AFLAC INC Form 424B2 November 04, 2014 Table of Contents

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The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell nor do they seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion. Dated November 4, 2014.

Preliminary Prospectus Supplement to Prospectus dated May 1, 2012.

\$

Aflac Incorporated

% Senior Notes due 2024

This is an offering by Aflac Incorporated of \$principal amount of its% Senior Notes due 2024 (the notes). We will pay interest on the
and , beginning on , 2015. The notes will mature on ,
2024.2024.2024.

We may redeem some or all of the notes at any time and from time to time before their maturity at the redemption price discussed under the caption Description of the Notes Optional redemption of the notes in this prospectus supplement. The notes will be our general unsecured obligations and will rank equally in right of payment with any of our existing and future unsecured senior indebtedness. The notes will be issued only in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

See <u>Risk Factors</u> beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus supplement, page 6 of the accompanying prospectus and Item 1A. Risk Factors on page 12 of Aflac Incorporated s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 to read about factors you should consider before buying the notes.

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Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

		TT 1 -2*	Proceeds (before expenses)
	Price to	Underwriting	to Aflac
	Public (1)	Discount	Incorporated
Per note	%	%	%
Total	\$	\$	\$

(1) The price to public set forth above does not include accrued interest, if any. Interest on the notes will accrue from , 2014 and must be paid by the underwriters if the notes are delivered after , 2014.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. Currently, there is no public market for the notes. The underwriters expect to deliver the notes through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company for the accounts of its participants, which may include Clearstream Banking, société anonyme, and Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., against payment in New York, New York on or about , 2014.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Mizuho Securities

Morgan Stanley

Wells Fargo Securities

Prospectus Supplement dated , 2014

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Prospectus supplement	
About this Prospectus Supplement	ii
Prospectus Supplement Summary	S-1
The Offering	S-2
Risk Factors	S-4
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-6
Capitalization	S-7
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	S-8
Description of the Notes	S-9
U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders	S-17
Underwriting	S-20
Validity of the Notes	S-24
Where You Can Find More Information	S-25
	Page
Prospectus	_
Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements	3
Aflac Incorporated	4
General Description of Debt Securities	5
<u>Risk Factors</u>	6
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	7
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	8
Description of Debt Securities	9
Registration, Transfer and Payment of Certificated Securities	19
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	20
Where You Can Find More Information	22
Legal Matters	23
Experts	23

No dealer, salesperson or other person is authorized to give any information or to represent anything not contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any related free writing prospectus prepared by us. Neither we nor the underwriters take responsibility for or provide assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are an offer to sell only the notes offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any related free writing prospectus prepared by us is current only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

i

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of the offering of the notes and also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which provides more general information. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus supplement, on the one hand, and the information contained in the accompanying prospectus or any document incorporated herein and therein by reference, on the other hand, you should rely on the information contained in this prospectus supplement.

As used in this prospectus supplement, unless the context otherwise requires, references to we, us, our or the Company refer to the consolidated operations of Aflac Incorporated, and its direct and indirect operating subsidiaries. Parent Company refers solely to Aflac Incorporated. Aflac refers solely to our subsidiary, American Family Life Assurance Company of Columbus, an insurance company domiciled in Nebraska. Aflac operates in the United States (Aflac U.S.) and operates as a branch in Japan (Aflac Japan).

The functional currency of Aflac Japan s insurance operations is the Japanese yen. We translate our yen-denominated financial statement accounts into U.S. dollars as follows. Assets and liabilities are translated at end-of-period exchange rates. Realized gains and losses on security transactions are translated at the exchange rate on the trade date of each transaction. Other revenues, expenses and cash flows are translated using average exchange rates for the year. The resulting currency translation adjustments are reported in accumulated other comprehensive income. We include in earnings the realized currency exchange gains and losses resulting from transactions.

Aflac Incorporated may, without notice to or consent of the holders of the notes, re-open this offering and issue additional notes having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity date and other terms (except for the issue date, public offering price, and, if applicable, the initial interest payment date) as the notes being offered by this prospectus supplement. The notes and the Senior Debt Indenture under which the notes will be issued do not place any limitation on the amount of unsecured debt that may be incurred by us. Any additional notes, together with the notes offered by this prospectus supplement, will constitute a single series of debt securities under the Senior Debt Indenture.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide you with additional or different information. Neither we nor the underwriters are making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated herein and therein by reference is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offer and sale of the notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. The Company and the underwriters require persons into whose possession this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus come to inform themselves about and to observe any such restrictions. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute an offer of, or an invitation to purchase, any of the notes in any jurisdiction in which such offer or invitation would be unlawful.

ii

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference. This summary sets forth the material terms of this offering, but does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our notes. You should read carefully this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, before making an investment decision to purchase our notes, especially the risks of investing in our notes discussed under Risk Factors contained herein and therein and, under Item 1A. Risk Factors on page 12 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 (incorporated by reference herein) as well as the consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein.

Aflac Incorporated

The Parent Company was incorporated in 1973 under the laws of the State of Georgia. The Parent Company is a general business holding company and acts as a management company, overseeing the operations of its subsidiaries by providing management services and making capital available. Its principal business is supplemental health and life insurance, which is marketed and administered through its subsidiary, Aflac. Aflac operates in the United States (Aflac U.S.) and as a branch in Japan (Aflac Japan). Most of Aflac s policies are individually underwritten and marketed through independent agents. Additionally, Aflac U.S. markets and administers group products through Continental American Insurance Company (CAIC), referred to as Aflac Group Insurance. Our insurance operations in the United States and our branch in Japan service the two markets for our insurance business.

We believe Aflac is the world s leading underwriter of individually issued policies marketed at worksites. We offer voluntary insurance policies in Japan and the United States that provide a layer of financial protection against income and asset loss. We continue to diversify our product offerings in both Japan and the United States. Aflac Japan sells voluntary supplemental insurance products, including cancer plans, general medical indemnity plans, medical/sickness riders, care plans, living benefit life plans, ordinary life insurance plans and annuities. Aflac U.S. sells voluntary supplemental insurance products including products designed to protect individuals from depletion of assets (accident, cancer, critical illness/ critical care, hospital intensive care, hospital indemnity, fixed-benefit dental, and vision care plans) and loss-of-income products (life and short-term disability plans).

We are authorized to conduct insurance business in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, several U.S. territories and Japan. Aflac Japan s revenues, including realized gains and losses on its investment portfolio, accounted for 74% of the Company s total revenues in 2013, compared with 77% in 2012 and 75% in 2011, and accounted for 74% and 75% of the Company s total revenues in the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2014, and 2013, respectively. The percentage of the Company s total assets attributable to Aflac Japan was 85% at December 31, 2013 and 87% at December 31, 2012, and 85% at September 30, 2014.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1932 Wynnton Road, Columbus, Georgia 31999, and our telephone number is (706) 323-3431.

THE OFFERING

Issuer	Aflac Incorporated.		
Securities	\$ aggregate principal amount of % Senior Notes due 2024.		
Date of Maturity	The notes will mature on , 2024.		
Interest	The notes will bear interest at semi-annually in arrears on beginning on% per annum, payable and 		
Ranking	The notes are our unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our other unsecured senior indebtedness from time to time outstanding.		
Optional Redemption	We may redeem the notes in whole or in part at any time at the redemption price described in the section in this prospectus supplement entitled Description of the Notes Optional redemption of the notes .		
Certain Covenants	The indenture under which the notes will be issued contains covenants that impose conditions on our ability to create liens on any capital stock of our restricted subsidiaries (as defined under Description of Debt Securities in the accompanying prospectus) or engage in sales of the capital stock of our restricted subsidiaries.		
Events of Default	Events of default generally include failure to pay principal or any premium, failure to pay interest, failure to pay any sinking fund installment, failure to observe or perform any other covenants or agreement in the notes or indenture, certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency, or reorganization, or certain defaults of the Parent Company debt.		
Listing	The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. Currently there is no public market for the notes.		
Use of Proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds to us from this offering will be approximately \$ after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds for general corporate purposes, including capital contributions to subsidiaries, if needed.		

Risk Factors	You should carefully consider all information set forth and incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and, in particular, should carefully read the section entitled Risk Factors in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the section entitled Item 1A. Risk Factors on page 12 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 before purchasing any of the notes.
Trustee	The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A.
Governing Law	The notes will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our notes involves risk. Please see the risk factors described in Item IA. Risk Factors on page 12 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as other information we include or incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. The risks and uncertainties we have described are not the only ones we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also affect our business operations. These risks could materially affect our business, results of operations or financial condition and cause the value of our securities to decline. You could lose all or part of your investment.

Risks relating to our senior debt

Because the notes will be issued by the Parent Company, which is a holding company, the notes will be structurally subordinated to the obligations of our subsidiaries.

The Parent Company is a holding company whose assets primarily consist of the capital stock of its subsidiaries. Because the Parent Company is a holding company, holders of the notes will have a junior position to the claims of creditors of its subsidiaries on their assets and earnings. The notes will be unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and will:

rank equally in right of payment with all of our other unsecured and unsubordinated senior indebtedness, including other senior unsecured indebtedness issued under the indenture under which the notes will be issued;

be effectively subordinated in right of payment to all our secured indebtedness to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness;

be effectively subordinated to all existing and future obligations (including insurance obligations) of our subsidiaries; and

not be guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries.

At September 30, 2014, the aggregate amount of our outstanding consolidated indebtedness was \$4,558 million, of which none was secured. All unsecured indebtedness of the Parent Company would rank equally in right of payment with the notes. All obligations (including insurance obligations) of our subsidiaries would be effectively senior to the notes. At September 30, 2014, the consolidated obligations of our subsidiaries reflected on our balance sheet were approximately \$109,400 million.

Furthermore, in the event of insolvency, bankruptcy, liquidation, dissolution, receivership, reorganization or similar event involving a subsidiary, the assets of that subsidiary would be used to satisfy claims of policyholders and creditors of the subsidiary rather than the Parent Company s creditors. As a result of the application of the subsidiary s assets to satisfy claims of policyholders and creditors, the value of the stock of the subsidiary would be diminished and perhaps rendered worthless. Any such diminution in the value of the shares of the Parent Company s subsidiaries would adversely impact its financial condition and possibly impair its ability to meet its obligations on the debt securities. In addition, any liquidation of the assets of the Parent Company s subsidiary to pay dividends to the Parent Company. Likewise, any inability of Aflac Japan to repatriate earnings to Aflac may also limit Aflac s ability to pay dividends to the Parent Company. This inability to pay dividends would further impair the Parent Company s ability to satisfy its obligations under the notes.

The indenture under which the notes will be issued will contain only limited protection for holders of the notes in the event the Parent Company is involved in a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, restructuring, merger or similar transaction in the future.

The indenture under which the notes will be issued may not sufficiently protect holders of notes in the event the Parent Company is involved in a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, restructuring, merger or similar transaction. The indenture will not contain any provisions restricting the Parent Company s ability to:

incur additional debt, including debt senior in right of payment to the notes;

pay dividends on or purchase or redeem capital stock;

sell assets (other than certain restrictions on the Parent Company s ability to consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of its assets and its ability to sell the stock of certain subsidiaries);

enter into transactions with affiliates;

create liens (other than certain limitations on creating liens on the stock of certain subsidiaries) or enter into sale and leaseback transactions; or

create restrictions on the payment of dividends or other amounts to the Parent Company from its subsidiaries. Additionally, the indenture will not require the Parent Company to offer to purchase the notes in connection with a change of control or require that the Parent Company adhere to any financial tests or ratios or specified levels of net worth. The Parent Company s ability to recapitalize, incur additional debt and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of the notes could have the effect of diminishing the Parent Company s ability to make payments on the notes when due.

An active trading market for the notes may not develop.

The notes are new issues of securities with no established trading market, and we do not intend to list the notes on any securities exchange or for quotation in any automated dealer quotation system. We have been informed by the underwriters that they intend to make a market in the notes after the offering is completed. However, the underwriters may cease their market-making at any time. In addition, the liquidity of the trading market in the notes, and the market price quoted for the notes, may be adversely affected by changes in the overall market for fixed income securities and by changes in our financial performance or prospects or in the prospects for companies in our industry generally. In addition, such market-making activity will be subject to limits imposed by the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act) and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). As a result, you cannot be sure that an active trading market will develop for the notes. If no active trading market develops, you may not be able to resell your notes at their fair market value or at all.

Increases in the prevailing interest rate environment could adversely impact the trading price of the notes.

The condition of the financial markets and prevailing interest rates have fluctuated in the past and are likely to fluctuate in the future, and increases in the prevailing interest rate environment could have an adverse effect on the trading price of the notes.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds to us from this offering will be approximately \$ after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes, including capital contributions to subsidiaries, if needed.

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our cash and cash equivalents and our consolidated capitalization as of September 30, 2014 on an actual basis and as adjusted to give effect to the offering of the notes and the planned use of proceeds. See Use of Proceeds .

You should read the information in this table together with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2014, which is incorporated herein by reference.

	-	As of September 30, 2014	
	Actual (In n	As adjusted nillions)	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,666	\$	
Short-term Debt			
Long-term Debt	4,558		
Total Debt	4,558		
Shareholders Equity			
Common Stock, at Par Value	67	67	
Additional Paid-in Capital	1,726	1,726	
Retained Earnings	21,628	21,628	
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income			
Unrealized Foreign Currency Translation Gains (Losses)	(1,805)	(1,805)	
Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Investment Securities	3,402	3,402	
Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Derivatives	(17)	(17)	
Pension Liability Adjustment	(80)	(80)	
Treasury Stock, at Average Cost	(7,068)	(7,068)	
Total Shareholders Equity	17,853	17,853	
Total Capitalization	\$ 22,411	\$	

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated. For the purpose of computing the below ratios, earnings consist of income from continuing operations before income taxes excluding interest expense on income tax liabilities, plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense, excluding interest expense on income tax liabilities, interest on investment-type contracts and such portion of rental expense as is estimated to be representative of the interest factors in the leases, all on a pre-tax basis.

	Nine months ended September 30, 2014	Year ended December 31, 2013	Year ended December 31, 2012	Year ended December 31, 2011	Year ended December 31, 2010	Year ended December 31, 2009
Ratio of Earnings to	12.1	14.0	14.4	12.0	10.7	21.7
Fixed Charges	13.1x	14.8x	14.4x	13.0x	19.7x	21.7x

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

Set forth below is a description of the specific terms of the notes. This description supplements, and should be read together with, the description of the general terms and provisions of the securities set forth in the accompanying prospectus under the caption Description of Debt Securities . The following description does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the indenture dated as of May 21, 2009, as supplemented by a ninth supplemental indenture for the notes, which we collectively refer to as the Senior Debt Indenture , between Aflac Incorporated, as issuer, and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, which we refer to as the Trustee , pursuant to which the notes will be issued. All capitalized terms herein that are not defined within this prospectus supplement shall have the same meanings as defined in the Senior Debt Indenture. As used in this Description of the Notes section, unless the context otherwise requires, references to we , us , our or the Company refer to Aflac Incorporated.

General

The notes will be issued as a series of senior debt securities under the Senior Debt Indenture and will be limited in aggregate principal amount to . The notes will be issued only in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. Payments of principal of, and interest on, the notes will be made in U.S. dollars. The provisions of the Senior Debt Indenture pertaining to satisfaction and discharge of the indenture and unclaimed moneys will apply to the notes.

Aflac Incorporated may, without notice to or consent of the holders of the notes, re-open this offering and issue additional notes having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity date and other terms (except for the issue date, public offering price, and, if applicable, the initial interest payment date) as the notes being offered by this prospectus supplement. The notes and the Senior Debt Indenture under which the notes will be issued do not place any limitation on the amount of unsecured debt that may be incurred by us. Any additional notes, together with the notes offered by this prospectus supplement, will constitute a single series of debt securities under the Senior Debt Indenture.

The notes are our unsecured obligations and will rank equally and *pari passu* with all of our other unsecured senior indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

Maturity

The entire principal amount of the notes will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest thereon, on , 2024.

Interest

Each note will bear interest at % per year, from the most recent date on which interest has been paid or duly provided for or, if no interest has been paid, from the date of original issuance until such principal amount or overdue installment is paid or made available for payment. We will pay interest semi-annually in arrears on and of each year, beginning on , each of which we refer to as an interest payment date.

Interest payments for the notes shall be computed and paid on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. In the event that any date on which interest is payable on the notes is not a business day, then payment of the interest payable on such date will be made on the next succeeding day that is a business day (and without any interest or other payment in respect of any such delay), except that, if such next succeeding business day is in the next succeeding calendar

year, such payment will be made on the immediately preceding business day, in each case with the same force and effect as if such payment was made on the date such payment was originally payable.

The interest payable by us on a note on any interest payment date and on the maturity date, subject to certain exceptions, will be paid to the person in whose name such note is registered at the close of business on the or immediately preceding such interest payment date, whether or not a business day. However, interest that we pay on the maturity date or a Redemption Date (as defined below) will be payable to the person to whom the principal will be payable.

Optional redemption of the notes

The notes will be redeemable, at the sole option of the Company, in whole at any time or in part from time to time (a Redemption Date), at a redemption price (the Redemption Price) equal to the greater of (1) 100% of the aggregate principal amount of the notes to be redeemed and (2) an amount equal to the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments for principal of and interest on the notes to be redeemed, not including any portion of the payments of interest accrued as of such Redemption Date, discounted to such Redemption Date on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate plus basis points; plus, in each case (1) and (2), accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed to, but excluding, such Redemption Date.

Treasury Rate means (1) the yield, under the heading which represents the average for the immediately preceding week, appearing in the most recently published statistical release designated H.15(519) or any successor publication which is published weekly by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and which establishes yields on actively traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to constant maturity under the caption Treasury Constant Maturities , for the maturity corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue (if no maturity is within three months before or after the remaining life, yields for the two published maturities most closely corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue will be determined and the Treasury Rate will be interpolated or extrapolated from such yields on a straight line basis, rounding to the nearest month), or (2) if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per year equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such Redemption Date. The Treasury Rate shall be calculated on the third business day preceding the Redemption Date.

Comparable Treasury Issue means the United States Treasury security selected by the Independent Investment Banker as having a maturity comparable to the remaining term of the notes to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of the notes.

Independent Investment Banker means one of Goldman, Sachs & Co., Mizuho Securities USA Inc., Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and their successors, appointed by the Company or, if such firm is unwilling or unable to select the Comparable Treasury Issue, an independent investment banking institution of national standing appointed by the Company.

Comparable Treasury Price means with respect to any Redemption Date for the notes (1) the average of five Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such Redemption Date, after excluding the highest and lowest of such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Company obtains fewer than five such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

Reference Treasury Dealer means each of (i) Goldman, Sachs & Co., Mizuho Securities USA Inc., Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and a Primary Treasury Dealer (as herein defined) selected by Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and their respective successors; and (ii) two other primary U.S. government securities dealers (each a Primary Treasury Dealer), as specified by the Company; provided that if any of the foregoing or their respective successors or any Primary Treasury Dealer as specified by the Company shall cease to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, the Company will substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer.

Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations means, with respect to the Reference Treasury Dealer and any Redemption Date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed, in each case, as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such Redemption Date.

The Company will notify the Trustee of the Redemption Price with respect to the foregoing redemption promptly after the calculation thereof. The Trustee will not be responsible for calculating said Redemption Price.

Unless the Company defaults in payment of the Redemption Price, on and after the Redemption Date, interest will cease to accrue on the notes or portions of the notes called for redemption.

If less than all of the notes are to be redeemed, the principal amount of such notes held by each beneficial owner of such notes to be redeemed will be selected in accordance with the procedures of DTC. The Trustee may select notes and portions of notes in amounts of \$2,000 and whole multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

On and after the Redemption Date, interest will cease to accrue on the notes or any portion of the notes called for redemption, unless we default in the payment of the Redemption Price.

Transfer

No service charge will be made for any registration of transfer or exchange of notes, but payment will be required of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in connection therewith.

Certain covenants

The Senior Debt Indenture does not contain any provisions that will restrict the Company from incurring, assuming or becoming liable with respect to any indebtedness or other obligations, whether secured or unsecured, or from paying dividends or making other distributions on its capital stock or purchasing or redeeming its capital stock. The Senior Debt Indenture does not contain any financial ratios or specified levels of net worth or liquidity to which the Company must adhere. In addition, the Senior Debt Indenture does not contain any provision that would require that the Company repurchase or redeem or otherwise modify the terms of any of the notes upon a change in control or other events involving the Company which may adversely affect the creditworthiness of the notes.

The Company is not required pursuant to the Senior Debt Indenture to repurchase the notes, in whole or in part, with the proceeds of any sale, transfer or other disposition of any shares of capital stock of any restricted subsidiary (or of any subsidiary having any direct or indirect control of any restricted subsidiary). Further, the Senior Debt Indenture does not provide for any restrictions on the Company s use of such proceeds.

For a discussion of the covenants contained in the Senior Debt Indenture, including those imposing limitations on liens on restricted subsidiaries and dispositions of stock of restricted subsidiaries, see Description of Debt Securities Covenants Applicable to the Debt Securities in the accompanying prospectus.

Book-entry system

The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, which we refer to along with its successors in this capacity as the depositary, will act as securities depositary for the notes. The notes will be issued only as fully registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co., the depositary s nominee. One or more fully registered global notes, representing the total aggregate principal amount of the notes, will be issued and will be deposited with the depositary or its custodian and will bear a legend regarding the restrictions on exchanges and registration of transfer referred to below.

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that some purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in the notes so long as the notes are represented by global notes.

Investors may elect to hold interests in the notes in global form through either DTC in the United States or Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (Clearstream, Luxembourg) or Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (Euroclear), if they are participants in those systems, or indirectly through organizations which are participants in those systems. Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear will hold interests on behalf of their participants through customers securities accounts in Clearstream, Luxembourg s and Euroclear s names on the books of their respective depositaries, which in turn will hold such interests in customers securities accounts in the depositaries names on the books of DTC. Citibank, N.A. will act as depositary for Clearstream, Luxembourg and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. will act as depositary for Euroclear (in such capacities, the U.S. Depositaries).

DTC advises that it is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. The depositary holds securities that its participants (the DTC Participants) deposit with the depositary. The depositary also facilitates the settlement among DTC Participants of securities transactions, including transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in DTC Participants accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. DTC Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. The depositary is owned by a number of its direct participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, LLC, the NYSC MKT LLC, and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. Access to the depositary s system is also available to others, including securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that clear transactions through or maintain a direct or indirect custodial relationship with a direct participant either directly, or indirectly. The rules applicable to the depositary and DTC Participants are on file with the SEC.

Clearstream, Luxembourg advises that it is incorporated under the laws of Luxembourg as a professional depositary. Clearstream, Luxembourg holds securities for its participating organizations (Clearstream Participants) and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between Clearstream Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of Clearstream Participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. Clearstream, Luxembourg provides to Clearstream Participants, among other things, services for safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Clearstream, Luxembourg interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. As a

professional depositary, Clearstream, Luxembourg is subject to regulation by the Luxembourg Commission for the Supervision of the Financial Sector (Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier). Clearstream Participants are recognized financial institutions around the world, including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations and may include the underwriters. Indirect access to Clearstream, Luxembourg is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Clearstream Participant, either directly or indirectly.

Distributions with respect to interests in the notes held beneficially through Clearstream, Luxembourg will be credited to cash accounts of Clearstream Participants in accordance with its rules and procedures, to the extent received by the U.S. Depositary for Clearstream, Luxembourg.

Euroclear advises that it was created in 1968 to hold securities for participants of Euroclear (Euroclear Participants) and to clear and settle transactions between Euroclear Participants through simultaneous electronic book-entry delivery against payment, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates and any risk from lack of simultaneous transfers of securities and cash.

Euroclear includes various other services, including securities lending and borrowing and interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. Euroclear is operated by Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (the Euroclear Operator). All operations are conducted by the Euroclear Operator, and all Euroclear securities clearance accounts and Euroclear cash accounts are accounts with the Euroclear Operator. Euroclear Participants include banks (including central banks), securities brokers and dealers and other professional financial intermediaries and may include the underwriters. Indirect access to Euroclear is also available to other firms that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Euroclear Participant, either directly or indirectly.

Securities clearance accounts and cash accounts with the Euroclear Operator are governed by the Terms and Conditions Governing Use of Euroclear and the related Operating Procedures of the Euroclear System, and applicable Belgian law (collectively, the Terms and Conditions). The Terms and Conditions govern transfers of securities and cash within Euroclear, withdrawals of securities and cash from Euroclear, and receipts of payments with respect to securities in Euroclear. All securities in Euroclear are held on a fungible basis without attribution of specific certificates to specific securities clearance accounts. The Euroclear Operator acts under the Terms and Conditions only on behalf of Euroclear Participants, and has no records of or relationship with persons holding through Euroclear Participants.

Distributions with respect to the notes held beneficially through Euroclear will be credited to the cash accounts of Euroclear Participants in accordance with the Terms and Conditions, to the extent received by the U.S. Depositary for Euroclear.

We will issue the notes in definitive certificated form if the depositary notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depositary or the depositary ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act, and a successor depositary is not appointed by us within 90 days. In addition, beneficial interests in a global note may be exchanged for definitive certificated notes upon request by or on behalf of the depositary in accordance with customary procedures following the request of a beneficial owner seeking to exercise or enforce its rights under such notes. If we determine at any time that the notes shall no longer be represented by global notes, we will inform the depositary of such determination who will, in turn, notify participants of their right to withdraw their beneficial interest from the global notes, and if such participants elect to withdraw their beneficial interests, we will issue certificates in definitive form in exchange for such beneficial interests in the global notes. Any global note, or portion thereof, that is exchangeable pursuant to this paragraph will be exchangeable for note certificates, as the case may be, registered in the names directed by the depositary. We expect that

these instructions will be based upon directions received by the depositary from its participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in the global notes.

As long as the depositary or its nominee is the registered owner of the global notes, the depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner and holder of the global notes and all notes represented by these global notes for all purposes under the notes and the indenture governing the notes. Except in the limited circumstances referred to above, owners of beneficial interests in global notes:

will not be entitled to have the notes represented by these global notes registered in their names, and

will not be considered to be owners or holders of the global notes or any notes represented by these global notes for any purpose under the notes or the indenture governing the notes.

All payments on the notes represented by the global notes and all transfers and deliveries of related notes will be made to the depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, as the holder of the securities.

Ownership of beneficial interests in the global notes will be limited to participants or persons that may hold beneficial interests through institutions that have accounts with the depositary or its nominee. Ownership of beneficial interests in global notes will be shown only on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the depositary or its nominee, with respect to participants interests, or any participant, with respect to interests of persons held by the participant on their behalf. Payments, transfers, deliveries, exchanges and other matters relating to beneficial interests in global notes may be subject to various policies and procedures adopted by the depositary from time to time. Neither we nor the trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the depositary s or any participant s records relating to, or for payments made on account of, beneficial interests in global notes, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any of the depositary s records or any participant s records relating to these beneficial interests.

Although the depositary has agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of interests in the global notes among participants, the depositary is under no obligation to perform or continue to perform these procedures, and these procedures may be discontinued at any time. We will not have any responsibility for the performance by the depositary or its direct participants or indirect participants under the rules and procedures governing the depositary.

The information in this section concerning the depositary, its book-entry system, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear has been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, but we have not attempted to verify the accuracy of this information.

Global clearance and settlement procedures

Initial settlement for the notes will be made in immediately available funds. Secondary market trading between DTC Participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC rules and will be settled in immediately available funds using DTC s Same-Day Funds Settlement System. Secondary market trading between Clearstream Participants and/or Euroclear Participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with the applicable rules and operating procedures of Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear, as applicable.

Cross-market transfers between persons holding directly or indirectly through DTC on the one hand, and directly or indirectly through Clearstream Participants or Euroclear Participants, on the other hand, will be effected through DTC in accordance with DTC rules on behalf of the relevant European

international clearing system by its U.S. Depositary; however, such cross-market transactions will require delivery of instructions to the relevant European international clearing system by the counterparty in such system in accordance with its rules and procedures and within its established deadlines (European time). The relevant European international clearing system will, if the transaction meets its settlement requirements, deliver instructions to its U.S. Depositary to take action to effect final settlement on its behalf by delivering or receiving securities in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day funds settlement applicable to DTC. Clearstream Participants and Euroclear Participants may not deliver instructions directly to their respective U.S. Depositaries.

Because of time-zone differences, credits of notes received in Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear as a result of a transaction with a DTC Participant will be made during subsequent securities settlement processing and dated the business day following the DTC settlement date. Such credits or any transactions in such notes settled during such processing will be reported to the relevant Euroclear Participant or Clearstream Participant on such business day. Cash received in Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear as a result of sales of the notes by or through a Clearstream Participant or a Euroclear Participant to a DTC Participant will be received with value on the DTC settlement date but will be available in the relevant Clearstream, Luxembourg or Euroclear cash account only as of the business day following settlement in DTC.

Although DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear have agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of notes among participants of DTC, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures and such procedures may be discontinued or changed at any time.

About the trustee

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. is the Trustee. Subject to the provisions of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the Trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its powers vested in it by the Senior Debt Indenture at the request of any holder of the notes unless the holder offers the Trustee indemnity or security satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses and liabilities which might result. The Trustee is not required to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur personal financial liability in performing its duties if the Trustee reasonably believes that it is not reasonably assured of repayment or adequate indemnity. We have entered, and from time to time may continue to enter, into banking or other relationships with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. or its affiliates.

The Trustee may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities under the Senior Debt Indenture, and a successor trustee may be appointed to act with respect to such series.

Applicable law

The notes and the Senior Debt Indenture will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York.

Payment and paying agent

We will pay principal of, and any premium, interest and additional amounts on the notes at the office of the paying agent designated by us, except that we may pay interest by check mailed to the registered holder or by wire transfer if the registered holder requests in writing to the Trustee at least 15 days prior to the date for payment.

All moneys we pay to a paying agent of the Trustee for the payment of principal of, or any premium, interest or additional amounts on, a note which remains unclaimed at the end of two years will be repaid to us, and the holder of the note may then look only to us for payment.

The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. will act as paying agent for the notes.

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES TO NON-U.S. HOLDERS

The following is a general discussion of U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the notes by an initial holder of the notes that is a non-U.S. holder (as defined below) that acquires the notes pursuant to this offering at the initial sale price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement and holds the notes as capital assets (generally, property held for investment) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. This discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), the Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder (the Treasury Regulations), judicial decisions and current administrative rulings and practice, all as in effect and available as of the date hereof and all of which are subject to differing interpretations or change, possibly with retroactive effect. This discussion does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income tax law, such as broker-dealers, banks or other financial institutions, insurance companies, tax-exempt entities (including private foundations) or qualified retirement plans, entities or arrangements that are treated as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes and their partners, dealers in securities or currencies, certain U.S. expatriates, holders subject to the alternative minimum tax, passive foreign investment companies, persons deemed to sell the notes under the constructive sale provisions of the Code and persons that hold the notes as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion transaction or other integrated transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Furthermore, this discussion does not address any other U.S. federal tax consequences (e.g., estate or gift tax) or any state, local or non-U.S. tax laws. This discussion is not intended to constitute a complete analysis of all tax consequence