

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-K

(MARK ONE)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002

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 NUMBER 0-30961

SOHU.COM INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

98-0204667
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

7 Jianguomen Nei Avenue
Suite 1519, Tower 2
Bright China Chang An Building
Beijing 100005
People's Republic of China
(Address of principal executive offices)

(011) 8610-6510-2160
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:
None

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT:
Common Stock, \$0.001 Par Value

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 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 an accelerated filer (as defined in Exchange Act Rule 12b-2). Yes No

The aggregate market value of common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant, based upon the last sale price on June 28, 2002 as reported on the Nasdaq National Market, was approximately \$29.7 million.

As of February 28, 2003, there were 34,822,538 shares of the registrant's common stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for Sohu's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed on or about April 16, 2003 are incorporated into Part III of this report.

PART I

As used in this report, except where the context otherwise requires, references to “us,” “we,” “our,” “our company,” “Sohu” and “Sohu.com” are to Sohu.com Inc., our subsidiaries ChinaRen Inc. (or ChinaRen), Sohu.com (Hong Kong) Limited (or Sohu Hong Kong), and Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd. (or Beijing ITC), and our affiliates Beijing Century High-Tech Investment Co., Ltd. (or High Century), Beijing Hengda Yitong Internet Technology Development Co., Ltd. (or Hengda), Beijing Sohu Online Network Information Services, Ltd. (or Beijing Sohu) and Sohu-Guolian Information Technology Co., Ltd. (or Sohu-Guolian), and these references should be interpreted accordingly. Unless otherwise specified, references to “China” or “PRC” refer to the People’s Republic of China and do not include the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Macau Special Administrative Region or Taiwan. This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including, without limitation, statements regarding our expectations, beliefs, intentions or future strategies that are signified by the words “expect,” “anticipate,” “intend,” “believe,” or similar language. All forward-looking statements included in this document are based on information available to us on the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Our business and financial performance are subject to substantial risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in the forward-looking statements. In evaluating our business, you should carefully consider the information set forth below under the caption “Risk Factors.” Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

We are one of the leading Internet portals in China in terms of brand recognition. Our portal consists of sophisticated Chinese language Web navigational and search capabilities, 17 main content channels, Web-based communications, alumni club and community services and a platform for e-commerce, subscription and short messaging services. Each of our interest-specific main channels contains multi-level sub-channels that cover a comprehensive range of topics, including news, business, entertainment, sports and career. We also offer free and paid Web-based e-mail. We offer a universal registration system, whereby a user that has registered for our e-mail service is automatically registered for our chat, bulletin board and other services. Our portal attracts consumers and merchants alike because it is designed to meet the specific needs and interests of Internet users in China. Key features include proprietary Web navigational and search capabilities that reflect the unique cultural characteristics and thinking and viewing habits of PRC Internet users.

We derive revenues primarily through the sale of advertising, e-commerce and subscription and short messaging services. We mainly rely on an internal sales force for the sale of advertising. As of December 31, 2002, our direct sales organization consisted of sales staff located in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong. Non-advertising revenues are derived from Sohu’s users who access our paid services through our Website.

Substantially all of our operations are conducted through our wholly owned PRC subsidiary Beijing ITC.

Products and Services

The following is a brief description of the products and services we offer under the main categories of home page and navigational context, aggregated content, communication tools, e-commerce services and subscription services

including short messaging. We intend to continue to add new products and services to our portal, to provide products and services that can be monetized, to better integrate our products and services and to expand the function/solution aspects of our content channels.

Home Page and Navigational Context

Online Directory
Search Engine

Communication Tools

E-Mail
Chat Rooms
Message Boards
Online Polling
Alumni Club
Dating and Friends Matching
Photo Album
Address Book
Calendar
Greeting Cards

Non-advertising Services

E-Commerce Services
Subscription and Short Messaging Services
Internet Access Services
Online Stock Trading Services

Aggregated Content

News
Sports
Women
Information Technology
Business and Finance
Entertainment
Automobile
Real Estate
Dating
Health
Travel
Learning
Career
Going Abroad
Lifestyle
Games
Comics

Home Page and Navigational Context

We organize our portal around the Sohu.com home page and offer a comprehensive guide to Web navigation, aggregated content, communication tools, short messaging services, and e-commerce services. The key feature is our online directory.

Online Directory. Our online directory was designed and has been continuously refined to reflect the unique cultural characteristics and thinking and viewing habits of PRC Internet users. We are the first site in China to introduce manual Web classification, and Chinese Web site classification remains one of our key strengths. Our directory covers the following 18 principal categories:

Arts	Literature	Science/Technology
Business/Finance	Living Science	Social Sciences
Computer/Internet	Medicine/Health	Society/Culture
Country/Region	News/Media	Sports/Exercise
Education	Politics/Law	Travel/Transportation
Entertainment/Leisure	Reference	Personal Homepage

Our Web sites are further organized under these principal categories within approximately 550 hierarchical subcategories and, as appropriate, individual Web items are referenced under multiple subcategories. Each site sits at the end point of, on average, three different paths in our directory. In addition, each site has been reviewed and classified by our editorial staff, and our basic Web site listings are in most cases supplemented by a brief descriptive commentary. As a result, our directory is highly complex, proprietary and China-specific, and we believe it offers comprehensiveness and relevance that would be very difficult for our competitors to duplicate.

Search Engine. Users can browse our directory listings through a Chinese keyword search request that scans the contents of the entire directory or within any category or subcategory. Our search software enables us to build and continuously fine-tune a large database of Chinese synonyms and closely associated phrases, which is essential for the accurate and efficient execution of Chinese key word searches. We believe our large database is also difficult for our competitors to duplicate.

In addition, we offer a function called "Global Web Search." The Global Web Search uses our proprietary

association database to browse the World Wide Web and collect and organize Chinese language Web content. We also offer English language search functions.

Aggregated Content

We aggregate content on a variety of topics, organized around 17 main channels. Each main channel contains numerous sub-channels and features news, commentaries and various utilities and solutions relating to a specific topic. We also have regional Web sites in 16 different cities. As of December 31, 2002, we had over 300 content suppliers, which enable us to provide a wide range of content offerings. Our content suppliers are leading Chinese language media and information providers in a variety of fields with coverage over major cities in China. The arrangements we have with our content suppliers are typically short-term and not exclusive.

All of our channels, including co-branded third party content on our portal, are defined by the following features that together constitute the distinct Sohu “look and feel”: the Sohu.com logo, our “search fox” mascot that displays different postures in different channels, the navigation bar, the color combination, the size and type of the Chinese characters, the large spacing used in our directories and the reporting style. The first row of the navigation bar remains the same in each channel, listing the 17 main channels as set forth above, but the links in the second row of the navigation bar are selected to reflect users’ interests in that specific channel. Below are descriptions of some of our main channels.

News

Delivers a comprehensive selection of local, national and international news from newspapers, magazines and other information providers throughout China. Full text search is available on each page.

Sports

Provides the latest in national and international sports headlines, results, commentaries and analyses.

Women

Covers a broad range of lifestyle-related topics that are of particular interest to Chinese women. This channel covers fashions and trends, beauty, society, emotion and other areas.

Information Technology

Includes industry forums, industry policies and trends, and online communications with the CEOs of the top Chinese companies in this industry. Features information technology news, product reviews and software downloads. This channel also provides Web navigation handbooks for Internet novices.

Business and Finance

Features business and financial news provided by leading financial information services in China. Users can retrieve real-time stock quotes, exchange rates, annual reports, research reports and other information on selected companies on this channel.

Automobile

Includes industry forums, industry policies and trends, and online communications with the CEOs of the top Chinese automakers. This channel also provides automobile features, news, and product reviews.

Real Estate

Offers a directory of apartment and other residential housing listings, and publishes advice on general real estate matters.

Entertainment

Contains extensive coverage of the entertainment arenas that are of interest to Chinese users, including dining, movies, television programs, plays and operas and popular and classic music.

Communication and Community Tools

We offer a variety of communication and community tools for our Chinese online users which are important in promoting user affinity to our portal:

E-Mail

We offer e-mail to our users for which we charge a nominal one time registration fee. During the year, we enabled our e-mail to be accessed via the mobile phone for which users pay a monthly subscription fee.

Chat Room

Our Java-based chat services enable participants to interact in real-time group discussions or create their own private one-on-one chat rooms. We currently have chat rooms covering 14 broad interest areas such as sports, romance, finance and current events.

Message Boards

Users can post and exchange information on message boards covering 15 main topics ranging from education and immigration to fashion and sports.

Online Polling

From time to time our channels place short, focused polls covering a variety of topics that are of interest to our users and advertisers.

Alumni Club

Alumni Club is a data base service containing information on schools, classes and classmates which allows classmates to communicate and find each other. At December 31, 2002, there were approximately 30 million registered users.

Dating and Friends Matching

Through our short messaging channel users can join paid clubs which provide dating and friends matching.

E-Commerce Services

On store.sohu.com we undertake fulfillment e-commerce activities and conduct e-commerce transactions. Our e-commerce products consist of over 4,000 consumer products such as books, health care products, cosmetics, videos, music and computer equipment. We purchase products from suppliers, stock the goods in our warehouse and, upon receiving the orders from our Web site, arrange for delivery to our customers, most of whom are individuals in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. Fulfillment is provided by delivery companies or through postal services. Substantially all sales are done on a cash on delivery basis.

Subscription and Short Messaging Services

We provide subscription and short messaging services for mobile phone users through sms.sohu.com. Our sms.sohu.com users can subscribe for paid services, which include over 200 different products such as email, alumni club, dating and friends matching, news, ring and logo downloads, games, and other mobile related contents. Because of restrictions on foreign companies working in the PRC telecommunications industry, we have used Beijing Sohu to contract on our behalf with PRC mobile network operators who provide the gateway for sending messages and collect our short messaging fees, which range from \$.01 to \$.25 per message or subscriptions of \$1.21 to \$3.13 per month. Beijing Sohu pays the mobile network operators a fee for each message sent and a percentage of revenues based on cash collections. We record our short messaging fees as e-subscriptions revenue.

Internet Access Services

In 2002, we established Hengda, a PRC company that is 80% owned by High Century and 20% owned by Ms. Li Wei. Hengda is structured as an Internet service provider, or ISP, to provide public Internet access services. During the third quarter of 2002, Hengda began providing Internet access services in Beijing. Revenues from Internet access services are included as e-subscriptions revenue and are not a material part of our business.

Online Stock Trading Services

In March 2002, High Century and Guolian Securities Co., Ltd., an existing PRC securities brokerage, established Sohu-Guolian, a company that provides online securities trading on sohustock.com. Sohu-Guolian is 51% owned by High Century and 49% owned by Guolian Securities. We do not consolidate Sohu-Guolian because Sohu-Guolian is jointly controlled and its common stock are held by related parties in order to meet Chinese regulatory requirements.

Advertising Sales

Advertising Programs

For 2002, we derived about half of our revenues from online advertising contracts which are normally less than one year in duration. Online advertising includes banners, links, logos and buttons placed on our Web sites and sponsorship of a particular Web site area. We charge advertisers daily rates for banners, links, logos and buttons. Sponsorship contracts for a particular area of the Web site may require fixed payments over the contract period. Our standard advertising charges vary depending on the terms of the contract and the advertisement's location within our portal. Discounts from standard rates are typically provided for higher volume, longer-term advertising contracts, and may be provided for promotional purposes.

Advertising Customers

During the year ended December 31, 2002, over 500 companies advertised on our portal. Advertising revenue was split among domestic Chinese companies, which contributed 81% of total advertising revenue, and multinational companies, which provided most of the balance. Our customers included Motorola, Nokia, Compaq, IBM and Intel, as well as numerous Chinese domestic companies such as TCL, Wahaha, Unicom and Kejian. In 2002, our five largest advertisers accounted for approximately 14% of total advertising revenues. We will continue to target Chinese domestic and multinational companies as our key advertisers.

During the year ended December 31, 2000, Sohu recognized revenue of \$433,000 from a purchaser of Series D Convertible Preferred Stock.

Sales Organization

We mainly rely on direct sales by our internal sales force for the placement of our online advertisement inventory. We also use advertising agents to sell advertising on our Web site. As of December 31, 2002, our sales and marketing offices are located in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong. We intend to expand and develop our sales organization in the China market.

Marketing and Brand Awareness

The focus of our marketing strategy is to generate brand awareness for Sohu.com with advertisers, Chinese Internet users and the Chinese public at large. During the year ended December 31, 2002, we spent approximately \$1.7 million in advertising expenses. As a result of the media attention afforded to us as pioneer of the PRC Internet industry, we have been able to generate substantial public awareness of Sohu in China.

Competition

There are many companies that distribute online content and services targeting Chinese users. We compete with distributors of content and services over the Internet, including Web directories, search engines, content sites, Internet service providers and sites maintained by government and educational institutions. These sites compete with us for visitor traffic, advertising dollars, e-commerce transactions, subscription and short messaging services and potential partners. The Internet market in China is new and rapidly evolving. Competition is intense and is expected to increase significantly in the future because there are no substantial barriers to entry in our market.

We have many competitors in the PRC Internet portal market, including Netease, Sina Corporation, Tom.com and Yahoo! China. In addition, a number of existing or new PRC Internet portals, including those controlled or sponsored by PRC government entities, may have competitive advantages over us in terms of:

- global brand recognition;
- financial and technical resources; and

- better access to original content.

However, we believe we have competitive advantages over our competitors because of:

- our brand name, which is one of the most recognized among PRC Internet companies;
- our exclusive focus on China;
- our ability to offer products and services that are tailored to the specific interests, needs and viewing habits of PRC Internet users; and
- the experience and quality of our management team.

We compete with other portals in China for advertising, subscription and short messaging and e-commerce revenues primarily on the following basis:

- brand recognition;
- volume of traffic and users;
- quality of Web site and content;
- strategic relationships;
- quality of online advertising and e-commerce services;
- effectiveness of sales and marketing efforts; and
- price.

Our existing competitors may in the future achieve greater market acceptance and gain additional market share. It is also possible that new competitors may emerge and acquire significant market share. In particular, our online directory also faces competition from software and other Internet products and services incorporating search and retrieval capabilities. In addition, operators of leading Web sites or Internet service providers, including large corporations such as Microsoft/MSN, Yahoo!, Terra Lycos and America Online, currently offer, and could expand, their online products and services targeting China. We believe the rapid increase in China's online population will draw more attention from these multinational players to the PRC Internet market. We also compete with traditional forms of media, like newspapers, magazines, radio and television for advertisers and advertising revenue. Please refer to "Risk Factors" for a more detailed discussion of the risks we face from our competitors.

Government Regulation and Legal Uncertainties

The following description of PRC laws and regulations is based upon the opinions of TransAsia Lawyers, our PRC counsel. For a description of legal risks relating to our ownership structure and business, see "Risk Factors."

Overview

Certain areas related to the Internet, such as telecommunications, Internet information services, international connections to computer information networks, information security and censorship are covered in detail by a number of existing laws and regulations. The PRC Internet industry is regulated by various governmental authorities, such as the Ministry of Information Industry, or MII (formerly the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, or MPT), the State Administration of Industry and Commerce, or SAIC, the State Press and Publications Administration, or SPPA, and the Ministry of Public Security.

Telecommunications

On October 1, 2000, the *Telecommunications Regulations of the People's Republic of China*, or the Telecom Regulations, went into effect. The Telecom Regulations set out the general framework under which domestic Chinese companies may engage in various types of telecommunications services in the PRC. The Telecom Regulations reiterate the long-standing principle that telecommunications service providers need to procure operating licenses as a mandatory precondition for the commencement of operations. A distinction is drawn

between “basic telecommunications services” and “value-added telecommunications services.” “Value-added telecommunications services” are defined as telecommunications and information services provided through public networks. A “Catalogue of Telecommunications Business,” which is attached to the Telecom Regulations and was updated on June 2001, categorizes various types of telecommunications and telecommunications-related activities into basic or value-added services. The Catalogue lists the following services as being of a value-added nature: (a) e-mail, (b) voice mail, (c) online information storage and retrieval, (d) electronic data interchange, (e) online data processing and exchange, (f) value-added fax, (g) Internet access services, (h) Internet information services, (i) Internet data center services and Internet virtual private network services, (j) video-conferencing, (k) call center and voice mail services, and (l) certain mobile and satellite telecommunications services.

On December 20, 2001, the PRC State Council promulgated the *Regulations for the Administration of Foreign-Invested Telecommunications Enterprises*, or the FITE Regulations, which became effective on January 1, 2002. The FITE Regulations stipulate that foreign-invested telecommunications enterprises, or FITEs, must be established as Sino-foreign equity joint ventures. FITEs can undertake operations in basic telecom services and value-added telecom services. Under the FITE Regulations and in accordance with WTO-related documentation, the foreign party to a value-added FITE may currently hold up to 49% equity, and value-added FITEs may conduct business only within Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou and 14 other PRC cities. The equity limit of foreign investors will be increased to 50% and the geographical restriction will be lifted on December 11, 2003, after which point the PRC has not made any further commitment to liberalize its regulation of FITEs. In accordance with the FITE Regulations and Sino-Foreign Equity Joint Venture Law, we may consider establishing a foreign-invested telecom entity at an appropriate time.

The *Administrative Measures for Telecommunications Business Operating Licenses*, or Telecom License Measures, were promulgated by MII on January 4, 2002, to supplement the FITE Regulations. The Telecom License Measures confirm that there are two types of telecom operating licenses for operators in China (including FITEs), namely: licenses for basic services and licenses for value-added services. With respect to the latter, a distinction is made as to whether a license is granted for intra-provincial or “trans-regional” (inter-provincial) activities. An appendix to the license will detail the permitted activities of the enterprise to which it was granted. An approved telecom service operator must conduct its business (whether basic or value-added) in accordance with the specifications recorded on its Telecom Service Operating License. The Telecommunications License Measures also confirm that the MII is the competent approval authority for foreign-invested telecom enterprises.

Beijing ITC entered into a series of agreements with Beijing Sohu and Beijing Sohu’s two shareholders to provide Internet-related services in compliance with the PRC laws. Beijing Sohu is a PRC company that is 80% owned by Dr. Charles Zhang, our founder, President and Chief Executive Officer, and 20% owned by Ms. Jinmei He, another employee of our company. Beijing Sohu is structured as an Internet content provider, or ICP, and has obtained approval from the MII to develop Internet information services. Subject to the promulgation of additional regulations on foreign investment in the PRC telecom sector, Sohu.com Inc. might undertake other restructuring measures in order to increase the solidity and flexibility of our structure and optimize our position under current Chinese law.

Internet Information Services

On September 25, 2000, the State Council approved the *Measures for the Administration of Internet Information Services*, or the ICP Measures. Under the ICP Measures, any entity that provides information to online users of the Internet is obliged to obtain an operating license from the MII or its local branch at the provincial or municipal level in accordance with the Telecom Regulations described above.

The ICP Measures stipulate further that entities providing online information services regarding news, publishing, education, medicine, health, pharmaceuticals and medical equipment must procure the consent of the national authorities responsible for such areas prior to applying for an operating license from the MII or its local branch at the provincial or municipal level. Moreover, ICPs must display their operating license numbers in a conspicuous location on their home page. ICPs are obliged to police their Web sites in order to remove categories of harmful content that are broadly defined. This obligation reiterates Internet content restrictions that have been promulgated by other ministries over the past few years.

Most importantly for foreign investors, the ICP Measures stipulate that ICPs must obtain the prior consent of the MII prior to establishing an equity or cooperative joint venture with a foreign partner.

On December 29, 2000, the Beijing Telecommunications Administration (the municipal branch of the MII) issued to Beijing Sohu a Telecommunications and Information Services Operating License. This license was renewed on

April 30, 2002.

Online News Dissemination

On November 7, 2000, the *Provisional Rules for the Administration of the Operation of News Publication Services by Web Sites* were jointly promulgated by the State Council Information Office and MII. These rules stipulate that general web sites established by non-news organizations, such as Sohu, may publish news released by certain official news agencies if such web sites satisfy the requirements set forth in Article 9 of the rules, but may not publish news items produced by themselves or news sources from elsewhere. The aforementioned requirements include the following:

- they must have a purpose and guidelines with respect to online news services that comply with laws and regulations;
- they must have the necessary news editorial departments, funds, equipment and premises;
- they must have professional staff in charge of editing who are experienced in journalism and are qualified at a medium or higher level to hold technical positions in journalism, and an appropriate number of editorial staff who are qualified at a medium or higher level to hold technical positions in journalism; and
- they must use news sources such as State news agencies, news bureaus of departments under the State Council or news agencies directly under the provinces, autonomous regions or directly-administered municipalities.

The aforementioned rules also require the general Web sites of non-news organizations to apply to the State Council Information Office at the national level for approval after securing the consent of the State Council Information Office at the provincial level before they commence operating news dissemination services. Also, general Web sites intending to publish news released by the aforementioned news agencies or bureaus must enter into agreements with them and submit copies of those agreements to the relevant administration department. On December 27, 2000, the State Council Information Office approved Beijing Sohu to develop online news dissemination services.

Internet Publishing

The *Provisional Rules for the Administration of the Publications Market*, issued by the SPPA on November 8, 1999, define the online distribution of publications as the offering of online subscriptions for, and the purchase, storage, shipment, and sale of, publications over the Internet. On June 27, 2002, the SPPA and MII jointly issued the *Provisional Rules for the Administration of Internet Publishing*, or Internet Publishing Rules, which define "Internet publications" as works that are either selected or edited to be published on the Internet or transmitted to end-users through the Internet for the purposes of browsing, reading, using or downloading by the general public. Such works primarily include content or articles formally published publicly in other press such as: (a) books, newspapers, periodicals, audio-visual products and electronic publications; and (b) literature, art and articles on natural science, social science, engineering and other topics that have been edited. Under the Internet Publishing Rules, Web portals such as Sohu.com are required to apply to and register with the SPPA before distributing Internet publications.

In this regard, Beijing Sohu submitted an application to the SPPA on November 20, 2002, and expects to receive notice of the SPPA's formal approval soon.

Internet Medical, Health and Drug Information Services

The *Measures for the Administration of Internet Medical and Health Information Services* were issued by the Ministry of Health on January 8, 2001. Under these measures, the Ministry of Health, or MOH, is responsible for reviewing the qualifications of Web sites and approving their publication of health-related information. Additionally, in accordance with the *Provisional Regulations for the Administration of Internet Drug Information Services*, issued by the State Drug Administration, or SDA, on January 11, 2001, the formal approval of the SDA or one of its local branches is required before a Web site may disseminate drug-related information.

According to the aforementioned pieces of legislation, medical, health and drug information provided by Web sites must be scientific and accurate, and must indicate the sources of such information. Web sites that are approved to disseminate medical, health and drug information must also publish or reprint health policies, information on

epidemics and major health-related incidents, and other health-related information in accordance with law. Furthermore, medical and drug-related advertisements published by such Web sites must not exaggerate the efficacy or promote the medical uses of such products.

Beijing Sohu obtained the aforementioned approvals from and completed registrations with the MOH and Beijing Drug Administration on June 12, 2002 and July 25, 2002, respectively.

Accordingly, in the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, Beijing Sohu is in proper compliance with the statutory requirements relevant to its dissemination of information as an ICP.

Online Advertising

The State AIC, the government authority responsible for the Chinese advertising industry, is currently considering adopting new regulations governing online advertising. However, the Beijing AIC has already released and adopted a handful of regulations in this area, namely, the *Notice Regarding the Standardization for Qualifications for the Operation of Online Advertising*, *Notice Regarding Applications by Network Economic Organizations for an Advertising Business License*, *Mandatory Regulations for the Administration Systems of Advertising Enterprises* and *Qualification Standards for the Registration of Online Advertising Business*. We cannot predict the timing and effects of new State regulations.

According to the *Notice Regarding the Standardization for Qualifications for the Operation of Online Advertising*, those companies that have already obtained an advertising operating license may undertake design, production and agency work in relation to online advertising and may carry out advertising publication business via their own Web sites.

On May 18, 2000, the State AIC issued to Beijing ITC an advertising operating license, which enables us to conduct our online advertising business. That license was renewed by the State AIC in 2001 and 2002 and is subject to a standard annual review.

Online Stock Trading Services

In December 2001, Beijing ITC entered into a number of agreements with High Century, a PRC company that is 80% owned by Dr. Charles Zhang and 20% owned by Ms. Li Wei, another employee of our company. In March 2002, High Century and Guolian Securities Co., Ltd., an existing PRC securities brokerage, established Sohu Guolian, a company that provides technology and services for online securities trading on our web site in compliance with PRC law. A PRC company, Sohu Guolian is 51% owned by High Century and 49% owned by Guolian Securities.

In the PRC, online services related to securities trading are primarily governed under the *Provisional Measures for the Administration of Online Securities Brokerages* and the *Procedures for the Approval of the Online Brokerage Services of Securities Companies*, promulgated on March 30, 2002 and April 29, 2000, respectively, by the China Securities Regulatory Commission, or CSRC. These two sets of legislation stipulate that securities firms that have obtained a "Securities Business Operating Permit" must apply to the CSRC for approval to operate online securities trading services.

On December 28, 2001, the Beijing AIC issued a Business License to High Century. The services related to securities trading on our Web site are offered by Sohu Guolian. Guolian Securities is a minority shareholder in Sohu Guolian, holds a Securities Business Operating Permit issued by the CSRC and has been approved to conduct online securities trading business activities.

Accordingly, in the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, the current Web-based services provided by our companies comply with the existing PRC laws, rules and regulations.

International Connections for Computer Information Networks

The State Council and the MII have promulgated regulations governing international connections for PRC computer networks, including:

- *Measures for the Administration of International Connections to China's Public Computer Interconnected Networks* (1996);

- *Provisional Regulations of the People's Republic of China for the Administration of International Connections to Computer Information Networks* (1997) and their Implementing Measures (1998);
- *Reply Concerning the Verification and Issuance of Operating Permits for Business Relating to International Connections for Computer Information Networks and for Public Multimedia Telecommunications Business* (1998); and
- *Administrative Measures for International Communications Gateways* (2002).

Under the above regulations, any entity wishing to access international connections for their computer information networks in the PRC, such as Beijing ITC, High Century, Sohu Guolian and Beijing Sohu, must comply with the following requirements:

- be a PRC legal person;
- have the appropriate equipment, facilities and technical and administrative personnel;
- have implemented and registered a system of information security and censorship; and
- effect all international connections through an international communications gateway established with the approval of the MII.

In the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, Beijing ITC, High Century, Sohu Guolian and Beijing Sohu are in proper compliance with all of these requirements.

Internet Access Services

In early 2002, we established Hengda, a PRC company that is 80% owned by High Century and 20% owned by Ms. Li Wei. Hengda is structured as an Internet service provider, or ISP, to provide public Internet access services.

The Telecom Regulations define the ISP business as a value-added telecommunications service (as described in the "Telecommunications" section above). In addition to meeting the conditions outlined above with regard to the use of international connections for computer information networks, PRC entities must obtain licenses from the MII (or its local branch) in accordance with the Telecom License Measures before starting business operations as an ISP. On February 7, 2002, the Beijing AIC issued a business license to Hengda. On March 19, 2002, Hengda received an ISP license, valid for five years, from the Beijing Administration Bureau. On October 22, 2002, the MII issued a license to Hengda allowing it to operate as an ISP in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

In accordance with the *Provisional Measures for the Administration of Telecommunications Network Code Resources*, promulgated on April 12, 2000 by the MII, businesses that wish to use short access codes (i.e., telephone numbers that are shorter in length than a normal local telephone number) for intra-provincial telecom and information services must apply to the relevant local telecom authority. On May 30, 2002 the Beijing Telecom Administration Bureau authorized Hengda to use a five-digit phone number to provide access to its services in Beijing, and on October 22, 2002, the MII authorized Hengda to use a five digit phone number to provide access to its services in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Information Security and Censorship

The principal pieces of PRC legislation concerning information security and censorship are:

- *The Law of the People's Republic of China on the Preservation of State Secrets* (1988) and its Implementing Rules (1990);
- *The Law of the People's Republic of China Regarding State Security* (1993) and its Implementing Rules (1994);
- *Rules of the People's Republic of China for Protecting the Security of Computer Information Systems* (1994);
- *Notice Concerning Work Relating to the Filing of Computer Information Systems with International Connections* (1996);

- *Administrative Regulations for the Protection of Secrecy on Computer Information Systems Connected to International Networks* (1999);
- *Regulations for the Protection of State Secrets for Computer Information Systems on the Internet* (2000);
- *Notice issued by the Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China Regarding Issues Relating to the Implementation of the Administrative Measure for the Security Protection of International Connections to Computer Information Networks* (2000);
- *The Decision of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Regarding the Safeguarding of Internet Security* (2000); and
- *Measures for the Administration of Commercial Web Site Filings for the Record* (2002) and their Implementing Rules (2002).

These pieces of legislation specifically prohibit the use of Internet infrastructure where it results in a breach of public security, the provision of socially destabilizing content or the divulgence of State secrets, as follows:

- “A *breach of public security*” includes breach of national security or disclosure of state secrets; infringement on state, social or collective interests or the legal rights and interests of citizens; or illegal or criminal activities.
- “*Socially destabilizing content*” includes any action that incites defiance or violation of Chinese laws; incites subversion of state power and the overturning of the socialist system; fabricates or distorts the truth, spreads rumors or disrupts social order; advocates cult activities; or spreads feudal superstition, involves obscenities, pornography, gambling, violence, murder, or horrific acts or instigates criminal acts.
- “*State secrets*” are defined as “matters that affect the security and interest of the state.” The term covers such broad areas as national defense, diplomatic affairs, policy decisions on state affairs, national economic and social development, political parties and “other State secrets that the State Secrecy Bureau has determined should be safeguarded.”

According to the aforementioned legislation, it is mandatory for Internet companies in the PRC to complete security filing procedures with the local public security bureau and for them to update regularly with the local public security bureau regarding information security and censorship systems for their Web sites. In this regard, the *Detailed Implementing Rules for the Measures for the Administration of Commercial Web Site Filings for the Record*, promulgated in July 2002 by the Beijing AIC, state that Web sites must comply with the following requirements:

- they must file with the Beijing AIC and obtain electronic registration marks;
- they must place the registration marks on their Web sites' homepages; and
- they must register their Web site names with the Beijing AIC.

Sohu.com successfully filed and registered its Web site and Web site name with the Beijing AIC on February 15, 2001. Accordingly, Sohu.com has obtained an electronic registration mark, which is prominently placed on its homepage.

In addition, the State Security Bureau has issued regulations authorizing the blocking of access to any site it deems to be leaking State secrets or failing to meet the relevant legal legislation regarding the protection of State secrets in the distribution of information online. Specifically, Internet companies in China with message boards, chat rooms or similar services, such as Sohu, must apply for the approval of the State Secrets Bureau prior to operating such services.

In the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, Beijing Sohu has, as agreed under the restructuring agreements, established an internal security committee and adopted security maintenance measures, employed a full-time BBS supervisor and exchanged information on a regular basis with the local public security bureau with regard to sensitive or censored information and Web sites, and is therefore fully compliant with the aforementioned legislation.

Encryption Software

In October 1999, the State Encryption Administration Commission promulgated the *Regulations for the Administration of Commercial Encryption*, followed in November 1999 by the *Notice of the General Office of the State Encryption Administration Commission*. Both of these regulations address the use in China of software with encryption functions. According to these regulations, encryption products purchased for use must be reported. Violation of the encryption regulations may result in the issuance of a warning, levying of a penalty, confiscation of the encryption products and even criminal liabilities. Since there are currently no announcements of, or detailed implementing rules for, these regulations, it was unclear how PRC Internet companies should comply with these regulations. However, on March 18, 2000, the Office of the State Commission for the Administration of Cryptography issued a public announcement regarding the implementation of those regulations. The announcement clarifies the encryption regulations as below:

- Only specialized hardware and software, the core functions of which are encryption and decoding, fall within the administrative scope of the regulations as “encryption products and equipment containing encryption technology.” Other products such as wireless telephone, Windows software and browsers do not fall within this scope.
- The PRC government has already begun to research the laws in question in accordance with WTO rules and China’s external commitments, and will make revisions wherever necessary. The *Administrative Regulations on Commercial Encryption* will also be subject to such scrutiny and revision.

In the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, Beijing ITC, High Century, Sohu Guolian, Hengda and Beijing Sohu are in full compliance with current PRC legislation governing encryption software.

Mobile Internet Services

Beijing Sohu’s business activities include the provision of online services related to short messaging services, or SMS. PRC legislation on wireless telecommunications is generally aimed at regulating equipment and infrastructure rather than applications and value-added service providers. While no nationwide legislation specifically addresses the provision of SMS, one such piece of provincial legislation was issued on a trial basis in 2002. This legislation requires that SMS service providers must first obtain licenses from or register with the local MII branch office before conducting SMS operations.

At this time, it is uncertain when national legislation might be issued to regulate this business, and it is likewise difficult to determine whether such legislation would stipulate nationwide requirements similar to the current trial provincial legislation.

Business License and Approval for Foreign Investment

Beijing ITC is structured as a technology-oriented company engaged in the development of Internet technologies and related software, and together with Beijing Sohu, is engaged in online advertising business, subscription and short messaging services and e-commerce activities. High Century is structured as an investment management and consulting company. Sohu Guolian is structured as a technology-oriented company engaged in the development of Internet technology, related software and online brokerage systems as well as the provision of related technological services. Hengda is structured as an Internet access services company. High Century and Hengda have been structured under a number of agreements between their primary shareholders and us, similar to the investment structure of Beijing Sohu discussed under “Risks related to Sohu.com”. Under current PRC law, the legal establishment of such companies must be approved by the relevant local Commission for Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, and such companies may commence operations only upon the issuance of a business license by the State AIC. In the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, Beijing ITC and Sohu Guolian have satisfied both of the aforementioned requirements and are fully authorized to undertake their business operations.

In the opinion of TransAsia Lawyers, the ownership structures of Beijing ITC, Beijing Sohu, High Century, Sohu Guolian and Hengda and the business and operations of those five companies as described herein comply with all existing laws, rules and regulations of the PRC. In addition, no consent, approval or license other than those already obtained by us is required under any of the existing laws, rules and regulations of the PRC for such ownership structures, business and operations.

Intellectual Property and Proprietary Rights

We regard our copyrights, service marks, trademarks, trade secrets and other intellectual property as critical to our success. We rely on trademark and copyright law, trade secret protection, non-competition and confidentiality and/or license agreements with our employees, customers, partners and others to protect our intellectual property rights. Despite our precautions, it may be possible for third parties to obtain and use our intellectual property without authorization. Furthermore, the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of intellectual property rights in Internet-related industries are uncertain and still evolving. The laws of the PRC and certain other countries do not protect intellectual property to the same extent as do the laws of the United States.

We have registered the domain names “www.Sohu.com” and “www.ChinaRen.com” with Network Solutions and the domain names “www.Sohu.com.cn” and “www.ChinaRen.com.cn” with China Internet Network Information Center, a domain name registration service in China, and have full legal rights over these domain names.

We received the registration certificate for the mark “Sohu.com” issued by the China Trademark Office in October 2000.

We have registered three service marks with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. They are (i) Sohu.com, registered on August 1, 2000; (2) Sohu.com (stylized), registered on August 1, 2000; and (3) Sohu, registered on June 13, 2000. We have also filed service mark applications in Hong Kong and Taiwan, and are in the process of applying for registration in Malaysia and Singapore. Policing unauthorized use of our marks, however, is difficult and expensive. In addition, it is possible that our competitors will adopt product or service names similar to ours, thereby impeding our ability to distinguish our brand and possibly leading to customer confusion.

Many parties are actively developing chat, homepage, search and related Web technologies. We expect these parties to continue to take steps to protect these technologies, including seeking patent protection. There may be patents issued or pending that are held by others and that cover significant parts of our technology, business methods or services. For example, we are aware that a number of patents have been issued in the areas of e-commerce, Web-based information indexing and retrieval and online direct marketing. Disputes over rights to these technologies are likely to arise in the future. We cannot be certain that our products do not or will not infringe valid patents, copyrights or other intellectual property rights held by third parties. We may be subject to legal proceedings and claims from time to time relating to the intellectual property of others in the ordinary course of our business.

We also intend to continue licensing technology from third parties. The market is evolving and we may need to license additional technologies to remain competitive. We may not be able to license these technologies on commercially reasonable terms or at all. In addition, we may fail to successfully integrate any licensed technology into our services. Our inability to obtain any of these licenses could delay product and service development until alternative technologies can be identified, licensed and integrated.

Technology Infrastructure

We maintain most of our servers at the premises of the Beijing Telecom Administration (or BTA), pursuant to one-year server hosting agreements and we do not maintain any backup servers outside Beijing. The BTA is the administrator of the central hub of the ChinaNet backbone, and is currently the only provider of interconnection services to the ChinaNet backbone in Beijing. Internet access rates in China, when compared to rates in the United States and other more developed countries, remain relatively expensive.

We have developed a close working relationship with the BTA. Our operations depend on the ability of the BTA to protect their systems against damage from fire, power loss, telecommunications failure, break-ins, or other events. The BTA provides us with support services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The BTA also provides connectivity for our servers through multiple high-speed connections. All facilities are protected by multiple power supplies.

For reliability, availability, and serviceability, we have created an environment in which each server can function separately. Key components of our server architecture are served by multiple redundant machines. We also employ in-house and third-party monitoring software. Reporting and tracking systems generate daily traffic, demographic, and advertising reports.

Our portal must accommodate a high volume of traffic and deliver frequently updated information. Components or features of our portal have in the past suffered outages or experienced slower response time because of equipment or software down time. These have not had a material adverse effect on our business, but such events could have a

material adverse effect in the future.

Employees

As of December 31, 2002, we had 446 full-time and part-time employees. We also employ independent contractors to support our research and development, marketing, sales and editorial departments. None of our personnel are represented under collective bargaining agreements.

Our senior management, key executives and most full-time employees have entered into confidentiality, non-competition and non-solicitation agreements with us. In addition, most of our employees have employment agreements with Beijing ITC, our PRC operating subsidiary, which contain similar confidentiality and non-competition undertakings. However, the degree of protection afforded to an employer pursuant to confidentiality and non-competition undertakings governed by PRC law may be more limited when compared to the degree of protection afforded under the laws of other jurisdictions. A significant number of our employees hold stock options in Sohu, which provide financial opportunities to them that generally vest over a period of one to four years.

Risk Factors

Risks Related to Sohu.com

We have incurred net losses since inception and losses could continue in the future.

We have incurred significant net losses since our inception in August 1996 and had an accumulated deficit of approximately \$73.2 million at December 31, 2002. In the third and fourth quarters of 2002 we were profitable; however, we could incur substantial net losses in the future due to changes in our operating environment.

We have a limited operating history, which may make it difficult for investors to evaluate our business.

We began offering products and services under the www.Sohu.com Web site in February 1998. Accordingly, we have a limited operating history upon which investors can evaluate our business. In addition, our senior management and employees have worked together at our company for only a relatively short period of time. As an early stage company in the new and rapidly evolving PRC Internet market, we face numerous risks and uncertainties. Some of these risks relate to our ability to:

- increase our online advertising revenues and successfully build our e-commerce, short messaging and subscription services businesses, given the early stage of development of the PRC Internet industry;
- continue to attract a larger audience to our portal by expanding the type and technical sophistication of the content and services we offer; and
- maintain our current, and develop new, strategic relationships to increase our revenue streams as well as product and service offerings.

PRC Internet laws and regulations are unclear and will likely change in the near future. If we are found to be in violation of current or future PRC laws or regulations, we could be subject to severe penalties.

We conduct our Internet business solely in the PRC through our wholly owned subsidiary, Beijing ITC. Beijing ITC is a wholly foreign owned enterprise, or WFOE, under PRC law. We are a Delaware corporation and a foreign person under PRC law. Accordingly, our Internet business is 100% foreign-owned. In order to meet ownership requirements under PRC law which restrict or prohibit Sohu from operating in certain industries such as Internet content provider, online stock trading and internet access, we have established Beijing Sohu, High Century and Hengda which are companies incorporated in the PRC and owned by Charles Zhang, our chief executive officer, and certain other employees of Sohu. As of December 31, 2002, Sohu had invested \$5.1 million in Beijing Sohu, High Century and Hengda through loans to related parties. In 2000, we extended loans of \$242,000 to Dr. Charles Zhang and a Sohu employee to set up Beijing Sohu. Pursuant to a restructuring in May 2000, we transferred certain of our assets and operations to Beijing Sohu, a PRC company that is 80% owned by Dr. Charles Zhang. In 2001 and 2002, we made loans of \$4.6 million to Dr. Charles Zhang and an employee of the company to establish High Century for the purposes of undertaking additional investments in the PRC where foreign ownership is prohibited or restricted. In 2002, we loaned \$242,000 to an employee of the company for the purpose of funding an investment in Hengda, a company incorporated in the PRC which engages in Internet access services in the PRC on behalf of

Sohu. The \$242,000 investment represents a 20% interest in Hengda, with High Century holding the remaining 80% interest. In March 2002, High Century entered into a joint venture agreement with Guolian Securities Co., Ltd., pursuant to which High Century has invested \$3.1 million in Sohu-Guolian in return for a 51% equity interest in and joint control of Sohu-Guolian. Sohu-Guolian will provide technical services to the PRC online securities trading and financial services industries. We do not have any direct ownership interest in Beijing Sohu, High Century, Hengda or Sohu-Guolian.

The PRC has recently begun to regulate its Internet sector by making pronouncements or enacting regulations regarding the legality of foreign investment in the PRC Internet sector and the existence and enforcement of content restrictions on the Internet. We believe that our current ownership structure complies with all existing PRC laws, rules and regulations. There are, however, substantial uncertainties regarding the interpretation of current PRC Internet laws and regulations. In addition, new PRC Internet laws and regulations were recently adopted. Accordingly, it is possible that the PRC government will ultimately take a view contrary to ours.

Issues, risks and uncertainties relating to PRC government regulation of the PRC Internet sector include the following:

- The PRC recently enacted regulations applying to Internet-related services and telecom-related activities. While many aspects of these regulations remain unclear, they purport to limit and require licensing of various aspects of the provision of Internet information services. If these regulations are interpreted to be inconsistent with our restructuring, our business will be severely impaired.
- Under the agreement reached in November 1999 between the PRC and the United States concerning the United States' support of China's entry into the World Trade Organization, or WTO, foreign investment in PRC Internet services will be liberalized to allow for 30% foreign ownership in key telecommunication services, including PRC Internet ventures, for the first year after China's entry into the WTO, 49% in the second year and 50% thereafter. China officially entered the WTO on December 11, 2001. However, the implementation of China's WTO accession agreements is still subject to various conditions.
- The Ministry of Information Industry, or MII, has also stated that the activities of Internet content providers are subject to regulation by various PRC government authorities, depending on the specific activities conducted by the Internet content provider. Various government authorities have stated publicly that they are in the process of preparing new laws and regulations that will govern these activities. The areas of regulation currently include online advertising, online news reporting, online publishing, online securities trading and the provision of industry-specific (e.g., drug-related) information over the Internet. Other aspects of our online operations may be subject to regulation in the future.

The interpretation and application of existing PRC laws and regulations, the stated positions of the MII and the possible new laws or regulations have created substantial uncertainties regarding the legality of existing and future foreign investments in, and the businesses and activities of, PRC Internet companies, including us.

Accordingly, it is possible that the relevant PRC authorities could, at any time, assert that any portion or all of our, Beijing ITC's, Beijing Sohu's, Hengda's, High Century's or Sohu-Guolian's existing or future ownership structure and businesses violate existing or future PRC laws, regulations or policies. It is also possible that the new laws or regulations governing the PRC Internet sector that have been adopted or may be adopted in the future will prohibit or restrict foreign investment in, or other aspects of, any of our, Beijing ITC's, Beijing Sohu's, Hengda's, High Century's and Sohu-Guolian's current or proposed businesses and operations. In addition, these new laws and regulations may be retroactively applied to us, Beijing ITC, High Century, Hengda, Beijing Sohu, or Sohu-Guolian.

If we, Beijing ITC, High Century, Beijing Sohu, Hengda, or Sohu-Guolian are found to be in violation of any existing or future PRC laws or regulations, the relevant PRC authorities would have broad discretion in dealing with such violation, including, without limitation, the following:

- levying fines;
- confiscating our, Beijing ITC's, High Century's, Hengda's, Beijing Sohu's or Sohu-Guolian's income;
- revoking our, Beijing ITC's, High Century's, Hengda's, Beijing Sohu's or Sohu-Guolian's business

license;

- shutting down our, Beijing ITC's, or Beijing Sohu's servers and/or blocking our Web sites;
- requiring us, Beijing ITC, High Century, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian or Beijing Sohu to restructure its ownership structure or operations; and
- requiring us, Beijing ITC, High Century, Hengda, Beijing Sohu or Sohu-Guolian to discontinue any portion or all of its Internet business.

We may be unable to collect long term loans to related parties or exercise management influence associated with Beijing Sohu, High Century, Sohu-Guolian or Hengda.

At December 31, 2002 Sohu had provided long term loans of \$5.1 million to Dr. Charles Zhang, Sohu's Chief Executive Officer and a major Sohu stockholder, and certain of our employees. The long-term loans are used to finance investments in Beijing Sohu and High Century, which are owned 80% by Dr. Charles Zhang and 20% by certain of our employees, and Hengda, which is owned 80% by High Century and 20% by an employee. Beijing Sohu, High Century and Hengda are used to facilitate our participation in telecommunications, Internet content, financial services and certain other businesses in China where foreign ownership is either prohibited or restricted. We expect that we will continue to be involved in and provide additional financial support under similar arrangements in the future, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 with respect to loans to directors and executive officers.

The agreements contain provisions that, subject to PRC law, (i) the loans can only be repaid to Sohu by transferring the shares of High Century, Hengda or Beijing Sohu to Sohu, (ii) the shares of High Century, Hengda or Beijing Sohu cannot be transferred without the approval of Sohu, and (iii) Sohu has the right to appoint all directors and senior management personnel of High Century, Hengda and Beijing Sohu. Dr. Charles Zhang and the other employee borrowers have pledged all of their shares in High Century, Hengda and Beijing Sohu as collateral for the loans and the loans bear no interest and are due on demand after November 2003, in the case of High Century, the earlier of a demand or 2010, in the case of Beijing Sohu, and after January 2003, in the case of Hengda, or, in any case, at such time as Dr. Charles Zhang or the other employee borrowers, as the case may be, is not an employee of Sohu. Sohu does not intend to request repayment of the loans as long as PRC regulations prohibit it from directly investing in businesses being undertaken by High Century, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and Beijing Sohu.

Our ability to ultimately collect these loans will depend on the profitability of Beijing Sohu, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and High Century, which is uncertain. As of December 31, 2002, the Company had recorded \$252,000 of valuation allowance for losses incurred by Beijing Sohu, High Century, Hengda, and Sohu-Guolian. Furthermore, because of uncertainty associated with PRC law, ultimate enforcement of the loan agreements is uncertain. Accordingly, we may never be able to collect these loans or exercise influence over High Century, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and Beijing Sohu.

As of December 31, 2002, payable to related parties of \$1.5 million represents funds initially used to capitalize High Century and Hengda which are currently not being used in the operations of High Century and Hengda and have been transferred to Sohu. Under PRC regulations, we could be required to repay these balances to High Century and Hengda at any time or High Century and Hengda could be penalized for this action. We do not intend to repay the balances at this time.

We have attempted to comply with restrictions on foreign investment in the PRC Internet sector imposed by the PRC government by transferring our content-related assets and operations to, and entering into agreements with, Beijing Sohu, a PRC company owned by our President and Chief Executive Officer. If the PRC government finds that these agreements do not comply with the relevant foreign investment restrictions, our business in the PRC will be adversely affected.

Because the PRC government restricts foreign investment in Internet-related businesses, we have restructured our Internet operations by having Beijing Sohu acquire appropriate government approvals to conduct our content-related operations. In addition, we have transferred our content-related assets and operations to Beijing Sohu. The legal uncertainties associated with PRC government regulations and our restructuring may be summarized as follows:

- whether the PRC government may view our restructuring as being in compliance with its laws and regulations;

- whether the PRC government may impose additional regulatory requirements with which we or Beijing Sohu may not be in compliance; and
- whether the PRC government will permit Beijing Sohu to acquire future licenses necessary in order to conduct operations in the PRC.

We cannot be sure that our restructured operations and activities will be viewed by PRC regulatory authorities as in compliance with applicable PRC laws and regulations. Our business will be adversely affected if our business license is revoked as a result of non-compliance. In addition, we cannot be sure that we and Beijing Sohu will be able to obtain all of the licenses we or Beijing Sohu may need in the future. Future changes in PRC government policies affecting the provision of information services, including the provision of online services and Internet access, may impose additional regulatory requirements on us or Beijing Sohu or our service providers or otherwise harm our business.

We depend upon contractual arrangements with Beijing Sohu, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and High Century for the success of our business and these arrangements may not be as effective in providing operational control as direct ownership of these businesses and may be difficult to enforce.

Because we conduct our Internet business only in the PRC, and because we are restricted or prohibited by the PRC government from owning Internet content, financial services or telecommunication operations in the PRC, we are dependent on Beijing Sohu, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and High Century in which we have no direct ownership interest, to provide those services through contractual agreements between the parties. These arrangements may not be as effective in providing control over our Internet content, financial services or telecommunications operations as direct ownership of these businesses. For example, Beijing Sohu could fail to take actions required for our business, such as entering into content development contracts with potential content suppliers or failing to maintain the necessary permit for the content servers. If Beijing Sohu, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and High Century fail to perform its obligations under these agreements, we may have to rely on legal remedies under PRC law, which we cannot assure you would be effective or sufficient.

Charles Zhang, our chief executive officer, Beijing Sohu, Hengda, Sohu-Guolian and High Century. As a result, our contractual relationships with those companies could be viewed as entrenching his management position or transferring certain value to him, especially if any conflict arises with him.

Even if we are in compliance with PRC governmental regulations relating to licensing and foreign investment prohibitions, the PRC government may prevent us from distributing, and we may be subject to liability for, content that it believes is inappropriate.

The PRC has enacted regulations governing Internet access and the distribution of news and other information. In the past, the PRC government has stopped the distribution of information over the Internet that it believes to violate PRC law, including content that is obscene, incites violence, endangers national security, is contrary to the national interest or is defamatory. In addition, we may not publish certain news items, such as news relating to national security, without permission from the PRC government. Furthermore, the Ministry of Public Security has the authority to cause any local Internet service provider to block any Web site maintained outside the PRC at its sole discretion. Even if we comply with PRC governmental regulations relating to licensing and foreign investment prohibitions, if the PRC government were to take any action to limit or prohibit the distribution of information through our network or to limit or regulate any current or future content or services available to users on our network, our business would be harmed.

We are also subject to potential liability for content on our Web sites that is deemed inappropriate and for any unlawful actions of our subscribers and other users of our systems under regulations promulgated by the MII.

Furthermore, we are required to delete content that clearly violates the laws of the PRC and report content that we suspect may violate PRC law. It is difficult to determine the type of content that may result in liability for us, and if we are wrong, we may be prevented from operating our Web sites.

We depend on online advertising for a significant portion of our revenues.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from the sale of advertising on our Web sites. For the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, advertising revenues represented approximately 48% and 71%, respectively, of our total revenues.

The online advertising market in China is new and relatively small. Our ability to generate and maintain significant online advertising revenues in China will depend, among other things, on:

- the development of a large base of users possessing demographic characteristics attractive to advertisers;
- downward pressure on online advertising prices;
- acceptance by advertisers that online advertising is effective;
- the development of independent and reliable means of verifying traffic; and
- the effectiveness of our advertising delivery, tracking and reporting systems.

The development of Web software that blocks Internet advertisements before they appear on a user's screen may hinder the growth of online advertising. The expansion of ad blocking on the Internet may decrease our revenues because when an ad is blocked, it is not downloaded from our ad server. As a result, such advertisements will not be tracked as a delivered advertisement. In addition, advertisers may choose not to advertise on the Internet or on our portal because of the use by third parties of Internet advertisement blocking software.

Accordingly, we may not be successful in generating significant future online advertising revenues.

We rely on e-subscription services for a significant portion of our revenues.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from e-subscription services on our Web sites. For the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, e-subscription revenues represented approximately 35% and 10%, respectively, of our total revenues. We expect our reliance on e-subscription revenues to increase. Our business plan is dependent upon further increases in revenues from e-subscription services and the expansion of our subscriber base.

E-subscription revenue is derived principally from providing value added short messaging services such as alumni club, dating and friends matching, e-mail, ringtone and logo downloads and various other related products to mobile phone users. E-subscription fees are charged on a monthly or per message basis. Pursuant to contractual arrangements between Beijing Sohu and a number of mobile network operators in China which are subsidiaries of China Mobile Communication Corporation, or CMCC, and China Unicom Co., Ltd, or Unicom, Sohu relies on the operators for both billing of, and collection from, mobile phone users of e-subscription fees. The service fees range from approximately 10% to 50% of the e-subscription fees, and are based on contracted rates. Generally, (i) within 15 to 90 days after the end of each month, Beijing Sohu receives a statement from CMCC and Unicom confirming the amount of e-subscription charges billed to that operator's mobile phone users and (ii) within 30 to 120 days after delivering a monthly statement to Beijing Sohu, each operator remits the e-subscription fees, net of its service fees, for the month to Beijing Sohu which then transfers the funds to Sohu.

With respect to our e-subscription services, we depend on the cooperation of CMCC and Unicom. We rely on CMCC and Unicom in the following ways:

- we provide short messaging services through CMCC's and Unicom's network and gateway;
- we utilize and rely on CMCC and Unicom's billing systems to charge our subscribers through the subscriber's mobile phone bill;
- we rely on their collection proxy services to collect payments from subscribers; and
- we rely on their infrastructure to further develop our subscription services.

We face significant risks in the area of e-subscription services, such as the following, which could adversely affect our e-subscription services and revenues:

- E-subscription services are provided through our Web site and recorded in our internal systems. However, in order to recognize revenue and get paid for services provided, we rely on billing confirmations from CMCC and Unicom as to the actual amount of services they have billed to their mobile customers. We do not collect e-subscription fees from an operator in certain circumstances due to technical issues with the operator's billing system. We refer to these failures as an operator's "billing failure rate," which can vary

from operator to operator. An operator's billing failure rate can vary from month to month, ranges from 15% to 80% and may change at any time without notice. If an operator encounters technical problems, increases in the billing failure rate for that operator could occur. Billing failure rates may result in a significant reduction in our e-subscription revenues.

- While service fees for using an operator's infrastructure are set based on negotiations with the operator, our negotiating power is limited and if an operator increases its service fees, our gross margins and profitability could be reduced.
- We rely on the operators to pay us the e-subscriptions fees which they have billed to their mobile customers. If an operator refuses to pay us or limits the amount of e-subscriptions fees which can be billed in a month, our revenues could be adversely affected.
- An operator could launch competing services at any time.
- The refusal of an operator to allow us to supply certain products or its refusal to allow us to charge our desired prices for our products could disrupt our e-subscription services.
- If CMCC or Unicom is unwilling to cooperate with us, we would not be able to find substitute partners.
- Growth and sustainability of our e-subscription revenues is dependent upon user acceptance of our existing and new products. Because these products are new and untested, we do not have a clear understanding of consumer behavior, making it difficult to predict future growth.
- We face intense competition from a number of companies who may launch competing or better products than us at any time. In addition, there are limited barriers to entry in this area.

We also face the risk that changes in government policy could restrict or curtail the services which we provide.

We rely on e-commerce services for a significant portion of our revenues.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from e-commerce sales from our Web sites. For the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, e-commerce revenues represented approximately 15% and 13%, respectively, of our total revenues.

Substantially all e-commerce revenues are earned from the sale of consumer products. Our business plan is dependent upon further increases in revenues from e-commerce.

We face the following risks with respect to our e-commerce business line:

- the online shopping market is small and unproven in China and, therefore, we may not be able to sustain revenue growth or maintain existing revenue levels;
- we may not be able to maintain our existing gross margins because of competitors such as Joyo, Bertelsmann Online and Dang Dang;
- credit cards are not widely used in China and, therefore, we rely on cash on delivery for collecting payments whereby we have a collection risk from the companies providing delivery service; and
- future government regulations could restrict us from further expanding or continuing this business.

In 2002, through High Century, we invested \$3.1 million in Sohu-Guolian, a joint venture which provides services to the online trading and financial services industries.

The success of this investment depends, among other things, on the following factors:

- conditions and trading volumes in the China securities market which currently can be considered weak;
- the acceptability and development of online stock trading in China which is unknown at this time;
- expansion, which is dependent on the development of China's banking system (which currently does not

- allow for nation wide remote account opening);
- cooperation from Guolian Securities Co., Ltd., our joint venture partner, who we rely on to provide technical expertise, licensing and other resources to allow Sohu-Guolian to provide services; and
- future legislation to allow Sohu-Guolian to obtain its own online securities trading license (currently regulations do not exist which would allow Sohu-Guolian to obtain its own online trading license).

There is no assurance that Sohu-Guolian will be successful, and, in addition, we believe that it is unlikely that Sohu-Guolian will be profitable in 2003 or 2004.

Our operating results are likely to fluctuate significantly and may differ from market expectations.

Our annual and quarterly operating results have varied significantly in the past, and may vary significantly in the future, due to a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control. As a result, we believe that year-to-year and quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our operating results are not a good indication of our future performance. It is likely that in some future quarter, our operating results may be below the expectations of public market analysts and investors. In this event, the trading price of our common stock may fall.

We will not be able to attract visitors, advertisers, paying subscribers, short messaging and e-commerce customers if we do not maintain and develop the Sohu brand.

Maintaining and further developing our brand is critical to our ability to expand our user base and our revenues. We believe that the importance of brand recognition will increase as the number of Internet users in China grows. In order to attract and retain Internet users, advertisers, subscribers, and short messaging and e-commerce customers, we may need to increase substantially our expenditures for creating and maintaining brand loyalty. If our revenues do not increase proportionately, our results of operations and liquidity will suffer.

Our success in promoting and enhancing our brand, as well as our ability to remain competitive, will also depend on our success in offering high quality content, features and functionality. If we fail to promote our brand successfully or if visitors to our portal or advertisers do not perceive our content and services to be of high quality, we may not be able to continue growing our business and attracting visitors, advertisers, and short messaging and e-commerce customers.

We may need additional capital and we may not be able to obtain it.

Our capital requirements are difficult to plan in our rapidly changing industry. We currently expect that we will need capital to fund additions to our portal and computer infrastructure, including any acquisitions of complementary assets, technologies or businesses we may pursue, as well as the expansion of our sales and marketing activities.

Our ability to obtain additional financing in the future is subject to a variety of uncertainties, including:

- investors' perceptions of and appetite for Internet-related securities;
- conditions in the U.S. and other capital markets in which we may seek to raise financing;
- our future results of operations, financial condition and cash flows;
- the amount of capital that other PRC entities may seek to raise in foreign capital markets;
- PRC governmental regulation of foreign investment in Internet companies;
- economic, political and other conditions in the PRC;
- PRC governmental policies relating to foreign currency borrowings; and
- any new laws and regulations that may require various PRC government approvals for securities offerings by companies engaged in the Internet sector in the PRC.

Our inability to raise additional funds on favorable terms, or at all, could force us to scale back our planned

expenditures, which could adversely affect our growth prospects.

If we fail to establish and maintain relationships with content and technology providers and mobile network operators, we may not be able to attract and retain users.

We rely on a number of third party relationships to attract traffic and provide content in order to make our portal more attractive to users and advertisers. Some content providers have increased the fees they charge us for their content. This trend could increase our operating expenses and could adversely affect our ability to obtain content at an economically acceptable cost. Most of our arrangements with content providers are short-term and may be terminated at the convenience of the other party. In addition, much of the third party content provided to our portal is also available from other sources or may be provided to other Internet companies. If other Internet companies present the same or similar content in a superior manner, it would adversely affect our visitor traffic.

Substantially all of our subscription revenue is generated through short messaging services where we depend on mobile network operators for message delivery and payment collection. If we were unable to continue this arrangement, our short messaging services would be severely disrupted.

Our business also depends significantly on relationships with leading technology and infrastructure providers and the licenses that the technology providers have granted to us. Our competitors may seek to establish the same relationships as we have, which may adversely affect us. We may not be able to maintain these relationships or replace them on commercially attractive terms.

We depend on key personnel and our business may be severely disrupted if we lose the services of our key executives and employees.

Our future success is heavily dependent upon the continued service of our key executives, particularly Dr. Charles Zhang, who is the founder, President and chief executive officer of our company and the founder and President of Beijing Sohu, High Century, and Hengda. We rely on his expertise in our business operations and on his personal relationships with some of our principal stockholders, the relevant regulatory authorities, our customers and suppliers, Beijing Sohu, High Century, and Hengda. If one or more of our key executives and employees are unable or unwilling to continue in their present positions, we may not be able to easily replace them and our business may be severely disrupted. In addition, if any of these key executives or employees joins a competitor or forms a competing company, we may lose customers and suppliers and incur additional expenses to recruit and train personnel. Each of our executive officers has entered into an employment agreement and a confidentiality, non-competition and non-solicitation agreement with us. These officers also have agreements with Beijing ITC, our PRC operating subsidiary, which contain substantially similar confidentiality and non-competition undertakings. However, the degree of protection afforded to an employer pursuant to confidentiality and non-competition undertakings governed by PRC law may be more limited when compared to the degree of protection afforded under the laws of other jurisdictions. We do not maintain key-man life insurance for any of our key executives.

We also rely on a number of key technology staff for the operation of Sohu. Given the competitive nature of the industry, the risk of key technology staff leaving Sohu is high and could have a disruptive impact on our operations.

Rapid growth and a rapidly changing operating environment strain our limited resources.

We have limited operational, administrative and financial resources, which may be inadequate to sustain the growth we want to achieve. As our audience and their Internet use increase, as the demands of our audience and the needs of our customers change and as the volume of online advertising, short messaging and e-commerce activities increases, we will need to increase our investment in our network infrastructure, facilities and other areas of operations. If we are unable to manage our growth and expansion effectively, the quality of our services could deteriorate and our business may suffer. Our future success will depend on, among other things, our ability to:

- adapt our services and maintain and improve the quality of our services;
- protect our Web site from hackers and unauthorized access;
- continue training, motivating and retaining our existing employees and attract and integrate new employees; and
- develop and improve our operational, financial, accounting and other internal systems and controls.

Our advertising pricing model, which is based on charging a fixed fee to display advertisements for a specified time period, may not be profitable.

There are currently no industry standard pricing models used to sell advertising on the Internet. This makes it difficult to project our future advertising rates and revenues. The models we adopt may prove not to be profitable. A significant portion of our advertising revenues in 2002 and 2001 were derived from charging a fixed fee to display an advertisement over a given time period. To the extent that minimum guaranteed impression levels are not met, we are required to provide additional impressions after the contract term and we accordingly defer the related revenue.

We may not be able to track the delivery of advertisements through our portal, which may make us less attractive to potential advertisers.

It is important to advertisers that we accurately measure the demographics of our user base and the delivery of advertisements through our portal. Companies may choose not to advertise on our portal or may pay less for advertising if they do not perceive our portal to be reliable. We depend on third parties to provide us with some of these measurement services. If they are unable to provide these services in the future, we would need to perform these services ourselves or obtain these services from other providers. This could cause us to incur additional costs or cause interruptions or slowdowns in our business during the time we are replacing these services. We are currently implementing additional systems designed to collect information on our users. We may not be able to implement these systems successfully.

Our strategy of acquiring complementary assets, technologies and businesses may fail and may result in equity or earnings dilution.

As a component of our growth strategy, we have acquired and intend to actively identify and acquire assets, technologies and businesses that are complementary to our existing portal business. Our acquisitions could result in the use of substantial amounts of cash, potentially dilutive issuances of equity securities, significant amortization expenses related to goodwill and other intangible assets and exposure to undisclosed or potential liabilities of acquired companies. Moreover the resources expended in identifying and consummating acquisitions may be significant. Furthermore, any acquisitions we decide to pursue may be subject to the approval of the relevant PRC governmental authorities, as well as any applicable PRC rules and regulations.

We will rely on dividends and other distributions on equity paid by our wholly-owned operating subsidiaries to fund any cash requirements we may have.

We are a holding company with no operating assets other than the shares of Beijing ITC, our wholly-owned subsidiary in the PRC that owns and conducts our Internet business. We will rely on dividends and other distributions on equity paid by Beijing ITC for our cash requirements in excess of any cash raised from investors and retained by us. If Beijing ITC incurs debt on its own behalf in the future, the instruments governing the debt may restrict Beijing ITC's ability to pay dividends or make other distributions to us. In addition, PRC legal restrictions permit payment of dividends by Beijing ITC only out of its net income, if any, determined in accordance with PRC accounting standards and regulations. Under PRC law, Beijing ITC is also required to set aside a portion of its net income each year to fund certain reserve funds. These reserves are not distributable as cash dividends.

Beijing ITC has incurred significant net losses since its inception. Therefore, we have not received any dividends or other distributions from Beijing ITC in the past and do not expect any dividends in the foreseeable future.

We may not have exclusive rights over the mark "Sohu.com" in certain areas.

We have applied for registration of the "Sohu.com" mark in Hong Kong and Taiwan, and plan to apply for registration in Malaysia and Singapore. Completion of these applications is subject to prior rights in the relevant jurisdictions. Any rejection of those applications may adversely affect our legal rights over the mark "Sohu.com" in those countries and regions.

Unauthorized use of our intellectual property by third parties, and the expenses incurred in protecting our intellectual property rights, may adversely affect our business.

We regard our copyrights, service marks, trademarks, trade secrets and other intellectual property as critical to our

success. Unauthorized use of our intellectual property by third parties may adversely affect our business and reputation. We rely on trademark and copyright law, trade secret protection and confidentiality agreements with our employees, customers, business partners and others to protect our intellectual property rights. Despite our precautions, it may be possible for third parties to obtain and use our intellectual property without authorization. Furthermore, the validity, enforceability and scope of protection of intellectual property in Internet-related industries is uncertain and still evolving. In particular, the laws of the PRC and certain other countries are uncertain or do not protect intellectual property rights to the same extent as do the laws of the United States. Moreover, litigation may be necessary in the future to enforce our intellectual property rights, to protect our trade secrets or to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others. Future litigation could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources.

We may be subject to intellectual property infringement claims, which may force us to incur substantial legal expenses and, if determined adversely against us, materially disrupt our business.

We cannot be certain that our products and services do not or will not infringe valid patents, copyrights or other intellectual property rights held by third parties. We have in the past been, and may in the future be, subject to legal proceedings and claims from time to time relating to the intellectual property of others in the ordinary course of our business. In particular, if we are found to have violated the intellectual property rights of others, we may be enjoined from using such intellectual property, and we may incur licensing fees or be forced to develop alternatives. We may incur substantial expenses in defending against these third party infringement claims, regardless of their merit. Successful infringement claims against us may result in substantial monetary liability or may materially disrupt the conduct of our business.

We may be subject to, and may expend significant resources in defending against, claims based on the content and services we provide over our portal.

As our services may be used to download and distribute information to others, there is a risk that claims may be made against us for defamation, negligence, copyright or trademark infringement or other claims based on the nature and content of such information. Furthermore, we could be subject to claims for the online activities of our visitors and incur significant costs in their defense. In the past, claims based on the nature and content of information that was posted online by visitors have been made in the United States against companies that provide online services. We do not carry any liability insurance against such risks.

We could be exposed to liability for the selection of listings that may be accessible through our portal or through content and materials that our visitors may post in classifieds, message boards, chat rooms or other interactive services. If any information provided through our services contains errors, third parties may make claims against us for losses incurred in reliance on the information. We also offer Web-based e-mail and subscription services, which expose us to potential liabilities or claims resulting from:

- unsolicited e-mail;
- lost or misdirected messages;
- illegal or fraudulent use of e-mail; or
- interruptions or delays in e-mail service.

Investigating and defending any such claims may be expensive, even if they do not result in liability.

Risks Related to Our Markets

We will rely on online advertising sales, subscription, short messaging and e-commerce services for a significant portion of our future revenues, but the Internet has not been proven as a widely accepted medium for advertising, subscription, short messaging or e-commerce services.

We expect to derive a significant portion of our revenue for the foreseeable future from online advertising, subscription, short messaging and e-commerce services. If the Internet is not accepted as a medium for advertising, subscription, short messaging or e-commerce services, our ability to generate revenues will be adversely affected.

The acceptance of the Internet as a medium for advertising depends on the development of a measurement standard. No standards have been widely accepted for the measurement of the effectiveness of online advertising.

Industry-wide standards may not develop sufficiently to support the Internet as an effective advertising medium. If these standards do not develop, advertisers may choose not to advertise on the Internet in general or through our portals or search engines.

Many of our current and potential advertising and e-commerce customers have only limited experience using the Internet for advertising or commerce purposes, and may not be willing to fully embrace the products and services we offer, which would adversely affect our future revenues and business expansion.

The online advertising and e-commerce markets are new and rapidly evolving, particularly in China. As a result, many of our current and potential advertising and e-commerce customers have limited experience using the Internet for advertising or commerce purposes and historically have not devoted a significant portion of their advertising and sales budgets to Internet-based advertising and e-commerce. Moreover, customers that have invested substantial resources in other methods of conducting business may be reluctant to adopt a new strategy that may limit or compete with their existing efforts. In addition, companies may choose not to advertise or sell their products on our portal if they do not perceive our online advertising and e-commerce platform to be effective or our audience demographics to be desirable. The failure to successfully address these risks or execute our business strategy would significantly reduce our profitability.

We face intense competition which could reduce our market share and adversely affect our financial performance.

The PRC Internet market is characterized by an increasing number of entrants because, among other reasons, the barriers to entry are relatively low. The market for Internet services and products, particularly Internet search and retrieval services, short messaging and e-commerce services and online advertising, is intensely competitive. In addition, the Internet industry is relatively new and constantly evolving and, as a result, our competitors may better position themselves to compete in this market as it matures.

There are many companies that provide or may provide Web sites and online destinations targeted at Internet users in China. Some of our major competitors in China are major United States Internet companies, such as Yahoo! Inc and Nasdaq listed companies Sina.com and Netease. In addition, we may face competition from existing or new domestic PRC Internet companies that are either affiliated with large corporations such as Legend Computer, America Online and Softbank Corporation, or controlled or sponsored by PRC government entities. These competitors may have certain advantages over us, including:

- substantially greater financial and technical resources;
- more extensive and well developed marketing and sales networks;
- better access to original content;
- greater global brand recognition among consumers; and
- larger customer bases.

With these advantages, our competitors may be better able to:

- develop, market and sell their products and services;
- adapt more quickly to new and changing technologies; and
- more easily obtain new customers.

We may not be able to compete successfully against our current or future competitors.

The telecommunications infrastructure in China, which is not as well developed as in the United States, may limit our growth.

The telecommunications infrastructure in China is not well developed. Our growth will depend on the PRC government and state-owned enterprises establishing and maintaining a reliable Internet and telecommunications infrastructure to reach a broader base of Internet users in China. The Internet infrastructure, standards, protocols and complementary products, services and facilities necessary to support the demands associated with continued

growth may not be developed on a timely basis or at all by the PRC government and state-owned enterprises.

We depend on ChinaNet, China Netcom, China Telecom and the Beijing Telecom Administration for telecommunications services, and any interruption in these services may result in severe disruptions to our business.

Although private Internet service providers exist in China, almost all access to the Internet is maintained through ChinaNet, currently owned by China Netcom and China Telecom, under the administrative control and regulatory supervision of the MII. In addition, local networks connect to the Internet through a government-owned international gateway. This international gateway is the only channel through which a domestic Chinese user can connect to the international Internet network. We rely on this infrastructure and China Netcom and China Telecom to provide data communications capacity primarily through local telecommunications lines. Although the government has announced aggressive plans to develop the national information infrastructure, this infrastructure may not be developed and the Internet infrastructure in China may not be able to support the continued growth of Internet usage. In addition, we will have no access to alternative networks and services, on a timely basis if at all, in the event of any infrastructure disruption or failure.

We may not be able to lease additional bandwidth from the Beijing Telecom Administration on acceptable terms, on a timely basis or at all. In addition, we will have no means of getting access to alternative networks and services on a timely basis, if at all, in the event of any disruption or failure of the network.

The high cost of Internet access may limit the growth of the Internet in China and impede our growth.

Access to the Internet in China remains relatively expensive, and may make it less likely for users to access and transact business over the Internet. Unfavorable rate developments could further decrease our visitor traffic and our ability to derive revenues from transactions over the Internet.

The acceptance of the Internet as a commerce platform in China depends on the resolution of problems relating to fulfillment and electronic payment.

Our future growth of revenues depends in part on the anticipated expansion of e-commerce activities in China. As China currently does not have a reliable nationwide product distribution network, the fulfillment of goods purchased over the Internet will continue to be a factor constraining the growth of e-commerce. An additional barrier to the development of e-commerce in China is the lack of reliable payment systems. In particular, the use of credit cards or other viable means of electronic payment in sales transactions is not as well developed in China as in some other countries, such as the United States. Various government entities and businesses are working to resolve these fulfillment and payment problems, but these problems are expected to continue to hinder the acceptance and growth of the Internet as a commerce platform in China, which could in turn hinder our growth.

Risks Related to the Internet and Our Technology Infrastructure

To the extent we are unable to scale our systems to meet the increasing PRC Internet population, we will be unable to expand our user base and increase our attractiveness to advertisers and merchants.

As Web page volume and traffic increase in China, we may not be able to scale our systems proportionately. To the extent we do not successfully address our capacity constraints, our operations may be severely disrupted, and we may not be able to expand our user base and increase our attractiveness to advertisers and merchants.

Unexpected network interruptions caused by system failures may result in reduced visitor traffic, reduced revenue and harm to our reputation.

Our portal operations are dependent upon Web browsers, Internet service providers, content providers and other Web site operators in China, which have experienced significant system failures and system outages in the past. Our users have in the past experienced difficulties due to system failures unrelated to our systems and services. Any system failure or inadequacy that causes interruptions in the availability of our services, or increases the response time of our services, as a result of increased traffic or otherwise, could reduce our user satisfaction, future traffic and our attractiveness to users and advertisers.

Our operations are vulnerable to natural disasters and other events, as we only have limited backup systems and do not maintain any backup servers outside of China.

We have limited backup systems and have experienced system failures and electrical outages from time to time in the past, which have disrupted our operations. All of our servers and routers are currently hosted in a single location within the premises of Beijing Telecom Administration. We do not maintain any back up servers outside Beijing. We do not have a disaster recovery plan in the event of damage from fire, floods, typhoons, earthquakes, power loss, telecommunications failures, break-ins and similar events. If any of the foregoing occurs, we may experience a complete system shutdown. We do not carry any business interruption insurance. To improve the performance and to prevent disruption of our services, we may have to make substantial investments to deploy additional servers or one or more copies of our Web sites to mirror our online resources. Although we carry property insurance with low coverage limits, our coverage may not be adequate to compensate us for all losses, particularly with respect to loss of business and reputation, that may occur.

Concerns about security of e-commerce transactions and confidentiality of information on the Internet may increase our costs, reduce the use of our portal and impede our growth.

A significant barrier to e-commerce and confidential communications over the Internet has been the need for security. Internet usage could decline if any well-publicized compromise of security occurred. We may incur significant costs to protect against the threat of security breaches or to alleviate problems caused by these breaches. If unauthorized persons are able to penetrate our network security, they could misappropriate proprietary information or cause interruptions in our services. As a result, we may be required to expend capital and resources to protect against or to alleviate these problems.

Our network operations may be vulnerable to hacking, viruses and other disruptions, which may make our products and services less attractive and reliable.

Internet usage could decline if any well-publicized compromise of security occurs. "Hacking" involves efforts to gain unauthorized access to information or systems or to cause intentional malfunctions or loss or corruption of data, software, hardware or other computer equipment. Hackers, if successful, could misappropriate proprietary information or cause disruptions in our service. We may be required to expend capital and other resources to protect our Web site against hackers. We cannot assure you that any measures we may take will be effective. In addition, the inadvertent transmission of computer viruses could expose us to a material risk of loss or litigation and possible liability, as well as materially damage our reputation and decrease our user traffic.

Political, Economic and Regulatory Risks

Regulation and censorship of information distribution in China may adversely affect our business.

China has enacted regulations governing Internet access and the distribution of news and other information. Furthermore, the Propaganda Department of the Chinese Communist Party has been given the responsibility to censor news published in China to ensure, supervise and control a particular political ideology. In addition, the MII has published implementing regulations that subject online information providers to potential liability for content included on their portals and the actions of subscribers and others using their systems, including liability for violation of PRC laws prohibiting the distribution of content deemed to be socially destabilizing. Because many PRC laws, regulations and legal requirements with regard to the Internet are relatively new and untested, their interpretation and enforcement may involve significant uncertainty. In addition, the PRC legal system is a civil law system in which decided legal cases have limited binding force as legal precedents. As a result, in many cases it is difficult to determine the type of content that may result in liability for a Web site operator.

Periodically, the Ministry of Public Security has stopped the distribution over the Internet of information which it believes to be socially destabilizing. The Ministry of Public Security has the authority to cause any local Internet service provider to block any Web site maintained outside China at its sole discretion. If the PRC government were to take action to limit or eliminate the distribution of information through our portal or to limit or regulate current or future applications available to users of our portal, our business would be affected.

The State Secrecy Bureau, which is directly responsible for the protection of state secrets of all PRC government and Chinese Communist Party organizations, is authorized to block any Web site it deems to be leaking state secrets or failing to meet the relevant regulations relating to the protection of state secrets in the distribution of online information. Under the applicable regulations, we may be held liable for any content transmitted on our portal. Furthermore, where the transmitted content clearly violates the laws of the PRC, we will be required to delete it. Moreover, where the transmitted content is considered suspicious, we are required to report such content. We must also undergo computer security inspections, and if we fail to implement the relevant safeguards against security breaches, we may be shut down. In addition, under recently adopted regulations, Internet companies which

provide bulletin board systems, chat rooms or similar services, such as our company, must apply for the approval of the State Secrecy Bureau. As the implementing rules of these new regulations have not been issued, however, we do not know how or when we will be expected to comply, or how our business will be affected by the application of these regulations.

Political and economic policies of the PRC government could affect our business.

All of our business, assets and operations are located in China and all of our revenues are derived from our operations in China. Accordingly, our business could be adversely affected by changes in political, economic or social conditions in China, adjustments in PRC government policies or changes in laws and regulations.

The economy of China differs from the economies of most countries belonging to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in a number of respects, including:

- structure;
- level of government involvement;
- level of development;
- level of capital reinvestment;
- growth rate;
- control of foreign exchange; and
- methods of allocating resources.

Since 1949, China has been primarily a planned economy subject to a system of macroeconomic management. Although the Chinese government still owns a significant portion of the productive assets in China, economic reform policies since the late 1970s have emphasized decentralization, autonomous enterprises and the utilization of market mechanisms. We cannot predict what effects the economic reform and macroeconomic measures adopted by the Chinese government may have on our business or results of operations.

The PRC legal system embodies uncertainties which could limit the legal protections available to us and you.

The PRC legal system is a civil law system based on written statutes. Unlike common law systems, it is a system in which decided legal cases have little precedential value. In 1979, the PRC government began to promulgate a comprehensive system of laws and regulations governing economic matters in general. Our PRC operating subsidiary, Beijing ITC, is a wholly-foreign owned enterprise, or a WFOE, which is an enterprise incorporated in mainland China and wholly-owned by foreign investors. Beijing ITC is subject to laws and regulations applicable to foreign investment in mainland China. However, these laws, regulations and legal requirements are relatively recent, and their interpretation and enforcement involve uncertainties. These uncertainties could limit the legal protections available to us and other foreign investors, including you. In addition, we cannot predict the effect of future developments in the PRC legal system, particularly with regard to the Internet, including the promulgation of new laws, changes to existing laws or the interpretation or enforcement thereof, or the preemption of local regulations by national laws.

Restrictions on currency exchange may limit our ability to utilize our revenues effectively.

Substantially all of our revenues and operating expenses are denominated in Renminbi. The Renminbi is currently freely convertible under the “current account,” which includes dividends, trade and service-related foreign exchange transactions, but not under the “capital account,” which includes foreign direct investment.

Currently, Beijing ITC may purchase foreign exchange for settlement of “current account transactions,” including payment of dividends, without the approval of the State Administration for Foreign Exchange, or SAFE. Beijing ITC may also retain foreign exchange in its current account (subject to a ceiling approved by the SAFE) to satisfy foreign exchange liabilities or to pay dividends. However, the relevant PRC governmental authorities may limit or eliminate our ability to purchase and retain foreign currencies in the future.

Since a significant amount of our future revenues will be in the form of Renminbi, the existing and any future restrictions on currency exchange may limit our ability to utilize revenue generated in Renminbi to fund our business activities outside China, if any, or expenditures denominated in foreign currencies.

Foreign exchange transactions under the capital account are still subject to limitations and require approvals from the SAFE. This could affect Beijing ITC's ability to obtain foreign exchange through debt or equity financing, including by means of loans or capital contributions from us.

We may suffer currency exchange losses if the Renminbi depreciates relative to the U.S. Dollar.

Our reporting currency is the U.S. Dollar. However, substantially all of revenues are denominated in Renminbi. Our revenues as expressed in our U.S. Dollar financial statements will decline in value if the Renminbi depreciates relative to the U.S. Dollar. Very limited hedging transactions are available in China to reduce our exposure to exchange rate fluctuations. To date, we have not entered into any hedging transactions in an effort to reduce our exposure to foreign currency exchange risk. While we may decide to enter into hedging transactions in the future, the availability and effectiveness of these hedges may be limited and we may not be able to successfully hedge our exposure, if at all. In addition, our currency exchange losses may be magnified by PRC exchange control regulations that restrict our ability to convert Renminbi into U.S. Dollars.

It may be difficult to enforce any civil judgments against us or our board of directors or officers, because most of our assets are located outside of the United States.

Although we are incorporated in the State of Delaware, substantially all of our assets are located in the PRC. As a result, it may be difficult for investors to enforce outside the United States in any actions brought against us in the United States, including actions predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States or of the securities laws of any state of the United States. In addition, certain of our directors and officers (principally in the PRC) and all or a substantial portion of their assets may be located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process within the United States upon those directors and officers, or to enforce against them or us judgments obtained in United States courts, including judgments predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States or of the securities laws of any state of the United States. We have been advised by our PRC counsel that, in their opinion, there is doubt as to the enforceability in the PRC, in original actions or in actions for enforcement of judgments of United States courts, of civil liabilities predicated solely upon the federal securities laws of the United States or the securities laws of any state of the United States.

Risks Related to the Market for Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock has been and will likely continue to be volatile.

The market price of our common stock has been volatile, and is likely to continue to be so. In addition, the Nasdaq Stock Market's National Market has from time to time experienced significant price and volume fluctuations that have affected the market prices for the securities of technology companies, particularly Internet companies. As a result, investors in our shares may experience a decrease in the value of their shares regardless of our operating performance or prospects.

The sale or availability for sale of substantial amounts of our common stock could adversely affect its market price.

There were approximately 34,822,538 shares of our common stock outstanding as of February 28, 2003, as well as options to purchase an additional 6,632,902 shares of our common stock. Of the outstanding shares, 25,424,216 were issued prior to the initial public offering of our common stock. These shares are either freely tradable without restriction under Rule 144(k) under the Securities Act or are tradable subject to the notice, volume and manner of sale restrictions of Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

Sohu issued 4,600,000 shares of common stock in connection with the initial public offering. All of these shares are freely tradable without restriction unless they are held by our "affiliates" as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

On October 18, 2000, we issued an aggregate of 4,401,500 shares of our common stock to the former stockholders of ChinaRen in connection with our acquisition of that company. All of these shares are currently freely tradable without restriction.

We are controlled by a small group of our existing stockholders, whose interests may differ from other stockholders.

Our chief executive officer beneficially owns approximately 25% of the outstanding shares of our common stock and is our largest stockholder. Our second largest stockholder, together with our chief executive officer, our other executive officers and members of our Board of Directors, beneficially own approximately 50% of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Accordingly these stockholders acting together will have significant influence in determining the outcome of any corporate transaction or other matter submitted to the stockholders for approval, including mergers, consolidations and the sale of all or substantially all of our assets, election of directors and other significant corporate actions. They will also have significant influence in preventing or causing a change in control. In addition, without the consent of these stockholders, we could be prevented from entering into transactions that could be beneficial to us. The interests of these stockholders may differ from the interests of the other stockholders.

Holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock are parties to an agreement under which they have agreed to vote together in favor of a nominee of one of our stockholders to our board of directors. As a result of their voting power, they will have the ability to cause that nominee to be elected.

Anti-takeover provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law, our certificate of incorporation and Sohu's Stockholder Rights Plan could delay or deter a change in control.

Some provisions of our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, as well as various provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law, may make it more difficult to acquire our company or effect a change in control of our company, even if an acquisition or change in control would be in the interest of our stockholders or if an acquisition or change in control would provide our stockholders with a premium for their shares over then current market prices. For example, our certificate of incorporation provides for the division of the board of directors into two classes with staggered two-year terms and provides that stockholders have no right to take action by written consent and may not call special meetings of stockholders, each of which may make it more difficult for a third party to gain control of our board in connection with, or obtain any necessary stockholder approval for, a proposed acquisition or change in control.

In addition, we have adopted a stockholder rights plan under the terms of which, in general, if a person or group acquires more than 20% of the outstanding shares of common stock, all other Sohu stockholders would have the right to purchase securities from Sohu at a substantial discount to those securities' fair market value, thus causing substantial dilution to the holdings of the person or group which acquires more than 20%. The stockholder rights plan may inhibit a change in control and, therefore, could adversely affect the stockholders' ability to realize a premium over the then-prevailing market price for the common stock in connection with such a transaction.

The power of our Board of Directors to designate and issue shares of preferred stock could have an adverse effect on holders of our common stock.

Our certificate of incorporation authorizes our board of directors to designate and issue one or more series of preferred stock, having rights and preferences as the board may determine, and any such designations and issuances could have an adverse effect on the rights of holders of common stock.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Our principal executive offices are located in over 3,400 square meters of office space in Beijing, China under leases that expire on December 31, 2004. We also lease sales and marketing office space in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Sohu is not currently involved in any material pending legal proceeding.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

No matters were submitted to a vote of our security holders during the last quarter of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS

Market for Common Stock

As of February 28, 2003, there were approximately 46 holders of record of our common stock. We believe that there were approximately 4,600 beneficial holders of our common stock as of that date.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market, under the symbol "SOHU." Public trading in our common stock commenced on July 12, 2000. Prior to that date, there was no public market for our common stock. The following table sets forth the high and low sale prices of our common stock as reported by the Nasdaq Stock Market for the quarters indicated.

	<u>HIGH(\$)</u>	<u>LOW(\$)</u>
Quarter ended March 31, 2001	2.25	0.78
Quarter ended June 30, 2001	1.80	0.52
Quarter ended September 30, 2001	2.08	0.84
Quarter ended December 31, 2001	1.28	0.80
Quarter ended March 31, 2002	1.31	0.94
Quarter ended June 30, 2002	1.70	0.87
Quarter ended September 30, 2002	2.25	1.20
Quarter ended December 31, 2002	6.94	1.44

Since inception, we have not declared or paid dividends on our common stock and we do not expect to pay any dividends in the foreseeable future.

The closing price of our common stock on February 28, 2003 as reported by the Nasdaq National Market was \$8.82.

Report of Offering of Securities and Use of Proceeds Therefrom

On July 17, 2000, we completed an underwritten initial public offering of our common stock pursuant to a Registration Statement on Form S-1 (SEC file No. 333-96137), which became effective on July 10, 2000. Our net proceeds, after deduction of the underwriting discount of \$4.2 million and offering expenses of \$3.2 million, were approximately \$52.4 million. None of the expense payments were made to the underwriters, to any of our directors, officers or affiliates or to any persons owning 10% or more of any class of our equity securities.

Through December 31, 2002, we had used \$8.2 million of the net proceeds from the offering for operating activities, purchases of fixed assets and funding for certain equity investments. The remaining net proceeds from the offering have been invested in cash, cash equivalents, and marketable debt securities. The use of the proceeds from the offering does not represent a material change in the use of proceeds described in the prospectus contained in the Registration Statement on Form S-1 described above.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The selected consolidated financial data below should be read in conjunction with “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and the other information contained in this Form 10-K.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
	(in thousands, except for per share data)				
Statement of Operations Data:					
Revenues:					
Advertising	\$13,852	\$ 9,245	\$ 5,844	\$ 1,617	\$ 472
Non-advertising	14,877	3,755	109	—	—
	<u>28,729</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>5,953</u>	<u>1,617</u>	<u>472</u>
Cost of revenues:					
Advertising	5,943	6,644	5,548	1,589	215
Non-advertising	7,481	2,769	81	—	—
	<u>13,424</u>	<u>9,413</u>	<u>5,629</u>	<u>1,589</u>	<u>215</u>
Gross profit	15,305	3,587	324	28	257
Operating expenses:					
Product development	5,508	5,365	2,440	438	208
Sales and marketing	7,973	8,406	10,425	1,772	351
General and administrative	3,908	4,792	5,356	1,278	308
Amortization of intangibles	—	12,607	3,335	—	—
Impairment of intangibles	—	17,676	—	—	—
	<u>17,389</u>	<u>48,846</u>	<u>21,556</u>	<u>3,488</u>	<u>867</u>
Total operating expenses	17,389	48,846	21,556	3,488	867
Operating loss	(2,084)	(45,259)	(21,232)	(3,460)	(610)
Other expense	(217)	(504)	(526)	—	—
Interest income (expense)	1,265	2,176	2,522	11	(5)
	<u>(1,036)</u>	<u>(43,587)</u>	<u>(19,236)</u>	<u>(3,449)</u>	<u>(615)</u>
Net loss	(1,036)	(43,587)	(19,236)	(3,449)	(615)
Accretion on Series B, C, and D mandatorily redeemable convertible preferred stock	—	—	(3,914)	(917)	(244)
	<u>(1,036)</u>	<u>(43,587)</u>	<u>(23,150)</u>	<u>(4,366)</u>	<u>(859)</u>
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	\$ (1,036)	\$ (43,587)	\$ (23,150)	\$ (4,366)	\$ (859)
	<u>\$ (0.03)</u>	<u>\$ (1.22)</u>	<u>\$ (1.14)</u>	<u>\$ (0.47)</u>	<u>\$ (0.09)</u>
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.03)	\$ (1.22)	\$ (1.14)	\$ (0.47)	\$ (0.09)
	<u>35,420</u>	<u>35,626</u>	<u>20,286</u>	<u>9,328</u>	<u>9,224</u>
Shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share	35,420	35,626	20,286	9,328	9,224

As of December 31,

	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998
(in thousands)					
Balance Sheet Data:					
Cash and cash equivalents, long-term investments in marketable debt securities	\$44,211	\$46,236	\$ 62,593	\$ 3,924	\$1,232
Working capital	20,633	29,764	61,602	2,577	1,303
Total assets	61,972	61,958	105,840	7,076	1,778
Total liabilities	6,741	4,377	4,771	1,911	204
Mandatorily redeemable convertible preferred stock	—	—	—	10,207	2,362
Total shareholders' equity	55,231	57,581	105,840	(5,042)	(788)

Certain other amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current presentation.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

OVERVIEW

Sohu, having introduced the first Chinese language online directory, is one of the leading Internet portals in China in terms of brand recognition. We are a Delaware corporation.

On October 18, 2000, Sohu acquired ChinaRen for total consideration of \$33 million, comprising 4,401,500 shares of Sohu common stock with an aggregate market value of approximately \$31.6 million, stock options granted to ChinaRen employees to purchase 221,002 shares of Sohu common stock valued at \$0.5 million and other acquisition costs aggregating \$0.9 million. Revenues and expenses from ChinaRen's operations after the acquisition date have been included in Sohu's consolidated financial statements.

We have incurred significant net losses since inception. As of December 31, 2002, we had an accumulated deficit of \$73.2 million. These losses have been funded with proceeds of preferred stock private placements and our initial public offering completed in July 2000. We intend to continue spending on marketing and brand development, content enhancements, technology and infrastructure. As a result, net losses could continue to occur in the future. We anticipate funding any such losses with the remaining proceeds from our initial public offering.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Sohu's discussion and analysis of its financial condition and results of operations are based upon Sohu's consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires Sohu to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on-going basis, Sohu evaluates its estimates based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. Sohu believes accounting for advertising revenue where multiple elements exist, accounting for e-subscriptions revenues, allowance for doubtful accounts, provision for long-term loans to related parties, valuation allowance against deferred tax assets and impairment of intangible assets represent critical accounting policies which reflect more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

Advertising revenues are derived principally from online advertising pursuant to short-term contracts normally less than twelve months. Online advertising includes banners, links, logos and buttons placed on our Web sites and sponsorship of a particular area of the Web sites. Revenue is recognized ratably over the period in which the advertising is displayed, when the collectibility is reasonably assured. For multiple element contracts, the contract value is allocated among specific services provided and revenue is recognized in the period the services are performed. In estimating the fair value of individual services provided, we make estimates based on the value of similar services provided to our customers using average sell rates for the period. Material differences could result

in the amount and timing of our revenue for any period if management made different judgments or utilized different estimates.

Non-advertising revenues which have been the fastest growing part of our business during the year ended December 31, 2002 are derived principally from monetizing our users (i.e. consumers) via e-subscription services and to a lesser extent from e-commerce services.

E-subscription revenues are included within non-advertising revenues and are derived principally from providing value added short messaging services such as alumni club, dating and friends matching, e-mail, ringtone and logo downloads and various other related products to mobile phone users. E-subscription fees are charged on a monthly or per message basis. E-subscription revenues are recognized in the month in which the service is performed, provided that no significant Sohu obligations remain. We rely on a number of mobile network operators in China to bill mobile phone users for e-subscription fees. In order to meet ownership requirements under PRC law which restrict or prohibit us from being an Internet content provider or directly providing telecommunications services such as e-subscriptions, we rely on Beijing Sohu to contract on our behalf with the mobile operators. Generally, (i) within 15 to 90 days after the end of each month, Beijing Sohu receives a statement from each of the operators confirming the amount of e-subscription charges billed to that operator's mobile phone users and (ii) within 30 to 120 days after delivering a monthly statement to Beijing Sohu each operator remits the e-subscription fees, net of its service fees, for the month to Beijing Sohu which then transfers the funds to Sohu. In order to recognize revenue and get paid for services provided, we rely on billing confirmations from the mobile network operators as to the actual amount of services they have billed to their mobile customers. We do not collect e-subscription fees from an operator in certain circumstances due to technical issues with the operator's billing system. This is referred to as the "billing failure rate," which can vary from operator to operator. An operator's billing failure rate can vary from month to month, ranges from 15% to 80% and may change at any time without notice. If an operator encounters technical problems, increases in the billing failure rate for that operator could occur. At the end of each reporting period, where an operator has not provided Beijing Sohu with the monthly statement for any month confirming the amount of e-subscription charges billed to that operator's mobile phone users for the month, Sohu, using information generated from its own internal system and historical data, makes estimates of the billing failure rate, collectable e-subscription fees and accrues revenue accordingly. Material differences could result in the amount and timing of our revenue for any period because of differences between the actual billing failure rate per an operator's statement and our internal records.

E-commerce revenues are earned from direct sales of consumer products through Sohu's Web site. In 2001, we established store.sohu.com where we undertake fulfillment e-commerce activities and conduct e-commerce transactions. Our e-commerce products consist of over 4,000 consumer products such as books, health care products, cosmetics, videos, music and computer equipment. We purchase products from suppliers, stock the goods in our warehouse and, upon receiving the orders from our Web site, arrange for delivery to our customers, most of whom are individuals in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. Fulfillment is provided by delivery companies or through postal services. Substantially all sales are done on a cash on delivery basis.

Our management must make estimates of the uncollectability of our accounts receivables from third parties and a related party. Management specifically analyzes accounts receivable, historical bad debts, customer credit-worthiness, current economic trends and changes in our customer payment terms when evaluating the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful accounts. Our non-related party accounts receivable balance was \$2.0 million net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$924,000 as of December 31, 2002. Our accounts receivable from a related party was \$2.0 million and there was no allowance for doubtful accounts as of December 31, 2002. If the financial condition of Sohu's customers were to deteriorate, resulting in their inability to make payments, additional allowance might be required.

Our management must make estimates of the valuation of long-term loans to related parties which are used to facilitate our participation in telecommunications, internet content, financial services and certain other businesses in China where foreign ownership is either prohibited or restricted (the "PRC Companies"). To the extent losses

are incurred by the PRC companies, Sohu accrues for such losses by recording a valuation allowance against long-term loans to related parties. During the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, Sohu recorded \$252,000 and \$0, respectively, of such valuation allowance for losses incurred by the PRC Companies. If the regulatory environment was to change or business conditions were to deteriorate, additional allowances might be required.

We record a valuation allowance to reduce our deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized based on our estimate of future taxable income and prudent and feasible tax planning strategies. If events were to occur in the future, which are currently not contemplated in our current estimates, that would allow us to realize more of our deferred tax assets than the presently recorded net amount, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would increase income when those events occurred. Conversely, if we were to determine that we would not be able to realize all or part of our net deferred tax asset in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would result in a charge to income in the period in which such determination was made.

During the year ended December 31, 2001, Sohu recorded an impairment charge of \$17.7 million to write off the remaining balance of identifiable intangibles and goodwill related to its acquisition of Chinaren, Inc. This was the result of Sohu's impairment assessment which was based upon an estimate of future discounted cash flows over the assets' estimated useful lives. If different judgments or estimates had been utilized, material differences could have resulted in the amount and timing of the impairment charge.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Revenues

Total revenues were \$28.7 million, \$13 million, and \$6 million for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively.

Advertising Revenues

Advertising revenues were \$13.9 million, \$9.2 million, and \$5.8 million or 48%, 71%, and 98% of total revenues for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively. The year-to-year increase in dollar amounts was primarily due to (a) the increasing number of Chinese domestic advertisers purchasing space on our online media properties as online advertising gains acceptance in China, (b) larger and longer-term purchases by certain advertisers and (c) our 2002 launch of Sohu.net where we provide advertising services to small and medium enterprises. Sales to Sohu's five largest advertisers were 14%, 20%, and 19% of total advertising revenues for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively. Advertising revenues for the years ended December 31, 2001, and 2000 included advertising revenues from related parties of \$962,000, and \$433,000, respectively. There were no advertising revenues from related parties in 2002. We have not recorded any revenue from advertising barter transactions.

Non-advertising Revenues

Non-advertising revenues were \$14.9 million, \$3.8 million, and \$109,000 or 52%, 29%, and 2% of total revenue for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively. These revenues were primarily generated from business lines which were put into operation in 2001 and, thus, the non-advertising revenues in 2000 were not significant.

In 2002, non-advertising revenues were derived from e-subscription fees of \$10.1 million, e-commerce services of \$4.2 million, and e-technology and other services of \$544,000. In 2001, non-advertising revenues were comprised of \$1.3 million of e-subscription fees, \$1.7 million of e-commerce services, and \$800,000 of e-technology and other services. In 2000, all of the non-advertising revenues were from e-subscriptions. Most of the growth in non-advertising revenues was attributable to increases in e-subscriptions revenue associated with value added short messaging services. The increase was attributable to increases in the short messaging user base for our Web based products as well as new applications for use with mobile phones. E-commerce revenues increased as a result of more people using online shopping. E-technology services were discontinued in 2002.

Cost of Revenues

Total cost of revenue was \$13.4 million, \$9.4 million, and \$5.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively.

Advertising cost of revenues

Advertising cost of revenues were \$5.9 million, \$6.6 million, and \$5.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively. The decrease from 2002 to 2001 was primarily due to lower cost of bandwidth associated with falling prices and lower personnel cost associated with less headcount after the rationalization of the Chinaren merger. The increase from 2000 to 2001 was primarily due to our merger with Chinaren which resulted in additional personnel costs associated with increasing the breadth and depth of our channel and feature offerings, higher bandwidth leasing charges due to leasing of additional bandwidth and higher hardware and software amortization costs associated with the acquisition of additional servers and storage devices.

Non-advertising cost of revenues

Non-advertising cost of revenues were \$7.5 million, \$2.8 million, and \$81,000 for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively. All non-advertising cost of revenues are variable costs and the increases are consistent with revenue growth. Non-advertising cost of revenues mainly included e-subscription, e-commerce, and e-technology cost of revenues. E-subscription cost of revenues, consisting of collection and short message transmission charges paid to third party mobile network operators, were \$3.7 million, \$587,000, and \$81,000 for the years December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively. The year-on-year increases on gross margin of non-advertising revenues were primarily due to the rapid expansion of e-subscription business with high gross margin. E-commerce cost of revenue consisting of the purchase price of consumer products sold by Sohu and inbound and outbound shipping charges were \$3.5 million and \$1.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. E-technology cost of revenues, consisting of employee compensation costs and related overhead, fees paid to third party for design services and, where applicable, the cost of hardware and software, were \$280,000 and \$653,000 for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

Product Development Expenses

Product development expenses were \$5.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, as compared to \$5.4 million and \$2.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The slight increase from 2001 to 2002 was primarily due to increased personnel cost as a result of expansion of our e-subscriptions business. The increase from 2000 to 2001 was primarily attributable to the acquisition of ChinaRen in October 2000, the increase in the number of personnel and related personnel costs, as well as the costs incurred during the preliminary project stage of new product development projects, such as the development of our branded content channels and the upgrading of our Chinese key word search software and e-mail service, and launching our subscription and e-commerce services.

Sales and Marketing Expenses

Sales and marketing expenses were \$8.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, as compared to \$8.4 million and \$10.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The year-to-year decreases were primarily due to the reduction in advertising expenses because of lower spending on Sohu branding as the advertising strategy focused on revenue generating products. Advertising expenses constituted approximately 21%, 26%, and 47% of our sales and marketing expenses for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses were \$3.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, as compared to \$4.8 million and \$5.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The decrease from 2001 to 2002 was primarily due to reduced spending on personnel costs and the decrease from 2000 to 2001 was primarily due to reduced spending on professional fees and office expenses.

Amortization and Impairment of Intangible Assets

Intangible assets of \$33.6 million including \$392,000 for assembled workforce and \$33.2 million in goodwill which arose as a result of the October 18, 2000 acquisition of ChinaRen, were originally being amortized over two years. During the year ended December 31, 2001, Sohu performed an impairment assessment and recorded an impairment charge of approximately \$17.7 million to write off the remaining balance of identifiable intangibles and goodwill, primarily due to the overall decline in the industry growth rates and the sustained decline in Sohu's stock price. The amortization expense for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000 was \$12.6 million and

\$3.3 million, respectively. There were no amortization or impairment recorded during the year ended December 31, 2002.

Operating Loss

As a result of the foregoing, we had an operating loss of \$2.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, as compared to \$45.3 million and \$21.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The operating loss for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 included \$20,000, \$63,000, and \$629,000, respectively, for stock-based compensation expense recorded on the grant of certain stock options which are being amortized over the vesting period of the options ranging from one to four years.

Other Expense

For the year ended December 31, 2002, other expense was \$217,000 which mainly included a \$196,000 valuation allowance for long-term loans to related parties for investments in Hengda, High Century and Sohu-Guolian. To the extent losses are incurred by these PRC companies, we accrue for such losses by recording a valuation allowance against long-term loans to related parties. For the year ended December 31, 2001, other expense of \$504,000 primarily resulted from a \$500,000 writedown of other assets. For the year ended December 31, 2000, other expense of \$526,000 mainly included a \$500,000 writedown of other assets and a \$26,000 loss on the disposal of fixed assets.

Interest Income, Net

Interest income was \$1.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, as compared to \$2.2 million and \$2.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The year-to-year decreases were primarily attributable to Federal Reserve interest rate cuts and decreasing balances of cash, cash equivalents, and investments in marketable securities.

Net loss

As a result of the foregoing, our net loss was \$1 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, as compared to \$43.6 million and \$19.2 million for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

QUARTERLY RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth, for the periods presented, our unaudited quarterly results of operations for the eight quarters ended December 31, 2002. The data has been derived from our consolidated financial statements, and in our management's opinion, they have been prepared on substantially the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements and include all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair statement of the financial results for the periods presented. This information should be read in conjunction with the annual consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this Form 10-K. The operating results in any quarter are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for any future period.

	Three Months Ended							
	Dec. 31, 2002	Sept. 30, 2002	Jun. 30, 2002	Mar. 31, 2002	Dec. 31, 2001	Sept. 30, 2001	Jun. 30, 2001	Mar. 31, 2001
	(Unaudited, in thousands, except per share data)							
Revenues:								
Advertising	\$ 4,304	\$ 3,674	\$ 3,363	\$ 2,511	\$ 2,506	\$ 2,425	\$ 2,227	\$ 2,087
Non-advertising	6,260	3,834	2,763	2,020	1,600	1,138	651	366
Total revenues	10,564	7,508	6,126	4,531	4,106	3,563	2,878	2,453
Cost of revenues:								
Advertising	1,513	1,472	1,495	1,463	1,456	1,575	1,762	1,851
Non-advertising	2,562	1,871	1,600	1,448	1,127	823	522	297
Total cost of revenues	4,075	3,343	3,095	2,911	2,583	2,398	2,284	2,148
Gross profit	6,489	4,165	3,031	1,620	1,523	1,165	594	305
Operating expenses:								
Product development	1,549	1,474	1,310	1,175	1,225	1,207	1,295	1,638
Sales and marketing	2,224	1,862	1,872	2,015	1,840	1,949	2,141	2,476
General and administrative	1,002	955	984	967	1,272	1,070	1,197	1,253
Amortization of intangibles	—	—	—	—	—	4,202	4,202	4,203
Impairment of intangibles	—	—	—	—	—	17,676	—	—
Total operating expenses	4,775	4,291	4,166	4,157	4,337	26,104	8,835	9,570
Operating profit/(loss)	1,714	(126)	(1,135)	(2,537)	(2,814)	(24,939)	(8,241)	(9,265)
Other income/(expense)	(114)	(67)	(58)	22	3	(507)	—	—
Interest income	331	305	323	306	322	462	593	799
Net income/(loss)	\$ 1,931	\$ 112	\$ (870)	\$ (2,209)	\$ (2,489)	\$ (24,984)	\$ (7,648)	\$ (8,466)
Basic net income/(loss) per share	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.70)	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.24)
Shares used in computing basic net income/(loss) per share	34,709	35,715	35,641	35,626	35,626	35,626	35,626	35,626
Diluted net income/(loss) per share	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.06)				
Shares used in computing diluted net income/(loss) per share	38,196	37,413	35,641	35,626				

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We have financed our operations principally through private sales of preferred stock and our initial public offering. From inception through December 31, 2002, we have raised net proceeds of \$39.2 million through the sale of preferred stock in private placements and \$52.4 million from the sale of common stock in our initial public offering. Sohu invests its excess cash in marketable debt securities of high quality investment grade. As of December 31, 2002, we had cash, cash equivalents, and investments in marketable debt securities totaling approximately \$44.2 million compared to \$46.2 million and \$62.6 million as of December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

For the year ended December 31, 2002, net cash provided by operating activities of \$5.3 million was primarily attributable to our net loss of \$1 million, depreciation and amortization of \$4.9 million, other non-cash expenses of \$1.3 million, and a slight increase in working capital of \$63,000. For the year ended December 31, 2001, net cash used in operating activities of \$10 million was primarily attributable to our net loss of \$43.6 million, amortization and impairment of intangible assets of \$30.3 million, depreciation and amortization of \$4.2 million, other non-cash expenses of \$757,000, and a decrease in working capital of \$1.7 million. For the year ended December 31, 2000, net cash used in operating activities of \$15.9 million was primarily attributable to our net loss of \$19.2 million, amortization of intangible assets of \$3.3 million, depreciation and amortization of \$1.6 million, other non-cash expenses of \$1.6 million and a decrease in working capital of \$3.2 million.

For the year ended December 31, 2002, net cash used in investing activities of \$13.7 million was primarily due to long-term investments in marketable debt securities of \$7.8 million, the acquisition of fixed assets of \$2.3 million, long-term loans to related parties of \$3.3 million for financing investments in High Century and Hengda and the acquisition of other assets of \$348,000. For the year ended December 31, 2001, net cash used in investing activities of \$23.4 million was primarily due to long-term investments in marketable debt securities of \$17 million and the acquisition of fixed assets of \$4 million, long-term loans to related parties of \$1.6 million for financing an investment in High Century and the acquisition of other assets of \$797,000. For the year ended December 31, 2000, net cash used in investing activities of \$7.9 million was primarily due to the purchase of fixed assets of \$5.8 million and cash used in the acquisition of ChinaRen, Inc. of \$1 million.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$1.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, primarily due to the repurchase of treasury stock of \$2.0 million offset by issuance of common stock of \$123,000 pursuant to our stock option plan. There was no significant cash provided by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2001. Net cash provided by financing activities was \$82.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, primarily due to net proceeds of approximately \$29.9 million from the issuance of Series D Convertible Preferred Stock in February 2000 and of approximately \$52.4 million from the completion of our initial public offering in July 2000.

Our principal commitments consist of obligations under various operating leases for office facilities. We expect that capital expenditures totaling \$4.3 million in 2003 will primarily consist of purchases of additional servers, computer software, workstations and technological improvements to network infrastructure.

We believe that current cash and cash equivalents will be sufficient to meet anticipated working capital (net cash used in operating activities), commitments and capital expenditures for at least the next twelve months. We may, however, require additional cash resources due to changed business conditions or other future developments, including any investments or acquisitions we may decide to pursue. If these sources are insufficient to satisfy cash requirements, we may seek to sell additional equity or debt securities or to obtain a credit facility. The sale of additional equity or convertible debt securities could result in additional dilution to shareholders. The incurrence of indebtedness would result in increased debt service obligations and could result in operating and financial covenants that would restrict operations. Financing may not be available in amounts or on terms acceptable to us, if at all.

Foreign Currency Exchange Losses

While our reporting currency is the U.S. dollar, to date virtually all of our revenues and costs are denominated in Renminbi and a significant portion of our assets and liabilities are denominated in Renminbi. As a result, we are exposed to foreign exchange risk as our revenues and results of operations may be impacted by fluctuations in the exchange rate between U.S. Dollars and Renminbi. If the Renminbi depreciates against the U.S. Dollar, the value of our Renminbi revenues and assets as expressed in our U.S. Dollar financial statements will decline. We do not hold any derivative or other financial instruments that expose us to substantial market risk. See "Risk Factors—We may suffer currency exchange losses if the Renminbi depreciates relative to the U.S. Dollar."

The Renminbi is currently freely convertible under the “current account”, which includes dividends, trade and service-related foreign exchange transactions, but not under the “capital account”, which includes foreign direct investment. To date, we have not entered into any hedging transactions in an effort to reduce our exposure to foreign currency exchange risk. While we may decide to enter into hedging transactions in the future, the effectiveness of these hedges may be limited and we may not be able to successfully hedge our exposure at all. Accordingly, we may incur economic losses in the future due to foreign exchange rate fluctuations which may have a negative impact on our financial condition and results of operations.

ITEM 7a. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURE ABOUT MARKET RISK

FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE RISK

The majority of our revenues, expenses and liabilities are denominated in Chinese Renminbi. Thus, revenues and operating results may be impacted by exchange rate fluctuations in the Renminbi when financial results are translated in U.S. dollars on consolidation. Currency fluctuations and restrictions on currency exchange may adversely affect our business, including limiting the ability to convert Chinese Renminbi into foreign currencies and, if the Renminbi were to decline in value, reducing revenue in U.S. dollar terms. We have not tried to reduce exposure to exchange rate fluctuations by using hedging transactions but may choose to do so in the future. We may not be able to do this successfully. Accordingly, we may experience economic losses and negative impacts on earnings and equity as a result of foreign exchange rate fluctuations. The effect of foreign exchange rate fluctuations on us in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 was not material.

INVESTMENT RISK

a) Investments in Beijing Sohu, High Century, Hengda and Sohu-Guolian

We have entered into the following arrangements with Dr. Charles Zhang, our Chief Executive Officer and a major Sohu shareholder, and certain of our employees to satisfy PRC regulations which prohibit or restrict foreign companies from owning or operating telecommunications, internet content, financial services and certain other businesses in China. We expect that we will continue to be involved in and provide additional financial support under similar arrangements in the future, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 with respect to loans to directors and executive officers.

In June 2000, we extended loans in the amount of \$193,000 to Dr. Charles Zhang and \$49,000 to He Jinmei, another employee of Sohu, to finance their investments in Beijing Sohu, a company incorporated in the PRC. The shareholders of Beijing Sohu have pledged their shares in Beijing Sohu as collateral for the loan. These loans are included in long term loans to related parties, bear no interest and are due in full on the earlier of demand, in 2010 or at such time as Dr. Charles Zhang or He Jinmei, as the case may be, is not an employee of Sohu. A subsidiary of Sohu has entered into an option agreement giving it the right, at any time, subject to PRC law, to purchase the entire ownership in Beijing Sohu from the two Beijing Sohu shareholders for \$242,000. As of December 31, 2002, we had recorded a valuation allowance of \$56,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by Beijing Sohu.

In November 2001, we entered into a loan and share pledge agreement with Dr. Charles Zhang, and Li Wei, another employee of Sohu, for the purpose of funding an equity investment of \$4,595,000 by these two individuals in High Century, a company incorporated in the PRC which engages in investment holding in the PRC on behalf of Sohu. Pursuant to the loan agreement, we have extended total loans amounting to \$4,595,000 of which \$3,676,000 and \$919,000 were loaned to Charles Zhang and Li Wei, respectively. These loans are included in long term loans to related parties. As of December 31, 2002, we had recorded a valuation allowance of \$4,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by High Century.

In January 2002, we entered into a loan and share pledge agreement with Li Wei for the purpose of funding an equity investment of \$242,000 by Li Wei in Hengda, a company incorporated in the PRC which engages in Internet access services in the PRC on behalf of Sohu. The \$242,000 investment represents a 20% interest in Hengda, with High Century holding the remaining 80% interest. These loans are included in long term loans to related parties. As of December 31, 2002, we had recorded a valuation allowance of \$3,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by Hengda.

The loan agreements under which funds are provided to invest in High Century and Hengda are subject to PRC law and include provisions that (i) the loans can only be repaid to us by transferring the shares of High Century or Hengda to us, (ii) the shares of High Century or Hengda cannot be transferred without the approval of Sohu, and

(iii) we have the right to appoint all directors and senior management personnel of High Century and Hengda. Charles Zhang and Li Wei have pledged all of their shares in High Century and Hengda as collateral for the loans and the loans bear no interest and are due on demand after November 2003, in the case of High Century, and January 2003, in the case of Hengda, or at such time as Dr. Charles Zhang or Li Wei, as the case may be, is not an employee of Sohu. We do not intend to request repayment of the loans as long as PRC regulations prohibit us from directly investing in businesses being undertaken by High Century and Hengda.

In April 2002, High Century invested \$3,080,000 in Sohu-Guolian, a company incorporated in the PRC, for a 51% equity interest in and joint control of Sohu-Guolian. Sohu-Guolian will provide technical services to the PRC online securities trading and financial services industries. During the year ended December 31, 2002, we provided Sohu-Guolian with Web site development services amounting to \$36,000 of which \$16,000 was receivable at December 31, 2002. The \$36,000 was recorded as a reduction in cost of revenues. As of December 31, 2002, we had recorded a valuation allowance of \$189,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by Sohu-Guolian.

As of December 31, 2002, payable to related parties included \$435,000 and \$1,020,000 payable to High Century and Hengda, respectively, as High Century and Hengda had transferred their unused cash to Sohu. Sohu may be required to repay these funds at any time.

(b) Investments in a privately-held company

In the year ended December 31, 2000, we invested \$1 million in a privately-held company for business and strategic purposes. This investment was included in other assets and accounted for under the cost method as ownership is less than 5%, and we do not have the ability to exercise significant influence over its operations. In each of the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, we identified and recorded impairment losses of \$500,000. Thus, as of December 31, 2001 the investment was fully written off.

(c) Investment in marketable debt securities

Sohu invests in marketable debt securities to preserve principal while at the same time maximizing yields without significantly increasing risk. These marketable debt securities are classified as available-for-sale because we may dispose of the securities prior to maturity and are reported at the market value. As of December 31, 2002, the unrealized gains of \$540,000 were recorded as accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Reference is made to the Index of Consolidated Financial Statements which appears on page F-1 of this report. The Report of Independent Accountants, Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to Consolidated Financial statements which are listed in the Index of Consolidated Financial Statements and which appear beginning on page F-2 of this report are incorporated into this Item 8.

ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement for Sohu's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or about April 16, 2003 under the headings "Election of Directors" and "Executive Officers" and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement for Sohu's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders under the heading "Executive Compensation" and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The information required by this item, other than the table included below, will be included in the Proxy Statement for Sohu's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders under the heading "Beneficial Ownership of Common Stock" and is incorporated herein by reference.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders 2000 Stock Incentive Plan	5,843,966	\$ 2.04	971,250
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
Total	5,843,966	\$ 2.04	971,250

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The information required by this item will be included in the Proxy Statement for Sohu's 2003 Annual Meeting of Stockholders under the heading "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions" and is incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 14. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Our chief executive officer and chief financial officer, after evaluating the effectiveness of our "disclosure controls and procedures" (as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Rules 13a-14(c) and 15d-14(c)) as of a date, or the Evaluation Date, within 90 days before the filing date of this annual report, have concluded that as of the Evaluation Date, our disclosure controls and procedures were adequate and designed to ensure that material information relating to Sohu is made known to them by others within the company. There were no significant changes in our internal controls or, to our knowledge, in other factors that could significantly affect our disclosure controls and procedures subsequent to the Evaluation Date.

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES, AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a)(1) Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

Please see the accompanying Index to Consolidated Financial Statements which appears on page F-1 of this report. The Report of Independent Accountants, Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements which are listed in the Index to Consolidated Financial Statements and which appear beginning on page F-2 of this report are included in Item 8 above.

(a)(2) Financial Statement Schedule

Financial Statement Schedules have been omitted because the information required to be set forth therein is not applicable or is included in the Consolidated Financial Statements or notes thereto.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

None.

(c) Exhibits

See the Exhibit Index following the signature pages of this report.

CERTIFICATIONS

I, Dr. Charles Zhang, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Sohu.com Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this annual report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this annual report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this annual report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this annual report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this annual report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this annual report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
 - c) presented in this annual report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
 - a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this annual report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: March 28, 2003

/s/ DR. CHARLES ZHANG

President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors

I, Derek Palaschuk, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 10-K of Sohu.com Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this annual report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this annual report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this annual report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this annual report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officers and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this annual report is being prepared;
 - b) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this annual report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
 - c) presented in this annual report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
 - a) all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal controls; and
6. The registrant's other certifying officers and I have indicated in this annual report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

Date: March 28, 2003

/s/ DEREK PALASCHUK

Chief Financial Officer & Senior Vice President

SOHU.COM INC.
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES:	
All schedules have been omitted because the information required to be set forth therein is not applicable or is shown in the Consolidated Financial Statements or Notes.	

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of Sohu.com Inc.:

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, of cash flows and of shareholders' equity present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sohu.com Inc. (the "Company") and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2002 and 2001, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years ended December 31, 2002, in conformity with accounting principles which, as described in Note 2(a), are generally accepted in the United States. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in the United States, which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

Beijing, People's Republic of China
January 17, 2003

SOHU.COM INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands)

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2002</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2001</u>
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 18,929	\$ 29,263
Accounts receivable, net	1,992	2,710
Accounts receivable from a related party	1,962	505
Prepaid and other current assets	2,009	1,663
Current portion of long-term investments in marketable debt securities	2,482	—
Total current assets	<u>27,374</u>	<u>34,141</u>
Long-term investments in marketable debt securities	22,800	16,973
Fixed assets, net	6,012	7,953
Long-term loans to related parties, net	4,827	1,815
Other assets, net	959	1,076
	<u>\$ 61,972</u>	<u>\$ 61,958</u>
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 977	\$ 366
Payable to related parties	1,455	1,208
Accrued liabilities and deferred revenues	4,309	2,803
Total current liabilities	<u>6,741</u>	<u>4,377</u>
Commitments and contingencies (Note 15)		
Shareholders' equity:		
Common Stock: \$0.001 par value per share (75,400 authorized at December 31, 2002 and 2001, 34,611 and 35,626 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively)	35	36
Additional paid-in capital	129,881	129,852
Treasury stock, at cost (1,200 shares at December 31, 2002)	(2,003)	—
Deferred compensation	(42)	(160)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	547	4
Accumulated deficit	(73,187)	(72,151)
Total shareholders' equity	<u>55,231</u>	<u>57,581</u>
	<u>\$ 61,972</u>	<u>\$ 61,958</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

SOHU.COM INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
(in thousands, except per share data)

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Revenues:			
Advertising (including \$0, \$962 and \$433 from related parties during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively)	\$13,852	\$ 9,245	\$ 5,844
Non-advertising (including \$10,132, \$1,252, and \$109 from a related party during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively)	14,877	3,755	109
Total revenues	28,729	13,000	5,953
Cost of revenues:			
Advertising (including \$145, \$181 and \$145 of related party services during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively)	5,943	6,644	5,548
Non-advertising (including \$3,655, \$587, and \$81 of related party services during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively)	7,481	2,769	81
Total cost of revenues	13,424	9,413	5,629
Gross profit	15,305	3,587	324
Operating expenses:			
Product development	5,508	5,365	2,440
Sales and marketing (including \$0, \$443 and \$1,943 of related party services during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively)	7,973	8,406	10,425
General and administrative	3,908	4,792	5,356
Amortization of intangibles	—	12,607	3,335
Impairment of intangibles	—	17,676	—
Total operating expenses	17,389	48,846	21,556
Operating loss	(2,084)	(45,259)	(21,232)
Other expense	(217)	(504)	(526)
Interest income	1,265	2,176	2,522
Net loss	(1,036)	(43,587)	(19,236)
Accretion on Series B, C, and D mandatorily redeemable convertible preferred stock	—	—	(3,914)
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	\$ (1,036)	\$ (43,587)	\$ (23,150)
Basic and diluted net loss per share	\$ (0.03)	\$ (1.22)	\$ (1.14)
Shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share	35,420	35,626	20,286

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

SOHU.COM INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31		
	2002	2001	2000
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net loss	\$ (1,036)	\$(43,587)	(19,236)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization of other assets	4,926	4,238	1,645
Provision for allowance for doubtful accounts	998	190	435
Provision for valuation allowance for long-term loans to related parties	252	—	—
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	49	4	26
Stock-based compensation expense	20	63	629
Amortization and impairment of intangible assets	—	30,283	3,335
Writedown of other assets	—	500	500
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of effect of ChinaRen, Inc. acquisition:			
Accounts receivable	(785)	(808)	(1,964)
Accounts receivable from a related party	(1,457)	(505)	—
Prepaid and other current assets	210	25	(1,165)
Accounts payable	474	(1,093)	471
Payable to related parties	247	1,208	—
Accrued liabilities and deferred revenues	1,374	(509)	(534)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	5,272	(9,991)	(15,858)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Long-term investments in marketable debt securities	(7,768)	(16,973)	—
Long-term loans to related parties	(3,264)	(1,573)	(242)
Acquisition of fixed assets	(2,345)	(4,025)	(5,877)
Acquisition of other assets	(348)	(797)	(871)
Cash used in acquisition of ChinaRen, Inc.	—	—	(995)
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets	—	—	122
Net cash used in investing activities	(13,725)	(23,368)	(7,863)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Issuance of Series D Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock	—	—	29,947
Issuance of Common Stock	123	—	59,800
Repurchase of treasury stock	(2,004)	—	—
Cash used for initial public offering costs	—	—	(7,357)
Short-term loan	—	—	2,899
Repayment of short-term loan	—	—	(2,899)
Other	—	29	—
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	(1,881)	29	82,390
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(10,334)	(33,330)	58,669
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	29,263	62,593	3,924
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 18,929	\$ 29,263	\$ 62,593

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

SOHU.COM INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
(in thousands)

	Series A Preferred Stock		Common Stock		Treasury Stock	Additional Paid-in Capital	Deferred Compensation	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss)	Accumulated Deficit	Total Shareholders' Equity
	Shares Issued	Amount	Shares Issued	Amount						
Balance, January 1, 2000	2,925	\$ 3	9,416	\$ 9	—	\$ 382	\$ (21)	\$ (1)	\$ (5,414)	\$ (5,042)
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(19,236)	(19,236)
Other comprehensive loss:										
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	(1)
Comprehensive loss										(19,237)
Conversion of Series A Preferred Stock into Common Stock	(2,925)	(3)	2,925	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Conversion of Series B Mandatorily Redeemable Preferred Stock into Common Stock	—	—	8,415	8	—	3,068	—	—	—	3,076
Conversion of Series C Mandatorily Redeemable Preferred Stock into Common Stock	—	—	3,847	4	—	8,109	—	—	—	8,113
Conversion of Series D Mandatorily Redeemable Preferred Stock into Common Stock	—	—	2,022	2	—	32,877	—	—	—	32,879
Issuance of Common Stock in initial public offering, net of offering costs	—	—	4,600	5	—	52,438	—	—	—	52,443
Issuance of Common Stock and compensatory stock options for acquisition of ChinaRen, Inc.	—	—	4,401	5	—	32,176	(59)	—	—	32,122
Compensatory stock options	—	—	—	—	—	709	(709)	—	—	—
Accretion of Series B, C, and D Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(3,914)	(3,914)
Amortization of deferred compensation	—	—	—	—	—	—	629	—	—	629
Balance, December 31, 2000	—	—	35,626	\$ 36	—	\$ 129,759	\$ (160)	\$ (2)	\$ (28,564)	\$ 101,069
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(43,587)	(43,587)
Other comprehensive gain:										
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
Comprehensive loss										(43,581)
Compensatory stock options	—	—	—	—	—	64	(64)	—	—	—
Amortization of deferred compensation	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	—	—	64
Other	—	—	—	—	—	29	—	—	—	29
Balance, December 31, 2001	—	—	35,626	\$ 36	—	\$ 129,852	\$ (160)	\$ 4	\$ (72,151)	\$ 57,581
Net loss	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,036)	(1,036)
Other comprehensive gains:										
Unrealized gains on marketable debt securities	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	540	—	540
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Comprehensive loss										(493)
Compensatory stock options	—	—	—	—	—	(98)	118	—	—	20
Issuance of common stock pursuant to stock incentive plan	—	—	185	—	—	127	—	—	—	127
Repurchase of common stock	—	—	(1,200)	(1)	(2,003)	—	—	—	—	(2,004)
Balance, December 31, 2002	—	—	34,611	\$ 35	\$ (2,003)	\$ 129,881	\$ (42)	\$ 547	\$ (73,187)	\$ 55,231

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

SOHU.COM INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Organization and Nature of Operations

Sohu.com Inc. (the “Company”) is a Delaware corporation. The Company does not have any substantive operations of its own and substantially all of its primary business operations are conducted through its wholly owned subsidiaries, Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd., Sohu.com (Hong Kong) Limited, and ChinaRen, Inc. ChinaRen, Inc. was acquired by the Company on October 18, 2000.

The Company and its affiliates offer content, advertising, e-subscription, and e-commerce services through its Internet portal sites, Sohu.com and Chinaren.com. The Company markets its products and services to clients primarily in the People’s Republic of China.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Accounting Standards

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis to reflect the financial position and results of operations of the Company in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

(b) Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (commencing from the respective acquisition dates), Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd., Sohu (Hong Kong) Limited, and ChinaRen, Inc. All intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated.

(c) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes.

The Company’s consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The preparation of these financial statements requires the Company to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. On an on-going basis, the Company evaluates its estimates based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. The Company believes its methods of accounting for advertising revenue where multiple elements exist, accounting for e-subscriptions revenue, allowance for doubtful accounts, provision for long-term loans to related parties, valuation allowance against deferred tax assets and impairment of intangible assets are among the critical accounting policies which reflect significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements.

(d) Cash and cash equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are composed primarily of investments in money market

accounts stated at cost, which approximates fair value.

(e) Investments in marketable debt securities

The Company invests its excess cash in certain marketable debt securities of high-quality corporate issuers. Investments in marketable debt securities with original maturities greater than twelve months from the balance sheet date are considered long-term investments. The Company's marketable debt securities are classified as available-for-sale and are reported at fair market values with the unrealized gains recorded as accumulated other comprehensive income in shareholders' equity. The marketable debt securities were originally reclassified as held-to-maturity and reported at amortized cost as of December 31, 2001 and were reclassified as available-for-sale and reported at fair market value as of December 31, 2002 as the Company may sell the marketable debt securities. During the year ended December 31, 2002, the Company recorded \$540,000 of unrealized gains on its marketable debt securities in comprehensive income.

Investments in marketable securities with maturities less than twelve months from the balance date have been classified as current portion of long-term investments in marketable debt securities.

(f) Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets, comprising computer hardware, office furniture and equipment, and leasehold improvements, are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method, with 5% of residual value for computer hardware, office furniture and equipment and no residual value for leasehold improvements, over the estimated useful lives of the assets, generally two to five years.

(g) Intangible assets, net

Intangible assets, which included work force and goodwill arising from the acquisition of ChinaRen, Inc., were being amortized using the straight-line method over a period of two years from the October 18, 2000 acquisition date. The Company reviews long-lived assets based upon an estimate of future discounted cash flows and will reserve for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of the assets may not be fully recoverable. As a result of the Company's impairment assessment, in 2001 the Company recorded an impairment charge of approximately \$17.7 million to write off the remaining balance of identifiable intangibles and goodwill related to the acquisition of Chinaren, Inc.

(h) Long-term loans to related parties and payable to related parties

Long-term loans to related parties were made to an officer and two employees of the Company to fund their equity interest in certain companies that are used to facilitate the Company's participation in telecommunications, Internet content, financial services and certain other businesses in China where foreign ownership is either prohibited or restricted (the "PRC Companies"). The Company expects that it will continue to be involved in and provide financial support to the PRC Companies, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 with respect to loans to directors and executive officers. Accordingly, to the extent losses are incurred by the PRC companies, the Company accrues for such losses by recording a valuation allowance against long-term loans to related parties. During the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, the Company recorded \$252,000 and \$0, respectively, of such valuation allowance for losses incurred by the PRC Companies.

As of December 31, 2002, payable to related parties represented funds that were unused in the operations of the PRC Companies and transferred to the Company.

(i) Other assets, net

Other assets include license fees, computer software purchased from unrelated third parties and software acquired in the ChinaRen, Inc. acquisition. The Company amortizes license fees over the term of the contract and computer software over estimated useful lives of two or three years.

(j) Foreign currency translation

Foreign currency transactions are translated at the applicable rates of exchange in effect at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated at the applicable rates of exchange in effect at that date. Foreign currency transaction gains and losses were not material

for any period presented.

The Company's functional and reporting currency is the U.S. dollar. The functional currency of the Company's subsidiaries in China is the Renminbi ("RMB"). Sales and purchase and other expense transactions are generally denominated in RMB. Accordingly, assets and liabilities of the China subsidiaries are translated at the current exchange rate in effect at the balance sheet date, and revenues and expenses are translated at the average exchange rates in effect during the reporting period. Gains and losses resulting from foreign currency translation are recorded in a separate component of shareholders' equity. Foreign currency translation adjustments are not material for any period presented and are included in Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in the consolidated statements of shareholders' equity for the years presented.

(k) Revenue recognition

The Company recognizes revenue when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, delivery has occurred, the sales price is fixed or determinable, and collectibility is reasonably assured. The Company derives revenue from both advertising and non-advertising sources.

i) Advertising revenues

Advertising revenues are derived principally from online advertising pursuant to short-term contracts normally less than twelve months. Online advertising includes banners, links, logos and buttons placed on the Company's Web sites and sponsorship of a particular area of the Web sites. Revenue is recognized ratably over the period in which the advertising is displayed, when the collectibility is reasonably assured. For multiple element contracts, the contract value is allocated among specific services provided and revenue is recognized in the period the services are performed. In estimating the fair value of individual services provided, the Company makes estimates based on the value of similar services provided to our customers using average sell rates for the period.

Revenues from barter transactions are recognized during the period in which the advertisements are displayed on the Company's Web sites. Barter transactions are recorded at the lower of the fair value of the goods or services received or the fair value of the advertisement given, provided the fair value of the transactions can be reliably measured. The Company has not recorded any revenues from advertising barter transactions.

Deferred revenue represents payments made from customers prior to the recognition of revenue or the provision of services.

For all advertising services, revenue is only recognized provided that no significant Company obligations remain at the end of the period.

ii) Non-advertising revenues

Non-advertising revenues are derived from e-subscription fees, e-commerce services, and e-technology services. E-subscriptions are derived principally from providing value added short messaging services such as alumni club, dating and friends matching, email, ring-tone and logo downloads and various other related products to mobile phone users. The Company contracts with third party mobile operators for certain services related to e-subscriptions transmitted to the its users and records the fee charged by third party mobile phone operators as cost of revenues. E-subscriptions also include fees charged for Internet access services. E-subscription revenues are recognized in the month in which the service is performed, provided that no significant Company obligations remain.

E-commerce revenues are earned from direct sales of consumer products through the Company's Web site. Product sales, net of return allowances, are recorded when the products are shipped and title passes to customers. Outbound shipping charges to customers of \$181,000 and \$82,000 are included in revenue for the year ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

E-technology revenues from providing technology services and the sale of hardware are generally provided pursuant to short term contracts of three months or less with revenue recognized on a completed contract basis, provided that no significant Company obligations remain.

(l) Cost of revenues

i) Advertising

Advertising cost of revenues consists of compensation and related overhead costs for employees, depreciation expenses, fees for bandwidth leasing charges, content and services. Royalties paid to content providers are expensed as incurred and included as cost of revenues. Contracts with content providers generally range from three to 12 months in duration and may be terminated by either party upon notice. Most contracts provide for a guaranteed minimum fee to be paid to the content provider over a specified period of time; such minimum fixed fees are charged to expense over the period in which content is received. In addition to minimum fixed fee arrangements, certain contracts require payments to content providers based on a stated percentage, generally ranging from 15% to 50%, of the related advertising revenues generated. Such payments are expensed as incurred and included as cost of revenues.

ii) Non-advertising

E-subscription cost of revenue consists of subscription collection charges and short message transmission fees paid to third party network operators and payments to short messaging content suppliers. E-commerce cost of revenue consists of the purchase price of consumer products sold by the Company and inbound and outbound shipping charges. E-technology cost of revenue consists of employee compensation costs and related overhead, fees paid to third parties for design services and, where applicable, the cost of hardware and software.

(m) Product development

Cost incurred in the enhancement of the Company's Web site and the classification and organization of listings within Internet properties and enhancements to existing products are charged to product development expense as incurred. Material software development costs incurred during the application development stage, including the costs related to the development of the Company's Web site, are capitalized as other assets once technological feasibility has been established. Web site development costs are amortized over three years. No Web site development costs were capitalized during the three years ended December 31, 2002.

(n) Advertising expense

Advertising expense which generally represents the cost of promotions to create or stimulate a positive image of the Company or a desire to buy the Company's products and services are expensed as incurred. Advertising expenses are charged to the statements of operations when incurred. Included in sales and marketing expenses are advertising costs of \$1,667,000, \$2,208,000, and \$4,877,000 for each of the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively.

(o) Stock-based compensation

The Company accounts for stock-based employee compensation arrangements in accordance with APB No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" ("APB No. 25"), and complies with the disclosure provisions of SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation" ("SFAS No. 123"). In general, compensation cost under APB No. 25 is recognized based on the difference, if any, between the estimated fair value of the Company's common stock and the amount an employee must pay to acquire the stock, as determined on the date the option is granted. Total compensation cost as determined at the date of option grant is recorded in Shareholders' Equity as Additional Paid-in-Capital with an offsetting entry to Deferred Compensation. Deferred Compensation is amortized on an accelerated basis and charged to expense in accordance with FASB Interpretation No. 28 ("FIN 28") over the vesting period of the underlying options, generally ranging from one to four years.

(p) Income taxes

Income taxes are accounted for using an asset and liability approach which requires the recognition of income taxes payable or refundable for the current year and deferred tax liabilities and assets for the future tax

consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements or tax returns. The measurement of deferred tax assets is reduced, if necessary, by the amount of any tax benefits that, based on available evidence, are not expected to be realized. As the Company has incurred losses since inception, no provision for income taxes has been made.

(q) Net loss per share

The basic net loss per share is computed by dividing the net loss attributable to common stockholders for the period by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted net loss per share is computed by dividing the net loss for the period by the weighted average number of common and common equivalent shares outstanding during the period. Common equivalent shares, composed of incremental common shares issuable upon the exercise of stock options and warrants and the conversion of preferred stock, are included in diluted net loss per share to the extent such shares are dilutive. The diluted net loss per share is the same as the basic net loss per share for all periods presented as all common equivalent shares have the effect of reducing the net loss per share and thus have not been included.

(r) Comprehensive income

Comprehensive income is defined as the change in equity of a company during a period from transactions and other events and circumstances excluding transactions resulting from investments from owners and distributions to owners. Accumulated other comprehensive income, as presented on the accompanying consolidated balance sheets, consists of the unrealized gains on investments in marketable debt securities and the cumulative foreign currency transaction adjustment. The following table summarized the accumulated comprehensive income as of December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively (in thousands):

	Accumulated Deficit	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment	Unrealized Gains on Marketable Debt Securities	Total Accumulated Comprehensive Loss
Balance, January 1, 2000	(5,414)	(1)	—	(5,415)
Net loss	(19,236)	—	—	(19,236)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	(1)	—	(1)
Balance, December 31, 2000	(24,650)	(2)	—	(24,652)
Net loss	(43,587)	—	—	(43,587)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	6	—	6
Balance, December 31, 2001	(68,237)	4	—	(68,233)
Net loss	(1,036)	—	—	(1,036)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	3	—	3
Unrealized gains on marketable debt securities	—	—	540	540
Balance, December 31, 2002	\$ (69,273)	\$ 7	\$ 540	\$ (68,726)

(s) Stock split

The Company's Board of Directors declared and effected a 2.6-for-one stock split and a five-for-one stock split of the issued and outstanding common stock and preferred stock on June 22, 2000 and October 15, 1999, respectively. All shares and per share amounts have been retroactively adjusted to reflect these stock splits.

(t) Reclassifications

Certain reclassifications have been made in prior years' financial statements to conform to classifications used in the current year.

(u) Recent accounting pronouncements

In June 2002, the Emerging Issues Task Force (“EITF”) modified EITF Issue 00-23, Sub-Issue 48: The Accounting Consequences of a “Cashless Exercise” Effected Through a Broker and announced that same-day sale (cashless) exercises can result in variable-plan accounting under APB Opinion No. 25 if the optionee is not considered the legal owner of the exercised shares. The Company does not believe that this announcement will have a significant impact on its financial statements.

In June 2002, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued SFAS No. 146, “Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities.” SFAS No. 146 nullifies EITF Issue No. 94-3, “Liability Recognition for Certain Employee Termination Benefits and Other Costs to Exit an Activity,” under which a liability for an exit cost was recognized at the date of an entity’s commitment to an exit plan. SFAS No. 146 requires that a liability for a cost associated with an exit or disposal activity be recognized at fair value when the liability is incurred. The provisions of this statement are effective for exit or disposal activities that are initiated after December 31, 2002. The Company does not believe that this announcement will have a significant impact on its financial statements.

In November 2002, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 45, “Guarantor’s Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others” (“FIN 45”). FIN 45 requires the recognition of a liability for certain guarantee obligations issued or modified after December 31, 2002. FIN 45 also clarifies disclosure requirements to be made by a guarantor for certain guarantees. The disclosure provisions of FIN 45 are effective for interim periods and fiscal years ending after December 15, 2002. The Company does not believe that this announcement will have a significant impact on its financial statements.

In November 2002, the EITF reached a consensus on Issue No. 00-21, “Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables” (“EITF No. 00-21”). This issue addresses how revenue arrangements with multiple deliverables should be divided into separate units of accounting and how the arrangement consideration should be allocated to the identified separate accounting units. EITF No. 00-21 is effective for fiscal periods beginning after June 15, 2003. The Company does not believe that this announcement will have a significant impact on its financial statements.

In December 2002, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 148, “Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation – Transition and Disclosure” (“SFAS 148”). SFAS 148 amends Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, “Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation” (“SFAS 123”), to provide alternative methods of transition for companies that voluntarily change to a fair value-based method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation. SFAS 148 also amends the disclosure provisions of SFAS 123. The provisions of SFAS 148 are effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2002. We have adopted the disclosure provisions of SFAS 148 as of December 31, 2002.

In January 2003, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 46, “Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, an Interpretation of APB No. 50” (“FIN 46”). FIN 46 requires certain variable interest entities to be consolidated by the primary beneficiary of the entity if the equity investors in the entity do not have the characteristics of a controlling financial interest or do not have sufficient equity at risk for the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support from other parties. FIN 46 is effective for all new variable interest entities created or acquired after January 31, 2003. For variable interest entities created or acquired prior to February 1, 2003, FIN 46 must be adopted for the first interim or annual period beginning after June 15, 2003. The Company does not believe that this announcement will have a significant impact on its financial statements.

3. Acquisition of ChinaRen, Inc.

On October 18, 2000, the Company acquired ChinaRen, Inc. (“ChinaRen”), a company incorporated in California, for total consideration of approximately \$33,016,000, consisting of 4,401,500 shares of Sohu common stock valued at \$31,581,000, stock options granted to ChinaRen employees to purchase 221,002 shares of Sohu common stock valued at \$541,000, and other acquisition costs aggregating approximately \$894,000. The acquisition has been accounted for as a purchase business combination and the results of operations from the acquisition date have been included in the Company’s consolidated financial statements.

The allocation of the purchase price is as follows (in thousands):

Current assets	\$ 1,610
Fixed assets	1,954
Other assets	414
Assembled workforce	392
Goodwill	33,226
Liabilities assumed	(4,580)
	<u>\$ 33,016</u>

The excess of purchase price over tangible and identifiable intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed was recorded as goodwill. Identifiable intangible assets and goodwill associated with the acquisition were originally amortized over their expected useful lives of two years.

The Company performed an impairment assessment of the identifiable intangibles and goodwill associated with the acquisition of ChinaRen, Inc. The assessment was performed primarily due to an overall decline in industry growth rates, negative industry and economic trends, and the sustained decline in the Company's stock price which had resulted in the Company's market capitalization falling below net book value. As a result of the Company's impairment assessment, during the year ended December 31, 2001 the Company recorded an impairment charge of approximately \$17,676,000 to write off the remaining identifiable intangibles and goodwill. The charge was based upon an estimate of future discounted cash flows over the remaining useful life of the identifiable intangibles and goodwill. The assumptions supporting the cash flows and the discount rate were determined using the Company's best estimates as of such date.

The following unaudited pro forma consolidated financial information reflects the results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2000, as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 1999, and after giving effect to purchase accounting adjustments. These pro forma results have been prepared for comparative purposes only and do not purport to be indicative of what operating results would have been had the acquisition actually taken place on January 1, 1999, and may not be indicative of future operating results.

	Year Ended December 31, 2000
	(Unaudited, in thousands)
Net Revenue	\$ 6,114
Operating loss	\$ (45,761)
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	\$ (51,141)

4. Treasury Stock

In October 2002, the Company repurchased 1.2 million shares of its common stock at a price per share of \$1.67, including brokerage commission, for total consideration of \$2.0 million. The 1.2 million shares purchased by the Company are no longer outstanding, and are being held by the Company as treasury stock. Treasury stock is accounted for under the cost method.

5. Stockholder Rights Plan

In July 2001, the Company adopted a stockholder rights plan (the "Plan"). The Plan is designed to deter coercive takeover tactics, including the accumulation of shares in the open market or through private transactions, and to prevent an acquirer from gaining control of the Company without offering a fair and adequate price and terms to all of the Company's stockholders. In general, the Plan vests stockholders of Sohu with rights to purchase preferred stock of the Company at a substantial discount to those securities' fair market value upon a person or group acquiring without the approval of the Board of Directors more than 20% of the outstanding shares of common stock of the Company. Any person or group who triggers the purchase right distribution becomes ineligible to participate in the Plan, causing substantial dilution of such person or group's holdings. The rights will expire on July 25, 2011.

6. Risks and Uncertainties

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentration of credit risk consist

primarily of cash, cash equivalents, marketable debt securities, and accounts receivable. As of December 31, 2002, substantially all of the Company's cash, cash equivalents, and marketable debt securities were held in five financial institutions in the United States, Singapore, mainland China, and Hong Kong. Accounts receivable are typically unsecured, denominated in Chinese RMB, and are derived from revenues earned from customers primarily located in the People's Republic of China. The Company performs ongoing credit evaluations of its customers and, if necessary, maintains reserves for potential credit losses. Historically, such losses have been within management's expectations. As of December 31, 2002 and 2001, no one customer accounted for 10% or more of the balance of accounts receivable.

The Company's sales and purchase and expense transactions are generally denominated in RMB and a significant portion of the Company's assets and liabilities are denominated in RMB. The RMB is not freely convertible into foreign currencies. In China, foreign exchange transactions are required by law to be transacted only by authorized financial institutions at exchange rates set by the Bank of China. Remittances in currencies other than RMB by the Company's subsidiary in China must be processed through the Bank of China or other PRC foreign exchange regulatory bodies and require certain supporting documentation in order to effect the remittance.

The Company faces certain macro-economic and regulatory risks and uncertainties relating to the Company's China operations (see Note 15).

7. Balance Sheet Components (in thousands)

	December 31, 2002	December 31, 2001
Accounts receivable, net		
Accounts receivable	\$ 2,916	\$ 3,361
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(924)	(651)
	<u>\$ 1,992</u>	<u>\$ 2,710</u>
Fixed assets, net		
Computer equipment	\$ 13,427	\$ 11,988
Office furniture and equipment	548	290
Leasehold improvements	947	531
	<u>14,922</u>	<u>12,809</u>
Accumulated depreciation	(8,910)	(4,856)
	<u>\$ 6,012</u>	<u>\$ 7,953</u>
Long-term loans to related parties, net		
Long-term loans to related parties	\$ 5,079	\$ 1,815
Less: Valuation allowance	(252)	—
	<u>\$ 4,827</u>	<u>\$ 1,815</u>
Other assets, net		
Computer software	\$ 2,158	\$ 1,919
Website development costs	131	131
Others	400	18
Accumulated amortization	(1,730)	(992)
	<u>\$ 959</u>	<u>\$ 1,076</u>
Accrued liabilities and deferred revenues		
Deferred revenues	\$ 1,622	\$ 462
Compensation and benefits	981	676
Accrued liabilities to suppliers	898	800
Taxes payable	346	322
Professional services	213	243
Others	249	300
	<u>\$ 4,309</u>	<u>\$ 2,803</u>

8. China Contribution Plan and Profit Appropriation

The Company's subsidiaries in China participate in a government-mandated multi-employer defined contribution plan pursuant to which certain retirement, medical and other welfare benefits are provided to employees. Chinese labor regulations require the Company's subsidiaries to pay to the local labor bureau a monthly contribution at a stated contribution rate based on the monthly basic compensation of qualified employees. The relevant local labor bureau is responsible for meeting all retirement benefit obligations; the Company has no further commitments beyond its monthly contribution. During the years ended 2002, 2001, and 2000, the Company contributed a total of \$936,000, \$799,000, and \$1,047,000, respectively, to these funds.

Pursuant to the laws applicable to China's Foreign Investment Enterprises, the Company's subsidiary in China must make appropriations from its after-tax profit to non-distributable reserve funds as determined by the Board of Directors. These reserve funds include a (i) general reserve, (ii) enterprise expansion fund and (iii) staff bonus and welfare fund. The general reserve fund requires annual appropriations of 10% of after-tax profit (as determined under PRC GAAP); the other fund appropriations are at the Company's discretion. Since the Company's PRC subsidiaries under PRC GAAP are in an accumulated loss position, no appropriations have been made to the general reserve fund.

9. Borrowings

In March 2000, the Company entered into a \$2,899,000 short-term loan agreement with a PRC financial institution. The loan was denominated in Renminbi and bore annual interest at 6.14%. This loan was repaid in April 2000.

10. Series B and Series B-1 Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock

Prior to the initial public offering and at January 1, 2000, there were 5,400,733 shares of Series B and Series B-1 Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock ("Series B Preferred Stock") authorized, issued, and outstanding. The following table sets forth the activity related to the Series B Preferred Stock (in thousands except share data):

	Series B		Series B-1		Total	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Balance at January 1, 2000	4,521,166	2,370	879,567	461	5,400,733	2,831
Accretion to estimated redemption value	—	205	—	40	—	245
Conversion to Common Stock	(4,521,166)	(2,575)	(879,567)	(501)	(5,400,733)	(3,076)
Balance at December 31, 2000	—	—	—	—	—	—

The holders of Series B Preferred Stock had various rights and preferences as follows:

Voting

Each holder of Series B Preferred Stock had voting rights equal to the number of shares of Common Stock then issuable upon its conversion into Common Stock. Each holder of Series B Preferred Stock generally voted together with holders of the Common Stock.

Dividends

No dividends, whether in cash, in property or in shares of the Common Stock of the Company could be declared on outstanding common shares unless the Board of Directors had declared a dividend for Series B Preferred Stock. If dividends on Series B Preferred Stock had been declared, dividends would have been allocated to shares of Series B Preferred Stock based on the equivalent number of shares of Common Stock into which such shares of Series B Preferred Stock could have been converted. The Board had declared no dividends on Series B Preferred Stock through its conversion in full into Common Stock on July 17, 2000.

Liquidation

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, either voluntary or involuntary, the

holders of Series B Preferred Stock would have been entitled to receive, prior and in preference to any distribution of any of the assets of the Company to the holders of Series A Preferred Stock, an amount equal to \$0.3979 per share of Series B Preferred Stock, plus declared but unpaid dividends. After the liquidation preference of the holders of the Series B Preferred Stock had been satisfied, the holders of the Series A Preferred Stock would have been entitled to receive an amount equal to \$0.0769 per share, plus declared but unpaid dividends. After setting apart or paying in full the preferential amounts due to the holders of Series B Preferred Stock and Series A Preferred Stock as noted above, the holders of the Series B Preferred Stock would have been entitled to receive an amount equal to \$0.1990 per share, plus declared but unpaid dividends. Had the Company's legally available assets be insufficient to satisfy the liquidation preferences, the entire amount of assets would have been distributed ratably to the holders of Series B Preferred Stock.

Conversion

Each share of Series B-1 Preferred Stock was convertible, at the option of the holder commencing from the date of issuance, into shares of Common Stock on a share for share basis.

In conjunction with the Company's initial public offering in July 2000, all 879,567 shares of Series B-1 Preferred Stock were converted into 879,567 shares of Common Stock on a share for share basis, and all 4,521,166 shares of Series B Preferred Stock were converted into 7,535,276 shares of Common Stock on a basis of one share of Series B Preferred Stock for 1.6667 shares of Common Stock.

Redemption

Prior to the conversion into Common Stock, the Series B Preferred Stock was being accreted to its estimated redemption value through charges to retained earnings; such charges totaled \$245,000 for the year ended December 31, 2000.

Warrants

In connection with the issuance of the Company's Series B Preferred Stock in 1998, the Company granted an option to purchase 6,279 shares of the Company's Series B Preferred Stock at an exercise price of \$0.398 per share. This option was exercised in 1999 and converted into Common Stock on a basis of one share of Series B Preferred Stock for 1.6667 shares of Common Stock.

11. Series C Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock

Prior to the initial public offering and at January 1, 2000, there were 4,807,101 shares of Series C Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock ("Series C Preferred Stock") authorized, and 3,846,718 issued and outstanding.

The holders of Series C Preferred Stock had various rights and preferences as follows:

Voting

Each holder of Series C Preferred Stock had voting rights equal to the number of shares of Common Stock then issuable upon its conversion into Common Stock. Each holder of Series C Preferred Stock generally voted together with holders of the Common Stock.

Dividends

No dividends, whether in cash, in property or in shares of the Common Stock of the Company could be declared on outstanding common shares unless the Board of Directors had declared a dividend for Series C Preferred Stock. If dividends on Series C Preferred Stock had been declared, dividends would have been allocated to shares of Series C Preferred Stock based on the equivalent number of shares of Common Stock into which such shares of Series C Preferred Stock could have been converted. The Board had declared no dividends on Series C Preferred Stock through its conversion in full into Common Stock on July 17, 2000.

Liquidation

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, either voluntary or involuntary, the

holders of Series C Preferred Stock would have been entitled to receive, prior and in preference to any distribution of any of the assets of the Company to the holders of the Common Stock, an amount equal to \$1.808 per share, plus declared but unpaid dividends.

Conversion

Each share of Series C Preferred Stock was convertible, at the option of the holder commencing from the date of issuance, into shares of Common Stock on a share for share basis. In conjunction with the Company's initial public offering in July 2000, all 3,846,718 shares of Series C Preferred Stock were converted into Common Stock on a share for share basis.

Redemption

Prior to the conversion into Common Stock, the Series C Preferred Stock was being accreted to its estimated redemption value through charges to retained earnings; such charges totaled \$736,000 for the year ended December 31, 2000. The redemption rights of the Series C Preferred Stock were subordinate to the Series B Preferred Stock.

12. Series D Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock

In January and February 2000, the Company entered into a Series D Preferred Stock Purchase Agreement, whereby the Company authorized and issued 2,021,989 shares of the Company's Series D Mandatorily Redeemable Convertible Preferred Stock ("Series D Preferred Stock") at an issue price of \$14.837 per share.

The holders of Series D Preferred Stock had various rights and preferences as follows:

Voting

Each holder of Series D Preferred Stock had voting rights equal to the number of shares of Common Stock then issuable upon its conversion into Common Stock. Each holder of Series D Preferred Stock generally voted together with holders of the Common Stock.

Dividends

No dividends, whether in cash, in property or in shares of the Common Stock of the Company could be declared on outstanding common shares unless the Board of Directors had declared a dividend for Series D Preferred Stock. If dividends on Series D Preferred Stock had been declared, dividends would have been allocated to Series D Preferred shares based on the equivalent number of shares of Common Stock into which such Series D Preferred Stock could have been converted. The Board had declared no dividends on Series D Preferred Stock through its conversion in full into Common Stock on July 17, 2000.

Liquidation

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, either voluntary or involuntary, the holders of Series D Preferred Stock would have been entitled to receive, prior and in preference to any distribution of any of the assets of the Company to the holders of the Common Stock, an amount equal to \$14.837 per share, plus declared but unpaid dividends.

Conversion

Each share of Series D Preferred Stock was convertible, at the option of the holder commencing from the date of issuance, into shares of Common Stock on a share for share basis. In conjunction with the Company's initial public offering in July 2000, all 2,021,989 shares of Series D Preferred Stock were converted into 2,021,989 shares of Common Stock.

Redemption

Prior to the conversion into Common Stock, the Series D Preferred Stock was being accreted to its estimated redemption value through charges to retained earnings; such charges totaled \$2,933,000 for the year ended December 31, 2000. The redemption rights of the Series D Preferred Stock were subordinate to the Series C

Preferred Stock.

Advertising contracts

During the first quarter of 2000, two persons who were purchasers of Series D Preferred Stock committed to each purchase \$1,500,000 of advertising and technical services and one person who was a purchaser of Series D Preferred Stock committed to purchase \$6,000,000 of advertising and technical services from the Company in 2000, 2001 and 2002. The detailed description of specific services to be provided under the agreements will be decided over the term of the contracts, with the individual fees for specific services to be set at rates consistent with those charged to the Company's most preferred customers. The contracts are generally terminable by either the Company or the customer where the counter party has breached the contract and where the breach is not satisfactorily cured within a specified period of time. In addition, one of the advertising contracts is terminable at the discretion of the customer during the second and third year of the contract if the Company's Web site is not ranked within the top five Web sites in China based on the level of average monthly impressions.

During the year ended December 31, 2000, the Company recognized revenue of \$433,000 under one of the \$1,500,000 advertising contracts. The remaining services and payments of \$1,067,000 pursuant to this contract were cancelled in December 2000. During the year ended December 31, 1999, the Company provided advertising services of \$178,000 to this purchaser of the Series D Preferred Stock. The Company has not performed services, recognized revenue, or received payments under any of the other advertising contracts with the purchasers of the Series D Preferred Stock and is uncertain whether payments will be received and services provided.

On April 20, 2001, the Company, Dr. Charles Zhang, and two affiliates of one of the Company's stockholders agreed to cancel Dr. Charles Zhang's July 2000 agreement to procure Sohu to purchase \$6 million of services from one such affiliate and to cancel a contract which requires the other affiliate to purchase an aggregate of \$6 million of advertising and technical services from the Company in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

13. Series A Preferred Stock

At January 1, 2000, there were 2,925,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock issued and outstanding at an issue price of \$0.077 per share.

The holders of Series A Preferred Stock had various rights and preferences as follows:

Voting

Each holder of Series A Preferred Stock had voting rights equal to the number of shares of Common Stock then issuable upon its conversion into Common Stock. Each holder of Series A Preferred Stock generally voted together with holders of the Common Stock.

Dividends

No dividends, whether in cash, in property or in shares of the capital stock of the Company could be declared for Series A Preferred Stock unless the Board of Directors had declared a dividend on outstanding Common Stock. If dividends on Series A Preferred Stock had been declared, dividends would have been allocated to shares of Series A Preferred Stock based on the equivalent number of shares of Common Stock into which such shares of Series A Preferred Stock could have been converted. The Board had declared no dividends on Series A Preferred Stock through its conversion in full into Common Stock on July 17, 2000.

Liquidation

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, either voluntary or involuntary, the holders of Series A Preferred Stock would have been entitled to receive, prior and in preference to any distribution of any of the assets or surplus funds of the Company to the holders of the Common Stock or to the holders of the Series B, B-1 and C Preferred Stock after the satisfaction of the liquidation preference indicated in Notes 10 and 11 above, an amount equal to \$0.077 per share, plus declared but unpaid dividends.

Conversion

In conjunction with the Company's initial public offering in July 2000, all 2,925,000 shares of Series A Preferred

Stock were converted into 2,925,000 shares of Common Stock on a share for share basis.

14. Segment Information

Based on the criteria established by SFAS No. 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information," the Company operates in three principal business segments. The Company does not allocate any operating costs or assets to its three non-advertising segments as management does not use this information to measure the performance of the operating segments.

Summarized information by segment for 2002, 2001 and 2000 is as follows (in thousands):

	Years Ended December 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Revenues:			
Advertising	\$ 13,852	\$ 9,245	\$ 5,844
Non-advertising:			
E-subscriptions	10,132	1,252	109
E-commerce	4,201	1,703	—
Other	544	800	—
	<u>14,877</u>	<u>3,755</u>	<u>109</u>
Total revenues	<u>28,729</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>5,953</u>
Cost of revenues:			
Advertising	5,943	6,644	5,548
Non-advertising:			
E-subscriptions	3,655	587	81
E-commerce	3,546	1,529	—
Other	280	653	—
	<u>7,481</u>	<u>2,769</u>	<u>81</u>
Total cost of revenues	<u>13,424</u>	<u>9,413</u>	<u>5,629</u>
Gross profit	<u>\$ 15,305</u>	<u>\$ 3,587</u>	<u>\$ 324</u>

15. Commitments and Contingencies

In July 2000, Dr. Charles Zhang, the Company's founder, President and Chief Executive Officer, agreed with an affiliate of one of the Company's Series D Preferred stockholders, to procure Sohu.com Inc. to purchase within a period of three years not less than \$6.0 million of services, including but not limited to, broadband, Web distribution, advertising, consultancy services and such other services, from its affiliated group companies at their then current fees and charges. As of December 31, 2002, no purchases or payments had been made under this agreement. On April 20, 2001, the Company, Dr. Charles Zhang, and two affiliates of one of the Company's stockholders agreed to cancel Dr. Charles Zhang's July 2000 agreement to procure Sohu to purchase \$6 million of services from one such affiliate and to cancel a contract which requires the other affiliate to purchase an aggregate of \$6 million of advertising and technical services from the Company in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

As of December 31, 2002, the Company had future minimum rental lease payments of \$647,000 and \$649,000 for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2004, respectively, under non-cancelable operating leases. The Company recognized \$779,000, \$698,000, and \$642,000 of rent expense for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, respectively.

The Chinese market in which the Company operates poses certain macro-economic and regulatory risks and uncertainties. These uncertainties extend to the ability of the Company to operate an Internet business, and to conduct advertising, e-commerce and e-subscription services, in the People's Republic of China. Though the People's Republic of China has, since 1978, implemented a wide range of market-oriented economic reforms, continued reforms and progress towards a full market-oriented economy are uncertain. In addition, the telecommunication, information, and media industries remain highly regulated. Restrictions are currently in place or are unclear regarding in what specific segments of these industries foreign owned entities, like the Company,

may operate. The Company's legal structure and scope of operations in China could be subjected to restrictions which could result in severe limits to the Company's ability to conduct business in the People's Republic of China.

16. Related Party Transactions

(a) Transactions with Shareholders

Pursuant to a one-year agreement that commenced in December 1999, the Company provided a link from its Web site to the Web site of a shareholder. In addition, the shareholder provided Internet content on an updated daily basis to the Company's business channel. The link allowed for certain news and other informational content to be made available to users of the Company's Internet portal site, with revenues generated from advertising placed in conjunction with the service to be allocated between both parties on a contractually agreed basis. For the year ended December 31, 2000, the Company recognized expense of \$113,000, as a result of this collaborative arrangement.

During the years ended 2002, 2001, and 2000 the Company purchased advertising of \$0, \$443,000, and \$1,943,000, respectively, from a company controlled by one of its shareholders.

(b) Transactions with Officers and Employees of the Company to finance investments in Affiliated Companies

The Company has entered into the following arrangements with Dr. Charles Zhang, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and a major Sohu shareholder, and certain employees of the Company to satisfy People's Republic of China ("PRC") regulations which prohibit or restrict foreign companies from owning or operating telecommunications, internet content, financial services and certain other businesses in China. The Company expects that it will continue to be involved in and provide additional financial support under similar arrangements in the future, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 with respect to loans to directors and executive officers.

In June 2000, the Company extended loans in the amount of \$193,000 to Dr. Charles Zhang and \$49,000 to He Jinmei, another employee of the Company, to finance their investments in Beijing Sohu Online Network Information Services, Ltd. ("Beijing Sohu"), a company incorporated in the PRC. The shareholders of Beijing Sohu have pledged their shares in Beijing Sohu as collateral for the loan. These loans are included in long term loans to related parties, bear no interest and are due in full on the earlier of demand, in 2010 or at such time as Dr. Charles Zhang or He Jinmei, as the case may be, is not an employee of the Company. A subsidiary of the Company has entered into an option agreement giving it the right, at any time, subject to PRC law, to purchase the entire ownership in Beijing Sohu from the two Beijing Sohu shareholders for \$242,000. As of December 31, 2002, the Company had recorded a valuation allowance of \$56,000 against long-term loans to related parties for cumulative losses incurred by Beijing Sohu.

Pursuant to the agreements with Beijing Sohu and the shareholders of Beijing Sohu, certain operations related to the Company's online content were transferred to Beijing Sohu in order to allow Beijing Sohu to develop and provide content to the Company for a monthly service fee, which will be subject to periodic adjustment as agreed between the parties. During the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Company paid \$145,000, \$181,000 and \$145,000, respectively, in such service fees. Because of PRC regulations which prohibit foreign companies from operating in the telecommunications industry, Beijing Sohu contracted with mobile network operators on behalf of the Company substantially all e-subscription revenues of \$10,132,000 and \$1,252,000 during the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively. At December 31, 2002 and 2001, accounts receivable from a related party represented receivables from Beijing Sohu of \$1,962,000 and \$505,000, primarily related to e-subscription revenues ultimately due from mobile network operators. Beijing Sohu also contracted with certain customers on behalf of the Company with respect to e-commerce sales in the amount of \$885,000 and \$0 for the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

In November 2001, the Company entered into a Loan and Share Pledge Agreement (the "Century Loan Agreement") with Dr. Charles Zhang, and Li Wei, another employee of the Company, for the purpose of funding an equity investment of \$4,595,000 by these two individuals in Beijing Century High-Tech Investment Co., Ltd. ("High Century"), a company incorporated in the PRC which engages in investment holding in the PRC on behalf of the Company. Pursuant to the Century Loan Agreement, the Company has extended total loans amounting to \$4,595,000 of which \$3,676,000 and \$919,000 were loaned to Charles Zhang and Li Wei, respectively. These loans are included in long-term loans to related parties. As of December 31, 2002, the Company had recorded a valuation allowance of \$4,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by High Century.

In January 2002, the Company entered into a Loan and Share Pledge Agreement (the “Hengda Loan Agreement”) with Li Wei for the purpose of funding an equity investment of \$242,000 by Li Wei in Beijing Hengda Yitong Internet Technology Development Co., Ltd. (“Hengda”), a company incorporated in the PRC which engages in Internet access services in the PRC on behalf of the Company. The \$242,000 investment represents a 20% interest in Hengda, with High Century holding the remaining 80% interest. These loans are included in long term loans to related parties. As of December 31, 2002, the Company had recorded a valuation allowance of \$3,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by Hengda. During the year ended December 31, 2002, the Company had no other transactions with Hengda.

The Century Loan Agreement and Hengda Loan Agreement, which are subject to PRC law, include provisions that (i) the loans can only be repaid to the Company by transferring the shares of High Century or Hengda to the Company, (ii) the shares of High Century or Hengda cannot be transferred without the approval of the Company, and (iii) the Company has the right to appoint all directors and senior management personnel of High Century and Hengda. Charles Zhang and Li Wei have pledged all of their shares in High Century and Hengda as collateral for the loans and the loans bear no interest and are due on demand after November 2003, in the case of High Century, and January 2003, in the case of Hengda, or at such time as Dr. Charles Zhang or Li Wei, as the case may be, is not an employee of the Company. The Company does not intend to request repayment of the loans as long as PRC regulations prohibit the Company from directly investing in businesses being undertaken by High Century and Hengda.

In April 2002, High Century invested \$3,080,000 in Sohu-Guolian Information Technology Co., Ltd. (“Sohu-Guolian”), a company incorporated in the PRC, for a 51% equity interest in and joint control of Sohu-Guolian. Sohu-Guolian will provide technical services to the PRC online securities trading and financial services industries. During the year ended December 31, 2002, the Company provided Sohu-Guolian with website development services amounting to \$36,000 of which \$16,000 was receivable at December 31, 2002. As of December 31, 2002, the Company had recorded a valuation allowance of \$189,000 against long-term loans to related parties for losses incurred by Sohu-Guolian.

As of December 31, 2002, payable to related parties included \$435,000 and \$1,020,000 payable to High Century and Hengda, respectively, as High Century and Hengda had transferred their unused cash to the Company. The Company may be required to repay these funds at any time.

PRC regulations currently restrict the Company from holding direct equity interests in Beijing Sohu, High Century, Hengda and Sohu-Guolian; therefore, the financial statements of these entities are not consolidated with those of the Company. As the shareholders of these entities are also officers and shareholders of the Company, these entities are related parties and, thus, transactions with these entities are disclosed in accordance with SFAS 57, “*Related Party Disclosures*.” The Company expects that it will continue to be involved in and provide financial support to these entities.

(c) Transactions with investees

In December 2000 the Company received \$962,000 of cash from an investee under an agreement with that investee to provide technical and advertising services to the investee or its affiliates in 2001. During the year ended December 31, 2001, the Company recognized advertising revenues of \$962,000 (2002: \$0) under this agreement.

17. Income Taxes

The Company is subject to taxes in the United States, the People's Republic of China, and Hong Kong. The Company's subsidiary in China is governed by the Income Tax Law of the People's Republic of China concerning Foreign Investment Enterprises and Foreign Enterprises and local income tax laws (the "PRC Income Tax Law"). Pursuant to the PRC Income Tax Law, wholly-owned foreign enterprises are subject to income tax at a statutory rate of 33% (30% State income tax plus 3% local income tax) on PRC taxable income. The Company is in a loss position in all the jurisdictions up to December 31 2002. No provision or benefit for income taxes have been provided in any periods. The following is a reconciliation between the U.S. federal statutory rate and the Company's effective tax rate:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2002	2001
U.S. federal statutory rate:	(34%)	(34%)
Foreign tax difference from U.S. rate	0%	0%
Permanent book-tax differences	5%	24%
Change in valuation allowance for deferred tax assets	29%	10%
	<u>0%</u>	<u>0%</u>

Significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities consist of the following:
(in thousands)

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2002	2001
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss carrying forwards	\$ 10,098	\$ 12,971
Investment reserve	—	340
Others	726	739
Total deferred tax assets	<u>10,824</u>	<u>14,050</u>
Valuation allowance	<u>(10,824)</u>	<u>(14,050)</u>
Net deferred tax assets	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

The Company has provided a full valuation allowance against net deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty surrounding their realization.

As of December 31, 2002, the Company had federal net operating loss ("NOL") and China NOL of approximately \$18,409,000 and \$25,271,000, respectively, available to offset future federal and Chinese income tax liabilities, respectively. The U.S. NOL will expire from 2012 to 2023 and the Chinese NOL will expire from 2005 to 2007.

Pursuant to U.S. Treasury Regulations, in 2000 the Company's Chinese subsidiaries made the entity classification elections to be treated as disregarded entities for U.S. Federal income tax purposes. Upon making the elections, the Chinese subsidiaries' income or losses would be included in the Company's U.S. Federal consolidated taxable income. As a result, approximately \$3,798,000 of the deferred tax asset balance at December 31, 2002 which is equivalent to \$11,508,000 of losses incurred by the Company's Chinese subsidiary prior to the effective date of the election is unlikely to be available to offset future income of the Company for U.S. tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company is unlikely to be able to realize the tax benefits from these losses.

18. Financial Instruments

The carrying amount of the Company's cash and cash equivalents approximates their fair value due to the short maturity of those instruments. The carrying value of receivables and payables approximated their market values based on their short-term maturities. The investments in marketable debt securities are reported at fair market value as of December 31, 2002.

19. Stock Options

The Company has adopted a stock option plan which provides for the issuance of up to 7,000,000 shares of common stock. The stock option plan allows for the grant of options qualifying as "incentive stock options" under Section 422 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and non-qualified stock options, which do not so qualify.

The following table summarizes the Company's stock option activity:

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2002		2001		2000	
	Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Exercise Price (\$)	Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Exercise Price (\$)	Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Exercise Price (\$)
Outstanding at beginning of period	4,978,073	\$ 2.42	2,739,474	\$ 5.54	1,028,682	\$ 2.30
Granted	2,318,714	1.21	3,869,876	0.87	2,072,668	7.37
Exercised	(184,784)	0.69	—	—	—	—
Canceled	(1,268,037)	2.23	(1,631,277)	3.98	(361,876)	6.79
Outstanding at end of period	5,843,966	\$ 2.04	4,978,073	\$ 2.42	2,739,474	\$ 5.54
Exercisable at end of period	2,779,529	\$ 2.34	1,319,321	\$ 3.73	692,669	\$ 2.19
	Options Outstanding at December 31, 2002			Options Exercisable at December 31, 2002		
	Number Outstanding	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life (Years)	Weighted Average Exercise Price (\$)	Number Exercisable	Weighted Average Exercise Price (\$)	
Range of Exercise Price						
\$0.04 – \$0.98	2,451,465	8.07	\$ 0.83	1,226,022	\$ 0.78	
\$1.07 – \$1.81	2,276,358	8.82	\$ 1.23	919,664	\$ 1.32	
\$2.27 – \$3.85	420,346	8.08	\$ 3.21	190,604	\$ 3.82	
\$4.19 – \$5.88	221,325	7.34	\$ 5.71	161,363	\$ 5.73	
\$6.13 – \$13	474,472	7.62	\$ 9.37	281,876	\$ 9.54	
	5,843,966			2,779,529		

Stock-based compensation. In connection with certain stock option grants during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, the Company recognized deferred stock compensation totaling \$0, \$63,000, and \$768,000, respectively, which is being amortized over the vesting periods of the related options, which generally range from two to four years. Compensation expense recognized during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000, totaled \$20,000, \$63,000, and \$629,000, respectively.

Minimum value disclosures. The Company calculated the minimum value of stock option grants on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes pricing method with the following assumptions:

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2002	2001
Risk-free interest rate	1.5-6.4%	2-6.4%
Expected life (years)	1-4	1-4
Expected dividend yield	—	—
Volatility	0-110%	0-96%
Fair value of options at grant date	\$ 0.03-\$6.56	\$ 0.03-\$6.56

Had compensation cost for the Company's stock-based compensation plan been determined based on the fair value at the grant dates for the stock option awards as prescribed by SFAS No. 123, the Company's net loss per share would have resulted in the pro forma amounts disclosed below (in thousands except per share data):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Net loss attributable to common shareholders:			
As reported	\$ (1,036)	\$ (43,587)	\$ (23,150)
Pro forma	\$ (2,065)	\$ (45,292)	\$ (24,197)
Net loss per share, basic and diluted:			
As reported	\$ (0.03)	\$ (1.22)	\$ (1.14)
Pro forma	\$ (0.06)	\$ (1.27)	\$ (1.19)

The effects of applying SFAS No. 123 methodology in this pro forma disclosure may not be indicative of future amounts. Additional stock option awards in future years are expected.

In January 2003, the Board of Directors granted options, pursuant to the Company's 2000 Stock Incentive Plan, to purchase an aggregate of 808,750 shares of Sohu common stock at an exercise price of \$7.63 per share, except for the options granted to Dr. Charles Zhang which have an exercise price of \$8.39.

20. Net Loss Per Share

Net loss per share. The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted net loss per share for the periods indicated (in thousands except per share data):

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Numerator:			
Net loss	\$ (1,036)	\$ (43,587)	\$ (19,236)
Accretion of Series B, C and D Mandatorily Redeemable Preferred Stock to redemption value	—	—	(3,914)
Net loss attributable to common stockholders	\$ (1,036)	\$ (43,587)	\$ (23,150)
Denominator:			
Shares used in computing basic and diluted net loss per share (in thousands)	35,420	35,626	20,286
Basic and diluted net loss per share attributable to common shareholders	\$ (0.03)	\$ (1.22)	\$ (1.14)
Antidilutive securities including options, warrants, and preferred shares not included in net loss per share calculation (in thousands)	1,054	231	9,957

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
3.1(4)	Sixth Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Sohu.com Inc. as filed with the Delaware Secretary of State on July 17, 2000.
3.2(3)	Amended and Restated By-Laws of Sohu.com Inc., effective July 17, 2000.
4.1(6)	Rights Agreement, dated as of July 25, 2001, between Sohu.com Inc. and The Bank of New York, as Rights Agent
10.1(5)	2000 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended.
10.2(1)	Form of Stock Option Agreement.
10.3(1)	Form of Non-Competition, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement with the Registrant's Executive Officers.
10.4(1)	English Translation of Form of Employment Agreement for Employees of Beijing ITC.
10.5(1)	Second Amended and Restated Stockholders' Voting Agreement.
10.6(1)	Third Amended and Restated Investor Rights Agreement.
10.7(1)	Technical Services Agreement between Hikari Tsushin, Inc. and Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd.
10.8(1)	Technical Services Agreement between Legend (Beijing) Limited and Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd.
10.9(1)	Technical Services Agreement between PCCW International Marketing Limited and Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd.
10.10(1)	Assets and Business Restructuring Agreement between Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd. and Beijing Sohu Online Network Information Services, Ltd.
10.11(1)	Cooperation Agreement between Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd. and Beijing Sohu Online Network Information Services Ltd.
10.12(1)	Option Agreement among Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd. and Charles Zhang and Jinmei He.
10.13(1)	Loan Agreement between Sohu.com Inc. and Charles Zhang
10.14(1)	Loan Agreement between Sohu.com Inc. and Jinmei He.
10.15(2)	Interim Loan Agreement, dated as of September 20, 2000, among Sohu.com Inc., as lender, ChinaRen, Inc. as Borrower, and Joseph Chen, Nick Yang and Yunfan Zhou, as pledgors.
10.16(2)	Agreement and Plan of Merger among Sohu.com Inc., Alpha Sub Inc. and ChinaRen, Inc. dated as of September 13, 2000.
10.17(5)	Agreement, dated as of July 12, 2000 between Charles Zhang and Pacific Century Cyberworks.
10.18(7)	Loan and Share Pledge Agreement dated November 19, 2001 among Sohu.com Inc., Dr. Charles Zhang and Li Wei
10.19(8)	Loan and Share Pledge Agreement, dated January 23, 2002, among Sohu.com Inc. and Li Wei.

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- 10.20(8) Shareholder's Agreement, dated March 16, 2002, by and between Beijing Century Hi-Tech Investment Co., Ltd. and Guolian Securities Co., Ltd. (portions of this exhibit have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment and have been filed separately with the SEC).
 - 10.21(9) Lease Agreement dated December 15, 2002 between Samsung Hong Kong Limited and Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co. Ltd.
 - 10.22(9) Employment Agreement, effective as of January 1, 2003, by and between Sohu.com Inc. and Charles Zhang
 - 10.23(9) Employment Agreement, effective as of January 1, 2003, by and between Sohu.com Inc. and Derek Palaschuk
 - 21.1(9) Subsidiaries of the registrant.
 - 23.1(9) Consent of Independent Accountants.
 - 24.1(9) Power of Attorney (included in signature page to this Form 10-K)
 - 99.1(9) Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
 - 99.2(9) Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
-
- (1) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form S-1 (File No. 333-96137).
 - (2) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on September 28, 2000.
 - (3) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 2, 2000.
 - (4) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on November 14, 2000.
 - (5) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 19, 2001.
 - (6) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed on July 30, 2001.
 - (7) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 15, 2002.
 - (8) Incorporated herein by reference to the registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2002.
 - (9) Filed herewith.

Lease Agreement

- I. Landlord: Samsung HongKong Limited (hereinafter referred to as "Party A")
 Address: Suite 3001-3, 3010-3 30/F, No. 99 Zhonghuan Center,
 Zhonghuan Queen Avenue, Hong Kong
 Tel: (00852) 28626000
 Fax: (00852) 28626484
 Registration No.: 05203811-000-06-01-9
- II. Tenant: Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd (hereinafter referred to as "Party B")
 Address: 15/F, Wing 2, Guang Hua Chang An Mansion, No. 7 Jian Guo Men Nei Avenue, Dongcheng District, Beijing
 Tel: 65102160
 Fax: 65101377
 Registration No.: Qi Du Jing No. 01198
- III. Lease Object (hereinafter referred to as "House"): Room 01, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25 and 26, F15, Guang Hua Chang An Mansion, No. 7 Jian Guo Men Nei Avenue, Dongcheng District, Beijing
- Party A agrees to lease the above House to Party B as the business premises with the building area of 2,311.68 m².
- IV. Lease Term
- 1) The lease term is thirty-six (36) months from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2004.
 - 2) Party A is entitled to claim the House and party B shall return it to party A upon the expiry of the lease term. Party B shall notify Party A three (3) months in advance of the expiry date for the renewal of the lease term.
- V. Rent
- 1) The rent shall be US\$ 14.50/ m²/month, making the total of US\$ 33,519.36/month, excluding the property management fee and other fees.
 - 2) The rent shall be paid monthly within the last three (3) working days of each month (without notice of Party A). In case of any overdue rent, Party B shall pay the demurrage penalty of 0.05% of the overdue amount. Any failure to pay the due rent in excess of thirty (30) days shall constitute automatic giving-up of the House, which shall be settled according to clause 9.2 hereto.
 - 3) The rent shall be in US dollars, but can be paid in RMB. Party B shall remit the rent by check or wire transfer to the bank account designated by Party A or its authorized representative (details below) according to the average exchange rate of the Bank of China on the date of the payment.
 RMB account: Colliers Jardine CITIC Property Management Co., Ltd
 Account No: 711021-01-824-000-25580
 Bank: CITIC Industrial Bank
 Bank address: Suite 1606 Capital Mansion, No. 6 Xinyuan Nan Road
 Chaoyang District, Beijing 100004, China
 - 4) The rent shall be fixed during the lease term.
- VI. Deposit
- 1) The deposit is equivalent to the 3-month rent, i.e. US\$ 100,558.08. Upon the execution of this Agreement, Party B shall pay up the remaining deposit prior to January 1, 2002, i.e. US\$ 7,521.25. Upon the expiry of this Agreement, Party A shall return all deposit to Party B (without interest) in case Party B gives up the renewal of this Agreement.
 - 2) In case of termination of this Agreement by Party B during the lease term, the deposit shall not be returned to Party B, to which article 9.2 shall apply.
 - 3) In case Party A fails to collect the rent on schedule or incurs any expense due to the breach of Party B, Party A is entitled to collect the overdue rent or the expenses aforesaid by deduction from the deposit, in part or as a whole, with written notice to Party B three (3) working days in advance.
 - 4) In case of the shortage of the deposit to cover the above rent or expense set out in article 6.2 and 6.3, Party B shall pay up the shortage within ten (10) days after the receipt of the notice thereof from Party A.
 - 5) Party B shall remit the deposit in US\$ by wire transfer to the US\$ account of Party A.

VII. Other Fees

- 1) Party B shall pay the property management fee of the House to the property management company as per the fee standards. In case of any adjustment of the fee during the lease term, the adjustment of the property management company shall prevail.
- 2) Party B shall pay the electricity fee, energy fee and international satellite TV fee (if any) during the lease term to any relevant authority.
- 3) Party B shall be liable to any liability arising out of failure or delay of payment of the above fees. Party B shall indemnify Party A for any loss thus incurred.

VIII. Responsibilities of Party A

- 1) Party A shall not take back the House unreasonably during the lease term. Party B is entitled to reject any such request from Party A, and claim for the deposit from Party A.
- 2) Party A shall notify Party B three (3) months in advance of any intention to transfer the House to any third party. During the lease term, in case Party B is unqualified for the legal preemption standards or gives up the preemption right, the House may be transferred to any second party other than Party B. Upon such transfer, such other party shall vest the right and obligations of the landlord.
- 3) In case the property management company of the House fails to perform the obligations as per the management agreement, Party A shall coordinate the dispute.
- 4) Party A shall provide legal formal invoices to Party B.
- 5) Party A shall furnish the legal documents evidencing its identity as the property owner.

IX. Responsibilities of Party B

- 1) Party B shall pay up the rent, deposit and fees according to article V, VI and VII of renewal agreement hereunder. Any delay of payment shall be deemed as a breach.
- 2) In case of advance giving-up of the House by Party B, Party A is entitled to terminate this Agreement and reserve all deposit. Party B shall also indemnify the rent loss of the remaining lease term thus incurred.
- 3) Without prior consent of Party A, Party B shall not transfer the House to any third party. Any unauthorized transfer shall be deemed as the breach.
- 4) Party B shall protect the House and facilities, and indemnify for any damage due to improper use.
- 5) Except for the existing decorations and facilities, Party B shall not add other facilities or decorations without the written consent of Party A and other relevant parties. Party B shall restore the House to the original condition at its own cost, and return the House to Party A upon the acceptance of the restoration.
- 6) Abide by the regulations of Guang Hua Chang An Mansion and its property management company.

X. Force Majeure

- 1) During the term of this Agreement, neither party shall be liable for any loss or performance failure arising out of the earthquake, typhoon, storm, fire, war and political riot and other force majeure events.
- 2) In case the House fails normal use due to the damage of force majeure or other uncontrollable events, Party A shall determine whether to repair or renovate within ten (10) days after the damage. Failure of determination during the period shall be deemed as no repair and re-building from the scratch, in this case Party B is entitled to terminate this Agreement. In case Party A determines to repair or re-build the House, the period for the repair or re-building shall not exceed two (2) months. Otherwise, Party B is entitled to terminate this Agreement with notice to Party A one (1) month in advance. Upon the consent of Party A, this Agreement shall terminate upon the sending of the termination notice in writing by Party B. Party B shall return the House to Party A within ten (10) days after the termination date, Party A shall return all deposit and remaining rent to Party B after settling all fees (including property management fee, water/electricity fee and telephone rate).

XI. Disputes

- 1) Any dispute failing friendly settlement shall be submitted to Beijing Arbitration Committee. The arbitration award is final.

XII. Miscellaneous

- 1) The exhibits hereto constitute an integral part of this Agreement.

- 2) Any issue uncovered here shall be settled by the parties via consultation.
- 3) This Agreement shall take effect upon the execution in two (2) copies with each party holding one (1) copy.
- 4) Additional conditions:
 - a. Party A shall lease rooms 11, 12 and 15 of F15 Guang Hua Chang An Mansion (building area of 335.79 m²) to Part B from February 14, 2002.
 - b. The rent is US\$14.5/ m²/month, i.e. US\$ 4,868.96/month (excluding property management fee and other fees), with 1-month rent-free period for refurbishing (March 1, 2002 to March 31, 2002).
 - c. The lease term is from March 1, 2002 to December 31, 2004, making a total of thirty-four (34) months.

- d. The deposit for rooms 11, 12 and 15 of F15 Guang Hua Chang An Mansion is equal to 3-month rents, i.e. US\$ 14,606.88. Party B shall pay up the deposit prior to March 1, 2002. Party A shall return all deposit to Party B (without interest) in case Party B gives up the renewal of the lease term.
- e. Other lease terms of rooms 1511, 1512 and 1515 shall be identical with those of the House.
- f. Party B shall submit the refurbishing plan to the property management company for approval in advance of reasonable period (details refer to the Refurbishing Regulations of the company). Party B shall submit the refurbishing deposit (if any) and non-refundable review fee, soil fee or other fee (if any) together with the design map to the management company.
- g. Any refurbishing and decoration of the rented rooms are subject to the approval of Party A or the property management company and relevant parties. Party B shall be liable for any fee and loss arising out of the modification or damage to the in-house facilities and structures in the refurbishing by Party B. Party B shall abide by the Refurbishing Regulations in the refurbishing of the rented rooms.

XIII. List of Exhibits

Break-up payment:

- 1) Remaining deposit of the ten rooms:
US\$ 7,521.75, remitted to Hong Kong US\$ account prior to January 1, 2002.
- 2) Deposit of rooms 1511, 1512 and 1515
US\$ 14,606.88, remitted to Hong Kong US\$ account prior to March 1, 2002.
- 3) US\$ account:
Account: Samsung Hong Kong Limited
Account No.: 08081158
Bank: Citibank N.A.
Bank address: 49/F, Citibank Tower, Citibank Plaza, 3 Garden Road, Central,
Hong Kong

This Agreement is signed on December 15, 2001.

Party A: Samsung Hong Kong Limited (Stamped)

Party B: Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd (Stamped)

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT, effective as of January 1, 2003, by and between Sohu.com Inc., a Delaware corporation, and Charles Zhang, an individual (the "Employee").

1. Definitions. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined in the text below will have the meanings ascribed thereto on Annex 1.
2. Employment; Duties.
 - (a) The Company agrees to employ the Employee in the capacity and with such responsibilities as are generally set forth on Annex 2.
 - (b) The Employee hereby agrees to devote his or her full time and best efforts in such capacities as are set forth on Annex 2 on the terms and conditions set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Employee may engage in other activities, such as activities involving professional, charitable, educational, religious and similar types of organizations, provided that that the Employee complies with the Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement attached hereto as Annex 3 (the "Employee Obligations Agreement") and such other activities do not interfere with or prohibit the performance of the Employee's duties under this Agreement, or conflict in any material way with the business of the Company or of its subsidiaries and affiliates.
 - (c) The Employee will use best efforts during the Term to ensure that the Company's business and those of its subsidiaries and affiliates are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations of all jurisdictions in which such businesses are conducted.
3. Compensation.
 - (a) Base Annual Income. During the Term, the Company will pay the Employee an annual base salary as set forth on Annex 2, payable monthly pursuant to the Company's normal payroll practices.
 - (b) Discretionary Bonus. During the Term, the Company, in its sole discretion, may award to the Employee an annual bonus based on the Employee's performance and other factors deemed relevant by the Company's Board of Directors.
 - (c) Stock Options. The Employee will be eligible to participate in any stock option or other incentive programs available to officers or employees of the Company.
 - (d) Reimbursement of Expenses. The Company will reimburse the Employee for reasonable expenses incurred by the Employee in the course of, and necessary in connection with, the performance by the Employee of his duties to the Company, provided that such expenses are substantiated in accordance with the Company's policies.
4. Other Employee Benefits.
 - (a) Vacation; Sick Leave. The Employee will be entitled to such number of weeks of paid vacation each year as are set forth on Annex 2, the taking of which must be coordinated with the Employee's supervisor in accordance with the Company's standard vacation policy. Unless otherwise approved by the Company's Board of Directors, vacation that is not used in a particular year may only be carried forward to subsequent years in accordance with the Company's policies in effect from time to time. The Employee will be eligible for sick leave in accordance with the Company's policies in effect from time to time.
 - (b) Healthcare Plan. The Company will arrange for membership in the Company's group healthcare plan for the Employee, the Employee's spouse and the Employee's children under 18 years old, in accordance with the Company's standard policies from time to time with respect to health insurance and in accordance with the rules established for individual participation in such plan and under applicable law.

- (c) Life and Disability Insurance. The Company will provide term life and disability insurance payable to the Employee, in each case in an amount up to a maximum of one times the Employee's base salary in effect from time to time, provided however, that such amount will be reduced by the amount of any life insurance or death or disability benefit coverage, as applicable, that is provided to the Employee under any other benefit plans or arrangements of the Company. Such policies will be in accordance with the Company's standard policies from time to time with respect to such insurance and the rules established for individual participation in such plans and under applicable law.
- (d) Other Benefits. Pursuant to the Company's policies in effect from time to time and the applicable plan rules, the Employee will be eligible to participate in the other employee benefit plans of general application, which may include, without limitation, housing allowance or reimbursement, tuition fees for the Employee's children at an international level school and tax equalization and which, in any event, shall include the benefits at the levels set forth on Annex 2.

5. Certain Representations, Warranties and Covenants of the Employee.

- (a) Related Company Positions. The Employee agrees that the Employee and members of the Employee's immediate family will not have any financial interest directly or indirectly (including through any entity in which the Employee or any member of the Employee's immediate family has a position or financial interest) in any transactions with the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof unless all such transactions, prior to being entered into, have been disclosed to the Board of Directors and approved by a majority of the independent members of the Board of Directors and comply with all other Company policies and applicable law as may be in effect from time to time. The Employee also agrees that he or she will inform the Board of Directors of the Company of any transactions involving the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates in which senior officers, including but not limited to the Employee, or their immediate family members have a financial interest.
- (b) Discounts, Rebates or Commissions. Unless expressly permitted by written policies and procedures of the Company in effect from time to time that may be applicable to the Employee, neither the Employee nor any immediate family member will be entitled to receive or obtain directly or indirectly any discount, rebate or commission in respect of any sale or purchase of goods or services effected or other business transacted (whether or not by the Employee) by or on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates, and if the Employee or any immediate family member (or any firm or company in which the Employee or any immediate family member is interested) obtains any such discount, rebate or commission, the Employee will pay to the Company an amount equal to the amount so received (or the proportionate amount received by any such firm or company to the extent of the Employee's or family member's interest therein).

6. Term; Termination.

- (a) Unless sooner terminated pursuant to the provisions of this Section 6, the term of this Agreement (the "Term") will commence on the date hereof and end on December 31, 2005.
- (b) Voluntary Termination by the Employee. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Employee may voluntarily Terminate this Agreement by providing the Company with ninety (90) days' advance written notice ("Voluntary Termination"), in which case, the Employee will not be entitled to receive payment of any severance benefits or other amounts by reason of the Termination other than accrued salary and vacation through the date of the Termination. The Employee's right to all other benefits will terminate as of the date of Termination, other than any continuation required by applicable law. Without limiting the foregoing, if, in connection with a Change in Control, the surviving entity or successor to Sohu's business offers the Employee employment on substantially equivalent terms to those set forth in this Agreement and such offer is not accepted by the Employee, the refusal by the Employee to accept such offer and the subsequent termination of the Employee's employment by the Company shall be deemed to be a voluntary termination of employment by the Employee and shall not be treated as a termination by the Company without Cause.
- (c) Termination by the Company for Cause. Notwithstanding anything herein

to the contrary, the Company may Terminate this Agreement for Cause by written notice to the Employee, effective immediately upon the delivery of such notice. In such case, the Employee will not be entitled to receive payment of any severance benefits or other amounts by reason of the Termination other than accrued salary and vacation through the date of the Termination. The Employee's right to all other benefits will terminate, other than any continuation required by applicable law.

- (d) Termination by the Employee with Good Reason or Termination by the Company without Cause. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Employee may Terminate this Agreement for Good Reason, and the Company may Terminate this Agreement without Cause, in either case upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice by the party Terminating this Agreement to the other party and the Termination shall be effective as of the expiration of such thirty (30) day period. If the Employee Terminates with Good Reason or the Company Terminates without Cause, the Employee will be entitled to continue to receive payment of severance benefits equal to the Employee's monthly base salary in effect on the date of Termination for the shorter of (i) six (6) months and (ii) the remainder of the Term of this Agreement (the "Severance Period"), provided that the Employee complies with the Employee Obligations Agreement during the Severance Period and executes a release agreement in the form requested by the Company at the time of such Termination that releases the Company from any and all claims arising from or related to the employment relationship and/or such Termination. Such payments will be made ratably over the Severance Period according to the Company's standard payroll schedule. The Employee will also receive payment of the bonus for the remainder of the year of the Termination, but only to the extent that the bonus would have been earned had the Employee continued in employment through the end of such year, as determined in good faith by the Company's CEO, Board of Directors or its Compensation Committee based on the specific corporate and individual performance targets established for such fiscal year, and only to the extent that bonuses are paid for such fiscal year to other similarly situated employees. Health insurance benefits with the same coverage provided to the Employee prior to the Termination (e.g., medical, dental, optical, mental health) and in all other material respects comparable to those in place immediately prior to the Termination will be provided at the Company's expense during the Severance Period. The Company will also continue to carry the Employee on its Directors and Officers insurance policy for six (6) years following the Date of Termination at the Company's expense with respect to insurable events which occurred during the Employee's term as a director or officer of the Company, with such coverage being at least comparable to that in effect immediately prior to the Termination Date; provided, however, that (i) such terms, conditions and exceptions will not be, in the aggregate, materially less favorable to the Employee than those in effect on the Termination Date and (ii) if the aggregate annual premiums for such insurance at any time during such period exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the per annum rate of premium currently paid by the Company for such insurance, then the Company will provide the maximum coverage that will then be available at an annual premium equal to two hundred percent (200%) of such rate.
- (e) Termination by Reason of Death or Disability. A Termination of the Employee's employment by reason of death or Disability shall not be deemed to be a Termination by the Company (for or without Cause) or by the Employee (for or without Good Reason). In the event that the Employee's employment with the Company Terminates as a result of the Employee's death or Disability, the Employee or the Employee's estate or representative, as applicable, will receive all accrued salary and accrued vacation as of the date of the Employee's death or Disability and any other benefits payable under the Company's then existing benefit plans and policies in accordance with such plans and policies in effect on the date of death or Disability and in accordance with applicable law. In addition, the Employee or the Employee's estate or representative, as applicable, will receive the bonus for the year in which the death or Disability occurs to the extent that a bonus would have been earned had the Employee continued in employment through the end of such year, as determined in good faith by the Company's CEO, Board of Directors or its Compensation Committee based on the specific corporate and individual performance targets established for such fiscal year, and only to the extent that bonuses are paid for such fiscal year to other similarly situated employees.
- (f) Misconduct After Termination of Employment. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything herein the contrary, if the Employee after the termination of his or her employment violates or fails to fully comply with the Employee Obligations Agreement, thereafter (1) the Employee shall not be entitled to any payments from the Company, (2) any insurance or other benefits that have continued shall terminate immediately, (3) the Employee shall promptly reimburse to the Company all amounts that have been paid to the Employee pursuant to this Section 6; and (4) if the Employee would not, in the absence of such violation or failure to comply, have been entitled to severance

payments from the Company equal to at least six (6) months' base salary, pay to the Company an amount equal to the difference between six (6) months' base salary and the amount of severance pay measured by base salary reimbursed to the Company by the Employee pursuant to clause 3 of this sentence.

7. Option-Related Provisions.

- (a) Termination by the Company Without Cause after a Change in Control. If Company Terminates this Agreement without Cause within twelve (12) months following a Change in Control, the vesting and exercisability of each of the Employee's outstanding stock options or other stock-based incentive awards ("Awards") will accelerate such that the Award will become fully vested and exercisable upon the effectiveness of the Termination, and any repurchase right of the Company with respect to shares of stock issued upon exercise of the Award will completely lapse, in each case subject to paragraph (c) below ("Forfeiture of Options for Misconduct").
- (b) Termination other than by the Company Without Cause after a Change in Control. If the Employee's employment with the Company Terminates for any reason, unless the Company Terminates this Agreement without Cause within twelve (12) months following a Change in Control, the vesting and exercisability of each of the Employee's outstanding Awards shall cease upon the effectiveness of the Termination, such that any unvested Award shall be cancelled.

(c) Forfeiture of Options for Misconduct. If the Employee fails to comply with the terms of this Agreement, the Employee Obligations Agreement, or the written policies and procedures of the Company, as the same may be amended from time to time, or acts against the specific instructions of the Board of Directors of the Company or if this Agreement is terminated by the Company for Cause (each a "Penalty Breach"), the Employee will forfeit any Awards that have been granted to him or her or to which the Employee may be entitled, whether the same are then vested or not, and the same shall thereafter not be exercisable at all, and all shares of common stock of the Company, if any, purchased by the Employee pursuant to the exercise of Awards and still then owned by the Employee may be repurchased by the Company, at its sole discretion, at the price paid by the Employee for such shares of common stock. The terms of all outstanding option grants are hereby amended to conform with this provision.

8. Employee Obligations Agreement. By signing this Agreement, the Employee hereby agrees to execute and deliver to the Company the Employee Obligations Agreement, and such execution and delivery shall be a condition to the Employee's entitlement to his or her rights under this Agreement.

9. Governing Law. This Agreement will be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware if the dispute is resolved therein, and in accordance with the laws of the People's Republic of China ("China") if the dispute is resolved therein or in any other jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware, in each case exclusive of such jurisdiction's principles of conflicts of law. If, under the applicable law, any portion of this Agreement is at any time deemed to be in conflict with any applicable statute, rule, regulation or ordinance, such portion will be deemed to be modified or altered to conform thereto or, if that is not possible, to be omitted from this Agreement; the invalidity of any such portion will not affect the force, effect and validity of the remaining portion hereof.

10. Notices. All notices, requests and other communications under this Agreement will be in writing (including facsimile or similar writing and express mail or courier delivery or in person delivery, but excluding ordinary mail delivery) and will be given to the address stated below:

(a) if to the Employee, to the address or facsimile number that is on file with the Company from time to time, as may be updated by the Employee;

(b) if to the Company:

Sohu.com Inc.
7 Jianguomennei Avenue
Suite 1519, Tower 2
Bright China Chang An Building
Beijing 100005
People's Republic of China

Attention: Derek Palaschuk
Chief Financial Officer

fax: (86-10) 6510-1377

with a copy to:

Goulston & Storrs

400 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02110

Attention: Timothy B. Bancroft

fax: (617) 574-4112

or to such other address or facsimile number as either party may hereafter specify for the purpose by written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this Section 10. All such notices, requests and other communications will be deemed received: (i) if given by facsimile transmission, when transmitted to the facsimile number specified in this Section 10 if confirmation of receipt is received; (ii) if given by express mail or courier delivery, five (5) days after sent; and (iii) if given in person, when delivered.

11. Miscellaneous.

- (a) Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the Company and the Employee relating to the subject matter hereof and supersedes and cancels all prior and contemporaneous written and oral agreements and understandings with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. No agreements or representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, with respect to the subject matter hereof have been made by either party which are not set forth expressly in this Agreement.
- (b) Modification; Waiver. No provision of this Agreement may be modified, waived or discharged unless modification, waiver or discharge is agreed to in writing signed by the Employee and such officer of the Company as may be specifically designated by its Board of Directors. No waiver by either party at any time of any breach by the other party of, or compliance with, any condition or provision of this Agreement to be performed by such other party will be deemed a waiver of similar or dissimilar provisions or conditions at the same or at any prior or subsequent time.
- (c) Successors; Binding Agreement. This Agreement will be binding upon and will inure to the benefit of the Employee, the Employee's heirs, executors, administrators and beneficiaries, and the Company and its successors (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise), subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- (d) Withholding Taxes. All amounts payable to the Employee under this Agreement will be subject to applicable withholding of income, wage and other taxes to the extent required by applicable law.
- (e) Validity. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or provisions of this Agreement will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement, which will remain in full force and effect.
- (f) Language. This Agreement is written in the English language only. The English language also will be the controlling language for all future communications between the parties hereto concerning this Agreement.
- (g) Counterparts. This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, with the same effect as if the signatures thereto and hereto were upon the same instrument.

12. Dispute Resolution. Either party may bring a legal action arising out of, or relating to this Agreement in any court of the State of Delaware in the United States of America and each party hereby expressly and irrevocably waives any claim or defense in any action or proceeding brought in said jurisdictions based on any alleged lack of personal jurisdiction, improper venue, forum non conveniens, or any similar basis. Except as relates to the enforcement of the Employee Obligations Agreement (Section 8(b) of which provides that the party initiating a claim may bring such claim in the courts of either the State of Delaware or in the courts of China, at such party's option), any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement may also be submitted to arbitration administered by the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC"). The award rendered in such an arbitration proceeding will be final and binding and judgment on the award rendered may be entered in any court having jurisdiction over the parties. Such arbitration shall be held in Hong Kong and shall be conducted in accordance with the ICC International Arbitration Rules, except as may be modified by the following:

- (a) The number of arbitrators will be three, one of whom will be appointed by the party asserting a claim against the other party or parties, one of whom will be appointed by the party or parties (acting together), as the case may be, against whom a claim has been asserted, and the third of whom will be selected by mutual agreement, if possible, within thirty days after the selection of the second arbitrator.
- (b) The language of the arbitration will be conducted in the English language and any foreign-language documents presented at such arbitration will be accompanied by an English translation thereof that shall be prepared at the expense of the party seeking to present such document.
- (c) Any award of the arbitrators (i) will be in writing, (ii) will state

the reasons upon which such award is based and (iii) may include an award of costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements.

- (d) The arbitrators will have no authority to award punitive damages or any other damages not measured by the prevailing party's actual damages, and may not, in any event, make any ruling, finding or award that does not conform to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- (e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any party may apply to any court having jurisdiction over the parties to obtain injunctive relief in order to maintain the status quo until such time as an arbitration award may be rendered or the dispute, controversy or claim may be otherwise resolved.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of March 21, 2003 and effective January 1, 2003.

Signature of Employee:

Sohu.com Inc.

/s/ Charles Zhang

By: /s/ Derek Palaschuk

Name: Derek Palaschuk
Title: Chief Financial
Officer

Printed name of employee:

Charles Zhang

Certain Definitions

"Cause" means:

- (i) willful misconduct or gross negligence by the Employee, or any willful or grossly negligent omission to perform any act, resulting in injury to the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof;
- (ii) misconduct or negligence of the Employee that results in gain or personal enrichment of the Employee to the detriment of the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof;
- (iii) breach of any of the Employee's agreements with the Company, including those set forth herein and in the Employee Obligations Agreement, and including, but not limited to, the repeated failure to perform substantially the Employee's duties to the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof, excessive absenteeism or dishonesty;
- (iv) any attempt by the Employee to assign or delegate this Agreement or any of the rights, duties, responsibilities, privileges or obligations hereunder without the prior consent of the Company (except in respect of any delegation by the Employee of his employment duties hereunder to other employees of the Company in accordance with its usual business practice);
- (v) the Employee's indictment or conviction for, or confession of, a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude under the laws of the United States or any State thereof, or under the laws of China, or Hong Kong;
- (vi) declaration by a court that the Employee is insane or incompetent to manage his business affairs;
- (vii) habitual drug or alcohol abuse which materially impairs the Employee's ability to perform his duties; or
- (viii) filing of any petition or other proceeding seeking to find the Employee bankrupt or insolvent.

"Change in Control" means the occurrence of any of the following events:

- (i) any person (within the meaning of Section 13(d) or Section 14(d)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) other than the Company, any trustee or other fiduciary holding securities under an employee benefit plan of the Company or any corporation owned, directly or indirectly, by the stockholders of the Company in substantially the same proportion as their ownership of stock of the Company, becomes the direct or beneficial owner of securities representing fifty percent (50%) or more of the combined voting power of the Company's then-outstanding securities;
- (ii) during any period of two (2) consecutive years after the date of this Agreement, individuals who at the beginning of such period constitute the Board of Directors of the Company, and all new directors (other than directors designated by a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company to effect a transaction described in (i), (iii), or (iv) of this definition) whose election or nomination to the Board was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then in office, cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the members of the Board;
- (iii) the effective date of a merger or consolidation of the Company with any other entity, other than a merger or consolidation which would result in the voting securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior to such merger or consolidation continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into voting securities of the surviving entity) more than 50% of the combined voting power of the voting securities of the surviving entity outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation and with the power to elect at least a majority of the board of directors or other governing body of such surviving entity;
- (iv) the complete liquidation of the Company or the sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all of the Company's assets; or

- (v) there occurs any other event of a nature that would be required to be reported in response to Item 6(e) of Schedule 14A of Regulation 14A (or a response to any similar item on any similar schedule or form) promulgated under the Exchange Act (as defined below), whether or not the Company is then subject to such reporting requirement.

"Company" means Sohu.com Inc and, unless the context suggests to the contrary, all of its subsidiaries and related companies.

"Disability" means the Employee becomes physically or mentally impaired to an extent which renders him or her unable to perform the essential functions of his or her job, with or without reasonable accommodation, for a period of six consecutive months, or an aggregate of nine months in any two year period.

"Good Reason" means the occurrence of any of the following events without the Employee's express written consent, provided that the Employee has given notice to the Company of such event and the Company has not remedied the problem within fifteen (15) days:

- (i) any significant change in the duties and responsibilities of the Employee inconsistent in any material and adverse respect with the Employee's title and position (including status, officer positions and reporting requirements), authority, duties or responsibilities as contemplated by Annex 2 to this Agreement. For the purposes of this Agreement, because of the evolving nature of the Employer's business, the Company's changing of Employee's reporting relationships and department(s) will not be considered a significant change in duties and responsibilities;
- (ii) any material breach by the Company of this Agreement, including without limitation any reduction of the Employee's base salary or the Company's failure to pay to the Employee any portion of the Employee's compensation; or
- (iii) the failure, in the event of a Change in Control in which the Company is not the surviving entity, of the surviving entity or the successor to the Company's business to assume this Agreement pursuant to its terms or to offer the Employee employment on substantially equivalent terms to those set forth in this Agreement.

"Termination" (and any similar, capitalized use of the term, such as "Terminate") means, according to the context, the termination of this Agreement or the Employee's ceasing to render employment services.

Particular Terms of Employee's Employment

Title(s): Chief Executive Officer

Reporting Requirement: The Employee will report to the Company's Board of Directors.

Responsibilities: Such duties and responsibilities as are ordinarily associated with the Employee's title(s) in a United States publicly-traded corporation and such other duties as may be specified by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Base Salary: US\$165,000 per year

of Weeks of Paid Vacation per Year: Three (3)

Other Benefits:

Monthly housing allowance or reimbursement after tax of US \$3,000 per month, monthly car allowance of \$120 per month, tax equalization on salary and bonus to 15%, health, life and disability insurance and tuition fees for the Employee's children as per company policy and bonus as specifically approved each year.

FORM OF EMPLOYEE NON-COMPETITION, NON-SOLICITATION,
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND WORK PRODUCT AGREEMENT

In consideration of my employment and the compensation paid to me by Sohu.com Inc., a Delaware corporation, or a subsidiary or other affiliate or related company thereof (Sohu.com Inc. or any such subsidiary or related company or other affiliate referred to herein individually and collectively as "SOHU"), and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, I agree as follows:

1. **Non-Competition.** During my employment with SOHU and continuing after the termination of my employment for the longer of (i) one year after the termination of my employment with SOHU for any reason and (ii) such period of time as SOHU is paying to me any severance benefits, (the "Noncompete Period"), I will not, on my own behalf, or as owner, manager, stockholder (other than as stockholder of less than 2% of the outstanding stock of a company that is publicly traded or listed on a stock exchange), consultant, director, officer or employee of or in any other manner connected with any business entity, participate or be involved in any Competitor without the prior written authorization of SOHU. "Competitor" means any business of the type and character of business in which SOHU engages or proposes to engage and may include, without limitation, an individual, company, enterprise, partnership enterprise, government office, committee, social organization or other organization that, in any event, produces, distributes or provides the same or substantially similar kind of product or service as SOHU. On the date of this Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement (this "Agreement"), "Competitor" includes without limitation: Sina.com, Yahoo Inc., Tom.com, Netease.com Inc., Linktone, 263.com, AOL Time Warner Inc., JOYO and Dang Dang.
2. **Nonsolicitation.** During the Noncompete Period, I will not, either for my own account or for the account of any other person: (i) solicit, induce, attempt to hire, or hire any employee or contractor of SOHU or any other person who may have been employed or engaged by SOHU during the term of my employment with SOHU unless that person has not worked with SOHU within the six months following my last day of employment with SOHU; (ii) solicit business or relationship in competition with SOHU from any of SOHU's customers, suppliers or partners or any other entity with which SOHU does business; (iii) assist in such hiring or solicitation by any other person or business entity or encourage any such employee to terminate his or her employment with SOHU; or (iv) encourage any such customer, supplier or partner or any other entity to terminate its relationship with SOHU.
3. **Confidential Information.**
 - (a) While employed by SOHU and indefinitely thereafter, I will not, directly or indirectly, use any Confidential Information (as hereinafter defined) other than pursuant to my employment by and for the benefit of SOHU, or disclose any such Confidential Information to anyone outside of SOHU or to anyone within SOHU who has not been authorized to receive such information, except as directed in writing by an authorized representative of SOHU.
 - (b) "Confidential Information" means all trade secrets, proprietary information, and other data and information, in any form, belonging to SOHU or any of their respective clients, customers, consultants, licensees or affiliates that is held in confidence by SOHU. Confidential Information includes, but is not limited to computer software, the structure of SOHU's online directories and search engines, business plans and arrangements, customer lists, marketing materials, financial information, research, and any other information identified or treated as confidential by SOHU or any of their respective clients, customer, consultants, licensees or affiliates. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Confidential Information does not include information which SOHU has voluntarily disclosed to the public without restriction, or which is otherwise known to the public at large.
4. **Rights in Work Product.**
 - (a) I agree that all Work Product (as hereinafter defined) will be the sole property of SOHU. I agree that all Work Product that constitutes original works of authorship protectable by copyright are "works made for hire," as that term is defined in the United States Copyright Act and, therefore, the property of SOHU. I agree to waive, and hereby waive and irrevocably and exclusively assign to SOHU, all right, title and interest I may have in or to any other Work Product and, to the

extent that such rights may not be waived or assigned, I agree not to assert such rights against SOHU or its licensees (and sublicensees), successors or assigns.

(b) I agree to promptly disclose all Work Product to the appropriate individuals in SOHU as such Work Product is created in accordance with the requirements of my job and as directed by SOHU.

(c) "Work Product" means any and all inventions, improvements, developments, concepts, ideas, expressions, processes, prototypes, plans, drawings, designs, models, formulations, specifications, methods, techniques, shop-practices, discoveries, innovations, creations, technologies, formulas, algorithms, data, computer databases, reports, laboratory notebooks, papers, writings, photographs, source and object codes, software programs, other works of authorship, and know-how and show-how, or parts thereof conceived, developed, or otherwise made by me alone or jointly with others (i) during the period of my employment with SOHU or (ii) during the six month period next succeeding the termination of my employment with SOHU if the same in any way relates to the present or proposed products, programs or services of SOHU or to tasks assigned to me during the course of my employment, whether or not patentable or subject to copyright or trademark protection, whether or not reduced to tangible form or reduced to practice, whether or not made during my regular working hours, and whether or not made on SOHU premises.

5. Employee's Prior Obligations. I hereby certify I have no continuing obligation to any previous employer or other person or entity which requires me not to disclose any information to SOHU.

6. Employee's Obligation to Cooperate. At any time during my employment with SOHU and thereafter upon the request of SOHU, I will execute all documents and perform all lawful acts that SOHU considers necessary or advisable to secure its rights hereunder and to carry out the intent of this Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I agree to render to SOHU or its nominee all reasonable assistance as may be required:

- (a) In the prosecution or applications for letters patent, foreign and domestic, or re-issues, extensions and continuations thereof;
- (b) In the prosecution or defense of interferences which may be declared involving any of said applications or patents;
- (c) In any administrative proceeding or litigation in which SOHU may be involved relating to any Work Product; and
- (d) In the execution of documents and the taking of all other lawful acts which SOHU considers necessary or advisable in creating and protecting its copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret and other proprietary rights in any Work Product.

The reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by me in rendering such assistance at the request of SOHU will be reimbursed by SOHU. If I am no longer an employee of SOHU at the time I render such assistance, SOHU will pay me a reasonable fee for my time.

7. Termination; Return of SOHU Property. Upon the termination of my employment with SOHU for any reason, or at any time upon SOHU's request, I will return to SOHU all Work Product and Confidential Information and notes, memoranda, records, customer lists, proposals, business plans and other documents, computer software, materials, tools, equipment and other property in my possession or under my control, relating to any work done for SOHU, or otherwise belonging to SOHU, it being acknowledged that all such items are the sole property of SOHU. Further, before obtaining my final paycheck, I agree to sign a certificate stating the following:

"Termination Certificate

This is to certify that I do not have in my possession or custody, nor have I failed to return, any Work Product (as defined in the Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement between me and Sohu.com Inc. ("SOHU")) or any notes, memoranda, records, customer lists, proposals, business plans or other documents or any computer software, materials, tools, equipment or other property (or copies of any of the foregoing) belonging to SOHU."

8. General Provisions.

(a) This Agreement contains the entire agreement between me and SOHU with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements and understandings related to the subject matter hereof, whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be

modified except by written agreement signed by SOHU and me.

- (b) This Agreement will be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Delaware, U.S.A. if the dispute is resolved therein, and in accordance with the laws of the People's Republic of China ("China") if the dispute is resolved therein or in any other jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware, in either case without giving effect to the conflicts of laws rules of such jurisdiction. I consent to jurisdiction and venue in any court in the State of Delaware or any other country having jurisdiction over me for the purposes of any action relating to or arising out of this Agreement or any breach or alleged breach thereof, and to service of process in any such action by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. Without limiting the foregoing, I specifically consent to jurisdiction and venue in any court in China for the purposes of any action relating to or arising out of this Agreement or any breach or alleged breach thereof that occurs in whole or in part in China.
- (c) In the event that any provision of this Agreement will be determined by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable by reason of its extending for too great a period of time, over too large a geographic area, over too great a range of activities, it will be interpreted to extend only over the maximum period of time, geographic area or range of activities as to which it may be enforceable.
- (d) If, after application of paragraph (c) above, any provision of this Agreement will be determined to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality and enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement will not be affected thereby. Any invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision of this Agreement will be severed, and after any such severance, all other provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect.
- (e) SOHU and I agree that either of us may waive or fail to enforce violations of any part of this Agreement without waiving the right in the future to insist on strict compliance with all or parts of this Agreement.
- (f) My obligations under this Agreement will survive the termination of my employment with SOHU regardless of the manner of or reasons for such termination, and regardless of whether such termination constitutes a breach of any other agreement I may have with SOHU. My obligations under this Agreement will be binding upon my heirs, executors and administrators, and the provisions of this Agreement will inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of SOHU.
- (g) I agree and acknowledge that the rights and obligations set forth in this Agreement are of a unique and special nature and necessary to ensure the preservation, protection and continuity of SOHU's business, employees, Confidential Information, and intellectual property rights. Accordingly, SOHU is without an adequate legal remedy in the event of my violation of any of the covenants set forth in this Agreement. I agree, therefore, that, in addition to all other rights and remedies, at law or in equity or otherwise, that may be available to SOHU, each of the covenants made by me under this Agreement shall be enforceable by injunction, specific performance or other equitable relief, without any requirement that SOHU have to post a bond or that SOHU have to prove any damages.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned employee and SOHU have executed this Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement.

Effective as of January 1, 2003 and signed on March 21,2003

Signature of Employee:

Sohu.com Inc.

/s/ Charles Zhang

By: /s/ Derek Palaschuk

Name: Derek Palaschuk
Title: Chief Financial
Officer

Printed name of employee:

Charles Zhang

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT, effective as of January 1, 2003, by and between Sohu.com Inc., a Delaware corporation, and Derek Palaschuk, an individual (the "Employee").

1. Definitions. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined in the text below will have the meanings ascribed thereto on Annex 1.
2. Employment; Duties.
 - (a) The Company agrees to employ the Employee in the capacity and with such responsibilities as are generally set forth on Annex 2.
 - (b) The Employee hereby agrees to devote his or her full time and best efforts in such capacities as are set forth on Annex 2 on the terms and conditions set forth herein. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Employee may engage in other activities, such as activities involving professional, charitable, educational, religious and similar types of organizations, provided that that the Employee complies with the Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement attached hereto as Annex 3 (the "Employee Obligations Agreement") and such other activities do not interfere with or prohibit the performance of the Employee's duties under this Agreement, or conflict in any material way with the business of the Company or of its subsidiaries and affiliates.
 - (c) The Employee will use best efforts during the Term to ensure that the Company's business and those of its subsidiaries and affiliates are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations of all jurisdictions in which such businesses are conducted.
3. Compensation.
 - (a) Base Annual Income. During the Term, the Company will pay the Employee an annual base salary as set forth on Annex 2, payable monthly pursuant to the Company's normal payroll practices.
 - (b) Discretionary Bonus. During the Term, the Company, in its sole discretion, may award to the Employee an annual bonus based on the Employee's performance and other factors deemed relevant by the Company's Board of Directors.
 - (c) Stock Options. The Employee will be eligible to participate in any stock option or other incentive programs available to officers or employees of the Company.
 - (d) Reimbursement of Expenses. The Company will reimburse the Employee for reasonable expenses incurred by the Employee in the course of, and necessary in connection with, the performance by the Employee of his duties to the Company, provided that such expenses are substantiated in accordance with the Company's policies.
4. Other Employee Benefits.
 - (a) Vacation; Sick Leave. The Employee will be entitled to such number of weeks of paid vacation each year as are set forth on Annex 2, the taking of which must be coordinated with the Employee's supervisor in accordance with the Company's standard vacation policy. Unless otherwise approved by the Company's Board of Directors, vacation that is not used in a particular year may only be carried forward to subsequent years in accordance with the Company's policies in effect from time to time. The Employee will be eligible for sick leave in accordance with the Company's policies in effect from time to time.
 - (b) Healthcare Plan. The Company will arrange for membership in the Company's group healthcare plan for the Employee, the Employee's spouse and the Employee's children under 18 years old, in accordance with the Company's standard policies from time to time with respect to health insurance and in accordance with the rules established for individual participation in such plan and under applicable law.

- (c) Life and Disability Insurance. The Company will provide term life and disability insurance payable to the Employee, in each case in an amount up to a maximum of one times the Employee's base salary in effect from time to time, provided however, that such amount will be reduced by the amount of any life insurance or death or disability benefit coverage, as applicable, that is provided to the Employee under any other benefit plans or arrangements of the Company. Such policies will be in accordance with the Company's standard policies from time to time with respect to such insurance and the rules established for individual participation in such plans and under applicable law.
- (d) Other Benefits. Pursuant to the Company's policies in effect from time to time and the applicable plan rules, the Employee will be eligible to participate in the other employee benefit plans of general application, which may include, without limitation, housing allowance or reimbursement, tuition fees for the Employee's children at an international level school and tax equalization and which, in any event, shall include the benefits at the levels set forth on Annex 2.

5. Certain Representations, Warranties and Covenants of the Employee.

- (a) Related Company Positions. The Employee agrees that the Employee and members of the Employee's immediate family will not have any financial interest directly or indirectly (including through any entity in which the Employee or any member of the Employee's immediate family has a position or financial interest) in any transactions with the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof unless all such transactions, prior to being entered into, have been disclosed to the Board of Directors and approved by a majority of the independent members of the Board of Directors and comply with all other Company policies and applicable law as may be in effect from time to time. The Employee also agrees that he or she will inform the Board of Directors of the Company of any transactions involving the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates in which senior officers, including but not limited to the Employee, or their immediate family members have a financial interest.
- (b) Discounts, Rebates or Commissions. Unless expressly permitted by written policies and procedures of the Company in effect from time to time that may be applicable to the Employee, neither the Employee nor any immediate family member will be entitled to receive or obtain directly or indirectly any discount, rebate or commission in respect of any sale or purchase of goods or services effected or other business transacted (whether or not by the Employee) by or on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates, and if the Employee or any immediate family member (or any firm or company in which the Employee or any immediate family member is interested) obtains any such discount, rebate or commission, the Employee will pay to the Company an amount equal to the amount so received (or the proportionate amount received by any such firm or company to the extent of the Employee's or family member's interest therein).

6. Term; Termination.

- (a) Unless sooner terminated pursuant to the provisions of this Section 6, the term of this Agreement (the "Term") will commence on the date hereof and end on December 31, 2005.
- (b) Voluntary Termination by the Employee. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Employee may voluntarily Terminate this Agreement by providing the Company with ninety (90) days' advance written notice ("Voluntary Termination"), in which case, the Employee will not be entitled to receive payment of any severance benefits or other amounts by reason of the Termination other than accrued salary and vacation through the date of the Termination. The Employee's right to all other benefits will terminate as of the date of Termination, other than any continuation required by applicable law. Without limiting the foregoing, if, in connection with a Change in Control, the surviving entity or successor to Sohu's business offers the Employee employment on substantially equivalent terms to those set forth in this Agreement and such offer is not accepted by the Employee, the refusal by the Employee to accept such offer and the subsequent termination of the Employee's employment by the Company shall be deemed to be a voluntary termination of employment by the Employee and shall not be treated as a termination by the Company without Cause.
- (c) Termination by the Company for Cause. Notwithstanding anything herein

to the contrary, the Company may Terminate this Agreement for Cause by written notice to the Employee, effective immediately upon the delivery of such notice. In such case, the Employee will not be entitled to receive payment of any severance benefits or other amounts by reason of the Termination other than accrued salary and vacation through the date of the Termination. The Employee's right to all other benefits will terminate, other than any continuation required by applicable law.

- (d) Termination by the Employee with Good Reason or Termination by the Company without Cause. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Employee may Terminate this Agreement for Good Reason, and the Company may Terminate this Agreement without Cause, in either case upon thirty (30) days' advance written notice by the party Terminating this Agreement to the other party and the Termination shall be effective as of the expiration of such thirty (30) day period. If the Employee Terminates with Good Reason or the Company Terminates without Cause, the Employee will be entitled to continue to receive payment of severance benefits equal to the Employee's monthly base salary in effect on the date of Termination for the shorter of (i) six (6) months and (ii) the remainder of the Term of this Agreement (the "Severance Period"), provided that the Employee complies with the Employee Obligations Agreement during the Severance Period and executes a release agreement in the form requested by the Company at the time of such Termination that releases the Company from any and all claims arising from or related to the employment relationship and/or such Termination. Such payments will be made ratably over the Severance Period according to the Company's standard payroll schedule. The Employee will also receive payment of the bonus for the remainder of the year of the Termination, but only to the extent that the bonus would have been earned had the Employee continued in employment through the end of such year, as determined in good faith by the Company's CEO, Board of Directors or its Compensation Committee based on the specific corporate and individual performance targets established for such fiscal year, and only to the extent that bonuses are paid for such fiscal year to other similarly situated employees. Health insurance benefits with the same coverage provided to the Employee prior to the Termination (e.g., medical, dental, optical, mental health) and in all other material respects comparable to those in place immediately prior to the Termination will be provided at the Company's expense during the Severance Period. The Company will also continue to carry the Employee on its Directors and Officers insurance policy for six (6) years following the Date of Termination at the Company's expense with respect to insurable events which occurred during the Employee's term as a director or officer of the Company, with such coverage being at least comparable to that in effect immediately prior to the Termination Date; provided, however, that (i) such terms, conditions and exceptions will not be, in the aggregate, materially less favorable to the Employee than those in effect on the Termination Date and (ii) if the aggregate annual premiums for such insurance at any time during such period exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the per annum rate of premium currently paid by the Company for such insurance, then the Company will provide the maximum coverage that will then be available at an annual premium equal to two hundred percent (200%) of such rate.
- (e) Termination by Reason of Death or Disability. A Termination of the Employee's employment by reason of death or Disability shall not be deemed to be a Termination by the Company (for or without Cause) or by the Employee (for or without Good Reason). In the event that the Employee's employment with the Company Terminates as a result of the Employee's death or Disability, the Employee or the Employee's estate or representative, as applicable, will receive all accrued salary and accrued vacation as of the date of the Employee's death or Disability and any other benefits payable under the Company's then existing benefit plans and policies in accordance with such plans and policies in effect on the date of death or Disability and in accordance with applicable law. In addition, the Employee or the Employee's estate or representative, as applicable, will receive the bonus for the year in which the death or Disability occurs to the extent that a bonus would have been earned had the Employee continued in employment through the end of such year, as determined in good faith by the Company's CEO, Board of Directors or its Compensation Committee based on the specific corporate and individual performance targets established for such fiscal year, and only to the extent that bonuses are paid for such fiscal year to other similarly situated employees.
- (f) Misconduct After Termination of Employment. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything herein the contrary, if the Employee after the termination of his or her employment violates or fails to fully comply with the Employee Obligations Agreement, thereafter (1) the Employee shall not be entitled to any payments from the Company, (2) any insurance or other benefits that have continued shall terminate immediately, (3) the Employee shall promptly reimburse to the Company all amounts that have been paid to the Employee pursuant to this Section 6; and (4) if the Employee would not, in the absence of such violation or failure to comply, have been entitled to severance

payments from the Company equal to at least six (6) months' base salary, pay to the Company an amount equal to the difference between six (6) months' base salary and the amount of severance pay measured by base salary reimbursed to the Company by the Employee pursuant to clause 3 of this sentence.

7. Option-Related Provisions.

- (a) Termination by the Company Without Cause after a Change in Control. If Company Terminates this Agreement without Cause within twelve (12) months following a Change in Control, the vesting and exercisability of each of the Employee's outstanding stock options or other stock-based incentive awards ("Awards") will accelerate such that the Award will become fully vested and exercisable upon the effectiveness of the Termination, and any repurchase right of the Company with respect to shares of stock issued upon exercise of the Award will completely lapse, in each case subject to paragraph (c) below ("Forfeiture of Options for Misconduct").
- (b) Termination other than by the Company Without Cause after a Change in Control. If the Employee's employment with the Company Terminates for any reason, unless the Company Terminates this Agreement without Cause within twelve (12) months following a Change in Control, the vesting and exercisability of each of the Employee's outstanding Awards shall cease upon the effectiveness of the Termination, such that any unvested Award shall be cancelled.

(c) Forfeiture of Options for Misconduct. If the Employee fails to comply with the terms of this Agreement, the Employee Obligations Agreement, or the written policies and procedures of the Company, as the same may be amended from time to time, or acts against the specific instructions of the Board of Directors of the Company or if this Agreement is terminated by the Company for Cause (each a "Penalty Breach"), the Employee will forfeit any Awards that have been granted to him or her or to which the Employee may be entitled, whether the same are then vested or not, and the same shall thereafter not be exercisable at all, and all shares of common stock of the Company, if any, purchased by the Employee pursuant to the exercise of Awards and still then owned by the Employee may be repurchased by the Company, at its sole discretion, at the price paid by the Employee for such shares of common stock. The terms of all outstanding option grants are hereby amended to conform with this provision.

8. Employee Obligations Agreement. By signing this Agreement, the Employee hereby agrees to execute and deliver to the Company the Employee Obligations Agreement, and such execution and delivery shall be a condition to the Employee's entitlement to his or her rights under this Agreement.

9. Governing Law. This Agreement will be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware if the dispute is resolved therein, and in accordance with the laws of the People's Republic of China ("China") if the dispute is resolved therein or in any other jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware, in each case exclusive of such jurisdiction's principles of conflicts of law. If, under the applicable law, any portion of this Agreement is at any time deemed to be in conflict with any applicable statute, rule, regulation or ordinance, such portion will be deemed to be modified or altered to conform thereto or, if that is not possible, to be omitted from this Agreement; the invalidity of any such portion will not affect the force, effect and validity of the remaining portion hereof.

10. Notices. All notices, requests and other communications under this Agreement will be in writing (including facsimile or similar writing and express mail or courier delivery or in person delivery, but excluding ordinary mail delivery) and will be given to the address stated below:

(a) if to the Employee, to the address or facsimile number that is on file with the Company from time to time, as may be updated by the Employee;

(b) if to the Company:

Sohu.com Inc.
7 Jianguomennei Avenue
Suite 1519, Tower 2
Bright China Chang An Building
Beijing 100005
People's Republic of China

Attention: Charles Zhang
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

fax: (86-10) 6510-1388

with a copy to:

Goulston & Storrs

400 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02110

Attention: Timothy B. Bancroft

fax: (617) 574-4112

or to such other address or facsimile number as either party may hereafter specify for the purpose by written notice to the other party in the manner provided in this Section 10. All such notices, requests and other communications will be deemed received: (i) if given by facsimile transmission, when transmitted to the facsimile number specified in this Section 10 if confirmation of receipt is received; (ii) if given by express mail or courier delivery, five (5) days after sent; and (iii) if given in person, when delivered.

11. Miscellaneous.

- (a) Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire understanding between the Company and the Employee relating to the subject matter hereof and supersedes and cancels all prior and contemporaneous written and oral agreements and understandings with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. No agreements or representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, with respect to the subject matter hereof have been made by either party which are not set forth expressly in this Agreement.
- (b) Modification; Waiver. No provision of this Agreement may be modified, waived or discharged unless modification, waiver or discharge is agreed to in writing signed by the Employee and such officer of the Company as may be specifically designated by its Board of Directors. No waiver by either party at any time of any breach by the other party of, or compliance with, any condition or provision of this Agreement to be performed by such other party will be deemed a waiver of similar or dissimilar provisions or conditions at the same or at any prior or subsequent time.
- (c) Successors; Binding Agreement. This Agreement will be binding upon and will inure to the benefit of the Employee, the Employee's heirs, executors, administrators and beneficiaries, and the Company and its successors (whether direct or indirect, by purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise), subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.
- (d) Withholding Taxes. All amounts payable to the Employee under this Agreement will be subject to applicable withholding of income, wage and other taxes to the extent required by applicable law.
- (e) Validity. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or provisions of this Agreement will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement, which will remain in full force and effect.
- (f) Language. This Agreement is written in the English language only. The English language also will be the controlling language for all future communications between the parties hereto concerning this Agreement.
- (g) Counterparts. This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, with the same effect as if the signatures thereto and hereto were upon the same instrument.

12. Dispute Resolution. Either party may bring a legal action arising out of, or relating to this Agreement in any court of the State of Delaware in the United States of America and each party hereby expressly and irrevocably waives any claim or defense in any action or proceeding brought in said jurisdictions based on any alleged lack of personal jurisdiction, improper venue, forum non conveniens, or any similar basis. Except as relates to the enforcement of the Employee Obligations Agreement (Section 8(b) of which provides that the party initiating a claim may bring such claim in the courts of either the State of Delaware or in the courts of China, at such party's option), any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement may also be submitted to arbitration administered by the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC"). The award rendered in such an arbitration proceeding will be final and binding and judgment on the award rendered may be entered in any court having jurisdiction over the parties. Such arbitration shall be held in Hong Kong and shall be conducted in accordance with the ICC International Arbitration Rules, except as may be modified by the following:

- (a) The number of arbitrators will be three, one of whom will be appointed by the party asserting a claim against the other party or parties, one of whom will be appointed by the party or parties (acting together), as the case may be, against whom a claim has been asserted, and the third of whom will be selected by mutual agreement, if possible, within thirty days after the selection of the second arbitrator.
- (b) The language of the arbitration will be conducted in the English language and any foreign-language documents presented at such arbitration will be accompanied by an English translation thereof that shall be prepared at the expense of the party seeking to present such document.

(c) Any award of the arbitrators (i) will be in writing, (ii) will state the reasons upon which such award is based and (iii) may include an award of costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees and disbursements.

- (d) The arbitrators will have no authority to award punitive damages or any other damages not measured by the prevailing party's actual damages, and may not, in any event, make any ruling, finding or award that does not conform to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- (e) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any party may apply to any court having jurisdiction over the parties to obtain injunctive relief in order to maintain the status quo until such time as an arbitration award may be rendered or the dispute, controversy or claim may be otherwise resolved.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on March 21, 2003 as of the year and day first above written.

Signature of Employee:

Sohu.com Inc.

/s/ Derek Palaschuk

By: /s/ Charles Zhang

Name: Charles Zhang

Printed name of employee:

Title: Chief Executive
Officer

Derek Palaschuk

Certain Definitions

"Cause" means:

- (ix) willful misconduct or gross negligence by the Employee, or any willful or grossly negligent omission to perform any act, resulting in injury to the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof;
- (x) misconduct or negligence of the Employee that results in gain or personal enrichment of the Employee to the detriment of the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof;
- (xi) breach of any of the Employee's agreements with the Company, including those set forth herein and in the Employee Obligations Agreement, and including, but not limited to, the repeated failure to perform substantially the Employee's duties to the Company or any subsidiaries or affiliates thereof, excessive absenteeism or dishonesty;
- (xii) any attempt by the Employee to assign or delegate this Agreement or any of the rights, duties, responsibilities, privileges or obligations hereunder without the prior consent of the Company (except in respect of any delegation by the Employee of his employment duties hereunder to other employees of the Company in accordance with its usual business practice);
- (xiii) the Employee's indictment or conviction for, or confession of, a felony or any crime involving moral turpitude under the laws of the United States or any State thereof, or under the laws of China, or Hong Kong;
- (xiv) declaration by a court that the Employee is insane or incompetent to manage his business affairs;
- (xv) habitual drug or alcohol abuse which materially impairs the Employee's ability to perform his duties; or
- (xvi) filing of any petition or other proceeding seeking to find the Employee bankrupt or insolvent.

"Change in Control" means the occurrence of any of the following events:

- (i) any person (within the meaning of Section 13(d) or Section 14(d)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) other than the Company, any trustee or other fiduciary holding securities under an employee benefit plan of the Company or any corporation owned, directly or indirectly, by the stockholders of the Company in substantially the same proportion as their ownership of stock of the Company, becomes the direct or beneficial owner of securities representing fifty percent (50%) or more of the combined voting power of the Company's then-outstanding securities;
- (ii) during any period of two (2) consecutive years after the date of this Agreement, individuals who at the beginning of such period constitute the Board of Directors of the Company, and all new directors (other than directors designated by a person who has entered into an agreement with the Company to effect a transaction described in (i), (iii), or (iv) of this definition) whose election or nomination to the Board was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then in office, cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the members of the Board;
- (iii) the effective date of a merger or consolidation of the Company with any other entity, other than a merger or consolidation which would result in the voting securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior to such merger or consolidation continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into voting securities of the surviving entity) more than 50% of the combined voting power of the voting securities of the surviving entity outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation and with the power to elect at least a majority of the board of directors or other governing body of such surviving entity;
- (iv) the complete liquidation of the Company or the sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all of the Company's assets; or

- (v) there occurs any other event of a nature that would be required to be reported in response to Item 6(e) of Schedule 14A of Regulation 14A (or a response to any similar item on any similar schedule or form) promulgated under the Exchange Act (as defined below), whether or not the Company is then subject to such reporting requirement.

"Company" means Sohu.com Inc and, unless the context suggests to the contrary, all of its subsidiaries and related companies.

"Disability" means the Employee becomes physically or mentally impaired to an extent which renders him or her unable to perform the essential functions of his or her job, with or without reasonable accommodation, for a period of six consecutive months, or an aggregate of nine months in any two year period.

"Good Reason" means the occurrence of any of the following events without the Employee's express written consent, provided that the Employee has given notice to the Company of such event and the Company has not remedied the problem within fifteen (15) days:

- (i) any significant change in the duties and responsibilities of the Employee inconsistent in any material and adverse respect with the Employee's title and position (including status, officer positions and reporting requirements), authority, duties or responsibilities as contemplated by Annex 2 to this Agreement. For the purposes of this Agreement, because of the evolving nature of the Employer's business, the Company's changing of Employee's reporting relationships and department(s) will not be considered a significant change in duties and responsibilities;
- (ii) any material breach by the Company of this Agreement, including without limitation any reduction of the Employee's base salary or the Company's failure to pay to the Employee any portion of the Employee's compensation; or
- (iii) the failure, in the event of a Change in Control in which the Company is not the surviving entity, of the surviving entity or the successor to the Company's business to assume this Agreement pursuant to its terms or to offer the Employee employment on substantially equivalent terms to those set forth in this Agreement.

"Termination" (and any similar, capitalized use of the term, such as "Terminate") means, according to the context, the termination of this Agreement or the Employee's ceasing to render employment services.

Particular Terms of Employee's Employment

Title(s): Chief Financial Officer

Reporting Requirement: The Employee will report to the Company's Board of Directors and to the Company's Chief Executive Officer.

Responsibilities: Such duties and responsibilities as are ordinarily associated with the Employee's title(s) in a United States publicly-traded corporation and such other duties as may be specified by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Base Salary: One Hundred Twenty Thousand United States Dollars (U.S. \$120,000)

of Weeks of Paid Vacation per Year: Three (3)

Other Benefits:

Monthly housing allowance or reimbursement after tax of U.S. \$2,000 per month, tax equalization on salary and bonus to 15%, health, life and disability insurance and tuition fees for the Employee's children as per company policy and bonus as specifically approved each year.

FORM OF EMPLOYEE NON-COMPETITION, NON-SOLICITATION,
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND WORK PRODUCT AGREEMENT

In consideration of my employment and the compensation paid to me by Sohu.com Inc., a Delaware corporation, or a subsidiary or other affiliate or related company thereof (Sohu.com Inc. or any such subsidiary or related company or other affiliate referred to herein individually and collectively as "SOHU"), and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, I agree as follows:

1. **Non-Competition.** During my employment with SOHU and continuing after the termination of my employment for the longer of (i) one year after the termination of my employment with SOHU for any reason and (ii) such period of time as SOHU is paying to me any severance benefits, (the "Noncompete Period"), I will not, on my own behalf, or as owner, manager, stockholder (other than as stockholder of less than 2% of the outstanding stock of a company that is publicly traded or listed on a stock exchange), consultant, director, officer or employee of or in any other manner connected with any business entity, participate or be involved in any Competitor without the prior written authorization of SOHU. "Competitor" means any business of the type and character of business in which SOHU engages or proposes to engage and may include, without limitation, an individual, company, enterprise, partnership enterprise, government office, committee, social organization or other organization that, in any event, produces, distributes or provides the same or substantially similar kind of product or service as SOHU. On the date of this Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement (this "Agreement"), "Competitor" includes without limitation: Sina.com, Yahoo Inc., Tom.com, Netease.com Inc., Linktone, 263.com, AOL Time Warner Inc., JOYO and Dang Dang.
2. **Nonsolicitation.** During the Noncompete Period, I will not, either for my own account or for the account of any other person: (i) solicit, induce, attempt to hire, or hire any employee or contractor of SOHU or any other person who may have been employed or engaged by SOHU during the term of my employment with SOHU unless that person has not worked with SOHU within the six months following my last day of employment with SOHU; (ii) solicit business or relationship in competition with SOHU from any of SOHU's customers, suppliers or partners or any other entity with which SOHU does business; (iii) assist in such hiring or solicitation by any other person or business entity or encourage any such employee to terminate his or her employment with SOHU; or (iv) encourage any such customer, supplier or partner or any other entity to terminate its relationship with SOHU.
3. **Confidential Information.**
 - (a) While employed by SOHU and indefinitely thereafter, I will not, directly or indirectly, use any Confidential Information (as hereinafter defined) other than pursuant to my employment by and for the benefit of SOHU, or disclose any such Confidential Information to anyone outside of SOHU or to anyone within SOHU who has not been authorized to receive such information, except as directed in writing by an authorized representative of SOHU.
 - (b) "Confidential Information" means all trade secrets, proprietary information, and other data and information, in any form, belonging to SOHU or any of their respective clients, customers, consultants, licensees or affiliates that is held in confidence by SOHU. Confidential Information includes, but is not limited to computer software, the structure of SOHU's online directories and search engines, business plans and arrangements, customer lists, marketing materials, financial information, research, and any other information identified or treated as confidential by SOHU or any of their respective clients, customer, consultants, licensees or affiliates. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Confidential Information does not include information which SOHU has voluntarily disclosed to the public without restriction, or which is otherwise known to the public at large.
4. **Rights in Work Product.**
 - (a) I agree that all Work Product (as hereinafter defined) will be the sole property of SOHU. I agree that all Work Product that constitutes original works of authorship protectable by copyright are "works made for hire," as that term is defined in the United States Copyright Act and, therefore, the property of SOHU. I agree to waive, and hereby waive and irrevocably and exclusively assign to SOHU, all right, title and interest I may have in or to any other Work Product and, to the

extent that such rights may not be waived or assigned, I agree not to assert such rights against SOHU or its licensees (and sublicensees), successors or assigns.

(b) I agree to promptly disclose all Work Product to the appropriate individuals in SOHU as such Work Product is created in accordance with the requirements of my job and as directed by SOHU.

(c) "Work Product" means any and all inventions, improvements, developments, concepts, ideas, expressions, processes, prototypes, plans, drawings, designs, models, formulations, specifications, methods, techniques, shop-practices, discoveries, innovations, creations, technologies, formulas, algorithms, data, computer databases, reports, laboratory notebooks, papers, writings, photographs, source and object codes, software programs, other works of authorship, and know-how and show-how, or parts thereof conceived, developed, or otherwise made by me alone or jointly with others (i) during the period of my employment with SOHU or (ii) during the six month period next succeeding the termination of my employment with SOHU if the same in any way relates to the present or proposed products, programs or services of SOHU or to tasks assigned to me during the course of my employment, whether or not patentable or subject to copyright or trademark protection, whether or not reduced to tangible form or reduced to practice, whether or not made during my regular working hours, and whether or not made on SOHU premises.

5. Employee's Prior Obligations. I hereby certify I have no continuing obligation to any previous employer or other person or entity which requires me not to disclose any information to SOHU.

6. Employee's Obligation to Cooperate. At any time during my employment with SOHU and thereafter upon the request of SOHU, I will execute all documents and perform all lawful acts that SOHU considers necessary or advisable to secure its rights hereunder and to carry out the intent of this Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, I agree to render to SOHU or its nominee all reasonable assistance as may be required:

(e) In the prosecution or applications for letters patent, foreign and domestic, or re-issues, extensions and continuations thereof;

(f) In the prosecution or defense of interferences which may be declared involving any of said applications or patents;

(g) In any administrative proceeding or litigation in which SOHU may be involved relating to any Work Product; and

(h) In the execution of documents and the taking of all other lawful acts which SOHU considers necessary or advisable in creating and protecting its copyright, patent, trademark, trade secret and other proprietary rights in any Work Product.

The reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by me in rendering such assistance at the request of SOHU will be reimbursed by SOHU. If I am no longer an employee of SOHU at the time I render such assistance, SOHU will pay me a reasonable fee for my time.

7. Termination; Return of SOHU Property. Upon the termination of my employment with SOHU for any reason, or at any time upon SOHU's request, I will return to SOHU all Work Product and Confidential Information and notes, memoranda, records, customer lists, proposals, business plans and other documents, computer software, materials, tools, equipment and other property in my possession or under my control, relating to any work done for SOHU, or otherwise belonging to SOHU, it being acknowledged that all such items are the sole property of SOHU. Further, before obtaining my final paycheck, I agree to sign a certificate stating the following:

"Termination Certificate

This is to certify that I do not have in my possession or custody, nor have I failed to return, any Work Product (as defined in the Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement between me and Sohu.com Inc. ("SOHU")) or any notes, memoranda, records, customer lists, proposals, business plans or other documents or any computer software, materials, tools, equipment or other property (or copies of any of the foregoing) belonging to SOHU."

8. General Provisions.

(a) This Agreement contains the entire agreement between me and SOHU with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements and understandings related to the subject matter hereof, whether written or oral. This Agreement may not be

modified except by written agreement signed by SOHU and me.

- (b) This Agreement will be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Delaware, U.S.A. if the dispute is resolved therein, and in accordance with the laws of the People's Republic of China ("China") if the dispute is resolved therein or in any other jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware, in either case without giving effect to the conflicts of laws rules of such jurisdiction. I consent to jurisdiction and venue in any court in the State of Delaware or any other country having jurisdiction over me for the purposes of any action relating to or arising out of this Agreement or any breach or alleged breach thereof, and to service of process in any such action by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested. Without limiting the foregoing, I specifically consent to jurisdiction and venue in any court in China for the purposes of any action relating to or arising out of this Agreement or any breach or alleged breach thereof that occurs in whole or in part in China.
- (c) In the event that any provision of this Agreement will be determined by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable by reason of its extending for too great a period of time, over too large a geographic area, over too great a range of activities, it will be interpreted to extend only over the maximum period of time, geographic area or range of activities as to which it may be enforceable.
- (d) If, after application of paragraph (c) above, any provision of this Agreement will be determined to be invalid, illegal or otherwise unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality and enforceability of the other provisions of this Agreement will not be affected thereby. Any invalid, illegal or unenforceable provision of this Agreement will be severed, and after any such severance, all other provisions hereof will remain in full force and effect.
- (e) SOHU and I agree that either of us may waive or fail to enforce violations of any part of this Agreement without waiving the right in the future to insist on strict compliance with all or parts of this Agreement.
- (f) My obligations under this Agreement will survive the termination of my employment with SOHU regardless of the manner of or reasons for such termination, and regardless of whether such termination constitutes a breach of any other agreement I may have with SOHU. My obligations under this Agreement will be binding upon my heirs, executors and administrators, and the provisions of this Agreement will inure to the benefit of the successors and assigns of SOHU.
- (g) I agree and acknowledge that the rights and obligations set forth in this Agreement are of a unique and special nature and necessary to ensure the preservation, protection and continuity of SOHU's business, employees, Confidential Information, and intellectual property rights. Accordingly, SOHU is without an adequate legal remedy in the event of my violation of any of the covenants set forth in this Agreement. I agree, therefore, that, in addition to all other rights and remedies, at law or in equity or otherwise, that may be available to SOHU, each of the covenants made by me under this Agreement shall be enforceable by injunction, specific performance or other equitable relief, without any requirement that SOHU have to post a bond or that SOHU have to prove any damages.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned employee and SOHU have executed this Employee Non-competition, Non-solicitation, Confidential Information and Work Product Agreement.

Effective as of January 1, 2003 and dated March 21,2003

Signature of Employee:

Sohu.com Inc.

/s/ Derek Palaschuk

By: /s/ Charles Zhang

Printed name of employee:

Name: Charles Zhang
Title: Chief Executive
Officer

Derek Palaschuk

Subsidiaries of the registrant

Subsidiary -----	Jurisdiction of Organization -----	Ownership -----
Sohu ITC Information Technology (Beijing) Co., Ltd.	People's Republic of China	100%
Sohu.com (Hong Kong) Ltd.	Hong Kong	100%
ChinaRen Inc.	United States of America	100%

Consent of Independent Accountants

We hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement on Form S-8 (No. 333-61814) of our report dated January 17, 2003, relating to the financial statements as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002, which appears in this Form 10-K.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Beijing, China

March 28, 2003

SOHU.COM INC.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED
PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Annual Report of Sohu.com Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Dr. Charles Zhang, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company, certify, pursuant to U.S.C. ss. 1350, as adopted pursuant to ss. 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition of the Company as of December 31, 2002 and results of operations of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002.

/s/ Dr. Charles Zhang

Dr. Charles Zhang, President, Chief
Executive Officer and Chairman of
the Board of Directors

March 28, 2003

SOHU.COM INC.

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED
PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In connection with the Annual Report of Sohu.com Inc. (the "Company") on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), I, Derek Palaschuk, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to U.S.C. ss. 1350, as adopted pursuant to ss. 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition of the Company as of December 31, 2002 and results of operations of the Company for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002.

/s/ Derek Palaschuk

Derek Palaschuk, Senior Vice
President and Chief Financial
Officer

March 28, 2003