

3M CO
Form S-3ASR
February 24, 2006

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 24, 2006

Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Under

The Securities Act of 1933

3M Company

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

41-0417775

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

3M Center

St. Paul, Minnesota 55144

(651) 733-1110

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

Gregg M. Larson, Associate General Counsel & Secretary

3M Company

3M Center

St. Paul, Minnesota 55144

(651) 733-1110

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

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date 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.

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.

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 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.

If this Form is filed 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.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

**Title of Each Class
of Securities
to be Registered**
Debt Securities
Common Stock, par
value \$0.01 per share

**Amount To be
Registered/Proposed
Maximum Offering Price
Per Unit/Proposed Maximum
Offering Price/Amount
of Registration Fee)**
(1)

(1) An indeterminate aggregate initial offering price or number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be sold at indeterminate prices. Separate consideration may or may not be received for securities that are issuable on exercise, conversion or exchange of other securities. In accordance with Rule 456(b) and 457(r), the Registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee.

PROSPECTUS

3M Company

Debt Securities

Common Stock

We from time to time may offer to sell debt securities and common stock. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and trades under the ticker symbol **MMM** .

We may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and agents, or directly to purchasers, on a continuous or delayed basis.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities. The specific terms of any securities to be offered will be described in a prospectus supplement to this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission 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.

This prospectus is dated February 24, 2006.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering material filed or provided by us. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this prospectus or the applicable prospectus supplement or any such other offering material is accurate as of any date other than their respective dates.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission using a shelf registration process. Under this process, we may sell, from time to time, in one or more offerings, any combination of the securities described in this prospectus. This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement do not contain all of the information included in the registration statement as permitted by the rules and regulations of the SEC. The registration statement that contains this prospectus, including the exhibits to the registration statement, provides additional information about us.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its public reference room located at 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference facilities. Our SEC filings are also available at the office of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, NY 10005.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC rules allow us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus. This means we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document. Any information referred to in this way is considered part of this prospectus from the date we file that document. Any reports filed by us with the SEC after the date of this prospectus and before the date that the offering of the securities by means of this prospectus is terminated will automatically update and, where applicable, supersede any information contained in this prospectus or incorporated by reference in this prospectus.

Accordingly, we incorporate by reference into this prospectus the following documents or information filed with the SEC (other than, in each case, documents or information deemed furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules, and no such information shall be deemed specifically incorporated by reference hereby):

our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005; and

all documents filed by us under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 on or after the date of this prospectus and before the termination of this offering.

We will provide without charge to each person, including any beneficial owner, to whom this prospectus is delivered, upon his or her written or oral request, a copy of any or all documents referred to above which have been or may be incorporated by reference into this prospectus excluding exhibits to those documents, unless they are specifically incorporated by reference into those documents. You can request those

documents from:

3M Company

3M Center

St. Paul, MN 55144-1000

Phone: (651) 733-1110

Attention: Investor Relations

THE COMPANY

3M Company, formerly known as Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company, was incorporated in 1929 under the laws of the State of Delaware to continue operations begun in 1902. 3M's principal executive offices are located at 3M Center, St. Paul, Minnesota 55144 (telephone: 651-733-1110).

3M is a diversified technology company with a global presence in the following businesses: health care; industrial; display and graphics; consumer and office; safety, security and protection services; electronics and telecommunications; and transportation. 3M is among the leading manufacturers of products for many of the markets it serves. Most 3M products involve expertise in product development, manufacturing and marketing, and are subject to competition from products manufactured and sold by other technologically oriented companies. 3M is a diversified global company with a market presence in health care, safety, electronics, telecommunications, industrial, consumer and office, and other markets.

Our strategic business units have been aggregated into six reportable segments: Health Care; Industrial and Transportation; Display and Graphics; Consumer and Office; Electro and Communications; and Safety, Security and Protection Services. Our six business segments bring together common or related 3M technologies, enhancing the development of innovative products and services and providing for efficient sharing of business resources. These segments have worldwide responsibility for virtually all 3M product lines. Certain small businesses and staff-sponsored products, as well as various corporate assets and expenses, are not allocated to the business segments.

When we refer to 3M, our company, we, our and us in this prospectus under the heading The Company, we mean 3M Company and its consolidated subsidiaries unless the context indicates otherwise. When these terms are used elsewhere in this prospectus, we refer only to 3M Company unless the context indicates otherwise.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement or other offering material, we will use the net proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SECURITIES WE MAY OFFER

We may issue from time to time, in one or more offerings, the following securities:

debt securities; and

shares of common stock.

This prospectus contains a summary of the material general terms of the various securities that we may offer. The specific terms of the securities will be described in a prospectus supplement and other offering material, which may be in addition to or different from the general terms summarized in this prospectus. We may issue debt securities that are convertible into common stock that may be sold under this prospectus. Where applicable, the prospectus supplement and other offering material will also describe any material United States federal income tax considerations relating to the securities offered and indicate whether the securities offered are or will be listed on any securities exchange. The summaries contained in this prospectus and in any prospectus supplement or other offering material may not contain all of the information that you would find useful. Accordingly, you should read the actual documents relating to any securities sold pursuant to this prospectus. You should read *Where You Can Find Additional Information* and *Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference* to find out how you can obtain a copy of those documents.

DEBT SECURITIES

This section describes the general terms and provisions of the debt securities. The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the specific terms of the debt securities offered through that prospectus supplement and any general terms outlined in this section that will not apply to those debt securities. The debt securities will be issued under an indenture, dated as of November 17, 2000, between us and Citibank, N.A., as trustee. As used in this prospectus, debt securities means the debentures, notes, bonds and other evidence of indebtedness that we issue and the trustee authenticates and delivers under the indenture.

We have summarized the general terms and provisions of the indenture in this section. This summary, however, does not describe every aspect of the indenture. We have filed the indenture with the SEC. You should read the indenture for additional information before you buy any debt securities. The summary that follows includes references to section numbers of the indenture so that you can more easily locate these provisions.

General

The debt securities will be our direct, senior, unsecured obligations. The indenture does not limit the amount of debt securities that we may issue and permits us to issue debt securities from time to time. Debt securities issued under the indenture will be issued as part of a series that has been established by us under the indenture. (Section 301) Unless a prospectus supplement relating to debt securities states otherwise, the indenture and the terms of the debt securities will not contain any covenants designed to afford Holders (as defined below) of any debt securities protection in a highly leveraged or other transaction involving us that may adversely affect Holders of the debt securities. If we ever issue bearer securities we will summarize provisions of the indenture that relate to bearer securities in the applicable prospectus supplement.

A prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. (Section 301) These terms will include some or all of the following:

the title and type of the debt securities;

any limit on the total principal amount of the debt securities;

the price at which the debt securities will be issued;

the maturity date of the debt securities;

the date or dates on which the principal of and premium, if any, on the debt securities will be payable;

