expected volatility, expected life, expected dividend rate, and expected risk-free rate of return. In the Black-Scholes-Merton model, variations in the expected volatility or expected term assumptions have a significant impact on fair value. Because the securities underlying the warrants in our portfolio are not publicly traded, many of the required input assumptions are more difficult to estimate than they would be if a public market for the underlying securities existed.

Without a readily ascertainable market value and because of the inherent uncertainty of valuation, the fair value that we assign to our investments may differ from the values that would have been used had an efficient market existed for the investments, and the difference could be material. Any changes in fair value are recorded in our Consolidated Statement of Operations as a change in the "Net decrease (increase) in unrealized depreciation on investments."

In the venture capital industry, even when a portfolio of early-stage, high-technology venture capital investments proves to be profitable over the portfolio's lifetime, it is common for the portfolio's value to undergo a so-called "J-curve" valuation pattern. This means that when reflected on a graph, the portfolio's valuation would appear in the shape of the letter "J," declining from the initial valuation prior to increasing in valuation. This J-curve valuation pattern results from write-downs and write-offs of portfolio investments that appear to be unsuccessful, prior to write-ups for portfolio investments that prove to be successful. Because early-stage companies typically have negative cash flow and are by their nature inherently fragile, a valuation process can more readily substantiate a loss of value than an increase in value. Even if our venture capital investments prove to be profitable in the long run, such J-curve valuation patterns could have a significant adverse effect on our net asset value per share and the value of our common stock in the interim. Over time, as we continue to make additional nanotechnology investments, this J-curve pattern may be less relevant for our portfolio as a whole, because the individual J-curves for each investment, or series of investments, may overlap with previous investments at different stages of their J-curves.

Changes in valuations of our privately held, early-stage companies tend to be more volatile than changes in prices of established, more mature publicly traded securities.

Investments in privately held, early- and mid-stage companies are inherently more volatile than investments in more mature businesses. Such immature businesses are inherently fragile and easily affected by both internal and external forces. Our investee companies can lose much or all of their value suddenly in response to an internal or external adverse event. Conversely, these immature businesses can gain suddenly in value in response to an internal or external positive development. Moreover, because our ownership interests in such investments are generally valued only at quarterly intervals by our Valuation Committee, changes in valuations from one valuation point to another tend to be larger than changes in valuations of marketable securities that are revalued in the marketplace much more frequently, in some highly liquid cases, virtually continuously. Although we carefully monitor each of our portfolio companies, information pertinent to our portfolio companies is not always known immediately by us, and, therefore, its availability for use in determining value may not always coincide with the timeframe of our valuations required by the federal securities laws.

We expect to continue to experience material write-downs of securities of portfolio companies.

Write-downs of securities of our privately held companies have always been a by-product and risk of our business. We expect to continue to experience material write-downs of securities of privately held portfolio companies. Write-downs of such companies occur at all stages of their development. Such write-downs may increase in dollar terms, frequency and as a percentage of our net asset value as our dollar investment activity in privately held companies continues to increase, and the number of such holdings in our portfolio continues to grow. If the average size of each of our investments in nanotechnology increases, the average size of our write-downs may also increase.

Because we do not choose investments based on a strategy of diversification, nor do we rebalance the portfolio should one or more investments increase in value substantially relative to the rest of the portfolio, the value of our portfolio is subject to greater volatility than the value of companies with more broadly diversified investments.

We do not choose investments based on a strategy of diversification. We also do not rebalance the portfolio should one of our portfolio companies increase in value substantially relative to the rest of the portfolio. Therefore, the value of our portfolio may be more vulnerable to events affecting a single sector or industry and, therefore, subject to greater volatility than a company that follows a diversification strategy. Accordingly, an investment in our common stock may present greater risk to you than an investment in a diversified company.

We are dependent upon key management personnel for future success, and may not be able to retain them.

We are dependent upon the diligence and skill of our senior management and other key advisers for the selection, structuring, closing and monitoring of our investments. We utilize lawyers, and we utilize outside consultants, including one of our directors, Lori D. Pressman, to assist us in conducting due diligence when evaluating potential investments. There is generally no publicly available information about the companies in which we invest, and we rely significantly on the diligence of our employees and advisers to obtain information in connection with our investment decisions. Our future success, to a significant extent, depends on the continued service and coordination of our senior management team, particularly on Douglas W. Jamison, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and a Managing Director; on Daniel B. Wolfe, our President, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer and a Managing Director; on Alexei A. Andreev, Executive Vice President and Managing Director; on Misti Ushio, a Vice President; and on Sandra M. Forman, our General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, Director of Human Resources and Corporate Secretary. The departure of any of our executive officers, key employees or advisers could materially adversely affect our ability to implement our business strategy. We do not maintain for our benefit any key-man life insurance on any of our officers or employees.

Our failure to make follow-on investments in our portfolio companies could impair the value of our portfolio.

Following an initial investment in a portfolio company, we may make additional investments in that portfolio company as "follow-on" investments, in order to: (1) increase or maintain in whole or in part our ownership percentage; (2) exercise warrants, options or convertible securities that were acquired in the original or subsequent financing; or (3) attempt to preserve or enhance the value of our investment.

We may elect not to make follow-on investments or lack sufficient funds to make such investments. We have the discretion to make any follow-on investments, subject to the availability of capital resources. The failure to make a follow-on investment may, in some circumstances, jeopardize the continued viability of a portfolio company and our initial investment, or may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a successful operation, or may cause us to lose some or all preferred rights pursuant to "pay-to-play" provisions that have become common in venture capital transactions. These provisions require proportionate investment in subsequent rounds of financing in order to preserve preferred rights such as anti-dilution protection, liquidation preferences and preemptive rights to invest in future rounds of financing. Even if we have sufficient capital to make a desired follow-on investment, we may elect not to make a follow-on investment because we may not want to increase our concentration of risk, because we prefer other opportunities or because we are inhibited by compliance with BDC requirements or the desire to maintain our tax status.

Bank borrowing or the issuance of debt securities or preferred stock by us, to fund investments in portfolio companies or to fund our operating expenses, would make our total return to common shareholders more volatile.

Use of debt or preferred stock as a source of capital entails two primary risks. The first is the risk of leverage, which is the use of debt to increase the pool of capital available for investment purposes. The use of debt leverages our available common equity capital, magnifying the impact on net asset value of changes in the value of our investment portfolio. For example, a BDC that uses 33 percent leverage (that is, \$50 of leverage per \$100 of common equity) will show a 1.5 percent increase or decline in net asset value for each one percent increase or decline in the value of its total assets. The second risk is that the cost of debt or preferred stock financing may exceed the return on the assets the proceeds are used to acquire, thereby diminishing rather than enhancing the return to common shareholders. If we issue preferred shares or debt, the common shareholders would bear the cost of this leverage. To the extent that we utilize debt or preferred stock financing for any purpose, these two risks would likely make our total return to common shareholders more volatile. In addition, we might be required to sell investments, in order to meet dividend, interest or principal payments, when it might be disadvantageous for us to do so.

As provided in the 1940 Act and subject to some exceptions, we can issue debt or preferred stock so long as our total assets immediately after the issuance, less some ordinary course liabilities, exceed 200 percent of the sum of the debt and any preferred stock outstanding. The debt or preferred stock may be convertible in accordance with SEC guidelines, which might permit us to obtain leverage at more attractive rates. The requirement under the 1940 Act to pay, in full, dividends on preferred shares or interest on debt before any dividends may be paid on our common stock means that dividends on our common stock from earnings may be reduced or eliminated. An inability to pay dividends on our common stock could conceivably result in our ceasing to qualify as a RIC under the Code, which would in most circumstances be materially adverse to the holders of our common stock. As of December 31, 2010, we did not have any debt or preferred stock outstanding. As of February 24, 2011, we established a \$10 million three-year revolving credit facility with TD Bank, N.A., to be used in conjunction with our investments in venture debt. We do not plan to use this credit facility in conjunction with any private venture capital equity investments.

We are authorized to issue preferred stock, which would convey special rights and privileges to its owners senior to those of common stock shareholders.

We are currently authorized to issue up to 2,000,000 shares of preferred stock, under terms and conditions determined by our Board of Directors. These shares would have a preference over our common stock with respect to dividends and liquidation. The statutory class voting rights of any preferred shares we would issue could make it more difficult for us to take some actions that might, in the future, be proposed by the Board and/or holders of common stock, such as a merger, exchange of securities, liquidation or alteration of the rights of a class of our securities, if these actions were perceived by the holders of the preferred shares as not in their best interests. The issuance of preferred shares convertible into shares of common stock might also reduce the net income and net asset value per share of our common stock upon conversion.

Loss of status as a RIC could reduce our net asset value and distributable income.

We have elected to qualify, qualified and intend to continue to qualify as a RIC under the Code. As a RIC, we do not have to pay federal income taxes on our income (including realized gains) that is distributed to our shareholders. Accordingly, we are not permitted under accounting rules to establish reserves for taxes on our unrealized capital gains. If we failed to qualify for RIC status in 2010 or beyond, we would be taxed in the same manner as an ordinary corporation and distributions to our shareholders would not be deductible in computing our taxable income, which would materially adversely impact the amount of cash available for distribution to our shareholders. In addition, to the extent that we had unrealized gains, we would have to establish reserves for taxes, which would reduce our net asset value, accordingly. To qualify again to be taxed as a RIC in a subsequent year, we would be required to distribute to our shareholders our earnings and profits attributable to non-RIC years reduced by an interest charge of 50 percent of such earnings and profits payable by us to the IRS. In addition, if we failed to qualify as a RIC for a period greater than two taxable years, then, in order to qualify as a RIC in a subsequent year, we would be required to elect to recognize and pay tax on any net built-in gain (the excess of aggregate gain, including items of income, over aggregate loss that would have been realized if we had sold our property to an unrelated party for fair market value) or, alternatively, be subject to taxation on such built-in gain recognized for a period of 10 years. In addition, if we, as a RIC, were to decide to make a deemed distribution of realized net capital gains and retain the net realized capital gains, also referred to as a deemed dividend, we would have to establish appropriate reserves for taxes that we would have to pay on behalf of shareholders. It is possible that establishing reserves for taxes could have a material adverse effect on the value of our common stock. Additionally, if we decide to make a deemed distribution and government regulation increases dividend tax rates for individuals and corporations, the net benefit to shareholders could be adversely affected. Such changes may decrease the value to shareholders that could be generated through our status as a RIC.

We operate in a heavily regulated environment, and changes to, or non-compliance with, regulations and laws could harm our business.

We are subject to substantive SEC regulations as a BDC. Securities and tax laws and regulations governing our activities may change in ways adverse to our and our shareholders' interests, and interpretations of these laws and regulations may change with unpredictable consequences. Any change in the laws or regulations that govern our business could have an adverse impact on us or on our operations. Changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance, valuation, public disclosure and market regulation, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, new SEC regulations, new federal accounting standards and Nasdaq Stock Market rules, create additional expense and uncertainty for publicly held companies in general, and for BDCs in particular. These new or changed laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations in many cases because of their lack of specificity, and as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time, which may well result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices.

We are committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance and public disclosure. As a result, our efforts to comply with evolving laws, regulations and standards have and will continue to result in increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities. In particular, our efforts to comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the related regulations regarding our required assessment of our internal controls over financial reporting has required the commitment of significant financial and managerial resources. If our efforts to comply with new or changed laws, regulations and standards differ from the activities intended by regulatory or governing bodies, our reputation may be harmed. This increased regulatory burden is causing us to incur significant additional expenses and is time consuming for our management, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial performance.

Market prices of our common stock will continue to be volatile.

We expect that the market price of our common stock price will continue to be volatile. The price of the common stock may be higher or lower than the price you pay for your shares, depending on many factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be directly related to our operating performance. These factors include the following:

- stock market and capital markets conditions;
- internal developments in our Company with respect to our personnel, financial condition and compliance with all applicable regulations;
- announcements regarding any of our portfolio companies;
- announcements regarding developments in the nanotechnology or cleantech-related fields in general;
- environmental and health concerns regarding nanotechnology, whether real or perceptual;

announcements regarding government funding and initiatives related to the development of nanotechnology or cleantech-related products;

- general economic conditions and trends; and/or
- departures of key personnel.

We will not have control over many of these factors, but expect that our stock price may be influenced by them. As a result, our stock price may be volatile, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Quarterly results fluctuate and are not indicative of future quarterly performance.

Our quarterly operating results fluctuate as a result of a number of factors. These factors include, among others, variations in and the timing of the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we and our portfolio companies encounter competition in our markets and general economic and capital markets conditions. As a result of these factors, results for any one quarter should not be relied upon as being indicative of performance in future quarters.

To the extent that we do not realize income or choose not to retain after-tax realized capital gains, we will have a greater need for additional capital to fund our investments and operating expenses.

As a RIC, we must annually distribute at least 90 percent of our investment company taxable income as a dividend and may either distribute or retain our realized net capital gains from investments. As a result, these earnings may not be available to fund investments. If we fail to generate net realized capital gains or to obtain funds from outside sources, it would have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations as well as our ability to make follow-on and new investments. Because of the structure and objectives of our business, we generally expect to experience net operating losses and rely on proceeds from sales of investments and investment income from our venture debt to defray a significant portion of our operating expenses. Investment sales are unpredictable and may not occur. In addition, as a BDC, we are generally required to maintain a ratio of at least 200 percent of total assets to total borrowings and preferred stock, which may restrict our ability to borrow to fund these requirements. Lack of capital could curtail our investment activities or impair our working capital.

Investment in foreign securities could result in additional risks.

We may invest in foreign securities, and we currently have one investment in a foreign security. When we invest in securities of foreign issuers, we may be subject to risks not usually associated with owning securities of U.S. issuers. These risks can include fluctuations in foreign currencies, foreign currency exchange controls, social, political and economic instability, differences in securities regulation and trading, expropriation or nationalization of assets and foreign taxation issues. In addition, changes in government administrations or economic or monetary policies in the United States or abroad could result in appreciation or depreciation of our securities and could favorably or unfavorably affect our operations. It may also be more difficult to obtain and enforce a judgment against a foreign issuer. Any foreign investments made by us must be made in compliance with U.S. and foreign currency restrictions and tax laws restricting the amounts and types of foreign investments.

Although most of our investments are denominated in U.S. dollars, our investments that are denominated in a foreign currency are subject to the risk that the value of a particular currency may change in relation to the U.S. dollar, in which currency we maintain financial statements and valuations. Among the factors that may affect currency values are trade balances, the level of short-term interest rates, differences in relative values of similar assets in different currencies, long-term opportunities for investment and capital appreciation and political developments.

Investing in our stock is highly speculative and an investor could lose some or all of the amount invested. Our investment objective and strategies result in a high degree of risk in our investments and may result in losses in the value of our investment portfolio. Our investments in portfolio companies are highly speculative and, therefore, an investor in our common stock may lose his or her entire investment. The value of our common stock may decline and may be affected by numerous market conditions, which could result in the loss of some or all of the amount invested in our common stock. The securities markets frequently experience extreme price and volume fluctuations that affect market prices for securities of companies in general, and technology and very small capitalization companies in particular. Because of our focus on the technology and very small capitalization sectors, and because we are a very small capitalization company ourselves, our stock price is especially likely to be affected by these market conditions. General economic conditions, and general conditions in nanotechnology and in the semiconductor and information technology, life science, materials science and other high-technology industries, including cleantech, may also affect the price of our common stock.

Our shares might trade at discounts from net asset value or at premiums that are unsustainable over the long term.

Shares of BDCs like us may, during some periods, trade at prices higher than their net asset value and during other periods, as frequently occurs with closed-end investment companies, trade at prices lower than their net asset value. The possibility that our shares will trade at discounts from net asset value or at premiums that are unsustainable over the long term are risks separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value per share will decrease. The risk of purchasing shares of a BDC that might trade at a discount or unsustainable premium is more pronounced for investors who wish to sell their shares in a relatively short period of time because, for those investors, realization of a gain or loss on their investments is likely to be more dependent upon changes in premium or discount levels than upon increases or decreases in net asset value per share. Our common stock may not trade at a price higher than or equal to net asset value per share. On December 31, 2010, our stock closed at \$4.38 per share, a discount of \$0.38 to our net asset value per share of \$4.76 as of December 31, 2010.

The Board of Directors intends to grant stock options to our employees pursuant to the Company's Equity Incentive Plan. When exercised, these options may have a dilutive effect on existing shareholders.

In accordance with the Company's Equity Incentive Plan, the Company's Board of Directors may grant options from time to time for up to 20 percent of the total shares of stock issued and outstanding. When options are exercised, net asset value per share will decrease if the net asset value per share at the time of exercise is higher than the exercise price. Alternatively, net asset value per share will increase if the net asset value per share at the time of exercise is lower than the exercise price. Therefore, existing shareholders will be diluted if the net asset value per share at the time of exercise is higher than the exercise price of the options. Even though issuance of shares pursuant to exercises of options increases the Company's capital, and regardless of whether such issuance results in increases or decreases in net asset value per share, such issuance results in existing shareholders owning a smaller percentage of the shares outstanding.

You have no right to require us to repurchase your shares.

You do not have the right to require us to repurchase your shares of common stock.

The market price of our shares of common stock may be adversely affected by the sale of shares by our management or large shareholders.

Sales of our shares of common stock by our officers through 10b5-1 plans or by large shareholders could adversely and unpredictably affect the price of those securities. Additionally, the price of our shares of common stock could be affected even by the potential for sales by these persons. We cannot predict the effect that any future sales of our common stock, or the potential for those sales, will have on our share price. Furthermore, due to relatively low trading volume of our stock, should one or more large stockholders seek to sell a significant portion of its stock in a short period of time, the price of our stock may decline.

Future sales of our common stock in the public market could cause our stock price to fall.

Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock in offerings, such as follow-on public offerings, registered direct or PIPE transactions, or rights offerings, or the perception that these sales might occur, could depress the market price of our common stock and could impair our ability to raise capital through the sale of additional equity securities.

Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

None.

Item 2.

Properties.

The Company maintains its offices at 1450 Broadway, New York, New York 10018, where it leases approximately 6,900 square feet of office space pursuant to a lease agreement expiring on December 31, 2019. (See "Note 9. Commitments and Contingencies" contained in "Item 8. Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.")

On July 1, 2008, we signed a five-year lease for approximately 2,290 square feet of office space at 420 Florence Street, Suite 200, Palo Alto, California 94301, commencing on August 1, 2008, and expiring on August 31, 2013.

Item 3.