

MARINEMAX INC
Form 424B5
September 11, 2009

Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion, dated September 10, 2009

**Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)5
Registration No. 333-153006**

**PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(TO PROSPECTUS DATED SEPTEMBER 29, 2008)**

2,600,000 Shares

Common Stock

We are selling 2,600,000 shares of common stock. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HZO.

On September 9, 2009, the reported last sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$7.83 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on Page S-9 of this prospectus supplement before buying shares of our common stock.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to MarineMax, Inc.	\$	\$

The underwriter may purchase up to an additional 390,000 shares of common stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, within 30 days of the date of this prospectus supplement to cover over-allotments, if any.

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 supplement or the prospectus to which it relates. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The underwriter expects to deliver the shares to purchasers on or about , 2009.

RAYMOND JAMES

The date of this prospectus supplement is , 2009.

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This prospectus supplement is a supplement to the accompanying prospectus that is also a part of this document. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC that utilizes a shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may sell up to an aggregate of \$200,000,000 of securities, of which this offering is a part. In this prospectus supplement, we provide you with specific information about the terms of this offering and certain other information. Both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus include important information about us, the common stock being offered, and other information you should know before investing in our common stock.

No action is being taken in any jurisdiction outside the United States to permit a public offering of the common stock or possession or distribution of this prospectus supplement in that jurisdiction. Persons that come into possession of this prospectus supplement in jurisdictions outside the United States are required to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions as to this offering and the distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus applicable to those jurisdictions.

You should read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus as well as the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** beginning on page S-27 of this prospectus supplement before investing in our common stock. This prospectus supplement adds to, updates, and changes information contained in the accompanying prospectus and the information incorporated by reference. To the extent that any statement that we make in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with the statements made in the accompanying prospectus or the information incorporated by reference, the statements made in the accompanying prospectus or the information incorporated by reference are deemed modified or superseded by the statements made in this prospectus supplement.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, or any free writing prospectus. We have not, and the underwriter has not, authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We have not, and the underwriter has not, made an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on their covers or the date of incorporation by reference, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or any sale of the securities.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, our beliefs and assumptions. We use words such as anticipate, expect, intend, plan, believe, seek, estimate and variations of these words and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond our control, are difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include those described in **Risk Factors** and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the

accompanying prospectus, and the documents incorporated by reference. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect our view only as of the date of this prospectus supplement.

S-i

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. This summary does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should read this entire prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the documents incorporated by reference herein, carefully, especially the risks of investing in our common stock discussed under Risk Factors on pages S-9 through S-21, and the consolidated financial statements and notes to those consolidated financial statements incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment decision.

Our Company

We are the largest recreational boat retailer in the United States with fiscal 2008 revenue in excess of \$880 million. Through 65 retail locations in 22 states, we sell new and used recreational boats and related marine products, including engines, trailers, parts, and accessories. We also arrange related boat financing, insurance, and extended warranty contracts; provide boat repair and maintenance services; offer yacht and boat brokerage services, and, where available, offer slip and storage accommodations.

We are the nation's largest retailer of Sea Ray, Boston Whaler, Cabo, Hatteras, and Meridian recreational boats and yachts, all of which are manufactured by Brunswick Corporation. Sales of new Brunswick boats accounted for approximately 49% of our revenue in fiscal 2008. Brunswick is the world's largest manufacturer of marine products and marine engines. We believe our sales represented approximately 10% of all Brunswick marine sales, including approximately 40% of its Sea Ray boat sales, during our 2008 fiscal year. We are parties to dealer agreements with Brunswick covering Sea Ray products and are the exclusive dealer of Sea Ray boats in almost all of our geographic markets. We also are the exclusive dealer for Hatteras Yachts throughout the state of Florida (excluding the Florida panhandle) and the states of New Jersey, New York, and Texas; the exclusive dealer for Cabo Yachts throughout the states of Florida, New Jersey, and New York; the exclusive dealer for Boston Whaler in many of our markets, including our locations in the states of New York, North Carolina, and South Carolina and portions of the states of Florida, California, and Texas; and the exclusive dealer for Meridian Yachts in most of our geographic markets, excluding Northern California. In addition, we are the exclusive dealer for Italy-based Azimut-Benetti Group for Azimut and Atlantis mega-yachts, yachts, and other recreational boats for the Northeast United States from Maryland to Maine and the state of Florida.

We commenced operations as a result of the March 1, 1998 acquisition of five previously independent recreational boat dealers. Since that time, we have acquired 20 additional previously independent recreational boat dealers, two boat brokerage operations, and two full-service yacht repair operations. We capitalize on the experience and success of the acquired companies in order to establish a new national standard of customer service and responsiveness in the highly fragmented retail boating industry. As a result of our emphasis on premium brand boats, our average selling price for a new boat in fiscal 2008 was approximately \$126,000, an increase of approximately 10% from fiscal 2007, compared with the industry average calendar 2008 selling price of approximately \$37,000 based on industry data published by the National Marine Manufacturers Association. Our stores, which operated at least 12 months, averaged approximately \$12.5 million in annual sales in fiscal 2008. We consider a store to be one or more retail locations that are adjacent or operate as one entity. Our same-store sales decreased 28% in fiscal 2008, but averaged an annual increase of approximately 11% for the preceding five years.

We adopt the best practices developed by us and our acquired companies as appropriate to enhance our ability to attract more customers, foster an overall enjoyable boating experience, and offer boat manufacturers stable and professional retail distribution and a broad geographic presence. We believe that our full range of services, no haggle

sales approach, prime retail locations, premium product offerings, extensive facilities, strong management and team members, and emphasis on customer service and satisfaction before and after a boat sale are competitive advantages that enable us to be more responsive to the needs of existing and prospective customers.

S-1

Table of Contents

The U.S. recreational boating industry generated approximately \$33.6 billion in retail sales in calendar 2008, including sales of new and used boats; marine products, such as engines, trailers, equipment, and accessories; and related expenditures, such as fuel, insurance, docking, storage, and repairs. Retail sales of new and used boats, engines, trailers, and accessories accounted for approximately \$24.8 billion of these sales in 2008 based on industry data from the National Marine Manufacturers Association. The highly fragmented retail boating industry generally consists of small dealers that operate in a single market and provide varying degrees of merchandising, professional management, and customer service. We believe that many small dealers are finding it increasingly difficult to make the managerial and capital commitments necessary to achieve higher customer service levels and upgrade systems and facilities as required by boat manufacturers and demanded by customers. We also believe that many dealers lack an exit strategy for their owners. We believe these factors contribute to our opportunity.

Strategy

Our goal is to enhance our position as the nation's leading recreational boat dealer. Key elements of our operating and growth strategy include the following:

- emphasizing customer satisfaction and loyalty by creating an overall enjoyable boating experience, beginning with a hassle-free purchase process, superior customer service, company-led events called Getaways!, and premier facilities;

- achieving efficiencies and synergies among our operations to enhance internal growth and profitability;

- promoting national brand name recognition and the MarineMax connection;

- emphasizing the best practices developed by us and our acquired dealers as appropriate throughout our dealerships;

- offering additional products and services, including those involving higher profit margins;

- pursuing strategic acquisitions to capitalize upon the consolidation opportunities in the highly fragmented recreational boat dealer industry by acquiring additional dealers and related operations and improving their performance and profitability through the implementation of our operating strategies;

- opening additional retail facilities in our existing and new territories;

- emphasizing employee training and development;

- expanding our Internet retail operations and marketing;

- operating with a decentralized approach to the operational management of our dealerships; and

- utilizing technology throughout operations, which facilitates the interchange of information and enhances cross-selling opportunities throughout our company.

Development of the Company; Expansion of Business

MarineMax was founded in January 1998. MarineMax itself, however, conducted no operations until the acquisition of five independent recreational boat dealers on March 1, 1998, and we completed our initial public offering in June 1998. Since the initial acquisitions in March 1998, we have acquired 20 additional recreational boat dealers, two boat

brokerage operations, and two full-service yacht repair operations. Each of our acquired dealers is operating under the MarineMax name.

We continually attempt to expand our business by providing a full range of services, offering extensive and high-quality product lines, maintaining prime retail locations, pursuing the MarineMax Value Price sales approach, and emphasizing the highest level of customer service and customer satisfaction.

We also evaluate opportunities to expand our operations by acquiring recreational boat dealers to expand our geographic scope, expanding our product lines, opening new retail locations within our existing territories, and providing new products and services for our customers.

S-2

Table of Contents

Acquisitions of additional recreational boat dealers represent an important strategy in our goal to enhance our position as the nation's leading retailer of recreational boats. The following table sets forth information regarding the businesses that we have acquired and their geographic regions.

Acquired Companies	Acquisition Date	Geographic Region
Bassett Boat Company of Florida	March 1998	Southeast Florida
Louis DelHomme Marine	March 1998	Dallas and Houston, Texas
Gulfwind USA, Inc.	March 1998	West Central Florida
Gulfwind South, Inc.	March 1998	Southwest Florida
Harrison's Boat Center, Inc. and Harrison's Marine Centers of Arizona, Inc.	March 1998	Northern California and Arizona
Stovall Marine, Inc.	April 1998	Georgia
Cochran's Marine, Inc. and C & N Marine Corporation	July 1998	Minnesota
Sea Ray of North Carolina, Inc.	July 1998	North and South Carolina
Brevard Boat Company	September 1998	East Central Florida
Sea Ray of Las Vegas	September 1998	Nevada
Treasure Cove Marina, Inc.	September 1998	Northern Ohio
Woods & Oviatt, Inc.	October 1998	Southeast Florida
Boating World	February 1999	Dallas, Texas
Merit Marine, Inc.	March 1999	Southern New Jersey
Suburban Boatworks, Inc.	April 1999	Central New Jersey
Hansen Marine, Inc.	August 1999	Northeast Florida
Duce Marine, Inc.	December 1999	Utah
Clark's Landing, Inc. (selected New Jersey locations and operations)	April 2000	Northern New Jersey
Associated Marine Technologies, Inc.	January 2001	Southeast Florida
Gulfwind Marine Partners, Inc.	April 2002	West Florida
Seaside Marine, Inc.	July 2002	Southern California
Sundance Marine, Inc.	June 2003	Colorado
Killinger Marine Center, Inc. and Killinger Marine Center of Alabama, Inc.	September 2003	Northwest Florida and Alabama
Emarine International, Inc. and Steven Myers, Inc.	October 2003	Southeast Florida
Imperial Marine	June 2004	Baltimore, Maryland
Port Jacksonville Marine	June 2004	Northeast Florida
Port Arrowhead Marina, Inc.	January 2006	Missouri, Oklahoma
Great American Marina(1)	February 2006	West Florida
		Connecticut,
		Maryland, New York and
Surfside 3 Marina, Inc.	March 2006	Rhode Island

(1) Joint Venture

Apart from acquisitions, we have opened 26 new retail locations in existing territories, excluding those opened on a temporary basis for a specific purpose. We also monitor the performance of our retail locations and close retail locations that do not meet our expectations. Based on these factors and the recent depressed economic conditions, we have closed 25 retail locations since March 1998, excluding those opened on a temporary basis for a specific purpose,

including 12 in fiscal 2008.

S-3

Table of Contents

In addition to acquiring recreational boat dealers and opening new retail locations, we also add new product lines to expand our operations. The following table sets forth various current product lines that we have added to our existing locations.

Product Line	Fiscal Year	Geographic Regions
Boston Whaler	1997	West Central Florida; Stuart, Florida; Dallas, Texas
Hatteras Yachts	1999	Florida (excluding the Florida panhandle)
Boston Whaler	2000	North Palm Beach, Florida
Meridian Yachts	2002	Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina, New Jersey, Ohio, Minnesota, Texas, and Delaware
Grady White	2002	Houston, Texas
Hatteras Yachts	2002	Texas
Boston Whaler	2004	North and South Carolina
Princecraft	2004	Minnesota
Boston Whaler	2005	Houston and Dallas, Texas
Meridian Yachts	2005	Chattanooga, Tennessee
Tracker Marine	2005	Las Vegas, Nevada
Azimut	2006	Northeast United States from Maryland to Maine
Atlantis	2006	Northeast United States from Maryland to Maine
Cabo	2006	West coast of Florida
Cabo	2007	East coast of Florida
Azimut	2008	Florida
Cabo	2008	New Jersey and New York
Hatteras Yachts	2008	New Jersey and New York
Meridian Yachts	2008	Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, and Utah
Meridian Yachts	2009	Maryland and Delaware
Boston Whaler	2009	Southwest Florida

As we add a brand, we believe we are offering a migration for our existing customer base or filling a gap in our product offerings. As a result, we do not believe that new product offerings will compete with or cannibalize the business generated from our other prominent brands. We also discontinue offering product lines from time to time, primarily based upon customer preferences.

During the nine-year period from the commencement of our operations through our fiscal year ended September 30, 2007, our revenue increased from \$291 million to \$1.2 billion. Our revenue and net income increased in seven of those nine years over the prior year revenue and net income. This period was marked by an increase in retail locations from 41 on September 30, 1998 to 88 on September 30, 2007, resulting from acquisitions and opening new stores in existing territories.

Our growth was interrupted during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007, primarily as a result of factors related to the deteriorating housing market. Substantially deteriorating economic and financial conditions, reduced consumer confidence and spending, increases in fuel prices, lower credit availability, stock and bond market declines, and asset value deterioration all contributed to substantially lower financial performance in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2008 and the nine months ended June 30, 2009, including significant losses.

Those conditions caused us to defer our acquisition program, slow our new store openings, reduce our inventory purchases, engage in inventory reduction efforts, close some of our retail locations, significantly reduce our

headcount, and modify our debt structure and credit agreement. We cannot predict the length or severity of the current recessionary environment or the magnitude of the effects it will have on our operating performance nor can we predict the effectiveness of the measures we have taken to address this environment.

S-4

Table of Contents

Despite the foregoing, we are maintaining our core values of customer service and satisfaction and plan to continue to pursue strategies that will enable us to achieve long-term growth. We believe that we are well positioned for long-term success and growth when economic conditions improve. Upon a return to more normal economic conditions, we plan to resume expanding our business through acquisitions in new geographical territories, new store openings in existing territories, and new product lines. In addition, we plan to continue to expand other services, including conducting used boat sales; offering yacht and boat brokerage services; offering our customers the ability to finance new or used boats; offering extended service contracts; arranging insurance coverage, including boat property, credit-life, accident, disability, and casualty coverage; selling related marine products, including engines, trailers, parts, and accessories; providing maintenance and repair services at our retail locations and at stand-alone service facilities; and expanding our ability to provide slip and storage accommodations. Our expansion plans will depend upon returning to normal economic conditions.

We maintain our executive offices at 18167 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33764, and our telephone number is (727) 531-1700. Our website is located at *www.MarineMax.com*. Other than as described in

Where You Can Find More Information below, the information on, or that can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, and you should not consider it to be a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Our website address is included as an inactive textual reference only.

We were incorporated in the state of Delaware in January 1998. Unless the context otherwise requires, all references to MarineMax mean MarineMax, Inc. prior to its acquisition of five previously independent recreational boat dealers in March 1998 (including their related real estate companies) and all references to the Company, our company, we, and our mean, as a combined company, MarineMax, Inc. and the 20 recreational boat dealers, two boat brokerage operations, and two full-service yacht repair operations acquired to date (the acquired dealers, and together with the brokerage and repair operations, operating subsidiaries, or the acquired companies).

Table of Contents

The Offering

Common stock offered	2,600,000 shares
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	21,261,027 shares
Use of proceeds	We estimate the net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$ million, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes, which may include debt reduction.
Risk factors	See Risk Factors on page S-9 for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding whether to purchase our common stock.
New York Stock Exchange symbol	HZO

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering reflected above is based on the number of shares outstanding as of June 30, 2009, and does not include the following:

2,104,422 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options granted under our 2007 incentive stock plan;

an additional 929,870 shares of our common stock available for future issuance under our 2007 incentive stock plan; and

421,777 shares of our common stock reserved for issuance under our 2008 employee stock purchase plan.

Unless otherwise expressly stated or the content otherwise requires, all information in this prospectus supplement assumes that the underwriter's over-allotment option is not exercised.

As part of this offering, we requested from the lenders under our revolving credit facility additional flexibility to our debt covenants, since this offering also benefits our lenders. Our lending group has agreed to amend our revolving credit facility to modify the size of the facility and financial covenants upon the completion of this offering. The amended facility will provide a line of credit with asset-based borrowing availability up to \$300 million, stepping down to \$250 million by September 30, 2009 and \$175 million by September 30, 2010, with interim decreases between such dates. Each interim step down will be reduced by the net proceeds of this offering but will never be reduced to below \$175 million. Additionally, the amendment will modify the definition of EBITDA to include 50% of the net proceeds of this offering as additional flexibility to the earnings covenant for fiscal 2010.

Table of Contents**Summary Consolidated Financial Data**

The following table sets forth our summary consolidated historical financial and operating data and is qualified by the more detailed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should read the summary consolidated financial information presented below in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements and the notes to those financial statements, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

The summary financial and operating data at and for the nine months ended June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009 and the consolidated balance sheet data at June 30, 2009 have been derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We believe these unaudited financial statements reflect all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of our financial position and results of operations for the periods presented. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of future results, and the results for the nine months ended June 30, 2009 are not necessarily indicative of our expected results for the full year ending September 30, 2009 or any other period.

	Fiscal Year Ended September 30,					Nine Months Ended June 30,								
	2004(1)	2005(1)	2006	2007	2008	2008	2009							
	(Amounts in thousands except share, per share, and retail location data)													
Revenue	\$	762,009	\$	947,347	\$	1,213,541	\$	1,255,985	\$	885,407	\$	719,814	\$	381,300
Cost of sales		573,616		712,843		906,781		956,251		679,164		555,302		305,300
Gross profit		188,393		234,504		306,760		299,734		206,243		164,512		76,000
Operating expenses, including depreciation, amortization, and administrative expenses		139,470		169,975		222,806		245,224		217,426		161,053		114,100
Operating income										122,091		122,091		
Other income (loss)														
Income before taxes		48,923		64,529		83,954		54,510		(133,274)		(118,632)		(38,100)
Income tax expense, net		6,499		9,291		18,616		26,955		20,164		16,623		11,200
Net income (loss)														
Income (loss) attributable to common stockholders														
Income (loss) provision (benefit)		42,424		55,238		65,338		27,555		(153,438)		(135,255)		(49,300)

e tax on (t)	16,126	21,412	25,956	7,486	(19,161)	(12,067)	(5,5
come	\$ 26,298	\$ 33,826	\$ 39,382	\$ 20,069	\$ (134,277)	\$ (123,188)	\$ (43,7
come per	\$ 1.58	\$ 1.88	\$ 2.08	\$ 1.04	\$ (7.30)	\$ (6.70)	\$ (2
ted e r of	16,666,107	18,032,533	18,928,735	19,289,231	18,391,488	18,381,325	18,502,9
Data							
-end):							
er of							
ns(2)	67	71	87	88	80	87	
er (5)	\$ 12,831	\$ 16,386	\$ 17,064	\$ 15,246	\$ 12,492	\$ 9,024	\$ 6,6
store							
(4)(5)	21%	23%	7%	(1)%	(28)%	(23)%	0

S-7

Table of Contents

	As of June 30, 2009	
	Actual	As Adjusted(6)
	(Amounts in thousands)	
Balance Sheet Data:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,825	\$
Working capital	100,592	
Total assets	512,092	
Short-term borrowings	250,000	
Total stockholders' equity	209,761	

- (1) Amounts exclude the effects of stock based compensation expense recognized under the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123R, Share-Based Payment, as the standard was adopted October 1, 2005.
- (2) Includes only those retail locations open at period-end.
- (3) Includes only those stores open for the entire preceding 12-month period.
- (4) New and acquired stores are included in the comparable base at the end of the store's thirteenth month of operations.
- (5) A store is one or more retail locations that are adjacent or operate as one entity. Sales per store and same-store sales growth is intended only as supplemental information and is not a substitute for revenue or net income presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (6) The as adjusted column reflects the sale of 2,600,000 shares of our common stock at the offering price of \$ per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses, and after giving effect to our receipt of the estimated net proceeds.

S-8

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

An investment in shares of common stock offered hereby involves a high degree of risk. Prospective investors should consider carefully the following risk factors, in addition to the other information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, in evaluating an investment in shares offered hereby. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those discussed in forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including those set forth below.

General economic conditions and consumer spending patterns can negatively impact our operating results, and the severe recession that began in late 2007 has adversely affected the boating industry and our company.

General economic conditions and consumer spending patterns can negatively impact our operating results. Unfavorable local, regional, national, or global economic developments or uncertainties regarding future economic prospects could reduce consumer spending in the markets we serve and adversely affect our business. Economic conditions in areas in which we operate dealerships, particularly Florida in which we generated 46%, 44%, and 43% of our revenue during fiscal 2006, 2007, and 2008, respectively, can have a major impact on our operations. Local influences, such as corporate downsizing and military base closings, also could adversely affect our operations in certain markets.

In an economic downturn, consumer discretionary spending levels generally decline, at times resulting in disproportionately large reductions in the sale of luxury goods. Consumer spending on luxury goods also may decline as a result of lower consumer confidence levels, even if prevailing economic conditions are favorable. Although we have expanded our operations during periods of stagnant or modestly declining industry trends, the cyclical nature of the recreational boating industry or the lack of industry growth could adversely affect our business, financial condition, or results of operations in the future. Any period of adverse economic conditions or low consumer confidence has a negative effect on our business.

Lower consumer spending resulting from a downturn in the housing market and other economic factors adversely affected our business in fiscal 2007 and continued weakness in consumer spending resulting from substantial weakness in the financial markets and deteriorating economic conditions have had a very substantial negative effect on our business in fiscal 2008 and 2009. Our revenue decreased from \$1.2 billion in fiscal 2007, to \$885.4 million in fiscal 2008, to \$381.3 million during the first nine months of fiscal 2009. Our earnings have decreased from a net income of \$20.1 million in fiscal 2007 to a net loss of \$134.3 million in fiscal 2008 (including a \$122.1 million goodwill impairment charge) and a net loss of \$43.8 million for the first nine months of fiscal 2009. These substantially deteriorating economic and financial conditions have had a greater impact on many other participants in the boating industry, with certain manufacturers and dealers ceasing business operations or filing for bankruptcy. While the reduction in boating industry participants might have a long-term positive impact on our company's competitive position, we are facing and expect to continue to face short-term competitive pressure resulting from decreased selling prices as a result of forced sales and other liquidations of excess inventory.

These conditions caused us to defer our acquisition program, slow our new store openings, reduce our inventory purchases, engage in inventory reduction efforts, close some of our retail locations, and reduce our headcount. While we believe the steps we have taken to date will enable us to emerge from the current economic environment as a stronger and more profitable company, we cannot predict the length or severity of these unfavorable economic or financial conditions or the extent to which they will adversely affect our operating results nor can we predict the effectiveness of the measures we have taken to address this environment or whether additional measures will be

necessary. A continuation of depressed economic factors could have additional negative effects on our company, including interfering with our supply of certain brands by manufacturers, reduced marketing and other support by manufacturers, decreased revenue, additional pressures on margins, and our failure to satisfy covenants under our credit agreement.

S-9

Table of Contents

The availability and costs of borrowed funds can adversely affect our ability to obtain adequate boat inventory and the ability and willingness of our customers to finance boat purchases.

The availability and costs of borrowed funds can adversely affect our ability to obtain and maintain adequate boat inventory as well as the ability and willingness of our customers to finance boat purchases. As of June 30, 2009, we had no long-term debt. We rely on our credit facility to purchase and maintain our inventory of boats. Our ability to borrow under our credit facility depends on our ability to continue to satisfy our covenants and other obligations under our credit facility. The aging of our inventory limits our borrowing capacity as defined provisions in our credit facility reduce the allowable advance rate as our inventory ages. Our access to funds under our credit facility also depends upon the ability of the banks that are parties to that facility to meet their funding commitments, particularly if they experience shortages of capital or experience excessive volumes of borrowing requests from others during a short period of time. A continuation of depressed economic conditions, weak consumer spending, turmoil in the credit markets, and lender difficulties could interfere with our ability to maintain compliance with our debt covenants and to utilize the credit agreement to fund our operations. Accordingly, it may be necessary for us to close additional stores, further reduce our expense structure, or modify the covenants with our lenders. Any inability to utilize our credit facility or the acceleration of amounts owed, resulting from a covenant violation, insufficient collateral, or lender difficulties, could require us to seek other sources of funding to repay amounts outstanding under the credit agreement or replace or supplement our credit agreement, which may not be possible at all or under commercially reasonable terms.

Our current revolving credit facility, as amended, provides a line of credit with asset-based borrowing availability of up to \$300 million, stepping down to \$250 million by September 30, 2009 and \$175 million by September 30, 2010, with interim decreases between such dates. We have pledged various of our assets, including boat inventories, accounts receivable, equipment, fixtures, and real estate, to secure borrowings under our credit facility. As of June 30, 2009, we were in compliance with all of the credit facility covenants and our additional available borrowings under our credit facility were approximately \$45 million.

As part of this offering, we requested from the lenders under our revolving credit facility additional flexibility to our debt covenants, since this offering also benefits our lenders. Our lending group has agreed to amend our revolving credit facility to modify the size of the facility and financial covenants upon the completion of this offering. Each interim step down, noted above, will be reduced by the net proceeds of this offering but will never be reduced to below \$175 million. Additionally, the amendment will modify the definition of EBITDA to include 50% of the net proceeds of this offering as additional flexibility to the earnings covenant for fiscal 2010.

Similarly, the decreases in the availability of credit and increases in the cost of credit adversely affect the ability of our customers to purchase boats from us and thereby adversely affects our ability to sell our products and impact the profitability of our finance and insurance activities. Tight credit conditions during fiscal 2008 and continuing into fiscal 2009 adversely affected the ability of customers to finance boat purchases, which had a negative affect on our operating results.

Our success depends to a significant extent on the well being, as well as the continued popularity and reputation for quality of the boating products, of our manufacturers, particularly Brunswick's Sea Ray, Boston Whaler, Cabo, Hatteras, and Meridian boat lines and Azimut-Benetti Group's Azimut and Atlantis products.

Approximately 49% of our revenue in fiscal 2008 resulted from sales of new boats manufactured by Brunswick, including approximately 34% from Brunswick's Sea Ray division and approximately 15% from Brunswick's other divisions. The remainder of our fiscal 2008 revenue from new boat sales resulted from sales of products from a limited number of other manufacturers, none of which accounted for more than 10% of our revenue.

We depend on our manufacturers to provide us with products that compare favorably with competing products in terms of quality, performance, safety, and advanced features, including the latest advances in propulsion and navigation systems. Any adverse change in the production efficiency, product development

S-10

Table of Contents

efforts, technological advancement, marketplace acceptance, marketing capabilities, and financial condition of our manufacturers, particularly Brunswick given our reliance on Sea Ray, Boston Whaler, Cabo, Hatteras, and Meridian, would have a substantial adverse impact on our business. Any difficulties encountered by any of our manufacturers, particularly Brunswick, resulting from economic, financial, or other factors could adversely affect the quality and amount of products that they are able to supply to us and the services and support they provide to us.

The interruption or discontinuance of the operations of Brunswick or other manufacturers could cause us to experience shortfalls, disruptions, or delays with respect to needed inventory. Although we believe that adequate alternate sources would be available that could replace any manufacturer other than Brunswick as a product source, those alternate sources may not be available at the time of any interruption, and alternative products may not be available at comparable quality and prices.

We maintain dealer agreements with Brunswick covering Sea Ray products. Each dealer agreement has a multi-year term and provides for the lowest product prices charged by the Sea Ray division of Brunswick from time to time to other domestic Sea Ray dealers. These terms are subject to

the dealer meeting all the requirements and conditions of Sea Ray's applicable programs; and

the right of Brunswick in good faith to charge lesser prices to other dealers

to meet existing competitive circumstances;

for unusual and non-ordinary business circumstances; or

for limited duration promotional programs.

Each dealer agreement designates a specific geographical territory for the dealer, which is exclusive to the dealer so long as the dealer is not in breach of the material obligations and performance standards under the agreement and Sea Ray's then current material policies and programs following notice and the expiration of any applicable cure periods without cure.

We also maintain dealer agreements with Hatteras covering Hatteras products. Each agreement allows Hatteras to revise prices at any time, and such new prices will supersede previous prices. Pursuant to the agreements, we must bear any losses we incur as a result of such price changes and may not recover from Hatteras for any losses. In addition, certain of our dealerships may not represent manufacturers or product lines that compete directly with Hatteras without its prior written consent.

Upon the completion of the Surfside-3 acquisition, we became the exclusive dealer for Azimut-Benetti Group's Azimut product line. In September 2008, our geographic territory was expanded to include Florida. The Azimut dealer agreement provides a geographic territory to promote the product line and to network with the appropriate clientele through various independent locations designated for Azimut retail sales.

As is typical in the industry, we generally deal with manufacturers, other than the Sea Ray division of Brunswick, under renewable annual dealer agreements. These agreements do not contain any contractual provisions concerning product pricing or required purchasing levels. Pricing is generally established on a model year basis, but is subject to change in the manufacturer's sole discretion. Any change or termination of these arrangements for any reason could adversely affect product availability and cost and our financial performance.

Boat manufacturers exercise substantial control over our business.

We depend on our dealer agreements. Through dealer agreements, boat manufacturers, including Brunswick, exercise significant control over their dealers, restrict them to specified locations, and retain approval rights over changes in management and ownership, among other things. The continuation of our dealer agreements with most manufacturers, including Brunswick, depends upon, among other things, our achieving stated goals for customer satisfaction ratings and market share penetration in the market served by

S-11

Table of Contents

the applicable dealership. Failure to meet the customer satisfaction, market share goals, and other conditions set forth in any dealer agreement could have various consequences, including the following:

- the termination of the dealer agreement;
- the imposition of additional conditions in subsequent dealer agreements;
- limitations on boat inventory allocations;
- reductions in reimbursement rates for warranty work performed by the dealer;
- loss of certain manufacturer to dealer incentives; or
- denial of approval of future acquisitions.

Our dealer agreements with certain manufacturers, including Brunswick, do not give us the exclusive right to sell those manufacturers' products within a given geographical area. Accordingly, a manufacturer, including Brunswick, could authorize another dealer to start a new dealership in proximity to one or more of our locations, or an existing dealer could move a dealership to a location that would be directly competitive with us. These events could have a material adverse effect on our competitive position and financial performance.

The failure to receive rebates and other dealer incentives on inventory purchases or retail sales could substantially reduce our margins.

We rely on manufacturers' programs that provide incentives for dealers to purchase and sell particular boat makes and models or for consumers to buy particular boat makes or models. Any eliminations, reductions, limitations, or other changes relating to rebate or incentive programs that have the effect of reducing the benefits we receive, whether relating to the ability of manufacturers to pay or our ability to qualify for such incentive programs, could increase the effective cost of our boat purchases, reduce our margins and competitive position, and have a material adverse effect on our financial performance.

Fuel prices and supply may affect our business.

All of the recreational boats we sell are powered by diesel or gasoline engines. Consequently, an interruption in the supply, or a significant increase in the price or tax on the sale, of fuel on a regional or national basis could have a material adverse effect on our sales and operating results. Increases in fuel prices (such as those that occurred during fiscal 2008) negatively impact boat sales. At various times in the past, diesel or gasoline fuel has been difficult to obtain. The supply of fuels may be interrupted, rationing may be imposed, or the price of or tax on fuels may significantly increase in the future, adversely impacting our business.

The availability of boat insurance is critical to our success.

The ability of our customers to secure reasonably affordable boat insurance that is satisfactory to lenders that finance our customers' purchases is critical to our success. Historically, affordable boat insurance has been available. With the hurricanes that have impacted the state of Florida and other markets over the past several years, insurance rates have escalated and insurance coverage has become more difficult to obtain. Any difficulty of customers to obtain affordable boat insurance could impede boat sales and adversely affect our business.

Other recreational activities and poor industry perception can adversely affect the levels of boat purchases.

Other recreational activities and poor industry perception can adversely affect the levels of boat purchases. As a seller of high-end consumer products, we must compete for discretionary spending with a wide variety of other recreational activities and consumer purchases. In addition, perceived hassles of boat ownership and

S-12

Table of Contents

relatively poor customer service and customer education throughout the retail boat industry represent impediments to boat purchases. Our customer-centric strategy is intended to overcome these perceptions.

Adverse federal tax policies can have a negative effect on us.

Changes in federal and state tax laws, such as an imposition of luxury taxes on new boat purchases, increases in prevailing tax rates, and weak stock market performance also influence consumers' decisions to purchase products we offer and could have a negative effect on our sales. For example, during 1991 and 1992, the federal government imposed a luxury tax on new recreational boats with sales prices in excess of \$100,000, which coincided with a sharp decline in boating industry sales from a high of more than \$17.9 billion in the late 1980s to a low of \$10.3 billion in 1992. Any increase in tax rates, including those on capital gains and dividends, particularly those on high-income taxpayers, could adversely affect our boat sales.

Our success depends, in part, on our ability to continue to make successful acquisitions and to integrate the operations of acquired dealers and each dealer we acquire in the future.

Since March 1, 1998, we have acquired 20 recreational boat dealers, two boat brokerage operations, and two full-service yacht repair facilities. Each acquired dealer operated independently prior to its acquisition by us. Our success depends, in part, on our ability to continue to make successful acquisitions and to integrate the operations of acquired dealers, including centralizing certain functions to achieve cost savings and pursuing programs and processes that promote cooperation and the sharing of opportunities and resources among our dealerships. We may not be able to oversee the combined entity efficiently or to implement effectively our growth and operating strategies. To the extent that we successfully pursue our acquisition strategy, our resulting growth will place significant additional demands on our management and infrastructure. Our failure to pursue successfully our acquisition strategies or operate effectively the combined entity could have a material adverse effect on our rate of growth and operating performance.

Unforeseen expenses, difficulties, and delays frequently encountered in connection with rapid expansion through acquisitions could inhibit our growth and negatively impact our profitability.

Our growth strategy of acquiring additional recreational boat dealers involves significant risks. This strategy entails reviewing and potentially reorganizing acquired business operations, corporate infrastructure and systems, and financial controls. Unforeseen expenses, difficulties, and delays frequently encountered in connection with rapid expansion through acquisitions could inhibit our growth and negatively impact our profitability. We may be unable to identify suitable acquisition candidates or to complete the acquisitions of candidates that we identify. Increased competition for acquisition candidates or increased asking prices by acquisition candidates may increase purchase prices for acquisitions to levels beyond our financial capability or to levels that would not result in the returns required by our acquisition criteria. Acquisitions also may become more difficult in the future as we acquire more of the most attractive dealers. In addition, we may encounter difficulties in integrating the operations of acquired dealers with our own operations or managing acquired dealers profitably without substantial costs, delays, or other operational or financial problems.

We may issue common or preferred stock and incur substantial indebtedness in making future acquisitions. The size, timing, and integration of any future acquisitions may cause substantial fluctuations in operating results from quarter to quarter. Consequently, operating results for any quarter may not be indicative of the results that may be achieved for any subsequent quarter or for a full fiscal year. These fluctuations could adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

Our ability to continue to grow through the acquisition of additional dealers will depend upon various factors, including the following:

the availability of suitable acquisition candidates at attractive purchase prices;

the ability to compete effectively for available acquisition opportunities;

the availability of borrowed funds or common stock with a sufficient market price to complete the acquisitions;

S-13

Table of Contents

the ability to obtain any requisite manufacturer or governmental approvals;

the ability to obtain approval of our lenders under our current credit agreement; and

the absence of one or more manufacturers attempting to impose unsatisfactory restrictions on us in connection with their approval of acquisitions.

As a part of our acquisition strategy, we frequently engage in discussions with various recreational boat dealers regarding their potential acquisition by us. In connection with these discussions, we and each potential acquisition candidate exchange confidential operational and financial information, conduct due diligence inquiries, and consider the structure, terms, and conditions of the potential acquisition. In certain cases, the prospective acquisition candidate agrees not to discuss a potential acquisition with any other party for a specific period of time, grants us an option to purchase the prospective dealer for a designated price during a specific time, and agrees to take other actions designed to enhance the possibility of the acquisition, such as preparing audited financial information and converting its accounting system to the system specified by us. Potential acquisition discussions frequently take place over a long period of time and involve difficult business integration and other issues, including in some cases, management succession and related matters. As a result of these and other factors, a number of potential acquisitions that from time to time appear likely to occur do not result in binding legal agreements and are not consummated.

We may be required to obtain the consent of Brunswick and various other manufacturers prior to the acquisition of other dealers.

In determining whether to approve acquisitions, manufacturers may consider many factors, including our financial condition and ownership structure. Manufacturers also may impose conditions on granting their approvals for acquisitions, including a limitation on the number of their dealers that we may acquire. Our ability to meet manufacturers' requirements for approving future acquisitions will have a direct bearing on our ability to complete acquisitions and effect our growth strategy. There can be no assurance that a manufacturer will not terminate its dealer agreement, refuse to renew its dealer agreement, refuse to approve future acquisitions, or take other action that could have a material adverse effect on our acquisition program.

We and the Sea Ray Division of Brunswick have an agreement extending through June 2015 that provides a process for the acquisition of additional Sea Ray boat dealers that desire to be acquired by us. Under the agreement, acquisitions of Sea Ray dealers will be mutually agreed upon by us and Sea Ray with reasonable efforts to be made to include a balance of Sea Ray dealers that have been successful and those that have not been. The agreement provides that Sea Ray will not unreasonably withhold its consent to any proposed acquisition of a Sea Ray dealer by us, subject to the conditions set forth in the agreement. Among other things, the agreement requires us to provide Sea Ray with a business plan for each proposed acquisition, including historical financial and five-year projected financial information regarding the acquisition candidate; marketing and advertising plans; service capabilities and managerial and staff personnel; information regarding the ability of the candidate to achieve performance standards within designated periods; and information regarding the success of our previous acquisitions of Sea Ray dealers. The agreement also contemplates Sea Ray reaching a good faith determination whether the acquisition would be in its best interest based on our dedication and focus of resources on the Sea Ray brand and Sea Ray's consideration of any adverse effects that the approval would have on the resulting territory configuration and adjacent or other dealers sales and the absence of any violation of applicable laws or rights granted by Sea Ray to others.

Our growth strategy also entails expanding our product lines and geographic scope by obtaining additional distribution rights from our existing and new manufacturers. We may not be able to secure additional distribution rights or obtain suitable alternative sources of supply if we are unable to obtain such distribution rights. The inability to expand our

product lines and geographic scope by obtaining additional distribution rights could have a material adverse effect on the growth and profitability of our business.

S-14

Table of Contents

Our growth strategy may require us to secure significant additional capital, the amount of which will depend upon the size, timing, and structure of future acquisitions and our working capital and general corporate needs.

If we finance future acquisitions in whole or in part through the issuance of common stock or securities convertible into or exercisable for common stock, existing stockholders will experience dilution in the voting power of their common stock and earnings per share could be negatively impacted. The extent to which we will be able and willing to use our common stock for acquisitions will depend on the market value of our common stock and the willingness of potential sellers to accept our common stock as full or partial consideration. Our inability to use our common stock as consideration, to generate cash from operations, or to obtain additional funding through debt or equity financings in order to pursue our acquisition program could materially limit our growth.

Any borrowings made to finance future acquisitions or for operations could make us more vulnerable to a downturn in our operating results, a downturn in economic conditions, or increases in interest rates on borrowings that are subject to interest rate fluctuations. If our cash flow from operations is insufficient to meet our debt service requirements, we could be required to sell additional equity securities, refinance our obligations, or dispose of assets in order to meet our debt service requirements. In addition, our credit arrangements contain financial and operational covenants and other restrictions with which we must comply, including limitations on capital expenditures and the incurrence of additional indebtedness. Adequate financing may not be available if and when we need it or may not be available on terms acceptable to us. The failure to obtain sufficient financing on favorable terms and conditions could have a material adverse effect on our growth prospects and our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our internal growth and operating strategies of opening new locations and offering new products involve risk.

In addition to pursuing growth by acquiring boat dealers, we intend to continue to pursue a strategy of growth through opening new retail locations and offering new products in our existing and new territories. Accomplishing these goals for expansion will depend upon a number of factors, including the following:

- our ability to identify new markets in which we can obtain distribution rights to sell our existing or additional product lines;
- our ability to lease or construct suitable facilities at a reasonable cost in existing or new markets;
- our ability to hire, train, and retain qualified personnel;
- the timely integration of new retail locations into existing operations;
- our ability to achieve adequate market penetration at favorable operating margins without the acquisition of existing dealers; and
- our financial resources.

Our dealer agreements with Brunswick require Brunswick's consent to open, close, or change retail locations that sell Sea Ray products, and other dealer agreements generally contain similar provisions. We may not be able to open and operate new retail locations or introduce new product lines on a timely or profitable basis. Moreover, the costs associated with opening new retail locations or introducing new product lines may adversely affect our profitability.

As a result of these growth strategies, we expect to expend significant time and effort in opening and acquiring new retail locations and introducing new products. Our systems, procedures, controls, and financial resources may not be adequate to support expanding operations. The inability to manage our growth effectively could have a material

adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Our planned growth also will impose significant added responsibilities on members of senior management and require us to identify, recruit, and integrate additional senior level managers. We may not be able to identify, hire, or train suitable additions to management.

S-15

Table of Contents

Our business, as well as the entire recreational boating industry, is highly seasonal, with seasonality varying in different geographic markets. In addition, weather conditions may adversely impact our business.

During the three-year period ended September 30, 2008, the average revenue for the quarterly periods ended December 31, March 31, June 30, and September 30 represented 19%, 25%, 32%, and 24%, respectively, of our average annual revenue. With the exception of Florida, we generally realize significantly lower sales in the quarterly periods ending December 31 and March 31. The onset of the public boat and recreation shows in January stimulates boat sales and allows us to reduce our inventory levels and related short-term borrowings throughout the remainder of the fiscal year. Our business could become substantially more seasonal as we acquire dealers that operate in colder regions of the United States.

Weather conditions may adversely impact our operating results. For example, drought conditions, reduced rainfall levels, and excessive rain may force boating areas to close or render boating dangerous or inconvenient, thereby curtailing customer demand for our products. In addition, unseasonably cool weather and prolonged winter conditions may lead to shorter selling seasons in certain locations. Many of our dealerships sell boats to customers for use on reservoirs, thereby subjecting our business to the continued viability of these reservoirs for boating use. Although our geographic diversity and any future geographic expansion will reduce the overall impact on us of adverse weather conditions in any one market area, weather conditions will continue to represent potential material adverse risks to us and our future operating performance. As a result of the foregoing and other factors, our operating results in some future quarters could be below the expectations of stock market analysts and investors.

In addition, hurricanes and other storms could result in the disruption of our operations or damage to our boat inventories and facilities as has been the case when Florida and other markets has been affected by hurricanes. While we traditionally maintain property and casualty insurance coverage for damage caused by hurricanes and other storms, there can be no assurance that such insurance coverage is adequate to cover losses that we may sustain as a result of hurricanes and other storms.

We face intense competition.

We operate in a highly competitive environment. In addition to facing competition generally from non-boating recreation businesses seeking to attract discretionary spending dollars, the recreational boat industry itself is highly fragmented and involves intense competition for customers, product distribution rights, and suitable retail locations, particularly on or near waterways. Competition increases during periods of stagnant industry growth.

We compete primarily with single-location boat dealers and, with respect to sales of marine parts, accessories, and equipment, with national specialty marine parts and accessories stores, catalog retailers, sporting goods stores, and mass merchants. Competition among boat dealers is based on the quality of available products, the price and value of the products, and attention to customer service. There is significant competition both within markets we currently serve and in new markets that we may enter. We compete in each of our markets with retailers of brands of boats and engines we do not sell in that market. In addition, several of our competitors, especially those selling marine equipment and accessories, are large national or regional chains that have substantial financial, marketing, and other resources. Private sales of used boats represent an additional source of competition.

Due to various matters, including environmental concerns, permitting and zoning requirements, and competition for waterfront real estate, some markets in the United States have experienced an increased waiting list for marina and storage availability. In general, the markets in which we currently operate are not experiencing any unusual difficulties. However, marine retail activity could be adversely effected in markets that do not have sufficient marine and storage availability to satisfy demand.

Table of Contents

We depend on income from financing, insurance, and extended service contracts.

A portion of our income results from referral fees derived from the placement or marketing of various finance and insurance, or F&I, products, consisting of customer financing, insurance products, and extended service contracts, the most significant component of which is the participation and other fees resulting from our sale of customer financing contracts. During fiscal 2008, F&I products accounted for approximately 3.6% of our revenue.

The availability of financing for our boat purchasers and the level of participation and other fees we receive in connection with such financing depend on the particular agreement between us and the lender and the current rate environment. Lenders may impose terms in their boat financing arrangements with us that may be unfavorable to us or our customers, resulting in reduced demand for our customer financing programs and lower participation and other fees. Customer financing became more difficult to secure during fiscal 2008, which has continued in fiscal 2009.

The reduction of profit margins on sales of F&I products or the lack of demand for or the unavailability of these products could have a material adverse effect on our operating margins.

We depend on key personnel.

Our success depends, in large part, upon the continuing efforts and abilities of our executive officers. Although we have employment agreements with certain of our executive officers, we cannot assure that these or other executive personnel will remain with us. Expanding our operations may require us to add additional executive personnel in the future. As a result of our decentralized operating strategy, we also rely on the management teams of our dealerships. In addition, we likely will depend on the senior management of any significant businesses we acquire in the future. The loss of the services of one or more of these key employees before we are able to attract and retain qualified replacement personnel could adversely affect our business.

The products we sell or service may expose us to potential liability for personal injury or property damage claims relating to the use of those products.

Manufacturers of the products we sell generally maintain product liability insurance. We also maintain third-party product liability insurance that we believe to be adequate. We may experience claims that are not covered by or that are in excess of our insurance coverage. The institution of any significant claims against us could subject us to damages, result in higher insurance costs, and harm our business reputation with potential customers.

Environmental and other regulatory issues may impact our operations.

Our operations are subject to extensive regulation, supervision, and licensing under various federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, and regulations. The failure to satisfy those and other regulatory requirements could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Various federal, state, and local regulatory agencies, including the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency, or the EPA, and similar federal and local agencies, have jurisdiction over the operation of our dealerships, repair facilities, and other operations, with respect to matters such as consumer protection, workers safety, and laws regarding protection of the environment, including air, water, and soil. The EPA promulgated emissions regulations for outboard marine engines that impose stricter emissions standards for two-cycle, gasoline outboard marine engines. Emissions from such engines must be reduced by approximately 75% over a nine-year period beginning with the 1998 model year. The majority of the outboard marine engines we sell are manufactured by Mercury Marine. Mercury Marine's product line of low-emission engines, including the OptiMax, Verado, and other four-stroke outboards, have already achieved the EPA's mandated 2006 emission levels. Any

increased costs of producing engines resulting from EPA standards or the inability of our manufacturers to comply with EPA requirements, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

S-17

Table of Contents

Certain of our facilities own and operate underground storage tanks, or USTs, for the storage of various petroleum products. USTs are generally subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations that require testing and upgrading of USTs and remediation of contaminated soils and groundwater resulting from leaking USTs. In addition, we may be subject to civil liability to third parties for remediation costs or other damages if leakage from our owned or operated USTs migrates onto the property of others.

Our business involves the use, handling, storage, and contracting for recycling or disposal of hazardous or toxic substances or wastes, including environmentally sensitive materials, such as motor oil, waste motor oil and filters, transmission fluid, antifreeze, freon, waste paint and lacquer thinner, batteries, solvents, lubricants, degreasing agents, gasoline, and diesel fuels. Accordingly, we are subject to regulation by federal, state, and local authorities establishing investigation and health and environmental quality standards, and liability related thereto, and providing penalties for violations of those standards.

We also are subject to laws, ordinances, and regulations governing investigation and remediation of contamination at facilities we operate or to which we send hazardous or toxic substances or wastes for treatment, recycling, or disposal. In particular, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA or Superfund, imposes joint, strict, and several liability on

owners or operators of facilities at, from, or to which a release of hazardous substances has occurred;

parties that generated hazardous substances that were released at such facilities; and

parties that transported or arranged for the transportation of hazardous substances to such facilities.

A majority of states have adopted Superfund statutes comparable to and, in some cases, more stringent than CERCLA. If we were to be found to be a responsible party under CERCLA or a similar state statute, we could be held liable for all investigative and remedial costs associated with addressing such contamination. In addition, claims alleging personal injury or property damage may be brought against us as a result of alleged exposure to hazardous substances resulting from our operations. In addition, certain of our retail locations are located on waterways that are subject to federal or state laws regulating navigable waters (including oil pollution prevention), fish and wildlife, and other matters.

Soil and groundwater contamination has been known to exist at certain properties owned or leased by us. We have also been required and may in the future be required to remove aboveground and underground storage tanks containing hazardous substances or wastes. As to certain of our properties, specific releases of petroleum have been or are in the process of being remediated in accordance with state and federal guidelines. We are monitoring the soil and groundwater as required by applicable state and federal guidelines. We also may have additional storage tank liability insurance and Superfund coverage where applicable. Environmental laws and regulations are complex and subject to frequent change. Compliance with amended, new, or more stringent laws or regulations, more strict interpretations of existing laws, or the future discovery of environmental conditions may require additional expenditures by us, and such expenditures may be material.

Two of the properties we own were historically used as gasoline service stations. Remedial action with respect to prior historical site activities on these properties has been completed in accordance with federal and state law. Also, two of our properties are within the boundaries of a Superfund site, although neither property has been identified as a contributor to the contamination in the area.

Additionally, certain states have required or are considering requiring a license in order to operate a recreational boat. These regulations could discourage potential buyers, thereby limiting future sales and adversely affecting our

business, financial condition, and results of operations.

The market price of our common stock could be subject to wide fluctuations as a result of many factors.

Factors that could affect the trading price of our common stock include the following:

variations in our operating results;

the thin trading volume and relatively small public float of our common stock;

S-18

Table of Contents

our ability to continue to secure adequate levels of financing;

variations in same-store sales;

general economic, political, and market conditions;

changes in earnings estimates published by analysts;

the level and success of our acquisition program and new store openings;

the success of dealership integration;

relationships with manufacturers;

seasonality and weather conditions;

governmental policies and regulations;

the performance of the recreational boat industry in general; and

factors relating to suppliers and competitors.

In addition, market demand for small-capitalization stocks, and price and volume fluctuations in the stock market unrelated to our performance could result in significant fluctuations in the market price of our common stock.

The performance of our common stock could adversely affect our ability to raise equity in the public markets and adversely affect our acquisition program.

The issuance of additional capital stock in the future, including shares that we may issue pursuant to stock-based grants, including stock option grants, and future acquisitions, may result in dilution in the net tangible book value per share of our common stock.

Our board of directors has the legal power and authority to determine the terms of an offering of shares of our capital stock, or securities convertible into or exchangeable for these shares, to the extent of our shares of authorized and unissued capital stock. The issuance of additional common stock in the future, including shares that we may issue pursuant to stock-based grants, including stock option grants, and future acquisitions, may result in dilution in the net tangible book value per share of our common stock. The issuance of additional capital stock in the future, including shares that we may issue pursuant to stock-based grants, including stock option grants, and future acquisitions, may result in dilution in the net tangible book value per share of our common stock.

A substantial number of shares are eligible for future sale.

As of June 30, 2009, there were outstanding 18,661,027 shares of our common stock. Substantially all of these shares are freely tradable without restriction or further registration under the securities laws, unless held by an affiliate of our company, as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the securities laws. Shares held by affiliates of our company, which generally include our directors, officers, and certain principal stockholders, are subject to the resale limitations of Rule 144 described below. Outstanding shares of common stock issued in connection with the acquisition of any acquired dealers are available for resale beginning six months after the respective dates of the acquisitions, subject to

compliance with the provisions of Rule 144 under the securities laws.

As of June 30, 2009, we had issued options to purchase approximately 2,104,422 shares of common stock and 744,646 restricted stock awards under our incentive stock plan, and we issued 245,097 of the 666,874 shares of common stock reserved for issuance under our 2008 employee stock purchase plan. We have filed a registration statement under the securities laws to register the common stock to be issued under these plans. As a result, shares issued under these plans will be freely tradable without restriction unless acquired by affiliates of our company, who will be subject to the volume and other limitations of Rule 144.

S-19

Table of Contents

We may issue additional shares of common stock or preferred stock under the securities laws as part of any acquisition we may complete in the future. If issued pursuant to an effective registration statement, these shares generally will be freely tradable after their issuance by persons not affiliated with us or the acquired companies.

We do not pay cash dividends.

We have never paid cash dividends on our common stock. Moreover, financial covenants under our credit facility restrict our ability to pay dividends.

Our stockholders' rights plan may adversely affect existing stockholders.

Our Stockholders' Rights Plan may have the effect of deterring, delaying, or preventing a change in control that might otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders. Under the Rights Plan, we issued a dividend of one Preferred Share Purchase Right for each share of our common stock held by stockholders of record as of the close of business on September 7, 2001.

In general, subject to certain limited exceptions, the stock purchase rights become exercisable when a person or group acquires 15% or more of our common stock or a tender offer or exchange offer for 15% or more of our common stock is announced or commenced. After any such event, our other stockholders may purchase additional shares of our common stock at 50% of the then-current market price. The rights will cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire us on terms not approved by our board of directors. The rights may be redeemed by us at \$0.01 per stock purchase right at any time before any person or group acquires 15% or more of our outstanding common stock. The rights should not interfere with any merger or other business combination approved by our board of directors. The rights expire on August 28, 2011.

Certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws and Delaware law may make a change in the control of our company more difficult to complete, even if a change in control were in the stockholders' interest or might result in a premium over the market price for the shares held by the stockholders.

Our certificate of incorporation and bylaws divide our board of directors into three classes of directors elected for staggered three-year terms. The certificate of incorporation also provides that the board of directors may authorize the issuance of one or more series of preferred stock from time to time and may determine the rights, preferences, privileges, and restrictions and fix the number of shares of any such series of preferred stock, without any vote or action by our stockholders. The board of directors may authorize the issuance of preferred stock with voting or conversion rights that could adversely affect the voting power or other rights of the holders of common stock. The certificate of incorporation also allows our board of directors to fix the number of directors and to fill vacancies on the board of directors.

We also are subject to the anti-takeover provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which prohibits us from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, unless the business combination is approved in a prescribed manner.

Certain of our dealer agreements could also make it difficult for a third party to attempt to acquire a significant ownership position in our company. In addition, the stockholders' agreement and governance agreement will have the effect of increasing the control of our directors, executive officers, and persons associated with them.

Our sales of Azimut products may be adversely affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and the euro.

Products purchased from Italy-based Azimut are subject to fluctuations in the euro to U.S. dollar exchange rate, which ultimately may impact the retail price at which we can sell such products. As a result,

S-20

Table of Contents

fluctuations in the value of the euro compared with the U.S. dollar may impact the price points at which we can sell profitably Azimut products, and such price points may not be competitive with other product lines in the United States. Accordingly, such fluctuations in exchange rates ultimately may impact the amount of revenue, cost of goods sold, cash flows, and earnings we recognize for the Azimut product lines. The impact of these currency fluctuations could increase, particularly if our revenue from the Azimut products increase as a percentage of our total revenue. We also could incur losses from hedging transactions designed to reduce our risk to fluctuation in exchange rates. We cannot predict the effects of exchange rate fluctuations or currency rate hedges on our operating results. Therefore, in certain cases, we, from time to time, enter into foreign currency cash flow hedges to reduce the variability of cash flows associated with firm commitments to purchase boats and yachts from Azimut. We cannot assure that our strategies will adequately protect our operating results from the effects of exchange rate fluctuations.

We will have broad discretion as to the use of the proceeds from this offering, and we may not use the proceeds effectively.

Although we anticipate using all of the net proceeds in the offering for general corporate purposes, which may include debt reduction, we will have broad discretion as to the application of the net proceeds and could use them for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of this offering. Our stockholders may not agree with the manner in which we choose to allocate and spend the net proceeds. Moreover, we could use the net proceeds for corporate purposes that may not increase our profitability or market value.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference herein contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, our beliefs and assumptions. We use words such as anticipate, expect, intend, plan, believe, seek, estimate and variations of these words and similar expressions to identify forward-looking statements. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond our control, are difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements. These risks and uncertainties include those described in Risk Factors and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, and the documents incorporated by reference. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect our view only as of the date of this prospectus supplement.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate the net proceeds from this offering to us from the sale of common stock offered hereby will be approximately \$ million (or approximately \$ million if the underwriter exercises its over-allotment option in full), after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes, which may include debt reduction. The amounts and purposes for which we allocate the net proceeds of this offering may vary depending upon a number of factors, including future revenue and the amount of cash generated by our operations.

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock. We currently plan to retain any earnings to finance the growth of our business rather than to pay cash dividends. Payments of any cash dividends in the future will depend on our financial condition, results of operations, and capital requirements as well as other factors deemed relevant by our board of directors. Moreover, financial covenants under our credit facility also restrict our ability to pay dividends.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of June 30, 2009:

on an actual basis; and

on an adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of 2,600,000 shares of our common stock at the offering price of \$ per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and estimated offering expenses, after giving effect to our receipt of the estimated net proceeds, and without exercise of the option granted to the underwriter to purchase 390,000 additional shares of common stock to cover over-allotments, if any.

The information set forth in the following table should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2009 and our consolidated financial statements and notes thereto incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

	As of June 30, 2009	
	Actual	As Adjusted
	(Unaudited)	
	(Amounts in thousands)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,825	\$
Short term borrowings	250,000	250,000
Preferred stock, \$.001 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized, none issued or outstanding, actual and as adjusted		
Common stock, \$.001 par value, 24,000,000 shares authorized, 19,451,927 shares issued and 18,661,027 shares outstanding, actual; 21,261,027 shares issued and outstanding, as adjusted	19	22
Additional paid-in capital	183,797	
Retained earnings	41,755	41,755
Treasury stock, at cost, 790,900 shares held, actual; 0 shares held, as adjusted	(15,810)	
Total stockholders' equity	\$ 209,761	\$
Total capitalization	\$ 459,761	\$

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering reflected above is based on the number of shares outstanding as of June 30, 2009, and does not include the following:

2,104,422 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of stock options granted under our 2007 incentive stock plan;

an additional 929,870 shares of our common stock available for future issuance under our 2007 incentive stock plan; and

421,777 shares of our common stock reserved for issuance under our 2008 employee stock purchase plan.

S-23

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Raymond James & Associates, Inc. is acting as the sole underwriter of this offering. Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in an underwriting agreement dated September , 2009, the underwriter has agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to the underwriter, 2,600,000 shares of our common stock.

The underwriter is offering the shares of common stock subject to its acceptance of the shares from us and subject to prior sale. The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriter to purchase and accept delivery of the common stock offered by this prospectus supplement are subject to approval by its counsel of legal matters and to certain other conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement. The underwriter is obligated to purchase and accept delivery of all of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement, if any are purchased, other than those covered by the option to purchase additional shares described below.

Option to Purchase Additional Shares

We have granted the underwriter an option, exercisable within 30 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, to purchase from time to time up to an aggregate of 390,000 additional shares of common stock, at the same price per share as it is paying for the shares as indicated on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. If the underwriter exercises its option to purchase any of the additional 390,000 shares, the underwriter will become obligated, subject to certain conditions, to purchase all such shares. If purchased, these additional shares will be sold by the underwriter on the same terms as those on which the shares offered by this prospectus supplement are being sold.

Commission and Discounts

The underwriter proposes to offer the common stock directly to the public at the public offering price indicated on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to various dealers at that price less a concession not to exceed \$ per share. After this offering, the public offering price, concession and reallowance to dealers may be reduced by the underwriter. No reduction will change the amount of proceeds to be received by us as indicated on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. The shares of common stock are offered by the underwriter as stated in this prospectus supplement, subject to receipt and acceptance by it and subject to its right to reject any order in whole or in part.

The following table summarizes the underwriting compensation to be paid to the underwriter by us. These amounts assume both no exercise and full exercise of the underwriter's option to purchase additional shares. We estimate that the total expenses payable by us in connection with this offering, other than the underwriting discount referred to below, will be approximately \$.

	Per Share	Without Option	With Option
Underwriting discount payable by us	\$	\$	\$

Indemnification

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against various liabilities, including certain liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act, and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriter may be required to make because of any of those

liabilities.

Lock-up Agreements

Subject to specified exceptions, each of our directors and our executive officers have agreed for a period of 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement, not to directly or indirectly: (1) offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge, grant any option to purchase or otherwise dispose of any stock, options, warrants or other securities of our company, or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for, or any rights to purchase or otherwise acquire, any stock, options, warrants or other securities of our company held or deemed to be beneficially owned by the person or entity without the prior written consent of Raymond

S-24

Table of Contents

James & Associates, Inc. or (2) exercise or seek to exercise or effectuate in any manner any rights of any nature that the person or the entity has or may have hereafter to require us to register under the Securities Act, the sale, transfer or other disposition of any of the securities held or deemed to be beneficially owned by the person or entity, or to otherwise participate as a selling securityholder in any manner in any registration by us under the Securities Act.

In addition we have agreed that for 90 days after the date of this prospectus, we will not directly or indirectly without the prior written consent of Raymond James & Associates, Inc.: (1) offer for sale, sell, pledge or otherwise dispose (or enter into any transaction or device that is designed to, or reasonably could be expected to, result in the disposition by any person within the 90-day restricted period) of any shares of common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for common stock, or sell or grant options, rights or warrants with respect to any shares of our common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, (2) enter into any swap or other derivatives transaction that transfers to another, in whole or in part, any of the economic benefits or risks of ownership of such shares of common stock whether any transaction described in clause (1) or (2) above is settled by delivery of common stock or other securities, in cash or otherwise, (3) file or cause to be filed a registration statement, with respect to the registration of any shares of common stock or securities convertible, exercisable or exchangeable into our common stock or any other securities, or (4) publicly disclose the intention to do any of the foregoing. The restrictions contained in the preceding sentence will not apply to (a) the shares of common stock being sold under this prospectus supplement; (b) the issuance of shares of our common stock or options to purchase our common stock pursuant to existing employee benefit plans; (c) the conversion or exchange of currently outstanding convertible or exchangeable securities; or (d) the disposition of shares by a director or officer pursuant to our trading plan established under Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act.

The 90-day lock-up periods described in the preceding paragraphs will automatically be extended if (1) during the last 17 days of the 90-day lock-up periods, we issue an earnings release or material news or a material event relating to us occurs, or (2) prior to the expiration of the lock-up periods, we announce that we will release earnings results during the 16-day period beginning on the last day of the lock-up periods, then the lock-up periods will automatically be extended and the restrictions described above will continue to apply until the expiration of the 18-day period beginning on the issuance of the earnings release or the announcement of the material news or the occurrence of the material event, as applicable, unless Raymond James & Associates, Inc. waives, in writing, such extension. Raymond James & Associates, Inc. may release any of the securities subject to these lock-up agreements at any time without notice.

Price Stabilization, Short Positions and Penalty Bids

Until this offering is completed, rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, may limit the ability of the underwriter to bid for and purchase shares of our common stock. As an exception to these rules, the underwriter may engage in certain transactions that stabilize the price of our common stock. These transactions may include short sales, stabilizing transactions, purchases to cover positions created by short sales and passive market making. A short sale is covered if the short position is no greater than the number of shares available for purchase by the underwriter under the option to purchase additional shares. The underwriter can close out a covered short sale by exercising the option to purchase additional shares or purchasing shares in the open market. In determining the source of shares to close out a covered short sale, the underwriter will consider, among other things, the open market price of shares compared to the price available under the option to purchase additional shares. The underwriter may also sell shares in excess of the option to purchase additional shares, creating a naked short position. The underwriter must close out any naked short position by purchasing shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriter is concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the common stock in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering. As an additional means of facilitating the offering, the underwriter may bid for, and purchase, shares of common stock in the open market to stabilize the price of the common stock. The underwriter may also reclaim selling concessions allowed to a dealer for distributing

the common stock in the offering, if the underwriter repurchases previously distributed common stock to cover short positions or to stabilize the price of the

S-25

Table of Contents

common stock. These activities may raise or maintain the market price of the common stock above independent market levels or prevent or retard a decline in the market price of the common stock.

In connection with this transaction, the underwriter may engage in passive market making transactions in the common stock on the New York Stock Exchange, prior to the pricing and completion of this offering. Passive market making is permitted by SEC Regulation M and consists of displaying bids on the New York Stock Exchange no higher than the bid prices of independent market makers and making purchases at prices no higher than these independent bids and effected in response to order flow. Net purchases by a passive market maker on each day are limited to a specified percentage of the passive market maker's average daily trading volume in the common stock during a specified period and must be discontinued when such limit is reached. Passive market making may cause the price of the common stock to be higher than the price that otherwise would exist in the open market in the absence of such transactions.

These activities by the underwriter may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of our common stock. As a result, the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that otherwise might exist in the open market. The underwriter is not required to engage in these activities. If these activities are commenced, they may be discontinued by the underwriter without notice at any time. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise.

Electronic Distribution

A prospectus supplement in electronic format may be made available on websites or through other online services maintained by the underwriter or by its affiliates. Other than the prospectus supplement in electronic format, the information on the underwriter's websites and any information contained in any other website maintained by the underwriter is not part of this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, or the registration statement of which this prospectus supplement forms a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or the underwriter in its capacity as underwriter and should not be relied upon by investors.

Listing

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

Affiliations

Raymond James & Associates, Inc. and certain of its affiliates in the past and may in the future provide investment banking or other services for us and have received customary fees and expenses.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with the offering of the common stock made by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Phoenix, Arizona. Certain members of such firm beneficially owned 55,381 shares of our common stock as of the date of this prospectus supplement. Robert S. Kant, a principal shareholder of Greenberg Traurig, P.A., has served as a director of our company since August 1998. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the underwriter by Morrison & Foerster LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of MarineMax, Inc. appearing in MarineMax, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended September 30, 2008, and the effectiveness of MarineMax, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2008 appearing in MarineMax, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year

ended September 30, 2008, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered certified public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon included therein and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

S-26

Table of Contents

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

This prospectus supplement constitutes a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 filed by us with the SEC under the Securities Act with respect to the securities offered under this prospectus supplement. This prospectus supplement does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. We have omitted certain parts of the registration statement, as allowed by the rules and regulations of the SEC. You may wish to inspect the registration statement and the exhibits to that registration statement for further information with respect to our company and the securities offered under this prospectus supplement. Copies of the registration statement and the exhibits to such registration statement are on file at the offices of the SEC and may be obtained upon payment of the prescribed fee or may be examined without charge at the public reference facilities of the SEC described below. Statements contained in this prospectus supplement concerning the provisions of documents are necessarily summaries of the material provisions of such documents, and each statement is qualified in its entirety by reference to the copy of the applicable document filed with the SEC.

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. Accordingly, we file reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC. Through our website at www.MarineMax.com, you may access, free of charge, our filings, as soon as reasonably practical after we electronically file them with or furnish them to the SEC. Information contained in our website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered a part of, this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. The public may read and copy any materials that we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549 upon payment of the prescribed fees. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other materials that are filed through the SEC's Electronic Data Gathering, Analysis, and Retrieval system. This web site can be accessed at <http://www.sec.gov>.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information that we incorporate by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus the following documents:

Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Form 10-K/A for the year ended September 30, 2008.

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the periods ended December 31, 2008, March 31, 2009, and June 30, 2009.

Current Reports on Form 8-K dated November 26, 2008, December 17, 2008, June 9, 2009, and June 11, 2009.

The information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2008 from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on January 8, 2009.

The description of our common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A (Registration No. 1-14173) declared effective by the SEC on June 1, 1998.

All documents filed by us under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of this prospectus supplement and until all of the common stock registered under this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is sold (other than, in each case, the portions of those documents not deemed to be filed).

S-27

Table of Contents

You may request a copy of these filings at no cost, by writing or telephoning us as follows:

MarineMax, Inc.
Attention: Corporate Secretary
18167 U.S. Highway 19 North
Suite 300
Clearwater, Florida 33764
(727) 531-1700

Any statement contained in a document that is incorporated by reference will be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, or in any other document that is subsequently filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference, modifies or is contrary to that previous statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, except as so modified or superseded. Since information that we later file with the SEC will update and supersede previously incorporated information, you should look at all of the SEC filings that we incorporate by reference to determine if any of the statements in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus or in any documents previously incorporated by reference have been modified or superseded.

S-28

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

\$200,000,000

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

We may offer and sell from time to time, in one or more series or issuances and on terms that we will determine at the time of the offering, any combination of the securities described in this prospectus, up to an aggregate amount of \$200,000,000.

We will provide specific terms of any offering in a supplement to this prospectus. Any prospectus supplement may also add, update, or change information contained in this prospectus. You should carefully read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement as well as the documents incorporated or deemed to be incorporated in this prospectus before you purchase any of the securities offered hereby.

These securities may be offered and sold in the same offering or in separate offerings; to or through underwriters, dealers, and agents; or directly to purchasers. The names of any underwriters, dealers, or agents involved in the sale of our securities and their compensation will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HZO. We will make application to list any shares of common stock sold by us under this prospectus and any prospectus supplement on the New York Stock Exchange. We will provide information in any applicable prospectus supplement regarding any listing of securities other than shares of our common stock on any securities exchange.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of our securities unless accompanied by the applicable prospectus supplement.

You should consider the risks that we have described in this prospectus and in the accompanying prospectus supplement before you invest. See Risk Factors on page 2.

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.

The date of this prospectus is September 29, 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS	ii
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
RISK FACTORS	2
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	2
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	2
INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE	3
PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENTS	4
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES	4
DILUTION	4
SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER	4
USE OF PROCEEDS	5
DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK	5
DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK	6
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES	10
DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES	21
DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS	24
DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS	27
DESCRIPTION OF UNITS	27
CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF DELAWARE LAW AND THE COMPANY'S CHARTER AND BYLAWS	29
LEGAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES	32
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	35
LEGAL MATTERS	37
EXPERTS	37

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell securities in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with general information. We will provide a prospectus supplement that contains specific information about any offering by us.

The prospectus supplement also may add, update, or change information contained in the prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and the prospectus related to any offering as well as additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement or any free writing prospectus. We are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, securities only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information contained in this prospectus and in any accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate only as of the date of their covers, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement or of any sale of our securities. Our business, financial condition, results of operations, and prospects may have changed since those dates. You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement. To the extent there is a conflict between the information contained in this prospectus and the prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement, provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date—for example, a document incorporated by reference into this prospectus or any prospectus supplement—the statement in the document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement.

In this prospectus, the terms **we**, **our**, and **us** refer to MarineMax, Inc. and its subsidiaries, unless otherwise specified.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary does not contain all of the information that may be important to purchasers of our securities. Prospective purchasers of securities should carefully review the detailed information and financial statements, including the notes thereto, appearing elsewhere in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

Our Company

We are the largest recreational boat retailer in the United States. Through retail locations in Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah, we sell new and used recreational boats, including pleasure boats (such as sport boats, sport cruisers, sport yachts, and yachts), and fishing boats, with a focus on premium brands in each segment. We also sell related marine products, including engines, trailers, parts, and accessories. In addition, we arrange related boat and yacht financing, insurance, and extended service contracts; provide repair and maintenance services; offer boat and yacht brokerage services; and, where available, offer slip and storage accommodations.

Our Strategy

Our goal is to enhance our position as the nation's leading recreational boat dealer. Key elements of our strategy include the following:

- emphasizing customer satisfaction and loyalty,
- emphasizing best practices,
- achieving operating efficiencies and synergies,
- offering additional products and services, including those involving higher profit margins,
- pursuing strategic acquisitions,
- opening new facilities,
- promoting brand name recognition and the MarineMax Connection,
- utilization of the internet,
- emphasizing employee training and development,
- operating with decentralized management, and
- utilizing technology throughout operations.

Our History

MarineMax was founded in January 1998. MarineMax itself, however, conducted no operations until the acquisition of five independent recreational boat dealers on March 1, 1998, and we completed our initial public offering in June

1998. Since the initial acquisitions in March 1998, we have acquired 20 additional recreational boat dealers, two boat brokerage operations, and two full-service yacht repair operations. Each of our acquired dealers is continuing its operations under the MarineMax name as a wholly owned operating subsidiary of our company.

Our Offices

Our principal executive offices are located at 18167 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33764. Our telephone number at that address is (727) 531-1700. Our website is located at www.marinemax.com. Other than as described in **Where You Can Find More Information** below, the information on, or that can be accessed through, our web site is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, and you should not consider it to be a part of this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. Our web site address is included as an inactive textual reference only.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. Please see the risk factors described under the caption "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007 on file with the SEC, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus and in any accompanying prospectus supplement. Before making an investment decision, you should carefully consider these risks as well as information we include or incorporate by reference in this prospectus and in any accompanying prospectus supplement. The risks and uncertainties we have described are not the only ones facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also affect our business operations.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly, and current reports, proxy statements, and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Through our website at www.marinemax.com, you may access, free of charge, our filings, as soon as reasonably practical after we electronically file them with or furnish them to the SEC. Other information contained in our website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered a part of, this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement. You also may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the SEC to register the securities offered hereby under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. This prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement, including certain exhibits and schedules. You may obtain the registration statement and exhibits to the registration statement from the SEC at the address listed above or from the SEC's internet site.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and each prospectus supplement includes and incorporates forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included or incorporated in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement regarding our strategy, prospects, plans, objectives, future operations, future revenue and earnings, projected margins and expenses, technological innovations, future products or product development, product development strategies, potential acquisitions or strategic alliances, the success of particular product or marketing programs, the amount of revenue generated as a result of sales to significant customers, financial position, and liquidity and anticipated cash needs and availability are forward-looking statements. The words "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "projects," "will," "would," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements.

Actual results or events could differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make. Among the factors that could cause actual results to differ materially are the factors discussed under "Risk Factors" in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007. We also will include or incorporate by reference in each prospectus supplement important factors that we believe could cause actual results or events to differ materially from the forward-looking statements that we make. Should one or more known or unknown risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove inaccurate, actual results could differ materially from past results and those anticipated, estimated, projected, or implied by these forward-looking statements. You should consider these factors and the other cautionary statements made in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, or the documents we incorporate by

reference in this prospectus as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement or the documents incorporated by reference. While we may elect to update forward-looking statements wherever they appear in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, or the documents incorporated by reference, we do not assume, and specifically disclaim, any obligation to do so, whether as a result of new information, future events, or otherwise. Our forward-looking statements do not reflect the potential impact of any future acquisitions, mergers, dispositions, joint ventures, or investments we may make.

Table of Contents

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information that we incorporate by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Information that we file with the SEC in the future and incorporate by reference in this prospectus automatically updates and supersedes previously filed information as applicable.

We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the following documents filed by us with the SEC, other than any portions of any such documents that are not deemed filed under the Exchange Act in accordance with the Exchange Act and applicable SEC rules:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2007.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2008.

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 2007.

Item 2.06 of the Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on July 31, 2008.

Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 12, 2008.

Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on March 5, 2008.

Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on November 9, 2007.

The information specifically incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007 from our definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on January 16, 2008.

The description of our common stock contained in the Registration Statement on Form 8-A (Registration No. 001-14173), filed with the SEC on May 28, 1998 and declared effective on June 1, 1998, including any amendment or reports filed for the purpose of updating such description.

All documents filed by us under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date of the initial registration statement and before effectiveness of this registration statement, and after the date of this prospectus and until all of the securities registered under this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement are sold, other than any portions of any such documents that are not deemed filed under the Exchange Act in accordance with the Exchange Act and applicable SEC rules.

You may request a copy of these filings at no cost, by writing or telephoning us as follows:

MarineMax, Inc.
Attention: Corporate Secretary
18167 U.S. Highway 19 North

Suite 300
Clearwater, Florida 33764
(727) 531-1700

Any statement contained in a document that is incorporated by reference will be modified or superseded for all purposes to the extent that a statement contained in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement, or in any other document that is subsequently filed with the SEC and incorporated by reference, modifies, or is contrary to that previous statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed a part of this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement, except as so modified or superseded. Since information that we later file with the SEC will update and supersede previously incorporated information, you should look at all of the SEC filings that we incorporate by reference to determine if any of the statements in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement or in any documents previously incorporated by reference have been modified or superseded.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENTS

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the proposed offering of our securities. Each time that we sell securities under this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may add to, update, or change information contained in this prospectus and should be read as superseding this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

The prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any offering of securities, including the offering price to the public in that offering, the purchase price and net proceeds of that offering, and the other specific terms related to that offering of securities.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

Our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for each of the five most recently completed fiscal years and any required interim periods will each be specified in a prospectus supplement or in a document that we file with the SEC and incorporate by reference pertaining to the issuance, if any, by us of debt securities in the future.

DILUTION

We will set forth in a prospectus supplement the following information regarding any material dilution of the equity interests of investors purchasing securities in an offering under this prospectus:

the net tangible book value per share of our equity securities before and after the offering;

the amount of the increase in such net tangible book value per share attributable to the cash payments made by purchasers in the offering; and

the amount of the immediate dilution from the public offering price which will be absorbed by such purchasers.

SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

The descriptions of the securities contained in this prospectus, together with the applicable prospectus supplements, summarize the material terms and provisions of the various types of securities that we may offer. We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to any securities the particular terms of the securities offered by that prospectus supplement. If we indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, the terms of the securities may differ from the terms we have summarized below. We will also include in the prospectus supplement information, when applicable, about material U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the securities, and the securities exchange, if any, on which the securities will be listed.

We may sell from time to time, in one or more offerings, any one or more of the following:

common stock, including the associated rights;

preferred stock;

debt securities;

depository shares;

warrants to purchase any of the securities listed above;

purchase contracts;

units, consisting of any of one or more shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, depository shares, and warrants; or

any combination of the foregoing securities.

Table of Contents

In this prospectus, we refer to the common stock (including the associated rights), preferred stock, debt securities, depositary shares, warrants, purchase contracts, and units collectively as securities. The total dollar amount of all securities that we may issue under this prospectus will not exceed \$200,000,000.

If we issue debt securities at a discount from their original stated principal amount, then, for purposes of calculating the total dollar amount of all securities issued under this prospectus, we will treat the initial offering price of the debt securities as the total original principal amount of the debt securities.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless it is accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as may be otherwise set forth in any prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus, we will use the net proceeds we receive from sales of securities offered hereby for general corporate purposes, which may include the repayment of indebtedness outstanding from time to time and for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions, and repurchases of our common stock or other securities. Pending these uses, the net proceeds may also be temporarily invested in short-term securities.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

This section describes the general terms of our common stock. A prospectus supplement may provide information that is different from this prospectus. If the information in the prospectus supplement with respect to our common stock being offered differs from this prospectus, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. A copy of our restated certificate of incorporation has been incorporated by reference from our filings with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement. Our common stock and the rights of the holders of our common stock are subject to the applicable provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which we refer to as Delaware law, our restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws, the rights of the holders of our preferred stock, if any, as well as some of the terms of our credit agreement and any other outstanding indebtedness.

As of July 25, 2008 under our restated certificate of incorporation, we had the authority to issue 24,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of which 18,421,204 shares of our common stock were outstanding as of that date.

Pursuant to our restated certificate of incorporation, our board of directors is authorized, without additional action or vote of the stockholders, to increase the total number of authorized shares of our capital stock up to a maximum of 45,000,000 shares, consisting of 40,000,000 shares of common stock and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, by filing a certificate of amendment to our restated certificate of incorporation.

The following description of our common stock, and any description of our common stock in a prospectus supplement may not be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, Delaware law and the actual terms and provisions contained in our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws, each as amended from time to time.

Voting Rights

Each outstanding share of our common stock is entitled to one vote per share of record on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders and to vote together as a single class for the election of directors and in respect of other corporate

matters. At a meeting of stockholders at which a quorum is present, for all matters other than the election of directors, a majority of the votes cast decides all questions, unless the matter is one upon which a different vote is required by express provision of law or our restated certificate of incorporation or amended and restated bylaws. Directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes of the shares present at a meeting. Holders of shares of common stock do not have cumulative voting rights with respect to the election of directors or any other matter.

Table of Contents

Dividends

Holders of our common stock are entitled to receive dividends or other distributions when, as, and if declared by our board of directors. The right of our board of directors to declare dividends, however, is subject to any rights of the holders of other classes of our capital stock and the availability of sufficient funds under Delaware law to pay dividends.

Preemptive Rights

The holders of our common stock do not have preemptive rights to purchase or subscribe for any stock or other securities of ours.

Redemption

The shares of our common stock are not subject to redemption by operation of a sinking fund or otherwise.

Liquidation Rights

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of our company, subject to the rights, if any, of the holders of other classes of our capital stock, the holders of shares of our common stock are entitled to receive any of our assets available for distribution to our stockholders ratably in proportion to the number of shares held by them.

Options and Warrants

From time to time, we have issued and expect to continue to issue warrants and options to various lenders, investors, advisors, consultants, employees, and officers of our company. As of June 30, 2008, a total of 1,768,257 options to purchase shares of our common stock were outstanding, and 906,517 shares of common stock were issuable upon exercise of vested options as of that date.

Listing

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HZ0.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, 59 Maiden Lane, New York, NY 11219.

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK

This section describes the general terms of our preferred stock to which any prospectus supplement may relate. A prospectus supplement will describe the terms relating to any preferred stock to be offered by us in greater detail and may provide information that is different from terms described in this prospectus. If the information in the prospectus supplement with respect to the particular preferred stock being offered differs from this prospectus, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. A copy of our restated certificate of incorporation has been incorporated by reference from our filings with the SEC as an exhibit to the registration statement. A certificate of amendment to the certificate of incorporation will specify the terms of the preferred stock being offered, and will be filed or incorporated by reference as an exhibit to the registration statement before the preferred stock is issued. The following description of our preferred stock, and any description of the preferred stock in a prospectus supplement, may not be

complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by reference to, the Delaware General Corporation Law and the actual terms and provisions contained in our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws, each as amended from time to time.

Table of Contents

As of August 13, 2008, under our restated certificate of incorporation we had the authority to issue 1,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share, which are issuable in series on terms to be determined by our board of directors. Accordingly, our board of directors is authorized, without action by the stockholders, to issue preferred stock from time to time with the dividend, liquidation, conversion, voting and other rights and restrictions as it may determine. Further, under our restated certificate, our board of directors is authorized, without action or vote of the stockholders, to increase the total number of authorized shares of preferred stock to 5,000,000 shares. In connection with the adoption of our Stockholders' Rights Plan, we have authorized 50,000 shares of our preferred stock, designated as Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock, no shares of which are outstanding as of August 13, 2008. All shares of any one series of our preferred stock will be identical, except that shares of any one series issued at different times may differ as to the dates from which dividends may be cumulative. All series shall rank equally and shall provide for other terms as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. As of August 13, 2008, there were no outstanding shares of our preferred stock.

Terms of Preferred Stock

Unless provided in a supplement to this prospectus, the shares of our preferred stock to be issued will have no preemptive rights. Any prospectus supplement offering our preferred stock will furnish the following information with respect to the preferred stock offered by that prospectus supplement:

the title and stated value of the preferred stock;

the number of shares of preferred stock to be issued and the offering price of the preferred stock;

any dividend rights;

any dividend rates, periods, or payment dates, or methods of calculation of dividends applicable to the preferred stock;

the date from which distributions on the preferred stock shall accumulate, if applicable;

the terms and conditions, if applicable, upon which the preferred stock will be convertible into our common stock, including the conversion price (or manner of calculation thereof);

any right to convert the preferred stock into a different type of security;

any voting rights attributable to the preferred stock;

any rights and preferences upon our liquidation or winding up of our affairs;

any terms of redemption;

the procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any, for the preferred stock;

the provisions for a sinking fund, if any, for the preferred stock;

any listing of the preferred stock on any securities exchange;

a discussion of federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock;

the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock as to distribution rights (including whether any liquidation preference as to the preferred stock will be treated as a liability for purposes of determining the availability of assets for distributions to holders of stock ranking junior to the shares of preferred stock as to distribution rights);

any limitations on issuance of any series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock being offered as to distribution rights and rights upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up or our affairs; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights, limitations, or restrictions of the preferred stock.

Table of Contents

Rank

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable supplement to this prospectus, shares of our preferred stock will rank, with respect to payment of distributions and rights upon our liquidation, dissolution, or winding up, and allocation of our earnings and losses:

senior to all classes or series of our common stock and to all of our equity securities ranking junior to the preferred stock;

on a parity with all equity securities issued by us, the terms of which specifically provide that these equity securities rank on a parity with the preferred stock; and

junior to all equity securities issued by us, the terms of which specifically provide that these equity securities rank senior to the preferred stock.

Distributions

Subject to any preferential rights of any outstanding stock or series of stock, our preferred stockholders are entitled to receive distributions, when, as, and if declared by our board of directors, out of legally available funds, and share pro rata based on the number of preferred shares, common stock, and other parity equity securities outstanding. The rates and dates of payment of dividends will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the applicable series of preferred stock. Dividends will be payable to holders of record of preferred stock as they appear on our books or, if applicable, the records of the depositary referred to below on the record dates fixed by the board of directors. Dividends on a series of preferred stock may be cumulative or noncumulative.

We may not declare, pay or set apart for payment dividends on the preferred stock unless full dividends on other series of preferred stock that rank on an equal or senior basis have been paid or sufficient funds have been set apart for payment for:

all prior dividend periods of other series of preferred stock that pay dividends on a cumulative basis; or

the immediately preceding dividend period of other series of preferred stock that pay dividends on a noncumulative basis.

Partial dividends declared on shares of preferred stock and each other series of preferred stock ranking on an equal basis as to dividends will be declared pro rata. A pro rata declaration means that the ratio of dividends declared per share to accrued dividends per share will be the same for each series of preferred stock. Similarly, we may not declare, pay, or set apart for payment non-stock dividends or make other payments on the common stock or any other of our stock ranking junior to the preferred stock until full dividends on the preferred stock have been paid or set apart for payment for

all prior dividend periods if the preferred stock pays dividends on a cumulative basis; or

the immediately preceding dividend period if the preferred stock pays dividends on a noncumulative basis.

Voting Rights

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable supplement to this prospectus, holders of our preferred stock will not have any voting rights.

Liquidation Preference

Upon the voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of our affairs, then, before any distribution or payment shall be made to the holders of any common stock or any other class or series of stock ranking junior to the preferred stock in our distribution of assets upon any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up, the holders of each series of our preferred stock will be entitled to receive, after payment or provision for payment of our debts and other liabilities, out of our assets legally available for distribution to stockholders,

Table of Contents

liquidating distributions in the amount of the liquidation preference per share (set forth in the applicable supplement to this prospectus), plus an amount, if applicable, equal to all distributions accrued and unpaid thereon (which shall not include any accumulation in respect of unpaid distributions for prior distribution periods if the preferred stock does not have a cumulative distribution). Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, after payment of the full amount of the liquidating distributions to which they are entitled, the holders of preferred stock will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets. In the event that, upon our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution, or winding up, the legally available assets are insufficient to pay the amount of the liquidating distributions on all of our outstanding preferred stock and the corresponding amounts payable on our other classes or series of equity securities ranking on a parity with the preferred stock in the distribution of assets upon liquidation, dissolution, or winding up, then the holders of our preferred stock and all other such classes or series of equity security will share ratably in the distribution of assets in proportion to the full liquidating distributions to which they would otherwise be respectively entitled.

If the liquidating distributions are made in full to all holders of preferred stock, our remaining assets will be distributed among the holders of any other classes or series of equity security ranking junior to the preferred stock upon our liquidation, dissolution, or winding up, according to their respective rights and preferences and in each case according to their respective number of shares of stock.

Conversion Rights

The terms and conditions, if any, upon which shares of any series of preferred stock are convertible into other securities will be set forth in the applicable supplement to this prospectus. These terms will include the amount and type of security into which the shares of preferred stock are convertible, the conversion price (or manner of calculation thereof), the conversion period, provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders of the preferred stock or us, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price, and provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of that preferred stock.

Redemption

If so provided in the applicable supplement to this prospectus, our preferred stock will be subject to mandatory redemption or redemption at our option, in whole or in part, in each case upon the terms, at the times and at the redemption prices set forth in such supplement to this prospectus. Unless we default in the payment of the redemption price, dividends will cease to accrue after the redemption date on shares of preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of holders of such shares will terminate, except for the right to receive the redemption price. No series of preferred stock will receive the benefit of a sinking fund except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Registrar and Transfer Agent

The registrar and transfer agent for our preferred stock will be set forth in the applicable supplement to this prospectus.

If our board of directors decides to issue any preferred stock, it may discourage or make more difficult a merger, tender offer, business combination or proxy contest, assumption of control by a holder of a large block of our securities, or the removal of incumbent management, even if these events were favorable to the interests of stockholders. Our board of directors, without stockholder approval, may issue preferred stock with voting and conversion rights and dividend and liquidation preferences that may adversely affect the holders of our other equity or debt securities.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

This prospectus describes certain general terms and provisions of the debt securities we may offer under this prospectus and one or more prospectus supplements. When we offer to sell a particular series of debt securities, we will describe the specific terms of the series in a supplement to this prospectus. The following description of debt securities will apply to the debt securities offered by this prospectus unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement. The applicable prospectus supplement for a particular series of debt securities may specify different or additional terms.

We may issue senior, senior subordinated, or subordinated, debt securities. Senior securities will be direct obligations of ours and will rank equally and ratably in right of payment with other indebtedness of ours that is not subordinated.

Senior subordinated securities will be subordinated in right of payment to the prior payment in full of senior indebtedness, as defined in the applicable prospectus supplement, and may rank equally and ratably with the senior subordinated notes and any other senior subordinated indebtedness. Subordinated securities will be subordinated in right of payment to senior subordinated securities.

We need not issue all debt securities of one series at the same time. Unless we provide otherwise, we may reopen a series, without the consent of the holders of such series, for issuances of additional securities of that series.

We will issue the senior debt securities and senior subordinated debt securities under a senior indenture, which we will enter into with the trustee to be named in the senior indenture, and we will issue the subordinated debt securities under a subordinated indenture, which we will enter into with the trustee to be named in the subordinated indenture. We use the term indenture or indentures to refer to both the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture. Each indenture will be subject to and governed by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, and we may supplement the indenture from time to time. Any trustee under any indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities, and we may appoint a successor trustee to act with respect to that series. We have filed a form of indenture between us as the issuer, and American Stock Transfer and Trust Company as the indenture trustee, as an exhibit to this registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part. The terms of the senior indenture and subordinated indenture will be substantially similar, except that the subordinated indenture will include provisions pertaining to the subordination of the subordinated debt securities and senior subordinated debt securities to the senior debt securities and any other of our senior securities. The following statements relating to the debt securities and the indenture are summaries only, are subject to change, and are qualified in their entirety to the detailed provisions of the indenture, any supplemental indenture, and the discussion contained in any prospectus supplements.

General

The debt securities will be our direct obligations. We may issue debt securities from time to time and in one or more series as our board of directors may establish by resolution or as we may establish in one or more supplemental indentures. The particular terms of each series of debt securities will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to the series. We may issue debt securities with terms different from those of debt securities that we previously issued.

We may issue debt securities from time to time and in one or more series with the same or various maturities, at par, at a premium, or at a discount. We will set forth in a prospectus supplement, relating to any series of debt securities being offered, the initial offering price, and the following terms of the debt securities:

the title of the debt securities;

the series designation and whether they are senior securities, senior subordinated securities, or subordinated securities;

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

Table of Contents

the price or prices (expressed as a percentage of the aggregate principal amount) at which we will issue the debt securities and, if other than the principal amount of the debt securities, the portion of the principal amount of the debt securities payable upon the maturity of the debt securities;

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

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

the place where principal, and interest and any additional amounts will be payable and where the debt securities can be surrendered for transfer, exchange, or conversion;

the terms, if any, by which holders of the debt securities may convert or exchange the debt securities for our common stock, preferred stock, or any other security or property;

if convertible, the initial conversion price, the conversion period, and any other terms governing such conversion;

any subordination provisions or limitations relating to the debt securities;

any sinking fund requirements;

any obligation we have to redeem or purchase the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a holder of debt securities;

the dates on which and the price or prices at which we will repurchase the debt securities at the option of the holders of debt securities and other detailed terms and provisions of these repurchase obligations;

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

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

whether we will issue the debt securities in certificated or book-entry form;

whether the debt securities will be in registered or bearer form and, if in registered form, the denominations if other than in even multiples of \$1,000 and, if in bearer form, the denominations and terms and conditions relating thereto;

the currency of denomination of the debt securities;

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

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

the manner in which the amounts of payment of principal of, and interest and any additional amounts on the debt securities will be determined, if these amounts may be determined by reference to an index based on a currency or currencies other than that in which the debt securities are denominated or designated to be payable or by reference to a commodity, commodity index, stock exchange index, or financial index;

any applicability of the defeasance provisions described in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement;

Table of Contents

whether and under what circumstances, if any, we will pay additional amounts on any debt securities in respect of any tax, assessment, or governmental charge and, if so, whether we will have the option to redeem the debt securities instead of making this payment;

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

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

if the debt securities are to be issued upon the exercise of debt warrants, the time, manner, and place for them to be authenticated and delivered;

any securities exchange on which we will list the debt securities;

any restrictions on transfer, sale, or other assignment;

the provisions relating to any security provided for the debt securities;

the provisions relating to any guarantee of the debt securities;

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

any depositaries, interest rate calculation agents, exchange rate calculation agents, or other agents with respect to the debt securities.

We may issue debt securities that are exchangeable for or convertible into shares of our common stock or other securities or property. The terms, if any, on which the debt securities may be exchanged for or converted into will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms may include provisions for conversion, either mandatory, at the option of the holder or at our option, in which case the number of shares of common stock or other securities or property to be received by the holders of debt securities would be calculated as of a time and in the manner stated in the prospectus supplement.

We may issue debt securities at less than the principal amount payable upon maturity. We refer to these securities as original issue discount securities. If material or applicable, we will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement special U.S. federal income tax, accounting, and other considerations applicable to original issue discount securities.

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

Except as may be set forth in any prospectus supplement relating to the debt securities, an indenture will not contain any other provisions that would limit our ability to incur indebtedness or that would afford holders of the debt

securities protection in the event of a highly leveraged or similar transaction involving us or in the event of a change of control. You should review carefully the applicable prospectus supplement for information with respect to events of default and any covenants applicable to the debt securities being offered.

Payments and Paying Agents

Unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will make payment of the interest on any debt securities on any interest payment date to the person in whose name the debt securities, or one or more predecessor securities, are registered at the close of business on the regular record date for the interest.

Table of Contents

We will pay principal of and interest and any additional amounts on the debt securities of a particular series at the office of the paying agents designated by us, except that, unless we otherwise indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may make interest payments by check which we will mail to the holder or by wire transfer to certain holders. Unless we otherwise indicate in a prospectus supplement, we will designate the corporate trust office of the trustee as our sole paying agent for payments with respect to debt securities of each series. We will name in the applicable prospectus supplement any other paying agents that we initially designate for the debt securities of a particular series.

Form, Transfer and Exchange

Each debt security will be represented by either one or more global securities registered in the name of The Depository Trust Company, as depository, or a nominee of the depository (as a book-entry debt security), or a certificate issued in definitive registered form (as a certificated debt security), as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Except as described under **Global Debt Securities and Book-Entry System** below, book-entry debt securities will not be issuable in certificated form.

Certificated Debt Securities.

You may transfer or exchange certificated debt securities at the trustee's office or paying agencies in accordance with the terms of the indenture. No service charge will be made for any transfer or exchange of certificated debt securities, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection with a transfer or exchange.

You may transfer certificated debt securities and the right to receive the principal of, and interest and any additional amounts on, certificated debt securities only by surrendering the old certificate representing those certificated debt securities and either we or the trustee will reissue the old certificate to the new holder, or we or the trustee will issue a new certificate to the new holder.

Global Debt Securities and Book-Entry System.

Each global debt security representing book-entry debt securities will be deposited with, or on behalf of, the depository, and registered in the name of the depository or a nominee of the depository. Ownership of beneficial interests in book-entry debt securities will be limited to persons that have accounts with the depository for the related global debt security, whom we refer to as participants, or persons that may hold interests through participants.

Except as described in this prospectus or any applicable prospectus supplement, beneficial owners of book-entry debt securities will not be entitled to have securities registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of a certificate in definitive form representing securities, and will not be considered the owners or holders of those securities under the indenture. Accordingly, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture, each person beneficially owning book-entry debt securities must rely on the procedures of the depository for the related global debt security and, if that person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which that person owns its interest.

We understand, however, that under existing industry practice, the depository will authorize the persons on whose behalf it holds a global debt security to exercise certain rights of holders of debt securities, and the indenture provides that we, the trustee, and our respective agents will treat as the holder of a debt security the persons specified in a written statement of the depository with respect to that global debt security for purposes of obtaining any consents or directions required to be given by holders of the debt securities pursuant to the indenture.

We will make payments of principal of, and interest and any additional amounts on, book-entry debt securities to the depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered holder of the related global debt security. We, the trustee, and any other agent of ours or agent of the trustee will not have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial

Table of Contents

ownership interests in a global debt security or for maintaining, supervising, or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

Global debt securities will be exchangeable by the holders for certificated debt securities if an event of default with respect to the book-entry debt securities represented by those global debt securities has occurred and is continuing. Any certificated debt securities issued in exchange for a global debt security will be registered in such name or names as the depositary shall instruct the trustee. We expect that such instructions will be based upon directions received by the depositary from participants with respect to ownership of book-entry debt securities relating to such global debt security.

For additional discussion of book entry and certificated securities, see the section entitled "Legal Ownership of Securities" included in this prospectus. We have obtained the foregoing information in this section and the "Legal Ownership of Securities" section concerning the depositary and the depositary's book-entry system from sources we believe to be reliable. We take no responsibility for the depositary's performance of its obligations under the rules and regulations governing its operations.

No Protection in the Event of a Change in Control

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

Covenants

Unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not contain any restrictive covenants, including covenants restricting us or any of our subsidiaries from incurring, issuing, assuming, or guaranteeing any indebtedness secured by a lien on any of our or our subsidiaries' property or capital stock or restricting us or any of our subsidiaries from entering into any sale and leaseback transactions.

Merger, Consolidation, and Sale of Assets

Unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may not merge with or into or consolidate with, or convey, transfer, or lease all or substantially all of our properties and assets to, any person (a "successor person"), and we may not permit any person to merge into, or convey, transfer, or lease its properties and assets substantially as an entirety to us, unless the following applies:

either (a) the company is the surviving entity or (b) the successor person is a corporation, partnership, trust, or other entity organized and validly existing under the laws of any United States domestic jurisdiction and expressly assumes our obligations on the debt securities and under the indenture;

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

certain other conditions that may be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement are met.

This covenant would not apply to any recapitalization transaction, a change of control of us, or a transaction in which we incur a large amount of additional debt unless the transactions or change of control included a merger, consolidation, or transfer or lease of substantially all of our assets. Except as may be described in the applicable

prospectus supplement, there are no covenants or other provisions in the indenture providing for a put right or increased interest or that would otherwise afford holders of debt securities additional protection in the event of a recapitalization transaction, a change of control of us, or a transaction in which we incur a large amount of additional debt.

Table of Contents

Events of Default Under the Indenture

Unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, an event of default will mean, with respect to any series of debt securities, any of the following:

default in the payment of any interest upon any debt security of that series when it becomes due and payable and continuance of that default for a period of 30 days (unless the entire amount of such payment is deposited by us with the trustee or with a paying agent before the expiration of the 30-day period);

default in the payment of principal of, and any other amounts due on, any debt security of that series when due and payable either at maturity, redemption, or otherwise;

default in the deposit of any sinking fund payment, when and as due in respect of any debt security of that series;

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

we, pursuant to or within the meaning of any applicable bankruptcy law, commence a voluntary case, consent to the entry of an order for relief against us in an involuntary case, consent to the appointment of a custodian for all or substantially all of our property, make a general assignment for the benefit of our creditors, or admit in writing our inability generally to pay our debts as they become due; or, similarly, a court enters an order or decree under any applicable bankruptcy law that provides for relief against us in an involuntary case, appoints a custodian for all or substantially all of our properties, or orders our liquidation (and the order remains in effect for 60 days); and

any other event of default provided with respect to debt securities of that series that is included in any supplemental indenture or is described in the applicable prospectus supplement accompanying this prospectus.

No event of default with respect to a particular series of debt securities (except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency, or reorganization) necessarily constitutes an event of default with respect to any other series of debt securities. An event of default may also be an event of default under our bank credit agreements or other debt securities in existence from time to time and under certain guaranties by us of any subsidiary indebtedness. In addition, certain events of default or an acceleration under the indenture may also be an event of default under some of our other indebtedness outstanding from time to time.

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

At any time after an acceleration with respect to debt securities of a series has been made, but before a judgment or decree for payment of the money due has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may cancel the acceleration and annul its consequences if the rescission would not conflict with any judgment or decree and if all existing

Table of Contents

events of default with respect to that series have been cured or waived except nonpayment of principal (or such lesser amount) or interest that has become due solely because of the acceleration.

The indenture also provides that the holders of not less than a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive any past default with respect to that series and its consequences, except a default involving the following:

our failure to pay the principal of, and interest and any additional amounts on, any debt security; or

a covenant or provision contained in the indenture that cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holders of each outstanding debt security affected by the default.

The trustee is generally required to give notice to the holders of debt securities of each affected series within 90 days of a default actually known to a responsible officer of the trustee unless the default has been cured or waived. The trustee may, however, withhold notice of default unless the default relates to the following:

our failure to pay the principal of, and interest and any additional amounts on, any debt security of that series; or

any sinking fund installment for any debt securities of that series,

if the responsible officers of the trustee in good faith consider it to be in the interest of the holders of the debt securities of that series.

Unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the indenture will provide that the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the indenture at the request or discretion of any holder of any such outstanding debt securities unless the trustee receives indemnity satisfactory to it against any loss, liability, or expense. Subject to certain rights of the trustee, the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series will have the right to direct the time, method, and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of that series. The trustee may, however, refuse to follow any discretion that conflicts with the indenture or any law or which may be unduly prejudicial to the holders of the debt securities of the applicable series not joining in the discretion.

Unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, no holder of any debt security of any series will have any right to institute any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, with respect to the indenture or for the appointment of a receiver or trustee, or for any remedy under the indenture, unless:

that holder has previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default with respect to debt securities of that series; and

the holders of at least 25% in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series have made written request, and offered reasonable indemnity, to the trustee to institute such proceeding as trustee, and the trustee shall not have received from the holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series a direction inconsistent with that request and has failed to institute the proceeding within 60 days.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, except as provided in the subordination provisions, if any, the holder of any debt security will have an absolute and unconditional right to receive payment of the principal of, and any interest or

additional amounts on, that debt security on or after the due dates expressed in that debt security and to institute suit for the enforcement of payment.

The indenture requires us, within 120 days after the end of our fiscal year, to furnish to the trustee a certificate as to compliance with the indenture, or, in the event of noncompliance, specify the noncompliance and the nature and status of the noncompliance. The indenture provides that the trustee may withhold notice to the holders of debt securities of any series of any default or event of default (except in payment on any debt securities of that series) with respect to debt securities of that series if it in good faith determines that withholding notice is in the interest of the holders of those debt securities.

Table of Contents

Modification of Indenture and Waiver

Except as specified below, modifications and amendments to the indenture require the approval of not less than a majority in principal amount of our outstanding debt securities.

Changes Requiring the Unanimous Approval.

We and the trustee may not make any modification or amendment to the indenture without the consent of the holder of each affected debt security then outstanding if that amendment will have any of the following results:

- reduce the rate of or extend the time for payment of interest, including default interest, on any debt security;
- reduce the principal of or any additional amounts on or change the fixed maturity of any debt security or reduce the amount of, or postpone the date fixed for, the payment of any sinking fund or analogous obligation with respect to any series of debt securities;
- reduce the principal amount of discount securities payable upon acceleration of maturity;
- waive a default in the payment of the principal of, interest or any additional amounts on any debt security, except a rescission of acceleration of the debt securities of any series by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding debt securities of that series and a waiver of the payment default that resulted from that acceleration;
- make the principal of or interest or any additional amounts on any debt security payable in currency other than that stated in the debt security;
- change the place of payment on a debt security;
- change the currency or currencies of payment of the principal of, and any premium, make-whole payment, interest, or additional amounts on, any debt security;
- impair the right to initiate suit for the enforcement of any payment on or with respect to any debt security;
- reduce the percentage of holders of debt securities whose consent is needed to modify or amend an indenture, to waive compliance with certain provisions of an indenture, or to waive certain defaults;
- reduce the percentage of the holders of outstanding debt securities of any series necessary to modify or amend the indenture, to waive compliance with provisions of the indenture or defaults and their consequences under the indenture, or to reduce the quorum or voting requirements contained in the indenture;
- make any change that adversely affects the right to convert or exchange any debt security other than as permitted by the indenture or decrease the conversion or exchange rate or increase the conversion or exchange price of any such debt security;
- waive a redemption payment with respect to any debt security; or
- make any change to certain provisions of the indenture relating to, among other things, the right of holders of debt securities to receive payment of the principal of, and interest and any additional amount on those debt securities, the right of holders to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment or the right of holders to

waive past defaults.

Changes Not Requiring Approval of Debt Holders.

We and the trustee may modify or amend an indenture, without the consent of any holder of debt securities, for any of the following purposes:

to evidence the succession of another person to us as obligor under the indenture;

to add to our existing covenants additional covenants for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities, or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us in the indenture;

Table of Contents

to add events of default for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;

to add or change any provisions of the indenture to facilitate the issuance of, or to liberalize the terms of, debt securities in bearer form, or to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in uncertificated form, provided that this action will not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the debt securities of any series in any material respect;

to add, change, or eliminate any provisions of the indenture, provided that any addition, change, or elimination shall neither apply to any debt security of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision nor modify the rights of the holder of any debt security with respect to such provision or become effective only when there are no outstanding debt securities;

to establish additional series of debt securities;

to secure previously unsecured debt securities;

to establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series, including the provisions and procedures, if applicable, for the conversion or exchange of the debt securities into our common stock, preferred stock, or other securities or property;

to evidence and provide for the acceptance or appointment of a successor trustee or facilitate the administration of the trusts under the indenture by more than one trustee;

to make any provision with respect to the conversion or exchange of rights of holders pursuant to the requirements of the indenture;

to cure any ambiguity, defect, or inconsistency in the indenture, provided that the action does not adversely affect the interests of holders of debt securities of any series issued under the indenture;

to close the indenture with respect to the authentication and delivery of additional series of debt securities or to qualify, or maintain qualification of, the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act; or

to supplement any of the provisions of the indenture to the extent necessary to permit or facilitate defeasance and discharge of any series of debt securities, provided that the action shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders of the debt securities of any series in any material respect.

A vote by holders of debt securities will not be required for clarifications and certain other changes that would not adversely affect holders of the debt securities.

Defeasance of Debt Securities and Certain Covenants in Certain Circumstances

Legal Defeasance.

Unless the terms of the applicable series of debt securities provide otherwise, we may be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of the debt securities of any series (except for certain obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of the series, to replace stolen, lost, or mutilated debt securities of the series, and to maintain paying agencies and certain provisions relating to the treatment of funds held by paying agents). We will be so discharged upon the deposit with the trustee, in trust, of money and/or U.S. government obligations or, in the case

of debt securities denominated in a single currency other than U.S. dollars, foreign government obligations (as described at the end of this section), that, through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay and discharge each installment of principal, interest, and any additional amounts on and any mandatory sinking fund payments in respect of the debt securities of that series on the stated maturity of such payments in accordance with the terms of the indenture and those debt securities.

Table of Contents

This discharge may occur only if, among other things, we have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel stating that we have received from, or there has been published by, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service a ruling or, since the date of execution of the indenture, there has been a change in the applicable U.S. federal income tax law, in either case to the effect that holders of the debt securities of such series will not recognize income, gain, or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit, defeasance, and discharge and will be subject to U.S. federal income tax on the same amount and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if the deposit, defeasance, and discharge had not occurred.

Defeasance of Certain Covenants.

Unless the terms of the applicable series of debt securities provide otherwise, upon compliance with certain conditions, we may omit to comply with the restrictive covenants contained in the indenture, as well as any additional covenants contained in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The conditions include, among others, the following:

depositing with the trustee money and/or U.S. government obligations or, in the case of debt securities denominated in a single currency other than U.S. dollars, foreign government obligations, that, through the payment of interest and principal in accordance with their terms, will provide money in an amount sufficient, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants, to pay principal, interest, and any additional amounts on and any mandatory sinking fund payments in respect of the debt securities of that series on the stated maturity of those payments in accordance with the terms of the indenture and those debt securities; and

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

Covenant Defeasance and Events of Default.

If we exercise our option, as described above, not to comply with certain covenants of the indenture with respect to any series of debt securities, and the debt securities of that series are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any event of default, the amount of money and/or U.S. government obligations or foreign government obligations on deposit with the trustee will be sufficient to pay amounts due on the debt securities of that series at the time of their stated maturity but may not be sufficient to pay amounts due on the debt securities of that series at the time of the acceleration resulting from the event of default. However, we will remain liable for those payments.

Foreign government obligations means, with respect to debt securities of any series that are denominated in a currency other than United States dollars:

direct obligations of the government that issued or caused to be issued such currency for the payment of which obligations its full faith and credit is pledged, which are not callable or redeemable at the option of the issuer thereof; or

obligations of a person controlled or supervised by or acting as an agency or instrumentality of that government, the timely payment of which is unconditionally guaranteed as a full faith and credit obligation by that government, which are not callable or redeemable at the option of the issuer thereof.

Guarantees

Our payment obligations under any series of debt securities may be guaranteed by us or one or more of our subsidiaries. The terms of any such guarantee will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

Subordination

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms and conditions, if any, upon which any series of senior subordinated securities or subordinated securities is subordinated to debt securities of another series or to other indebtedness of ours. The terms will include a description of the following:

the indebtedness ranking senior to the debt securities being offered;

any restrictions on payments to the holders of the debt securities being offered while a default with respect to the senior indebtedness is continuing;

any restrictions on payments to the holders of the debt securities being offered following an event of default; and

provisions requiring holders of the debt securities being offered to remit some payments to holders of senior indebtedness.

Conversion and Exchange Rights

The terms on which debt securities of any series may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, preferred stock, or other securities or property of our company will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. These terms will include the following:

the conversion or exchange price, or the manner of calculating the price;

the exchange or conversion period;

whether the conversion or exchange is mandatory, or voluntary at the option of the holder, or at our option;

any restrictions on conversion or exchange in the event of redemption of the debt securities and any restrictions on conversion or exchange; and

the means of calculating the number of shares of our common stock, preferred stock, or other securities or property of us to be received by the holders of debt securities.

The conversion or exchange price of any debt securities of any series that are convertible into our common stock or preferred stock may be adjusted for any stock dividends, stock splits, reclassification, combinations, or similar transactions, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Redemption of Debt Securities

The debt securities may be subject to optional or mandatory redemption on terms and conditions described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Subject to such terms, we may opt at any time to partially or entirely redeem the debt securities.

If less than all the debt securities of any series are to be redeemed or purchased in an offer to purchase at any time, the trustee will select the debt securities of that series to be redeemed or purchased as follows: (1) if the securities of such series are listed on any national securities exchange, in compliance with the requirements of the principal national securities exchange on which the debt securities of that series are listed, or, (2) if the debt securities of that series are

not listed on a national securities exchange, on a pro rata basis, by lot, or by such other method as the trustee deems fair and appropriate.

Except as otherwise provided as to any particular series of debt securities, at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before a redemption date, we or the trustee will mail a notice of redemption to each holder whose debt securities are to be redeemed. From and after notice has been given as provided in the applicable indenture, if funds for the redemption of any debt securities called for redemption shall have been made available on the redemption date, the debt securities will cease to bear interest on the date fixed for the redemption specified in the notice, and the only right of the holders of the debt securities will be to receive payment of the redemption price.

Table of Contents

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of New York, except to the extent that the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 is applicable.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

We may issue receipts for depositary shares representing fractional shares of preferred stock. The fractional share of the applicable series of preferred stock represented by each depositary share will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The shares of any series of preferred stock underlying any depositary shares that we may sell under this prospectus will be deposited under a deposit agreement between us and a depositary selected by us. Subject to the terms of the deposit agreement, each holder of a depositary share will be entitled, in proportion to the applicable fraction of a share of the preferred stock underlying the depositary share, to all of the rights, preferences, and privileges, and will be subject to the qualifications and restrictions, of the preferred stock underlying that depositary share.

The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued under the deposit agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to the holders of the depositary shares that are sold in the applicable offering. We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of any deposit agreement, including a form of depositary receipt, that describes the terms of any depositary shares we are offering before the issuance of the related depositary shares. The following summaries of material provisions of the deposit agreement, the depositary shares, and the depositary receipts are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all of the provisions of the deposit agreement applicable to a particular offering of depositary shares. We urge you to read the prospectus supplements relating to any depositary shares that are sold under this prospectus, as well as the complete deposit agreement and depositary receipt.

Form

Pending the preparation of definitive depositary receipts, the depositary may, upon our written order, issue temporary depositary receipts substantially identical to the definitive depositary receipts but not in definitive form. These temporary depositary receipts will entitle their holders to all of the rights of definitive depositary receipts. Temporary depositary receipts will then be exchangeable for definitive depositary receipts at our expense.

Dividends and Other Distributions

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received with respect to the underlying preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary shares owned by those holders.

If there is a distribution other than in cash, the depositary will distribute property received by it to the record holders of depositary shares in proportion to the number of depositary shares owned by those holders, unless the depositary determines that it is not feasible to do so. If this occurs, the depositary may, with our approval, sell the property and distribute the net proceeds from the sale to those holders in proportion to the number of depositary shares owned by them.

The amount distributed to holders of depositary shares will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by us or the preferred stock depositary on account of taxes or other governmental charges.

Liquidation Preference

If a series of preferred stock underlying the depositary shares has a liquidation preference, in the event of our voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution, or winding up, holders of depositary shares will be

Table of Contents

entitled to receive the fraction of the liquidation preference accorded each share of the applicable series of preferred stock, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Withdrawal of Underlying Preferred Stock

Except as otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, holders may surrender depositary receipts at the principal office of the depositary and, upon payment of any unpaid amount due to the depositary, be entitled to receive the number of whole shares of underlying preferred stock and all money and other property represented by the related depositary shares. We will not issue any partial shares of preferred stock. If the holder delivers depositary receipts evidencing a number of depositary shares that represent more than a whole number of shares of preferred stock, the depositary will issue a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares to the holder.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

If the preferred stock underlying any depositary shares we may sell under this prospectus is subject to redemption, the depositary shares will be redeemed from the proceeds received by the depositary resulting from any such redemption, in whole or in part, of that underlying preferred stock. The redemption price per depositary share will be equal to the applicable fraction of the redemption price per share payable with respect to the underlying preferred stock. Whenever we redeem shares of underlying preferred stock that are held by the depositary, the depositary will redeem, as of the same redemption date, the number of depositary shares representing the shares of underlying preferred stock so redeemed. If fewer than all of the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot or proportionately, as may be determined by the depositary.

After the date fixed for redemption, the depositary shares called for redemption will no longer be deemed to be outstanding, and all rights of the holders of the depositary shares will cease, except the right to receive the monies payable and any other property to which the holders were entitled upon the redemption upon surrender to the preferred stock depositary of the depositary receipts evidencing the depositary shares. Any funds deposited by us with the preferred stock depositary for any depositary shares that the holders fail to redeem will be returned to us after a period of two years from the date the funds are deposited.

Voting

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which holders of the preferred stock underlying any depositary shares that we may sell under this prospectus are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in the notice to the record holders of the depositary shares. Each record holder of the depositary shares on the record date, which will be the same date as the record date for the underlying preferred stock, will be entitled to instruct the depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights pertaining to the amount of the underlying preferred stock represented by the holder's depositary shares. The depositary will then try, as far as practicable, to vote the number of shares of preferred stock underlying those depositary shares in accordance with those instructions, and we will agree to take all reasonable actions which may be deemed necessary by the depositary to enable the depositary to do so. The depositary will not vote the underlying preferred stock to the extent it does not receive specific instructions with respect to the depositary shares representing such preferred stock.

Conversion of Preferred Stock

If the prospectus supplement relating to any depositary shares that we may sell under this prospectus states that the underlying preferred stock is convertible into our common stock or other securities, the following will apply. The depositary shares, as such, will not be convertible into any of our securities. Rather, any holder of the depositary shares may surrender the related depositary receipts to the depositary with written instructions that direct us to cause

conversion of the preferred stock represented by the depositary shares into or for whole shares of our common stock or other securities, as applicable. Upon receipt of those instructions and any amounts payable by the holder in connection with the conversion, we will cause the conversion using

Table of Contents

the same procedures as those provided for conversion of the underlying preferred stock. If only some of a holder's depositary shares are converted, a new depositary receipt or receipts will be issued to the holder for any depositary shares not converted.

Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

The form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the deposit agreement may at any time be amended by agreement between us and the depositary. However, any amendment which materially and adversely alters the rights of the holders of depositary shares will not be effective until 90 days after notice of that amendment has been given to the holders. Each holder of depositary shares at the time any amendment becomes effective shall be deemed to consent and agree to that amendment and to be bound by the deposit agreement as so amended. The deposit agreement may be terminated by us or by the depositary only if all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed or converted into any other securities into which the underlying preferred stock is convertible or there has been a final distribution, including to holders of depositary receipts, of the underlying preferred stock in connection with our liquidation, dissolution, or winding up.

Charges of Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of the depositary arrangement. We will also pay charges of the depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred stock, the initial issuance of the depositary shares, any redemption of the preferred stock, and all withdrawals of preferred stock by owners of depositary shares. Holders of depositary receipts will pay transfer, income, and other taxes and governmental charges and other specified charges as provided in the deposit arrangement for their accounts. If these charges have not been paid, the depositary may refuse to transfer depositary shares, withhold dividends and distributions, and sell the depositary shares evidenced by the depositary receipt.

Limitation on Liability

Neither we nor the depositary will be liable if either of us is prevented or delayed by law or any circumstance beyond our control in performing our respective obligations under the deposit agreement. Our obligations and those of the depositary will be limited to performance of our respective duties under the deposit agreement without, in our case, negligence or bad faith or, in the case of the depositary, negligence or willful misconduct. We and the depositary may rely upon advice of counsel or accountants, or upon information provided by persons presenting the underlying preferred stock for deposit, holders of depositary receipts or other persons believed by us in good faith to be competent and on documents believed to be genuine.

Corporate Trust Office of Preferred Stock Depositary

The preferred stock depositary's corporate trust office will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to a series of depositary shares. The preferred stock depositary will act as transfer agent and registrar for depositary receipts, and, if shares of a series of preferred stock are redeemable, the preferred stock depositary will act as redemption agent for the corresponding depositary receipts.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

The depositary may resign at any time by delivering notice to us of its election to resign. We may remove the depositary at any time. Any resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor depositary and its acceptance of the appointment. The successor depositary must be appointed within 60 days after delivery of the notice of resignation or removal and must be a bank or trust company having its principal office in the United States

and having a combined capital and surplus of at least \$50,000,000.

Table of Contents

Reports to Holders

We will deliver all required reports and communications to holders of the preferred stock to the preferred stock depositary, and it will forward those reports and communications to the holders of depositary shares. Upon request, the preferred stock depositary will provide for inspection to the holders of depositary shares the transfer books of the depositary and the list of holders of receipts; provided that any requesting holder certifies to the preferred stock depositary that such inspection is for a proper purpose reasonably related to such person's interest as an owner of depositary shares evidenced by the receipts.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

General

We may issue warrants to purchase common stock (which we refer to as common stock warrants), preferred stock (which we refer to as preferred stock warrants), or depositary shares (which we refer to as depositary share warrants). Any of these warrants may be issued independently or together with any other securities offered by this prospectus and may be attached to or separate from those securities.

While the terms we have summarized below will generally apply to any future warrants we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any warrants that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of any warrants we offer under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms we describe below.

We may issue the warrants under a warrant agreement, which we will enter into with a warrant agent to be selected by us. Each warrant agent will act solely as our agent under the applicable warrant agreement and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holder of any warrant. A single bank or trust company may act as warrant agent for more than one issue of warrants. A warrant agent will have no duty or responsibility in case of any default by us under the applicable warrant agreement or warrant, including any duty or responsibility to initiate any proceedings at law or otherwise, or to make any demand upon us. Any holder of a warrant may, without the consent of the related warrant agent or the holder of any other warrant, enforce by appropriate legal action its right to exercise, and receive the securities purchasable upon exercise of, its warrants.

We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of warrant agreement, including a form of warrant certificate, that describes the terms of the series of warrants we are offering before the issuance of the related series of warrants. The following summaries of material provisions of the warrants and the warrant agreements are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the warrant agreement applicable to a particular series of warrants. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplements related to the warrants that we sell under this prospectus, as well as the complete warrant agreements that contain the terms of the warrants.

We will set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, including, when applicable, the following:

the title of the warrants;

the aggregate number of the warrants;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

the designation, number, and terms of the debt securities, common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, or combination thereof purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

the designation and terms of the other securities, if any, with which the warrants are issued and the number of warrants issued with each such security;

the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the related underlying securities will be separately transferable;

Table of Contents

the price at which each underlying security purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence and the date on which such right will expire;

the minimum amount of the warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

any information with respect to book-entry procedures;

the effect of any merger, consolidation, sale, or other disposition of our business on the warrant agreement and the warrants;

any other terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures, and limitations relating to the transferability, exchange, and exercise of such warrants;

the terms of any rights to redeem or call, or accelerate the expiration of, the warrants;

the date on which the right to exercise the warrants begins and the date on which that right expires;

the U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding or exercising the warrants; and

any other specific terms, preferences, rights or limitations of, or restrictions on, the warrants.

Unless specified in an applicable prospectus supplement, common stock warrants, preferred stock warrants, or depositary share warrants will be in registered form only.

A holder of warrant certificates may exchange them for new certificates of different denominations, present them for registration of transfer, and exercise them at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Until any warrants to purchase common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares are exercised, holders of the warrants will not have any rights of holders of the underlying common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares, including any rights to receive dividends or to exercise any voting rights, except to the extent set forth under the heading **Warrant Adjustments** below.

Exercise of Warrants

Each warrant will entitle the holder to purchase for cash shares of common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares at the applicable exercise price set forth in, or determined as described in, the applicable prospectus supplement. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void.

Warrants may be exercised by delivering to the corporation trust office of the warrant agent or any other officer indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement (a) the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed and (b) payment of the amount due upon exercise. As soon as practicable following exercise, we will forward the shares of preferred stock, common stock, or depositary shares upon exercise. If less than all of the warrants represented by a warrant certificate are exercised, a new warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining warrants. If we so indicate in the applicable prospectus supplement, holders of the warrants may surrender securities as all or a part of the exercise price for the warrants.

Amendments and Supplements to the Warrant Agreements

We may amend or supplement a warrant agreement without the consent of the holders of the applicable warrants to cure ambiguities in the warrant agreement, to cure or correct a defective provision in the warrant agreement, or to provide for other matters under the warrant agreement that we and the warrant agent deem necessary or desirable, so long as, in each case, such amendments or supplements do not materially adversely affect the interests of the holders of the warrants.

Table of Contents

Warrant Adjustments

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement states otherwise, the exercise price of, and the number of securities covered by, a common stock warrant, preferred stock warrant, or depositary share warrant will be adjusted proportionately if we subdivide or combine our common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares, as applicable. In addition, unless the prospectus supplement states otherwise, if we, without payment:

issue capital stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for common stock or preferred stock, or any rights to subscribe for, purchase or otherwise acquire any of the foregoing, as a dividend or distribution to holders of our common stock or preferred stock;

pay any cash to holders of our common stock or preferred stock other than a cash dividend paid out of our current or retained earnings or other than in accordance with the terms of the preferred stock;

issue any evidence of our indebtedness or rights to subscribe for or purchase our indebtedness to holders of our common stock or preferred stock; or

issue common stock or preferred stock or additional stock or other securities or property to holders of our common stock or preferred stock by way of spinoff, split-up, reclassification, combination of shares, or similar corporate rearrangement,

then the holders of common stock warrants, preferred stock warrants, and depositary share warrants, as applicable, will be entitled to receive upon exercise of the warrants, in addition to the securities otherwise receivable upon exercise of the warrants and without paying any additional consideration, the amount of stock and other securities and property such holders would have been entitled to receive had they held the common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares, as applicable, issuable under the warrants on the dates on which holders of those securities received or became entitled to receive such additional stock and other securities and property.

Except as stated above, the exercise price and number of securities covered by a common stock warrant, preferred stock warrant, and depositary share warrant, and the amounts of other securities or property to be received, if any, upon exercise of those warrants, will not be adjusted or provided for if we issue those securities or any securities convertible into or exchangeable for those securities, or securities carrying the right to purchase those securities or securities convertible into or exchangeable for those securities.

Holders of common stock warrants, preferred stock warrants, and depositary share warrants may have additional rights under the following circumstances:

certain reclassifications, capital reorganizations, or changes of the common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares, as applicable;

certain share exchanges, mergers, or similar transactions involving us and which result in changes of the common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares, as applicable; or

certain sales or dispositions to another entity of all or substantially all of our property and assets.

If one of the above transactions occurs and holders of our common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares are entitled to receive stock, securities, or other property with respect to or in exchange for their securities, the holders of the common stock warrants, preferred stock warrants, and depositary share warrants then outstanding, as applicable, will be entitled to receive upon exercise of their warrants the kind and amount of shares of stock and other securities

or property that they would have received upon the applicable transaction if they had exercised their warrants immediately before the transaction.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF PURCHASE CONTRACTS

We may issue purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and for us to sell to holders, a specific or varying number of debt securities, shares of common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, or warrants, or any combination of the above, at a future date or dates. Alternatively, the purchase contracts may obligate us to purchase from holders, and obligate holders to sell to us, a specific or varying number of debt securities, shares of common stock, preferred stock, or depositary shares, warrants, or any combination of the above. The price of the securities subject to the purchase contracts may be fixed at the time the purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula described in the purchase contracts. We may issue purchase contracts separately or as a part of units each consisting of a purchase contract and one or more of the other securities described in this prospectus or securities of third parties, including U.S. Treasury securities, securing the holder's obligations under the purchase contract. If we issue a purchase contract as part of a unit, the applicable prospectus supplement will state whether the purchase contract will be separable from the other securities in the unit before the purchase contract settlement date. The purchase contracts may require us to make periodic payments to holders or vice versa and the payments may be unsecured or pre-funded on some basis. The purchase contracts may require holders to secure the holder's obligations in a manner specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, and in certain circumstances we may deliver newly issued prepaid purchase contracts, often known as prepaid securities, upon release to a holder of any collateral securing such holder's obligations under the original purchase contract.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any purchase contracts in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, including, to the extent applicable, the following:

whether the purchase contracts obligate the holder or us to purchase or sell, or both purchase and sell, the securities subject to purchase under the purchase contract, and the nature and amount of each of those securities, or the method of determining those amounts;

whether the purchase contracts are to be prepaid or not;

whether the purchase contracts will be issued as part of a unit and, if so, the other securities comprising the unit;

whether the purchase contracts are to be settled by delivery, or by reference or linkage to the value, performance, or level of the securities subject to purchase under the purchase contract;

any acceleration, cancellation, termination, or other provisions relating to the settlement of the purchase contracts; and

whether the purchase contracts will be issued in fully registered or global form.

Material U.S. federal income tax consideration applicable to the stock purchase contracts and the stock purchase units will also be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

DESCRIPTION OF UNITS

The following description, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the units that we may offer under this prospectus. Units may be offered independently or together with common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares, and warrants offered

by any prospectus supplement, and may be attached to or separate from those securities. While the terms we have summarized below will generally apply to any future units that we may offer under this prospectus, we will describe the particular terms of any series of units that we may offer in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. The terms of any units offered under a prospectus supplement may differ from the terms described below.

We will incorporate by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part the form of unit agreement, including a form of unit certificate, if any, that describes the terms of the series of units we are offering before the issuance of the related series of units. The following summaries of material

Table of Contents

provisions of the units and the unit agreements are subject to, and qualified in their entirety by reference to, all the provisions of the unit agreement applicable to a particular series of units. We urge you to read the applicable prospectus supplements related to the units that we sell under this prospectus, as well as the complete unit agreements that contain the terms of the units.

General

We may issue units consisting of one or more shares of common stock, shares of preferred stock, depositary shares, and warrants in any combination. Each unit will be issued so that the holder of the unit is also the holder of each security included in the unit. Thus, the holder of a unit will have the rights and obligations of a holder of each included security. The unit agreement under which a unit is issued may provide that the securities included in the unit may not be held or transferred separately, at any time, or at any time before a specified date.

We will describe in the applicable prospectus supplement the terms of the series of units, including the following:

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

any provisions of the governing unit agreement that differ from those described below; and

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

The provisions described in this section, as well as those described under Description of Common Stock, Description of Preferred Stock, Description of Depositary Shares, and Description of Warrants, will apply to each unit and to any common stock, preferred stock, depositary share, or warrant included in each unit, respectively.

Issuance in Series

We may issue units in such amounts and in such numerous distinct series as we determine.

Enforceability of Rights by Holders of Units

Each unit agent will act solely as our agent under the applicable unit agreement and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any holder of any unit. A single bank or trust company may act as unit agent for more than one series of units. A unit agent will have no duty or responsibility in case of any default by us under the applicable unit agreement or unit, including any duty or responsibility to initiate any proceedings at law or otherwise, or to make any demand upon us. Any holder of a unit may, without the consent of the related unit agent or the holder of any other unit, enforce by appropriate legal action its rights as holder under any security included in the unit.

Title

We, the unit agent, and any of their agents may treat the registered holder of any unit certificate as an absolute owner of the units evidenced by that certificate for any purposes and as the person entitled to exercise the rights attaching to the units so requested, despite any notice to the contrary.

Table of Contents

**CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF DELAWARE LAW AND
THE COMPANY'S CHARTER AND BYLAWS**

The following paragraphs summarize certain provisions of the Delaware law and our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws. The summary does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to Delaware law and to our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws, copies of which are on file with the SEC as exhibits to reports previously filed by us. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#).

General

Certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws and Delaware law could make our acquisition by a third party, a change in our incumbent management, or a similar change of control more difficult, including:

- an acquisition of us by means of a tender or exchange offer;
- an acquisition of us by means of a proxy contest or otherwise; or
- the removal of a majority or all of our incumbent officers and directors.

These provisions, which are summarized below, are likely to discourage certain types of coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids. These provisions are also designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to first negotiate with our board of directors. We believe that these provisions help to protect our potential ability to negotiate with the proponent of an unfriendly or unsolicited proposal to acquire or restructure us, and that this benefit outweighs the potential disadvantages of discouraging such a proposal because our ability to negotiate with the proponent could result in an improvement of the terms of the proposal. The existence of these provisions which are described below could limit the price that investors might otherwise pay in the future for our securities.

Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Authorized But Unissued Capital Stock. We have shares of common stock and preferred stock available for future issuance without stockholder approval, subject to any limitations imposed by the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. We may utilize these additional shares for a variety of corporate purposes, including for future public offerings to raise additional capital or facilitate corporate acquisitions or for payment as a dividend on our capital stock. The existence of unissued and unreserved common stock and preferred stock may enable our board of directors to issue shares to persons friendly to current management or to issue preferred stock with terms that could have the effect of making it more difficult for a third party to acquire, or could discourage a third party from seeking to acquire, a controlling interest in our company by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest, or otherwise. In addition, if we issue preferred stock, the issuance could adversely affect the voting power of holders of common stock and the likelihood that such holders will receive dividend payments and payments upon liquidation.

Blank Check Preferred Stock. Our board of directors, without stockholder approval, has the authority under our restated certificate of incorporation to issue preferred stock with rights superior to the rights of the holders of common stock. As a result, preferred stock could be issued quickly and easily, could impair the rights of holders of common stock, and could be issued with terms calculated to delay or prevent a change of control or make removal of management more difficult.

Election of Directors. Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that a majority of directors then in office may fill any vacancy occurring on the board of directors, even though less than a quorum may then be in office. These provisions may discourage a third party from voting to remove incumbent directors and simultaneously gaining control of the board of directors by filling the vacancies created by that removal with its own nominees.

Classified Board of Directors. Our restated certificate of incorporation divides our board of directors into three classes with one class standing for election each year for a three-year term.

Table of Contents

Removal of Directors. Except in certain cases for directors elected by the holders of any series of preferred stock, a director may be removed from office only with cause and only by the affirmative vote of 662/3% or more of the combined voting power of the then issued and outstanding shares of our capital stock entitled to vote in the election of directors, voting together as a single class.

Stockholder Action. Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that stockholders may only act at meetings of stockholders and not by written consent in lieu of a stockholders' meeting, unless the action is approved in advance by our board of directors.

Stockholder Meetings. Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that stockholders may not call a special meeting of stockholders. Rather, only our chairman of the board or our board of directors, acting pursuant to a resolution of a majority of the directors then in office, will be able to call special meetings of stockholders. Our amended and restated bylaws also provide that stockholders may only conduct business at special meetings of stockholders that was specified in the notice of the meeting. These provisions may discourage another person or entity from making a tender offer, even if it acquired a majority of our outstanding voting stock, because the person or entity could only take action at a duly called stockholders' meeting relating to the business specified in the notice of meeting and not by written consent.

Requirements for Advance Notification of Stockholder Nominations and Proposals. Our amended and restated bylaws provide that a stockholder seeking to bring business before an annual meeting of stockholders, or to nominate candidates for election as directors at an annual meeting of stockholders, must provide timely notice of this intention in writing. To be timely, a stockholder must deliver or mail the notice and we must receive the notice at our principal executive offices not later than 90 and not earlier than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the last year's meeting, subject to certain exceptions. Our amended and restated bylaws also include a similar requirement for making director nominations and specify requirements as to the form and content of the stockholder's notice. These provisions could delay stockholder actions that are favored by the holders of a majority of our outstanding stock until the next stockholders' meeting.

Super-Majority Voting. Delaware law generally provides that the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares entitled to vote on any matter is required to amend a corporation's certificate of incorporation, unless a corporation's certificate of incorporation requires a greater percentage. We have provisions in our restated certificate of incorporation that also requires the approval by at least a majority of the then serving directors and a vote of at least 662/3% of the combined voting power of the issued and outstanding shares of voting capital stock, voting together as a single class, to amend, alter, change, or repeal certain provisions of our restated certificate of incorporation, including those relating to the election of directors, meetings of stockholders, limitation on director and officer liability, and matters relating to business combinations.

Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute

We are a Delaware corporation subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. Under Section 203, some business combinations between a Delaware corporation whose stock generally is publicly traded or held of record by more than 2,000 stockholders and an interested stockholder are prohibited for a three-year period following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, in the absence of any of the following:

the corporation has elected in its restated certificate of incorporation not to be governed by Section 203;

the board of directors of the corporation approved the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder before the stockholder became an interested stockholder;

upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the commencement of the transaction, excluding voting stock owned by directors who are also officers or held in employee benefit plans in which the employees do not have a confidential right to tender stock held by the plan in a tender or exchange offer; or

Table of Contents

the board of directors approves the business combination and holders of two-thirds of the voting stock that the interested stockholder did not own authorize the business combination at a meeting.

We have not made an election in our certificate of incorporation to opt out of Section 203. In addition to the above exceptions to Section 203, the three-year prohibition does not apply to some business combinations proposed by an interested stockholder following the announcement or notification of an extraordinary transaction involving the corporation and a person who was not an interested stockholder during the previous three years or who became an interested stockholder with the approval of a majority of the corporation's directors. For the purposes of Section 203, a business combination generally includes mergers or consolidations, transactions involving the assets or stock of the corporation or its majority-owned subsidiaries, and transactions that increase an interested stockholder's percentage ownership of stock. Also, an interested stockholder is defined generally as a person who, together with affiliates and associates, owns or within three years prior to the determination of interested stockholder status, did own, 15% or more of a corporation's voting stock. The existence of this provision may have an anti-takeover effect with respect to transactions not approved in advance by the board of directors, including discouraging attempts that might result in a premium over the market price for the shares of common stock held by stockholders.

Limitation of Liability and Indemnification

Our restated certificate of incorporation limits the liability of our directors to the maximum extent permitted by Delaware law. Delaware law provides that directors will not be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duties as directors, except liability for any of the following:

- any breach of their duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders;
- acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- unlawful payments of dividends or unlawful stock repurchases or redemptions; or
- any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

This provision has no effect on any non-monetary remedies that may be available to us or our stockholders, nor does it relieve us or our officers or directors from compliance with federal or state securities laws.

Our restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, and our amended and restated bylaws provide that we will indemnify and advance expenses, to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law, to each person who is or was a director or officer of the registrant, or who serves or served any other enterprise or organization at our request. The indemnification provided under our restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws includes the right to be paid expenses in advance of any proceeding for which indemnification may be payable, provided that the payment of these expenses incurred by a director or officer in advance of the final disposition of a proceeding may be made only upon delivery to us of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director or officer to repay all amounts so paid in advance if it is ultimately determined that the director or officer is not entitled to be indemnified. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers, or persons controlling us under the provisions that we describe above or otherwise, we have been informed that in the opinion of the SEC, this indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

Our amended and restated bylaws also permit us to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any officer or director for any liability arising out of his or her actions in that capacity, regardless of whether our amended and

restated bylaws would otherwise permit indemnification for that liability. We are not aware of any threatened litigation or proceeding that may result in a claim for indemnification against our directors, officers, employees, or agents.

Stockholders Rights Plan

Our stockholders rights plan may have the effect of deterring, delaying, or preventing a change in control that might otherwise be in the best interests of our stockholders. Under the rights plan, we issued a dividend

Table of Contents

of one preferred share purchase right for each share of our common stock held by stockholders of record as of the close of business on September 7, 2001.

In general, subject to certain limited exceptions, the stock purchase rights become exercisable when a person or group acquires 15% or more of our common stock or a tender offer or exchange offer for 15% or more of our common stock is announced or commenced. After any such event, our other stockholders may purchase additional shares of our common stock at 50% of the then-current market price. The rights will cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire us on terms not approved by our board of directors. The rights may be redeemed by us at \$0.01 per stock purchase right at any time before any person or group acquires 15% or more of our outstanding common stock. The rights should not interfere with any merger or other business combination approved by our board of directors. The rights expire on August 28, 2011.

LEGAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

We can issue securities in registered form or in the form of one or more global securities. We refer to those persons who have securities registered in their own names on the books that we or any applicable trustee, depository, or warrant agent maintain for this purpose as the **holders** of those securities. These persons are the legal holders of the securities. We refer to those persons who, indirectly through others, own beneficial interests in securities that are not registered in their own names, as **indirect holders** of those securities. As we discuss below, indirect holders are not legal holders, and investors in securities issued in book-entry form or in street name will be indirect holders.

See also the section entitled **Description of Debt Securities** **Transfer and Exchange** above for additional discussion of book entry and certificated form of ownership as such forms of ownership impact the rights and obligations of purchasers of debt securities to be issued under this prospectus.

Book-Entry Holders

We may issue securities in book-entry form only, as we will specify in the applicable prospectus supplement. This means securities may be represented by one or more global securities registered in the name of a financial institution that holds them as depository on behalf of other financial institutions that participate in the depository's book-entry system. These participating institutions, which are referred to as participants, in turn, hold beneficial interests in the securities on behalf of themselves or their customers. Upon the issuance of a global security, the depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the participants' accounts with the respective principal amounts of the book-entry securities represented by the global security beneficially owned by such participants. The accounts to be credited will be designated by any dealers, underwriters, or agents participating in the distribution of the book-entry securities. Ownership of book-entry securities will be shown on, and the transfer of the ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the depository for the related global security (with respect to interests of participants) and on the records of participants (with respect to interests of persons holding through participants). The laws of some states may require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of such securities in definitive form. These laws may impair the ability to own, transfer, or pledge beneficial interests in book-entry securities.

Only the person in whose name a security is registered is recognized as the holder of that security. Securities issued in global form will be registered in the name of the depository or its participants. Consequently, for securities issued in global form, we will recognize only the depository as the holder of the securities, and we will make all payments on the securities to the depository. The depository passes along the payments it receives to its participants, which in turn pass the payments along to their customers who are the beneficial owners. The depository and its participants do so under agreements they have made with one another or with their customers; they are not obligated to do so under the terms of the securities.

As a result, investors in a book-entry security will not own securities directly. Instead, they will own beneficial interests in a global security, through a bank, broker, or other financial institution that participates in

Table of Contents

the depositary's book-entry system or holds an interest through a participant. As long as the securities are issued in global form, investors will be indirect holders, and not holders, of the securities.

Street Name Holders

We may terminate a global security or issue securities in non-global form. In these cases, investors may choose to hold their securities in their own names or in street name. Securities held by an investor in street name would be registered in the name of a bank, broker, or other financial institution that the investor chooses, and the investor would hold only a beneficial interest in those securities through an account he, she, or it maintains at that institution.

For securities held in street name, we will recognize only the intermediary banks, brokers, and other financial institutions in whose names the securities are registered as the holders of those securities, and we will make all payments on those securities to them. These institutions pass along the payments they receive to their customers who are the beneficial owners, but only because they agree to do so in their customer agreements or because they are legally required to do so. Investors who hold securities in street name will be indirect holders, not holders, of those securities.

Legal Holders

Our obligations, as well as the obligations of any applicable trustee and of any third parties employed by us or a trustee, run only to the legal holders of the securities. We do not have obligations to investors who hold beneficial interests in global securities, in street name, or by any other indirect means. This will be the case whether an investor chooses to be an indirect holder of a security or has no choice because we are issuing the securities only in global form.

For example, once we make a payment or give a notice to the holder, we have no further responsibility for the payment or notice even if that holder is required, under agreements with depositary participants or customers or by law, to pass it along to the indirect holders but does not do so. Whether and how the holders contact the indirect holders is up to the holders.

Special Considerations For Indirect Holders

If you hold securities through a bank, broker, or other financial institution, either in book-entry form or in street name, you should check with your own institution to determine the following:

- how it handles securities payments and notices;

- whether it imposes fees or charges;

- how it would handle a request for the holders' consent, if ever required;

- whether and how you can instruct it to send you securities registered in your own name so you can be a holder, if that is permitted in the future;

- how it would exercise rights under the securities if there were a default or other event triggering the need for holders to act to protect their interests; and

- if the securities are in book-entry form, how the depositary's rules and procedures will affect these matters.

Global Securities

A global security is a security that represents one or any other number of individual securities held by a depositary. Generally, all securities represented by the same global securities will have the same terms. Each security issued in book-entry form will be represented by a global security that we deposit with and register in the name of a financial institution or its nominee that we select. The financial institution that we select for this purpose is called the depositary. Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, The

Table of Contents

Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, known as DTC, will be the depository for all securities issued in book-entry form.

A global security may not be transferred to or registered in the name of anyone other than the depository, its nominee, or a successor depository, unless special termination situations arise. We describe those situations below under **Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated**. As a result of these arrangements, the depository, or its nominee, will be the sole registered owner and holder of all securities represented by a global security, and investors will be permitted to own only beneficial interests in a global security. Beneficial interests must be held by means of an account with a broker, bank, or other financial institution that in turn has an account with the depository or with another institution that does. Thus, an investor whose security is represented by a global security will not be a holder of the security, but only an indirect holder of a beneficial interest in the global security.

If the prospectus supplement for a particular security indicates that the security will be issued in global form only, then the security will be represented by a global security at all times unless and until the global security is terminated. If termination occurs, we may issue the securities through another book-entry clearing system or decide that the securities may no longer be held through any book-entry clearing system.

We may at any time and in our sole discretion determine not to have any of the book-entry securities of any series represented by one or more global securities and, in that event, we will issue certificated securities in exchange for the global securities of that series.

Special Considerations For Global Securities

The rights of an indirect holder relating to a global security will be governed by the account rules of the investor's financial institution and of the depository, as well as general laws relating to securities transfers. We do not recognize an indirect holder as a holder of securities and instead deal only with the depository that holds the global security.

If securities are issued only in the form of a global security, an investor should be aware of the following:

- an investor cannot cause the securities to be registered in his, her, or its name, and cannot obtain non-global certificates for his, her, or its interest in the securities, except in the special situations we describe below;

- an investor will be an indirect holder and must look to his, her, or its own bank or broker for payments on the securities and protection of his, her, or its legal rights relating to the securities, as we describe above;

- an investor may not be able to sell interests in the securities to some insurance companies and to other institutions that are required by law to own their securities in non-book-entry form;

- an investor may not be able to pledge his, her, or its interest in a global security in circumstances where certificates representing the securities must be delivered to the lender or other beneficiary of the pledge in order for the pledge to be effective;

- the depository's policies, which may change from time to time, will govern payments, transfers, exchanges, and other matters relating to an investor's interest in a global security;

- we and any applicable trustee have no responsibility for any aspect of the depository's actions or for its records of ownership interests in a global security, nor do we or any applicable trustee supervise the depository in any way;

the depositary may, and we understand that DTC will, require that those who purchase and sell interests in a global security within its book-entry system use immediately available funds, and your broker or bank may require you to do so as well; and

Table of Contents

financial institutions that participate in the depositary's book-entry system, and through which an investor holds its interest in a global security, may also have their own policies affecting payments, notices, and other matters relating to the securities.

There may be more than one financial intermediary in the chain of ownership for an investor. We do not monitor and are not responsible for the actions of any of those intermediaries.

Special Situations When a Global Security Will Be Terminated

In a few special situations described below, the global security will terminate and interests in it will be exchanged for physical certificates representing those interests. After that exchange, the choice of whether to hold securities directly or in street name will be up to the investor. Investors must consult their own banks or brokers to find out how to have their interests in securities transferred to their own name, so that they will be direct holders. We have described the rights of holders and street name investors above.

Unless we provide otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the global security will terminate when the following special situations occur:

if the depositary notifies us that it is unwilling, unable, or no longer qualified under the Exchange Act to continue as depositary for that global security and we do not appoint another institution to act as depositary within 90 days;

if we notify any applicable trustee that we wish to terminate that global security; or

if an event of default has occurred with regard to securities represented by that global security and has not been cured or waived.

The prospectus supplement may also list additional situations for terminating a global security that would apply only to the particular types and series of securities covered by the applicable prospectus supplement. When a global security terminates, the depositary, and not we or any applicable trustee, is responsible for deciding the names of the institutions that will be the initial direct holders.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell the securities described in this prospectus from time to time in one or more of the following ways:

to or through underwriters or dealers;

directly to one or more purchasers;

through agents; or

through a combination of any of those methods of sale.

The prospectus supplement with respect to the offered securities will describe the terms of the offering, including the following:

the name or names of any underwriters or agents;

any public offering price;

the proceeds from such sale;

any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation;

any over-allotment options under which underwriters may purchase additional securities from us;

any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and

any securities exchanges on which the securities may be listed.

Table of Contents

We may distribute the securities from time to time in one or more of the following ways:

- at a fixed public offering price or prices, which may be changed;
- at prices relating to prevailing market prices at the time of sale;
- at varying prices determined at the time of sale; or
- at negotiated prices.

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, if we use underwriters for a sale of securities, the underwriters will acquire the securities for their own account. The underwriters may resell the securities in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the securities will be subject to the conditions set forth in the applicable underwriting agreement. Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the securities of the series offered if they purchase any of the securities of that series. We may change from time to time any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions the underwriters allow or realow or pay to dealers. We may use underwriters with whom we have a material relationship. We will describe in the prospectus supplement naming the underwriter the nature of any such relationship. We may designate agents who agree to use their reasonable efforts to solicit purchases for the period of their appointment or to sell securities on a continuing basis. We may also sell securities directly to one or more purchasers without using underwriters or agents.

Underwriters, dealers, or agents may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions, or commissions from us or from purchasers of the securities as their agents in connection with the sale of the securities. These underwriters, dealers, or agents may be considered to be underwriters under the Securities Act. As a result, discounts, commissions, or profits on resale received by underwriters, dealers, or agents may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions. Each prospectus supplement will identify any underwriter, dealer, or agent and describe any compensation received by them from us. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each class or series of securities will be a new issue with no established trading market, other than our common stock, which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchange, but we are not obligated to do so. It is possible that one or more underwriters may make a market in a class or series of securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. We cannot give any assurance as to the liquidity of the trading market for any of the securities.

In connection with any offering, the underwriters may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions, syndicate covering transactions, and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act.

Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

Over-allotment involves sales by the underwriters of shares of our common stock in excess of the number of shares the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position. The short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of shares of our common stock over-allotted by the underwriters is not greater than the number of shares that they

may purchase in the over-allotment option. In a naked short position, the number of shares of our common stock involved is greater than the number of shares in the over-allotment option. The underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising their over-allotment option or purchasing shares of our common stock in the open market.

Table of Contents

Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of our common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. In determining the source of shares to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares of our common stock available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option so that if there is a naked short position, the position can only be closed out by buying shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the shares of our common stock in the open market after the pricing of any offering that could adversely affect investors who purchase in that offering.

Penalty bids permit the representatives of the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the common stock originally sold by the syndicate member is purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions, and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of our common stock. As a result, the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Underwriters, dealers, and agents may be entitled under agreements entered into with us to indemnification against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments they may be required to make in respect of these liabilities thereof. Underwriters, dealers, and agents and their affiliates may be customers of, may engage in transactions with, or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business for which they receive compensation.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities offered hereby will be passed upon by Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Phoenix, Arizona. Certain members of such firm beneficially owned 47,484 shares of our common stock as of the date of this prospectus. Robert S. Kant, a principal shareholder of Greenberg Traurig, P.A., has served as a director of our company since August 1998.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of MarineMax, Inc. appearing in MarineMax, Inc.'s Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended September 30, 2007, and the effectiveness of MarineMax, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of September 30, 2007 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>About this Prospectus Supplement</u>	S-i
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-i
<u>Prospectus Supplement Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	S-9
<u>Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-22
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-22
<u>Dividend Policy</u>	S-22
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-23
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-24
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-26
<u>Experts</u>	S-26
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	S-27
<u>Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference</u>	S-27
Prospectus	
<u>About This Prospectus</u>	ii
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	2
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	2
<u>Forward-Looking Statements</u>	2
<u>Incorporation of Certain Information by Reference</u>	3
<u>Prospectus Supplements</u>	4
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	4
<u>Dilution</u>	4
<u>Securities We May Offer</u>	4
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	5
<u>Description of Common Stock</u>	5
<u>Description of Preferred Stock</u>	6
<u>Description of Debt Securities</u>	10
<u>Description of Depositary Shares</u>	21
<u>Description of Warrants</u>	24
<u>Description of Purchase Contracts</u>	27
<u>Description of Units</u>	27
<u>Certain Provisions of Delaware Law and the Company's Charter and Bylaws</u>	29
<u>Legal Ownership of Securities</u>	32
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	35
<u>Legal Matters</u>	37
<u>Experts</u>	37

2,600,000 Shares

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

RAYMOND JAMES

, 2009