

TRINITY BIOTECH PLC
Form F-3
July 25, 2003
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 25, 2003

Registration No. 333-_____

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM F-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

TRINITY BIOTECH PLC

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Republic of Ireland

(State or Other Jurisdiction

of Incorporation or Organization)

None

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

**IDA Business Park
Bray, Co. Wicklow
Ireland
011 353 1 276 9800**

Edgar Filing: TRINITY BIOTECH PLC - Form F-3

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number,

Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal

Executive Offices)

Alan J. Bernstein, Esq.
Carter, Ledyard & Milburn
2 Wall Street
New York, New York 10005
(212) 732-3200

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and

Telephone Number, Including Area Code,

of Agent For Service)

Copies to:

Alan J. Bernstein, Esq.
Carter, Ledyard & Milburn
2 Wall Street
New York, New York 10005
(212) 732-3200

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after this registration statement becomes effective, as determined by market conditions and other factors.

Table of Contents

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

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

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

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

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

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of each class of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered (2)	Proposed	Proposed	Amount of registration fee (3)
		maximum offering price per share(3)	maximum aggregate offering price(3)	
Class A Ordinary Shares, nominal value \$.0109 (1)	7,042,254	\$2.695	\$18,978,874.53	\$1,535.39

- (1) American Depositary Shares (evidenced by American Depositary Receipts, ADRs), each representing one Class A Ordinary Share, have been registered on a separate Registration Statement on Form F-6.
- (2) The registration statement also includes an indeterminate number of shares underlying the ADRs that may become offered, issuable or sold to prevent dilution resulting from stock splits, stock dividends and similar transactions, which are included pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the amount of the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, on the basis of the average of the high and the low prices (\$2.84 and \$2.55, respectively) of one ADR representing one Class A Ordinary Share as reported by Nasdaq on July 22, 2003.

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 Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

Table of Contents

Subject to Completion, dated July 25, 2003

7,042,254 Class A Ordinary Shares

TRINITY BIOTECH PLC

Class A Ordinary Shares Represented by American Depositary Receipts

The American Depositary Receipts of Trinity Biotech trade in the United States on the Nasdaq SmallCap Market under the symbol TRIB. On July 22, 2003, the last reported sale price of an American Depositary Receipt of Trinity Biotech, as reported by Nasdaq, was \$2.77.

This prospectus relates to the resale of 7,042,254 American Depositary Receipts which are issuable upon conversion or repayment of Trinity Biotech's 3% Convertible Notes Due 2007. All of the American Depositary Receipts were issued and sold pursuant to a private placement to the selling shareholders named in this prospectus. We are registering the shares underlying the American Depositary Receipts pursuant to commitments with the selling shareholders.

See Summary of Risks beginning on page 5 to read about certain factors you should consider before buying American Depositary Receipts.

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

Prospectus dated July ____, 2003.

Table of Contents

<u>About Trinity Biotech</u>	2
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	2
<u>Enforceability of Civil Liabilities Against Foreign Persons</u>	3
<u>Currency Translation</u>	4
<u>Notice Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	4
<u>Summary of Risks</u>	5
<u>Recent Developments</u>	9
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	11
<u>Selling Shareholders</u>	12
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	13
<u>Legal Matters</u>	16
<u>Experts</u>	16

About Trinity Biotech

Trinity Biotech plc, an Irish public limited company, was formed in January 1992 to acquire, develop, manufacture and market rapid and laboratory based diagnostic tests for the detection of various infectious diseases, blood coagulation disorders and other medical conditions. In addition, we manufacture and market diagnostic tests through our German and Swedish subsidiaries as well as our U.S. subsidiaries, Clark Laboratories Inc. (trading as Trinity Biotech (USA) Corp.), MarDx Diagnostics Inc. and Biopool U.S., Inc. Our address is IDA Business Park, Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland, telephone number 011 353 1 276 9800.

Where You Can Find More Information

We file annual and special reports and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference rooms in Washington, D.C., New York, New York and Chicago, Illinois. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms.

Table of Contents

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 until the selling shareholders sell all the shares. This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the SEC (Registration No 333-_____).

- Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2002
- Report on Form 6-K filed on July 11, 2003

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Corporate Secretary Trinity Biotech plc IDA Business Park Bray, Co. Wicklow Ireland 011 353 1 276 9800

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in this prospectus or any supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or any supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents.

Trinity Biotech is a foreign private issuer as defined in Rule 3b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. As a result, our proxy solicitations are not subject to the disclosure and procedural requirements of Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act and transactions in Trinity Biotech's equity securities by its officers and directors are exempt from Section 16 of the Exchange Act. In addition, Trinity Biotech is not required under the Exchange Act to file periodic reports and financial statements as frequently or as promptly as U.S. companies whose securities are registered under the Exchange Act.

Our ADRs are listed for quotation on the Nasdaq SmallCap Market, and reports and other information filed by us can be inspected at the offices of Nasdaq. Each ADR represents one Class A Ordinary Share of Trinity Biotech.

Enforceability of Civil Liabilities Against Foreign Persons

We are a public limited company organized under the laws of the Republic of Ireland. Several of our directors and officers and certain experts named in the registration statement are residents of Ireland or other non-U.S. jurisdictions. Substantial portions of the assets of these persons and of Trinity Biotech are located in Ireland or other non-U.S. jurisdictions.

Table of Contents

We have appointed Alan Bernstein of Carter, Ledyard & Milburn as our agent to receive service of process in any legal action against us. However, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process upon Trinity Biotech or its non-U.S. directors, officers or experts named in the registration statement or to enforce any judgment obtained against these persons in U.S. courts. Also, it may not be possible to enforce U.S. securities laws or judgments obtained in U.S. courts against these persons in a non-U.S. jurisdiction.

Currency Translation

Trinity Biotech publishes its financial statements in United States dollars. Unless otherwise specified, all references to U.S. dollars , dollars , \$ or U.S. \$ are to United States dollars and references to Euro, or are to the European Union. No representation is made that the Euro or U.S. dollar amounts shown in this prospectus could have been or could be converted into U.S. dollars or Euros, as the case may be, at any particular rate or at all.

Notice Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This prospectus and the documents incorporated in it by reference contain forward-looking statements which involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties. We include this notice for the express purpose of permitting Trinity Biotech to avail itself of the protections of the safe harbor provided by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 for all such forward looking statements. Examples of forward-looking statements include: (1) projections of capital expenditures, revenues, growth, prospects, financial resources and other financial matters; (2) statements of our plans or objectives; and (3) statements using the words anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, may, intend, project, understand and other verbs suggesting uncertainty.

Our ability to predict results of Trinity Biotech's operations or the effects of certain events on Trinity Biotech's operating results is inherently uncertain. Therefore, we caution you to consider carefully the matters described under the caption Summary of Risks and certain other matters discussed in this prospectus, the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and other publicly available sources. Such risks and many other factors beyond the control of Trinity Biotech's management could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of Trinity Biotech to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements that may be expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements.

Table of Contents

Summary of Risks

Before you invest in our shares, you should be aware that there are various risks, including those described below. You should consider carefully these risks together with all of the other information included in this prospectus before you decide to purchase our shares.

Potential Fluctuations in Results

- Trinity Biotech's operating results may fluctuate as a result of many factors including size and timing of orders, the competitive conditions in the industry, loss of significant customers, delays in the development of new products, currency fluctuations and general economic conditions.

Future Need for Capital

- Up to now Trinity Biotech has funded its operations through the sale of its shares and securities convertible into shares, revenues from operations and bank borrowings. Trinity Biotech expects that the proceeds of recent equity financings, bank borrowings, current working capital and sales revenues will fund its current operations and payment obligations for the foreseeable future including a future purchase price payment for a business acquisition described below under Recent Developments - *Acquisitions* in the amount of \$800,000 payable on November 27, 2003. However, if our capital requirements are greater than expected, or if our revenues are not sufficient to fund our operations, we may need to find additional financing which may not be available on attractive terms or at all. Any future financing could have an adverse effect on our current shareholders or the price of our shares in general.

Market Competition and Technological Obsolescence

- The diagnostics industry is extremely competitive. Trinity Biotech is competing directly with companies which have greater capital resources and larger marketing and business organizations than Trinity Biotech. Trinity Biotech's ability to grow revenue and earnings may be adversely impacted by competitive product and pricing pressures and by its inability to gain or retain market share as a result of the action of competitors. We have significantly invested in research and development (R&D) but there can be no guarantees that our R&D programmes will not be rendered technologically obsolete or financially non-viable by the technological advances of our competitors, which would also adversely affect our existing product lines and inventory.

Sourcing of Suitable Distributors

- Revenue and earnings stability and growth are directly dependent on the effectiveness of advertising, marketing and promotional programmes. Trinity Biotech currently distributes its product portfolio through distributors in over 80 countries worldwide. Our continuing economic success and financial security is dependent on our ability to secure effective channels of distribution on favourable trading terms with suitable distributors.

Table of Contents

Changing Market Conditions

- The healthcare industry is in transition with a number of changes that affect the market for diagnostic test products. Changes in the healthcare industry delivery system have resulted in major consolidation among reference laboratories and in the formation of multi-hospital alliances, reducing the number of institutional customers for diagnostic test products. There can be no assurance that we will be able to enter into and/or sustain contractual or other marketing or distribution arrangements on a satisfactory commercial basis with these institutional customers.

Dependence Upon Sales To Major Customer

- During the financial years ended December 31, 2002, December 31, 2001 and December 31, 2000, approximately 20%, 27% and 30% respectively of Trinity Biotech's revenues were derived from a distribution agreement between our subsidiary, Trinity Biotech (USA) Corp. (trading name of Clark Laboratories, Inc.) and Carter Wallace, Inc. In 2001, Carter Wallace was acquired by Medpointe, Inc. which was subsequently acquired by Inverness Medical in 2002. In 2002 we negotiated an amendment to the distribution agreement whereby the exclusivity of Carter Wallace's right to sell our products in the US will be removed in stages throughout 2004. Any material reduction in sales arising from the distribution agreement whether caused by the above amendment to the distribution agreement or due to the loss or interruption of the distribution agreement with Carter Wallace could be expected to have a material adverse effect on Trinity Biotech.

Acquisition of Businesses

- Trinity Biotech has historically grown organically and through the acquisition of, and investment in, other companies, product lines and technologies. There can be no guarantees that recent or future acquisitions can be successfully assimilated or that projected growth in revenues or synergies in operating costs can be achieved. Our ability to integrate future acquisitions may also be adversely affected by inexperience in dealing with new technologies, and changes in regulatory or competitive environments. Additionally, even during a successful integration, the investment of management's time and resources in the new enterprise may be detrimental to the consolidation and growth of our existing business.

Research and Development Risk and Expiration of Patents

- We are committed to significant expenditure on research and development. However, there is no certainty that this investment in research and development will yield technically feasible or commercially viable products. Our organic growth and long-term success is dependent on our ability to develop and market new products but this work is subject to very

Table of Contents

stringent regulatory control and very significant costs in research, development and marketing. Failure to introduce new products could significantly slow our growth and adversely affect our market share.

- Even when products are successfully developed and marketed, Trinity Biotech's ownership of the technology behind these products has a finite life. In general, generic competition, which can arise after the expiration of a patent, can have a detrimental effect on a product's revenue, profitability and market share. There can be no guarantee that the net income and financial position of Trinity Biotech will not be adversely affected by competition from generic products. Conversely, on occasion, certain companies have claimed exclusive patent, copyright and other intellectual property rights to technologies in the diagnostics industry. If these technologies relate to Trinity Biotech's planned products, Trinity Biotech would be obliged to seek licenses to use this technology and, in the event of being unable to obtain such licenses or it being obtainable on grounds that would be materially disadvantageous to Trinity Biotech, we would be precluded from marketing such products, which could adversely impact its revenues, sales and financial position.

Patent Protection

- We can provide no assurance that the patents Trinity Biotech may apply for will be obtained or that existing patents will not be challenged. The patents owned by Trinity Biotech and its subsidiaries may be challenged by third parties through litigation and could adversely affect the value of our patents. We can provide no assurance that our patents will continue to be commercially valuable.
- Also, our technologies could be subject to claims of infringement of patents or proprietary technology owned by others. The cost of enforcing our patent and technology rights against infringers or defending our patents and technologies against infringement charges by others may be high and could adversely affect our business.
- Trade secrets and confidential know-how are important to our scientific and commercial success. Although we seek to protect our proprietary information through confidentiality agreements and other contracts, we can provide no assurance that others will not independently develop the same or similar information or gain access to our proprietary information.

Regulation

- Our manufacturing and marketing diagnostic test kits are subject to government regulation in the United States of America by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and by comparable regulatory authorities in other jurisdictions. The approval process for our products, while variable across countries, is generally lengthy, time consuming, detailed and expensive. Our continued success is dependent on our ability to develop and market new products, some of which are currently awaiting approval from these regulatory authorities.

Table of Contents

There is no certainty that such approval will be granted or, even once granted, will not be revoked during the continuing review and monitoring process.

A PMA for the UniGold HIV Test is currently undergoing FDA review. No assurance can be given that the FDA will grant PMA approval to the UniGold HIV Test on a timely basis or at all. A delay or failure to receive such approval could have a material adverse effect on our revenues, earnings and financial standing.

We are required to comply with extensive postmarket regulatory requirements. Non-compliance with applicable regulatory requirements of the FDA or comparable foreign regulatory bodies can result in enforcement action which may include recalling products, ceasing product marketing, paying significant fines and penalties, and similar actions that could limit product sales, delay product shipment, and adversely affect profitability.

Dependence on Key Personnel

- Trinity Biotech's success is dependent on certain key management personnel. Competition for qualified employees among biotechnology companies is intense, and the loss of key personnel or the inability to attract and retain the additional highly skilled employees required for the expansion of our activities, could adversely affect its business.

Dependence Upon Suppliers

- The primary raw materials required for Trinity Biotech's test kits consist of antibodies, antigens or other reagents, glass fibre and packaging materials which are acquired from third parties. Although Trinity Biotech does not expect to be dependent upon any one source for these raw materials, alternative sources of antibodies with the specificity and sensitivity desired by Trinity Biotech may not be available. Such unavailability could affect the quality of our products and our ability to meet orders for specific products.

Risk of Product Liability

- Trinity Biotech may be subject to claims for personal injuries or other damages resulting from its products or services. There can be no assurance that our product liability insurance is sufficient to protect us against liability that could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risk of Foreign Exchange Fluctuations

- Trinity Biotech records its transactions in Euro and U.S. dollars and prepares its financial statements in U.S. dollars. A substantial portion of our expenses is denominated in Euro. However, Trinity Biotech's revenues are primarily denominated in U.S. dollars. As a result, we are affected by fluctuations in currency exchange rates, especially the exchange rate between the U.S. dollar and the Euro. Fluctuations between these and other exchange rates may adversely affect our earnings and assets.

Table of Contents

Penny Stock Regulations and Restrictions on Marketability

- SEC regulations concerning penny stock apply to Trinity Biotech's shares. These regulations impose sales practice requirements on broker-dealers who sell our shares to persons other than established customers and accredited investors as defined in SEC regulations. For transactions covered by the regulations, broker-dealers must make a suitability determination and receive a written agreement from the purchaser prior to the sale. These regulations may affect the ability of broker-dealers to sell our shares in the secondary market and thus adversely affect our share price.

Conversion of Convertible Notes will dilute the ownership interest of existing shareholders.

- The convertible notes described below under Recent Developments - *Sale of Convertible Notes* are convertible into ADRs representing our Class A Ordinary Shares. Conversion of the notes will likely occur only when the conversion price is below the trading price of our ADRs and will dilute the ownership interests of existing shareholders. In addition, any sales in the public market of the ADRs issuable upon conversion of the notes could adversely affect prevailing market prices of our ADRs.

Recent Developments

Sale of Convertible Notes

On July 10, 2003, we issued Series A Convertible Notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$20,000,000 for an aggregate sale price in the same amount to three institutional investors. The Series A Notes mature on January 1, 2007 and bear annual interest at the rate of 3.00%. Rodman & Renshaw, Inc., a US registered broker-dealer, received a finder's fee of \$800,000. Series B Convertible Notes, in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$5,000,000, shall be issued at the option of the Series A Note holders by delivery of written notice to us up to and including the later of January 9, 2004 and the three month anniversary of the effective date of the registration statement described below. The Series A Notes and the Series B Notes are collectively referred to as the Notes.

Accrued interest on the Notes is paid quarterly in cash. Commencing on October 1, 2004, we are required to repay quarterly, in cash or, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, in ADRs (or a combination thereof), at our option, the principal amounts due under the Notes until the maturity date.

The Notes are convertible into our ADRs representing our Class A Ordinary Shares, nominal value of \$.0109. The holders of the Notes may exercise their right to convert at any time and from time to time before we have fully repaid the Notes. The number of ADRs to be received upon conversion is calculated by dividing the outstanding principal amount being

Table of Contents

converted by (a) in the case of the Series A Notes, \$3.55 or (b) in the case of the Series B Notes, \$4.00, in each case subject to adjustment for stock dividends, stock splits, stock combination or issuance of additional shares. Should Trinity Biotech make certain distributions to its shareholders, the holders of the Notes shall be entitled to participate in these distributions.

If a change of control in Trinity Biotech occurs, the holders of the Notes may either (i) convert the Notes and receive the same consideration as Trinity Biotech's shareholders are entitled to receive from any acquiring entity, (ii) demand redemption of the Notes at a premium or (iii), under certain conditions, demand similar notes from any acquiring entity.

The entire \$25,000,000 principal amount is initially convertible into 6,883,803 ADRs. We are presently limited to issuing a maximum of 6,745,732 ADRs upon conversion of the Notes based on an authorization we obtained from our Annual General Meeting of shareholders in 2001. We have agreed to seek shareholder approval to authorize any additional shares as may be necessary to issue ADRs upon conversion or repayment of the Notes and intend to call an Extraordinary Meeting of the shareholders as soon as practicable. Should we not be able to obtain timely shareholder approval, the holders of the Notes have the right to demand redemption for cash of the portion of the principal amounts of the Notes that could not be converted into ADRs as a result thereof at a price equal to 125% of the redeemed portion.

We are obligated to file a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission no later than August 9, 2003, covering the public resale of 125% of the ADRs to be issued upon full conversion or repayment in ADRs of the Series A Notes. We have agreed to use our best efforts to have this registration statement declared effective by the SEC. If (i) the registration statement is not declared effective by the SEC within 90 days following the issuance of the Series A Notes (or 135 days in the event of a full review of the registration statement by the SEC), (ii) after the registration statement has been declared effective by the SEC, sales cannot be made pursuant to the registration statement, (iii) the ADRs or the shares to be registered are not listed on the Nasdaq National or SmallCap Market, the New York Stock Exchange or the American Stock Exchange, or (iv) we do not issue the ADRs upon conversion of the Notes in a timely manner, we must pay monthly liquidated damages in an amount up to 2% of the principal outstanding under the Series A Notes after and as long as one of these events have occurred and continue.

Trinity Biotech is in default under the Notes if (i) it defaults in payments of principal or interest; (ii) it does not deliver ADRs after conversion of the Notes; (iii) it fails to comply with any material provision governing the financing transaction; (iv) any representations, warranties or statements made by Trinity Biotech in the documents governing the financing transaction were materially false and resulted in, or could reasonably be expected to result in, a material adverse effect; (v) any acceleration of any indebtedness or guarantee in excess of \$ 1 million of Trinity Biotech or any of its subsidiaries has occurred; (vi) Trinity Biotech or any of its significant subsidiaries is dissolved or terminated; (vii) Trinity Biotech becomes insolvent or files for bankruptcy protection; (viii) the registration statement described above is not declared effective within 210 days after the registration date described above or becomes unavailable for 15 consecutive days or an aggregate 30 days in any 365-day period; (ix) the ADRs are suspended from trading or delisted for ten consecutive days or an aggregate of fifteen days in any 365-day

Table of Contents

period; (x) an uninsured final judgment in excess of \$1 million is entered against Trinity Biotech or any of its subsidiaries. Upon the occurrence of such an event of default, the holders of the Notes can accelerate any outstanding principal amounts and interest due thereon. In the event of such an acceleration, the principal amount shall be increased to the greater of (i) up to 115% of the outstanding principal amount and (ii) an amount equal to the number of ADRs into which the outstanding principal amount of the Notes could be converted multiplied by the trading price of the ADRs.

The Notes shall generally rank pari passu with all other notes of Trinity Biotech and shall be senior to all other indebtedness, unless such other indebtedness in the aggregate does not exceed an amount equal to the consolidated EBITDA of Trinity Biotech and its subsidiaries multiplied by four. Trinity Biotech and its subsidiaries shall not grant any encumbrance in any property or assets owned by Trinity Biotech, except for certain permitted liens.

The description of the terms and provisions of the financing transaction set for herein does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the detailed provisions of those documents. Copies of these documents were filed with our Report on Form 6-K, dated July 11, 2003, which is incorporated by reference herein.

Acquisitions

Effective as of November 27, 2002, Trinity Biotech and several of its subsidiaries acquired from Sigma certain assets of its clinical chemistry and cardiac chemistry business lines for a total purchase price of \$4,350,000, of which \$2,540,000 was paid on November 27, 2002, \$1,010,000 was paid on May 27, 2003 and \$800,000 is payable on November 27, 2003.

Use of Proceeds

Trinity Biotech will not receive any additional proceeds from the sale of the ADRs offered by this prospectus.

Table of Contents**Selling Shareholders**

The registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part covers up to 7,042,254 Class A Ordinary Shares represented by ADRs issued or issuable upon conversion or in payment of principal of the Series A Notes issued to the selling stockholders on July 10, 2003. We have registered the shares underlying the ADRs to permit the selling shareholders and their respective pledgees, donees, transferees or other successors-in-interest that receive their ADRs from a selling shareholder as a gift, partnership distribution or other non-sale related transfer to resell the ADRs when they deem appropriate.

The table below identifies the selling shareholders and other information regarding the beneficial ownership of the ADRs by each of the selling shareholders. The second column lists the number of ADRs beneficially owned by each selling shareholder as of July 10, 2003, based on each selling shareholder's ownership of Series A Notes, and assumes the conversion of all the Series A Notes at the initial conversion price of \$3.55. Because the conversion price of the Series A Notes is subject to adjustment and the value attributed to the ADRs in the event we exercise our right to repay all or any portion of the Series A Notes in ADRs, rather than cash, varies, the numbers listed in the second column may change.

The third column lists each selling shareholder's portion, based on agreements with us, of the 7,042,254 ADRs being offered by this prospectus. The number of ADRs being offered by this prospectus was determined in accordance with the terms of the registration rights agreement with the selling shareholders, in which we agreed to register the resale of 125% of the number of ADRs issuable upon conversion of the Series A Notes at the initial conversion price of \$3.55. Because the conversion price of the Series A Notes may be adjusted, the number of ADRs that will actually be issued may be more or less than the 7,042,254 ADRs being offered by this prospectus. The fourth column assumes the sale of all of the ADRs offered by each selling shareholder. The selling shareholders may sell all, some or none of their ADRs in this offering. See "Plan of Distribution" below.

Name of Shareholder	Number of ADRs Beneficially Owned (1)	Number of ADRs Being Offered (2)	Number of ADRs Owned After Offering
Smithfield Fiduciary LLC ⁽³⁾	3,380,282	4,225,352	0
Portside Growth and Opportunity Fund ⁽⁴⁾	1,408,451	1,760,564	0
Mainfield Enterprises, Inc. ⁽⁵⁾	846,571	1,056,338	0

(1) ADRs issuable upon conversion of the Notes issued to the selling shareholders on July 10, 2003.

Table of Contents

(2) Representing 125% of the ADRs issuable upon conversion of the Notes issued to the selling shareholders on July 10, 2003, assuming the Series A Notes were converted in full at the initial conversion price of \$3.55.

(3) Highbridge Capital Management, LLC ("Highbridge") is the trading manager of Smithfield Fiduciary LLC ("Smithfield") and consequently has voting control and investment discretion over the securities held by Smithfield. Glenn Dubin and Henry Swieca control Highbridge. Each of Highbridge and Messrs. Dubin and Swieca disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities held by Smithfield.

(4) Ramius Capital Group, LLC ("Ramius Capital") is the investment adviser of Portside Growth & Opportunity Fund, Ltd. ("Portside") and consequently has voting control and investment discretion over securities held by Portside. Ramius Capital disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities held by Portside. Peter A. Cohen, Morgan B. Stark and Thomas W. Strauss are the sole managing members of C4S& Co., LLC, the sole managing member of Ramius Capital. As a result, Messrs. Cohen, Stark and Strauss may be considered beneficial owners of any securities deemed to be beneficially owned by Ramius Capital. Each of Messrs. Cohen, Stark and Strauss disclaim beneficial ownership of any securities held by Portside.

(5) Includes an additional 1,500 ADRs owned by Mainfield Enterprises, Inc. (Mainfield) which are not being registered hereby. Pursuant to an investment management agreement, Avi Vigder has voting control and investment discretion over securities held by Mainfield. Mr. Vigder disclaims beneficial ownership of the securities held by Mainfield.

None of the selling shareholders has held any position, office or other material relationship with Trinity Biotech or any of its affiliates within the past three years other than as a result of his or its ownership of Trinity Biotech ADRs or notes. The ADRs may be offered from time to time by the selling shareholders named above. However, the selling shareholders are under no obligation to sell any portion of their ADRs. All information about share ownership has been furnished by the selling shareholders. Because the selling shareholders may sell all or part of their ADRs, no estimate can be given for the number of ADRs that will be held by any selling shareholder upon termination of this offering.

Plan of Distribution

Trinity Biotech is registering all of the shares underlying the ADRs on behalf of the selling shareholders. Selling shareholders, as used in this prospectus, includes anyone who receives the ADRs from the named selling shareholders after the date of this prospectus. The selling shareholders may sell their ADRs from time to time. The selling shareholders will act independently of Trinity Biotech in making decisions about the timing, manner and size of each sale. The selling shareholders may sell ADRs on one or more exchanges or in the over-the-counter market or otherwise, at prices and at terms then prevailing or at prices related to the then current market price, or in negotiated transactions. The selling shareholders may use one or more, or a combination, of the following methods to sell their ADRs:

- on any national securities exchange or quotation service on which the securities may be listed or quoted at the time of sale,
- in the over-the-counter market,

Table of Contents

- in transactions otherwise than on these exchanges or systems or in the over-the-counter market,
- through the writing of options, whether such options are listed on an options exchange or otherwise,
- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker solicits purchasers;
- privately negotiated transactions;
- block trades in which the broker or dealer will attempt to sell the ADRs as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- purchases by a broker or dealer as principal and resale by that broker or dealer for the selling shareholder's account under this prospectus;
- sales under Rule 144 rather than by using this prospectus;
- through the settlement of short sales;
- a combination of any of these methods of sale; or
- any other legally permitted method.

The selling shareholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers in connection with distributions of the ADRs or otherwise. In these transactions, broker-dealers may engage in short sales of the ADRs in the course of hedging the positions they assume with the selling shareholders. The selling shareholders also may sell ADRs short and redeliver the ADRs to close out these short positions. The selling shareholders may enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers which require the delivery to the broker-dealer of the ADRs. The broker-dealer may then resell or otherwise transfer these ADRs through this prospectus. The selling shareholders also may loan or pledge the ADRs to a broker-dealer. The broker-dealer may sell the ADRs so loaned, or upon a default the broker-dealer may sell the pledged ADRs by use of this prospectus.

In effecting sales, broker-dealers engaged by the selling shareholders may arrange for other broker-dealers to participate. Broker-dealers may receive commissions or discounts from the selling shareholders in amounts to be negotiated immediately prior to the sale. In offering the ADRs covered by this prospectus, the selling shareholders and any broker-dealers who execute sales for the selling shareholders may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. Any profits realized by the selling shareholders and the compensation of any broker-dealers may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions. Because the selling shareholders may be deemed to be underwriters, they will be subject to the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act. The selling shareholders have advised Trinity Biotech that they have not entered into any agreements, understandings or arrangements with any underwriters or broker-dealers regarding the sale of the ADRs. No underwriter or coordinating broker is acting in connection with the selling shareholders' proposed sale of ADRs.

Table of Contents

The selling shareholders will sell their ADRs only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers if required under applicable state securities laws. In addition, in some states the selling shareholders may not sell their ADRs unless the ADRs have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or the selling shareholders comply with an available exemption from the registration or qualification requirements.

Under applicable rules and regulations of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act, any person engaged in the distribution of the ADRs may not simultaneously engage in market making activities with respect to Trinity Biotech's common stock for a period of two business days before the commencement of this distribution. In addition, the selling shareholders will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act and the associated rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, including Regulation M, which provisions may limit the timing of the selling shareholders' purchases and sales of Trinity Biotech's ADRs. Trinity Biotech will make copies of this prospectus available to the selling shareholders and has informed the selling shareholders of the need for delivery of copies of this prospectus to potential purchasers at or before the time of any sale of the ADRs.

If Trinity Biotech enters into any material arrangement with a broker-dealer for the sale of any ADRs offered by this prospectus, through a block trade, special offering, exchange distribution or a purchase by a broker or dealer, Trinity Biotech will file a supplement to this prospectus, if required, pursuant to Rule 424(b) under the Securities Act, disclosing

- the name of the participating broker-dealer(s),
- the number of ADRs involved,
- the price at which such ADRs were sold,
- the commission paid or discounts or concessions allowed to the broker-dealer(s), where applicable,
- whether the broker-dealer(s) conducted any investigation to verify the information in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and
- other material facts of the transaction required to be disclosed under the securities laws.

Trinity Biotech has agreed to reimburse in certain circumstances the selling shareholders against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act. The selling shareholders have agreed to reimburse in certain circumstances Trinity Biotech and certain related persons against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Expenses of this offering (other than brokerage commissions) are payable by Trinity Biotech and are estimated not to exceed \$10,000. Trinity Biotech has also agreed to indemnify certain of the selling shareholders and related persons against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933.

Table of Contents

The last reported sale price per share for Trinity Biotech's ADRs on the Nasdaq SmallCap Market was \$2.77 per ADR on July 22, 2003.

Legal Matters

The validity of the shares will be passed upon for Trinity Biotech by O'Donnell Sweeney, Dublin, Ireland.

Experts

Ernst & Young, independent auditors, have audited our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2002, as set forth in their report, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements are incorporated by reference in reliance on Ernst & Young's report, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

7,042,254 Class A Ordinary Shares

TRINITY BIOTECH PLC

Class A Ordinary Shares Represented by American Depositary Receipts

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. The prospectus does not contain an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the ADRs, or contain an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the ADRs in any circumstances which would be unlawful. By delivering this prospectus to you and by selling the ADRs with it, we do not mean to imply that no change has occurred in the affairs of Trinity Biotech since the date of this prospectus or that the information contained in this prospectus is correct as of any time after that date.

- 17 -

Table of Contents

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 8. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Trinity Biotech's Articles of Association provide that every Director, Managing Director, agent secretary or other officer of Trinity Biotech shall be entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of Trinity Biotech against all losses or liabilities which he may sustain or incur in or about the execution of the duties of his office or otherwise in relation thereto, including any liability incurred by him in defending any proceeding, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in his favor or in which he is acquitted, and no Director or other officer shall be liable for any loss, damage or misfortune which may happen to or be incurred by Trinity Biotech in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto.

Table of Contents**Item 9. Exhibits.**

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit
5	<u>Opinion of O'Donnell Sweeney</u>
23.1	<u>Consent of Ernst & Young, Independent Auditors, Dublin, Ireland.</u>
23.2	Consent of O'Donnell Sweeney (contained in Exhibit 5).
24	<u>Power of Attorney</u> (included in the signature page of this Registration Statement)
99.1	Securities Purchase Agreement among Trinity Biotech plc, Smithfield Fiduciary LLC, Portside Growth and Opportunity Fund and Mainfield Enterprises Inc., dated July 10, 2003, incorporated by reference to item 3 of the Report on Form 6-K filed on July 11, 2003, SEC File Number 000-22320.
99.2	Registration Rights Agreement among Trinity Biotech plc, Smithfield LLC, Portside Growth and Opportunity Fund and Mainfield Enterprises Inc., dated July 10, 2003, incorporated by reference to item 4 of the Report on Form 6-K, filed on July 11, 2003, SEC File Number 000-22320.
99.3	Form of Series A Convertible Note, incorporated by reference to item 5 of the Report on Form 6-K, filed on July 11, 2003, SEC File Number 000-22320.

Table of Contents

Item 10. Undertakings.

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes as follows:

- (1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:
 - (i) To include any prospectus required by section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act");
 - (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement;
 - (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (i) and (ii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.
- (2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new Registration Statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

- (4) To file a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement to include any financial statements required by Item 8.A. of Form 20-F at the start of any delayed offering or throughout a continuous offering, provided that a post-effective amendment need not be filed to include financial statements and information

Table of Contents

required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act or Item 8.A. of Form 20-F if such financial statement and information are contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

- (5) That, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.
- (6) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.
- (7) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the provisions referred to in Item 15, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form F-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in Dublin, Ireland on the 25th day of July, 2003.

TRINITY BIOTECH PLC

By: /s/ Ronan O'Caoimh

Ronan O'Caoimh

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

- 22 -

Table of Contents

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes Ronan O'Caoimh his true and lawful attorney-in-fact with full power to execute in the name of such person, in the capacities stated below, and to file, such one or more amendments to this Registration Statement as the Registrant deems appropriate, and generally to do all such things in the name and on behalf of such person, in the capacities stated below, to enable the Registrant to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and all requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder, and hereby ratifies and confirms the signature of such person as it may be signed by such attorney-in-fact to any and all amendments to this Registration Statement.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement and the above power of attorney have been signed below by the following persons in the capacities indicated on July 25, 2003.

Signature

Title

/s/ Ronan O'Caoimh

Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director
(Principal Executive Officer)

Ronan O'Caoimh

/s/ Denis Burger

Non-executive Director
(Authorized U.S. representative)

Denis Burger

/s/ Brendan Farrell

President and Director

Brendan Farrell

/s/ James Walsh

Chief Operating Officer and Director

James Walsh

/s/ Rory Nealon

Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Director

Rory Nealon

/s/ Peter Coyne

Non-executive Director

Peter Coyne

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description of Exhibit
5	<u>Opinion of O'Donnell Sweeney</u>
23.1	<u>Consent of Ernst & Young, Independent Auditors, Dublin, Ireland.</u>
23.2	Consent of O'Donnell Sweeney (contained in Exhibit 5).
24	<u>Power of Attorney</u> (included in the signature page of this Registration Statement)
99.1	Securities Purchase Agreement among Trinity Biotech plc, Smithfield Fiduciary LLC, Portside Growth and Opportunity Fund and Mainfield Enterprises Inc., dated July 10, 2003, incorporated by reference to item 3 of the Report on Form 6-K filed on July 11, 2003, SEC File Number 000-22320.
99.2	Registration Rights Agreement among Trinity Biotech plc, Smithfield LLC, Portside Growth and Opportunity Fund and Mainfield Enterprises Inc., dated July 10, 2003, incorporated by reference to item 4 of the Report on Form 6-K, filed on July 11, 2003, SEC File Number 000-22320.
99.3	Form of Series A Convertible Note, incorporated by reference to item 5 of the Report on Form 6-K, filed on July 11, 2003, SEC File Number 000-22320.