

LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC  
 Form 4  
 March 05, 2015

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 STUEBER FREDERICK G

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 LINCOLN ELECTRIC HOLDINGS INC [LECO]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 03/03/2015

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Ex. VP, General Counsel & Secy

CLEVELAND, OH 44117  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Shares	03/03/2015		F	V 1,440 D	(A) or (D) \$ 70.37	29,867 <sup>(1)</sup>	D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6)
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## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				Amount or Number of Shares
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
STUEBER FREDERICK G 22801 ST. CLAIR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44117			Ex. VP, General Counsel & Secy		

## Signatures

/s/Jennifer I. Ansberry, Jennifer I. Ansberry as Attorney-in-Fact for Frederick G. Stueber 03/05/2015

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Total also includes 177 additional shares attributable to dividends earned on restricted stock units that were granted on November 2, 2011 and vested on March 3, 2015.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number. r Certain Covenants Limitations on Restricted Payments and transfers that would constitute Restricted Payments but for the exclusions in clauses (1) and (2) of the definition thereof; *provided, however*, that any sale, conveyance, contribution, transfer, lease, assignment, license or other disposition of assets by the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to any Health Management Joint Venture pursuant to clause (13) of the definition of Permitted Investments in connection with the creation thereof shall be deemed to be an Asset Sale for purposes of this definition;

- (4) the creation or realization of any Permitted Lien;
- (5) transfers of damaged, worn-out or obsolete equipment or assets that, in the Issuer's reasonable judgment, are no longer used or useful in the business of the Issuer or the Restricted Subsidiaries;
- (6) any license of intellectual property not otherwise in the ordinary course of business, other than the license of all or substantially all of the rights associated with any intellectual property owned or controlled by the Issuer or any of the Restricted Subsidiaries if (i) such rights are used or could be used in a line of business then being conducted by the Issuer or any of the Restricted Subsidiaries and such rights and line of business are material to the business of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole, as reasonably determined by the Issuer, (ii) such license is for

all or substantially all of the remaining contractual or useful life of such intellectual property, whichever is shorter, determined as of the date such license is granted, and (iii) the Fair Market Value of such license, together with that of any other such licenses meeting the criteria in clauses (i) and (ii) (with the Fair Market Value of any such license being determined at the time thereof and without regard to subsequent changes in value), exceeds \$25.0 million in any fiscal year of the Issuer; and

(7) any transfer or series of related transfers that, but for this clause, would be Asset Sales, if after giving effect to such transfers, the aggregate Fair Market Value of the assets transferred in such transaction or any such series of related transactions does not exceed, in the aggregate with all other such transactions or series of related transactions (with the Fair Market Value of any such transaction being determined at the time thereof and without regard to subsequent changes in value), \$25.0 million in any fiscal year of the Issuer.

Attributable Indebtedness, when used with respect to any Sale and Leaseback Transaction, means, as at the time of determination, the present value (discounted at a rate equivalent to the Issuer's then-current weighted average cost of funds for borrowed money as at the time of determination, compounded on a semi-annual basis) of the total obligations of the lessee for rental payments during the remaining term of the lease included in any such Sale and Leaseback Transaction.

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**Bankruptcy Law** means Title 11 of the United States Code, as amended, or any similar federal or state law for the relief of debtors.

**Board of Directors** shall mean, with respect to any Person, (i) in the case of any corporation, the board of directors of such Person, (ii) in the case of any limited liability company, the board of managers of such Person, (iii) in the case of any partnership, the Board of Directors of the general partner of such Person and (iv) in any other case, the functional equivalent of the foregoing, or any committee thereof duly authorized to act on behalf of such Board.

**Business Day** means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which banking institutions in The City of New York, New York are authorized or required by law to close.

**Capitalized Lease** means a lease required to be capitalized for financial reporting purposes in accordance with GAAP.

**Capitalized Lease Obligations** of any Person means the obligations of such Person to pay rent or other amounts under a Capitalized Lease, and the amount of such obligations shall be the capitalized amount thereof determined in accordance with GAAP.

**Cash Equivalents** means:

(1) marketable obligations with a maturity of one year or less issued or directly and fully guaranteed or insured by the United States of America or issued by any agency or instrumentality thereof and the full faith and credit of the United States of America is pledged in support thereof;

(2) any marketable direct obligations issued by any other agency of the United States of America, any State of the United States of America or the District of Columbia, or any political subdivision of any such state or instrumentality thereof, in each case having one of the two highest ratings obtainable from either S&P or Moody's;

(3) demand and time deposits and certificates of deposit or acceptances with a maturity of 180 days or less of any financial institution that is a member of the Federal Reserve System having combined capital and surplus and undivided profits of not less than \$500.0 million;

(4) commercial paper maturing no more than one year from the date of creation thereof issued by a corporation that is not the Issuer or an Affiliate of the Issuer, and is organized under the laws of any State of the United States of America or the District of Columbia and rated at least A-1 by S&P or at least P-1 by Moody's;

(5) repurchase obligations with a term of not more than ten days for underlying securities of the types described in clause (1) above entered into with any commercial bank meeting the specifications of clause (3) above;

(6) investments in money market or other mutual funds substantially all of whose assets comprise securities of the types described in clauses (1) through (5) above; and

(7) other short-term investments utilized by any Foreign Subsidiary in accordance with normal investment practices for cash management, and other investments by Foreign Subsidiaries in or with foreign obligors that, in the reasonable judgment of the Issuer, are of a credit quality comparable to those listed in clauses (1) through (6) above.

**Change of Control** means the occurrence of any of the following events:

(1) any person or group (as such terms are used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act), is or becomes the beneficial owner (as defined in Rules 13d-3 and 13d-5 under the Exchange Act (except that for purposes of this clause that person or group shall be deemed to have beneficial ownership of all securities that any such person or group has the right to acquire, whether such right is exercisable immediately or only after the passage of time)), directly or indirectly, of Voting Stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of the total outstanding Voting Stock of the Issuer;

(2) during any period of two consecutive years, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted the Issuer's Board of Directors (together with any new directors whose election to the Issuer's Board of Directors or

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whose nomination for election by the Issuer's stockholders was approved by a vote of at least a majority of the directors of the Issuer then still in office either who were directors of the Issuer at the beginning of such period or whose election or nomination for election was previously so approved) cease for any reason (other than death or disability) to constitute a majority of the Issuer's Board of Directors;

(3) consummation of (a) any share exchange, consolidation or merger of the Issuer or series of such related transactions (excluding a merger with a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary solely for the purpose of changing the Issuer's name or jurisdiction of incorporation) or (b) any sale, lease or other transfer, in one transaction or a series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of the consolidated assets of the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, to any person or group within the meaning thereof in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act, other than one or more of the Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiaries; *provided, however*, that a transaction described in foregoing clause (a) or (b) where the holders of Voting Stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of the total outstanding Voting Stock of the Issuer immediately prior to such transaction own, directly or indirectly, Voting Stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of the total outstanding Voting Stock of the continuing, surviving or resulting entity or the transferee immediately after such event shall not be a Change of Control; or (4) the Issuer shall adopt a Plan of Liquidation or dissolution or any such plan shall be approved by the stockholders of the Issuer.

Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, neither the creation by the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries of any Health Management Joint Venture nor the sale, conveyance, contribution, transfer, lease, assignment, license or other disposition by the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries of any Health Management Business assets to any such Health Management Joint Venture in connection with such creation shall constitute a Change of Control for purposes of clause (3)(b) of this definition, so long as (i) the holders of Voting Stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of the total outstanding Voting Stock of the Issuer immediately prior to such transaction own, directly or indirectly, Voting Stock representing more than 50% of the voting power of the total outstanding Voting Stock of the Issuer immediately after such transaction and (ii) on the date of such transaction, after giving effect to such transaction, the Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio would be less than or equal to 4.0 to 1.0.

Consolidated Amortization Expense for any period means the amortization expense of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

Consolidated Cash Flow for any period means, without duplication, the sum of the amounts for such period of:

(1) Consolidated Net Income; *plus*

(2) in each case only to the extent (and in the same proportion) deducted in determining Consolidated Net Income and with respect to the portion of Consolidated Net Income attributable to any Restricted Subsidiary only if a corresponding amount would be permitted at the date of determination to be distributed to the Issuer by such Restricted Subsidiary without prior approval (that has not been obtained), pursuant to the terms of its charter and all agreements, instruments, judgments, decrees, orders, statutes, rules and governmental regulations applicable to such Restricted Subsidiary or its stockholders,

(a) Consolidated Income Tax Expense,

(b) Consolidated Amortization Expense (but only to the extent not included in Consolidated Interest Expense),

(c) Consolidated Depreciation Expense,

(d) Consolidated Interest Expense, and

(e) all other non-cash items reducing Consolidated Net Income for such period, including any stock-based compensation expense,

in each case determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP; *minus*

(3) the aggregate amount of all non-cash items, determined on a consolidated basis, to the extent such items increased Consolidated Net Income (including the reversal of accruals or reserves for charges that increased

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Consolidated Net Income at any time during the Four-Quarter Period ending on the Issue Date or thereafter) for such period; *minus*

(4) cash disbursements in respect of previously accrued or reserved items increasing Consolidated Cash Flow in that or prior periods.

Consolidated Depreciation Expense for any period means the depreciation expense of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

Consolidated Income Tax Expense for any period means the provision for taxes of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio means the ratio of (x) Consolidated Cash Flow during the Four-Quarter Period ending on or prior to the date of the transaction giving rise to the need to calculate the Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio (the Transaction Date ) to (y) Consolidated Interest Expense for such Four-Quarter Period. For purposes of this definition, Consolidated Cash Flow and Consolidated Interest Expense shall be calculated after giving effect on a *pro forma* basis for the period of such calculation to:

(1) the incurrence of any Indebtedness or the issuance of any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof) and any repayment of other Indebtedness or the redemption of any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof), other than the incurrence or repayment of Indebtedness in the ordinary course of business for working capital purposes pursuant to any revolving credit arrangement, occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the Transaction Date, as if such incurrence, issuance, redemption or repayment, as the case may be (and the application of the proceeds thereof), occurred on the first (1st) day of the Four-Quarter Period; and

(2) any Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including any Asset Acquisition giving rise to the need to make such calculation as a result of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (including any Person who becomes a Restricted Subsidiary as a result of such Asset Acquisition) incurring Acquired Indebtedness and also including any Consolidated Cash Flow (including any *pro forma* expense and cost reductions calculated on a basis consistent with Regulation S-X under the Exchange Act) associated with any such Asset Acquisition) occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the Transaction Date, as if such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including the incurrence of, or assumption or liability for, any such Acquired Indebtedness) occurred on the first (1st) day of the Four-Quarter Period.

If the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary directly or indirectly guarantees Indebtedness of a third Person, the preceding sentence shall give effect to the incurrence of such guaranteed Indebtedness as if the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary had directly incurred or otherwise assumed such guaranteed Indebtedness.

In calculating Consolidated Interest Expense for purposes of determining the denominator (but not the numerator) of this Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio:

(1) interest on outstanding Indebtedness determined on a fluctuating basis as of the Transaction Date and which will continue to be so determined thereafter shall be deemed to have accrued at a fixed rate *per annum* equal to the rate of interest on such Indebtedness in effect on the Transaction Date;

(2) if interest on any Indebtedness actually incurred on the Transaction Date may optionally be determined at an interest rate based upon a factor of a prime or similar rate, a eurocurrency interbank offered rate, or other rates, then the interest rate in effect on the Transaction Date will be deemed to have been in effect during the Four-Quarter Period; and

(3) notwithstanding clause (1) or (2) above, interest on Indebtedness determined on a fluctuating basis, to the extent such interest is covered by agreements relating to Hedging Obligations, shall be deemed to accrue at the rate *per annum* resulting after giving effect to the operation of these agreements.

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Consolidated Interest Expense for any period means the sum, without duplication, of the total interest expense of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP and including without duplication:

- (1) imputed interest on Capitalized Lease Obligations and Attributable Indebtedness;
- (2) commissions, discounts and other fees and charges owed with respect to letters of credit securing financial obligations, bankers acceptance financing and receivables financings;
- (3) the net costs associated with Hedging Obligations;
- (4) amortization of debt issuance costs, debt discount or premium and other financing fees and expenses (other than the write-off of deferred debt issuance costs resulting from the initial offering of the Notes);
- (5) the interest portion of any deferred payment obligations;
- (6) all other non-cash interest expense;
- (7) capitalized interest;
- (8) the product of (a) all dividend payments on any series of Disqualified Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (other than any such Disqualified Equity Interests or any Preferred Stock held by the Issuer or a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary or to the extent paid in Qualified Equity Interests), multiplied by (b) a fraction, the numerator of which is one and the denominator of which is one minus the then current combined federal, state and local statutory tax rate of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries, expressed as a decimal;
- (9) all interest payable with respect to discontinued operations; and
- (10) all interest on any Indebtedness of any other Person guaranteed by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary.

Consolidated Interest Expense shall be calculated after giving effect to Hedging Obligations (including associated costs) described in clause (1) of the definition of Hedging Obligations, but excluding unrealized gains and losses with respect to Hedging Obligations.

Consolidated Net Income for any period means the net income (or loss) of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for such period determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP; *provided, however*, that there shall be excluded from such net income (to the extent otherwise included therein), without duplication:

- (1) the net income (or loss) of any Person (other than a Restricted Subsidiary) in which any Person other than the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries has an ownership interest, except to the extent that cash in an amount equal to any such income has actually been received by the Issuer or any of its Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiaries during such period;
- (2) except to the extent includible in the consolidated net income of the Issuer pursuant to the foregoing clause (1), the net income (or loss) of any Person that accrued prior to the date that (a) such Person becomes a Restricted Subsidiary or is merged into or consolidated with the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or (b) the assets of such Person are acquired by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;
- (3) the net income of any Restricted Subsidiary during such period to the extent that the declaration or payment of dividends or similar distributions by such Restricted Subsidiary of that income is not permitted by operation of the terms of its charter or any agreement, instrument, judgment, decree, order, statute, rule or governmental regulation applicable to that Subsidiary during such period, except that the Issuer's equity in a net loss of any such Restricted Subsidiary for such period shall be included in determining Consolidated Net Income;
- (4) for the purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket only, in the case of a successor to the Issuer by consolidation, merger or transfer of its assets, any income (or loss) of the successor prior to such merger, consolidation or transfer of assets;

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- (5) other than for purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket, any gain (or loss), together with any related provisions for taxes on any such gain (or the tax effect of any such loss), realized during such period by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary upon (a) the acquisition of any securities, or the extinguishment of any Indebtedness, of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or (b) any Asset Sale by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;
- (6) any gains and losses due solely to fluctuations in currency values and the related tax effects according to GAAP;
- (7) any unrealized gains and losses with respect to Hedging Obligations;
- (8) any extraordinary, unusual or nonrecurring gain, charges and losses (including all restructuring costs, facilities relocation costs, acquisition integration costs and fees, including cash severance payments made in connection with acquisitions, and any expense or charge related to the repurchase of Equity Interests or warrants or options to purchase Equity Interests), and the related tax effects according to GAAP;
- (9) any acquisition-related expenses expensed in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141(R) promulgated by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( SFAS 141(R) ) and any gains or losses on any earn-out payments, contingent consideration or deferred purchase price in conjunction with any Asset Acquisition determined in accordance with SFAS 141(R);
- (10) any impairment charge or asset write-off, in each case pursuant to GAAP, and the amortization of intangibles arising pursuant to GAAP;
- (11) any non-cash compensation charges and deferred compensation charges, including any arising from existing stock options resulting from any merger or recapitalization transaction; *provided, however*, that Consolidated Net Income for any period shall be reduced by any cash payments made during such period by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in connection with any such deferred compensation, whether or not such reduction is in accordance with GAAP; and
- (12) inventory purchase accounting adjustments and amortization and impairment charges resulting from other purchase accounting adjustments in connection with acquisition transactions.

In addition, any return of capital with respect to an Investment that increased the Restricted Payments Basket pursuant to clause (3)(e) of the first paragraph under Certain Covenants Limitations on Restricted Payments or decreased the amount of Investments outstanding pursuant to clause (15) of the definition of Permitted Investments shall be excluded from Consolidated Net Income for purposes of calculating the Restricted Payments Basket.

Consolidated Net Worth means, with respect to any Person as of any date, the consolidated stockholders' equity of such Person, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP, less (without duplication) (1) any amounts thereof attributable to Disqualified Equity Interests of such Person or its Subsidiaries or any amount attributable to Unrestricted Subsidiaries and (2) all write-ups (other than write-ups resulting from foreign currency translations and write-ups of tangible assets of a going concern business made within twelve months after the acquisition of such business) subsequent to the Issue Date in the book value of any asset owned by such Person or a Subsidiary of such Person.

Consolidated Secured Debt means all Secured Indebtedness, without duplication, that is Indebtedness of a type described in clause (1), (2), (3), (4)(i), (5), (6), (7), (8) or (9) of the definition thereof, in each case of the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP and treating any commitment to provide any Indebtedness under a revolving credit facility as though such commitment were fully drawn.

Consolidated Secured Leverage Ratio means the ratio of (x) Consolidated Secured Debt as of the last day of the most recent fiscal quarter of the Issuer for which financial statements are available ending on or prior to the date of the transaction giving rise to the need to calculate the Consolidated Secured Leverage Ratio (the Secured Transaction Date ) to (y) Consolidated Cash Flow for the Four-Quarter Period ending on or prior to the Secured Transaction Date. In addition to and without limitation of the foregoing, for purposes of this definition,



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Consolidated Secured Debt and Consolidated Cash Flow shall be calculated after giving effect on a *pro forma* basis for the period of such calculation to:

(1) the incurrence of any Indebtedness or the issuance of any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof) and any repayment of other Indebtedness or the redemption of any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof), other than the incurrence or repayment of Indebtedness in the ordinary course of business for working capital purposes pursuant to any revolving credit arrangement, occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the Secured Transaction Date, as if such incurrence, issuance, redemption or repayment, as the case may be (and the application of the proceeds thereof), occurred on the first (1st) day of the Four-Quarter Period; and

(2) any Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including any Asset Acquisition giving rise to the need to make such calculation as a result of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (including any Person who becomes a Restricted Subsidiary as a result of such Asset Acquisition) incurring any secured Acquired Indebtedness, and also including any Consolidated Cash Flow (including any *pro forma* expense and cost reductions calculated on a basis consistent with Regulation S-X under the Exchange Act) associated with or attributable to any such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition or the assets which are the subject of any such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition) occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the Secured Transaction Date, as if such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including the incurrence of, or assumption or liability for, any such Acquired Indebtedness) occurred on the first (1st) day of the Four-Quarter Period.

If the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary directly or indirectly guarantees Indebtedness of a third Person, the preceding sentence shall give effect to the incurrence of such guaranteed Indebtedness as if the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary had directly incurred or otherwise assumed such guaranteed Indebtedness.

Consolidated Total Assets means, at any time of determination, the consolidated total assets of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP as of the most recent date for which financial statements of the Issuer are then available.

Consolidated Total Debt means all Indebtedness of a type described in clause (1), (2), (3), (4)(i), (6), (7) or (9) of the definition thereof and all guarantee Obligations with respect to any such Indebtedness of another Person, in each case of the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio means the ratio of (x) Consolidated Total Debt as of the last day of the most recent fiscal quarter of the Issuer for which financial statements are available ending on or prior to the date of the Health Management Joint Venture transaction giving rise to the need to calculate the Consolidated Total Leverage Ratio (the HMJV Transaction Date ) to (y) Consolidated Cash Flow for the Four-Quarter Period ending on or prior to the HMJV Transaction Date. In addition to and without limitation of the foregoing, for purposes of this definition, (i) there shall be deducted from Consolidated Total Debt in the calculation thereof the amount of all cash and Cash Equivalents received by the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries as consideration in connection with the relevant Health Management Joint Venture transaction and not applied by the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries on the HMJV Transaction Date to repay Indebtedness of the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries of any type included within the definition of Consolidated Total Debt , and (ii) Consolidated Total Debt and Consolidated Cash Flow shall be calculated after giving effect on a *pro forma* basis for the period of such calculation to:

(1) the incurrence of any Indebtedness or the issuance of any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof) and any repayment of other Indebtedness or the redemption of any Preferred Stock of any Restricted Subsidiary (and the application of the proceeds thereof), other than the incurrence or repayment of Indebtedness in the ordinary course of business for working capital purposes pursuant to any revolving credit arrangement, occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the HMJV Transaction Date, as if such incurrence, issuance, redemption or repayment, as the case may be (and the application of the proceeds thereof), occurred on the first (1st) day of the Four-Quarter Period; and



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(2) any Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including any Asset Sale constituting a Health Management Joint Venture transaction described in the last paragraph of the definition of Change of Control above giving rise to the need to make such calculation, also including any Asset Acquisition resulting in the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary incurring any Acquired Indebtedness, and also including any Consolidated Cash Flow (including any *pro forma* expense and cost reductions calculated on a basis consistent with Regulation S-X under the Exchange Act) associated with or attributable to any such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition or the assets which are the subject of any such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition) occurring during the Four-Quarter Period or at any time subsequent to the last day of the Four-Quarter Period and on or prior to the HMJV Transaction Date, as if such Asset Sale or Asset Acquisition (including the incurrence of, or assumption or liability for, any such Acquired Indebtedness) occurred on the first (1st) day of the Four-Quarter Period.

If the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary directly or indirectly guarantees Indebtedness of a third Person, the preceding sentence shall give effect to the incurrence of such guaranteed Indebtedness as if the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary had directly incurred or otherwise assumed such guaranteed Indebtedness.

Coverage Ratio Exception has the meaning set forth in the proviso in the first paragraph of the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness.

Credit Agreements means the First Lien Credit Agreement and the Second Lien Credit Agreement, and Credit Agreement means the First Lien Credit Agreement or the Second Lien Credit Agreement.

Credit Facilities means, with respect to the Issuer or any Subsidiary, one or more debt facilities (including any Credit Agreement) or commercial paper facilities with banks or institutional or other similar lenders providing for revolving credit loans, term loans, receivables financing (including through the sale of receivables to such lenders or to special purpose entities formed to borrow from such lenders against such receivables), letters of credit or other similar debt financing arrangements, in each case, as amended, restated, supplemented, modified, extended, renewed, refunded, replaced, refinanced or otherwise restructured (including any increase in the amount of borrowings or other Indebtedness outstanding or available to be borrowed thereunder) in whole or in part from time to time.

Custodian means any receiver, trustee, assignee, liquidator or similar official under any Bankruptcy Law.

Default means (1) any Event of Default or (2) any event, act or condition that, after notice or the passage of time or both, would be an Event of Default.

Depository means The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or a successor thereto that is a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act or other applicable statute or regulation.

Designation has the meaning given to this term in the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

Designation Amount has the meaning given to this term in the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries.

Disqualified Equity Interests of any Person means any class of Equity Interests of such Person that, by its terms, or by the terms of any related agreement or of any security into which it is convertible, puttable or exchangeable, is, or upon the happening of any event or the passage of time would be, required to be redeemed by such Person, whether or not at the option of the holder thereof (but excluding redemption at the option of such Person), or matures or is mandatorily redeemable, pursuant to a sinking fund obligation or otherwise, in whole or in part, on or prior to the date which is 91 days after the final maturity date of the Notes; *provided, however*, that any class of Equity Interests of such Person that, by its terms, authorizes such Person to satisfy in full its obligations with respect to the payment of dividends or upon maturity, redemption (pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise) or repurchase thereof or otherwise by the delivery of Equity Interests that are not Disqualified Equity Interests (other than the payment of cash in lieu of delivery of fractional shares of Equity Interests), and that is not convertible, puttable or exchangeable for Disqualified Equity Interests or Indebtedness, will not be deemed to be Disqualified Equity Interests so long as such Person satisfies its obligations with respect thereto solely by the delivery of Equity Interests that are not Disqualified Equity Interests (other than the payment of cash in lieu of delivery of fractional

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shares of Equity Interests); *provided further, however*, that any Equity Interests that would not constitute Disqualified Equity Interests but for provisions thereof giving holders thereof (or the holders of any security into or for which such Equity Interests is convertible, exchangeable or exercisable) the right to require the Issuer to redeem such Equity Interests upon the occurrence of a change of control or an asset disposition occurring prior to the final maturity date of the Notes shall not constitute Disqualified Equity Interests if the change in control or asset disposition provisions applicable to such Equity Interests are no more favorable to such holders than the provisions described under Change of Control and Certain Covenants Limitations on Asset Sales, respectively, and such Equity Interests specifically provide that the Issuer will not redeem any such Equity Interests pursuant to such provisions prior to the Issuer's purchase of the Notes as required pursuant to the provisions described under Change of Control and Certain Covenants Limitations on Asset Sales, respectively; *provided further, however*, in no event shall the Series B Preferred Stock on the terms thereof existing on the Issue Date (or any other Preferred Stock issued by the Issuer on substantially similar terms with regard to the foregoing matters in this definition) be deemed to be Disqualified Equity Interests.

Dollars and \$ means the currency of The United States of America.

Domestic Subsidiary means any Subsidiary of the Issuer that is not a Foreign Subsidiary; *provided, however*, that (without limiting the definition of Foreign Subsidiary below) each of Inverness Medical Investments, LLC, BBI Research, Inc. and Seravac USA Inc., respectively, shall not be a Domestic Subsidiary for so long as it is a Subsidiary of a Foreign Subsidiary.

Equity Interests of any Person means (1) any and all shares or other equity interests (including common stock, preferred stock, limited liability company interests and partnership interests) in such Person and (2) all rights to purchase, warrants or options (whether or not currently exercisable), participations or other equivalents of or interests in (however designated) such shares or other interests in such Person; *provided, however*, that no Indebtedness under the 2007 Convertible Notes or any other Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Subsidiary of the Issuer that is convertible into Equity Interests of such Person shall be deemed to be Equity Interests of such Person prior to conversion thereof into such Equity Interests.

Exchange Act means the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Fair Market Value means, with respect to any asset, the price (after taking into account any liabilities relating to such assets) that would be negotiated in an arm's-length transaction for cash between a willing seller and a willing and able buyer, neither of which is under any compulsion to complete the transaction, as such price is determined in good faith by the Board of Directors of the Issuer or a duly authorized committee thereof, as evidenced by a resolution of such Board of Directors or committee.

First Lien Credit Agreement means that certain First Lien Credit Agreement dated as of June 26, 2007 among, *inter alia*, the Issuer, the lenders party thereto and General Electric Capital Corporation as administrative agent, including any notes, guarantees, collateral and security documents, instruments and agreements executed in connection therewith (including Hedging Obligations related to the Indebtedness incurred thereunder), and in each case as amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time before, on or after the date of the Indenture, including any agreement extending the maturity of, refinancing, refunding, replacing or otherwise restructuring (including increasing the amount of borrowings or other Indebtedness outstanding or available to be borrowed thereunder) all or any portion of the Indebtedness under such agreement, and any successor or replacement agreement or agreements with the same or any other agent or agents, creditor, lender or group of creditors or lenders.

Foreign Subsidiary means, with respect to any Person, any Subsidiary of such Person that is not organized or existing under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, the District of Columbia, or any territory thereof and any Subsidiary of such Foreign Subsidiary.

Four-Quarter Period means the most recent four consecutive full fiscal quarters of the Issuer for which financial statements are available.

GAAP means generally accepted accounting principles set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and



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pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or in such other statements by such other entity as may be approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession of the United States, as in effect on the Issue Date.

**guarantee** means a direct or indirect guarantee by any Person of any Indebtedness of any other Person and includes any obligation, direct or indirect, contingent or otherwise, of such Person: (1) to purchase or pay (or advance or supply funds for the purchase or payment of) Indebtedness of such other Person (whether arising by virtue of partnership arrangements, or by agreements to keep-well, to purchase assets, goods, securities or services (unless such purchase arrangements are on arm s-length terms and are entered into in the ordinary course of business), to take-or-pay, or to maintain financial statement conditions or otherwise); or (2) entered into for purposes of assuring in any other manner the obligee of such Indebtedness of the payment thereof or to protect such obligee against loss in respect thereof (in whole or in part), and **guarantee**, when used as a verb, and **guaranteed** have correlative meanings.

**Guarantee** means the guarantee by each of the Guarantors of the Issuer s obligations under the Indenture and the Notes as provided under the section of the Indenture described under **Guarantees of the Notes**.

**Guarantors** means (1) each party named as such on the signature pages of the Indenture, which (subject to the proviso below), collectively, consist of each Domestic Subsidiary on the Issue Date that guarantees any Indebtedness or other Obligation under any Credit Agreement, and (2) each other Person that is required to, or at the election of the Issuer does, become a Guarantor by the terms of the Indenture after the Issue Date, in each case, until such Person is released from its Guarantee in accordance with the terms of the Indenture; *provided, however*, in each case, that in any event neither of the following Subsidiaries of the Issuer shall be a Guarantor unless the Issuer so elects by notice to the Trustee delivered in accordance with the Indenture (in which case such Subsidiary shall become a Guarantor as provided in the section of the Indenture described under **Certain Covenants Additional Guarantees** ):

(a) SPDH, Inc.; and

(b) Diamics, Inc., until such time, if ever, that it becomes a Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary of the Issuer.

**Health Management Joint Venture** means a single joint venture (which may be conducted through more than one joint venture entity) created by the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries, on the one hand, and any joint venture partner or partners who are not Affiliates of the Issuer, on the other hand, for the purpose of developing or conducting any business within the fields of business described or otherwise included in the definition of **Health Management Business** below.

**Health Management Business** means the businesses engaged in by the Issuer and its Subsidiaries on the Issue Date focused on wellness, disease and condition management, productivity enhancement or informatics, any businesses that are otherwise within any of such business fields (whether or not engaged in by the Issuer on the Issue Date), and any businesses that are a reasonable extension, development or expansion of, any of the foregoing (whether or not engaged in by the Issuer on the Issue Date).

**Hedging Obligations** of any Person means the obligations of such Person pursuant to (1) any interest rate swap agreement, interest rate collar agreement or other similar agreement or arrangement designed to alter the risks to that Person arising from fluctuations in interest rates, (2) agreements or arrangements designed to alter the risks to that Person arising from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates in the conduct of its operations, or (3) any forward contract, commodity swap agreement, commodity option agreement or other similar agreement or arrangement designed to protect such Person against fluctuations in commodity prices, in each case entered into in the ordinary course of business for *bona fide* hedging purposes and not for the purpose of speculation.

**Holder** means any registered holder, from time to time, of the Notes.

**incur** means, with respect to any Indebtedness or Obligation, incur, create, issue, assume, guarantee or otherwise become directly or indirectly liable, contingently or otherwise, with respect to such Indebtedness or Obligation; *provided, however*, that (1) the Indebtedness of a Person existing at the time such Person became a Restricted

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Subsidiary shall be deemed to have been incurred by such Restricted Subsidiary at such time and (2) neither the accrual of interest nor the accretion of original issue discount shall be deemed to be an incurrence of Indebtedness.

Indebtedness of any Person at any date means, without duplication:

- (1) all liabilities, contingent or otherwise, of such Person for borrowed money (whether or not the recourse of the lender is to the whole of the assets of such Person or only to a portion thereof);
- (2) all obligations of such Person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments;
- (3) all reimbursement obligations of such Person in respect of letters of credit, letters of guaranty, bankers' acceptances and similar credit transactions;
- (4) (i) all obligations of such Person to pay the deferred and unpaid purchase price of property or services, and (ii) all obligations of such Person under conditional sale or other title retention agreements relating to the assets purchased by such Person; *provided, however*, that in no event shall the following constitute Indebtedness under the Indenture:
  - (x) trade payables and other accrued liabilities incurred by such Person in the ordinary course of business and
  - (y) customary adjustments of purchase price, contingent payments, earnout payments or similar obligations of such Person arising under any of the documents pertaining to any acquisition of any Person or assets or Equity Interests of any Person or any sale, transfer or other disposition of assets to any Person, in each case to the extent not yet determined, due and payable;
- (5) the maximum fixed involuntary redemption or repurchase price of all Disqualified Equity Interests of such Person;
- (6) all Capitalized Lease Obligations of such Person;
- (7) all Indebtedness of others secured by a Lien on any asset of such Person, whether or not such Indebtedness is assumed by such Person;
- (8) all Indebtedness of others guaranteed by such Person to the extent of such guarantee; *provided, however*, that Indebtedness of the Issuer or its Subsidiaries that is guaranteed by the Issuer or the Issuer's Subsidiaries shall only be counted once in the calculation of the amount of Indebtedness of the Issuer and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis;
- (9) all Attributable Indebtedness; and
- (10) to the extent not otherwise included in this definition, Hedging Obligations of such Person, determined as the net amount of all payments that would be required to be made in respect thereof in the event of a termination (including an early termination) on the date of determination.

The amount of any Indebtedness which is incurred at a discount to the principal amount at maturity thereof as of any date shall be deemed to have been incurred at the accreted value thereof as of such date. The amount of Indebtedness of any Person at any date shall be the outstanding balance at such date of all unconditional obligations as described above, the maximum liability of such Person for any such contingent obligations at such date and, in the case of clause (7), the lesser of (a) the Fair Market Value of any asset subject to a Lien securing the Indebtedness of others on the date that the Lien attaches and (b) the amount of the Indebtedness secured. For purposes of clause (5), the maximum fixed involuntary redemption or repurchase price of any Disqualified Equity Interests that do not have a fixed involuntary redemption or repurchase price shall be calculated in accordance with the terms of such Disqualified Equity Interests as if such Disqualified Equity Interests were redeemed or repurchased on any date on which an amount of Indebtedness outstanding shall be required to be determined pursuant to the Indenture.

Independent Director means a director of the Issuer who:

- (1) is independent with respect to the transaction at issue;
- (2) does not have any material financial interest in the Issuer or any of its Affiliates (other than as a result of holding securities of the Issuer); and

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(3) has not and whose Affiliates or affiliated firm has not, at any time during the twelve months prior to the taking of any action hereunder, directly or indirectly, received, or entered into any understanding or agreement to receive, any compensation, payment or other benefit, of any type or form, from the Issuer or any of its Affiliates, other than customary directors' fees for serving on the Board of Directors of the Issuer or any Affiliate and reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for attendance at the Issuer's or Affiliate's board and board committee meetings.

Independent Financial Advisor means an accounting, appraisal or investment banking firm of recognized standing that is, in the reasonable judgment of the Issuer's Board of Directors, qualified to perform the task for which it has been engaged and disinterested and independent with respect to the Issuer and its Affiliates.

Investments of any Person means:

- (1) all direct or indirect investments by such Person in any other Person in the form of loans, advances or capital contributions or other credit extensions constituting Indebtedness of such other Person, and any guarantee of Indebtedness of any other Person;
- (2) all purchases (or other acquisitions for consideration) by such Person of Indebtedness, Equity Interests or other securities of any other Person (other than any such purchase that constitutes a Restricted Payment of the type described in clause (2) of the definition thereof);
- (3) all other items that would be classified as investments (including purchases of assets outside the ordinary course of business) on a balance sheet of such Person prepared in accordance with GAAP; and
- (4) the Designation after the Issue Date of any Subsidiary as an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

Except as otherwise expressly specified in this definition, the amount of any Investment (other than an Investment made in cash) shall be the Fair Market Value thereof on the date such Investment is made. The amount of any Investment pursuant to clause (4) shall be the Designation Amount determined in accordance with the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries. Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither (a) purchases or redemptions of Equity Interests of the Issuer nor (b) acquisitions of assets by any Person shall be deemed to be Investments.

Issue Date means the date on which the Notes being issued in this offering are originally issued.

Lien means, with respect to any asset, any mortgage, deed of trust, lien (statutory or other), pledge, lease, easement, restriction, charge, security interest or other similar encumbrance of any kind or nature in respect of such asset, whether or not filed, recorded or otherwise perfected under applicable law, including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, and any lease in the nature thereof.

Major Foreign Exchange means an exchange which is the primary non-U.S. trading location for one or more stocks included in the Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australasia and Far East Index (or if such index does not exist a comparable then existing index).

Moody's means Moody's Investors Service, Inc., and its successors.

Net Available Proceeds means, with respect to any Asset Sale, the proceeds thereof in the form of cash or Cash Equivalents, net of:

- (1) brokerage commissions and other fees and expenses (including fees and expenses of legal counsel, accountants and investment banks) incurred in connection with such Asset Sale;
- (2) provisions for taxes payable as a result of such Asset Sale (after taking into account any available tax credits or deductions and any tax sharing arrangements);
- (3) amounts required to be paid to any Person (other than the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary) owning a beneficial interest in the assets subject to the Asset Sale or having a Lien thereon;
- (4) payments of unassumed liabilities (not constituting Indebtedness) relating to the assets sold at the time of, or within 180 days after the date of, such Asset Sale; and



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(5) appropriate amounts to be provided by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, as a reserve required in accordance with GAAP against any adjustment in the sale price of such asset or assets or liabilities associated with such Asset Sale and retained by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, as the case may be, after such Asset Sale, including pensions and other post-employment benefit liabilities, liabilities related to environmental matters and liabilities under any indemnification obligations associated with such Asset Sale, all as reflected in an Officers Certificate delivered to the Trustee; *provided, however*, that any amounts remaining after adjustments, revaluations or liquidations of such reserves shall constitute Net Available Proceeds.

Non-Recourse Debt means Indebtedness of an Unrestricted Subsidiary:

(1) as to which neither the Issuer nor any Restricted Subsidiary (a) provides credit support of any kind (including any undertaking, agreement or instrument that would constitute Indebtedness), (b) is directly or indirectly liable as a guarantor or otherwise, or (c) constitutes the lender; *provided, however*, that an intercompany loan from the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary to an Unrestricted Subsidiary shall be deemed Non-Recourse Debt if such loan at the time such Subsidiary is designated an Unrestricted Subsidiary or if made later, at the time such intercompany loan is made, was permitted under and made in compliance with the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Restricted Payments ; and

(2) no default with respect to which (including any rights that the holders thereof may have to take enforcement action against an Unrestricted Subsidiary) would permit upon notice, lapse of time or both any holder or holders of any other Indebtedness (other than the Notes) of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in an aggregate principal amount of \$50.0 million or more to declare a default on the other Indebtedness or cause the payment thereof to be accelerated or payable prior to its stated maturity.

Obligation means any principal, interest, penalties, fees, indemnification, reimbursements, costs, expenses, damages and other liabilities payable under the documentation governing any Indebtedness.

Officer means any of the following of the Issuer: the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer, the President, any Vice President, the Chief Financial Officer, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary.

Officers Certificate means a certificate signed by two Officers.

Pari Passu Indebtedness means any Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Guarantor that ranks *pari passu* in right of payment with the Notes or the Guarantees, as applicable.

Permitted Business means the businesses engaged in by the Issuer and its Subsidiaries on the Issue Date as described in this prospectus supplement, businesses that are otherwise within the healthcare, life sciences or diagnostic industries, and businesses that are reasonably similar, ancillary or related to, or that are a reasonable extension, development or expansion of, any of the foregoing.

Permitted Indebtedness has the meaning given to such term in the second paragraph of the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness.

Permitted Investments means:

- (1) Investments by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (a) in any Restricted Subsidiary or (b) including the purchase price paid for and reasonable transaction costs related thereto, in any Person that is or will become immediately after or substantially concurrent with such Investment a Restricted Subsidiary or that will merge or consolidate into the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary (including the exercise or performance of any rights or obligations to acquire any equity or ownership interest in any joint venture under the terms of the agreements governing such joint venture);
- (2) Investments in the Issuer by any Restricted Subsidiary;
- (3) loans and advances to directors, employees and officers of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries for (a) *bona fide* business purposes and (b) to purchase Equity Interests of the Issuer not in excess of \$5.0 million at any one time outstanding, in each case, in addition to any such loans outstanding on the Issue Date;

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- (4) Hedging Obligations incurred pursuant to clause (4) of the second paragraph under the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness ;
- (5) cash and Cash Equivalents;
- (6) receivables owing to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary and payable or dischargeable in accordance with customary trade terms; *provided, however*, that such trade terms may include such concessionary trade terms as the Issuer or any such Restricted Subsidiary deems reasonable under the circumstances;
- (7) Investments in securities of trade creditors or customers received pursuant to any plan of reorganization or similar arrangement upon the bankruptcy or insolvency of such trade creditors or customers;
- (8) Investments made by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in compliance with the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Asset Sales using consideration received in connection with an Asset Sale;
- (9) lease, utility and other similar deposits in the ordinary course of business;
- (10) Investments made by the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary for consideration consisting only of Qualified Equity Interests of the Issuer;
- (11) stock, obligations or securities received in settlement of debts created in the ordinary course of business and owing to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or in satisfaction of judgments;
- (12) Investments existing on the Issue Date;
- (13) non-cash and non-Cash Equivalents Investments by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in a single Health Management Joint Venture (which may be conducted through more than one joint venture entity) in connection with the creation thereof;
- (14) acquisitions (including the purchase price paid for and reasonable transaction costs related thereto) by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary of (i) Equity Interests of another Person engaged in the Permitted Business and who will thereafter become a Restricted Subsidiary (including the exercise or performance of any rights or obligations to acquire any equity or ownership interest in any joint venture under the terms of the agreements governing such joint venture), (ii) all or a substantial portion of the assets of a Person engaged in or of a line of business, in each case, within the Permitted Business, or (iii) any other assets within the Permitted Business; and
- (15) other Investments having an aggregate Fair Market Value at any one time outstanding not to exceed 3.0% of Consolidated Total Assets (with the Fair Market Value of each Investment being determined as of the date made and without regard to subsequent changes in value) (it being understood that any Investment permitted under this clause (15) shall remain so permitted notwithstanding any decrease in Consolidated Total Assets). (For avoidance of doubt, in determining the amount of any Investments made and outstanding under this clause (15) in any joint venture in connection with any contribution, transfer or other disposition of assets by the Issuer or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries to such joint venture, the aggregate amount of cash and Cash Equivalents received by the Issuer and its Restricted Subsidiaries in consideration for such contribution, transfer or disposition shall be netted against the Fair Market Value of the assets so contributed, transferred or disposed of.)
- The amount of Investments outstanding at any time pursuant to clause (15) above shall be deemed to be reduced:
- (a) upon the disposition or repayment of or return on any Investment made pursuant to clause (15) above, by an amount equal to the return of capital with respect to such Investment to the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (to the extent not included in the computation of Consolidated Net Income), less the cost of the disposition of such Investment and net of taxes; and
- (b) upon a Redesignation of an Unrestricted Subsidiary as a Restricted Subsidiary, by an amount equal to the lesser of (x) the Fair Market Value of the Issuer's proportionate interest in such Subsidiary immediately following such Redesignation, and (y) the aggregate amount of Investments in such Subsidiary that increased (and did not previously decrease) the amount of Investments outstanding pursuant to clause (15) above.

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Permitted Liens means the following types of Liens:

- (1) Liens for taxes, assessments or governmental charges or claims either (a) not delinquent or payable without penalty or (b) contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and as to which the Issuer or the Restricted Subsidiaries shall have set aside on its books such reserves as may be required pursuant to GAAP;
- (2) statutory, contractual or common law Liens of landlords and mortgagees of landlords and Liens of carriers, warehousemen, mechanics, suppliers, materialmen, repairmen or workmen and other Liens imposed by law or arising in the ordinary course of business for sums not yet delinquent or being contested in good faith, if such reserve or other appropriate provision, if any, as shall be required by GAAP shall have been made in respect thereof;
- (3) Liens arising or pledges or deposits made in the ordinary course of business in connection with workers compensation, unemployment insurance, social security or other types of government insurance benefits, or made in lieu of, or to secure the performance of tenders, statutory obligations, surety, customs, reclamation, performance or appeal bonds, bids, leases, government, sales or other trade contracts, performance and return-of-money bonds and other similar obligations (exclusive of obligations for the payment of borrowed money);
- (4) Liens upon specific items of inventory, equipment or other goods and proceeds of any Person securing such Person's obligations in respect of bankers' acceptances issued or created for the account of such Person to facilitate the purchase, shipment or storage of such inventory or other goods;
- (5) attachment or judgment Liens not giving rise to a Default so long as any appropriate legal proceedings which may have been duly initiated for the review of such judgment have not been finally terminated or the period within which the proceedings may be initiated has not expired, and pledges or cash deposits made in lieu of, or to secure the performance of, judgment or appeal bonds in connection with the foregoing;
- (6) easements, rights-of-way, zoning restrictions and other similar charges, restrictions, licenses, reservations, covenants, encroachments or other similar encumbrances in respect of real property or immaterial imperfections of title which are customary or do not, in the aggregate, impair in any material respect the ordinary conduct of the business of the Issuer and the Restricted Subsidiaries taken as a whole;
- (7) (i) Liens securing reimbursement obligations with respect to commercial letters of credit which encumber documents, goods covered thereby, and other assets relating to such letters of credit and products and proceeds thereof and (ii) Liens securing reimbursement obligations with respect to letters of credit issued to landlords in an aggregate face amount not exceeding \$10.0 million at any time;
- (8) Liens encumbering deposits made to secure obligations arising from statutory, regulatory, contractual or warranty requirements of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, including rights of offset and setoff;
- (9) bankers' Liens, rights of setoff and other similar Liens existing solely with respect to cash and Cash Equivalents on deposit in one or more of accounts maintained by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, in each case granted in the ordinary course of business in favor of the bank or banks with which such accounts are maintained, securing amounts owing to such bank with respect to cash management and operating account arrangements, including those involving pooled accounts and netting arrangements (including any Liens securing Permitted Indebtedness incurred in reliance on clause (8) of the definition thereof in the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness above); *provided, however*, that in no case shall any such Liens secure (either directly or indirectly) the repayment of any Indebtedness (except such Permitted Indebtedness expressly referenced above);
- (10) leases or subleases (or any Liens on the property related thereto) granted to others that do not materially interfere with the ordinary course of business of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary;
- (11) licenses and sublicenses of intellectual property granted to third parties in the ordinary course of business;
- (12) Liens arising from filing Uniform Commercial Code financing statements regarding leases or other transactions that are not secured transactions;

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- (13) Liens securing all of the Notes and Liens securing any Guarantee;
- (14) (i) Liens securing Indebtedness under any Credit Facility (including any Credit Agreement) incurred under clause (1) in Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness (including with respect to letters of credit or bankers acceptances issued thereunder)); and (ii) Liens securing Hedging Obligations permitted under clause (4)(i) in Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness with respect to Indebtedness under any Credit Facility or Credit Agreement, which Liens in this clause (ii) extend only to assets securing such Indebtedness under such Credit Facility or Credit Agreement;
- (15) Liens securing Indebtedness of any Domestic Subsidiary that is not a Guarantor (other than Indebtedness that is subordinated to the Notes or any Guarantee), provided that such Liens do not extend to the assets of a Person who is not liable for such Indebtedness, whether as a borrower, a guarantor or otherwise;
- (16) Liens securing Indebtedness of Foreign Subsidiaries that relate solely to the Equity Interests or assets of Foreign Subsidiaries;
- (17) Liens existing on the Issue Date securing Indebtedness outstanding on the Issue Date;
- (18) Liens in favor of the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary;
- (19) Liens securing Purchase Money Indebtedness;
- (20) Liens securing Acquired Indebtedness permitted to be incurred under the Indenture; *provided, however*, that the Liens do not extend to assets not subject to such Lien at the time of acquisition (other than improvements thereon) and are no more favorable to the lienholders than those securing such Acquired Indebtedness prior to the incurrence of such Acquired Indebtedness by the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary;
- (21) Liens on assets of a Person existing at the time such Person is acquired or merged with or into or consolidated with the Issuer or any such Restricted Subsidiary (and not created in anticipation or contemplation thereof);
- (22) Liens to secure Refinancing Indebtedness of Indebtedness secured by Liens referred to in the foregoing clauses (17), (20) and (21) and this clause (22); *provided, however*, that in each case such Liens do not extend to any additional assets (other than improvements thereon and replacements thereof);
- (23) Liens to secure Attributable Indebtedness and/or that are incurred pursuant to a Sale and Leaseback Transaction that complies with the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Sale and Leaseback Transactions ; *provided, however*, that any such Lien shall not extend to or cover any assets of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary other than the assets which are the subject of the Sale and Leaseback Transaction in which the Attributable Indebtedness is incurred;
- (24) Liens in favor of customs and revenue authorities arising as a matter of law to secure payment of customs duties in connection with the importation of goods;
- (25) Liens securing Permitted Indebtedness incurred in reliance on clause (16) in the Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness covenant; *provided, however*, that this clause (25) shall not permit Liens on the assets of any Domestic Subsidiary to secure Indebtedness of any Foreign Subsidiary;
- (26) Liens incurred in the ordinary course of business of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary with respect to obligations (other than Indebtedness) that do not in the aggregate exceed \$25.0 million at any one time outstanding; and
- (27) Liens incurred to secure Obligations in respect of any Indebtedness that is permitted to be incurred pursuant to the Certain Covenants Limitations on Additional Indebtedness covenant, provided that, with respect to any Lien permitted under this clause (27), at the time of incurrence of such Lien, the Consolidated Secured Leverage Ratio would, after giving effect to the incurrence of such Indebtedness, be no greater than 5.00 to 1.00 (it being understood that, in the case of any Lien incurred to secure Indebtedness under a revolving credit facility, such determination of the Consolidated Senior Secured Ratio shall be made only at the time of the obtaining of the commitment for such revolving credit facility (and not at the time of any subsequent draw under such

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revolving credit facility), and for the purpose of such determination, such commitment shall be treated as fully drawn).

**Person** means any individual, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, incorporated or unincorporated association, joint-stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government or other agency or political subdivision thereof or other entity of any kind.

**P&G Joint Venture** means the joint venture between the Issuer and The Proctor & Gamble Company conducted through the P&G JV Companies pursuant to the P&G JV Agreements for the purpose of developing, acquiring and marketing consumer diagnostic and monitoring products (excluding products in the cardiology, diabetes and oral care fields).

**P&G JV Agreements** means the various joint venture, limited liability company, asset transfer and contribution agreements dated on or about May 17, 2007 among the Issuer and certain of its Subsidiaries and Procter & Gamble RHD, Inc., Procter & Gamble International Operations, SA and certain of their Affiliates, and the other agreements, instruments and documents executed or delivered in connection therewith on or after such date.

**P&G JV Companies** means US CD LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and SPD Swiss Precision Diagnostics GmbH, a company organized under the laws of Switzerland, and any subsidiaries of either of them.

**Plan of Liquidation** with respect to any Person, means a plan that provides for, contemplates or the effectuation of which is preceded or accompanied by (whether or not substantially contemporaneously, in phases or otherwise): (1) the sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of such Person otherwise than as an entirety or substantially as an entirety; and (2) the distribution of all or substantially all of the proceeds of such sale, lease, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of the remaining assets of such Person to holders of Equity Interests of such Person.

**Preferred Stock** means, with respect to any Person, any and all preferred or preference stock or other equity interests (however designated) of such Person whether now outstanding or issued after the Issue Date.

**principal** of a Note means the principal of the Note *plus*, when appropriate, the premium, if any, on the Note.

**Purchase Money Indebtedness** means Indebtedness, including Capitalized Lease Obligations, of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary incurred for the purpose of financing all or any part of the purchase price of property, plant or equipment used in the business of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or the cost of installation, construction or improvement thereof; *provided, however*, that (1) the amount of such Indebtedness shall not exceed such purchase price or cost, (2) such Indebtedness shall not be secured by any asset other than the specified asset being financed or, in the case of real property or fixtures, including additions and improvements, the real property to which such asset is attached and (3) such Indebtedness shall be incurred within 180 days before or after such acquisition of such asset by the Issuer or such Restricted Subsidiary or such installation, construction or improvement.

**Qualified Equity Interests** means Equity Interests of the Issuer other than Disqualified Equity Interests.

**Qualified Equity Offering** means the issuance and sale of Qualified Equity Interests of the Issuer.

**redeem** means to redeem, repurchase, purchase, defease, discharge or otherwise acquire or retire for value, and **redemption** has a correlative meaning; *provided, however*, that this definition shall not apply for purposes of the provisions described under **Redemption** **Optional Redemption**.

**Redesignation** has the meaning given to such term in the covenant described under **Certain Covenants** **Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries**.

**refinance** means to refinance, repay, prepay, replace, renew or refund.

**Refinancing Indebtedness** means Indebtedness of the Issuer or a Restricted Subsidiary issued in exchange for, or the proceeds from the issuance and sale or disbursement of which are used substantially concurrently to redeem or

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refinance in whole or in part, or constituting an amendment of, any Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (the *Refinanced Indebtedness* ); *provided, however*, that:

- (1) the principal amount (or accreted value, in the case of Indebtedness issued at a discount) of the Refinancing Indebtedness does not exceed the principal amount (or accreted value, as the case may be) of the Refinanced Indebtedness *plus* the amount of accrued and unpaid interest on the Refinanced Indebtedness, any premium paid to the holders of the Refinanced Indebtedness and reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the incurrence of the Refinancing Indebtedness;
- (2) the Refinancing Indebtedness is the obligation of the same Person as that of the Refinanced Indebtedness;
- (3) if the Refinanced Indebtedness was subordinated to the Notes or the Guarantees, as the case may be, then such Refinancing Indebtedness, by its terms, is subordinate in right of payment to the Notes or the Guarantees, as the case may be, at least to the same extent as the Refinanced Indebtedness;
- (4) the Refinancing Indebtedness is scheduled to mature either (a) no earlier than the Refinanced Indebtedness being repaid or amended or (b) after the maturity date of the Notes;
- (5) the portion, if any, of the Refinancing Indebtedness that is scheduled to mature on or prior to the maturity date of the Notes has a Weighted Average Life to Maturity at the time such Refinancing Indebtedness is incurred that is equal to or greater than the Weighted Average Life to Maturity of the portion of the Refinanced Indebtedness being repaid that is scheduled to mature on or prior to the maturity date of the Notes; and
- (6) the Refinancing Indebtedness is secured only to the extent, if at all, and by the assets, that the Refinanced Indebtedness being repaid or amended is secured.

*Restricted Payment* means any of the following:

- (1) the declaration or payment of any dividend or any other distribution on Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary or any payment made to the direct or indirect holders (in their capacities as such) of Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary (in respect of such Equity Interests) by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, including any payment in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Issuer, but excluding (a) dividends, distributions or payments payable or paid solely in Qualified Equity Interests (and payments of cash in lieu of delivering fractional shares in connection therewith) and (b) in the case of Restricted Subsidiaries, dividends, distributions or payments payable or paid to the Issuer or to a Restricted Subsidiary and *pro rata* dividends or distributions payable to minority stockholders of any Restricted Subsidiary;
- (2) the redemption of any Equity Interests of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary, including any payment by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary in connection with any merger or consolidation involving the Issuer, but excluding (i) any such Equity Interests held by the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary and (ii) any redemptions to the extent payable or paid in Equity Interests of the Issuer or of an acquirer of the Issuer (and payments of cash in lieu of delivering fractional shares in connection therewith), in either case in this clause (ii) other than Disqualified Equity Interests;
- (3) any Investment other than a Permitted Investment; or
- (4) any redemption prior to the scheduled maturity or prior to any scheduled repayment of principal or sinking fund payment, as the case may be, in respect of Subordinated Indebtedness, but excluding (i) any redemptions to the extent payable or paid in Qualified Equity Interests (and payments of cash in lieu of delivering fractional shares in connection therewith), (ii) any redemptions of any Indebtedness the incurrence of which is permitted pursuant to clause (5) of the definition of Permitted Indebtedness, or (iii) any redemption of Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary purchased in anticipation of satisfying a sinking fund obligation, principal installment or final maturity, in each case due within one year of such redemption.

*Restricted Payments Basket* has the meaning given to such term in the first paragraph of the covenant described under *Certain Covenants Limitations on Restricted Payments*.

*Restricted Subsidiary* means any Subsidiary of the Issuer other than an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

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S&P means Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., and its successors.

Sale and Leaseback Transactions means with respect to any Person an arrangement with any bank, insurance company or other lender or investor or to which such lender or investor is a party, providing for the leasing by such Person of any asset of such Person which has been or is being sold or transferred by such Person to such lender or investor or to any Person to whom funds have been or are to be advanced by such lender or investor on the security of such asset.

SEC means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Secretary's Certificate means a certificate signed by the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Issuer.

Second Lien Credit Agreement means that certain Second Lien Credit Agreement dated as of June 26, 2007 among, *inter alia*, the Issuer, the lenders party thereto and General Electric Capital Corporation as administrative agent, including any notes, guarantees, collateral and security documents, instruments and agreements executed in connection therewith (including Hedging Obligations related to the Indebtedness incurred thereunder), and in each case as amended, restated, supplemented or otherwise modified from time to time before, on or after the date of the Indenture, including any agreement extending the maturity of, refinancing, refunding, replacing or otherwise restructuring (including increasing the amount of borrowings or other Indebtedness outstanding or available to be borrowed thereunder) all or any portion of the Indebtedness under such agreement, and any successor or replacement agreement or agreements with the same or any other agent or agents, creditor, lender or group of creditors or lenders.

Securities Act means the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Senior Subordinated Notes means those certain 9% senior subordinated notes due 2016 issued by the Issuer to certain holders thereof under the Senior Subordinated Notes Indenture.

Senior Subordinated Notes Indenture means that certain Indenture between the Issuer and U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as trustee, dated as of May 12, 2009, as amended, supplemented and modified by that certain First Supplemental Indenture among the Issuer, the guarantors named therein and U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as trustee, dated as of May 12, 2009, as further amended, supplemented and modified to date and as may be further amended, supplemented and modified.

Secured Indebtedness of any Person at any date means Indebtedness of such Person that is secured by a Lien on any assets of such Person or any of its Restricted Subsidiaries.

Series B Preferred Stock means the Series B Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of the Issuer.

Significant Subsidiary means (1) any Restricted Subsidiary that would be a significant subsidiary as defined in Regulation S-X promulgated pursuant to the Securities Act as such Regulation is in effect on the Issue Date and (2) any Restricted Subsidiary that, when aggregated with all other Restricted Subsidiaries that are not otherwise Significant Subsidiaries and as to which any event described in clause (6) or (7) under Events of Default has occurred and is continuing, would constitute a Significant Subsidiary under clause (1) of this definition.

Subordinated Indebtedness means Indebtedness of the Issuer or any Restricted Subsidiary that is subordinated in right of payment to the Notes or the Guarantees, respectively, including the Senior Subordinated Notes and the 2007 Convertible Notes.

Subsidiary means, with respect to any Person:

(1) any corporation, limited liability company, association or other business entity of which more than 50% of the total voting power of the Equity Interests entitled (without regard to the occurrence of any contingency) to vote in the election of the Board of Directors thereof are at the time owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such Person or one or more of the other Subsidiaries of that Person (or a combination thereof); and

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(2) any partnership (a) the sole general partner or the managing general partner of which is such Person or a Subsidiary of such Person or (b) the only general partners of which are such Person or of one or more Subsidiaries of such Person (or any combination thereof).

Unless otherwise specified, Subsidiary refers to a Subsidiary of the Issuer. Based on the capital structure and ownership of the P&G JV Companies as of the Issue Date, the P&G JV Companies are not Subsidiaries of the Issuer.

Treasury Rate means, as of any redemption date, the yield to maturity as of such redemption date of United States Treasury securities with a constant maturity (as compiled and published in the most recent Federal Reserve Statistical Release H.15 (519) that has become publicly available at least two Business Days prior to such redemption date (or, if such Statistical Release is no longer published, any publicly available source of similar market data)) most nearly equal to the period from such redemption date to , 2013; *provided, however*, that if the period from such redemption date to , 2013 is less than one year, the weekly average yield on actually traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to a constant maturity of one year will be used.

Trust Indenture Act means the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended.

Trustee means The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. until a successor Trustee shall have become such pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Indenture, and thereafter Trustee shall mean such Person who is then a Trustee under the Indenture.

Unrestricted Subsidiary means, (1) any Subsidiary that at the time of determination shall be designated an Unrestricted Subsidiary by the Board of Directors of the Issuer in accordance with the covenant described under Certain Covenants Limitations on Designation of Unrestricted Subsidiaries and (2) any Subsidiary of an Unrestricted Subsidiary. As of the Issue Date, no Subsidiary has been designated by the Board of Directors of the Issuer as an Unrestricted Subsidiary.

U.S. Government Obligations means direct non-callable obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by, the United States of America, and the payment for which the United States pledges its full faith and credit.

Voting Stock with respect to any Person, means securities of any class of Equity Interests of such Person entitling the holders thereof (whether at all times or only so long as no senior class of stock or other relevant equity interest has voting power by reason of any contingency) to vote in the election of members of the Board of Directors of such Person.

Weighted Average Life to Maturity when applied to any Indebtedness at any date, means the number of years obtained by dividing (1) the sum of the products obtained by multiplying (a) the amount of each then remaining installment, sinking fund, serial maturity or other required payment of principal, including payment at final maturity, in respect thereof by (b) the number of years (calculated to the nearest one-twelfth) that will elapse between such date and the making of such payment by (2) the then outstanding principal amount of such Indebtedness.

Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiary means a Restricted Subsidiary of which 100% of the Equity Interests (except for directors qualifying shares or certain minority interests owned by other Persons solely due to local law requirements that there be more than one stockholder, but which interest is not in excess of what is required for such purpose) are owned directly by the Issuer or through one or more Wholly-Owned Restricted Subsidiaries.

**Book-Entry, Delivery and Form of Securities**

The Notes being issued in this offering will be represented by one or more global notes (the Global Notes ) in definitive form. The Global Notes will be deposited on the Issue Date with, or on behalf of, the Depository Trust Company, or DTC, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC (such nominee being referred to herein as the Global Note Holder ). DTC will maintain the Notes in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 through its book-entry facilities.



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DTC has advised the Issuer as follows:

DTC is a limited-purpose trust company that was created to hold securities for its participating organizations, including Euroclear and Clearstream (collectively, the Participants or the Depository's Participants), and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of transactions in these securities between Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of its Participants. The Depository's Participants include securities brokers and dealers (including the initial purchasers), banks and trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Access to DTC's system is also available to other entities such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies (collectively, the Indirect Participants or the Depository's Indirect Participants) that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Participant, either directly or indirectly. Persons who are not Participants may beneficially own securities held by or on behalf of DTC only through the Depository's Participants or the Depository's Indirect Participants. Pursuant to procedures established by DTC, ownership of the Notes will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership thereof will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to the interests of the Depository's Participants) and the records of the Depository's Participants (with respect to the interests of the Depository's Indirect Participants). The laws of some states require that certain persons take physical delivery in definitive form of securities that they own. Consequently, the ability to transfer the Notes will be limited to such extent.

So long as the Global Note Holder is the registered owner of any Notes, the Global Note Holder will be considered the sole Holder of outstanding Notes represented by such Global Notes under the Indenture. Except as provided below, owners of Notes will not be entitled to have Notes registered in their names and will not be considered the owners or holders thereof under the Indenture for any purpose, including with respect to the giving of any directions, instructions, or approvals to the Trustee thereunder. None of the Issuer, the Guarantors or the Trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of Notes by DTC, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records of DTC relating to such Notes.

Payments in respect of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on any Notes registered in the name of a Global Note Holder on the applicable record date will be payable by the Trustee to or at the direction of such Global Note Holder in its capacity as the registered holder under the Indenture. Under the terms of the Indenture, the Issuer and the Trustee may treat the persons in whose names any Notes, including the Global Notes, are registered as the owners thereof for the purpose of receiving such payments and for any and all other purposes whatsoever. Consequently, neither the Issuer or the Trustee has or will have any responsibility or liability for the payment of such amounts to beneficial owners of Notes (including principal, premium, if any, and interest). The Issuer believes, however, that it is currently the policy of DTC to immediately credit the accounts of the relevant Participants with such payments, in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the relevant security as shown on the records of DTC. Payments by the Depository's Participants and the Depository's Indirect Participants to the beneficial owners of Notes will be governed by standing instructions and customary practice and will be the responsibility of the Depository's Participants or the Depository's Indirect Participants.

Subject to certain conditions, any person having a beneficial interest in the Global Notes may, upon request to the Trustee and confirmation of such beneficial interest by the Depository or its Participants or Indirect Participants, exchange such beneficial interest for Notes in definitive form. Upon any such issuance, the Trustee is required to register such Notes in the name of and cause the same to be delivered to, such person or persons (or the nominee of any thereof). In addition, if either (i) the Depository notifies the Issuer in writing that DTC is no longer willing or able to act as a depository and the Issuer is unable to locate a qualified successor within 90 days or (ii) a Default has occurred and is continuing and the Registrar has received a written request from any owner of a beneficial interest in a Global Note to issue Notes in definitive form, then, upon surrender by the relevant Global Note Holder of its Global Note, Notes in such form will be issued to each person that such Global Note Holder and DTC identifies as being the beneficial owner of the related Notes.

Neither the Issuer nor the Trustee will be liable for any delay by the Global Note Holder or DTC in identifying the beneficial owners of Notes and the Issuer and the Trustee may conclusively rely on, and will be protected in relying on, instructions from the Global Note Holder or DTC for all purposes.



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We and the underwriters named in the following table have entered into an underwriting agreement with respect to the notes. Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement, each underwriter has severally agreed to purchase the principal amount of notes indicated in the following table.

<b>Underwriters</b>	<b>Principal amount of notes</b>
Jefferies & Company, Inc.	\$
Goldman, Sachs & Co.	
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	
Total	\$ 150,000,000

The underwriters are committed to take and pay for all of the notes being offered, if any are taken.

The notes sold by the underwriters to the public will initially be offered at the initial public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement. If all the notes are not sold at the initial offering price, the underwriters may change the offering price and the other selling terms.

The following table shows the underwriting discounts and commissions that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering.

	<b>Public offering price<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Underwriting discount</b>	<b>Proceeds, before expenses, to us</b>
Per note	%	%	%
Total	\$	\$	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest from \_\_\_\_\_, 2009 to the date of delivery.

We estimate that our share of the total expenses related to the offering of the notes, excluding underwriting discounts, will be approximately \$1,000,000.

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We have been advised by the underwriters that certain of the underwriters intend to make a market in the notes, but they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue market making at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for the notes or that an active public market for the notes will develop. If any active public trading market for the notes does not develop, the market price and liquidity of the notes may be adversely affected. See Risk Factors There may be no active trading market for the notes.

In connection with the offering of the notes, the underwriters may purchase and sell notes in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater number of notes than they are required to purchase in the offering of the notes. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases made for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the notes while the offering of the notes is in progress.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. This occurs when a particular underwriter repays to the underwriters a portion of the underwriting discount received by it because a representative of the underwriters has repurchased notes sold by or for the account of such underwriter in stabilizing or short covering transactions.

These activities by the underwriters may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the notes. As a result, the price of the notes may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market.

If these activities are commenced, they may be discontinued by the underwriters at any time. These transactions may be effected in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

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Each underwriter intends to comply with all applicable laws and regulations in each jurisdiction in which it acquires, offers, sells or delivers the notes or has in its possession or distributes the prospectus supplement.

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (namely, the European Union, Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a Relevant Member State), each underwriter has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the Relevant Implementation Date) it has not made and will not make an offer of notes to the public in that Relevant Member State prior to the publication of a prospectus in relation to the notes which has been approved by the competent authority in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of notes to the public in that Relevant Member State at any time:

to legal entities which are authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorized or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities;

to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than 43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than 50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts;

to fewer than 100 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive); or

in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by the issuer of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an offer of notes to the public in relation to any notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State, and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

Each underwriter has represented and agreed that:

it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act, or FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the notes in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the issuer; and

it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

The notes may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the notes may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose

of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to professional investors within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

The notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law) and each underwriter has agreed that it will not offer or sell any

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notes, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the notes may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the notes be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the SFA ), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the notes under Section 275 except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (2) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (3) by operation of law.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriters and certain of their affiliates against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribute to payments they may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

Certain of the underwriters and their respective affiliates have, from time to time, performed and may in the future perform, various commercial banking, financial advisory, investment banking and other services for us and our affiliates, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses. Certain of the underwriters or their respective affiliates are lenders and/or agents under our secured credit facilities, for which they receive customary payments and fees. In addition, from time to time, the underwriters and their affiliates may effect transactions for their own account or the account of customers, and hold on behalf of themselves or their customers, long or short positions in our debt or equity securities or loans, and may do so in the future.

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**Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences**

The following is a discussion of the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the notes.

This discussion is based on currently existing provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Code, the final, temporary and proposed Treasury regulations promulgated under the Code, and administrative and judicial interpretations thereof, all as in effect on the date of this prospectus supplement and all of which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect, or different interpretations. There can be no assurance that the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, will not take a different position concerning the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership or disposition of the notes or that any such position would not be sustained.

This discussion does not address the U.S. federal income tax consequences to subsequent purchasers of notes and is limited to holders who both purchase the notes pursuant to this offering at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and hold the notes as capital assets within the meaning of section 1221 of the Code. Moreover, this discussion is for general information only and does not address all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to particular holders in light of their specific circumstances or to certain types of holders subject to special treatment under U.S. federal tax laws (such as U.S. holders having a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar, taxpayers holding the notes through a partnership or similar pass-through entity, persons subject to special rules applicable to former citizens and residents of the United States, persons subject to the alternative minimum tax, grantor trusts, real estate investment trusts, certain financial institutions, insurance companies, tax-exempt entities, dealers in securities or currencies, persons holding the notes in connection with a hedging transaction, straddle, conversion or other integrated transaction, controlled foreign corporations, passive foreign investment companies or non-U.S. holders that are owned or controlled by U.S. holders).

If a partnership holds notes, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and upon the activities of the partnership. We suggest that partners of a partnership holding notes consult their tax advisors.

Prospective holders should consult their own tax advisors as to the particular tax consequences to them of their participation in the offering and their ownership and disposition of the notes, including the applicability of any U.S. income, estate, gift or other federal tax laws and any state, local or foreign tax laws or any treaty, and any changes (or proposed changes) in applicable tax laws or interpretations thereof.

Under certain circumstances, we may be required to pay holders amounts in excess of the stated interest and principal payable on the notes. We have determined (and this discussion assumes) that as of the date of issuance of the notes, the possibility that amounts will be paid in such circumstances is a remote or incidental contingency within the meaning of applicable Treasury regulations. Based on this determination, we do not intend to treat the possibility of such payments as either affecting the determination of the yield to maturity of (or original issue discount, OID, if any, on) the notes or resulting in the notes being treated as contingent payment debt instruments under the applicable Treasury regulations. Our determination that such possibility is a remote or incidental contingency is binding on you unless you explicitly disclose on a statement attached to your timely filed income tax return that your determination is different. However, the IRS may take a different position, in which case the tax consequences to a holder could differ materially and adversely from those described below. Prospective holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding the potential effect, if any, of these matters on their particular situation.



**U.S. Holders**

As used in this section, the term "U.S. holder" means a beneficial owner of a note that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

an individual citizen or resident of the United States;

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a corporation (or any other entity treated as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate the income of which is includible in gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes, regardless of its source; or

a trust if a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or that has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

## **Stated interest**

The stated interest on the notes will be included in income by a U.S. holder in accordance with such U.S. holder's usual method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Interest income generally is taxed as ordinary income.

## **Original issue discount**

If the notes are issued at a discount that is not de minimis under applicable tax rules, the notes will be treated as issued with OID for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity of the notes over their issue price. The stated redemption price at maturity of a debt instrument is the sum of all payments to be made under the debt instrument other than qualified stated interest. Qualified stated interest means stated interest that is unconditionally payable in cash or property (other than debt instruments issued by us) at least annually at a single fixed rate or at certain floating rates that properly take into account the length of the interval between stated interest payments. All of the stated interest with respect to the notes will be qualified stated interest, and thus the stated redemption price at maturity will equal the stated principal amount of the notes. The issue price of the notes will be the first price at which a substantial amount of the notes is sold for cash (excluding sales to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers).

A U.S. holder of a note generally must include OID in income as it accrues, based on a constant yield method (which includes at least annual compounding) and regardless of the U.S. holder's regular method of tax accounting. Thus, U.S. holders generally will be taxed on OID income in advance of the receipt of cash attributable to that income (but will not be taxed again when such cash is received).

A U.S. holder generally may elect to treat all interest on a note as OID and calculate the amount includible in gross income under the constant yield method described above. U.S. holders should consult their own tax advisors about this election.

## **Sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition**

Unless a nonrecognition provision applies, the sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of a note will be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In such event, a U.S. holder generally will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between (a) the sum of cash plus the fair market value of all other property received on such disposition (except to the extent such cash or property is attributable to accrued but unpaid stated interest, which will be taxable as ordinary income to the extent not previously included in income) and (b) such U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in the note. A U.S. holder's adjusted tax basis in a note generally will equal the price paid for the note by such U.S. holder, increased by any OID previously included in income with respect to such note (including OID accrued to

such U.S. holder in the year of the disposition) and decreased by the amount of any cash payments previously received with respect to the note (other than payments of qualified stated interest). Gain or loss recognized on the disposition of a note generally will be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if, at the time of such disposition, the U.S. holder's holding period for the note is more than one year. For non-corporate taxpayers, net long-term capital gains are generally subject to tax at preferential rates. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

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### **Non-U.S. Holders**

As used in this section, the term **non-U.S. holder** means a beneficial owner of a note that is an individual, corporation, trust or estate for U.S. federal income tax purposes and is not a U.S. holder.

### **Interest on notes**

Generally, any interest (including OID, if any) paid to a non-U.S. holder of a note that is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business will not be subject to U.S. federal income (including withholding) tax if the interest qualifies as **portfolio interest**. Interest on the notes generally will qualify as portfolio interest if (a) the non-U.S. holder does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total voting power of all our voting stock, (b) such holder is not a **controlled foreign corporation** with respect to which we are a **related person** within the meaning of the Code, (c) either the beneficial owner, under penalties of perjury, certifies that the beneficial owner is not a U.S. person and such certificate provides the beneficial owner's name and address, or a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers' securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business and holds the notes certifies, under penalties of perjury, that such statement has been received from the beneficial owner by it or by a financial institution between it and the beneficial owner, and (d) the non-U.S. holder is not a bank receiving interest on the extension of credit made pursuant to a loan agreement made in the ordinary course of its trade or business.

The gross amount of payments to a non-U.S. holder of interest (including OID, if any) that is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business and that does not qualify for the portfolio interest exemption will be subject to U.S. withholding tax at the rate of 30%, unless a U.S. income tax treaty applies to reduce or eliminate such withholding tax.

Payments of interest (including OID, if any) that are effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business by a non-U.S. holder and, to the extent an applicable treaty so provides, are attributable to a permanent establishment (or, in the case of an individual, a fixed base) in the United States will be taxed on a net basis at regular U.S. rates in the same manner as such payments to U.S. holders. In the case of a non-U.S. holder that is a corporation, such effectively connected income may also be subject to the branch profits tax (which is generally imposed on a foreign corporation on the actual or deemed repatriation from the United States of earnings and profits attributable to U.S. trade or business income) at a 30% rate. The branch profits tax may not apply (or may apply at a reduced rate) if a recipient is a qualified resident of certain countries with which the United States has an income tax treaty. If payments of interest (including OID, if any) are effectively connected with a non-U.S. holder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business (whether or not a treaty applies), the 30% withholding tax discussed above will not apply provided the appropriate certification discussed below is provided.

To claim the benefit of a tax treaty or to claim exemption from withholding because the income is effectively connected with a non-U.S. holder's conduct of a U.S. trade or business, the non-U.S. holder must provide a properly executed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8ECI (or such successor forms as the IRS designates), as applicable, prior to the payment of interest. These forms must be periodically updated. A non-U.S. holder who is claiming the benefits of a treaty may be required in certain instances to obtain a U.S. taxpayer identification number and to provide certain documentary evidence issued by foreign governmental authorities to prove residence in the foreign country.

### **Sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition**

A non-U.S. holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax with respect to any gain realized on the sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of a note unless:

the non-U.S. holder is a nonresident alien individual who is present in the United States for a period or periods aggregating 183 or more days in the taxable year of the disposition and certain other conditions are met, in which case the non-U.S. Holder will be subject to a flat 30% U.S. federal income tax on any gain recognized (except to the extent otherwise provided by an applicable income tax treaty), which may be offset by certain U.S. losses; or

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such gain is effectively connected with the conduct of a U.S. trade or business by a non-U.S. holder and, to the extent an applicable treaty so provides, is attributable to a permanent establishment (or, in the case of an individual, a fixed base) in the United States, in which case such gain will be taxable in the same manner as effectively connected interest, as discussed above.

**Backup Withholding and Information Reporting**

Information returns may be filed with the IRS in connection with payments on the notes and the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes. A U.S. holder may be subject to U.S. backup withholding tax on these payments if it fails to provide its correct taxpayer identification number to the paying agent and comply with certification procedures or otherwise establish an exemption from backup withholding. A non-U.S. holder may be subject to U.S. backup withholding tax on these payments unless the non-U.S. holder complies with certification procedures to establish that it is not a U.S. person. The certification procedures required of non-U.S. holders to claim the exemption from withholding tax on certain payments on the notes, described above, will satisfy the certification requirements necessary to avoid the backup withholding tax as well. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment will be allowed as a credit against the holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the holder to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

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**Legal Matters**

Our legal counsel, Foley Hoag LLP, Boston, Massachusetts, will pass upon certain legal matters in connection with the offered securities. Certain legal matters in connection with the offering will be passed upon for the underwriters by Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP, New York, New York.

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**Prospectus**

**Common Stock  
Preferred Stock  
Warrants  
Stock Purchase Contracts  
Depositary Shares  
Debt Securities  
Subsidiary Guarantees of Debt Securities  
Units**

This prospectus provides you with a general description of securities that we may offer and sell from time to time. Each time we sell securities we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that sale and may add to or update the information in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our securities.

The securities may be offered directly by us or by any selling security holder, through agents designated from time to time by us or to or through underwriters or dealers. If any agents, underwriters or dealers are involved in the sale of any of the securities, their names and any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between or among them will be set forth, or will be calculable from the information set forth, in the applicable prospectus supplement. See the sections entitled **About This Prospectus** and **Plan of Distribution** for more information. No securities may be sold without delivery of this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such securities.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol **IMA**. On August 3, 2009, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$34.22.

**Investing in our securities involves various risks. In our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus, we identify and discuss risk factors that you should consider before investing in our securities.**

**Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities, or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

The date of this prospectus is August 4, 2009.





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**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This document is called a prospectus, and it provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement containing specific information about the terms of the securities being offered. That prospectus supplement may include a discussion of any risk factors or other special considerations that apply to those securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change the information in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and in a prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in that prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

We have filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings.

Our SEC registration statement containing this prospectus, including exhibits, provides additional information about us and the securities offered under this prospectus. The registration statement can be read at the SEC's web site or at the SEC's offices. The SEC's web site and street address are provided under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

When acquiring securities, you should rely only on the information provided in this prospectus and in the related prospectus supplement, including any information incorporated by reference. No one is authorized to provide you with information different from that which is contained, or deemed to be contained, in the prospectus and related prospectus supplement. We are not offering the securities in any state where the offer is prohibited. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or any document incorporated by reference is truthful or complete as of any date other than the date indicated on the cover page of the relevant document.

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements. You should read the explanation of the qualifications and limitations on such forward-looking statements on page 4 of this prospectus. You should also carefully consider the various risk factors incorporated by reference into this prospectus from our SEC filings, which risk factors may cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated by such forward-looking statements. You should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements.

Unless otherwise stated or unless the context otherwise requires, all references to **we**, **us**, **our**, **our company** or **the Company** in this prospectus refer collectively to Inverness Medical Innovations, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its subsidiaries, and their respective predecessor entities for the applicable periods, considered as a single enterprise.

Unless otherwise stated, currency amounts in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement are stated in United States dollars.

**ABOUT INVERNESS MEDICAL INNOVATIONS, INC.**

Inverness Medical Innovations enables individuals to take charge of improving their health and quality of life at home by developing new capabilities in near-patient diagnosis, monitoring and health management. Our global leading products and services, as well as our new product development efforts, focus on cardiology, women's health, infectious disease, oncology and drugs of abuse. Our business is organized into four major reportable segments: professional diagnostics, health management, consumer diagnostics and vitamins and nutritional supplements. Through our

professional diagnostics segment, we develop, manufacture and market an extensive array of innovative rapid diagnostic test products and other in vitro diagnostic tests to medical professionals and laboratories for detection of infectious diseases, cardiac conditions, drugs of abuse and pregnancy. Our health management segment provides comprehensive, integrated programs and services focused on wellness, disease and condition management, productivity enhancement and informatics, all designed to reduce health-related costs and enhance the health and quality of life of the individuals we serve. Our consumer diagnostic segment consists primarily of manufacturing operations related to our role as the exclusive manufacturer of products for SPD Swiss Precision Diagnostics, or Swiss Precision, our 50/50 joint venture with The Procter & Gamble Company. Swiss Precision holds a leadership position in the worldwide over-the-counter pregnancy and fertility/ovulation test market. We also manufacture and market a variety of vitamins and nutritional supplements under our brands and those of private label retailers primarily in the

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U.S. consumer market. We have grown our businesses by leveraging our strong intellectual property portfolio and making selected strategic acquisitions. Our products are sold in approximately 90 countries through our direct sales force and an extensive network of independent global distributors.

Inverness Medical Innovations, Inc. is a Delaware corporation. Our principal executive offices are located at 51 Sawyer Road, Suite 200, Waltham, Massachusetts 02453 and our telephone number is (781) 647-3900. Our website is [www.invernessmedical.com](http://www.invernessmedical.com). The information found on our website is not part of this prospectus.

**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RELATED MATTERS**

The following table presents our ratio of earnings to fixed charges and our ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preference dividends for the periods indicated. For this purpose, earnings consist of pre-tax income before adjustment for income from equity investees plus fixed charges (excluding capitalized interest). Fixed charges consist of interest expensed and capitalized, amortized premiums, discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness and an estimate of the interest within rental expense. Preference dividends equal the amount of pre-tax earnings that is required to pay the dividends on outstanding preference securities. For the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004, our earnings were insufficient to fully cover our fixed charges or our combined fixed charges and preference dividends. The amount of the coverage deficiency in such periods was \$38.1 million, \$248.8 million, \$11.8 million, \$12.4 million and \$14.3 million, respectively, in the case of our fixed charges, and \$61.4 million, \$248.8 million, \$11.8 million, \$12.4 million and \$15.6 million, respectively, in the case of our combined fixed charges and preference dividends.

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31, 2009</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Year Ended December 31,</b>			<b>2008</b>
			<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	1.4x	0.4x	0.5x	0.6x		0.7x
Ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preference dividends	1.0x	0.4x	0.5x	0.6x		0.5x

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. You can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as may, could, should, would, intend, will, expect, anticipate, believe, continue or similar words. You should read statements that contain these words carefully because they discuss our future expectations, contain projections of our future results of operations or of our financial condition or state other forward-looking information. There may be events in the future that we are unable to predict accurately or control and that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations we describe in our forward-looking statements. We caution investors that all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results may differ materially from those we discuss in this prospectus. These differences may be the result of various factors, including those factors identified from time to time in our periodic filings with the SEC or in a prospectus supplement. Some important factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those projected in any such forward-looking statements are as follows:

our inability to predict the effects of the current national and worldwide financial and economic crisis, including disruptions in the capital and credit markets;

our inability to predict the effects of anticipated United States national healthcare reform legislation and similar initiatives in other countries;

economic factors, including inflation and fluctuations in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates, and the potential effect of such fluctuations on revenues, expenses and resulting margins;

competitive factors, including technological advances achieved and patents attained by competitors and general competition;

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domestic and foreign healthcare changes resulting in pricing pressures, including the continued consolidation among healthcare providers, trends toward managed care and healthcare cost containment and government laws and regulations relating to sales and promotion, reimbursement and pricing generally;

government laws and regulations affecting domestic and foreign operations, including those relating to trade, monetary and fiscal policies, taxes, price controls, regulatory approval of new products and licensing;

manufacturing interruptions, delays or capacity constraints or lack of availability of alternative sources for components for our products, including our ability to successfully maintain relationships with suppliers, or to put in place alternative suppliers on terms that are acceptable to us;

difficulties inherent in product development, including the potential inability to successfully continue technological innovation, complete clinical trials, obtain regulatory approvals or clearances in the United States and abroad and the possibility of encountering infringement claims by competitors with respect to patent or other intellectual property rights that can preclude or delay commercialization of a product;

significant litigation adverse to us including product liability claims, patent infringement claims and antitrust claims;

product efficacy or safety concerns resulting in product recalls or declining sales;

the impact of business combinations and organizational restructurings consistent with evolving business strategies;

our ability to satisfy the financial covenants and other conditions contained in the agreements governing our indebtedness;

our ability to effectively manage the integration of our acquisitions into our operations;

our ability to obtain required financing on terms that are acceptable to us; and

the issuance of new or revised accounting standards by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board or the SEC.

The foregoing list provides many, but not all, of the factors that could impact our ability to achieve the results described in any forward-looking statement. Readers should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Before you invest in our securities, you should be aware that the occurrence of the events described above and elsewhere in this prospectus could seriously harm our business, prospects, operating results and financial condition. We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement as a result of future events or developments.

**HOW WE INTEND TO USE THE PROCEEDS**

We currently intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of any securities under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, which may include:

the repayment of debt;

the repurchase of our capital stock;

the financing of potential acquisitions and investments;

working capital; and

other purposes described in any prospectus supplement.

Pending such use, we may temporarily invest the net proceeds. The precise amounts and timing of the application of proceeds will depend upon our funding requirements and the availability of other funds. Except as



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described in any prospectus supplement, specific allocations of the proceeds to such purposes will not have been made at the date of that prospectus supplement.

Based upon our historical and anticipated future growth and our financial needs, we may engage in additional financings of a character and amount that we determine as the need arises.

### **DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK WE MAY OFFER**

*Please note that in the sections entitled Description of Common Stock We May Offer, Description of Preferred Stock We May Offer, Description of Warrants We May Offer, Description of Stock Purchase Contracts We May Offer, Description of Depositary Shares We May Offer, Description of Debt Securities and Subsidiary Guarantees We May Offer, and Description of Units We May Offer, references to we, our and us refer only to Inverness Medical Innovations, Inc. and not to any of its consolidated subsidiaries.*

*The following summary description of our common stock is based on the provisions of our Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended, which we refer to as our certificate of incorporation, and amended and restated by-laws, which we refer to as our by-laws, and the applicable provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which we refer to as the DGCL. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our certificate of incorporation, our by-laws and the applicable provisions of the DGCL. For information on how to obtain copies of our certificate of incorporation and by-laws, see Where You Can Find More Information.*

We may offer common stock. We may also offer common stock issuable upon the conversion of debt securities or preferred stock, the exercise of warrants and pursuant to stock purchase contracts.

#### **Authorized and Outstanding Capital Stock**

Our authorized capital stock consists of 150,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of which 2,300,000 shares have been designated as Series B Convertible Perpetual Preferred Stock, or Series B preferred stock. As of August 3, 2009, we had 80,466,652 shares of common stock and 1,939,046 shares of Series B preferred stock issued and outstanding.

#### **Common Stock**

*Voting Rights.* The holders of our common stock have one vote per share. Holders of our common stock are not entitled to vote cumulatively for the election of directors. Generally, all matters to be voted on by stockholders must be approved by a majority, or, in the case of the election of directors, by a plurality, of the votes cast at a meeting at which a quorum is present, voting together as a single class, subject to any voting rights granted to holders of any then outstanding preferred stock.

*Dividends.* Holders of common stock will share ratably in any dividends declared by our board of directors, subject to the preferential rights of any preferred stock then outstanding. We may pay dividends consisting of shares of common stock to holders of shares of common stock.

*Other Rights.* Upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company, all holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in any assets available for distribution to holders of shares of common stock, subject to the preferential rights of any preferred stock then outstanding. No shares of common stock are subject to redemption or have preemptive rights to purchase additional shares of common stock.

## **Preferred Stock**

Our certificate of incorporation provides that we may issue shares of preferred stock from time to time in one or more series. Our board of directors is authorized to fix the voting rights, if any, designations, powers, preferences, qualifications, limitations and restrictions thereof, applicable to the shares of each series. Our board of directors may, without stockholder approval, issue preferred stock with voting and other rights that could adversely affect the voting power and other rights of the holders of the common stock and could have anti-takeover effects, including preferred stock or rights to acquire preferred stock in connection with implementing a shareholder rights plan. The

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ability of our board of directors to issue preferred stock without stockholder approval could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change of control of our company or the removal of existing management. Our board of directors has designated 2,300,000 shares of preferred stock as Series B preferred stock.

### **Indemnification Matters**

Our certificate of incorporation contains a provision permitted by Delaware law that generally eliminates the personal liability of directors for monetary damages for breaches of their fiduciary duty, including breaches involving negligence or gross negligence in business combinations, unless the director has breached his or her duty of loyalty, failed to act in good faith, engaged in intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, paid a dividend or approved a stock repurchase in violation of the DGCL or obtained an improper personal benefit. This provision does not alter a director's liability under the federal securities laws and does not affect the availability of equitable remedies, such as an injunction or rescission, for breach of fiduciary duty. Our by-laws provide that directors and officers shall be, and in the discretion of our board of directors, non-officer employees may be, indemnified by us to the fullest extent authorized by Delaware law, as it now exists or may in the future be amended, against all expenses and liabilities reasonably incurred in connection with service for us or on our behalf. Our by-laws also provide for the advancement of expenses to directors and, in the discretion of our board of directors, officers and non-officer employees. In addition, our by-laws provide that the right of directors and officers to indemnification shall be a contractual right and shall not be exclusive of any other right now possessed or hereafter acquired under any by-law, agreement, vote of stockholders or otherwise. We also have directors' and officers' insurance against certain liabilities. We believe that the limitation of liability and indemnification provisions of our certificate of incorporation and by-laws and directors' and officers' insurance will assist us in attracting and retaining qualified individuals to serve as our directors and officers.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be provided to our directors or officers, or persons controlling our company as described above, we have been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

### **Provisions of Our Certificate of Incorporation and By-laws That May Have Anti-Takeover Effects**

Certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation and by-laws described below, as well as the ability of our board of directors to issue shares of preferred stock and to set the voting rights, preferences and other terms thereof, may be deemed to have an anti-takeover effect and may discourage takeover attempts not first approved by our board of directors, including takeovers that stockholders may believe to be in their best interests.

These provisions also could have the effect of discouraging open market purchases of our common stock because these provisions may be considered disadvantageous by a stockholder who desires subsequent to such purchases to participate in a business combination transaction with us or elect a new director to our board.

*Classified Board of Directors.* Our board of directors is divided into three classes serving staggered three-year terms, with one-third of the board being elected each year. Our classified board, together with certain other provisions of our certificate of incorporation authorizing the board of directors to fill vacant directorships or increase the size of the board, may prevent a stockholder from removing, or delay the removal of, incumbent directors and simultaneously gaining control of the board of directors by filling vacancies created by such removal with its own nominees.

*Director Vacancies and Removal.* Our certificate of incorporation provides that the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors is necessary to fill vacancies in our board of directors, except for any directorship that is to be filled exclusively by holders of preferred stock. Our certificate of incorporation provides that directors, other than

those elected exclusively by the holders of preferred stock, may be removed from office only with cause and only by the affirmative vote of holders of at least seventy-five percent of the shares then entitled to vote in an election of directors.

*No Common Stockholder Action by Written Consent.* Our certificate of incorporation provides that any action required or permitted to be taken by the holders of our common stock at an annual or special meeting of

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stockholders must be effected at a duly called meeting and may not be taken or effected by a written consent of stockholders.

*Special Meetings of Stockholders.* Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws provide that only our board of directors may call a special meeting of stockholders. Our by-laws provide that only those matters included in the notice of the special meeting may be considered or acted upon at that special meeting unless otherwise provided by law.

*Advance Notice of Director Nominations and Stockholder Proposals.* Our by-laws include advance notice and informational requirements and time limitations on any director nomination or any new proposal which a stockholder wishes to make at an annual meeting of stockholders. A stockholder's notice of a director nomination or proposal will be timely if delivered to our corporate secretary at our principal executive offices not later than the close of business on the 90th day nor earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting.

*Amendment of the Certificate of Incorporation.* As required by Delaware law, any amendment to our certificate of incorporation must first be approved by a majority of our board of directors and, if required by law, thereafter approved by a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote with respect to such amendment, except that any amendment to the provisions relating to common stockholder action by written consent, directors (other than those provisions contained in any certificate of designation relating to preferred stock), limitation of liability and the amendment of our certificate of incorporation must be approved by not less than seventy-five percent of the outstanding shares entitled to vote with respect to such amendment.

*Amendment of By-laws.* Our certificate of incorporation and by-laws provide that our by-laws may be amended or repealed by our board of directors or by the stockholders. Such action by the board of directors requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office. Such action by the stockholders requires the affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at an annual meeting of stockholders or a special meeting called for such purpose unless our board of directors recommends that the stockholders approve such amendment or repeal at such meeting, in which case such amendment or repeal only requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting.

## **Statutory Business Combination Provision**

We are subject to Section 203 of the DGCL, which prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from completing a business combination, except under certain circumstances, with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the date such person became an interested stockholder unless:

before such person became an interested stockholder, the board of directors of the corporation approved the transaction in which the interested stockholder became an interested stockholder or approved the business combination;

upon the closing of the transaction that resulted in the interested stockholder becoming such, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding shares held by directors who are also officers of the corporation and shares held by employee stock plans; or

following the transaction in which such person became an interested stockholder, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at a meeting of stockholders by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation not

owned by the interested stockholder.

The term interested stockholder generally is defined as a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns, or, within the prior three years, owned, 15% or more of a corporation's outstanding voting stock.

The term business combination includes mergers, consolidations, asset sales involving 10% or more of a corporation's assets and other similar transactions resulting in a financial benefit to an interested stockholder. Section 203 makes it more difficult for an interested stockholder to effect various business combinations with a corporation for a three-year period. A Delaware corporation may opt out of Section 203 with an express provision

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in its original certificate of incorporation or an express provision in its certificate of incorporation or by-laws resulting from an amendment approved by holders of at least a majority of the outstanding voting stock. Neither our certificate of incorporation nor our by-laws contain any such exclusion.

## **Trading on the New York Stock Exchange**

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol IMA.

## **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Computershare Trust Company, N.A.

## **DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK WE MAY OFFER**

*This section outlines some of the provisions of the preferred stock we may offer. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our certificate of incorporation, by-laws and the applicable provisions of the DGCL. The specific terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Any series of preferred stock we issue will be governed by our certificate of incorporation (as amended and in effect as of the date of such issuance) and by the certificate of amendment related to that series. We will file the certificate of amendment with the SEC and incorporate it by reference as an exhibit to our registration statement at or before the time we issue any preferred stock of that series of authorized preferred stock.*

### **Authorized Preferred Stock**

Our certificate of incorporation provides that we may issue up to 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock from time to time in one or more series. Our board of directors is authorized to fix the voting rights, if any, designations, powers, preferences, qualifications, limitations and restrictions thereof, applicable to the shares of each series. We have designated 2,300,000 shares of preferred stock as Series B preferred stock, of which 1,939,046 shares were outstanding as of August 3, 2009.

The prospectus supplement relating to any series of preferred stock that we may offer will contain the specific terms of the preferred stock.

## **DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS WE MAY OFFER**

*This section outlines some of the provisions of each warrant agreement pursuant to which warrants may be issued, the warrants or rights of warrant holders, and any warrant certificates. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is qualified in its entirety by reference to any warrant agreement with respect to the warrants of any particular series. The specific terms of any series of warrants will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in the prospectus supplement, the terms of that series of warrants may differ from the general description of terms presented below.*

We may issue warrants. We may issue these securities in such amounts or in as many distinct series as we wish. This section summarizes the terms of these securities that apply generally. Most of the financial and other specific terms of any such series of securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Those terms may vary from the terms described here.

When we refer to a series of securities in this section, we mean all securities issued as part of the same series under any applicable indenture, agreement or other instrument. When we refer to the applicable prospectus supplement, we mean the prospectus supplement describing the specific terms of the security you purchase. The terms used in the applicable prospectus supplement generally will have the meanings described in this prospectus, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

**Warrants**

We may issue warrants, options or similar instruments for the purchase of our common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities or units. We refer to these collectively as warrants. Warrants may be issued independently or together with common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, debt securities or units, and may be attached to or separate from those securities.



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### **Agreements**

Each series of warrants may be evidenced by certificates and may be issued under a separate indenture, agreement or other instrument to be entered into between us and a bank, trust company or other institution that we select as agent with respect to such series. The warrant agent will act as our agent in connection with the warrant agreement or any warrant certificates and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any warrant holders. Copies of the forms of agreements and the forms of certificates representing the warrants will be filed with the SEC near the date of filing of the applicable prospectus supplement with the SEC. Because the following is a summary of certain provisions of the forms of agreements and certificates, it does not contain all information that may be important to you. You should read all the provisions of the agreements and the certificates once they are available.

No warrant agreement will be qualified as an indenture, and no warrant agent will be required to qualify as a trustee, under the Trust Indenture Act. Therefore, holders of warrants issued under warrant agreements will not have the protections of the Trust Indenture Act with respect to their warrants.

### **General Terms of Warrants**

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of warrants will identify the name and address of the warrant agent, if any. The prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the series of warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, including:

the offering price;

the designation and terms of any securities with which the warrants are issued and in that event the number of warrants issued with each security or each principal amount of security;

the dates on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence and expire, and the price at which the warrants are exercisable;

the amount of warrants then outstanding;

material U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding or exercising these securities; and

any other terms of the warrants.

Warrant certificates may be exchanged for new certificates of different denominations and may be presented for transfer of registration and, if exercisable for other securities or other property, may be exercised at the warrant agent's corporate trust office or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement. If the warrants are not separately transferable from any securities with which they were issued, an exchange may take place only if the certificates representing the related securities are also exchanged. Prior to exercise of any warrant exercisable for other securities or other property, warrant holders will not have any rights as holders of the underlying securities, including the right to receive any principal, premium, interest, dividends, or payments upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up or to exercise any voting rights.

*Modification Without Consent.* We and the applicable warrant agent may amend any warrant or warrant agreement without the consent of any holder to:

cure any ambiguity;

correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or

make any other change that we believe is necessary or desirable and will not adversely affect the interests of the affected holders in any material respect.

We do not need any approval to make changes that affect only warrants to be issued after the changes take effect. We may also make changes that do not adversely affect a particular warrant in any material respect, even if they adversely affect other warrants in a material respect. In those cases, we do not need to obtain the approval of the holder of the unaffected warrant; we need only obtain any required approvals from the holders of the affected warrants.

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*Modification With Consent.* We and any agent for any series of warrants may also amend any agreement and the related warrants by a supplemental agreement with the consent of the holders of a majority of the warrants of any series affected by such amendment. However, no such amendment that:

increases the exercise price of such warrant;

shortens the time period during which any such warrant may be exercised;

reduces the number of securities the consent of holders of which is required for amending the agreement or the related warrants; or

otherwise adversely affects the exercise rights of warrant holders in any material respect;

may be made without the consent of each holder affected by that amendment.

**DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS WE MAY OFFER**

*This section outlines some of the provisions of the stock purchase contracts, the stock purchase contract agreement and the pledge agreement. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the stock purchase contract agreement and pledge agreement with respect to the stock purchase contracts of any particular series. The specific terms of any series of stock purchase contracts will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in a prospectus supplement, the specific terms of any series of stock purchase contracts may differ from the general description of terms presented below.*

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us and us to sell to the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or other security or property at a future date or dates. Alternatively, the stock purchase contracts may obligate us to purchase from holders, and obligate holders to sell to us, a specified or varying number of shares of common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or other security or property. The consideration per share of common stock or preferred stock or per depositary share or other security or property may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by a specific reference to a formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may provide for settlement by delivery by us or on our behalf of shares of the underlying security or property or they may provide for settlement by reference or linkage to the value, performance or trading price of the underlying security or property. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of stock purchase units consisting of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, preferred stock or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. treasury securities, other stock purchase contracts or common stock, or other securities or property, securing the holders' obligations to purchase or sell, as the case may be, the common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or other security or property under the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments to the holders of the stock purchase units or vice versa, and such payments may be unsecured or prefunded on some basis and may be paid on a current or on a deferred basis. The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations thereunder in a specified manner and may provide for the prepayment of all or part of the consideration payable by holders in connection with the purchase of the underlying security or other property pursuant to the stock purchase contracts.

The securities related to the stock purchase contracts may be pledged to a collateral agent for our benefit pursuant to a pledge agreement to secure the obligations of holders of stock purchase contracts to purchase the underlying security or property under the related stock purchase contracts. The rights of holders of stock purchase contracts to the related pledged securities will be subject to our security interest therein created by the pledge agreement. No holder of stock purchase contracts will be permitted to withdraw the pledged securities related to such stock purchase contracts from

the pledge arrangement except upon the termination or early settlement of the related stock purchase contracts or in the event other securities, cash or property is made subject to the pledge agreement in lieu of the pledged securities, if permitted by the pledge agreement, or as otherwise provided in the pledge agreement. Subject to such security interest and the terms of the stock purchase contract agreement and the

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pledge agreement, each holder of a stock purchase contract will retain full beneficial ownership of the related pledged securities.

Except as described in the applicable prospectus supplement, the collateral agent will, upon receipt of distributions on the pledged securities, distribute such payments to us or the stock purchase contract agent, as provided in the pledge agreement. The purchase agent will in turn distribute payments it receives as provided in the stock purchase contract agreement.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES WE MAY OFFER**

*This section outlines some of the provisions of the deposit agreement to govern any depositary shares, the depositary shares themselves and the depositary receipts. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the relevant deposit agreement and depositary receipts with respect to the depositary shares related to any particular series of preferred stock. The specific terms of any series of depositary shares will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in the prospectus supplement, the terms of that series of depositary shares may differ from the general description of terms presented below.*

### **Interest in a Fractional Share, or Multiple Shares, of Preferred Stock**

We may, at our option, elect to offer depositary shares, each of which would represent an interest in a fractional share, or multiple shares, of our preferred stock instead of whole shares of preferred stock. If so, we will allow a depositary to issue to the public depositary shares, each of which will represent an interest in a fractional share, or multiple shares, of preferred stock as described in the prospectus supplement.

### **Deposit Agreement**

The shares of the preferred stock underlying any depositary shares will be deposited under a separate deposit agreement between us and a bank, trust company or other institution acting as depositary with respect to those shares of preferred stock. The prospectus supplement relating to a series of depositary shares will specify the name and address of the depositary. Under the deposit agreement, each owner of a depositary share will be entitled, in proportion to its interest in a fractional share, or multiple shares, of the preferred stock underlying that depositary share, to all the rights and preferences of that preferred stock, including dividend, voting, redemption, conversion, exchange and liquidation rights.

Depositary shares will be evidenced by one or more depositary receipts issued under the deposit agreement. We will distribute depositary receipts to those persons purchasing such depositary shares in accordance with the terms of the offering made by the related prospectus supplement.

No depositary agreement will be qualified as an indenture, and no depositary will be required to qualify as a trustee, under the Trust Indenture Act. Therefore, holders of depositary shares issued under depositary agreements will not have the protections of the Trust Indenture Act with respect to their depositary shares.

### **Dividends and Other Distributions**

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions in respect of the preferred stock underlying the depositary shares to each record depositary shareholder based on the number of depositary shares owned by that holder on the relevant record date. The depositary will distribute only that amount which can be distributed without attributing to any depositary shareholders a fraction of one cent, and any balance not so distributed will be added to

and treated as part of the next sum received by the depositary for distribution to record depositary shareholders.

If there is a distribution other than in cash, the depositary will distribute property to the entitled record depositary shareholders, unless the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make that distribution. In that case the depositary may, with our approval, adopt the method it deems equitable and practicable for making that

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distribution, including any sale of property and the distribution of the net proceeds from the sale to the concerned holders.

Each deposit agreement will also contain provisions relating to the manner in which any subscription or similar rights we offer to holders of the relevant series of preferred stock will be made available to depositary shareholders.

The amount distributed in all of the foregoing cases will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by us or the depositary on account of taxes and governmental charges.

## **Withdrawal of Stock**

Upon surrender of depositary receipts at the office of the depositary and upon payment of the charges provided in the deposit agreement and subject to the terms thereof, a holder of depositary receipts is entitled to have the depositary deliver to such holder the applicable number of shares of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares evidenced by the surrendered depositary receipts. There may be no market, however, for the underlying preferred stock and once the underlying preferred stock is withdrawn from the depositary, it may not be redeposited.

## **Redemption and Liquidation**

The terms on which the depositary shares relating to the preferred stock of any series may be redeemed, and any amounts distributable upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## **Voting**

Upon receiving notice of any meeting at which preferred stockholders of any series are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in that notice to the record depositary shareholders relating to those series of preferred stock. Each depositary shareholder on the record date will be entitled to instruct the depositary on how to vote the shares of preferred stock underlying that holder's depositary shares. The depositary will vote the shares of preferred stock underlying those depositary shares according to those instructions, and we will take reasonably necessary actions to enable the depositary to do so. If the depositary does not receive specific instructions from the depositary shareholders relating to that preferred stock, it will abstain from voting those shares of preferred stock, unless otherwise discussed in the prospectus supplement.

## **Amendment and Termination of Deposit Agreement**

We and the depositary may amend the depositary receipt form evidencing the depositary shares and the related deposit agreement. However, any amendment that significantly affects the rights of the depositary shareholders will not be effective unless holders of a majority of the outstanding depositary shares approve that amendment. No amendment, however, may impair the right of any depositary shareholder to receive any money or other property to which he may be entitled under the terms of the deposit agreement at the times and in the manner and amount provided for therein. We or the depositary may terminate a deposit agreement only if:

we redeemed or reacquired all outstanding depositary shares relating to the deposit agreement;

all outstanding depositary shares have been converted (if convertible) into shares of common stock or another series of preferred stock; or

there has been a final distribution in respect of the preferred stock of any series in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up and such distribution has been made to the related depositary shareholders.

**Charges of Depositary**

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangements. We will also pay all charges of each depositary in connection with the initial deposit and any redemption of the preferred stock. Depositary shareholders will be required to pay any other transfer and other



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taxes and governmental charges and any other charges expressly provided in the deposit agreement to be for their accounts.

### **Miscellaneous**

Each depositary will forward to the relevant depositary shareholders all our reports and communications that we are required to furnish to preferred stockholders of any series.

The deposit agreement will contain provisions relating to adjustments in the fraction of a share of preferred stock represented by a depositary share in the event of a change in par value, split-up, combination or other reclassification of the preferred stock or upon any recapitalization, merger or sale of substantially all of our assets.

Neither the depositary nor our company will be liable if it is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond its control in performing its obligations under any deposit agreement, or subject to any liability under the deposit agreement to holders of depositary receipts other than for the relevant party's gross negligence or willful misconduct. The obligations of each depositary under any deposit agreement will be limited to performance in good faith of their duties under that agreement, and they will not be obligated to prosecute or defend any legal proceeding in respect of any depositary shares or preferred stock unless they are provided with satisfactory indemnity. They may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, or information provided by persons presenting preferred stock for deposit, depositary shareholders or other persons believed to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

### **Resignation and Removal of Depositary**

A depositary may resign at any time by issuing us a notice of resignation, and we may remove any depositary at any time by issuing it a notice of removal. Resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor depositary and its acceptance of appointment. That successor depositary must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal.

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES AND SUBSIDIARY GUARANTEES WE MAY OFFER**

*This section outlines some of the provisions of the debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees we may issue and the indenture and supplemental indentures pursuant to which they may be issued. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the form of indenture and the applicable supplemental indenture with respect to the debt securities of any particular series and any related subsidiary guarantees. The specific terms of any series of debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in a particular supplement, the specific terms of any series of debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees may differ from the general description of terms presented below.*

We may issue secured or unsecured debt securities. Our debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees will be issued under an indenture to be entered into between us and a trustee to be designated by us, a form of which is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. Our debt securities may be convertible into our common stock or other of our securities.

When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. We will also indicate in the prospectus supplement whether the general terms and provisions described in this prospectus apply to a particular series of debt securities. To the extent the information contained in the prospectus supplement differs from this summary description, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in a supplement to this prospectus, the debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees will be the direct, unsecured obligations of the issuers thereof and will rank equally with all of the issuers' other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness. The holders of our debt securities will be structurally subordinated to holders of any indebtedness (including trade payables) of any of our subsidiaries, except to the extent our subsidiaries guarantee our obligations under that series of debt securities.

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The debt securities may be fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a secured or unsecured, senior or subordinated basis, jointly and severally, by some or all of our direct and indirect wholly owned domestic subsidiaries. The obligations of each subsidiary guarantor, if any, under its guarantee, if any, will be limited as necessary to prevent that guarantee from constituting a fraudulent conveyance under applicable law.

In the event that any series of debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees will be subordinated to other indebtedness that we or our subsidiary guarantors have outstanding or may incur, the terms of the subordination will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities and related subsidiary guarantees.

We have described select portions of the indenture below. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you. The form of indenture has been included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, and you should read the indenture for provisions that may be important to you. In the summary below, we have included references to the section numbers of the indenture so that you can easily locate these provisions.

## **General**

The terms of each series of debt securities and any related subsidiary guarantees will be established by or pursuant to a resolution of our board of directors and set forth or determined in the manner provided in a resolution of our board of directors, in an officers certificate or by a supplemental indenture. (Section 2.02)

We may issue an unlimited amount of debt securities under the indenture that may be in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium, or at a discount. When we offer a particular series of debt securities, we will identify the title of the debt securities, the trustee or trustees (to which we refer in this description collectively as the trustee), any subsidiary guarantors and the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities we are offering, and we will describe the following terms of the debt securities, if applicable:

the price or prices (expressed as a percentage of the principal amount) at which we will issue the debt securities;

any limit on the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities;

the date or dates on which we will pay the principal on the debt securities;

the rate or rates (which may be fixed or variable) per annum or, if applicable, the method used to determine the rate or rates (including any rate or rates determined by reference to any commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index or financial index) at which the debt securities will bear interest, the date or dates from which interest will accrue, the date or dates on which interest will commence and be payable and any regular record date for the interest payable on any interest payment date;

the place or places where principal of and interest on the debt securities will be payable, where the debt securities may be surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange and where notices and demands to or upon us in respect of the debt securities and the indenture may be served, and the method of such payment, if by wire transfer, mail or other means;

the terms and conditions on which we may redeem the debt securities;

any obligations we have to redeem or purchase the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a holder of debt securities and the date or dates on which or period or periods

within which, the price or prices at which and the other detailed terms and provisions upon which the debt securities will be redeemed or purchased pursuant to such obligations;

the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof;

whether the debt securities will be issued as bearer or fully registered securities and, if they are to be issued as fully registered securities, whether they will be in the form of certificated debt securities or global debt securities;

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the portion of principal amount of the debt securities payable upon acceleration or declaration of acceleration of the maturity date, if other than the principal amount;

the currency of denomination of the debt securities;

the designation of the currency, currencies or currency units in which payment of principal of and interest on the debt securities will be made;

if payments of principal of or interest on the debt securities will be made in one or more currencies or currency units other than that or those in which the debt securities are denominated, the manner in which the exchange rate with respect to these payments will be determined;

the terms, if any, of subordination of the debt securities;

the terms, if any, of any guarantee of the payment of principal of and interest on the debt securities by any of our subsidiaries (including the identity of any guarantor), whether any such guarantee shall be made on a senior or subordinated basis and, if applicable, a description of the subordination terms of any such guarantee;

any provisions relating to any security provided for the debt securities or any subsidiary guarantees (including any security to be provided by any subsidiary guarantor);

any addition to or change in the events of default described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities and any change in the acceleration provisions described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities;

any addition to or change in the covenants described in this prospectus or in the indenture with respect to the debt securities;

any provisions relating to conversion of any debt securities into equity interests, including the conversion price and the conversion period, whether conversion will be mandatory, at the option of the holders of the debt securities or at our option, events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price, and provisions affecting conversion if the debt securities are redeemed;

any exchange features of the debt securities;

whether any underwriter(s) will act as market maker(s) for the debt securities;

the extent to which a secondary market for the debt securities is expected to develop;

any addition to or change in the provisions relating to satisfaction and discharge of the indenture described in this prospectus with respect to the debt securities, or in the provisions relating to legal defeasance or covenant defeasance under the indenture described in this prospectus with respect to the debt securities;

any addition to or change in the provisions relating to modification of the indenture both with and without the consent of holders of debt securities issued under the indenture;

any other terms or provisions of the debt securities, which may supplement, modify or delete any provision of the indenture as it applies to that series; and

any registrars, paying agents, service agents, depositaries, interest rate calculation agents, exchange rate calculation agents or other agents with respect to the debt securities. (Section 2.02)

We will provide you with information on the material United States federal income tax considerations and other special considerations applicable to any series of debt securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The indenture does not limit our ability to issue convertible or subordinated debt securities. Any conversion or subordination provisions of a particular series of debt securities will be set forth in the resolution of our board of directors, the officers' certificate or supplemental indenture related to that series of debt securities and will be described in the relevant prospectus supplement.

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We may issue debt securities that provide for an amount less than their stated principal amount to be due and payable upon declaration of acceleration of their maturity pursuant to the terms of the indenture.

One or more series of debt securities may be sold at a discount to their stated principal amount or may bear no interest or interest at a rate which at the time of issuance is below market rates. One or more series of debt securities may be variable rate debt securities that may be exchanged for fixed rate debt securities.

Debt securities may be issued where the amount of principal and/or interest payable is determined by reference to one or more currency exchange rates, commodity prices, commodity indices, stock exchange indices, financial indices, equity indices or other factors. Holders of such securities may receive a principal amount or a payment of interest that is greater than or less than the amount of principal or interest otherwise payable on such dates, depending upon the value of the applicable currencies, commodities, commodity indices, stock exchange indices, financial indices, equity indices or other factors. Information as to the methods for determining the amount of principal or interest, if any, payable on any date, the currencies, commodities, commodity indices, stock exchange indices, financial indices, equity indices or other factors to which the amount payable on such date is linked and certain additional United States federal income tax considerations will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If we denominate the purchase price of any of the debt securities in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, or if the principal of and interest on any series of debt securities is payable in a foreign currency or currencies or a foreign currency unit or units, we will provide you with information on the restrictions, elections, general United States federal tax considerations, specific terms and other information with respect to that issue of debt securities and such foreign currency or currencies or foreign currency unit or units in the applicable prospectus supplement.

When we determine to issue debt securities, we will instruct the trustee to authenticate for issuance such debt securities in a principal amount that we will provide in a resolution of our board of directors, in an officers' certificate or by a supplemental indenture. Our instructions may authorize the trustee to authenticate and deliver such debt securities upon our oral instructions or the oral instructions of our authorized agent or agents. (Section 2.03)

## **Transfer and Exchange**

We expect most debt securities to be issued in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples thereof. Each debt security will be represented by either one or more global securities deposited with and registered in the name of a depository to be designated by us in the applicable prospectus supplement, or a nominee (we refer to any debt security represented by a global security as a "book-entry debt security"), or by a certificate issued in definitive registered or bearer form (we refer to any fully registered debt security represented by a certificate as a "registered certificated debt security"), as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Except as set forth under the heading "Global Securities" below, book-entry debt securities will not be issuable in certificated form.

You may transfer or exchange registered certificated debt securities at any office we maintain for this purpose in accordance with the terms of the indenture. No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of registered certificated debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange. (Section 2.07)

You may effect the transfer of registered certificated debt securities, and the right to receive the principal of and interest on those registered certificated debt securities, only by surrendering the certificate representing those registered certificated debt securities and the issuance by us or the trustee of a certificate to the new holder. (Section 2.07)

**Global Securities**

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global securities that will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary (the depositary ) identified in the prospectus supplement. Global securities will be issued to the depositary in registered certificated form and in either temporary or definitive form. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for the individual debt securities, a global security may not



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be transferred except as a whole by the depositary for such global security to a nominee of such depositary or by a nominee of such depositary to such depositary or another nominee of such depositary or by such depositary or any such nominee to a successor of such depositary or a nominee of such successor. The specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to any debt securities of a series and the rights of and limitations upon owners of beneficial interests in a global security will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. (Section 2.14)

## **No Protection in the Event of a Change of Control or a Highly Leveraged Transaction**

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any provisions which may afford holders of the debt securities protection in the event we have a change in control or in the event of a highly leveraged transaction (whether or not such transaction results in a change in control) that could adversely affect holders of debt securities.

## **Covenants**

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement any restrictive covenants applicable to the particular debt securities being issued.

## **Subordination**

Debt securities of a series, and any related subsidiary guarantees, may be subordinated, which we refer to as subordinated debt securities, to senior indebtedness (as will be defined in the applicable prospectus supplement) to the extent set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

## **Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets**

We may not consolidate with or merge with or into, or sell, lease, transfer, convey, or otherwise dispose of or assign all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, any entity or enter into a plan of liquidation unless:

we are the resulting or surviving corporation in such consolidation or merger or the successor entity in the transaction (if other than us) (or, in the case of a plan of liquidation, any entity to which our properties or assets are transferred), is a corporation organized and validly existing under the laws of any U.S. domestic jurisdiction and expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture, our obligations on the debt securities and under the indenture; and

immediately after giving effect to the transaction, no event of default under the indenture, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an event of default under the indenture, shall have occurred and be continuing.

Notwithstanding the above, any of our subsidiaries may consolidate with, merge into or transfer all or part of its properties and assets to us or any of our other subsidiaries. (Section 5.01)

## **Events of Default**

An event of default means, with respect to any series of debt securities, any of the following:

default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable, and continuance of that default for a period of 30 consecutive days;

default in the payment of principal of any debt security of that series when and as due and payable;

default on any obligation to deposit any sinking fund payment when and due and payable in respect of any debt security of that series;

default in the performance or breach of any other covenant or warranty by us in the indenture or any debt security (other than a covenant or warranty that has been included in the indenture solely for the benefit of a series of debt securities other than that series), which default continues uncured for a period of 60 days after we receive written notice from the trustee or we and the trustee receive written notice from the holders of not

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less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series as provided in the indenture;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization with respect to us; and

any other event of default provided with respect to debt securities of that series that is described in the applicable prospectus supplement. (Section 6.01)

No event of default with respect to a particular series of debt securities (except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization) necessarily constitutes an event of default with respect to any other series of debt securities. The occurrence of certain events of default or an acceleration under the indenture may constitute a default under certain of our other indebtedness outstanding from time to time, as may be provided in the terms governing that other indebtedness.

If an event of default with respect to debt securities of any series at the time outstanding occurs and is continuing, then the trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may, by a notice in writing to us (and to the trustee if given by the holders), declare to be due and payable immediately the principal of (or, if the debt securities of that series are discount securities, that portion of the principal amount as may be specified in the terms of that series) and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all debt securities of that series. In the case of an event of default resulting from certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization, the principal (or such specified amount) of and accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on all outstanding debt securities will become and be immediately due and payable without any declaration or other act on the part of the trustee or any holder of outstanding debt securities. (Section 6.02)

At any time after a declaration of acceleration with respect to debt securities of any series has been made, but before a judgment or decree based on the acceleration has been obtained, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may rescind and annul the acceleration if all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal and interest, if any, with respect to debt securities of that series, have been cured or waived (and certain other conditions have been satisfied) as provided in the indenture. (Section 6.02) We refer you to the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities that are discount securities for the particular provisions relating to acceleration of a portion of the principal amount of such discount securities upon the occurrence of an event of default.

The indenture provides that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture unless the trustee receives reasonable security or indemnity satisfactory to it against any cost, expense or liability. (Section 7.02(f)) Subject to certain rights of the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of that series. (Section 6.05)

No holder of any debt security of any series will have any right to institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the indenture or such debt securities for any remedy under the indenture, unless the trustee for such debt securities:

has failed to act for a period of 60 days after receiving notice of a continuing event of default with respect to such debt securities from such holder and a request to act by holders of not less than 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series;

has been offered indemnity satisfactory to it in its reasonable judgment; and

has not received from the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with that request. (Section 6.06)

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the holder of any debt security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal of and any interest on that debt security on or after the due dates expressed in that debt security and to institute suit for the enforcement of payment. (Section 6.07)

The indenture requires us, within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year, to furnish to the trustee an officers certificate as to compliance with the indenture. (Section 4.04) The indenture provides that the trustee may withhold

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notice to the holders of debt securities of any series of any default (except in payment of the principal of or interest on any debt securities of that series) with respect to debt securities of that series if it in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interest of the holders of those debt securities. (Section 7.05)

## **Modification and Waiver**

Generally, we may amend the indenture with the consent of, and our compliance with provisions of the indenture may be waived by, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of each series affected by the amendment or waiver. However, we may not make any or amendment without the consent of, and our compliance with provisions of the indenture requires the waiver of, each holder of the affected debt securities if that amendment or waiver would:

reduce the principal of or change the fixed maturity of any debt security or reduce the amount of, or postpone the date fixed for, the payment of any sinking fund or analogous obligation with respect to any series of debt securities;

reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest (including default interest) on any debt security;

reduce the principal amount of discount securities payable upon acceleration of maturity;

waive a redemption payment, or change any of the other redemption provisions, with respect to any debt security, except as specifically set forth in the applicable resolution of our board of directors, the officers certificate or the supplemental indenture establishing the terms and conditions of such debt securities;

make the principal of or interest on any debt security payable in a currency other than that stated in the debt security;

waive a default in the payment of the principal of or interest on any debt security (except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities of any series by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding debt securities of that series and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from such acceleration);

make any change to certain provisions of the indenture relating to, among other things, the right of holders of debt securities to receive payment of the principal of and interest on those debt securities and to institute suit for the enforcement of any such payment, and certain waivers or amendments;

if the debt securities of that series are entitled to the benefit of any guarantee, release any guarantor of such series other than as provided in the indenture or modify the guarantee in any manner adverse to the holders; or

reduce the amount of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment, supplement or waiver. (Section 9.02)

In addition, the indenture permits us and the trustee to make certain routine amendments to the indenture without the consent of any holder of debt securities. (Section 9.01)

## **Discharge**

Our obligations under the indenture will be discharged as to a series of debt securities when all of the debt securities of that series have been delivered to the trustee for cancellation or, alternatively, when the following conditions are

met:

all of the debt securities of that series that have not been delivered for cancellation have become due and payable, whether by reason of the mailing of a notice of redemption or otherwise, or will become due and payable within one year;

we have deposited with the trustee in trust for the benefit of the holders of such debt securities funds in an amount sufficient to pay all of our indebtedness owing on such debt securities;

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we or any guarantor of such debt securities have paid all other amounts due and payable by us under the indenture; and

we have instructed the trustee to apply the deposited money toward the payment of such debt securities at maturity or on the date of redemption, as the case may be. (Section 8.01)

**Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance**

The indenture provides that, upon the satisfaction of certain conditions specified in the indenture:

we and each guarantor, if any, may be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of the debt securities of any series (except for certain obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of such series, to replace stolen, lost or mutilated debt securities of such series, and to maintain paying agencies and certain provisions relating to the treatment of funds held by paying agents) (we refer to this below as legal defeasance ); or

we and each guarantor, if any, may omit to comply with the covenants set forth in the indenture, as well as any additional covenants which may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, and any omission to comply with those covenants will not constitute a default with respect to the debt securities of that series (we refer to this below as covenant defeasance ). (Section 8.02)

The conditions to the legal defeasance or covenant defeasance of a series of debt securities as described above include:

depositing with the trustee money and/or non-callable obligations guaranteed by the U.S. government (which we refer to below as U.S. government obligations ) that, through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants to pay and discharge each installment of principal of and interest on, and any mandatory sinking fund payments in respect of, the debt securities of that series on the stated maturity of those payments in accordance with the terms of the indenture and those debt securities;

in the case of legal defeasance, delivering to the trustee an opinion of counsel confirming that we have received an Internal Revenue Service tax ruling or that there has been a change in applicable United States federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that, and based thereon, the holders of the debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit and related legal defeasance and will be subject to United States federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been in the case if the deposit and related legal defeasance had not occurred;

in the case of covenant defeasance, delivering to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of the debt securities of that series will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit and related covenant defeasance and will be subject to United States federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit and related covenant defeasance had not occurred;

there being no continuing default with respect to the debt securities of that series on the date of deposit of the money and/or U.S. government obligations referred to above (other than a default resulting from the borrowing of funds to be applied to that deposit);

the defeasance not resulting in a breach or violation of, or default under, any of our or our subsidiaries' material agreements (other than any such default resulting solely from the borrowing of funds to be applied to the deposit referred to above and the grant of any lien on that deposit in favor of the trustee and/or the holders of the debt securities of that series); and

delivering to the trustee a certificate stating that the deposit was not made with the intent of preferring the holders of the debt securities of that series over any other of our creditors or with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding any other of our creditors. (Section 8.03)



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### **Regarding the Trustee**

The indenture provides that, except during the continuance of an event of default or any event, act or condition that, after notice or the passage of time or both, would be an event of default, the trustee will perform only such duties as are specifically set forth in the indenture. During the continuance of an event of default or any event, act or condition that, after notice or the passage of time or both, would be an event of default, the trustee will exercise such rights and powers vested in it under the indenture and use the same degree of care and skill in its exercise as a prudent person would exercise or use under the circumstances in the conduct of such person's own affairs. (Section 7.01)

The indenture and provisions of the Trust Indenture Act that are incorporated by reference in the indenture contain limitations on the rights of the trustee, should it become one of our creditors, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases or to realize on certain property received by it in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee is permitted to engage in other transactions with us or any of our affiliates; provided, however, that if it acquires any conflicting interest (as defined in the indenture or in the Trust Indenture Act), it must eliminate such conflict or resign. (Section 7.10)

### **Governing Law**

The indenture, the debt securities and any subsidiary guarantees will be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of New York. (Section 10.08)

## **DESCRIPTION OF UNITS WE MAY OFFER**

*This section outlines some of the provisions of the units and the unit agreements. This description may not contain all of the information that is important to you and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the unit agreement with respect to the units of any particular series. The specific terms of any series of units will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so described in a particular supplement, the specific terms of any series of units may differ from the general description of terms presented below.*

We may issue units comprised of shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, warrants, stock purchase contracts, debt securities, subsidiary guarantees of debt securities and other securities in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time or for specified periods.

The applicable prospectus supplement may describe:

the designation and terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units, including whether and under what circumstances those securities may be held or transferred separately;

any provisions of the governing unit agreement;

the price or prices at which such units will be issued;

the applicable U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the units;

any provisions for the issuance, payment, settlement, transfer or exchange of the units or of the securities comprising the units; and

any other terms of the units and of the securities comprising the units.

The provisions described in this section, as well as those described under Description of Common Stock We May Offer, Description of Preferred Stock We May Offer, Description of Warrants We May Offer, Description of Stock Purchase Contracts We May Offer and Description of Debt Securities and Subsidiary Guarantees We May Offer will apply to the securities included in each unit, to the extent relevant.

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### **Issuance in Series**

We may issue units in such amounts and in as many distinct series as we wish. This section summarizes terms of the units that apply generally to all series. Most of the financial and other specific terms of your series will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

### **Unit Agreements**

We will issue the units under one or more unit agreements to be entered into between us and a bank, trust company or other institution, as unit agent. We may add, replace or terminate unit agents from time to time. We will identify the unit agreement under which each series of units will be issued and the unit agent under that agreement in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The following provisions will generally apply to all unit agreements unless otherwise stated in the applicable prospectus supplement.

*Modification Without Consent.* We and the applicable unit agent may amend any unit or unit agreement without the consent of any holder:

- to cure any ambiguity; any provisions of the governing unit agreement that differ from those described below;
- to correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision; or
- to make any other change that we believe is necessary or desirable and will not adversely affect the interests of the affected holders in any material respect.

We do not need any approval to make changes that affect only units to be issued after the changes take effect. We may also make changes that do not adversely affect a particular unit in any material respect, even if they adversely affect other units in a material respect. In those cases, we do not need to obtain the approval of the holder of the unaffected unit; we need only obtain any required approvals from the holders of the affected units.

*Modification With Consent.* We may not amend any particular unit or a unit agreement with respect to any particular unit unless we obtain the consent of the holder of that unit, if the amendment would:

- impair any right of the holder to exercise or enforce any right under a security included in the unit if the terms of that security require the consent of the holder to any changes that would impair the exercise or enforcement of that right; or
- reduce the percentage of outstanding units or any series or class the consent of whose holders is required to amend that series or class, or the applicable unit agreement with respect to that series or class, as described below.

Any other change to a particular unit agreement and the units issued under that agreement would require the following approval:

- If the change affects only the units of a particular series issued under that agreement, the change must be approved by the holders of a majority of the outstanding units of that series; or

If the change affects the units of more than one series issued under that agreement, it must be approved by the holders of a majority of all outstanding units of all series affected by the change, with the units of all the affected series voting together as one class for this purpose.

These provisions regarding changes with majority approval also apply to changes affecting any securities issued under a unit agreement, as the governing document.

In each case, the required approval must be given by written consent.

*Unit Agreements Will Not Be Qualified Under Trust Indenture Act.* No unit agreement will be qualified as an indenture, and no unit agent will be required to qualify as a trustee, under the Trust Indenture Act. Therefore, holders of units issued under unit agreements will not have the protections of the Trust Indenture Act with respect to their units.

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### **Mergers and Similar Transactions Permitted; No Restrictive Covenants or Events of Default**

The unit agreements will not restrict our ability to merge or consolidate with, or sell our assets to, another corporation or other entity or to engage in any other transactions. If at any time we merge or consolidate with, or sell our assets substantially as an entirety to, another corporation or other entity, the successor entity will succeed to and assume our obligations under the unit agreements. We will then be relieved of any further obligation under these agreements.

The unit agreements will not include any restrictions on our ability to put liens on our assets, including our interests in our subsidiaries, nor will they restrict our ability to sell our assets. The unit agreements also will not provide for any events of default or remedies upon the occurrence of any events of default.

### **Form, Exchange and Transfer**

We will issue each unit in global i.e., book-entry form only. Units in book-entry form will be represented by a global security registered in the name of a depositary, which will be the holder of all the units represented by the global security. Those who own beneficial interests in a unit will do so through participants in the depositary's system, and the rights of these indirect owners will be governed solely by the applicable procedures of the depositary and its participants. We will describe book-entry securities and other terms regarding the issuance and registration of the units in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Each unit and all securities comprising the unit will be issued in the same form.

If we issue any units in registered, non-global form, the following will apply to them:

The units will be issued in the denominations stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Holders may exchange their units for units of smaller denominations or combined into fewer units of larger denominations, as long as the total amount is not changed.

Holders may exchange or transfer their units at the office of the unit agent. Holders may also replace lost, stolen, destroyed or mutilated units at that office. We may appoint another entity to perform these functions or perform them ourselves.

Holders will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange their units, but they may be required to pay for any tax or other governmental charge associated with the transfer or exchange. The transfer or exchange, and any replacement, will be made only if our transfer agent is satisfied with the holder's proof of legal ownership. The transfer agent may also require an indemnity before replacing any units.

If we have the right to redeem, accelerate or settle any units before their maturity, and we exercise our right as to less than all those units or other securities, we may block the exchange or transfer of those units during the period beginning 15 days before the day we mail the notice of exercise and ending on the day of that mailing, in order to freeze the list of holders to prepare the mailing. We may also refuse to register transfers of or exchange any unit selected for early settlement, except that we will continue to permit transfers and exchanges of the unsettled portion of any unit being partially settled. We may also block the transfer or exchange of any unit in this manner if the unit includes securities that are or may be selected for early settlement.

Only the depositary will be entitled to transfer or exchange a unit in global form, since it will be the sole holder of the unit.

### **Payments and Notices**

In making payments and giving notices with respect to our units, we will follow the procedures as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

#### **HOW WE PLAN TO OFFER AND SELL THE SECURITIES**

We may sell the securities in any one or more of the following ways:

directly to investors;

to investors through agents;

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to dealers;

through a special offering, an exchange distribution or a secondary distribution in accordance with applicable New York Stock Exchange or other stock exchange rules;

through underwriting syndicates led by one or more managing underwriters; and

through one or more underwriters acting alone.

Any underwritten offering may be on a best efforts or a firm commitment basis. We may also make direct sales through subscription rights distributed to our stockholders on a pro rata basis, which may or may not be transferable. In any distribution of subscription rights to stockholders, if all of the underlying securities are not subscribed for, we may then sell the unsubscribed securities directly to third parties or may engage the services of one or more underwriters, dealers or agents, including standby underwriters, to sell the unsubscribed securities to third parties.

The distribution of the securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions:

at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;

at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;

at prices related to such prevailing market prices; or

at negotiated prices.

Any of the prices may represent a discount from the prevailing market prices.

In the sale of the securities, underwriters or agents may receive compensation from us or from purchasers of the securities, for whom they may act as agents, in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions. Underwriters may sell the securities to or through dealers, and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agents. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters under the Securities Act of 1933, and any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profit on the resale of securities they realize may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act of 1933. The applicable prospectus supplement will, where applicable:

identify any such underwriter or agent;

describe any compensation in the form of discounts, concessions, commissions or otherwise received from us by each such underwriter or agent and in the aggregate to all underwriters and agents;

identify the amounts underwritten;

identify the nature of the underwriter's obligation to take the securities; and

describe any other material terms of the offering, including any over-allotment option.

Unless otherwise specified in the related prospectus supplement, each series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than the common stock and the Series B preferred stock, which are listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Common stock and Series B preferred stock sold pursuant to a prospectus supplement will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange, subject to the New York Stock Exchange's approval of the listing of the additional shares. We may elect to list other securities on an exchange, but we are not obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in a series of securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Therefore, no assurance can be given as to the liquidity of, or the trading market for, any series of securities.

Until the distribution of the securities is completed, rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission may limit the ability of any underwriters and selling group members to bid for and purchase the securities. As an exception to these rules, underwriters are permitted to engage in some transactions that stabilize the price of the securities. Such transactions consist of bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the securities.



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If any underwriters create a short position in the securities in an offering in which they sell more securities than are set forth on the cover page of the applicable prospectus supplement, the underwriters may reduce that short position by purchasing the securities in the open market.

The lead underwriters may also impose a penalty bid on other underwriters and selling group members participating in an offering. This means that if the lead underwriters purchase securities in the open market to reduce the underwriters short position or to stabilize the price of the securities, they may reclaim the amount of any selling concession from the underwriters and selling group members who sold those securities as part of the offering.

In general, purchases of a security for the purpose of stabilization or to reduce a short position could cause the price of the security to be higher than it might be in the absence of such purchases. The imposition of a penalty bid might also have an effect on the price of a security to the extent that it discourages resales of the security before the distribution is completed.

We do not make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above might have on the price of the securities. In addition, we do not make any representation that underwriters will engage in such transactions or that such transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

Under agreements into which we may enter, underwriters, dealers and agents who participate in the distribution of the securities may be entitled to indemnification by us against some liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution from us with respect to such liabilities.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with us, perform services for us or be our customers in the ordinary course of business.

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by particular institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price set forth in such prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in such prospectus supplement. Each delayed delivery contract will be for an amount no less than, and the aggregate principal amounts of securities sold under delayed delivery contracts shall be not less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with which such contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and others, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. The obligations of any purchaser under any such contract will be subject to the conditions that (a) the purchase of the securities shall not at the time of delivery be prohibited under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which the purchaser is subject, and (b) if the securities are being sold to underwriters, we shall have sold to the underwriters the total principal amount of the securities less the principal amount thereof covered by the contracts. The underwriters and such other agents will not have any responsibility in respect of the validity or performance of such contracts.

To comply with applicable state securities laws, the securities offered by this prospectus will be sold, if necessary, in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, securities may not be sold in some states unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

**INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

The Securities and Exchange Commission allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be a part of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by information that is included directly in this prospectus or incorporated by reference subsequent to the date of this prospectus. We do not incorporate the contents of our website into this prospectus. This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we have

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previously filed with the SEC. They contain important information about us and our financial condition. The following documents are incorporated by reference into this prospectus:

Our annual report on Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, filed with the SEC on April 10, 2009;

Our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2009, filed with the SEC on May 8, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated February 6, 2009, filed with the SEC on February 9, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated March 16, 2009, filed with the SEC on March 20, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated April 1, 2009, filed with the SEC on April 1, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated April 30, 2009, filed with the SEC on April 30, 2009, as amended on July 1, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated May 4, 2009, filed with the SEC on May 5, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated May 12, 2009, filed with the SEC on May 12, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated June 8, 2009, filed with the SEC on June 8, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated June 18, 2009, filed with the SEC on June 23, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated July 10, 2009, filed with the SEC on July 10, 2009;

Our current report on Form 8-K dated August 4, 2009, filed with the SEC on August 4, 2009;

Our definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on April 30, 2009, including additional materials filed with the SEC on May 6, 2009;

the description of our common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, which was filed on January 5, 2009, and all amendments and reports updating such description; and

the description of our Series B convertible perpetual preferred stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A, which was filed on January 5, 2009, and all amendments and reports updating such description.

The following historical audited financial statements of Matria included in Matria's annual report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 3, 2008, and as amended, are hereby incorporated by reference:

Reports of independent registered public accounting firm on consolidated financial statements dated February 29, 2008;

Consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2007;

Consolidated statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2007;

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Consolidated statement of shareholders' equity and comprehensive earnings (loss) for the year ended December 31, 2007;

Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2007; and

Notes to consolidated financial statements.

The following historical unaudited financial statements of Matria included in Matria's quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on May 6, 2008 are hereby incorporated by reference:

Consolidated condensed balance sheets as of March 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007;

Consolidated condensed statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007;

Consolidated condensed statements of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2008 and 2007; and

Notes to consolidated condensed financial statements.

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The following historical audited financial statements of Biosite included in Biosite's annual report on Form 10-K filed on February 26, 2007 are hereby incorporated by reference:

Report of independent registered public accounting firm dated February 23, 2007;

Consolidated balance sheets as of December 31, 2006;

Consolidated statements of income for the year ended December 31, 2006;

Consolidated statements of stockholders' equity for the year ended December 31, 2006;

Consolidated statements of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2006; and

Notes to consolidated financial statements.

The following historical unaudited financial statements of Biosite included in Biosite's quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on May 9, 2007 are hereby incorporated by reference:

Condensed consolidated balance sheets as of March 31, 2007 and December 31, 2006;

Condensed consolidated statements of income for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006;

Condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2007 and 2006; and

Notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

In addition, we incorporate by reference all documents that we may file with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, on or after the date of this prospectus. These documents include periodic reports, such as annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K (excluding (a) any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01, (b) exhibits furnished pursuant to Item 9.01 in connection with disclosures made pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 and (c) any information furnished pursuant to Item 8.01 solely for purposes of satisfying the requirements of Regulation FD under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) as well as proxy statements. These documents will become a part of this prospectus from the date that the documents are filed with the SEC.

Upon oral or written request and at no cost to the requester, we will provide to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom a prospectus is delivered, a copy of any or all of the information that has been incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not delivered with this prospectus. All requests should be made to: Inverness Medical Innovations, Inc., 51 Sawyer Road, Suite 200, Waltham, Massachusetts 02453, Attn: Corporate Secretary. Telephone requests may be directed to the Corporate Secretary at (781) 647-3900.

**WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION**

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and we are required to file reports and proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy these reports, proxy statements and information at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains a web site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and

other information regarding registrants, including Inverness Medical Innovations, Inc., that file electronically with the SEC. You may access the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

### **EXPERTS**

The consolidated financial statements of our company as of December 31, 2007 and 2008, and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2008, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2008, incorporated by reference in the prospectus constituting a part of this registration statement on Form S-3 have been audited by BDO Seidman, LLP, our independent registered public accounting firm, to the extent and for the periods set forth in its reports incorporated herein by reference, and are incorporated herein in reliance upon such reports given upon the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

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The consolidated financial statements of Biosite Incorporated as of December 31, 2005 and 2006, and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2006, incorporated by reference in the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 2, 2007, as amended on July 20, 2007, that is referenced in the prospectus constituting a part of this registration statement on Form S-3, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, Biosite Incorporated's independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its report incorporated herein by reference, and are incorporated herein in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements and schedule of Matria Healthcare, Inc. as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2007 have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The combined statements of assets acquired and liabilities assumed of the Second Territory Business of ACON Laboratories, Inc., AZURE Institute, Inc., Oakville Hong Kong Co., Ltd., and ACON Biotech (Hangzhou) Co., Ltd. as of December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, and the related statements of revenue and direct expenses for the years ended December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2007, have been incorporated by reference herein in reliance upon the consent of Grant Thornton Zhonghua, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

**LEGAL MATTERS**

Certain legal matters relating to this prospectus will be passed upon for us by Foley Hoag LLP.

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**\$150,000,000**

**% Senior Notes due 2016**

**Prospectus Supplement**

Joint Book-Running Managers

**Jefferies & Company**

**Goldman, Sachs & Co.**

**Wells Fargo Securities**

August , 2009