DANAHER CORP /DE/ Form 424B5 December 07, 2007 Table of Contents

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities	Amount	Maximum Offering Price	Maximum Aggregate	
				Amount of
To Be Registered	To Be Registered	Per Unit	Offering Price	Registration Fee
5.625% Senior Notes due 2018	\$ 500,000,000	99.391%	\$496,955,000	\$15,350.00(1)

⁽¹⁾ The filing fee is calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act and has been paid by wire transfer.

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)5 Registration No. 333-135780

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To prospectus dated July 14, 2006)

\$500,000,000

5.625% Senior Notes due 2018

We will pay interest on the notes on January 15 and July 15 of each year, beginning on July 15, 2008. The notes will mature on January 15, 2018. We may redeem some or all of the notes at any time by paying a make-whole premium as described in this prospectus supplement.

The notes will be unsecured obligations and will rank equally with our existing and future unsecured senior indebtedness. The notes will be issued only in registered form in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Investing in our notes involves risks that are described in the Supplemental Risk Factors section beginning on page S-6 of this prospectus supplement and the Risk Factors section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, which is incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus.

	Per Note	Total
Public offering price (1)	99.391%	\$ 496,955,000
Underwriting discount	.65%	\$3,250,000
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	98.741%	\$ 493,705,000

(1) Plus accrued interest from December 11, 2007, if settlement occurs after that date.

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

The notes will be ready for delivery in book-entry form only through The Depository Trust Company, and its direct and indirect participants, including Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking S.A., on or about December 11, 2007.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Merrill Lynch & Co.

Lazard Capital Markets

JPMorgan

UBS Investment Bank

BNP PARIBAS

Banc of America Securities LLC

Barclays Capital

Wachovia Securities

The date of this prospectus supplement is December 6, 2007.

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or any free writing prospectus is accurate only as of their respective dates. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of the offering of the notes and other matters relating to us and our financial condition. The second part is the accompanying prospectus, which gives more general information about securities we may offer from time to time, some of which does not apply to the notes we are offering. To the extent that information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with information in the accompanying prospectus, the information in this prospectus supplement replaces the information in the accompanying prospectus. Generally, when we refer to the prospectus, we are referring to both parts of this document combined. If information in the prospectus supplement differs from information in the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement.

Except as the context otherwise requires, or as otherwise specified or used in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, the terms we, our, us, the Company, and Danaher refer to Danaher Corporation and its subsidiaries. References in this prospectus supplement to U.S. dollars, U.S. \$\\$ or \$\\$\$ are to the currency of the United States of America.

The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons who come into possession of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus should inform themselves about and observe any such restrictions. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus do not constitute, and may not be used in connection with, an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation.

You should not consider any information in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus to be investment, legal or tax advice. You should consult your own counsel, accountant and other advisors for legal, tax, business, financial and related advice regarding the purchase of the notes. We are not making any representation to you regarding the legality of an investment in the notes by you under applicable investment or similar laws.

You should read and consider all information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus before making your investment decision.

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FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain information and statements included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. All statements other than statements of historical fact are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements, including statements regarding: projections of revenue, margins, expenses, tax provisions (or reversals of tax provisions), earnings or losses from operations, cash flows, liquidity position, pension and benefit obligations and funding requirements, synergies, cost-control activities, cost savings or other financial items; plans, strategies and objectives of management for future operations, including statements relating to the Company s stock repurchase program, potential acquisitions and executive compensation; trends, seasonality, growth or decline in the markets we sell into, future economic conditions or performance; the outcome of outstanding claims or legal proceedings; assumptions underlying any of the foregoing; and any other statements that address activities, events or developments that we believe or anticipate will or may occur in the future. Forward-looking statements may be characterized by terminology such as believe, should, would, intend, plan, will, expects, estimates, projects, positioned, strategy and similar expressions. The on assumptions and assessments made by the Company s management in light of its experience and its perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors it believes to be appropriate. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to the following:

We face intense competition and if we are unable to compete effectively, we may face decreased demand or price reductions for our products.

Technologies, product offerings and customer requirements in many of our markets change rapidly. If we fail to keep up with these changes, we may not be able to meet our customers needs and demand for our products may decline. If we pursue technologies that do not become commercially accepted, customers may not buy our products or use our services.

Our acquisition of businesses could negatively impact our profitability and return on invested capital. Conversely, any inability to consummate acquisitions at our prior rate could negatively impact our growth rate.

The indemnification provisions of acquisition agreements by which we have acquired companies may not fully protect us and may result in unexpected liabilities.

The resolution of contingent liabilities from businesses that we have sold could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Our success depends on our ability to maintain and protect our intellectual property and avoid claims of infringement or misuse of third party intellectual property.

We are subject to a variety of litigation in the course of our business that could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Our operations expose us to the risk of environmental liabilities, costs, litigation and violations that could adversely affect our financial condition, results of operations and reputation.

Our businesses are subject to extensive governmental regulation; failure to comply with those regulations could adversely affect our results of operations, financial condition and reputation.

Our reputation and our ability to do business may be impaired by improper conduct by any of our employees, agents or business partners.

Adverse changes in our relationships with, or the financial condition or performance of, key distributors, resellers and other channel partners could adversely affect our results of operations.

Any inability to hire, train and retain a sufficient number of skilled officers and other employees could impede our ability to compete successfully.

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Cyclical economic conditions have affected and may continue to adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Changes in governmental regulations may reduce demand for our products or increase our expenses.

Foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices may adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

If we cannot obtain sufficient quantities of materials, components and equipment required for our manufacturing activities at competitive prices and quality and on a timely basis, or if our manufacturing capacity does not meet demand, our business and financial results will suffer.

Work stoppages, union and works council campaigns, labor disputes and other matters associated with our labor force could adversely impact our results of operations and cause us to incur incremental costs.

International economic, political, legal, accounting and business factors could negatively affect our results of operations, cash flows and financial condition.

Audits by tax authorities could result in additional tax payments for prior periods.

Our defined benefit pension plans are subject to financial market risks that could adversely affect our operating results. Any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results, developments and business decisions may differ materially from those envisaged by such forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of the document in which they are made. The Company does not intend to update any forward-looking statement, all of which are expressly qualified by the foregoing. See Part I Item 1A of Danaher s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006, for a further discussion regarding some of the reasons that actual results may be materially different from those that we anticipate.

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SUMMARY

The following summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and in the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and does not contain all the information you will need in making your investment decision. You should read carefully this entire prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

Danaher Corporation

Overview

We derive our sales from the design, manufacture and marketing of professional, medical, industrial and consumer products, which are typically characterized by strong brand names, proprietary technology and major market positions. Our business consists of four segments: Professional Instrumentation, Medical Technologies, Industrial Technologies and Tools & Components.

We strive to create shareholder value through:

delivering sales growth, excluding the impact of acquired businesses, in excess of the overall market growth for our products and services:

upper quartile financial performance when compared against peer companies; and

upper quartile cash flow generation from operations when compared against peer companies.

To accomplish these goals, the Company uses a set of tools and processes, known as the Danaher Business System (DBS), which are designed to continuously improve business performance in critical areas of quality, delivery, cost and innovation. Within the DBS framework, the Company also pursues a number of ongoing strategic initiatives intended to improve its operational performance, including global sourcing and innovative product development. The Company also acquires businesses that it believes can help it achieve the objectives described above, and believes that many acquisition opportunities remain available within its target markets. The Company will acquire businesses when they strategically fit with existing operations or when they are of such a nature and size as to establish a new strategic line of business. The extent to which appropriate acquisitions are made and effectively integrated can affect the Company s overall growth and operating results. The Company also continually assesses the strategic fit of its existing businesses and may divest businesses that are not deemed to strategically fit with its ongoing operations or are not achieving the desired return on investment.

Recent Developments

On October 14, 2007, we, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of ours and Tektronix, Inc. entered into a definitive agreement pursuant to which our subsidiary made a cash tender offer to acquire all of the outstanding shares of common stock of Tektronix for \$38.00 per share, for an aggregate price of approximately \$2.8 billion, including transaction costs and net of cash acquired. We acquired more than 90% of the outstanding shares of Tektronix during the tender offer and subsequent offer period and on November 21, 2007 we merged our indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary into Tektronix pursuant to a short-form merger (the tender offer and subsequent merger are referred to as the Merger). As a result, Tektronix has become an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Danaher.

The closing of the Merger and the cessation of trading of Tektronix s common stock on the New York Stock Exchange are each a fundamental change under the terms of the indenture governing Tektronix s \$345 million aggregate principal amount 1.625% Senior Convertible Notes due 2012. The fundamental change provision entitles the noteholders to convert their notes into \$1,064.93 in cash per \$1,000.00 of outstanding principal amount, plus accrued but unpaid interest, as set forth in the indenture governing such notes.

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On November 7, 2007, we completed the public offering of 6,900,000 shares of our common stock (par value \$0.01 per share) at a price to the public of \$82.25 per share. The net proceeds, after expenses and the underwriters discount, were approximately \$549.8 million which were used to partially fund the Merger.

In connection with the financing of the Merger, on November 13, 2007, we and certain of our subsidiaries entered into a \$1.9 billion revolving bridge loan facility. Together with our pre-existing \$1.5 billion credit facility, this increased our aggregate credit facilities to \$3.4 billion. The aggregate amount of our revolving bridge loan facility, and therefore our aggregate credit facilities, will be reduced by the amount of the net cash proceeds of this offering. In addition, concurrently with entering into the revolving bridge loan facility, we increased the size of our U.S. commercial paper program such that the principal amount of outstanding unsecured commercial paper notes under our global commercial paper program may not exceed \$3.4 billion. Our credit facilities are primarily intended to provide credit support for the global commercial paper program, but may also be drawn down for working capital and other general corporate purposes. We funded the purchase price of the Tektronix acquisition with proceeds from the issuance of commercial paper borrowings and the November 2007 equity offering, and to a lesser extent from available cash. As of the date of this prospectus supplement, we have not drawn any funds available under any of our outstanding credit facilities.

Our principal executive offices are located at 2099 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., 12th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20006-1813. Our telephone number is (202) 828-0850.

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THE OFFERING

The following is a brief summary of some of the terms of this offering. For a more complete description of the terms of the notes see Description of Notes in this prospectus.

Issuer	Danaher Corporation
Notes offered	\$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of $5.625%$ senior notes due 2018
Maturity	January 15, 2018
Interest payment dates	January 15 and July 15, beginning on July 15, 2008
Ranking	The notes will be unsecured and rank equally with our existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness and senior to our existing and future subordinated indebtedness. The notes will also be effectively subordinated to our existing and future secured indebtedness as to the assets securing such indebtedness and structurally subordinated to the existing and future indebtedness and any other liabilities of our subsidiaries. See Supplemental Risk Factors in this prospectus supplement.
Optional redemption	We may redeem some or all of the notes at any time by paying a make-whole premium as described in this prospectus supplement.
Change of control	When a change of control triggering event (as defined herein) occurs, each holder of notes may require us to repurchase some or all of its notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the principal amount of the notes, plus accrued interest.
Use of proceeds	We estimate that the net proceeds from the offering, after deducting the underwriters discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, will be approximately \$493.4 million. We intend to use these proceeds to repay a portion of our outstanding commercial paper and for general corporate purposes.
Risk factors	See Supplemental Risk Factors included in this prospectus supplement and Risk Factors in our Annu Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006, which is incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus, for a discussion of risks you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in the notes.

SUPPLEMENTAL RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the supplemental risks described below in addition to the risks described in Item 1A. Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed on March 1, 2007, which is incorporated by reference herein, as well as the other information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, before investing in the notes. You could lose part or all of your investment.

We have outstanding indebtedness, and our indebtedness may increase if we issue additional debt securities and do not retire existing debt.

We have outstanding debt and other financial obligations and significant unused borrowing capacity. As of September 28, 2007, after giving pro forma effect to this offering and the application of net proceeds therefrom, the common stock offering we completed in November 2007 and the application of net proceeds therefrom, and the commercial paper we issued to finance part of the Merger, we would have had \$4.1 billion of debt on a consolidated basis. Our debt level and related debt service obligations could have important consequences. For example, they could:

require us to dedicate significant cash flow from operations to the payment of principal and interest on our debt, which would reduce the funds we have available for other purposes;

reduce our flexibility in planning for or reacting to changes in our business and market conditions; and

expose us to interest rate risk since a portion of our debt obligations are at variable rates. We may incur significantly more debt in the future. If we add new debt, the risks described above could increase.

There are no financial covenants in the indenture.

Neither we nor any of our subsidiaries are restricted from incurring additional debt or other liabilities, including additional senior debt, under the indenture. If we incur additional debt or liabilities, our ability to pay our obligations on the notes could be adversely affected. We expect that we will from time to time incur additional debt and other liabilities. In addition, we are not restricted from paying dividends or issuing or repurchasing our securities under the indenture.

There are no financial covenants in the indenture. However, there are financial covenants in the agreements governing our outstanding credit facilities and there may be financial covenants in the agreements governing our future indebtedness. You are not protected under the indenture in the event of a highly leveraged transaction, reorganization, a default under our existing indebtedness, restructuring, merger or similar transaction that may adversely affect you, except to the extent described under Description of Debt Securities Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets included in the accompanying prospectus.

The notes will not be guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries and will be structurally subordinated to the debt and other liabilities of our subsidiaries, which means that creditors of our subsidiaries will be paid from their assets before holders of the notes would have any claims to those assets.

We are a holding company and conduct substantially all of our operations through subsidiaries. However, the notes will be obligations exclusively of Danaher Corporation and will not be guaranteed by any of our subsidiaries. As a result, the notes will be structurally subordinated to all debt and other liabilities of our subsidiaries (including liabilities to trade creditors), which means that creditors of our subsidiaries will be paid from their assets before holders of the notes would have any claims to those assets.

We may not be able to repurchase all of the notes upon a change of control triggering event.

As described under Description of Notes Change of Control, we will be required to offer to repurchase the notes upon the occurrence of a change of control triggering event. We may not have sufficient funds to

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repurchase the notes in cash at that time or have the ability to arrange necessary financing on acceptable terms. In addition, the terms of our other debt agreements or applicable law may limit our ability to repurchase the notes for cash.

An active trading market for the notes may not develop.

The notes constitute a new issue of securities, for which there is no existing market. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange or for quotation of the notes in any automated dealer quotation system. We cannot provide you with any assurance regarding whether a trading market for the notes will develop, the ability of holders of the notes to sell their notes or the price at which holders may be able to sell their notes. The underwriters have advised us that they currently intend to make a market in the notes. However, the underwriters are not obligated to do so, and any market-making with respect to the notes may be discontinued at any time without notice. If no active trading market develops, you may be unable to resell the notes at any price or at their fair market value.

If a trading market does develop, changes in our credit ratings or the debt markets could adversely affect the market price of the notes.

The price for the notes will depend on many factors, including:

our credit ratings with major credit rating agencies;

the prevailing interest rates being paid by other companies similar to us;

our financial condition, financial performance and future prospects; and

the overall condition of the financial markets.

The condition of the financial markets and prevailing interest rates have fluctuated in the past and are likely to fluctuate in the future. Such fluctuations could have an adverse effect on the price of the notes.

In addition, credit rating agencies continually review their ratings for the companies that they follow, including us. A negative change in our rating could have an adverse effect on the price of the notes.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds from the sale of the notes in this offering will be approximately \$493.4 million, after deducting the underwriters discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We anticipate that we will use the net proceeds from this offering to repay a portion of our outstanding commercial paper and for general corporate purposes, which may include refinancing of debt, acquisitions, working capital, share repurchases and capital expenditures. As of November 30, 2007, we had \$2.5 billion of commercial paper outstanding with a weighted average interest rate of 4.66%. Pending any specific application, we may initially invest funds in cash equivalents and short-term marketable securities.

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CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of September 28, 2007 on an actual basis; on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the increase of our commercial paper borrowings and our November 7, 2007 issuance of common stock in connection with the financing of the Merger; and on an as adjusted basis to give effect to the preceding adjustments and the sale of the securities in this offering and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described under Use of Proceeds. You should read this table in conjunction with Use of Proceeds and our consolidated financial statements and related notes incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus. The as adjusted information may not reflect our cash, short-term debt and capitalization in the future.

		for the the Merger financing of and for this		•	
(Dollar amounts in millions)	Actual			fin the an	financing of
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 209	\$	209	\$	209
Euro-denominated commercial paper (149 million at September 28, 2007)	213		586		586
U.S. dollar-denominated commercial paper	85		1,850		1,356
4.5% guaranteed Eurobond notes due July 22, 2013 (500 million)	713		713		713
Zero coupon Liquid Yield Option Notes due 2021	604		604		604
6.1% notes due October 2008	250		250		250
5.625% notes due 2018 offered hereby					500
Other borrowings	82		82		82
Total	1,947		4,085		4,091
Less currently payable	20		20		20
Long-term debt	1,927		4,065		4,071
Total debt	1,947		4,085		4,091
Total stockholders equity	8,053		8,603		8,603
- •					
Total capitalization	\$ 10,000	\$	12,688	\$	12,694

DESCRIPTION OF NOTES

The following description of the particular terms of the notes offered hereby (referred to in the accompanying prospectus as debt securities) supplements, and to the extent it is inconsistent therewith replaces, the description of the general terms and provisions of debt securities set forth in the accompanying prospectus, to which description reference is hereby made. In this section Description of Notes, the terms we, our, company and Danaher refer to Danaher Corporation only.

General

The notes will be issued under an indenture to be entered into between us and The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A., as trustee, as supplemented by a supplemental indenture to be entered into between us and The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A., as trustee (together, the Senior Indenture). You may request a copy of the Senior Indenture and the form of notes from the trustee.

We will issue the notes of each series in fully registered book-entry form without coupons and in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 thereafter. We do not intend to apply for the listing of the notes on a national securities exchange or for quotation of the notes on any automated dealer quotation system.

The following statements relating to the notes and the Senior Indenture are summaries of certain provisions thereof and are subject to the detailed provisions of the form of notes and the Senior Indenture, to which reference is hereby made. Certain provisions of the Senior Indenture are summarized in the accompanying prospectus. We encourage you to read the summaries of the notes and the Senior Indenture in both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as well as the form of notes and the Senior Indenture.

The notes will be our unsecured senior obligations. The notes will also be effectively subordinated to our existing and future secured indebtedness as to the assets securing such indebtedness and structurally subordinated to the existing and future indebtedness and any other liabilities of our subsidiaries. The cover page of this prospectus supplement sets forth the maturity date, the aggregate principal amount and the interest rate of the notes. The notes will bear interest from the date of issuance, payable semiannually on each January 15 and July 15, beginning on July 15, 2008, to the persons in whose names the notes are registered at the close of business on the 15th calendar day immediately preceding each interest payment date. Interest will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year composed of twelve 30-day months. Payments of principal and interest to owners of book-entry interests (as described below) are expected to be made in accordance with the procedures of The Depository Trust Company (DTC) and its participants in effect from time to time.

If an interest payment date for the notes falls on a date that is not a business day (as defined below), then interest will be paid on the next day that is a business day, and no interest on such payment will accrue for the period from and after such interest payment date. If a redemption date or the maturity date for any note falls on a date that is not a business day, the related payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest may be made on the next succeeding business day, and no additional interest will accumulate on the amount payable for the period from and after the redemption date or maturity date.

Business day, means any calendar day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday in New York, New York and on which commercial banks are open for business in New York, New York.

The notes will not be entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.

Optional Redemption

The notes of each series will be redeemable, in whole at any time or in part from time to time, at our option at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

(i) 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed; or

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(ii) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest thereon (not including any portion of such payments of interest accrued as of the date of redemption), discounted to the date of redemption on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the Treasury Rate (as defined below), plus 25 basis points, plus in each case accrued interest thereon to, but excluding, the date of redemption. Notwithstanding the foregoing, installments of interest on notes that are due and payable on interest payment dates falling on or prior to a redemption date will be payable on the interest payment date to the registered holders as of the close of business on the relevant record date according to the notes and the Senior Indenture.

Comparable Treasury Issue means the United States Treasury security selected by the Quotation Agent as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the notes to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of such notes.

Comparable Treasury Price means, with respect to any redemption date, (i) the average of four Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (ii) if we obtain fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations, or (iii) if only one Reference Treasury Dealer Quotation is received, such quotation.

Quotation Agent means the Reference Treasury Dealer appointed by us.

Reference Treasury Dealer means (i) Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC (or their respective affiliates that are Primary Treasury Dealers) and their respective successors; *provided, however*, that if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in the United States of America (a Primary Treasury Dealer), we will substitute therefor another Primary Treasury Dealer, and (ii) any other Primary Treasury Dealer selected by us.

Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by us, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to us by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 3:30 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

Treasury Rate means, with respect to any redemption date, the rate per annum equal to the semiannual equivalent yield to maturity or interpolated (on a day count basis) of the Comparable Treasury Issue, assuming a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price of such redemption date.

Notice of any redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each registered holder of the notes to be redeemed. Unless we default in payment of the redemption price, on and after the redemption date, interest will cease to accrue on the notes or portions thereof called for redemption. If less than all of the notes are to be redeemed, the notes to be redeemed shall be selected by the Trustee by a method the Trustee deems to be fair and appropriate.

Change of Control

If a change of control triggering event occurs, unless we have exercised our option to redeem the notes as described above, we will be required to make an offer (the change of control offer) to each holder of the notes to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$2,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof) of that holder s notes on the terms set forth in the notes. In the change of control offer, we will be required to offer payment in cash equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of notes repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid

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interest, if any, on the notes repurchased to the date of repurchase (the change of control payment). Within 30 days following any change of control triggering event or, at our option, prior to any change of control, but after public announcement of the transaction that constitutes or may constitute the change of control, a notice will be mailed to holders of the notes describing the transaction that constitutes or may constitute the change of control triggering event and offering to repurchase the notes on the date specified in the notice, which date will be no earlier than 30 days and no later than 60 days from the date such notice is mailed (the change of control payment date).

The notice will, if mailed prior to the date of consummation of the change of control, state that the offer to purchase is conditioned on the change of control triggering event occurring on or prior to the change of control payment date.

On the change of control payment date, we will, to the extent lawful:

accept for payment all notes or portions of notes properly tendered pursuant to the change of control offer;

deposit with the paying agent an amount equal to the change of control payment in respect of all notes or portions of notes properly tendered; and

deliver or cause to be delivered to the trustee the notes properly accepted together with an officers certificate stating the aggregate principal amount of notes or portions of notes being repurchased.

We will not be required to make a change of control offer upon the occurrence of a change of control triggering event if a third party makes such an offer in the manner, at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements for an offer made by us and the third party repurchases all notes properly tendered and not withdrawn under its offer. In addition, we will not repurchase any notes if there has occurred and is continuing on the change of control payment date an event of default under the indenture, other than a default in the payment of the change of control payment upon a change of control triggering event.

We will comply with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent those laws and regulations are applicable in connection with the repurchase of the notes as a result of a change of control triggering event. To the extent that the provisions of any such securities laws or regulations conflict with the change of control offer provisions of the notes, we will comply with those securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached our obligations under the change of control offer provisions of the notes by virtue of any such conflict.

For purposes of the change of control offer provisions of the notes, the following terms will be applicable:

Change of control means the occurrence of any of the following: (1) the consummation of any transaction (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any person (as that term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) (other than our Company or one of our subsidiaries) becomes the beneficial owner (as defined in Rules 13d-3 and 13d-5 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of our voting stock or other voting stock into which our voting stock is reclassified, consolidated, exchanged or changed, measured by voting power rather than number of shares; (2) the direct or indirect sale, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or consolidation), in one or more series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of our assets and the assets of our subsidiaries, taken as a whole, to one or more persons (as that term is defined in the indenture) (other than our Company or one of our subsidiaries); or (3) the first day on which a majority of the members of our Board of Directors are not continuing directors. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a transaction will not be deemed to involve a change of control if (1) we become a direct or indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of a holding company and (2)(A) the direct or indirect holders of the voting stock of such holding company immediately following that transaction are

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substantially the same as the holders of our voting stock immediately prior to that transaction or (B) immediately following that transaction no person (other than a holding company satisfying the requirements of this sentence) is the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the voting stock of such holding company.

The definition of change of control includes a phrase relating to the direct or indirect sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of our and our subsidiaries properties or assets taken as a whole. Although there is a limited body of case law interpreting the phrase substantially all, there is no precise established definition of the phrase under applicable law. Accordingly, the ability of a holder of notes to require us to repurchase such holder s notes as a result of a sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of less than all of our and our subsidiaries assets taken as a whole to another person or group may be uncertain.

Change of control triggering event means the occurrence of both a change of control and a rating event.

Continuing directors means, as of any date of determination, any member of our Board of Directors who (1) was a member of such Board of Directors on the date the notes were issued or (2) was nominated for election, elected or appointed to such Board of Directors with the approval of a majority of the continuing directors who were members of such Board of Directors at the time of such nomination, election or appointment (either by a specific vote or by approval of our proxy statement in which such member was named as a nominee for election as a director, without objection to such nomination).

Investment grade rating means a rating equal to or higher than Baa3 (or the equivalent) by Moody s and BBB- (or the equivalent) by S&P, and the equivalent investment grade credit rating from any additional rating agency or rating agencies selected by us.

Moody s means Moody s Investors Service Inc.

Rating agencies means (1) each of Moody s and S&P; and (2) if either of Moody s or S&P ceases to rate the notes or fails to make a rating of the notes publicly available for reasons outside of our control, a nationally recognized statistical rating organization within the meaning of Rule 15c3-1(c)(2)(vi)(F) under the Exchange Act selected by us (as certified by a resolution of our Board of Directors) as a replacement agency for Moody s or S&P, or both of them, as the case may be.

Rating event means the rating on the notes is lowered by each of the rating agencies and the notes are rated below an investment grade rating by each of the rating agencies on any day within the 60-day period (which 60-day period will be extended so long as the rating of the notes is under publicly announced consideration for a possible downgrade by any of the rating agencies) after the earlier of (1) the occurrence of a change of control and (2) public notice of the occurrence of a change of control or our intention to effect a change of control; provided, however, that a rating event otherwise arising by virtue of a particular reduction in rating will not be deemed to have occurred in respect of a particular change of control (and thus will not be deemed a rating event for purposes of the definition of change of control triggering event) if the rating agencies making the reduction in rating to which this definition would otherwise apply do not announce or publicly confirm or inform the trustee in writing at our or its request that the reduction was the result, in whole or in part, of any event or circumstance comprised of or arising as a result of, or in respect of, the applicable change of control (whether or not the applicable change of control has occurred at the time of the rating event).

S&P means Standard & Poor s Rating Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

Voting stock means, with respect to any specified person (as that term is used in Section 13(d)(3) of the Exchange Act) as of any date, the capital stock of such person that is at the time entitled to vote generally in the election of the board of directors of such person.

Defeasance; Satisfaction and Discharge

The notes will be subject to defeasance and discharge and to defeasance of certain covenants as set forth in the indenture. See Description of Debt Securities Legal Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance and Description of Debt Securities Satisfaction and Discharge of the Indentures in the accompanying prospectus.

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Book-Entry System

The certificates representing the notes of each series will be issued in the form of one or more fully registered global notes without coupons (the Global Note) and will be deposited with, or on behalf of, DTC and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as the nominee of DTC. Except in limited circumstances, the notes will not be issuable in definitive form. Unless and until they are exchanged in whole or in part for the individual notes represented thereby, any interests in the Global Note may not be transferred except as a whole by DTC to a nominee of DTC or by a nominee of DTC to DTC or another nominee of DTC or by DTC or any nominee of DTC to a successor depository or any nominee of such successor. See Description of Debt Securities Denomination, Form, Registration and Transfer in the accompanying prospectus.

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

Concerning the Trustee

The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. will be the trustee under the Senior Indenture. We may maintain deposit accounts or conduct other banking transactions with the trustee in the ordinary course of business.

Governing Law

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

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UNDERWRITING

We intend to offer the notes through the underwriters. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC are acting as representatives of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions described in a purchase agreement among us and the underwriters, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters, and the underwriters severally have agreed to purchase from us, the principal amount of the notes listed opposite their names below.

	Principal
Underwriter	Amount
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith	
Incorporated	\$ 175,000,000
J.P. Morgan Securities Inc.	125,000,000
UBS Securities LLC	125,000,000
BNP Paribas Securities Corp.	15,000,000
Banc of America Securities LLC	15,000,000
Barclays Capital Inc.	15,000,000
Lazard Capital Markets LLC	15,000,000
Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC	15,000,000
Total	\$ 500,000,000

The underwriters have agreed to purchase all of the notes sold under the purchase agreement if any of these notes are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the purchase agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the non-defaulting underwriters may be increased or the purchase agreement may be terminated.

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

The underwriters are offering the notes, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the notes, and other conditions contained in the purchase agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriters of officer s certificates and legal opinions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

Commissions and Discounts

The underwriters have advised us that they propose initially to offer the notes to the public at the public offering price on the cover page of this prospectus, and to dealers at that price less a concession not in excess of .40% of the principal amount of the notes. The underwriters may allow, and the dealers may reallow, a discount not in excess of .25% of the principal amount of the notes to other dealers. After the initial public offering, the public offering price, concession and discount may be changed.

The expenses of the offering, not including the underwriting discount, are estimated at \$300,000 and are payable by us.

New Issue of Notes

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any national securities exchange or for quotation of the notes on any automated dealer quotation system. We have been advised by the underwriters that they presently intend to make a market in the notes after completion of the offering. However, they are under no obligation to do so and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without any notice. We cannot assure the liquidity of the trading market for the notes or that an active public market for the notes will develop. If an ac