

WIRELESS FACILITIES INC
Form S-3/A
March 19, 2004
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 19, 2004

Registration No. 333-112956

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

AMENDMENT NO. 1

TO

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Under

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

WIRELESS FACILITIES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

13-3818604
(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

4810 Eastgate Mall
San Diego, CA 92121

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

(858) 228-2000

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

Eric DeMarco

President and Chief Operating Officer

4810 Eastgate Mall

San Diego, CA 92121

(858) 228-2000

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

With a copy to:

Scott M. Stanton, Esq.

Laura G. Sand, Esq.

Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP

4365 Executive Drive, Suite 1100

San Diego, CA 92121-2133

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:

From time to time after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

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

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

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

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

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

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, check the following box. " _____

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

Table of Contents

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the securities and exchange commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities, nor is it soliciting offers to buy these securities, in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

PROSPECTUS (Subject to Completion)

dated March 19, 2004

\$200,000,000

plus

5,400,000 Shares of Common Stock

to be Offered by Selling Stockholders

We may offer, from time to time, together or separately, up to \$200,000,000 aggregate amount, or the equivalent in one or more foreign currencies or currency units, of:

common stock

preferred stock

subordinated debt securities

senior debt securities

warrants

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

We may offer the securities in one or more series, in amounts, at prices and on terms determined at the time of offering. We will provide the specific terms of any securities we actually offer for sale in supplements to this prospectus.

This prospectus also relates to up to 5,400,000 shares of our common stock that the selling stockholders named in this prospectus may offer from time to time. The registration of these shares does not necessarily mean that the selling stockholders will offer or sell their shares.

You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you purchase any of our securities. This prospectus may not be used to sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

We or the selling stockholders may sell the securities directly to you, through agents we select, or through underwriters or dealers we or the selling stockholders select. If we or the selling stockholders use agents, underwriters or dealers to sell the securities, they will be named and their compensation will be described in one or more prospectus supplements. The net proceeds we expect to receive from such sales will be set forth in the prospectus supplement. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale by the selling stockholders of their shares of common stock.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol WFII. On March 17, 2004, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the Nasdaq National Market was \$11.51 per share. The preferred stock, the warrants and the debt securities are not currently publicly traded.

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully consider the Risk Factors beginning on page 4 of this prospectus before you make an investment in our securities.

The Securities and Exchange Commission and state securities regulators have not approved or disapproved these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is _____, 2004

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS</u>	1
<u>PROSPECTUS SUMMARY</u>	2
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	4
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	13
<u>DIVIDEND POLICY</u>	13
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK</u>	
<u>DIVIDENDS</u>	13
<u>DESCRIPTION OF COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCK</u>	13
<u>DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES</u>	16
<u>DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS</u>	25
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	26
<u>SELLING STOCKHOLDERS</u>	28
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	29
<u>EXPERTS</u>	29
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	29
<u>INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE</u>	29

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO READERS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, using a shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, using this prospectus, together with a prospectus supplement, we may sell, from time to time, in one or more offerings, any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in a dollar amount that does not exceed \$200,000,000, in the aggregate and the selling stockholders named in this prospectus may offer and sell up to 5,400,000 shares of our common stock. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we or the selling stockholders may offer. Each time we or the selling stockholders offer securities, a prospectus supplement will be provided that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. You should read this prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus before making an investment in our securities. See [Where You Can Find More Information](#) for more information.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement. Neither we nor any of the selling stockholders have authorized anyone to provide you with different information. This document may be used only in jurisdictions where offers and sales of these securities are permitted. You should not assume that information contained in this prospectus, in any supplement to this prospectus, or in any document incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front page of the document that contains the information, regardless of when this prospectus is delivered or when any sale of our securities occurs.

In this prospectus, we use the terms [WFI](#), [we](#), [us](#) and [our](#) to refer to Wireless Facilities, Inc.

Table of Contents

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Any statements about our expectations, beliefs, plans, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance are not historical facts and may be forward-looking. These statements are often, but are not always, made through the use of words or phrases such as anticipates, estimates, plans, projects, continuing, ongoing, expects, management believes, we believe, we intend and similar. Accordingly, these statements involve estimates, assumptions and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed in them. Any forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by reference to the factors discussed throughout this prospectus, and in particular to the factors discussed under the section entitled Risk Factors in this prospectus. Among the key factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements are:

changes in the rate of growth and deployment of wireless networks;

changes in economic conditions of the various markets we serve;

the loss of key customers or delays in project timing for our customers;

the risks associated with acquiring and integrating businesses that we may acquire;

our ability to successfully expand our government services division; and

our ability to win federal government contracts and to achieve anticipated synergies between our divisions.

Because the factors referred to above could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements we make, you should not place undue reliance on any such forward-looking statements. Further, any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement or statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict which factors will arise. In addition, we cannot assess the impact of each factor on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information about our company and provides a general description of the securities we may offer. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. For a more complete understanding of us and the terms of the particular securities we will offer, you should read carefully this entire prospectus, the applicable prospectus supplement for such securities and the other documents we refer to and incorporate by reference. In particular, we incorporate important business, financial and other information in this prospectus by reference.

Our Company

We are an independent provider of outsourced communications and security systems engineering and integration services and other technical services for the wireless communications industry, the U.S. government, and enterprise customers. We were incorporated in the state of New York on December 19, 1994 and began operations in March 1995. We reincorporated in the state of Delaware in 1998. We consummated our initial public offering on November 5, 1999.

The principal services we provide include, but are not limited to, the design, deployment, integration, and the overall management of communications and security networks. Our work for the wireless communications industry primarily involves radio frequency engineering, site development, project management and the installation of radio equipment networks. We also provide network management services, which involve day-to-day optimization and maintenance of wireless networks. As part of our strategy, we are technology and vendor independent. We believe that this aligns our goals with those of our customers and enables us to objectively evaluate and recommend specific products or technologies. We provide network design and deployment services to wireless carriers including, but not limited to, (in alphabetical order) AT&T Wireless, Cingular, Sprint, T-Mobile, Telcel, Telefonica, Verizon and Vodaphone and equipment vendors such as Ericsson, Nortel and Siemens. We have internally developed a methodology of planning and deploying wireless networks that allows us to deliver reliable and scalable network solutions, primarily on a fixed-price, time-certain basis. We believe this enables our customers to improve their ability to forecast the costs and timing of network deployment and management and increase their focus on internal core competencies while relying on us for planning, designing, deploying and managing their networks. Our work for the federal government primarily involves systems engineering, systems integration, and the outsourcing of technical services such as operational test and evaluation and program management. We also provide services in the areas of mission assurance, product and process validation and verification, and software and applications development. Our work for enterprise customers primarily involves the design, deployment, and integration of security and other in-building systems including access control and intrusion detection and is focused on opportunities to integrate wireless technology into enterprise networks, especially physical and electronic security systems, and voice and data networks.

Our principal executive offices are located at 4810 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, California 92121. Our telephone number is (858) 228-2000.

The Securities We May Offer

We may use this prospectus to offer up to \$200,000,000 of common stock, preferred stock, debt securities and warrants, in one or more offerings and in any combination. 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. A prospectus supplement, which we will provide each time we offer securities, will describe the specific types, amounts, prices and detailed terms of any of these offered securities and will describe risks associated with an investment in the securities. We will also include in the prospectus supplement, where

Table of Contents

applicable, information about material United States federal income tax considerations relating to the securities. Terms used in this prospectus will have the meanings described in this prospectus unless otherwise specified.

We may sell the securities to or through underwriters, dealers or agents or directly to purchasers. We, as well as any agents acting on our behalf, reserve the sole right to accept and to reject in whole or in part any proposed purchase of securities. Each prospectus supplement will set forth the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the sale of securities described in that prospectus supplement and any applicable fee, commission or discount arrangements with them. The maximum compensation to be received by any underwriters in an offering will not exceed 8% of the maximum proceeds from such offering.

Common Stock

We may offer shares of our common stock either alone or underlying other registered securities convertible into our common stock. Holders of our common stock are entitled to such dividends as our board of directors may declare from time to time out of legally available funds, subject to the preferential rights of the holders of any shares of our preferred stock that are outstanding or that we may issue in the future. Currently, we do not pay any dividends. Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote per share. Holders of our common stock have no preemptive rights.

Preferred Stock

We may issue shares of preferred stock in one or more classes or series. Our board of directors or a committee designated by our board of directors will determine the dividend, voting and conversion rights and other provisions at the time of sale. The particular terms of each class or series of preferred stock, including redemption privileges, liquidation preferences, voting rights, dividend rights and/or conversion rights, will be more fully described in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the preferred stock offered thereby.

Warrants

We may issue securities warrants for the purchase of debt securities, preferred stock or common stock. The securities warrants may be issued independently or together with debt securities, preferred stock or common stock and may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of securities warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. This prospectus contains only general terms and provisions of the securities warrants. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of the securities warrants being offered thereby.

Debt Securities

We may issue debt securities under an indenture to be entered between us and a trustee. A form of the indenture is included as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. The indenture does not limit the amount of securities that may be issued under it and provides that debt securities may be issued in one or more series. Unless otherwise provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

securities will be unsecured obligations of ours and will rank equally and ratably with our other unsecured obligations. This prospectus contains only general terms and provisions of the debt securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the particular terms of the debt securities being offered thereby.

The Securities The Selling Stockholders May Offer

From time to time, the selling stockholders may use this prospectus to offer up to 5,400,000 shares of our common stock held by them. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale by the selling stockholders of their shares of common stock.

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

*An investment in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described below, as well as the other information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, before making an investment decision. Additional risks including those that relate to any particular securities that we will offer, will be included in the applicable prospectus supplement. Our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks. The market or trading price of our securities could decline due to any of these risks, and you may lose all or part of your investment. In addition, please read *Special Note About Forward-Looking Statements* in this prospectus, where we describe additional uncertainties associated with our business and the forward-looking statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Please note that additional risks not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business and operations.*

Our success is dependent on growth in the deployment of wireless networks, and to the extent that such growth slows, our business may be harmed.

The wireless telecommunications industry has historically experienced a dramatic rate of growth both in the United States and internationally. In recent years, however, many telecommunications carriers have re-evaluated their network deployment plans in response to downturns in the capital markets, changing perceptions regarding industry growth, the adoption of new wireless technologies, increasing pricing competition for subscribers and a general economic slowdown in the United States and internationally. That trend has only recently begun to change as several large carriers in the U.S. and Latin America have started to once again focus on network expansion. If the rate of growth slows or carriers reduce their capital investments in wireless infrastructure or fail to expand into new geographic areas, our business may be significantly harmed.

The uncertainty associated with rapidly changing telecommunications technologies may also negatively impact the rate of deployment of wireless networks and the demand for our services. Telecommunications service providers face significant challenges in assessing consumer demand and in acceptance of rapidly changing enhanced telecommunications capabilities. If telecommunications service providers perceive that the rate of acceptance of next generation telecommunications products will grow more slowly than previously expected, they may, as a result, slow their development of next generation technologies. Moreover, increasing price competition for subscribers could adversely affect the profitability of carriers and limit their resources for network deployment. Any significant sustained slowdown will further reduce the demand for our services and adversely affect our financial results.

The high amount of capital required to obtain radio frequencies licenses could slow the growth of the wireless communications industry and adversely affect our business.

Our growth is dependent upon the increased use of wireless communications services. In order to provide wireless communications services, carriers must obtain rights to use specific radio frequencies. The allocation of frequencies is regulated in the United States and other countries throughout the world and limited spectrum space is allocated to wireless communications services. Industry growth may be affected by the amount of capital required to obtain licenses to use new frequencies. Typically, governments sell these licenses at auctions. Over the last several years, the amount paid for these licenses has increased significantly. In addition, litigation and disputes involving companies bidding to acquire spectrum has delayed the expansion of wireless networks in the United States, and it is possible that this delay could continue for a significant amount of time. The significant cost of licenses and delays associated with disputes over license auctions may slow the growth of the industry if service providers are unable to obtain the additional capital necessary to implement the necessary infrastructure. Our business could be adversely affected if this occurs.

Table of Contents

If wireless carriers, network equipment vendors and enterprises do not outsource their wireless telecommunications services, our business will suffer.

Our success depends upon the continued trend by wireless carriers and network equipment vendors to outsource their network design, deployment and management needs. If this trend does not continue and wireless carriers and network equipment vendors elect to perform more network deployment services themselves, our operating results and revenues may decline.

If enterprise customers do not invest in security systems and other new in-building technologies such as wireless local area networks, our business will suffer.

In 2003, we launched significant enterprise-based WLAN (Wireless Local Area Networks) and security systems initiatives. We intend to devote significant resources to developing these initiatives, but we cannot predict that we will achieve widespread market acceptance amongst the enterprises. It is possible that some enterprises will determine that their current capital constraints and other factors outweigh their need for WLANs and security systems at this time. As a result, we may incur a significant delay in the adoption of WLAN and security systems by enterprises which would harm our business.

Our failure to obtain new government contracts, the cancellation of government contracts, or a reduction in federal budget appropriations involving our services could materially adversely affect our revenues.

We anticipate that a material portion of our future revenues will come from our Government Network Services division. Our revenues and cash flows from our Government Network Services division may decline if a significant number of our government contracts are delayed or cancelled due to cutbacks in defense, homeland security or other federal agency budgets or for other reasons. In addition, our failure to successfully compete for and retain such government contracts could have an adverse effect on our revenues and cash flows. We cannot guarantee that we, or if we are a subcontractor that the prime contractor, will win any particular bid, or that we will be able to replace business lost upon expiration or completion of a contract.

We anticipate that our Government Network Services division will also be sensitive to changes in national and international defense and budget priorities. Demand for our services may decline if conflicts in the Middle East and other high risk areas subside, or if U.S. defense budget appropriations are reduced.

We are subject to extensive government regulation, and our failure or inability to comply with these regulations could subject us to penalties and result in a loss of our government contracts, which could adversely affect our revenues.

We must comply with and are affected by various government regulations that impact our operating costs, profit margins and our internal organization and operation of our business. We are also subject to routine audits to assure our compliance with these requirements. Our failure to comply with these regulations, rules and approvals could result in the impositions of penalties and the loss of our government contracts and disqualification as a U.S. government contractor, which could adversely affect our revenues.

We derive a significant portion of our revenues from a limited number of customers.

We have derived, and believe that we will continue to derive, a significant portion of our revenues from a limited number of customers. To the extent that any significant client uses less of our services or terminates its relationship with us, our revenues could decline significantly. As a result, the loss of any significant client could seriously harm our business. For the year ended December 31, 2003, we had one customer which comprised 24% of our revenues and our five largest customers accounted for approximately 53% of our total revenues. None of our customers are obligated to purchase additional services from us. As a result, the volume of work that we perform for a specific client is likely to vary from period to period, and a significant client in one period may not use our services in a subsequent period.

Table of Contents

Recent business acquisitions and potential future business acquisitions could be difficult to integrate, disrupt our business, dilute stockholder value and adversely affect our operating results.

We completed our acquisition of HTS in January 2004. In addition, since February 2003, we have acquired three other businesses. Our integration of these acquisitions will require significant management time and financial resources because we will need to integrate dispersed operations with distinct corporate cultures. We also intend to continue to expand our operations through business acquisitions over time. We recently filed an acquisition shelf registration statement on Form S-4. Once the acquisition shelf is declared effective by the SEC, it will enable us to issue up to \$200 million shares of our common stock in one or more acquisition transactions.

Our failure to properly integrate businesses we acquire and to manage future acquisitions successfully could seriously harm our operating results. Also, acquisition costs could cause our quarterly operating results to vary significantly. To the extent we acquire an international operation, we will face additional risks, including:

difficulties in staffing, managing and integrating international operations due to language, cultural or other differences;

different or conflicting regulatory or legal requirements;

foreign currency fluctuations; and

diversion of significant time and attention of our management.

The consolidation of equipment vendors or carriers could adversely impact our business.

Recently, the wireless telecommunications industry has been characterized by significant consolidation activity. In particular, Cingular has recently announced plans to acquire AT&T Wireless, both of whom are significant customers of ours. This consolidation and the potential continuing trend towards future consolidation within the wireless telecommunication industry may lead to a greater ability among equipment vendors and carriers to provide a comprehensive range of network services, and may simplify integration and installation, which could lead to a reduction in demand for our services. Moreover, the consolidation of equipment vendors or carriers could reduce the number of our current or potential customers and increase the bargaining power of our remaining customers which may adversely impact our business.

If our customers do not receive sufficient financing or fail to pay us for services performed, our business may be harmed.

Some of our customers rely upon outside financing to pay the costs of deploying their networks. These customers may fail to obtain adequate financing or experience delays in receiving financing and they may choose the services of our competitors if our competitors are willing and able to provide project financing. Unfavorable economic conditions have caused and may in the future cause those customers that have adequate financing to delay deploying or upgrading their networks as they prioritize or ration their capital resources.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

In addition, we have historically taken significant write-offs of our accounts receivable. In some instances we may not receive payment for services we have already performed. If our customers do not receive adequate financing or if we are required to write-off significant amounts of our accounts receivables, then our net income will decline, and our business will be harmed.

If we fail to successfully compete, our business may suffer.

Each of the vertical markets that we compete in is highly competitive. If we fail to compete successfully against current or future competitors, our business, financial condition and operating results may be harmed. We expect competition to continue and intensify in the future. We cannot be certain that we will be able to compete successfully with existing or new competitors.

Table of Contents

Many of our current competitors have significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources, generate greater revenues and have greater name recognition and experience than we do. This may place us at a disadvantage in responding to our competitors' pricing strategies, technological advances, advertising campaigns, strategic partnerships and other initiatives. In addition, many of our competitors have well-established relationships with our potential clients and have extensive knowledge of the industries that we compete in. As a result, our competitors may be able to respond more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements, and they may be able to devote more resources to the development, promotion and sale of their services than we can.

Our quarterly results fluctuate and may cause our stock price to decline.

Our quarterly operating results have fluctuated in the past and will likely fluctuate in the future. As a result, we believe that period to period comparisons of our results of operations are not a good indication of our future performance. A number of factors, many of which are outside of our control, are likely to cause these fluctuations. Some of these factors include:

telecommunications market conditions and economic conditions generally;

the timing and size of network deployments by our carrier customers and the timing and size of orders for network equipment built by our vendor customers;

fluctuations in demand for our services;

changes in our effective tax rate;

the length of sales cycles;

reductions in the prices of services offered by our competitors;

our success in bidding on and winning new business;

changes in the actual and estimated costs and time to complete fixed-price, time-certain projects that may result in revenue adjustments for contracts where revenue is recognized under the percentage of completion method;

the timing of expansion into new markets, both domestically and internationally;

our allowance for doubtful accounts;

our sales, marketing, and administrative cost structure; and

the costs of integrating technologies or businesses that we add.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

Because our operating results may vary significantly from quarter to quarter, our operating results may not meet the expectations of securities analysts and investors, and our common stock could decline significantly which may expose us to risks of securities litigation, impair our ability to attract and retain qualified individuals using equity incentives and make it more difficult to complete acquisitions using equity as consideration.

Our business is dependent upon our ability to keep pace with the latest technological changes.

The market for our services is characterized by rapid change and technological improvements. Failure to respond in a timely and cost-effective way to these technological developments will result in serious harm to our business and operating results. We have derived, and we expect to continue to derive, a substantial portion of our revenues from creating wireless networks that are based upon today's leading technologies and that are capable of adapting to future technologies. As a result, our success will depend, in part, on our ability to develop and market service offerings that respond in a timely manner to the technological advances of our customers, evolving industry standards and changing client preferences.

Table of Contents

Failure to properly manage projects may result in costs or claims.

Our wireless network engagements often involve large scale, highly complex projects. The quality of our performance on such projects depends in large part upon our ability to manage the relationship with our customers, and to effectively manage the project and deploy appropriate resources, including third-party contractors, and our own personnel, in a timely manner. Any defects or errors or failure to meet clients expectations could result in claims for substantial damages against us. Our contracts generally limit our liability for damages that arise from negligent acts, error, mistakes or omissions in rendering services to our clients. However, we cannot be sure that these contractual provisions will protect us from liability for damages in the event we are sued. In addition, in certain instances, we guarantee customers that we will complete a project by a scheduled date or that the network will achieve certain performance standards. If the project or network experiences a performance problem, we may not be able to recover the additional costs we will incur, which could exceed revenues realized from a project. Finally, if we miscalculate the resources or time we need to complete a project with capped or fixed fees, our operating results could be seriously harmed.

Our failure to attract and retain key managerial, technical, selling and marketing personnel could adversely affect our business.

Our success depends upon our attracting and retaining key members of our management team. We recently announced that Masood Tayebi, our Chief Executive Officer since inception, will be transitioning to the role of Executive Chairman, and Eric DeMarco, our current President and Chief Operating Officer, will assume the role of CEO on April 1, 2004. In addition, we are currently engaged in a search for a Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel. We cannot assure you that these management transitions will not result in some disruption of our business. The loss of any of our key members might delay or prevent the achievement of our development and strategic objectives. Our future performance will be substantially dependent on our ability to attract, retain and motivate key members of our management team.

We must also continue to hire and retain additional highly skilled engineering, managerial, business development and sales personnel. In an effort to manage our costs, it is our policy to hire employees on a project-by-project basis. Upon completion of an assigned project, the employees are no longer employed by us until we elect to hire them for the next project. Competition for such highly skilled personnel in our industry is intense, especially for engineers and project managers, and we can not be certain that we will be able to hire or re-hire sufficiently qualified personnel in adequate numbers to meet the demand for our services. We also believe that our success depends to a significant extent on the ability of our key personnel to operate effectively, both individually and as a group. If we are unable to identify, hire and integrate new employees in a timely and cost-efficient manner, our operating results will suffer.

Our failure to maintain appropriate staffing levels could adversely affect our business.

We can not be certain that we will be able to hire the requisite number of experienced and skilled personnel when necessary in order to service a major contract, particularly if the market for related personnel becomes competitive. Conversely, if we maintain or increase our staffing levels in anticipation of one or more projects and the projects are delayed, reduced or terminated, we may underutilize the additional personnel, which would increase our general and administrative expenses, reduce our earnings and possibly harm our results of operations. If we are unable to obtain major contracts or effectively complete such contracts due to staffing deficiencies, our revenues may decline and our business may be harmed.

Government regulations of the telecommunications industry may adversely affect our business.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

The wireless networks that we design, deploy and manage are subject to various FCC regulations in the United States and other international regulations. These regulations require that these networks meet certain radio frequency emission standards, not cause unallowable interference to other services, and in some cases accept

Table of Contents

interference from other services. These networks are also subject to government regulations and requirements of local standards bodies outside the United States, where we are less prominent than local competitors and have less opportunity to participate in the establishment of regulatory and standards policies. We are also subject to state and federal health, safety and environmental regulations, as well as regulations related to the handling of and access to classified information. Changes in the regulation of our activities, including changes in the allocation of available spectrum by the United States government and other governments or exclusion of our technology by a standards body, could have a harmful effect on our business, operating results, liquidity and financial position. Additionally, because we conduct business throughout the United States, many of our activities are subject to different state and local regulatory schemes, including those relating to licensing, taxes and employment matters, with which we are required to comply.

Government regulations could restrict our ability to ability to hire employees or to utilize employees effectively.

As of December 31, 2003, approximately 150 or 11% of our employees in the United States were working under H-1B visas. H-1B visas are a special class of nonimmigrant working visas for qualified aliens working in specialty occupations, including, for example, radio frequency engineers. The H-1B program refers to a provision of the United States Immigration and Nationality Act that allows highly skilled foreigners to work in the United States for as long as six years. Current law limits the number of foreign workers who may be issued a visa or otherwise be provided H-1B status to 195,000 through 2003. Absent other congressional action, the cap will return to 65,000 in 2004. In addition, because we are an H-1B dependent employer under the Department of Labor regulations, we could face enhanced compliance requirements and penalties.

Immigration policies are subject to rapid change, and these policies have become more stringent since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Any additional significant changes in immigration law or regulations may further restrict our ability to continue to employ or to hire new workers on H-1B visas and otherwise restrict our ability to utilize our existing employees as we see fit, and, therefore, could harm our business.

International uncertainties and fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies could harm our profitability.

We currently have international operations, including offices in Brazil, China, Mexico, United Kingdom, Sweden and Turkey. For the year ended December 31, 2003, international operations accounted for approximately 20% of our total revenues. Our international business operations are subject to a number of material risks, including, but not limited to:

difficulties in building and managing foreign operations;

regulatory uncertainties in foreign countries, including changing regulations and delays in licensing carriers to build out their networks in various locations;

difficulties in enforcing agreements and collecting receivables through foreign legal systems and addressing other legal issues;

longer payment cycles;

foreign and U.S. taxation issues;

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

potential weaknesses in foreign economies, particularly in Europe, South America and Mexico;

fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies;

general economic and political conditions in the markets in which we operate; and

unexpected domestic and international regulatory, economic or political changes.

Our significant international subsidiaries (i.e., in Brazil, Mexico, Sweden and United Kingdom) procure certain transactions that are denominated in U.S. dollars. Downward fluctuations in the value of foreign currencies, compared to the U.S. dollar, may make our services more expensive than local service offerings in

Table of Contents

international locations. This would make our service offerings less price competitive than local service offerings, which could harm our business. To date, our experience with this foreign currency risk has predominately related to the Brazilian Real and Mexican Peso. In addition, we also conduct business in British Pound Sterling, Chinese Renminbi, Euro, Swedish Krona and Turkish Lira. We do not currently engage in currency hedging activities to limit the risks of currency fluctuations. Therefore, fluctuations in foreign currencies could have a negative impact on the profitability of our global operations, which would harm our financial results.

Future changes in financial accounting standards may cause adverse unexpected revenue fluctuations and affect our reported results of operations.

A change in accounting standards could have a significant effect on our reported results and may even affect our reporting of transactions completed before the change is effective. The Financial Accounting Standards Board has announced its intention to require that companies record compensation expense in the statement of operations for employee stock options using the fair value method. Implementation of this requirement could have a significant negative effect on our reported results or impair our ability to use equity compensation to attract and retain skilled personnel. New pronouncements and varying interpretations of pronouncements have occurred and may occur in the future. Changes to existing rules or the questioning of current practices may adversely affect our reported financial results or the way we conduct our business.

Compliance with changing regulation of corporate governance and public disclosure may result in additional expenses.

Changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, newly enacted SEC regulations and Nasdaq Stock Market rules, are creating uncertainty for companies such as ours. We are committed to maintaining high standards of internal controls over financial reporting, corporate governance and public disclosure. As a result, we intend to invest appropriate resources to comply with evolving standards, and this investment may result in increased general and administrative expenses and a diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities.

A few individuals own a significant percentage of our stock.

As of December 31, 2003, our executive officers and directors and their affiliates beneficially owned, in the aggregate, approximately 31% of our outstanding common stock, after giving effect to the conversion of Series B Convertible Preferred Stock. In particular, our current Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Masood K. Tayebi, beneficially owned, approximately 10% of our outstanding common stock. The remaining 21% is beneficially owned by certain of our other officers and directors and their affiliates. In addition, other members of the Tayebi family owned, incrementally and in the aggregate, approximately 16% of our outstanding common stock. As a result, the executive officers, directors and their affiliates are able to collectively exercise control over matters requiring stockholder approval, such as the election of directors and the approval of significant corporate transactions. These types of transactions include transactions involving an actual or potential change in control or other transactions that the non-controlling stockholders may deem to be in their best interests and in which such stockholders could receive a premium for their shares.

We may need additional capital in the future to fund the growth of our business, and financing may not be available.

We currently anticipate that our available capital resources and operating income will be sufficient to meet our expected working capital and capital expenditure requirements for at least the next 12 months. However, we cannot assure you that such resources will be sufficient to fund

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

the long-term growth of our business. In particular, we may experience a negative operating cash flow due to billing milestones and project timelines in certain of our contracts. We may raise additional funds through public or private debt or equity financings if such

Table of Contents

financings become available on favorable terms. Once this registration statement is declared effective by the SEC, we may sell, in one or more public offerings, shares of newly issued common stock or preferred stock, warrants or debt securities, or any combination of such securities, for proceeds in an aggregate amount of up to \$200 million. Such financing or offerings would likely dilute our stockholders. In addition, we cannot assure you that any additional financing we may need will be available on terms favorable to us, or at all. If adequate funds are not available or are not available on acceptable terms, we may not be able to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities, develop new products or otherwise respond to competitive pressures. In any such case, our business, operating results or financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

Litigation may harm our business or otherwise distract our management.

Substantial, complex or extended litigation could cause us to incur large expenditures and distract our management. For example, lawsuits by employees, stockholders or customers could be very costly and substantially disrupt our business. Disputes from time to time with such companies or individuals are not uncommon, and we cannot assure you that that we will always be able to resolve such disputes or on terms favorable to us.

Disclosure of trade secrets could aid our competitors.

We attempt to protect our trade secrets by entering into confidentiality agreements with third parties, our employees and consultants. However, these agreements can be breached and, if they are, there may not be an adequate remedy available to us. If our trade secrets become known we may lose our competitive position.

Our stock price may be volatile, which may result in lawsuits against us and our officers and directors.

The stock market in general, and the stock prices of technology and telecommunications companies in particular, have experienced volatility that has often been unrelated to or disproportionate to the operating performance of those companies. The market price of our common stock has fluctuated in the past and is likely to fluctuate in the future. Factors which could have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock include, but are not limited to, the following:

quarterly variations in operating results;

announcements of new services by us or our competitors;

the gain or loss of significant customers;

changes in analysts' earnings estimates;

rumors or dissemination of false information;

pricing pressures;

short selling of our common stock;

general conditions in the market;

political and/or military events associated with current worldwide conflicts; and

events affecting other companies that investors deem comparable to us.

Companies that have experienced volatility in the market price of their stock have frequently been the object of securities class action litigation. Such litigation could result in substantial costs to us and a diversion of our management's attention and resources.

Table of Contents

Our charter documents and Delaware law may deter potential acquirers and may depress our stock price.

Certain provisions of our charter documents and Delaware law, as well as certain agreements we have with our executives, could make it substantially more difficult for a third party to acquire control of us. These provisions include:

authorizing the board of directors to issue preferred stock;

prohibiting cumulative voting in the election of directors;

prohibiting stockholder action by written consent;

establishing advance notice requirements for nominations for election to our board of directors or for proposing matters that can be acted on by stockholders at meetings of our stockholders;

Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which prohibits us from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder unless specific conditions are met; and

a number of our executives have agreements with us that entitle them to payments in certain circumstances following a change in control.

These provisions may discourage certain types of transactions involving an actual or potential change in control and may limit our stockholders ability to approve transactions that they deem to be in their best interests. As a result, these provisions may depress our stock price.

Table of Contents**USE OF PROCEEDS**

Except as otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities offered hereunder to fund acquisitions of complementary businesses, working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes. Pending the use of such net proceeds, we intend to invest these funds in investment-grade, short-term interest bearing securities. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale by the selling stockholders of their shares of common stock.

DIVIDEND POLICY

We have not declared or paid any dividends on our common stock since our inception and do not intend to pay any dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. We currently intend to retain our future earnings, if any, to finance the further expansion and continued growth of our business.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges and earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for each of the periods indicated.⁽¹⁾

	Years Ended December 31,				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	16.5	18.4			14.1
Ratio of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends	16.5	18.4			14.1
Deficiency of Earnings Available to Cover Fixed Charges	\$	\$	\$ (75.2)	\$ (53.6)	\$

- (1) We operate and report using a 52-53 week fiscal year ending the last Friday in December. As a result, a fifty-third week is added every five or six years. Our 52 week fiscal year consists of four equal quarters of 13 weeks each, and our 53 week fiscal year consists of three 13 week quarters and one 14 week quarter. For presentation purposes, all fiscal periods in this prospectus have been presented as ending on the last day of the calendar year.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON AND PREFERRED STOCK

The following description of our common stock and preferred stock, together with the additional information we include in any applicable prospectus supplement, summarizes the material terms and provisions of the common stock and the preferred stock that we may offer pursuant to this prospectus. While the terms we have summarized below will apply generally to any future common stock or preferred stock that we may offer, we will describe the particular terms of any class or series of these securities in more detail in the applicable prospectus supplement. For the complete terms of our common stock and preferred stock, please refer to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws that are incorporated by reference into the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part or may be

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement. The terms of these securities may also be affected by the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. The summary below and that contained in any prospectus supplement is qualified in its entirety by reference to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated bylaws.

Table of Contents

Authorized Capitalization

As of the date of this prospectus, our capital structure consists of 195,000,000 authorized shares of common stock, par value \$.001 per share, and 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$.001 per share, of which 63,637 shares are designated as Series A Preferred Stock, none of which are outstanding and 90,000 shares are designated as Series B Preferred Stock, 42,258 of which are outstanding. As of March 17, 2004, an aggregate of 64,065,908 shares of our common stock were issued and outstanding.

Common Stock

The holders of our common stock are entitled to such dividends as our board of directors may declare from time to time from legally available funds, subject to the preferential rights of the holders of shares of our preferred stock that is then outstanding or that we may issue in the future. The holders of our common stock are entitled to one vote per share on any matter to be voted upon by stockholders.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation prohibits cumulative voting, except in very limited circumstances that do not currently exist. The members of our board of directors are elected by a plurality of the shares voting once a quorum is present. No holder of our common stock has any preemptive right to subscribe for any shares of capital stock issued in the future.

Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs, the holders of our common stock are entitled to share, on a pro rata basis, all assets remaining after payment to creditors and subject to prior distribution rights of the holders of any shares of preferred stock. All of the outstanding shares of common stock are and the shares of common stock issued upon the conversion of any outstanding shares of our preferred stock will be, fully paid and non-assessable. The shares of common stock offered by this prospectus or upon the conversion of any preferred stock or debt securities or exercise of any warrants offered pursuant to this prospectus, when issued and paid for, will also be, fully paid and non-assessable.

Preferred Stock

Under our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our board of directors, without further action by our stockholders, is authorized to issue up to 5,000,000 shares of preferred stock in one or more classes or series. The board may fix or alter the powers, preferences and rights of the preferred stock, along with any qualifications, limitations or restrictions, including voting rights, dividend rights, conversion rights, redemption privileges and liquidation preferences of each class or series of preferred stock.

On October 29, 2001, we issued an aggregate of 63,637 shares of our Series A Preferred Stock. On October 30, 2003, the holders of the outstanding shares elected to convert the 63,637 shares of Series A Preferred Stock into shares of our common stock. Each preferred share converted into 110 shares of common stock for a total of 7,000,070 shares of our common stock. Approximately 1,400,000 of the shares of common stock are subject to a lock-up provision contained in the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock Agreement and will not be available for resale until April 29, 2004.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

On May 30, 2002, we issued an aggregate of 90,000 shares of Series B Preferred Stock. Each share of Series B Preferred Stock currently is convertible into 100 shares of our common stock. After February 28, 2005, the outstanding shares of our Series B Preferred Stock will automatically convert into shares of our common stock if and when our common stock trades at or above \$11.00 per share for 30 consecutive trading days after that date. Certain holders of shares of our Series B Preferred Stock have elected to convert 47,742 shares of Series B Preferred Stock into 4,774,200 shares of common stock. The shares of Series B Preferred Stock are subject to a lock-up provision contained in the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock Agreement. As of March 17, 2003, approximately 36,000 shares of Series B Preferred Stock were released from the lock-up provision and approximately 18,000 shares will be released from the lock-up provision on each of May 30, 2004, August 30, 2004 and November 30, 2004. Upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our

Table of Contents

affairs, before any payment may be made to the holders of our common stock, the holders of our Series B Preferred Stock are entitled to \$500 per share plus all accumulated or accrued and unpaid dividends for such share. Holders of shares of our Series B Preferred Stock are entitled to vote on all matters submitted to a vote of the holders of shares of our common stock, including with respect to the election of members of our board of directors, on an as if converted to common stock basis.

Anti-Takeover Effects of Certain Provisions of Delaware Law and Our Charter Documents

Effect of Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute. We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, an anti-takeover law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any interested stockholder for a period of three years following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

prior to that date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming 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 time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares of voting stock outstanding (but not the voting stock owned by the interested stockholder) those shares owned by persons who are directors and officers and by excluding employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or

on or subsequent to that date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the corporation and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent, by the affirmative vote of at least 66²/₃% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines *business combination* to include the following:

any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;

any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;

subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;

any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing the proportionate share of the stock of any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the interested stockholder; or

the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation, or who beneficially owns 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation at anytime within a three year period immediately prior to the date of determining whether such person is an interested stockholder, and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by any of these entities or persons.

Our Charter Documents. Our charter documents include provisions that may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control or an unsolicited acquisition proposal that a stockholder might consider favorable, including a proposal that might result in the payment of a premium over the market price for the shares held by our stockholders. Certain of these provisions are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Table of Contents

Supermajority Voting. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation requires the approval at least 66²/₃% of our combined voting power to effect amendments to certain provisions of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation. In addition, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation requires the approval of either our board of directors or the holders of at least 66²/₃% of our combined voting power to effect amendments to our amended and restated bylaws.

No Stockholder Action by Written Consent. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that an action required or permitted to be taken at any annual or special meeting of our stockholders may only be taken at a duly called annual or special meeting of stockholders. This provision prevents stockholders from initiating or effecting any action by written consent, and thereby taking actions opposed by the board.

Limitation of Director Liability. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws limit the liability of our directors to us or our stockholders to the fullest extent permitted by law. Our amended and restated bylaws provide that our directors, officers, employees and agents shall be indemnified and provide for the advancement to them of expenses in connection with actual or threatened proceedings and claims arising out of their status as such to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law. We are also empowered under our amended and restated bylaws to purchase insurance on behalf of any officer, director, employee or agent, whether or not we would have the power to indemnify such person against liability. We have also entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors and executive officers.

Change in Control Agreements. A number of our executives have agreements with us that entitle them to payments in certain circumstances following a change in control.

Prohibition Against Cumulative Voting in the Election of Directors. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation prohibits cumulative voting in the election of directors, except under very narrow circumstances that do not currently exist.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock is Wells Fargo Shareowner Services. The applicable prospectus supplement will specify the transfer agent and registrar for any shares of preferred stock we may offer pursuant to this prospectus.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

General

The debt securities that we may issue will constitute debentures, notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of WFI, to be issued in one or more series, which may include senior debt securities, subordinated debt securities and senior subordinated debt securities. The particular terms of any series of debt securities we offer, including the extent to which the general terms set forth below may be applicable to a particular series, will be described in a prospectus supplement relating to such series.

Debt securities that we may issue will be issued under an indenture between us and a trustee. We have filed the form of the indenture as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. If we enter into any indenture supplement, we will file a copy of that supplement with the SEC.

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION IS A SUMMARY OF THE MATERIAL PROVISIONS OF THE INDENTURE. IT DOES NOT RESTATE THE INDENTURE IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE INDENTURE IS GOVERNED BY THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939. THE TERMS OF THE DEBT SECURITIES INCLUDE THOSE STATED IN THE INDENTURE AND THOSE MADE PART OF THE INDENTURE BY

Table of Contents

REFERENCE TO THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT. WE URGE YOU TO READ THE INDENTURE BECAUSE IT, AND NOT THIS DESCRIPTION, DEFINES YOUR RIGHTS AS A HOLDER OF THE DEBT SECURITIES.

The indenture contains no covenant or provision which affords debt holders protection in the event of a highly leveraged transaction.

Information You Will Find in the Prospectus Supplement

The indenture provides that we may issue debt securities from time to time in one or more series and that we may denominate the debt securities and make them payable in foreign currencies. The indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities that can be issued thereunder. The prospectus supplement for a series of debt securities will provide information relating to the terms of the series of debt securities being offered, which may include:

the title and denominations of the debt securities of the series;

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

the date or dates on which the principal and premium, if any, with respect to the debt securities of the series are payable or the method of determination thereof;

the rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, at which the debt securities of the series shall bear interest, if any, or the method of calculating and/or resetting such rate or rates of interest;

the dates from which such interest shall accrue or the method by which such dates shall be determined and the basis upon which interest shall be calculated;

the interest payment dates for the series of debt securities or the method by which such dates will be determined, the terms of any deferral of interest and any right of ours to extend the interest payments periods;

the place or places where the principal and interest on the series of debt securities will be payable;

the terms and conditions upon which debt securities of the series may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at our option or otherwise;

our obligation, if any, to redeem, purchase, or repay debt securities of the series pursuant to any sinking fund or other specified event or at the option of the holders and the terms of any such redemption, purchase, or repayment;

the terms, if any, upon which the debt securities of the series may be convertible into or exchanged for other securities, including, among other things, the initial conversion or exchange price or rate and the conversion or exchange period;

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

if the amount of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to the debt securities of the series may be determined with reference to an index or formula, the manner in which such amounts will be determined;

if any payments on the debt securities of the series are to be made in a currency or currencies (or by reference to an index or formula) other than that in which such securities are denominated or designated to be payable, the currency or currencies (or index or formula) in which such payments are to be made and the terms and conditions of such payments;

any changes or additions to the provisions of the indenture dealing with defeasance, including any additional covenants that may be subject to our covenant defeasance option;

the currency or currencies in which payment of the principal and premium, if any, and interest with respect to debt securities of the series will be payable, or in which the debt securities of the series shall be denominated, and the particular provisions applicable thereto in accordance with the indenture;

Table of Contents

the portion of the principal amount of debt securities of the series which will be payable upon declaration of acceleration or provable in bankruptcy or the method by which such portion or amount shall be determined;

whether the debt securities of the series will be secured or guaranteed and, if so, on what terms;

any addition to or change in the events of default with respect to the debt securities of the series;

the identity of any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars;

the applicability of, and any addition to or change in, the covenants currently set forth in the indenture;

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

any other terms of the debt securities of the series which are not prohibited by the indenture; and

whether securities of the series shall be issuable as registered securities or bearer securities (with or without interest coupons), and any restrictions applicable to the offering, sale or delivery of such bearer securities and the terms upon which such bearer securities of a series may be exchanged for registered securities, and vice versa.

Holders of debt securities may present debt securities for exchange in the manner, at the places, and subject to the restrictions set forth in the debt securities, the indenture, and the prospectus supplement. We will provide these services without charge, other than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith, but subject to the limitations provided in the indenture, any board resolution establishing such debt securities and any applicable indenture supplement. Debt securities in bearer form and the coupons, if any, appertaining thereto will be transferable by delivery.

Senior Debt

We may issue senior debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our senior debt. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable indenture supplement or in any board resolution establishing such debt securities and described in a prospectus supplement, the senior debt securities will be senior unsecured obligations, ranking equally with all of our existing and future senior unsecured debt. The senior debt securities will be senior to all of our subordinated debt and junior to any secured debt we may incur as to the assets securing such debt.

Subordinated Debt

We may issue subordinated debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of such subordinated debt. These subordinated debt securities will be subordinate and junior in right of payment, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the indenture and any applicable indenture supplement, to all of our senior indebtedness.

If this prospectus is being delivered in connection with a series of subordinated debt securities, the accompanying prospectus supplement or the information incorporated by reference will set forth the approximate amount of senior indebtedness, if any, outstanding as of the end of our most recent fiscal quarter.

Senior Subordinated Debt

We may issue senior subordinated debt securities under the indenture and any coupons that will constitute part of our senior subordinated debt. These senior subordinated debt securities will be, to the extent and in the manner set forth in the indenture, subordinate and junior in right of payment to all of our senior indebtedness and senior to our other subordinated debt. See the discussions above under Senior Debt and Subordinated Debt for a more detailed explanation of our senior and subordinated indebtedness.

Table of Contents

Interest Rate

Debt securities that bear interest will do so at a fixed rate or a floating rate. We may sell, at a discount below the stated principal amount, any debt securities which bear no interest or which bear interest at a rate that at the time of issuance is below the prevailing market rate. The relevant prospectus supplement will describe the special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to:

any discounted debt securities; and

any debt securities issued at par which are treated as having been issued at a discount for United States federal income tax purposes.

Registered Global Securities

We may issue registered debt securities of a series in the form of one or more fully registered global securities. We will deposit the registered global security with a depository or with a nominee for a depository identified in the prospectus supplement relating to such series. The global security or global securities will represent and will be in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the aggregate principal amount of outstanding registered debt securities of the series to be represented by the registered global security or securities. Unless it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive registered form, a registered global security may not be transferred, except as a whole in three cases:

by the depository for the registered global security to a nominee of the depository;

by a nominee of the depository to the depository or another nominee of the depository; and

by the depository or any nominee to a successor of the depository or a nominee of the successor.

The prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will describe the specific terms of the depository arrangement concerning any portion of that series of debt securities to be represented by a registered global security. We anticipate that the following provisions will generally apply to all depository arrangements.

Upon the issuance of a registered global security, the depository will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the principal amounts of the debt securities represented by the registered global security to the accounts of persons that have accounts with the depository. These persons are referred to as participants. Any underwriters, agents or debtors participating in the distribution of debt securities represented by the registered global security will designate the accounts to be credited. Only participants or persons that hold interests through participants will be able to beneficially own interests in a registered global security. The depository for a global security will maintain records of beneficial ownership interests in a registered global security for participants. Participants or persons that hold through participants will maintain records of beneficial ownership interests in a global security for persons other than participants. These records will be the only means to transfer beneficial ownership in a registered global security.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

The laws of some states may require that specified purchasers of securities take physical delivery of the securities in definitive form. These laws may limit the ability of those persons to own, transfer or pledge beneficial interests in global securities.

So long as the depositary, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a registered global security, the depositary or its nominee will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by the registered global security for all purposes under the indenture. Except as set forth below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security:

may not have the debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of debt securities represented by a registered global security in definitive form; and

Table of Contents

will not be considered the owners or holders of debt securities represented by a registered global security under the indenture.

Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depository for the registered global security and, if the person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which the person owns its interests, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indenture applicable to the registered global security.

We understand that, under existing industry practices, if we request any action of holders, or if an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security desires to give or take any action which a holder is entitled to give or take under the indenture, the depository for the registered global security would authorize the participants holding the relevant beneficial interests to give or take the action, and the participants would authorize beneficial owners owning through the participants to give or take the action or would otherwise act upon the instructions of beneficial owners holding through them.

Payment of Interest on and Principal of Registered Global Securities

We will make principal, premium, if any, and interest payments on debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depository or its nominee to the depository or its nominee as the registered owner of the registered global security. None of WFI, the trustee, or any paying agent for debt securities represented by a registered global security will have any responsibility or liability for:

any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in such registered global security;

maintaining, supervising, or reviewing any records relating to beneficial ownership interests;

the payments to beneficial owners of the global security of amounts paid to the depository or its nominee; or

any other matter relating to the actions and practices of the depository, its nominee or any of its participants.

We expect that the depository, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium or interest in respect of the global security, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their beneficial interests in the principal amount of a registered global security as shown on the depository's records. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security held through participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices. This is currently the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers registered in street name. Such payments will be the responsibility of participants.

Exchange of Registered Global Securities

We may issue debt securities in definitive form in exchange for the registered global security if both of the following occur:

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

the depositary for any debt securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depositary or ceases to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act; and

we do not appoint a successor depositary within 90 days.

In addition, we may, at any time, determine not to have any of the debt securities of a series represented by one or more registered global securities. In this event, we will issue debt securities of that series in definitive form in exchange for all of the registered global security or securities representing those debt securities.

Table of Contents

Covenants by WFI

The indenture includes covenants by us, including among other things that we will make all payments of principal and interest at the times and places required. The board resolution or supplemental indenture establishing each series of debt securities may contain additional covenants, including covenants which could restrict our right to incur additional indebtedness or liens and to take certain actions with respect to our businesses and assets.

Events of Default

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following will be events of default under the indenture with respect to each series of debt securities issued under the indenture:

failure to pay when due any interest on any debt security of that series, continued for 30 days;

failure to pay when due the principal of, or premium, if any, on, any debt security of that series;

default in the payment of any sinking fund installment with respect to any debt security of that series when due and payable;

failure to perform any other covenant or agreement of ours under the indenture or the supplemental indenture with respect to that series or the debt securities of that series, continued for 90 days after written notice to us by the trustee or holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the series to which the covenant or agreement relates;

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us; and

any other event of default specified in any supplemental indenture under which such series of debt securities is issued.

Except as to certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us and except as provided in the applicable prospectus supplement, if any event of default shall occur and be continuing with respect to any series of debt securities under the indenture, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of outstanding debt securities of such series may accelerate the maturity of all debt securities of such series. Upon certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or similar proceedings affecting us, the principal, premium, if any, and interest on all debt securities of each series shall be immediately due and payable.

After any such acceleration, but before a judgment or decree based on acceleration has been obtained by the trustee, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of each affected series of debt securities may waive all defaults with respect to such series and rescind and annul such acceleration if all events of default, other than the non-payment of accelerated principal, have been cured, waived or otherwise remedied.

No holder of any debt securities will have any right to institute any proceeding with respect to the indenture or for any remedy under the indenture, unless such holder shall have previously given to the trustee written notice of a continuing event of default and the holders of at least

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the relevant series shall have made written request and offered indemnity satisfactory to the trustee to institute such proceeding as trustee, and the trustee shall not have received from the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series a direction inconsistent with such request and shall have failed to institute such proceeding within 60 days. However, such limitations do not apply to a suit instituted by a holder of a debt security for enforcement of payment of the principal of and premium, if any, or interest on such debt security on or after the respective due dates expressed in such debt security.

Table of Contents

Supplemental Indentures

We and the trustee may, at any time and from time to time, without prior notice to or consent of any holders of debt securities, enter into one or more indentures supplemental to the indenture, among other things:

to add guarantees to or secure any series of debt securities;

to provide for the succession of another person pursuant to the provisions of the indenture relating to consolidations, mergers and sales of assets and the assumption by such successor of our covenants, agreements, and obligations, or to otherwise comply with the provisions of the indenture relating to consolidations, mergers, and sales of assets;

to surrender any right or power conferred upon us under the indenture or to add to our covenants further covenants, restrictions, conditions or provisions for the protection of the holders of all or any series of debt securities;

to cure any ambiguity or to correct or supplement any provision contained in the indenture, in any supplemental indenture or in any debt securities that may be defective or inconsistent with any other provision contained therein;

to modify or amend the indenture in such a manner as to permit the qualification of the indenture or any supplemental indenture under the Trust Indenture Act;

to add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture to supplement any of the provisions of the indenture in order to permit the defeasance and discharge of any series of debt securities pursuant to the indenture, so long as any such action does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities of any series in any material respect;

to add to, change, or eliminate any of the provisions of the indenture with respect to one or more series of debt securities, so long as any such addition, change or elimination shall not apply to any debt securities of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture and entitled to the benefit of such provision;

to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment by a successor or separate trustee; or

to establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series and to make any change that does not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities.

With the consent of the holders of at least a majority in principal amount of debt securities of each series affected by such supplemental indenture (each series voting as one class), we and the trustee may enter into one or more supplemental indentures for the purpose of adding any provisions to or changing in any manner or eliminating any of the provisions of the indenture or modifying in any manner the rights of the holders of debt securities of each such series.

Notwithstanding our rights and the rights of the trustee to enter into one or more supplemental indentures with the consent of the holders of debt securities of the affected series as described above, no such supplemental indenture shall, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security of the affected series, among other things:

change the final maturity of the principal of, or any installment of interest on, any debt securities;

reduce the principal amount of any debt securities or the rate of interest on any debt securities;

change the currency in which any debt securities are payable;

release any security interest that may have been granted with respect to such debt securities;

impair the right of the holders to conduct a proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee;

Table of Contents

reduce the percentage in principal amount of any series of debt securities whose holders must consent to an amendment or supplemental indenture;

modify the ranking or priority of the securities;

reduce any premium payable upon the redemption of any debt securities or change the time at which any debt security may be redeemed; or

make any change that adversely affects the relative rights of holders of subordinated debt securities with respect to senior debt securities.

Satisfaction and Discharge of the Indenture; Defeasance

Except to the extent set forth in a supplemental indenture with respect to any series of debt securities, we, at our election, may discharge the indenture and the indenture shall generally cease to be of any further effect with respect to that series of debt securities if (a) we have delivered to the trustee for cancellation all debt securities of that series (with certain limited exceptions) or (b) all debt securities of that series not previously delivered to the trustee for cancellation shall have become due and payable, or are by their terms to become due and payable within one year or are to be called for redemption within one year, and we have deposited with the trustee the entire amount sufficient to pay at maturity or upon redemption all such debt securities.

In addition, we have a legal defeasance option (pursuant to which we may terminate, with respect to the debt securities of a particular series, all of our obligations under such debt securities and the indenture with respect to such debt securities) and a covenant defeasance option (pursuant to which we may terminate, with respect to the debt securities of a particular series, our obligations with respect to such debt securities under certain specified covenants contained in the indenture). If we exercise our legal defeasance option with respect to a series of debt securities, payment of such debt securities may not be accelerated because of an event of default. If we exercise our covenant defeasance option with respect to a series of debt securities, payment of such debt securities may not be accelerated because of an event of default related to the specified covenants.

We may exercise our legal defeasance option or our covenant defeasance option with respect to the debt securities of a series only if we irrevocably deposit in trust with the trustee cash or U.S. government obligations (as defined in the indenture) for the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to such debt securities to maturity or redemption, as the case may be. In addition, to exercise either of our defeasance options, we must comply with certain other conditions, including the delivery to the trustee of an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of debt securities of such series will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of such defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such defeasance had not occurred (and, in the case of legal defeasance only, such opinion of counsel must be based on a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service or other change in applicable federal income tax law).

The trustee will hold in trust the cash or U.S. government obligations deposited with it as described above and will apply the deposited cash and the proceeds from deposited U.S. government obligations to the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to the debt securities of the defeased series. In the case of subordinated debt securities, the money and U.S. government obligations held in trust will not be subject to the subordination provisions of the indenture.

Mergers, Consolidations and Certain Sales of Assets

We may not

consolidate with or merge into any other person or entity or permit any other person or entity to consolidate with or merge into us in a transaction in which we are not the surviving entity, or

transfer, lease or dispose of all or substantially all of our assets to any other person or entity unless:

Table of Contents

the resulting, surviving or transferee entity shall be a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States or any state thereof and such resulting, surviving or transferee entity shall expressly assume, by supplemental indenture, executed and delivered in form satisfactory to the trustee, all of our obligations under the debt securities and the indenture;

immediately after giving effect to such transaction (and treating any indebtedness which becomes an obligation of the resulting, surviving or transferee entity as a result of such transaction as having been incurred by such entity at the time of such transaction), no default or event of default would occur or be continuing; and

we shall have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, each stating that such consolidation, merger or transfer and such supplemental indenture (if any) comply with the indenture.

Governing Law

The indenture and the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

Any debt securities offered hereby may be convertible into or exchangeable for shares of our equity or other securities. The terms and conditions of such conversion or exchange will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such terms may include, among others, the following:

the conversion or exchange price;

the conversion or exchange period;

provisions regarding our ability or that of the holder to convert or exchange the debt securities;

events requiring adjustment to the conversion or exchange price; and

provisions affecting conversion or exchange in the event of our redemption of such debt securities.

Concerning the Trustee

The indenture provides that there may be more than one trustee with respect to one or more series of debt securities. If there are different trustees for different series of debt securities, each trustee will be a trustee of a trust under a supplemental indenture separate and apart from the trust administered by any other trustee under such indenture. Except as otherwise indicated in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement, any action permitted to be taken by a trustee may be taken by the trustee only with respect to the one or more series of debt securities for which it is the trustee under an indenture. Any trustee under the indenture or a supplemental indenture may resign or be removed with respect to one or more series of debt securities. All payments of principal or, premium, if any, and interest on, and all registration, transfer, exchange

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

authentication and delivery (including authentication and delivery on original issuance of the debt securities) of, the debt securities of a series will be effected by the trustee with respect to such series at an office designated by the trustee.

The indenture contains limitations on the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of WFI, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases or to realize on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. If the trustee acquires an interest that conflicts with any duties with respect to the debt securities, the trustee is required to either resign or eliminate such conflicting interest to the extent and in the manner provided by the indenture.

Table of Contents

Limitations on Issuance of Bearer Debt Securities

Debt securities in bearer form are subject to special U.S. tax requirements and may not be offered, sold, or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a U.S. person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Investors should consult the relevant prospectus supplement, in the event that bearer debt securities are issued, for special procedures and restrictions that will apply to such an offering.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue securities warrants for the purchase of debt securities, preferred stock or common stock. Securities warrants may be issued independently or together with debt securities, preferred stock or common stock and may be attached to or separate from any offered securities. Each series of securities warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into between us and a warrant agent. The securities warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the securities warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any registered holders of securities warrants or beneficial owners of securities warrants. This summary of some provisions of the securities warrants is not complete. The securities warrant agreement, together with the terms of securities warrant certificate and securities warrants, will be filed with the SEC in connection with any offering of the specific securities warrants and will contain all of the terms of the securities warrant agreement and securities warrants.

The particular terms of any issue of securities warrants will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to the issue. Those terms may include:

the title of such warrants;

the aggregate number of such warrants;

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

the currency or currencies (including composite currencies) in which the price of such warrants may be payable;

the terms of the securities purchasable upon exercise of such warrants and the procedures and conditions relating to the exercise of such warrants;

the price at which the securities purchasable upon exercise of such warrants may be purchased;

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

any provisions for adjustment of the number or amount of securities receivable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

if applicable, the minimum or maximum amount of such warrants that may be exercised at any one time;

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

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

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any; and

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

The prospectus supplement relating to any warrants to purchase equity securities may also include, if applicable, a discussion of certain U.S. federal income tax and ERISA considerations.

Table of Contents

Securities warrants for the purchase of preferred stock and common stock will be offered and exercisable for U.S. dollars only. Securities warrants will be issued in registered form only.

Each securities warrant will entitle its holder to purchase the principal amount of debt securities or the number of shares of preferred stock or common stock at the exercise price set forth in, or calculable as set forth in, the applicable prospectus supplement.

After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised securities warrants will become void. We will specify the place or places where, and the manner in which, securities warrants may be exercised in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Upon receipt of payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the purchased securities. If less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate are exercised, a new warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining warrants.

Prior to the exercise of any securities warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock or common stock, holders of the securities warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the debt securities, preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise, including (i) in the case of securities warrants for the purchase of debt securities, the right to receive payments of principal of, any premium or interest on the debt securities purchasable upon exercise or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture, or (ii) in the case of securities warrants for the purchase of preferred stock or common stock, the right to vote or to receive any payments of dividends on the preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We or the selling stockholders, as the case may be, may sell the securities being offered hereby in one or more of the following ways from time to time:

through agents to the public or to investors;

to underwriters for resale to the public or to investors;

directly to investors; or

through a combination of any of these methods of sale.

We will set forth in a prospectus supplement the terms of that particular offering of securities, including:

the name or names of any agents or underwriters;

the purchase price of the securities being offered and the proceeds we will receive from the sale;

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

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

any initial public offering price;

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

any securities exchanges or markets on which such securities may be listed.

Agents

We or the selling stockholders, as the case may be, may designate agents who agree to use their reasonable efforts to solicit purchases of our securities for the period of their appointment or to sell our securities on a continuing basis.

Table of Contents

Underwriters

If we or the selling stockholders 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. 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 reallow or pay to dealers. We may use underwriters with whom we have a material relationship. We will describe the nature of any such relationship in any prospectus supplement naming any such underwriter.

Direct Sales

We or the selling stockholders, as the case may be, may also sell securities directly to one or more purchasers without using underwriters or agents. Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the distribution of the securities may be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act, and any discounts or commissions they receive from us and any profit on their resale of the securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. We will identify in the applicable prospectus supplement any underwriters, dealers or agents and will describe their compensation. We or the selling stockholders, as the case may be, may have agreements with the underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against specified civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with or perform services for us in the ordinary course of their businesses.

Trading Markets and Listing Of Securities

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 Nasdaq National Market. We may elect to list any other class or series of securities on any exchange or market, 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.

Stabilization Activities

Any underwriter may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act. Over-allotment involves sales in excess of the offering size, which create a short position. Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. Short covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution is completed to cover short positions. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a dealer when the securities originally sold by the dealer are purchased in a covering transaction to cover short positions. Those activities may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be. If commenced, the underwriters may discontinue any of these activities at any time.

Passive Market Marking

Any underwriters who are qualified market makers on the Nasdaq National Market may engage in passive market making transactions in the securities on the Nasdaq National Market in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the securities. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security. If all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded.

Table of Contents**SELLING STOCKHOLDERS**

The following table provides the name of the selling stockholders and the number of shares of common stock owned by the selling stockholders as of March 17, 2004 on an as-converted to common stock basis.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC. In computing the number of shares beneficially owned by the selling stockholders and the percentage ownership of the selling stockholders, shares of common stock subject to options held by the selling stockholders that are currently exercisable or exercisable within 60 days of March 17, 2004 are deemed outstanding. Percentage of beneficial ownership as of March 17, 2004 is based upon 72,291,708 shares of common stock outstanding on an as-converted to common stock basis. To our knowledge, except as set forth in the footnotes to this table, the selling stockholders have sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares set forth opposite their respective names.

Since the selling stockholders may sell all, some or none of their respective shares, we cannot estimate the aggregate number and percentage of shares of common stock that the selling stockholders will offer pursuant to this prospectus or that the selling stockholders will own upon completion of an offering to which this prospectus relates.

<u>Stockholder</u>	<u>Shares Beneficially Owned Prior to this Offering</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Meritech Capital Partners(1) 285 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 200 Palo Alto, CA 94301	3,225,840	4.5%
Oak Investment Partners(2) c/o Oak Management Corporation One Gorham Island Westport, CT 06880	3,918,178	5.4%

(1) Includes 3,096,640 shares held by Meritech Capital Partners II, L.P., 99,600 shares held by Meritech Capital Affiliates II L.P. and 29,600 shares held by MCP Entrepreneur Partners II L.P. 2,400,000 of these shares are subject to a phased release lock-up provision contained in the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock Agreement. Approximately 800,000 shares will be released from the lock-up provision and available for re-sale on each of May 30, 2004, August 30, 2004 and November 30, 2004.

(2) Includes shares and/or options held by Oak Investment Partners X, L.P., Oak X Affiliates Fund, L.P., Oak Investment Partners IX, L.P., Oak IX Affiliates Fund, L.P., Oak IX Affiliates Fund-A, L.P., Gerald R. Gallagher, Bandel L. Carano, Trustee of the Bandel L. Carano Trust UDT dated November 7, 2001, Edward F. Glassmeyer, F. & S. Harman Family Trust Created by Agreement Dated 7/26/96, Ann H. Lamont, David B. Walrod, Oak Associates IX, LLC, Oak IX Affiliates, LLC, Oak Associates X, LLC, Oak X Affiliates, LLC, Oak Investment Partners VI, Limited Partnership, Oak Associates VI, Limited Partnership, Oak VI Affiliates Fund, Limited Partnership, Oak

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

VI Affiliates, LLC and Oak Management Corporation. 2,400,000 of these shares are subject to a phased release lock-up provision contained in the Series B Convertible Preferred Stock Agreement. Approximately 800,000 shares will be released from the lock-up provision and available for re-sale on each of May 30, 2004, August 30, 2004 and November 30, 2004. Approximately 1,400,014 shares issued upon conversion of shares of Series A Preferred Stock held by Oak Investment Partners will be released from the phased lock-up provision contained in the Series A Convertible Preferred Stock Agreement on April 29, 2004.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the securities to be offered by this prospectus will be passed upon for us and the selling stockholders by Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP, San Diego, California. Any underwriters will be advised about other issues relating to any offering by their own legal counsel.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of WFI as of December 31, 2003 and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2003, have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent accountants, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of High Technology Solutions, Inc. as of and for the year ended August 29, 2003, appearing in WFI's Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on March 19, 2004, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their report therein and incorporated 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.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file proxy statements and annual, quarterly and special reports and other information with the SEC. You can inspect and copy the registration statement as well as the reports, proxy statements and other information we have filed with the SEC at the public reference room maintained by the SEC at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. You can call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information about the public reference rooms. We are also required to file electronic versions of these documents with the SEC, which may be accessed from the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC requires us to incorporate by reference certain of our publicly-filed documents into this prospectus, which means that information included in those documents is considered part of this prospectus. Information that we file with the SEC after the effective date of this prospectus will automatically update and supersede this information, as well as the other information contained in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or until we terminate the effectiveness of this registration statement.

The following documents filed with the SEC are incorporated by reference in this prospectus:

- 1.

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 26, 2003 (including information specifically incorporated by reference into our Form 10-K from our Proxy Statement for the 2004 annual meeting of our stockholders).

2. Our Current Report on Form 8-K filed on January 16, 2004 and our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on March 19, 2004.
3. The description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the SEC on September 3, 1999.
4. All of the filings pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act that we may make after the date hereof and prior to the termination of the offering contemplated by this prospectus.

We will furnish without charge to you, on written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated by reference, other than exhibits to those documents. You should direct any requests for documents to Martha Lessa, 4810 Eastgate Mall, San Diego, CA 92121, telephone: (858) 228-2000.

Table of Contents**PART II****INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS****Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.**

The following table sets forth the various expenses payable by the registrant in connection with the distribution of the securities being registered. All of the amounts shown are estimated, except the Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee.

SEC registration fee	\$ 35,110
Printing and miscellaneous expenses	\$ 164,890
Legal fees and expenses	\$ 200,000
Accounting fees and expenses	\$ 250,000
Trustee s fees and expenses	\$ 50,000
Total	\$ 700,000

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the Delaware General Corporation Law authorizes a court to award or a corporation s board of directors to grant indemnification to directors and officers in terms sufficiently broad to permit such indemnification under certain circumstances for liabilities (including reimbursement for expenses incurred) arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. The registrant s amended and restated bylaws provides for indemnification of its directors, officers, employees and agents to the maximum extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law. The registrant s amended and restated certificate of incorporation provides that the liability of its directors for monetary damages shall be eliminated to the fullest extent under applicable law. The registrant has entered into indemnification agreements with its officers and directors. The registrant maintains directors and officers liability insurance.

Item 16. Exhibits and Financial Statement Schedules.

(a) Exhibits

Edgar Filing: WIRELESS FACILITIES INC - Form S-3/A

The following exhibits are filed herewith or incorporated by reference.

Exhibit	
Number	Exhibit Description
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement.(1)
4.1	Form of Indenture Relating to Debt Securities.(3)
4.2	Form of Senior Debt Security.(1)
4.3	Form of Subordinated Debt Security.(1)
4.4	Form of Debt Warrant Agreement (together with form of Debt Warrant Certificate).(1)
4.5	Form of Common Stock Warrant Agreement (together with form of Common Stock Warrant Certificate).(1)
4.6	Form of Preferred Stock Warrant Agreement (together with form of Preferred Stock Warrant Certificate).(1)

II-1

Table of Contents

Exhibit

<u>Number</u>	<u>Exhibit Description</u>
4.7	Form of Certificate of Designation for Preferred Stock (together with Preferred Stock Certificate).(1)
4.8	Form of Common Stock Certificate.(2)
5.1	Opinion of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP.(3)
12.1	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.(3)
23.1	Consent of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
23.2	Consent of KPMG LLP.
23.3	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Auditors.
25.1	Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1, as Trustee under the Indenture for Debt Securities.(1)

- (1) To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a current report on Form 8-K.
- (2) Previously filed with the SEC as an exhibit to and incorporated herein by reference from our Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-85515).
- (3) Previously filed with the SEC as an exhibit to this Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-112956).

Item 17. Undertakings.

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement; and

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the registrant pursuant to section 13 or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

(b) That, for the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

Table of Contents

(d) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(e) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the SEC such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question of whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(f) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes to file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 in accordance with the rules and regulation prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Securities Trust Indenture Act of 1939.

Table of Contents**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of San Diego, California, on March 19, 2004.

WIRELESS FACILITIES, INC.

/s/ DAN STOKELY

Interim Chief Financial Officer,

Vice President and Corporate Controller

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
/s/ MASOOD K. TAYEBI, PH.D.* <hr/> Masood K. Tayebi, Ph.D.	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)	March 19, 2004
/s/ DAN STOKELY <hr/> Dan Stokely	Interim Chief Financial Officer, Vice President and Corporate Controller (Principal Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer)	March 19, 2004
/s/ ERIC DEMARCO* <hr/> Eric DeMarco	President and Chief Operating Officer	March 19, 2004
/s/ SCOTT ANDERSON* <hr/> Scott Anderson	Director	March 19, 2004
/s/ BANDEL CARANO* <hr/> Bandel Carano	Director	March 19, 2004
/s/ WILLIAM HOGLUND* <hr/> William Hoglund	Director	March 19, 2004

Table of Contents

<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
<hr/> Scot Jarvis	Director	
<hr/> William Arthur Owens	Director	
*By: <hr/> /s/ DAN STOKELY		March 19, 2004
Dan Stokely, Attorney-in-Fact		

Table of Contents

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement.(1)
4.1	Form of Indenture Relating to Debt Securities.(3)
4.2	Form of Senior Debt Security.(1)
4.3	Form of Subordinated Debt Security.(1)
4.4	Form of Debt Warrant Agreement (together with form of Debt Warrant Certificate).(1)
4.5	Form of Common Stock Warrant Agreement (together with form of Common Stock Warrant Certificate).(1)
4.6	Form of Preferred Stock Warrant Agreement (together with form of Preferred Stock Warrant Certificate).(1)
4.7	Form of Certificate of Designation for Preferred Stock (together with Preferred Stock Certificate).(1)
4.8	Form of Common Stock Certificate.(2)
5.1	Opinion of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP.(3)
12.1	Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.(3)
23.1	Consent of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1).
23.2	Consent of KPMG LLP.
23.3	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Auditors.
25.1	Statement of Eligibility of Trustee on Form T-1, as Trustee under the Indenture for Debt Securities.(1)

(1) To be filed by amendment or as an exhibit to a current report on Form 8-K.

(2) Previously filed with the SEC as an exhibit to and incorporated herein by reference from our Registration Statement on Form S-1 (No. 333-85515)

(3) Previously filed with the SEC as an exhibit to this Registration Statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-112956).