

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

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

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 30, 2024

MediaAlpha, Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

001-39671
(Commission
File Number)

85-1854133
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

700 South Flower Street, Suite 640
Los Angeles, California
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

90017
(Zip Code)

(213) 316-6256
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Not Applicable)
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value	MAX	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

ITEM 2.02 – Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On October 30, 2024, MediaAlpha, Inc. (“MediaAlpha”) issued a press release and an accompanying shareholder letter announcing its financial results as of and for the third quarter ended September 30, 2024, and its financial outlook for the fourth quarter of 2024. Copies of the press release and shareholder letter are furnished as Exhibit 99.1 and Exhibit 99.2, respectively, to this Form 8-K and are incorporated by reference herein.

This information shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

MediaAlpha refers to non-GAAP financial information in the press release and shareholder letter. A reconciliation of these non-GAAP financial measures to the comparable GAAP financial measures is contained in each document.

ITEM 9.01 – Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press release dated October 30, 2024.
99.2	Shareholder Letter dated October 30, 2024.
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

MediaAlpha, Inc.

Date: October 30, 2024

By: /s/ Jeffrey B. Coyne

Name: Jeffrey B. Coyne

Title: General Counsel & Secretary

MEDIAALPHA ANNOUNCES THIRD QUARTER 2024 FINANCIAL RESULTS

- Revenue of \$259 million, up 247% year over year
- Transaction Value of \$452 million, up 314% year over year
 - Transaction Value from Property & Casualty up 766% year over year to \$387 million
 - Transaction Value from Health up 9% year over year to \$56 million

Los Angeles, CA (October 30, 2024) – MediaAlpha, Inc. (NYSE: MAX), today announced its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2024.

“Our third-quarter performance was excellent, as we achieved record results across all key metrics.” said MediaAlpha co-founder and CEO Steve Yi. “Our P&C insurance vertical once again exceeded our expectations as select carriers increasingly leveraged our marketplace to drive growth. Looking ahead, we are well positioned to deliver sustainable long-term growth and market share gains as the largest and most trusted customer acquisition partner in the insurance industry.”

Third Quarter 2024 Financial Results

- Revenue of \$259.1 million, an increase of 247% year over year;
- Transaction Value of \$451.8 million, an increase of 314% year over year;
- Gross margin of 15.1%, compared with 16.5% in the third quarter of 2023;
- Contribution Margin⁽¹⁾ of 16.0%, compared with 20.2% in the third quarter of 2023;
- Net income was \$11.9 million, compared with a net loss of \$(18.7) million in the third quarter of 2023; and
- Adjusted EBITDA⁽¹⁾ was \$26.3 million, compared with \$3.6 million in the third quarter of 2023.

⁽¹⁾A reconciliation of GAAP to Non-GAAP financial measures has been provided at the end of this press release. An explanation of these measures is also included below under the heading “Non-GAAP Financial Measures.”

Financial Outlook

Our guidance for the fourth quarter of 2024 reflects a continuation of the recent trends in customer acquisition spending that we have seen in our P&C insurance vertical. As a result, we expect Transaction Value in our P&C insurance vertical to be flat to slightly up as compared to Q3 2024 levels, stronger than typical seasonal trends. We expect fourth quarter Transaction Value in our Health insurance vertical to be down mid-single digits year over year due to headwinds in Medicare.

For the fourth quarter of 2024, MediaAlpha currently expects the following:

- Transaction Value between \$470 million - \$495 million, representing a 192% year-over-year increase at the midpoint of the guidance range;
- Revenue between \$275 million - \$295 million, representing a 143% year-over-year increase at the midpoint of the guidance range;
- Adjusted EBITDA between \$29.5 million and \$32.5 million, representing a 144% year-over-year increase at the midpoint of the guidance range. We are projecting Contribution less Adjusted EBITDA to be approximately \$0.5 - \$1.0 million higher than in Q3 2024.

With respect to the Company's projection of Adjusted EBITDA under "Financial Outlook," MediaAlpha is not providing a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to net income (loss) because the Company is unable to predict with reasonable certainty the reconciling items that may affect net income (loss) without unreasonable effort, including equity-based compensation, transaction expenses and income tax expense. These reconciling items are uncertain, depend on various factors and could significantly impact, either individually or in the aggregate, the corresponding GAAP measures for the applicable period.

For a detailed explanation of the Company's non-GAAP measures, please refer to the appendix section of this press release.

Conference Call Information

MediaAlpha will host a Q&A conference call today to discuss the Company's third quarter 2024 results and its financial outlook for the fourth quarter of 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time). A live audio webcast of the call will be available on the MediaAlpha Investor Relations website at <https://investors.mediaalpha.com>. To register for the webcast, click here. Participants may also dial-in, toll-free, at (800) 715-9871 or (646) 307-1963, with passcode 2616289. An audio replay of the conference call will be available following the call and available on the MediaAlpha Investor Relations website at <https://investors.mediaalpha.com>.

We have also posted to our investor relations website a [letter to shareholders](#). We have used, and intend to continue to use, our investor relations website at <https://investors.mediaalpha.com> as a means of disclosing material nonpublic information and for complying with our disclosure obligations under Regulation FD.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including without limitation our statement that we are well positioned to deliver sustainable long-term growth and market share gains as the largest and most trusted customer acquisition partner in the insurance industry, and our financial outlook for the fourth quarter of 2024. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to, among other things, future events and our financial performance. These statements are often, but not always, made through the use of words or phrases such as “may,” “should,” “could,” “predict,” “potential,” “believe,” “will likely result,” “expect,” “continue,” “will,” “anticipate,” “seek,” “estimate,” “intend,” “plan,” “projection,” “would,” and “outlook,” or the negative version of those words or other comparable words or phrases of a future or forward-looking nature. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, and are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, management’s beliefs and certain assumptions made by management, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and beyond our control. Accordingly, we caution you that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, assumptions and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the date made, actual results may prove to be materially different from the results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements.

There are or will be important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in these forward-looking statements, including those more fully described in MediaAlpha’s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), including the Form 10-K filed on February 22, 2024 and the Forms 10-Q filed on May 2, 2024 and August 1, 2024, and to be filed on or about October 31, 2024. These factors should not be construed as exhaustive. MediaAlpha disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this press release.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures and Operating Metrics

This press release includes Adjusted EBITDA, Contribution, and Contribution Margin, which are non-GAAP financial measures. The Company also presents Transaction Value, which is an operating metric not presented in accordance with GAAP. See the appendix for definitions of Adjusted EBITDA, Contribution, Contribution Margin and Transaction Value, as well as reconciliations to the corresponding GAAP financial metrics, as applicable.

We present Transaction Value, Adjusted EBITDA, Contribution, and Contribution Margin because they are used extensively by our management and board of directors to manage our operating performance, including evaluating our operational performance against budget and assessing our overall operating efficiency and operating leverage. Accordingly, we believe that Transaction Value, Adjusted EBITDA and Contribution Margin provide useful information to investors and others in understanding and evaluating our operating results in the same manner as our management team and board of directors. Each of Transaction Value, Adjusted EBITDA and Contribution Margin has limitations as a financial measure and investors should not consider it in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP.

About MediaAlpha

We believe we are the insurance industry's leading programmatic customer acquisition platform. With more than 1,200 active partners, we connect insurance carriers with online shoppers and generated more than 99 million consumer referrals in 2023. Our programmatic advertising technology over the last twelve months powered \$1.2 billion in spend on brand, comparison, and metasearch sites across property & casualty insurance, health insurance, life insurance, and other industries. For more information, please visit www.mediaalpha.com.

Contacts:

Investors

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MediaAlpha, Inc. and subsidiaries
Consolidated Balance Sheets
(Unaudited; in thousands, except share data and per share amounts)

	September 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 32,304	\$ 17,271
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for credit losses of \$1,027 and \$537, respectively	126,814	53,773
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,936	3,529
Total current assets	162,054	74,573
Intangible assets, net	21,588	26,015
Goodwill	47,739	47,739
Other assets	4,729	5,598
Total assets	\$ 236,110	\$ 153,925
Liabilities and stockholders' deficit		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 109,577	\$ 56,279
Accrued expenses	14,202	11,588
Current portion of long-term debt	8,839	11,854
Total current liabilities	132,618	79,721
Long-term debt, net of current portion	155,811	162,445
Other long-term liabilities	7,302	6,184
Total liabilities	\$ 295,731	\$ 248,350
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' (deficit)		
Class A common stock, \$0.01 par value - 1.0 billion shares authorized; 55.1 million and 47.4 million shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively	551	474
Class B common stock, \$0.01 par value - 100 million shares authorized; 11.6 million and 18.1 million shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively	116	181
Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value - 50 million shares authorized; 0 shares issued and outstanding as of September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2023	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	501,543	511,613
Accumulated deficit	(510,573)	(522,562)
Total stockholders' (deficit) attributable to MediaAlpha, Inc.	\$ (8,363)	\$ (10,294)
Non-controlling interest	(51,258)	(84,131)
Total stockholders' (deficit)	\$ (59,621)	\$ (94,425)
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	\$ 236,110	\$ 153,925

MediaAlpha, Inc. and subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Operations

(Unaudited; in thousands, except share data and per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenue	\$ 259,133	\$ 74,573	\$ 564,056	\$ 270,975
Costs and operating expenses				
Cost of revenue	219,907	62,277	469,465	226,545
Sales and marketing	6,496	6,101	18,608	19,802
Product development	5,328	4,296	14,743	14,525
General and administrative	11,794	16,648	36,767	50,473
Total costs and operating expenses	243,525	89,322	539,583	311,345
Income (loss) from operations	15,608	(14,749)	24,473	(40,370)
Other (income) expense, net	(154)	(100)	(1,971)	1,165
Interest expense	3,562	3,947	11,158	11,397
Total other expense, net	3,408	3,847	9,187	12,562
Income (loss) before income taxes	12,200	(18,596)	15,286	(52,932)
Income tax expense	312	102	469	330
Net income (loss)	\$ 11,888	\$ (18,698)	\$ 14,817	\$ (53,262)
Net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interest	2,406	(5,196)	2,828	(15,208)
Net income (loss) attributable to MediaAlpha, Inc.	\$ 9,482	\$ (13,502)	\$ 11,989	\$ (38,054)
Net income (loss) per share of Class A common stock				
-Basic	\$ 0.17	\$ (0.29)	\$ 0.23	\$ (0.84)
-Diluted	\$ 0.17	\$ (0.29)	\$ 0.22	\$ (0.84)
Weighted average shares of Class A common stock outstanding				
-Basic	54,909,772	46,229,672	52,293,622	45,095,417
-Diluted	54,909,772	46,229,672	66,087,041	45,095,417

MediaAlpha, Inc. and subsidiaries
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(Unaudited; in thousands)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income (loss)	\$ 14,817	\$ (53,262)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Equity-based compensation expense	26,452	43,943
Non-cash lease expense	596	508
Depreciation expense on property and equipment	191	275
Amortization of intangible assets	4,827	5,188
Amortization of deferred debt issuance costs	569	597
Impairment of cost method investment	—	1,406
Credit losses	519	(220)
Tax receivable agreement liability adjustments	—	6
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(73,560)	27,167
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	547	3,059
Other assets	375	375
Accounts payable	53,298	(15,243)
Accrued expenses	2,712	1,138
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 31,343	\$ 14,937
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment	(207)	(60)
Acquisition of intangible assets	(400)	—
Net cash (used in) investing activities	\$ (607)	\$ (60)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Payments made for / proceeds received from:		
Repayments on long-term debt	(10,172)	(7,125)
Contributions from QLH's members	756	196
Distributions	(1,111)	(1,572)
Payments pursuant to tax receivable agreement	—	(2,822)
Shares withheld for taxes on vesting of restricted stock units	(5,176)	(2,900)
Net cash (used in) financing activities	\$ (15,703)	\$ (14,223)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	15,033	654
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	17,271	14,542
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 32,304	\$ 15,196

Key business and operating metrics and Non-GAAP financial measures

Transaction Value

We define “Transaction Value” as the total gross dollars transacted by our partners on our platform. Transaction Value is an operating metric not presented in accordance with GAAP, and is a driver of revenue based on the economic relationships we have with our partners. Our partners use our platform to transact via Open and Private Marketplace transactions. In our Open Marketplace model, revenue recognized represents the fees paid by our Demand Partners for Consumer Referrals sold and is equal to the Transaction Value and revenue share payments to our Supply Partners represent costs of revenue. In our Private Marketplace model, revenue recognized represents a platform fee billed to the Supply Partner based on an agreed-upon percentage of the Transaction Value for the Consumer Referrals transacted, and accordingly there are no associated costs of revenue. We utilize Transaction Value to assess the overall level of transaction activity through our platform. We believe it is useful to investors to assess the overall level of activity on our platform and to better understand the sources of our revenue across our different transaction models and verticals.

The following table presents Transaction Value by platform model for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Open Marketplace transactions	\$ 253,016	\$ 73,053	\$ 546,949	\$ 263,568
Percentage of total Transaction Value	56.0 %	67.0 %	55.1 %	61.6 %
Private Marketplace transactions	198,759	35,963	445,742	164,524
Percentage of total Transaction Value	44.0 %	33.0 %	44.9 %	38.4 %
Total Transaction Value	\$ 451,775	\$ 109,016	\$ 992,691	\$ 428,092

The following table presents Transaction Value by vertical for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Property & Casualty insurance	\$ 387,451	\$ 44,715	\$ 777,521	\$ 223,305
Percentage of total Transaction Value	85.8 %	41.0 %	78.3 %	52.2 %
Health insurance	55,615	51,210	179,980	161,450
Percentage of total Transaction Value	12.3 %	47.0 %	18.1 %	37.7 %
Life insurance	6,261	7,566	24,384	26,042
Percentage of total Transaction Value	1.4 %	6.9 %	2.5 %	6.1 %
Other ⁽¹⁾	2,448	5,525	10,806	17,295
Percentage of total Transaction Value	0.5 %	5.1 %	1.1 %	4.0 %
Total Transaction Value	\$ 451,775	\$ 109,016	\$ 992,691	\$ 428,092

(1) Our other verticals include Travel and Consumer Finance.

Contribution and Contribution Margin

We define “Contribution” as revenue less revenue share payments and online advertising costs, or, as reported in our consolidated statements of operations, revenue less cost of revenue (i.e., gross profit), as adjusted to exclude the following items from cost of revenue: equity-based compensation; salaries, wages, and related costs; internet and hosting costs; amortization; depreciation; other services; and merchant-related fees. We define “Contribution Margin” as Contribution expressed as a percentage of revenue for the same period. Contribution and Contribution Margin are non-GAAP financial measures that we present to supplement the financial information we present on a GAAP basis. We use Contribution and Contribution Margin to measure the return on our relationships with our supply partners (excluding certain fixed costs), the financial return on and efficacy of our online advertising costs to drive consumers to our proprietary websites, and our operating leverage. We do not use Contribution and Contribution Margin as measures of overall profitability. We present Contribution and Contribution Margin because they are used by our management and board of directors to manage our operating performance, including evaluating our operational performance against budget and assessing our overall operating efficiency and operating leverage. For example, if Contribution increases and our headcount costs and other operating expenses remain steady, our Adjusted EBITDA and operating leverage increase. If Contribution Margin decreases, we may choose to re-evaluate and re-negotiate our revenue share agreements with our supply partners, to make optimization and pricing changes with respect to our bids for keywords from primary traffic acquisition sources, or to change our overall cost structure with respect to headcount, fixed costs and other costs. Other companies may calculate Contribution and Contribution Margin differently than we do. Contribution and Contribution Margin have their limitations as analytical tools, and you should not consider them in isolation or as substitutes for analysis of our results presented in accordance with GAAP.

The following table reconciles Contribution with gross profit, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenue	\$ 259,133	\$ 74,573	\$ 564,056	\$ 270,975
Less cost of revenue	(219,907)	(62,277)	(469,465)	(226,545)
Gross profit	\$ 39,226	\$ 12,296	\$ 94,591	\$ 44,430
Adjusted to exclude the following (as related to cost of revenue):				
Equity-based compensation	405	1,012	2,654	2,959
Salaries, wages, and related	907	878	2,474	2,832
Internet and hosting	145	138	402	418
Other expenses	170	179	539	513
Depreciation	5	9	15	30
Other services	549	514	2,008	1,795
Merchant-related fees	75	11	217	14
Contribution	\$ 41,482	\$ 15,037	\$ 102,900	\$ 52,991
Gross margin	15.1 %	16.5 %	16.8 %	16.4 %
Contribution Margin	16.0 %	20.2 %	18.2 %	19.6 %

Adjusted EBITDA

We define “Adjusted EBITDA” as net income (loss) excluding interest expense, income tax benefit (expense), depreciation expense on property and equipment, amortization of intangible assets, as well as equity-based compensation expense and certain other adjustments as listed in the table below. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure that we present to supplement the financial information we present on a GAAP basis. We monitor and present Adjusted EBITDA because it is a key measure used by our management to understand and evaluate our operating performance, to establish budgets and to develop operational goals for managing our business. We believe that Adjusted EBITDA helps identify underlying trends in our business that could otherwise be masked by the effect of the expenses that we exclude in the calculations of Adjusted EBITDA. Accordingly, we believe that Adjusted EBITDA provides useful information to investors and others in understanding and evaluating our operating results, enhancing the overall understanding of our past performance and future prospects. In addition, presenting Adjusted EBITDA provides investors with a metric to evaluate the capital efficiency of our business.

Adjusted EBITDA is not presented in accordance with GAAP and should not be considered in isolation of, or as an alternative to, measures presented in accordance with GAAP. There are a number of limitations related to the use of Adjusted EBITDA rather than net income, which is the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. These limitations include the fact that Adjusted EBITDA excludes interest expense on debt, income tax benefit (expense), equity-based compensation expense, depreciation and amortization, and certain other adjustments that we consider to be useful to investors and others in understanding and evaluating our operating results. In addition, other companies may use other measures to evaluate their performance, including different definitions of “Adjusted EBITDA,” which could reduce the usefulness of our Adjusted EBITDA as a tool for comparison.

The following table reconciles Adjusted EBITDA with net income (loss), the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Net income (loss)	\$ 11,888	\$ (18,698)	\$ 14,817	\$ (53,262)
Equity-based compensation expense	8,597	14,454	26,452	43,943
Interest expense	3,562	3,947	11,158	11,397
Income tax expense	312	102	469	330
Depreciation expense on property and equipment	65	87	191	275
Amortization of intangible assets	1,609	1,730	4,827	5,188
Transaction expenses ⁽¹⁾	(45)	5	1,172	553
Impairment of cost method investment	—	—	—	1,406
Contract settlement ⁽²⁾	—	—	(1,725)	—
Changes in TRA related liability	—	—	—	6
Changes in Tax Indemnification Receivable	(84)	(20)	(86)	(48)
Settlement of federal and state income tax refunds	—	—	—	3
Legal expenses ⁽³⁾	367	1,979	2,155	3,418
Reduction in force costs ⁽⁴⁾	—	—	—	1,233
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 26,271	\$ 3,586	\$ 59,430	\$ 14,442

- (1) Transaction expenses consist of immaterial expenses and \$1.2 million of legal and accounting fees incurred by us for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, respectively, in connection with resale registration statements filed with the SEC. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, transaction expenses consist of immaterial expenses and \$0.6 million of legal and accounting

fees, respectively, in connection with the amendment to the 2021 Credit Facilities, the tender offer filed by the Company's largest shareholder in May 2023, and a resale registration statement filed with the SEC.

- (2) Contract settlement consists of \$1.7 million of income for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 recorded in connection with a one-time contract termination fee received from one of our supply partners in the Health and Life insurance verticals that ceased operations during the nine months ended September 30, 2024.
- (3) Legal expenses of \$0.4 million and \$2.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, respectively, and \$2.0 million and \$3.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively, consist of legal fees incurred in connection with the civil investigative demand received from the Federal Trade Commission in February 2023 and costs associated with a legal settlement unrelated to our core operations during the nine months ended September 30, 2023.
- (4) Reduction in force costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 consist of \$1.2 million of severance benefits provided to the terminated employees in connection with the RIF Plan. Additionally, equity-based compensation expense includes \$0.3 million of charges related to the RIF Plan for the nine months ended September 30, 2023.



SHAREHOLDER LETTER

Q3 2024



Q3 2024 Results

(in millions, except percentages)	Q3		YoY Change
	2023	2024	
Revenue	\$74.6	\$259.1	247%
Transaction Value ¹	\$109.0	\$451.8	314%
Gross Profit	\$12.3	\$39.2	219%
Contribution ¹	\$15.0	\$41.5	176%
Net (Loss) Income	\$(18.7)	\$11.9	n/m
Adjusted EBITDA ¹	\$3.6	\$26.3	633%

n/m - Not Meaningful

¹ See “Key Business and Operating Metrics and Non-GAAP Financial Measures” for additional information regarding non-GAAP metrics used in this shareholder letter.



Executive Summary

We had an outstanding third quarter, delivering record results across all key metrics. Transaction Value grew 314% year over year, to an all-time high of \$451.8 million, due primarily to ongoing momentum in our Property & Casualty (P&C) insurance vertical. We achieved Adjusted EBITDA of \$26.3 million, an increase of more than 600% year over year, again demonstrating the strong operating leverage in our business model.

In our P&C insurance vertical, Transaction Value grew over 750% year over year as auto insurance carriers increased their customer acquisition efforts in the direct channel against the backdrop of improved underwriting profitability. This additional demand drove year-over-year increases in both pricing and volume. We believe the auto insurance industry recovery is still in the middle innings, with many carriers yet to fully resume growth marketing investments. On the supply side, our strategic focus on expanding publisher partnerships also contributed to our gains in the quarter — and positions us well for continued market share growth into the future.

In our Health insurance vertical, third quarter Transaction Value grew 9% year over year, in line with our expectations. As a reminder, the fourth quarter is our seasonally strongest quarter in this vertical due to the timing of the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period and Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment Period. We continue to expect our Health insurance vertical to generate less than 20% of Transaction Value for the full year compared with 44% in 2023, as our business mix normalizes in connection with the rebound in our P&C vertical.

We further strengthened our balance sheet, ending the quarter with a net debt-to-Adjusted EBITDA ratio of less than 2.0x. We also made working capital investments during the quarter to support our growth. Going forward, we expect to convert a healthy percentage of Adjusted EBITDA into cash due to the operating efficiencies in our business, including minimal capital expenditure and working capital needs. While reducing net debt continues to be a near-term priority, we remain committed to disciplined capital management to create long-term shareholder value.

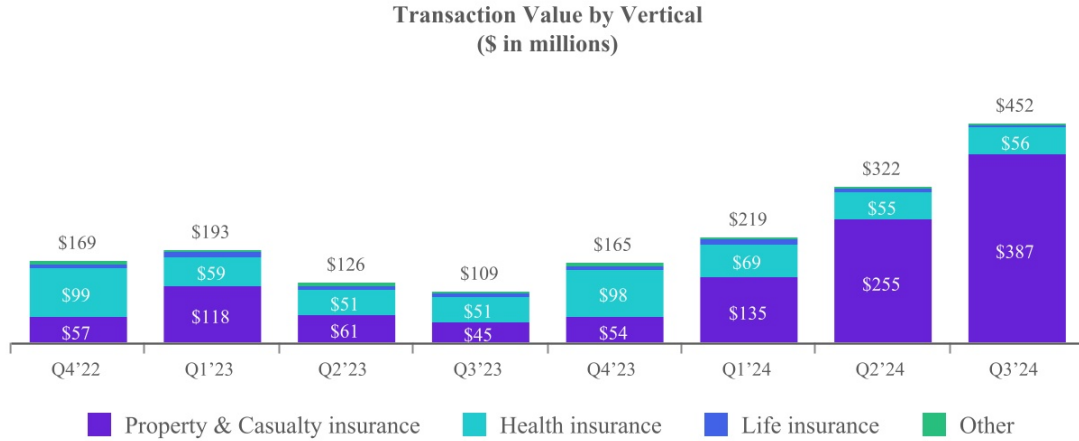
We believe our business model sets us apart. We operate the largest customer acquisition media marketplace for insurance, with strong, long-term partnerships that are not easily replicated by competitors. We connect hundreds of supply partners, who reach millions of high-intent insurance shoppers, with hundreds of demand partners (primarily insurance carriers). The network effects of our model, which allow carriers to rapidly scale their direct-to-consumer marketing investments, have enabled us to gain market share while maintaining our strong operating leverage, even in a very competitive advertising market.

While the P&C market has been improving rapidly, we see ample room for future growth. Even as private auto premiums are up around 15% year over year and profitability continues to improve, a number of major carriers have seen fewer policies in force and declining market share. We expect marketing investments to accelerate as these carriers compete more aggressively for market share. We also expect spend to increase further as additional carriers achieve target profitability levels and key states approve necessary rate increases. With our deep partner relationships, transparent marketplaces and scalable foundation, MediaAlpha is well-positioned to capitalize on the growing digital advertising market and drive sustained long-term growth and shareholder value creation.



Financial Discussion - Transaction Value and Revenue Metrics

Transaction Value increased 314% year over year to \$451.8 million in Q3 2024, driven primarily by a 766% increase in the P&C insurance vertical. Transaction Value represents the total gross investment in customer acquisition executed by our partners on our platform, and is one of the key metrics that reflects our ability to drive value for our partners and increase our share of wallet as budgets increasingly migrate online.



Transaction Value from our P&C insurance vertical increased 766% year over year to \$387.5 million, driven by significant year-over-year increases in marketing budgets and customer acquisition spending by our carrier partners as they refocus on growth in response to improving underwriting profitability.

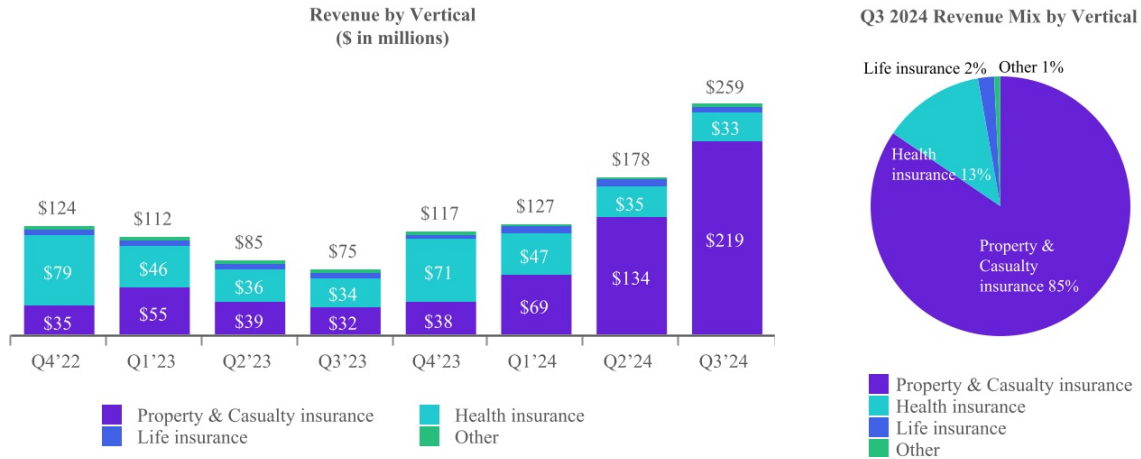
Transaction Value from our Health insurance vertical increased 9% year over year to \$55.6 million, due primarily to higher demand for calls and leads.

Transaction Value from our Life insurance vertical declined 17% year over year to \$6.3 million, driven by lower customer acquisition spending from our demand partners.

Transaction Value from our Other vertical, which includes travel and consumer finance, declined 56% year over year to \$2.4 million.



We generated \$259.1 million of total revenue in Q3 2024, up 247% year over year, driven primarily by higher revenue from our P&C insurance vertical.



Revenue from our P&C insurance vertical increased 586% year over year to \$219.0 million in Q3 2024, driven largely by the increase in transaction value.

Revenue from our Health insurance vertical declined 3% year over year to \$32.9 million in Q3 2024. Health revenue decreased while Transaction Value increased due to growth from certain partners who primarily transact via the Private Marketplace, where we recognize only our platform fee as revenue.

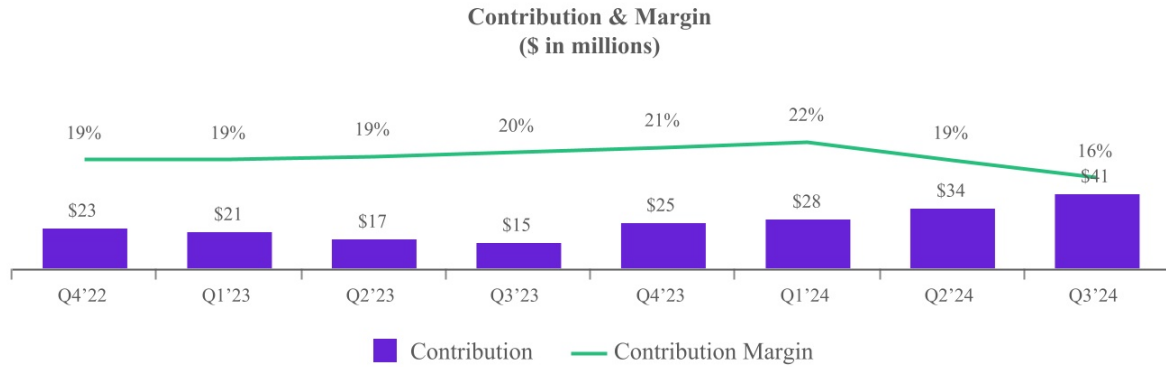
Revenue from our Life insurance vertical declined 2% year over year to \$5.2 million in Q3 2024, driven by lower customer acquisition spending by our demand partners, offset in part by a higher mix of transactions from our Open Marketplace, which positively impacted revenue.

Revenue from our Other vertical, which consists of travel and consumer finance, declined 40% year over year to \$2.0 million in Q3 2024.

Q3 2024

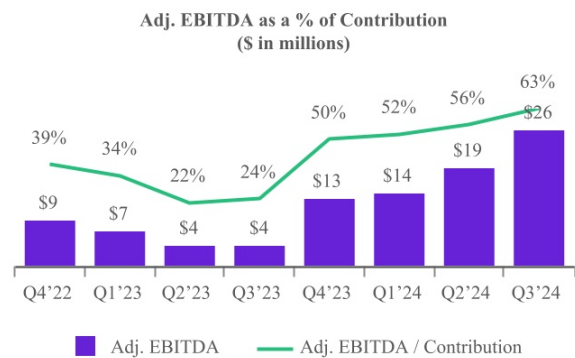
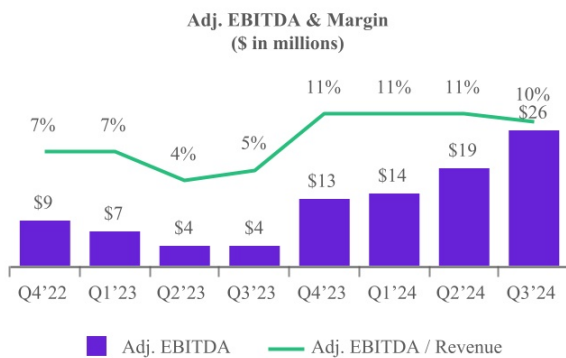
Financial Discussion - Profitability

Gross profit was \$39.2 million in Q3 2024, a year-over-year increase of 219%. Contribution, which generally represents revenue less revenue share payments and online advertising costs, was \$41.5 million in Q3 2024, a year-over-year increase of 176%. The year-over-year increase in Gross Profit and Contribution were driven primarily by the higher revenue partially offset by lower take rates. Contribution Margin was 16.0% in Q3 2024, compared with 20.2% in Q3 2023.



Net income was \$11.9 million in Q3 2024, compared with a net loss of \$18.7 million in Q3 2023. The increase was driven primarily by an increase in gross profit of \$26.9 million and lower equity-based compensation expense of \$5.9 million.

Adjusted EBITDA was \$26.3 million in Q3 2024, a year-over-year increase of 633%. Adjusted EBITDA margin was 10.1% in Q3 2024, compared with 4.8% in Q3 2023. The increase was driven primarily by higher gross profit, offset in part by moderate investments in our operating expenses.





Financial Discussion - Q4 2024 Outlook ¹

	Q4 2024		
Transaction Value ²	\$470 million	-	\$495 million
<i>YY Growth</i>	184%		199%
Revenue	\$275 million	-	\$295 million
<i>YY Growth</i>	135%		152%
Adjusted EBITDA ²	\$29.5 million	-	\$32.5 million
<i>YY Growth</i>	133%		156%

Our guidance for Q4 2024 reflects a continuation of the recent trends in customer acquisition spending that we have seen in our P&C insurance vertical. As a result, we expect Transaction Value in our P&C insurance vertical to be flat to slightly up as compared to Q3 2024 levels, stronger than typical seasonal trends. We expect fourth quarter Transaction Value in our Health insurance vertical to be down mid-single digits year over year due to headwinds in Medicare.

Transaction Value: For Q4 2024, we expect Transaction Value to be in the range of \$470 million - \$495 million, a year-over-year increase of 192% at the midpoint.

Revenue: For Q4 2024, we expect revenue to be in the range of \$275 million - \$295 million, a year-over-year increase of 143% at the midpoint.

Adjusted EBITDA: For Q4 2024, we expect Adjusted EBITDA to be between \$29.5 million and \$32.5 million, a year-over-year increase of 144% at the midpoint. We are projecting Contribution less Adjusted EBITDA to be approximately \$0.5 - \$1.0 million higher than in Q3 2024.

Thank you,

Steve Yi
Chief Executive Officer, President and Co-Founder

Patrick Thompson
Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

¹ With respect to the Company's projection of Adjusted EBITDA under "Financial Discussion – Q4 2024 Outlook", MediaAlpha is not providing a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to net income (loss) because the Company is unable to predict with reasonable certainty the reconciling items that may affect net income (loss) without unreasonable effort, including equity-based compensation, transaction expenses and income tax expense. These reconciling items are uncertain, depend on various factors and could significantly impact, either individually or in the aggregate, the GAAP measures for the applicable period.

² See "Key Business and Operating Metrics and Non-GAAP Financial Measures" for additional information regarding non-GAAP metrics used in this shareholder letter.

Key Business and Operating Metrics and Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In addition to traditional financial metrics, we rely upon certain business and operating metrics that are not presented in accordance with GAAP to estimate the volume of spending on our platform, estimate and recognize revenue, evaluate our business performance and facilitate our operations. Such business and operating metrics should not be considered in isolation from, or as an alternative to, measures presented in accordance with GAAP and should be considered together with other operating and financial performance measures presented in accordance with GAAP. Also, such business and operating metrics may not necessarily be comparable to similarly titled measures presented by other companies.

Transaction Value

We define “Transaction Value” as the total gross dollars transacted by our partners on our platform. Transaction Value is an operating metric not presented in accordance with GAAP, and is a driver of revenue based on the economic relationships we have with our partners. Our partners use our platform to transact via Open and Private Marketplace transactions. In our Open Marketplace model, revenue recognized represents the fees paid by our Demand Partners for Consumer Referrals sold and is equal to the Transaction Value and revenue share payments to our Supply Partners represent costs of revenue. In our Private Marketplace model, revenue recognized represents a platform fee billed to the Supply Partner based on an agreed-upon percentage of the Transaction Value for the Consumer Referrals transacted, and accordingly there are no associated costs of revenue. We utilize Transaction Value to assess the overall level of transaction activity through our platform. We believe it is useful to investors to assess the overall level of activity on our platform and to better understand the sources of our revenue across our different transaction models and verticals.

The following table presents Transaction Value by platform model for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Open Marketplace transactions	\$ 253,016	\$ 73,053	\$ 546,949	\$ 263,568
Percentage of total Transaction Value	56.0 %	67.0 %	55.1 %	61.6 %
Private Marketplace transactions	198,759	35,963	445,742	164,524
Percentage of total Transaction Value	44.0 %	33.0 %	44.9 %	38.4 %
Total Transaction Value	\$ 451,775	\$ 109,016	\$ 992,691	\$ 428,092

The following table presents Transaction Value by vertical for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Property & Casualty insurance	\$ 387,451	\$ 44,715	\$ 777,521	\$ 223,305
Percentage of total Transaction Value	85.8 %	41.0 %	78.3 %	52.2 %
Health insurance	55,615	51,210	179,980	161,450
Percentage of total Transaction Value	12.3 %	47.0 %	18.1 %	37.7 %
Life insurance	6,261	7,566	24,384	26,042
Percentage of total Transaction Value	1.4 %	6.9 %	2.5 %	6.1 %
Other	2,448	5,525	10,806	17,295
Percentage of total Transaction Value	0.5 %	5.1 %	1.1 %	4.0 %
Total Transaction Value	\$ 451,775	\$ 109,016	\$ 992,691	\$ 428,092

Q3 2024



Contribution and Contribution Margin

We define “Contribution” as revenue less revenue share payments and online advertising costs, or, as reported in our consolidated statements of operations, revenue less cost of revenue (i.e., gross profit), as adjusted to exclude the following items from cost of revenue: equity-based compensation; salaries, wages, and related costs; internet and hosting costs; amortization; depreciation; other services; and merchant-related fees. We define “Contribution Margin” as Contribution expressed as a percentage of revenue for the same period. Contribution and Contribution Margin are non-GAAP financial measures that we present to supplement the financial information we present on a GAAP basis. We use Contribution and Contribution Margin to measure the return on our relationships with our supply partners (excluding certain fixed costs), the financial return on and efficacy of our online advertising costs to drive consumers to our proprietary websites, and our operating leverage. We do not use Contribution and Contribution Margin as measures of overall profitability. We present Contribution and Contribution Margin because they are used by our management and board of directors to manage our operating performance, including evaluating our operational performance against budget and assessing our overall operating efficiency and operating leverage. For example, if Contribution increases and our headcount costs and other operating expenses remain steady, our Adjusted EBITDA and operating leverage increase. If Contribution Margin decreases, we may choose to re-evaluate and re-negotiate our revenue share agreements with our supply partners, to make optimization and pricing changes with respect to our bids for keywords from primary traffic acquisition sources, or to change our overall cost structure with respect to headcount, fixed costs and other costs. Other companies may calculate Contribution and Contribution Margin differently than we do. Contribution and Contribution Margin have their limitations as analytical tools, and you should not consider them in isolation or as substitutes for analysis of our results presented in accordance with GAAP.

The following table reconciles Contribution with gross profit, the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Revenue	\$ 259,133	\$ 74,573	\$ 564,056	\$ 270,975
Less cost of revenue	(219,907)	(62,277)	(469,465)	(226,545)
Gross profit	\$ 39,226	\$ 12,296	\$ 94,591	\$ 44,430
Adjusted to exclude the following (as related to cost of revenue):				
Equity-based compensation	405	1,012	2,654	2,959
Salaries, wages, and related	907	878	2,474	2,832
Internet and hosting	145	138	402	418
Other expenses	170	179	539	513
Depreciation	5	9	15	30
Other services	549	514	2,008	1,795
Merchant-related fees	75	11	217	14
Contribution	\$ 41,482	\$ 15,037	\$ 102,900	\$ 52,991
Gross margin	15.1 %	16.5 %	16.8 %	16.4 %
Contribution Margin	16.0 %	20.2 %	18.2 %	19.6 %

Consumer Referrals

We define “Consumer Referral” as any consumer click, call or lead purchased by a buyer on our platform. Click revenue is recognized on a pay-per-click basis and revenue is earned and recognized when a consumer clicks on a listed buyer’s advertisement that is presented subsequent to the consumer’s search (e.g., auto insurance quote search or health insurance quote search). Call revenue is earned and recognized when a consumer transfers to a buyer and remains engaged for a requisite duration of time, as specified by each buyer. Lead revenue is recognized when we deliver data leads to buyers. Data leads are generated either through insurance carriers, insurance-focused research destination websites or other financial websites that make the data leads available for purchase through our platform, or when consumers complete a full quote request on our proprietary websites. Delivery occurs at the time of lead transfer. The data we generate from each Consumer Referral feeds into our analytics model to generate conversion probabilities for each unique consumer, enabling discovery of predicted return and cost per sale across the platform and helping us to improve our platform technology. We monitor the number of Consumer Referrals on our platform in order to measure Transaction Value, revenue and overall business performance across our verticals and platform models.

The following table presents the percentages of total Transaction Value generated from clicks, calls and leads for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Clicks	88.6 %	66.1 %	84.2 %	73.0 %
Calls	6.6 %	19.9 %	9.4 %	16.0 %
Leads	4.8 %	14.0 %	6.4 %	11.0 %



Adjusted EBITDA

We define “Adjusted EBITDA” as net income (loss) excluding interest expense, income tax benefit (expense), depreciation expense on property and equipment, amortization of intangible assets, as well as equity-based compensation expense and certain other adjustments as listed in the table below. We define “Adjusted EBITDA Margin” as Adjusted EBITDA as a percentage of revenue. Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure that we present to supplement the financial information we present on a GAAP basis. We monitor and present Adjusted EBITDA because it is a key measure used by our management to understand and evaluate our operating performance, to establish budgets and to develop operational goals for managing our business. We believe that Adjusted EBITDA helps identify underlying trends in our business that could otherwise be masked by the effect of the expenses that we exclude in the calculations of Adjusted EBITDA. Accordingly, we believe that Adjusted EBITDA provides useful information to investors and others in understanding and evaluating our operating results, enhancing the overall understanding of our past performance and future prospects. In addition, presenting Adjusted EBITDA provides investors with a metric to evaluate the capital efficiency of our business.

Adjusted EBITDA is not presented in accordance with GAAP and should not be considered in isolation of, or as an alternative to, measures presented in accordance with GAAP. There are a number of limitations related to the use of Adjusted EBITDA rather than net income, which is the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP. These limitations include the fact that Adjusted EBITDA excludes interest expense on debt, income tax benefit (expense), equity-based compensation expense, depreciation and amortization, and certain other adjustments that we consider to be useful to investors and others in understanding and evaluating our operating results. In addition, other companies may use other measures to evaluate their performance, including different definitions of “Adjusted EBITDA,” which could reduce the usefulness of our Adjusted EBITDA as a tool for comparison.

The following table reconciles Adjusted EBITDA with net income (loss), the most directly comparable financial measure calculated and presented in accordance with GAAP, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024 and 2023:

(in thousands)	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
Net income (loss)	\$ 11,888	\$ (18,698)	\$ 14,817	\$ (53,262)
Equity-based compensation expense	8,597	14,454	26,452	43,943
Interest expense	3,562	3,947	11,158	11,397
Income tax expense	312	102	469	330
Depreciation expense on property and equipment	65	87	191	275
Amortization of intangible assets	1,609	1,730	4,827	5,188
Transaction expenses(1)	(45)	5	1,172	553
Impairment of cost method investment	—	—	—	1,406
Contract settlement(2)	—	—	(1,725)	—
Changes in TRA related liability	—	—	—	6
Changes in Tax Indemnification Receivable	(84)	(20)	(86)	(48)
Settlement of federal and state income tax refunds	—	—	—	3
Legal expenses(3)	367	1,979	2,155	3,418
Reduction in force costs (4)	—	—	—	1,233
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 26,271	\$ 3,586	\$ 59,430	\$ 14,442

- (1) Transaction expenses consist of immaterial expenses and \$1.2 million of legal and accounting fees incurred by us for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, respectively, in connection with resale registration statements filed with the SEC. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, transaction expenses consist of immaterial expenses and \$0.6 million of legal and accounting fees, respectively, in connection with the amendment to the 2021 Credit Facilities, the tender offer filed by the Company's largest shareholder in May 2023, and a resale registration statement filed with the SEC.
- (2) Contract settlement consists of \$1.7 million of income for the nine months ended September 30, 2024 recorded in connection with a one-time contract termination fee received from one of our supply partners in the Health and Life insurance verticals that ceased operations during the nine months ended September 30, 2024.
- (3) Legal expenses of \$0.4 million and \$2.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2024, respectively, and \$2.0 million and \$3.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2023, respectively, consist of legal fees incurred in connection with the civil investigative demand received from the Federal Trade Commission in February 2023 and costs associated with a legal settlement unrelated to our core operations during the nine months ended September 30, 2023.
- (4) Reduction in force costs for the nine months ended September 30, 2023 consist of \$1.2 million of severance benefits provided to the terminated employees in connection with the RIF Plan. Additionally, equity-based compensation expense includes \$0.3 million of charges related to the RIF Plan for the nine months ended September 30, 2023.



Forward-Looking Statements

This shareholder letter contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including without limitation statements regarding our belief that the auto insurance industry recovery is still in the middle innings, with many carriers yet to fully resume growth marketing investments; our belief that our strategic focus on expanding publisher partnerships positions us well for continued market share growth into the future; our expectation that our Health insurance vertical will generate less than 20% of Transaction Value for the full year 2024; our expectation that we will convert a healthy percentage of Adjusted EBITDA into cash due to the operating efficiencies in our business; our expectation that carrier marketing investments will accelerate as they compete more aggressively for market share; our expectation that carrier marketing spend will increase further as additional carriers achieve target profitability levels and key states approve necessary rate increases; our belief that we are well-positioned to capitalize on the growing digital advertising market and drive sustained long-term growth and shareholder value creation; and our financial outlook for the fourth quarter of 2024. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to, among other things, future events and our financial performance. These statements are often, but not always, made through the use of words or phrases such as “may,” “should,” “could,” “predict,” “potential,” “believe,” “will likely result,” “expect,” “continue,” “will,” “anticipate,” “seek,” “estimate,” “intend,” “plan,” “projection,” “would,” and “outlook,” or the negative version of those words or other comparable words or phrases of a future or forward-looking nature. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, and are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, management’s beliefs and certain assumptions made by management, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and beyond our control. Accordingly, we caution you that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, assumptions and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are reasonable as of the date made, actual results may prove to be materially different from the results expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements.

There are or will be important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in these forward-looking statements, including those more fully described in MediaAlpha’s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), including the Form 10-K filed on February 22, 2024 and the Forms 10-Q filed on May 2, 2024 and August 1, 2024, and to be filed on or about October 31, 2024. These factors should not be construed as exhaustive. MediaAlpha disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this shareholder letter.

Q3 2024