21ST CENTURY FOX AMERICA, INC. Form S-3ASR May 11, 2017 Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 11, 2017

**Registration No. 333-**

## **UNITED STATES**

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form S-3

## **REGISTRATION STATEMENT**

**UNDER** 

## THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

## 21ST CENTURY FOX AMERICA, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of 2711 (Primary standard industrial 13-3249610 (I.R.S. Employer

**Identification Number**)

incorporation or organization)

classification code number)

## 1211 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

(212) 852-7000

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant s principal executive offices)

#### **TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOX, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

2711 (Primary standard industrial classification code number) 26-0075658 (I.R.S. Employer

**Identification Number**)

### **1211** Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

(212) 852-7000

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant s principal executive offices)

Janet Nova, Esq.

21st Century Fox America, Inc.

## 1211 Avenue of the Americas

### New York, NY 10036

### (212) 852-7000

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

## Copies of communications to:

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875 Third Avenue	425 Lexington Avenue
New York, NY 10022	New York, New York 10017-3954
(212) 918-3000	(212) 455-2000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time on or after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

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

Large accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated filer Smaller reporting company Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

# CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

		Proposed		
	Amount	Maximum		
			Maximum	
Title of each class of	to be	<b>Offering Price</b>	Aggregate	Amount of
securities to be registered	Registered <sup>(1)</sup>	per Security <sup>(1)</sup>	Offering Price <sup>(1)</sup>	<b>Registration Fee</b> <sup>(2)</sup>
Debt Securities <sup>(3)</sup>				

Guarantees of Debt Securities<sup>(4)</sup>

- (1) Omitted pursuant to Form S-3 General Instruction II.E. An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price and amount of debt securities is being registered as may from time to time be offered at indeterminate prices.
- (2) The registrant is relying on Rule 456(b) and Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act and defers payment of all of the registration fee. Registration fees will be paid subsequently on a pay as you go basis.
- (3) The debt securities will be guaranteed by the co-registrant.
- (4) No separate consideration will be received for such guarantees. Pursuant to Rule 457(n) under the Securities Act, no registration fee is required with respect to such guarantees.

## PROSPECTUS

## 21ST CENTURY FOX AMERICA, INC.

## **Debt Securities**

## TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY FOX, INC.

### **Guarantees of Debt Securities**

21st Century Fox America, Inc. (the Issuer ) may, from time to time, offer, issue and sell debt securities in one or more series and in one or more offerings. Debt securities of the Issuer will be guaranteed by Twenty-First Century Fox, Inc. (the Guarantor ).

The Issuer may offer and sell debt securities to or through agents, underwriters or dealers, or directly to purchasers, or through a combination of these methods, on a continuous or delayed basis. The names of any agents, underwriters or dealers and the terms of the arrangements with any such entities will be stated in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus.

If the Issuer decides to list or seek a quotation for any of the debt securities, the prospectus supplement relating to those debt securities will disclose the exchange or market on which those debt securities will be listed or quoted.

You should read carefully this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement before you invest. Investing in our securities involves risks. Please see <u>Risk Factors</u> on page 1 for more information.

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

This prospectus is dated May 11, 2017

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, in any accompanying prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectus filed by the Issuer and the Guarantor with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission ). Neither the Issuer nor the Guarantor has authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. You should not assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement or in any such free writing prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates thereof. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

Neither the Issuer nor the Guarantor is making an offer to sell these debt securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

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## **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is a part of a registration statement that the Issuer and the Guarantor filed with the Commission utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell at any time and from time to time, in one or more offerings the debt securities described in this prospectus.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the debt securities and guarantees the Issuer and the Guarantor may offer. Each time the Issuer and the Guarantor sell securities pursuant to this prospectus, the Issuer and the Guarantor will provide a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering, including, but not limited to, the specific amounts, prices and terms of the debt securities offered. The prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Any statement made in this prospectus will be modified or superseded by any inconsistent statement made in a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and the information in the prospectus supplement or such free writing prospectus, as the case may be. This prospectus may not be used to sell any debt securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus.

You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the headings Where You Can Find More Information and Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference, and any free writing prospectus that we may prepare and distribute.

When used in this prospectus, the term the Issuer refers to 21st Century Fox America, Inc., and we, our, us and 2 Century Fox refers to Twenty-First Century Fox, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires.

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## **RISK FACTORS**

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider and evaluate the risks and uncertainties described under Risk Factors in the Guarantor's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2016, the Guarantor's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended September 30, 2016, December 31, 2016 and March 31, 2017, and the other information set forth or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement before you decide to purchase our securities. Any of the risks and uncertainties set forth therein could materially and adversely affect the trading price or value of our securities. As a result, you could lose all or part of your investment. See Where You Can Find Additional Information and Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference below.

## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

The Guarantor files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission ).

You may read and copy any materials filed with the Commission at the Public Reference Room of the Commission, 100 F Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. For more information about the operation of the Public Reference Room, call the Commission at 1-800-SEC-0330. The Commission also maintains a website that contains reports and other information about issuers who file electronically with the Commission. The Internet address of the site is http://www.sec.gov.

You may also obtain certain of these documents at the Guarantor s website at www.21cf.com. We are not incorporating the contents of the websites of the Commission, the Guarantor or any other person into this document. We are only providing information about how you may obtain certain documents that are incorporated into this document by reference at these websites.

The Issuer and the Guarantor have filed with the Commission a registration statement on Form S-3 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus forms part of the registration statement filed by the Issuer and the Guarantor with the Commission under the Securities Act. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to a contract or other document that is an exhibit to the registration statement, the reference is only a summary and you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or other document. You may review a copy of the registration statement and the documents incorporated by reference herein at the Commission s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C., as well as through the Commission s website listed above.

## INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The Commission allows the Issuer and the Guarantor to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus, which means important information may be disclosed to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the Commission. Any information incorporated by reference is deemed to be part of this prospectus, except for any information superseded by information contained directly in this prospectus. This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents set forth below that the Guarantor has previously filed with the Commission (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed to have been furnished and not filed in accordance with the Commission s rules).

The Issuer and the Guarantor incorporate by reference in this prospectus the documents set forth below that have been previously filed with the Commission as well as any filings the Guarantor makes with the Commission under Sections

13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act on or after the date of this prospectus and before the

termination of the applicable offering; provided, however, that, except as specifically provided below, we are not incorporating any documents or information deemed to have been furnished rather than filed in accordance with Commission rules:

the Guarantor s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, filed August 11, 2016;

the Guarantor s Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended September 30, 2016, filed November 2, 2016, December 31, 2016, filed February 9, 2017 and March 31, 2017, filed May 10, 2017;

the Guarantor s Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed July 21, 2016, August 3, 2016 (not including disclosure furnished under Item 2.02 or related Exhibit 99.1), November 10, 2016, November 15, 2016, November 18, 2016, December 16, 2016, December 22, 2016, March 23, 2017 and April 20, 2017; and

the portions of the Guarantor s Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed September 23, 2016, as supplemented, that are incorporated by reference in the Guarantor s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated by reference in this prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document that also is incorporated by reference in this prospectus modifies or supersedes such statement. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement.

To obtain copies of these filings, see Where You Can Find More Information.

### SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any prospectus supplement, any free writing prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain statements that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, that address activities, events or developments that we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future, or that include the words may, will. would, could, should, believes, estimates, projects, plans, intends, anticipates, continues, the negative of those words or other comparable words are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and our actual results may differ significantly from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed in of our most recent periodic reports under the heading Risk Factors, which are incorporated herein by reference. We assume no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements for any reason, except as required by law.

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## 21ST CENTURY FOX AND THE ISSUER

### **21st Century Fox**

21st Century Fox is a diversified global media and entertainment company.

### The Issuer

21st Century Fox America, Inc., the Issuer, a 100% owned subsidiary of the Guarantor, is an operating company and holding company, which, together with its subsidiaries, holds most of the operating assets of 21st Century Fox.

The Guarantor s and the Issuer s principal executive offices are located at 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036. The telephone number at that address is (212) 852-7000.

### **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The use of proceeds will be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement or free writing prospectus.

## **RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table sets forth the ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated:

	Nine months ended	Fiscal Years Ended June 30,				
	March 31, 2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	5.2	4.5	8.0	4.8	7.7	4.3

## **DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES**

The following summary of the terms of the debt securities describes general terms that apply to the debt securities. The particular terms of any debt securities will be described more specifically in the prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be issued under an indenture to be entered into among the Issuer, the Guarantor and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee (such trustee or any successor trustee, the Trustee ). The indenture has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is part. The terms of the debt securities will include those stated in the indenture (including any supplemental indentures that specify the terms of a particular series of debt securities) as well as those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as in effect on the date of the indenture. The indenture will be subject to and governed by the terms of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

The Issuer may issue debt securities. The debt securities may be the Issuer s senior, senior subordinated or subordinated and, unless otherwise expressly stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, unsecured obligations and may be issued in one or more series. The debt securities of any series of the Issuer will have the benefit of a guarantee (a Guarantee ) by the Guarantor and may have the benefit of future subsidiary guarantees by one or more of the Issuer s subsidiaries. No such subsidiary guarantors have been included as registrants under the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and such subsidiary guarantors, if any, will be added as registrants pursuant to a post-effective amendment. The Guarantee will be the senior, senior subordinated or subordinated and, unless otherwise expressly stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, unsecured obligation of the Guarantor. If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Issuer may issue debt securities that are secured by specified collateral or that have the benefit of a Guarantee that is secured by specified collateral. Unless otherwise expressly stated or the context otherwise requires, as used in this section, the term guaranteed debt securities means any debt securities that, as described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto, are guaranteed by the Guarantor pursuant to the indenture; the term secured debt securities means any debt securities that, as described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto, are secured by collateral; the term unsecured debt securities means any debt securities that are not secured by collateral; and the term debt securities includes both unsecured debt securities and secured debt securities.

The debt securities issued by the Issuer will be issued under an indenture, to be entered into by the Issuer, the Guarantor, a trustee, registrar, paying agent and transfer agent and/or a collateral agent, as applicable. The trustee (if other than the Trustee), registrar, paying agent, transfer agent, collateral agent, calculation agent and/or foreign currency agent (collectively, the agents ), as applicable, shall be named in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise expressly stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Issuer may issue both secured and unsecured debt securities under the indenture.

The following summary of selected provisions of the indenture, the debt securities and the Guarantee is not complete, and the summary of selected terms of a particular series of debt securities and, if applicable, the Guarantee of the debt securities of that series included in the applicable prospectus supplement also will not be complete. You should review the form of indenture, the form of any applicable supplemental indenture and the form of certificate evidencing the applicable debt securities, which forms have been or will be filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or as exhibits to documents which have been or will be incorporated by reference in this prospectus. To obtain a copy of the form of indenture, the form of any such supplemental indenture or the form of certificate for any debt securities, see Where You Can Find More Information in this prospectus. The following summary and the summary in the applicable prospectus supplement are qualified in their entirety by reference to all of the provisions of the indenture, any supplemental indenture and the certificates evidencing the applicable debt securities, which provisions, including defined terms, are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Capitalized terms used in this section and not defined have the meanings assigned to those terms in the indenture.

The following description of debt securities describes general terms and provisions of a series of debt securities and, if applicable, the Guarantee of the debt securities of that series to which any prospectus

supplement may relate. The debt securities may be issued from time to time in one or more series. The particular terms of each series that is offered by a prospectus supplement will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If any particular terms of the debt securities or, if applicable, a Guarantee of the debt securities of that series or the indenture described in a prospectus supplement differ from any of the terms described in this prospectus, the terms described in the applicable prospectus.

## General

The indenture provides that the debt securities may be issued without limit as to aggregate principal amount, in one or more series, and in any currency or currency units, in each case as established from time to time in or under the authority granted by a resolution of the Board of Directors or as established in one or more supplemental indentures. All debt securities of one series need not be issued at the same time, and may vary as to interest rate, maturity and other provisions and, unless otherwise provided, a series may be reopened, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of that series, for issuance of additional debt securities of that series ranking equally with debt securities of that series and otherwise similar in all respects except for issue date and issue price. Please read the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the series of debt securities being offered for specific terms including, where applicable:

the title of the series of debt securities;

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

whether such securities rank as senior debt securities, senior subordinated debt securities or subordinated debt securities;

whether the debt securities of the series will be guaranteed by any subsidiary guarantors and, if so, the names of the subsidiary guarantors of the debt securities of the series and a description of the subsidiary guarantees;

the price or prices at which debt securities of the series will be issued;

the person to whom any interest on a debt security of the series shall be payable, if other than the person in whose name that debt security is registered on the applicable record date;

the date or dates on which the Issuer will pay the principal of and premium, if any, on debt securities of the series, or the method or methods, if any, used to determine those dates;

the rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, at which debt securities of the series will bear interest, if any, or the method or methods, if any, used to determine those rates;

the basis used to calculate interest, if any, on the debt securities of the series if other than a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months;

the date or dates, if any, from which interest on the debt securities of the series will begin to accrue, or the method or methods, if any, used to determine those dates;

the dates on which the interest, if any, on the debt securities of the series will be payable and the record dates for the payment of interest;

the place or places where amounts due on the debt securities of the series will be payable and where the debt securities of the series may be surrendered for registration of transfer and exchange, if other than the corporate trust office of the Trustee;

the terms and conditions, if any, upon which the Issuer may, at its option, redeem debt securities of the series;

the terms and conditions, if any, upon which the Issuer will repurchase or repay debt securities of the series at the option of the holders of debt securities of the series;

the terms of any sinking fund or analogous provision;

if other than U.S. dollars, the currency in which the purchase price for the debt securities of the series will be payable, the currency in which payments on the debt securities of the series will be payable, and the ability, if any, of the Issuer or the holders of debt securities of the series to have payments made in any other currency or currencies;

any addition to, or modification or deletion of, any covenant or Event of Default with respect to debt securities of the series;

whether any debt securities of the series will be issued in temporary or permanent global form ( global debt securities ) and, if so, the identity of the depositary for the global debt securities if other than The Depository Trust Company ( DTC );

if and under what circumstances the Issuer will pay additional amounts ( Additional Amounts ) on the debt securities of the series in respect of specified taxes, assessments or other governmental charges and, if so, whether the Issuer will have the option to redeem the debt securities of the series rather than pay the Additional Amounts;

the extent to which, or the manner in which, any interest payable on a temporary global debt security will be paid, if other than in the manner provided in the indenture;

the portion of the principal amount of the debt securities of the series which will be payable upon acceleration if other than the full principal amount;

the authorized denominations in which the debt securities of the series will be issued, if other than denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiples of \$1,000;

the terms, if any, upon which debt securities of the series may be exchangeable for other property;

if the amount of payments on the debt securities of the series may be determined with reference to an index, formula or other method or methods and the method used to determine those amounts;

a description of the Guarantee;

if the debt securities of the series or, if applicable, a Guarantee of those debt securities will be secured by any collateral and, if so, a general description of the collateral and of some of the terms of any related security,

pledge or other agreements;

any rights of Holders of such Securities to convert or exchange, and the obligations of the Issuer to convert or exchange, such Securities into common shares or other securities or property;

any listing of the debt securities on any securities exchange;

any other terms of the debt securities of the series, the Guarantee and, if applicable, a subsidiary guarantee of the debt securities (whether or not such other terms are consistent or inconsistent with any other terms of the indenture); and

the appointment of any agents, if other than the Trustee.

As used in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement relating to the offering of debt securities of any series, references to the principal of and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the debt securities of the series include the payment of Additional Amounts, if any, required by the debt securities of the series to be paid in that context.

Debt securities may be issued as original issue discount securities to be sold at a substantial discount below their principal amount. In the event of an acceleration of the maturity of any original issue discount security, the amount payable to the holder upon acceleration will be determined in the manner described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Certain U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to original issue discount securities will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

If the purchase price of any debt securities is payable in a foreign currency or if the principal of, or premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any debt securities is payable in a foreign currency, the specific terms of those debt securities and the applicable foreign currency will be specified in the prospectus supplement relating to those debt securities.

The terms of the debt securities of any series may differ from the terms of the debt securities of any other series, and the terms of particular debt securities within any series may differ from each other. Unless otherwise expressly provided in the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities, the Issuer may, without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of any series, reopen an existing series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series.

Unless otherwise described in a prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities and except to the limited extent set forth below under Merger, Consolidation and Sale of Assets, the indenture does not contain any provisions that would limit the Issuer s or the Guarantor s ability or the ability of any of the Issuer s subsidiaries to incur indebtedness or other liabilities or that would afford holders of debt securities protection in the event of a business combination, takeover, recapitalization or highly leveraged or similar transaction involving the Issuer or the Guarantor. Accordingly, the Issuer, the Guarantor and its subsidiaries may in the future enter into transactions that could increase the amount of its consolidated indebtedness and other liabilities or otherwise adversely affect its capital structure or credit rating without the consent of the holders of the debt securities of any series.

## **Registration, Transfer and Payment**

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, each series of debt securities will be issued in registered form only, without coupons.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, registered debt securities will be issued in denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will be payable and may be surrendered for registration of transfer or exchange and, if applicable, for conversion into or exchange for other securities or property, at an office or agency maintained by the Issuer, in the United States of America. However, the Issuer, at its option, may make payments of interest on any registered debt security by check mailed to the address of the person entitled to receive that payment or by wire transfer to an account maintained by the payee with a bank located in the United States of America. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, no service charge shall be made for any registration of transfer or exchange, redemption or repayment of debt securities, or for any conversion or exchange of debt securities for other securities or property, but the Issuer may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in connection with that transaction.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Issuer will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of or exchange debt securities of any series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before any selection of debt securities of that series of like tenor and terms to be redeemed and ending at the close of business on the day of that selection;

register the transfer of or exchange any registered debt security, or portion of any registered debt security, selected for redemption, except the unredeemed portion of any registered debt security being redeemed in part; or

issue, register the transfer of or exchange a debt security which has been surrendered for repayment at the option of the holder, except the portion, if any, of the debt security not to be repaid.

## Guarantees

The debt securities of any series of the Issuer will be guaranteed by the Guarantor. Any series of the debt securities may also be guaranteed by one or more of the Issuer s subsidiaries. In the event the Issuer issues a series of debt securities guaranteed by one or more subsidiaries, any subsidiary guarantors will be identified in the applicable post-effective amendment and applicable prospectus supplement.

A description of some of the terms of the Guarantee of a series of debt securities will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. The Guarantor of a series of debt securities will unconditionally guarantee the due and punctual payment of the principal of, and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on and any other amounts payable with respect to, each debt security of such series and the due and punctual performance of all of the Issuer s other obligations under the indenture with respect to the debt securities of such series, all in accordance with the terms of such debt securities and the indenture.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement, the indenture will contain provisions to the effect that the obligations of the Guarantor under its Guarantee and the indenture shall be limited to the maximum amount as will, after giving effect to all other contingent and fixed liabilities of the Guarantor, result in the obligations of the Guarantor under such Guarantee and the indenture not constituting a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under applicable law. However, there can be no assurance that, notwithstanding such limitation, a court would not determine that a Guarantee constituted a fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer under applicable law. However, the Guarantor s obligations under that Guarantee, subordinate that Guarantee to other debt and other liabilities of that Guarantor or take other action detrimental to holders of the debt securities of the applicable series, including directing the holders to return any payments received from the Guarantor.

The applicable prospectus supplement will specify other terms of the Guarantee, which may include provisions that allow the Guarantor to be released from its obligations under its Guarantee under specified circumstances or that provide for the Guarantee to be secured by specified collateral.

Unless otherwise expressly stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the Guarantee will be the senior, senior subordinated and unsecured obligation of the Guarantor and will rank on a parity in right of payment with all other senior, senior subordinated or subordinated and unsecured indebtedness and guarantees of the Guarantor, as applicable. Each Guarantee (other than a secured Guarantee) will be effectively subordinated to all existing and future secured indebtedness and secured guarantees of the Guarantor to the extent of the value of the collateral securing that indebtedness and those guarantees. Consequently, in the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or similar proceeding with respect to the Guarantor that has provided an unsecured Guarantee of any debt securities, the holders of that Guarantor s secured indebtedness and secured guarantees, as the case may be, and such collateral will not be available for satisfaction of any amount owed by the Guarantor under its unsecured indebtedness and unsecured guarantees, including its unsecured Guarantees of any debt securities, until that secure guarantees of any the applicable prospectus supplement, the indenture will not limit the ability of the Guarantor to incur secured indebtedness or issue secured guarantees.

Unless otherwise expressly stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, each secured Guarantee will be an unsubordinated obligation of the Guarantor and will rank on a parity in right of payment with all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness and guarantees of the Guarantor, except that such secured Guarantee will effectively rank senior to the Guarantor s unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness and guarantees in respect of claims against

the collateral securing that secured Guarantee.

# **Book-entry Debt Securities**

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global debt securities. Global debt securities will be deposited with, or on behalf of, a depositary which, unless otherwise

specified in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the series, will be DTC. Global debt securities may be issued in either temporary or permanent form. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for individual certificates evidencing debt securities, a global debt security may not be transferred except as a whole by the depositary to its nominee or by the nominee to the depositary, or by the depositary or its nominee to a successor depositary or to a nominee of the successor depositary.

The Issuer anticipates that global debt securities will be deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC and that global debt securities will be registered in the name of DTC s nominee, Cede & Co. All interests in global debt securities deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC will be subject to the operations and procedures of DTC and, in the case of any interests in global debt securities held through Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (Euroclear) or Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (Clearstream, Luxembourg), the operations and procedures of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, the Issuer also anticipates that the following provisions will apply to the depository arrangements with respect to global debt securities. Additional or differing terms of the depository arrangements may be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

DTC has advised the Issuer 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 Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the settlement among its participants of securities transactions, including transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in participants accounts, which eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. Access to the DTC system is also available to others, sometimes referred to in this prospectus as indirect participants, that clear transactions through or maintain a custodial relationship with a direct participant either directly or indirectly. Indirect participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of debt securities within the DTC system must be made by or through direct participants, which will receive a credit for the debt securities on DTC s records. The ownership interest of the actual purchaser or beneficial owner of a debt security is, in turn, recorded on the direct and indirect participants records. Beneficial owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchases, but beneficial owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transactions, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the direct or indirect participants through which they purchased the debt securities. Transfers of ownership interests in debt securities are to

be accomplished by entries made on the books of participants acting on behalf of beneficial owners. Beneficial owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the debt securities, except under the limited circumstances described below.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all debt securities deposited by participants with DTC will be registered in the name of DTC s nominee, Cede & Co. The deposit of debt securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. will not change the beneficial ownership of the debt securities. DTC has no knowledge of the actual beneficial owners of the debt securities. DTC s records reflect only the identity of the direct participants to whose accounts the debt securities are credited. Those participants may or may not be the beneficial owners. The participants are responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to direct participants, by direct participants to indirect participants and by direct and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any legal requirements in effect from time to time. Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC or its nominee. If less than all of the debt securities of a series are being redeemed, DTC will reduce the amount of the interest of each direct participant in the debt securities under its procedures.

In any case where a vote may be required with respect to the debt securities of any series, neither DTC nor Cede & Co. will give consents for or vote the global debt securities. Under its usual procedures, DTC will mail an omnibus proxy to the Issuer after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns the consenting or voting rights of Cede & Co. to those direct participants to whose accounts the debt securities are credited on the record date identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy. Principal and premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the global debt securities will be paid to Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC. DTC s practice is to credit direct participants accounts on the relevant payment date unless DTC has reason to believe that it will not receive payments on the payment date. Payments by direct and indirect participants to beneficial owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the account of customers in bearer form or registered in street name. Those payments will be the responsibility of DTC s direct and indirect participants and not of DTC, the Issuer, any trustee or any underwriters or agents involved in the offering or sale of any debt securities. Payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, to DTC is the Issuer s, responsibility, disbursement of payments to direct participants is the responsibility of DTC.

Except under the limited circumstances described below, beneficial owners of interests in a global debt security will not be entitled to have debt securities registered in their names and will not receive physical delivery of debt securities. Accordingly, each beneficial owner must rely on the procedures of DTC to exercise any rights under the debt securities and the indenture.

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 or pledge beneficial interests in global debt securities.

DTC is under no obligation to provide its services as depositary for the debt securities of any series and may discontinue providing its services at any time. Neither the Issuer, the Guarantor nor any trustee nor any underwriters or agents involved in the offering or sale of any debt securities will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC or its participants or indirect participants under the rules and procedures governing DTC. As noted above, beneficial owners of interests in global debt securities generally will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the debt securities. However, if:

DTC notifies the Issuer that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a depositary for the global debt securities of any series or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (if so required by applicable law or regulation) and a successor depositary for the debt securities of such series is not appointed within 90 days of the notification to the Issuer or of the Issuer becoming aware of DTC s ceasing to be so registered, as the case may be,

the Issuer determines, in its sole discretion, not to have the debt securities of any series represented by one or more global debt securities, or

an Event of Default under the indenture has occurred and is continuing with respect to the debt securities of any series,

the Issuer will prepare and deliver certificates for the debt securities of that series in exchange for beneficial interests in the global debt securities of that series. Any beneficial interest in a global debt security that is exchangeable under the circumstances described in the preceding sentence will be exchangeable for debt securities in definitive certificated form registered in the names and in the authorized denominations that the depositary shall direct. It is expected that these directions will be based upon directions received by the depositary from its participants with respect to ownership of beneficial interests in the global debt securities.

Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear hold interests on behalf of their participating organizations through customers securities accounts in Clearstream, Luxembourg s and Euroclear s names on the books of their respective depositaries, which hold those interests in customers securities accounts in the depositaries names on the books of DTC. At the present time, Citibank, N.A. acts as U.S. depositary for Clearstream, Luxembourg and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. acts as U.S. depositaries (the U.S. Depositaries).

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 is registered as a bank in Luxembourg, and as such is subject to regulation by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier and the Banque Centrale du Luxembourg, which supervise and oversee the activities of Luxembourg banks. Clearstream Participants are financial institutions including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations, and may include any underwriters or agents involved in the offering or sale of any debt securities or their respective affiliates. Indirect access to Clearstream, Luxembourg is available to other institutions that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Clearstream Participant. Clearstream, Luxembourg has established an electronic bridge with Euroclear as the operator of the Euroclear System (the Euroclear Operator ) in Brussels to facilitate settlement of trades between Clearstream, Luxembourg and the Euroclear Operator.

Distributions with respect to global debt securities 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 holds securities and book-entry interests in securities for participating organizations (Euroclear Participants) and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between Euroclear Participants, and between Euroclear Participants and participants of certain other securities intermediaries through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of such participants or other securities intermediaries. Euroclear provides Euroclear Participants, among other things, with safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement, securities lending and borrowing, and related services. Euroclear Participants are investment banks, securities brokers and dealers, banks, central banks, supranationals, custodians, investment managers, corporations, trust companies and certain other organizations, and may include any underwriters or agents involved in the offering or sale of any debt securities or their respective affiliates. Non-participants in Euroclear may hold and transfer beneficial interests in a global debt security through accounts with a participant in the Euroclear System or any other securities intermediary that holds a book-entry interest in a global debt security through one or more securities intermediaries standing between such other securities intermediary and Euroclear.

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 record of or relationship with persons holding through Euroclear Participants.

Distributions on interests in global debt securities 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.

Transfers between Euroclear Participants and Clearstream Participants will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with their respective rules and operating procedures.

Cross-market transfers between direct participants in DTC, on the one hand, and Euroclear Participants or Clearstream Participants, on the other hand, will be effected through DTC in accordance with DTC s rules on behalf of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, by its U.S. Depositary; however, such cross-market transactions will require delivery of instructions to Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, by its use and procedures and within the established deadlines (European time) of such system. Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, 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 interests in global debt securities in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day fund settlement applicable to DTC. Euroclear Participants and Clearstream Participants may not deliver instructions directly to their respective U.S. Depositaries.

Due to time zone differences, the securities accounts of a Euroclear Participant or Clearstream Participant purchasing an interest in a global debt security from a direct participant in DTC will be credited, and any such crediting will be reported to the relevant Euroclear Participant or Clearstream Participant, during the securities settlement processing day (which must be a business day for Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg) immediately following the settlement date of DTC. Cash received in Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as a result of sales of interests in a global debt security by or through a Euroclear Participant or Clearstream Participant to a direct participant in DTC will be received with value on the settlement date of DTC but will be available in the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg cash account only as of the business day for Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg following DTC s settlement date.

Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg are under no obligation to perform or to continue to perform the foregoing procedures and such procedures may be discontinued at any time without notice. None of the Issuer, the Guarantor or any trustee or any underwriters or agents involved in the offering or sale of any debt securities will have any responsibility for the performance by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg or their respective participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

The information in this section concerning DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and their book-entry systems has been obtained from sources that the Issuer believes to be reliable, but the Issuer takes no responsibility for the accuracy of that information.

## **Redemption and Repurchase**

The debt securities of any series may be redeemable at the option of the Issuer or may be subject to mandatory redemption by the Issuer as required by a sinking fund or otherwise. In addition, the debt securities of any series may be subject to repurchase or repayment by the Issuer at the option of the holders. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms, the times and the prices regarding any optional or mandatory redemption by the Issuer or any repurchase or repayment at the option of the holders of any series of debt securities.

## **Secured Debt Securities**

The debt securities of any series and the Guarantee, if any, of the debt securities of any series may be secured by collateral. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe any such collateral and the terms of such secured debt securities.

# Merger, Consolidation and Sale of Assets

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the indenture provides that the Issuer will not consolidate or merge with or into or wind up into (whether or not the Issuer is the surviving corporation),

or sell, assign, transfer, lease, convey or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its properties or assets, in one or more related transactions, to any Person unless:

the Issuer is the surviving corporation or the Person formed by or surviving any such consolidation or merger (if other than the Issuer) or to which such sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition will have been made is a corporation organized or existing under the laws of the jurisdiction of organization of the Issuer or the laws of the United States, any state thereof, the District of Columbia, or any territory thereof (such Person, as the case may be, being herein called the Successor Company );

the Successor Company, if other than the Issuer, shall expressly assume all the obligations of the Issuer pursuant to a supplemental indenture or other documents or instruments in form reasonably satisfactory in form to the trustee;

immediately after giving effect to the transaction described above, 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;

the Guarantor, unless it is the other party to the transactions described above, shall have by supplemental indenture confirmed that its Guarantee shall apply to such person s obligations under the indenture and the debt securities; and

the Trustee shall have received the officer s certificate and opinion of counsel called for by the indenture. In addition, with respect to secured debt securities, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the indenture provides that immediately after giving pro forma effect to the transaction described above, (1) the Collateral owned by the Successor Company will continue to constitute Collateral under the indenture and related security documents and (2) to the extent any assets of the Person which is merged or consolidated with or into the Successor Company are assets of the type which would constitute Collateral under the related security documents, the Successor Company will take such action as may be reasonably necessary to cause such property and assets to be made subject to the Lien of the security documents in the manner and to the extent required by the indenture.

In the case of any such merger, consolidation, sale, assignment, transfer, lease, conveyance or other disposition in which the Issuer is not the continuing entity and upon execution and delivery by the successor person of the supplemental indenture described above, such Successor Person shall succeed to, and be substituted for the Issuer and may exercise every right and power of the Issuer under the indenture with the same effect as if such successor person had been named as the Issuer therein, and the Issuer shall be automatically released and discharged from all obligations and covenants un