Virtu Financial, Inc. Form S-3/A September 14, 2016

Use these links to rapidly review the document <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 14, 2016

Registration No. 333-213157

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No 1

Form S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Virtu Financial, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

32-0420206

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022 (212) 418-0100

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Douglas A. Cifu Chief Executive Officer 900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022 1010 (212) 418-0100

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Copy to: John C. Kennedy, Esq. Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP 1285 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10019-6064 (212) 373-3000

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time following effectiveness of this Registration Statement. If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. o If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. ý 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. o 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. o If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box. o If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box. o Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer ý Smaller reporting company o CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE **Proposed** Proposed Maximum Maximum Offering Price Aggregate Amount of Title of Each Class of Securities Amount to be Offering Registration per to be Registered Registered(1) Unit Price(2)(3) Fee(2) Senior Debt Securities and Subordinated Debt Securities (collectively, "Debt Securities")(4) Preferred Stock(5) Class A common stock, par value \$0.00001 per share(6) Depositary Shares Warrants(7)

Purchase Contracts(8)

Units(9)

Total:

\$50,350(10)

\$500,000,000

- The amount to be registered is not specified as to each class of securities to be registered pursuant to General Instruction II.D and an indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or number of securities of the Company is being registered as may from time to time be issued at currently indeterminable prices up to a proposed maximum aggregate offering price of \$500,000,000. Securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or together with other securities registered hereunder.
- The proposed maximum offering price per security will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with the issuance of the securities registered by this Registration Statement. Prices, when determined, may be in U.S. dollars or the equivalent thereof in one or more foreign currencies, foreign currency units or composite currencies. If any Debt Securities or shares of preferred stock are issued at an original issue discount, then the amount registered will include the principal or liquidation amount of such securities measured by the initial offering price thereof.
- (3) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act.
- (4)

 Including an indeterminate number of Debt Securities as may from time to time be issued upon conversion or exchange of any securities registered under this registration statement or upon settlement of purchase contracts.
- (5)

 Including an indeterminate number of shares of preferred stock as may from time to time be issued upon conversion or exchange of any securities registered under this registration statement or upon settlement of purchase contracts.
- (6)

 Including an indeterminate number of shares of Class A common stock as may from time to time be issued upon conversion or exchange of any securities registered under this registration statement or upon settlement of purchase contracts.
- (7)
 The warrants covered by this registration statement may be Class A common stock warrants, preferred stock warrants, or debt securities warrants.
- (8)

 The purchase contracts covered by this registration statement include the rights to purchase any securities under this registration statement.
- (9)

 Each unit will be issued under a unit agreement or an indenture and will represent an interest in two or more securities registered hereby, including shares of Class A common stock, preferred stock, debt securities or warrants, which may or may not be separable from one another.
- (10) Previously paid.

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 and we are not soliciting offers to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS (Subject to Completion)
Dated September 14, 2016

Virtu Financial, Inc.

Debt Securities
Preferred Stock
Class A Common Stock
Depositary Shares
Warrants
Purchase Contracts
Units

This prospectus contains a general description of the securities that we may offer for sale with an aggregate initial offering price of up to \$500,000,000 (or the equivalent in foreign currencies). The specific terms of the securities will be contained in one or more supplements to this prospectus. Read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest.

Our shares of Class A common stock are listed on The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ") under the symbol "VIRT."

Investing in our securities involves risks that are referenced under the caption "Risk Factors" on page 8 of this prospectus. You should carefully review the risks and uncertainties described under the heading "Risk Factors" contained in the applicable prospectus supplement and any related free writing prospectus, and under similar headings in the other documents that are incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The date of this prospectus is

, 2016.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u>
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	<u>4</u>
STATEMENTS REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION	<u>5</u>
THE COMPANY	<u> </u>
RISK FACTORS	
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND	<u>8</u>
PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS USE OF PROCEEDS	9
DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES	<u>10</u>
DESCRIPTION OF THE CAPITAL STOCK	<u>11</u>
	<u>21</u>
DESCRIPTION OF THE DEPOSITARY SHARES	<u>26</u>
DESCRIPTION OF THE WARRANTS	<u>30</u>
DESCRIPTION OF THE PURCHASE CONTRACTS	<u>32</u>
DESCRIPTION OF THE UNITS	<u>33</u>
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION	
LEGAL MATTERS	<u>34</u>
EXPERTS	<u>37</u>
i i	<u>38</u>
•	

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

To understand the terms of the securities offered by this prospectus, you should carefully read this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement. You should also read the documents referred to under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information" for information on us and the business conducted by us.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement on Form S-3 that Virtu Financial, Inc., a Delaware corporation, which is also referred to as the "Company," "we," "us," and "our," has filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, using a "shelf" registration procedure. Under this procedure, we may offer and sell from time to time, any of the following, with an aggregate initial offering price of up to \$500,000,000 (or the equivalent in foreign currencies), in one or more series, which we refer to in this prospectus as the "securities:"

debt securities,	
preferred stock,	
Class A common stock,	
depositary shares,	
warrants,	
purchase contracts, and	
units.	

The securities may be sold for U.S. dollars, foreign-denominated currency or currency units. Amounts payable with respect to any securities may be payable in U.S. dollars or foreign-denominated currency or currency units as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer securities, we will provide you with a prospectus supplement that will describe the specific amounts, prices and terms of the securities being offered. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement.

The prospectus supplement may also contain information about any material U.S. Federal income tax considerations relating to the securities covered by the prospectus supplement.

We may sell securities to underwriters who will sell the securities to the public on terms fixed at the time of sale. In addition, the securities may be sold by us directly or through dealers or agents designated from time to time, which agents may be affiliates of ours. If we, directly or through agents, solicit offers to purchase the securities, we and our agents reserve the sole right to accept and to reject, in whole or in part, any offer.

The prospectus supplement will also contain, with respect to the securities being sold, the names of any underwriters, dealers or agents, together with the terms of the offering, the compensation of any underwriters, dealers or agents and the net proceeds to us.

Any underwriters, dealers or agents participating in the offering may be deemed "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which we refer to in this prospectus as the "Securities Act."

INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

In this prospectus, we "incorporate by reference" certain information that we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to that information. The information we incorporate by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. The following documents have been filed by us with the SEC and are incorporated by reference into this prospectus:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, filed with the SEC on March 25, 2016;

Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2016, filed with the SEC on May 13, 2016 and for the quarter ended June 30, 2016, filed with the SEC on August 12, 2016;

Portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the SEC on April 29, 2016 that are incorporated by reference into Part III of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015;

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on January 5, 2016, February 4, 2016, April 12, 2016 and June 14, 2016; and

The description of our Class A common stock set forth in our registration statement filed on Form 8-A pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act with the SEC on April 16, 2015, and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating that description.

All documents and reports that we file with the SEC (other than any portion of such filings that are furnished under applicable SEC rules rather than filed) under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") from the date of this prospectus until the completion of the offering under this prospectus shall be deemed to be incorporated in this prospectus by reference. The information contained on or accessible through our website (http://www.virtu.com) is not incorporated into this prospectus.

You may request a copy of these filings, other than an exhibit to these filings unless we have specifically included or incorporated that exhibit by reference into the filing, from the SEC as described under "Where You Can Find More Information" or, at no cost, by writing or telephoning the Company at the following address:

Virtu Financial, Inc.
Attn: Investor Relations
900 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022-1010
E-mail: investor_relations@virtu.com
Telephone: (212) 418-0100

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, if applicable, and any free writing prospectus that we authorize. We have not authorized any person, including any salesman or broker, to provide information other than that provided in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, if applicable, or any free writing prospectus that we authorize. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We do not take responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any information that others may give you. We are not making an offer of the securities in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus, any prospectus supplement, if applicable, any free writing prospectus that we authorize or any documents incorporated by reference is accurate as of any date other than the date of the applicable document.

Table of Contents

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

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

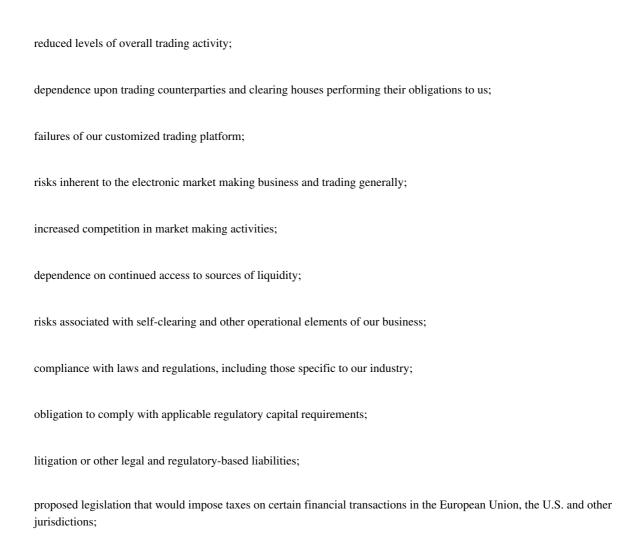
We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may obtain such SEC filings from the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov. You can also read and copy these materials at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can obtain further information about the operation of the SEC's Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330.

As permitted by SEC rules, this prospectus does not contain all of the information we have included in the registration statement and the accompanying exhibits and schedules we file with the SEC. You may refer to the registration statement, exhibits and schedules for more information about us and the securities. The registration statement, exhibits and schedules are available through the SEC's website or at its Public Reference Room.

STATEMENTS REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain information included in this prospectus or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement includes forward-looking statements, which involve risks and uncertainties. You should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements because they are subject to numerous uncertainties and factors relating to our operations and business environment, all of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond our control. Forward-looking statements include information concerning our possible or assumed future results of operations, including descriptions of our business strategy. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms "may," "will," "should," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan," "estimate," "project" or, in each case, their negative, or other variations or comparable terminology and expressions. These statements are based on assumptions that we have made in light of our experience in the industry as well as our perceptions of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors we believe are appropriate under the circumstances. As you read and consider this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement, you should understand that these statements are not guarantees of performance or results and that our actual results of operations, financial condition and liquidity, and the development of the industry in which we operate, may differ materially from those made in or suggested by the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future. Although we believe that the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement are based on reasonable assumptions, you should be aware that many factors could affect our actual financial results or results of operations and could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements, including but not limited to:



obligation to comply with laws and regulations applicable to our international operations;

enhanced media and regulatory scrutiny and its impact upon public perception of us or of companies in our industry;

need to maintain and continue developing proprietary technologies;

failure to maintain system security or otherwise maintain confidential and proprietary information;

5

Table of Contents

capacity constraints, system failures, and delays;
dependence on third party infrastructure or systems;
use of open source software;
failure to protect or enforce our intellectual property rights in our proprietary technology;
risks associated with international operations and expansion, including failed acquisitions or dispositions;
fluctuations in currency exchange rates;
risks associated with potential growth and associated corporate actions;
inability to, or delay in, accessing the capital markets to sell shares or raise additional capital;
loss of key executives and failure to recruit and retain qualified personnel; and
risks associated with losing access to a significant exchange or other trading venue.

We caution you that the foregoing list of important factors may not contain all of the material factors that are important to you. For additional information about factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements, please see the documents that we have filed with the SEC, including quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, our most recent annual report on Form 10-K, current reports on Form 8-K and our proxy statement.

We undertake no obligation, and do not expect, to publicly update or publicly revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or to persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements referred to above and contained elsewhere in this prospectus.

Table of Contents

THE COMPANY

We are a leading technology-enabled market maker and liquidity provider to the global financial markets. We stand ready, at any time, to buy or sell a broad range of securities, and we generate revenue by buying and selling large volumes of securities and other financial instruments and earning small bid/ask spreads. We make markets by providing quotations to buyers and sellers in more than 12,000 securities and other financial instruments on more than 230 unique exchanges, markets and liquidity pools in 35 countries around the world. We believe that our broad diversification, in combination with our proprietary technology platform and low-cost structure, enables us to facilitate risk transfer between global capital markets participants by supplying liquidity and competitive pricing while at the same time earning attractive margins and returns.

For a description of our business, financial condition, results of operations and other important information regarding us, see our filings with the SEC incorporated by reference in this prospectus. For instructions on how to find copies of the filings incorporated by reference in this prospectus, see "Where You Can Find More Information."

Our principal executive office is located at 900 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022-1010.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risk. You should carefully consider the specific risks discussed or incorporated by reference in any prospectus supplement, if applicable, together with all the other information contained in any prospectus supplement, if applicable, or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You should also consider the risks, uncertainties and assumptions discussed under the caption "Risk Factors" included in the Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, which are incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and which may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the SEC in the future.

8

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

The ratio of earnings to fixed charges for Virtu Financial, Inc. is set forth below for the periods indicated.

For purposes of computing the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings were calculated by adding:

- (i) Income before income taxes and noncontrolling interest and
- (ii) Financing interest expense on senior secured credit facility.

	Months Ended June 30,	Year Ended December 31,					
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	8.3x	8.4x	7.3x	8.6x	4.4x	7.9x	

We did not have any preferred stock outstanding for the periods presented, and therefore the ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends would be the same as the ratios of earnings to fixed charges presented above.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of our Class A common stock by us for general corporate purposes, which may include, among other things, debt repayment, purchase of common equity interests in Virtu Financial, LLC (and related shares of our Class C common stock or Class D common stock), working capital and capital expenditures.

10

DESCRIPTION OF THE DEBT SECURITIES

General

The following description of the terms of our senior debt securities and subordinated debt securities (together, the "debt securities") sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the debt securities to which any prospectus supplement may relate. Unless otherwise noted, the general terms and provisions of our debt securities discussed below apply to both our senior debt securities and our subordinated debt securities. The particular terms of any debt securities and the extent, if any, to which such general provisions will not apply to such debt securities will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities.

Our debt securities may be issued from time to time in one or more series. The senior debt securities will be issued from time to time in series under an indenture to be entered into by us and US Bank National Association, as Senior Indenture Trustee (as amended or supplemented from time to time, the "senior indenture"). The subordinated debt securities will be issued from time to time under a subordinated indenture to be entered into by us and US Bank National Association, as Subordinated Indenture Trustee (the "subordinated indenture" and, together with the senior indenture, the "indentures"). The Senior Indenture Trustee and the Subordinated Indenture Trustee are both referred to, individually, as the "Trustee." The senior debt securities will constitute our unsecured and unsubordinated obligations and the subordinated debt securities will constitute our unsecured and Subordinated obligations. A detailed description of the subordination provisions is provided below under the caption "Ranking and Subordination Subordination." In general, however, if we declare bankruptcy, holders of senior debt securities will be paid in full before holders of subordinated debt securities will receive anything.

The statements set forth below are brief summaries of certain provisions contained in the indentures, which summaries do not purport to be complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the indentures, each of which is incorporated by reference as an exhibit or filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. Terms used herein that are otherwise not defined shall have the meanings given to them in the indentures. Such defined terms shall be incorporated herein by reference.

The indentures do not limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued under the applicable indenture and debt securities may be issued under the applicable indenture up to the aggregate principal amount which may be authorized from time to time by us. Any such limit applicable to a particular series will be specified in the prospectus supplement relating to that series.

The applicable prospectus supplement will disclose the terms of each series of debt securities in respect to which such prospectus is being delivered, including the following:

the designation and issue date of the debt securities;

the date or dates on which the principal of the debt securities is payable;

the rate or rates (or manner of calculation thereof), if any, per annum at which the debt securities will bear interest;

the date or dates, if any, from which interest will accrue and the interest payment date or dates for the debt securities;

any limit upon the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities which may be authenticated and delivered under the applicable indenture;

the period or periods within which, the redemption price or prices or the repayment price or prices, as the case may be, at which and the terms and conditions upon which the debt securities

Table of Contents

may be redeemed at the Company's option or the option of the holder of such debt securities (a "Holder");

the obligation, if any, of the Company to purchase the debt securities pursuant to any sinking fund or analogous provisions or at the option of a Holder of such debt securities and the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which and the terms and conditions upon which such debt securities will be purchased, in whole or in part, pursuant to such obligation;

if other than denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof, the denominations in which the debt securities will be issuable;

provisions, if any, with regard to the conversion or exchange of the debt securities, at the option of the Holders of such debt securities or the Company, as the case may be, for or into new securities of a different series, the Company's Class A common stock or other securities and, if such debt securities are convertible into the Company's Class A common stock or other Marketable Securities (as defined in the indentures), the conversion price;

if other than U.S. dollars, the currency or currencies or units based on or related to currencies in which the debt securities will be denominated and in which payments of principal of, and any premium and interest on, such debt securities shall or may be payable;

if the principal of (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on the debt securities are to be payable, at the election of the Company or a Holder of such debt securities, in a currency (including a composite currency) other than that in which such debt securities are stated to be payable, the period or periods within which, and the terms and conditions upon which, such election may be made;

if the amount of payments of principal of (and premium, if any) or interest, if any, on the debt securities may be determined with reference to an index based on a currency (including a composite currency) other than that in which such debt securities are stated to be payable, the manner in which such amounts shall be determined;

provisions, if any, related to the exchange of the debt securities, at the option of the Holders of such debt securities, for other securities of the same series of the same aggregate principal amount or of a different authorized series or different authorized denomination or denominations, or both;

the portion of the principal amount of the debt securities, if other than the principal amount thereof, which shall be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof as more fully described under the section " Events of Default, Notice and Waiver" below;

whether the debt securities will be issued in the form of global securities and, if so, the identity of the depositary with respect to such global securities;

with respect to subordinated debt securities only, the amendment or modification of the subordination provisions in the subordinated indenture with respect to the debt securities; and

any other specific terms.

We may issue debt securities of any series at various times and we may reopen any series for further issuances from time to time without notice to existing Holders of securities of that series.

Some of the debt securities may be issued as original issue discount debt securities. Original issue discount debt securities bear no interest or bear interest at below-market rates. These are sold at a discount below their stated principal amount. If we issue these securities, the prospectus supplement will describe any special tax, accounting or other information which we think is important. We

Table of Contents

encourage you to consult with your own competent tax and financial advisors on these important matters.

Unless we specify otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement, the covenants contained in the indentures will not provide special protection to Holders of debt securities if we enter into a highly leveraged transaction, recapitalization or restructuring.

Unless otherwise set forth in the prospectus supplement, interest on outstanding debt securities will be paid to Holders of record on the date that is 15 days prior to the date such interest is to be paid, or, if not a business day, the next preceding business day. Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, debt securities will be issued in fully registered form only. Unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, the principal amount of the debt securities will be payable at the corporate trust office of the Trustee in New York, New York. The debt securities may be presented for transfer or exchange at such office unless otherwise specified in the prospectus supplement, subject to the limitations provided in the applicable indenture, without any service charge, but we may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charges payable in connection therewith.

Ranking and Subordination

Ranking

The senior debt securities will be our unsecured, senior obligations, and will rank equally with our other unsecured and unsubordinated obligations. The subordinated debt securities will be our unsecured, subordinated obligations.

The debt securities will effectively rank junior in right of payment to any of our existing and future secured obligations to the extent of the value of the assets securing such obligations. The debt securities will be effectively subordinated to all existing and future liabilities, including indebtedness and trade payables, of our subsidiaries. The indentures do not limit the amount of unsecured indebtedness or other liabilities that can be incurred by our subsidiaries.

Subordination

If issued, the indebtedness evidenced by the subordinated debt securities is subordinate to the prior payment in full of all our Senior Indebtedness (as defined below). During the continuance beyond any applicable grace period of any default in the payment of principal, premium, interest or any other payment due on any of our Senior Indebtedness, we may not make any payment of principal of, or premium, if any, or interest on the subordinated debt securities. In addition, upon any payment or distribution of our assets upon any dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, the payment of the principal of, or premium, if any, and interest on the subordinated debt securities will be subordinated to the extent provided in the subordinated indenture in right of payment to the prior payment in full of all our Senior Indebtedness. Because of this subordination, if we dissolve or otherwise liquidate, Holders of our subordinated debt securities may receive less, ratably, than Holders of our Senior Indebtedness. The subordinated indenture.

The term "Senior Indebtedness" of a person means with respect to such person the principal of, premium, if any, interest on, and any other payment due pursuant to any of the following, whether outstanding on the date of the subordinated indenture or incurred by that person in the future:

all of the indebtedness of that person for borrowed money, including any indebtedness secured by a mortgage or other lien which is (1) given to secure all or part of the purchase price of property subject to the mortgage or lien, whether given to the vendor of that property or to another lender, or (2) existing on property at the time that person acquires it;

Table of Contents

all of the indebtedness of that person evidenced by notes, debentures, bonds or other similar instruments sold by that person for money;

all of the lease obligations which are capitalized on the books of that person in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

all indebtedness of others of the kinds described in the first two bullet points above and all lease obligations of others of the kind described in the third bullet point above that the person, in any manner, assumes or guarantees or that the person in effect guarantees through an agreement to purchase, whether that agreement is contingent or otherwise; and

all renewals, extensions or refundings of indebtedness of the kinds described in the first, second or fourth bullet point above and all renewals or extensions of leases of the kinds described in the third or fourth bullet point above;

unless, in the case of any particular indebtedness, lease, renewal, extension or refunding, the instrument or lease creating or evidencing it or the assumption or guarantee relating to it expressly provides that such indebtedness, lease, renewal, extension or refunding is not superior in right of payment to the subordinated debt securities. Our senior debt securities, and any unsubordinated guarantee obligations of ours to which we are a party, including Indebtedness For Borrowed Money, constitute Senior Indebtedness for purposes of the subordinated indenture.

Pursuant to the subordinated indenture, the subordinated indenture may not be amended, at any time, to alter the subordination provisions of any outstanding subordinated debt securities without the consent of the requisite holders of each outstanding series or class of Senior Indebtedness (as determined in accordance with the instrument governing such Senior Indebtedness) that would be adversely affected.

Certain Covenants

Limitation on Consolidation, Merger, Conveyance or Transfer on Certain Terms

The indentures provide that we will not consolidate with or merge into any other Person or convey or transfer our properties and assets substantially as an entirety to any Person, unless:

- (1) the Person formed by such consolidation or into which our company is merged or the Person which acquires by conveyance or transfer the properties and assets of our company substantially as an entirety shall be organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or any state of the United States or the District of Columbia, and shall expressly assume, by supplemental indenture, executed and delivered to the Trustee, in form reasonably satisfactory to the Trustee, the due and punctual payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on all the debt securities and the performance of every covenant of the applicable indenture (as supplemented from time to time) on the part of our company to be performed or observed;
- (2) immediately after giving effect to such transaction, no Event of Default, and no event which, after notice or lapse of time, or both, would become an Event of Default, shall have happened and be continuing; and
- (3) we have delivered to the Trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel each stating that such consolidation, merger, conveyance or transfer and such supplemental indenture comply with this covenant and that all conditions precedent provided for relating to such transaction have been complied with.

Upon any consolidation or merger, or any conveyance or transfer of the properties and assets of our company substantially as an entirety as set forth above, the successor Person formed by such consolidation or into which our company is merged or to which such conveyance or transfer is made

Table of Contents

shall succeed to, and be substituted for, and may exercise every right and power of our company under the applicable indenture with the same effect as if such successor had been named as our company in the applicable indenture. In the event of any such conveyance or transfer, our company, as the predecessor, shall be discharged from all obligations and covenants under the applicable indenture and the debt securities issued under such indenture and may be dissolved, wound up or liquidated at any time thereafter.

Subject to the foregoing, the indentures and the debt securities do not contain any covenants or other provisions designed to afford Holders of debt securities protection in the event of a recapitalization or highly leveraged transaction involving our company.

Any additional covenants of our company pertaining to a series of debt securities will be set forth in a prospectus supplement relating to such series of debt securities.

Certain Definitions

The following are certain of the terms defined in the indentures:

"Consolidated Net Worth" means, with respect to any Person, at the date of any determination, the consolidated stockholders' or owners' equity of the holders of capital stock or partnership interests of such Person and its subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP consistently applied.

"GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles as such principles are in effect in the United States as of the date of the applicable indenture.

"Indebtedness For Borrowed Money" of any Person means, without duplication, (a) all obligations of such Person for borrowed money, (b) all obligations of such Person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or similar instruments and (c) all guarantee obligations of such Person with respect to Indebtedness For Borrowed Money of others. The Indebtedness For Borrowed Money of any Person shall include the Indebtedness For Borrowed Money of any other entity (including any partnership in which such Person is general partner) to the extent such Person is liable therefor as a result of such Person's ownership interest in or other contractual relationship with such entity, except to the extent the terms of such Indebtedness For Borrowed Money provide that such Person is not liable therefor.

"Material Subsidiary" means any Person that is a Subsidiary if, at the end of the most recent fiscal quarter of our company, the aggregate amount, determined in accordance with GAAP consistently applied, of securities of, loans and advances to, and other investments in, such Person held by us and our other Subsidiaries exceeded 10% of our Consolidated Net Worth.

"Person" means any individual, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust, unincorporated organization or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof.

"Subsidiary" means, with respect to any Person, any corporation more than 50% of the voting stock of which is owned directly or indirectly by such Person, and any partnership, association, joint venture or other entity in which such Person owns more than 50% of the equity interests or has the power to elect a majority of the board of directors or other governing body.

Optional Redemption

If specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may redeem the debt securities of any series, as a whole or in part, at our option on or after the dates and in accordance with the terms established for such series, if any, in the applicable prospectus supplement. If we redeem the debt securities of any series, we must also pay accrued and unpaid interest, if any, up to the date of redemption on such debt securities.

Table of Contents

Satisfaction and Discharge

Each indenture will be discharged and will cease to be of further effect (except as to surviving rights or registration of transfer or exchange of the applicable series of the debt securities, as expressly provided for in the indenture) as to all outstanding debt securities of a series, when:

(1) Either:

- (a) all of the applicable series of the debt securities theretofore authenticated and delivered (except lost, stolen or destroyed notes which have been replaced or paid and notes for whose payment money has theretofore been deposited in trust or segregated and held in trust by us and thereafter repaid to us or discharged from such trust) have been delivered to the Trustee for cancellation; or
- (b) all of the applicable series of debt securities not theretofore delivered to the Trustee for cancellation (1) have become due and payable or (2) will become due and payable within one year, or are to be called for redemption within one year, under arrangements satisfactory to the Trustee for the giving of notice of redemption by the Trustee in the name, and at the expense, of us, and we have irrevocably deposited or caused to be deposited with the Trustee funds in an amount in the required currency sufficient to pay and discharge the entire Indebtedness on the applicable series of debt securities not theretofore delivered to the Trustee for cancellation for principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the applicable series of debt securities to the date of deposit or to the stated maturity or redemption date, as the case may be;
- (2) we have paid all other sums payable under the indenture by us with regard to the debt securities of such series; and
- (3) we have delivered to the Trustee an Officer's Certificate and an Opinion of Counsel stating that all conditions precedent under the indenture relating to the satisfaction and discharge of the indenture with respect to the debt securities of such series have been complied with.

Defeasance

Each indenture provides that we, at our option:

- (a) will be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of any series of debt securities (except in each case for certain obligations to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities, replace stolen, lost or mutilated senior debt securities, maintain paying agencies and hold moneys for payment in trust), or
- (b) need not comply with the covenants described above under "Certain Covenants," and any other restrictive covenants described in a prospectus supplement relating to such series of debt securities and certain Events of Default (other than those arising out of the failure to pay interest or principal on the debt securities of a particular series and certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency and reorganization) will no longer constitute Events of Default with respect to such series of debt securities,

in each case if we deposit with the Trustee, in trust, money or the equivalent in securities of the government which issued the currency in which the debt securities are denominated or government agencies backed by the full faith and credit of such government, or a combination thereof, which through the payment of interest thereon and principal thereof in accordance with their terms will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay all the principal (including any mandatory sinking fund payments) of, and interest on, such series on the dates such payments are due in accordance with the terms of such series.

To exercise any such option, we are required, among other things, to deliver to the Trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the deposit and related defeasance would not cause the Holders of

Table of Contents

such series to recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes and, in the case of a Discharge pursuant to clause (a) above, accompanied by a ruling to such effect received from or published by the United States Internal Revenue Service.

In addition, we are required to deliver to the Trustee an Officers' Certificate stating that such deposit was not made by us with the intent of preferring the Holders over other creditors of ours or with the intent of defeating, hindering, delaying or defrauding creditors of ours or others.

Events of Default, Notice and Waiver

Each indenture provides that, if an Event of Default specified therein with respect to any series of debt securities issued thereunder shall have happened and be continuing, either the Trustee thereunder or the Holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series (or 25% in aggregate principal amount of all outstanding debt securities under such indenture, in the case of certain Events of Default affecting all series of debt securities issued under such indenture) may declare the principal of all the debt securities of such series to be due and payable.

"Events of Default" in respect of any series are defined in the indentures as being:

default for 30 days in payment of any interest installment with respect to such series;

default in payment of principal of, or premium, if any, on, or any sinking or purchase fund or analogous obligation with respect to, debt securities of such series when due at their stated maturity, by declaration or acceleration, when called for redemption or otherwise;

default for 90 days after written notice to us by the Trustee thereunder or by Holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series in the performance, or breach, of any covenant or warranty pertaining to debt securities of such series; and

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency and reorganization with respect to us or any Material Subsidiary of ours which is organized under the laws of the United States or any political subdivision thereof or the entry of an order ordering the winding up or liquidation of our affairs.

Any additions, deletions or other changes to the Events of Default which will be applicable to a series of debt securities will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to such series of debt securities.

Each indenture provides that the Trustee thereunder will, within 90 days after the occurrence of a default with respect to the debt securities of any series issued under such indenture, give to the Holders of the debt securities of such series notice of all uncured and unwaived defaults known to it; provided, however, that, except in the case of default in the payment of principal of, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any of the debt securities of such series, the Trustee thereunder will be protected in withholding such notice if it in good faith determines that the withholding of such notice is in the interests of the Holders of the debt securities of such series. The term "default" for the purpose of this provision means any event which is, or after notice or lapse of time or both would become, an Event of Default with respect to debt securities of such series. Each indenture contains provisions entitling the Trustee under such indenture, subject to the duty of the Trustee during an Event of Default to act with the required standard of care, to be indemnified to its reasonable satisfaction by the Holders of the debt securities before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the applicable indenture at the request of Holders of such debt securities.

Each indenture provides that the Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series issued under such indenture may direct the time, method and place of conducting proceedings for remedies available to the Trustee or exercising any trust or power conferred on the Trustee in respect of such series, subject to certain conditions.

Table of Contents

In certain cases, the Holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of any series may waive, on behalf of the Holders of all debt securities of such series, any past default or Event of Default with respect to the debt securities of such series except, among other things, a default not theretofore cured in payment of the principal of, or premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any of the senior debt securities of such series or payment of any sinking or purchase fund or analogous obligations with respect to such senior debt securities.

Each indenture includes a covenant that we will file annually with the Trustee a certificate of no default or specifying any default that exists.

Modification of the Indentures

We and the Trustee may, without the consent of the Holders of the debt securities issued under the indenture governing such debt securities, enter into indentures supplemental to the applicable indenture for, among others, one or more of the following purposes:

- (1) to evidence the succession of another Person to us and the assumption by such successor of our company's obligations under the applicable indenture and the debt securities of any series;
- (2) to add to the covenants of our company, or to surrender any rights or powers of our company, for the benefit of the Holders of debt securities of any or all series issued under such indenture;
- (3) to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision in the applicable indenture which may be inconsistent with any other provision therein, or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under such indenture or to conform the text of the indenture or the debt securities to this description of notes or the description of notes in an applicable prospectus supplement;
- (4) to add to the applicable indenture any provisions that may be expressly permitted by the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, or "the Act," excluding the provisions referred to in Section 316(a)(2) of the Act as in effect at the date as of which the applicable indenture was executed or any corresponding provision in any similar federal statute hereafter enacted;
- (5) to establish the form or terms of any series of debt securities to be issued under the applicable indenture, to provide for the issuance of any series of debt securities and/or to add to the rights of the Holders of debt securities;
- (6) to evidence and provide for the acceptance of any successor Trustee with respect to one or more series of debt securities or to add or change any of the provisions of the applicable indenture as shall be necessary to facilitate the administration of the trusts thereunder by one or more trustees in accordance with the applicable indenture;
 - (7) to provide any additional Events of Default;
- (8) to provide for uncertificated securities in addition to or in place of certificated securities; provided that the uncertificated securities are issued in registered form for certain federal tax purposes;
- (9) to provide for the terms and conditions of converting those debt securities that are convertible into Class A common stock or another such similar security;
 - (10) to secure any series of debt securities pursuant to the applicable indenture's limitation on liens;
- (11) to make any change necessary to comply with any requirement of the SEC in connection with the qualification of the applicable indenture or any supplemental indenture under the Act or to comply with the rules of any applicable securities dep