

PROSPECT CAPITAL CORP  
Form 497  
November 01, 2012

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**Filed pursuant to Rule 497**  
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The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement is not complete and may be changed. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with and declared effective by the Securities and Exchange Commission. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED NOVEMBER 1, 2012**

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

**(To Prospectus dated October 29, 2012)**

**35,000,000 Shares**

**Prospect Capital Corporation**

**Common Stock**

This is an offering of 35,000,000 shares of the common stock of Prospect Capital Corporation. Prospect Capital Corporation is a financial services company that lends to and invests in middle market, privately-held companies. We are organized as an externally-managed, non-diversified closed-end management investment company that has elected to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Prospect Capital Management LLC manages our investments and Prospect Administration LLC provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

Our common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "PSEC." The last reported closing sales price for our common stock on October 31, 2012 was \$11.84 per share and our most recently determined net asset value per share was \$10.83 as of June 30, 2012.

The underwriters have agreed to purchase our shares of common stock from us at a price of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per share which will result in approximately \$ \_\_\_\_\_ million of net proceeds, after deducting estimated offering expenses, to us, or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ million assuming full exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares described below. We expect that our expenses for this offering will be approximately \$350,000. The underwriters may offer our shares of common stock on the Nasdaq Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter market or through negotiated transactions at market prices or at negotiated prices. See "Underwriting" beginning on page S-13 of this prospectus supplement. The underwriters have an option to purchase up to an additional 5,250,000 shares of our common stock at a price of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per share within 30 days from the date of this prospectus supplement.

**Investing in our common stock involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 11 of the accompanying prospectus.**

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain important information you should know before investing in our securities. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the "SEC." This information is available free of charge by contacting us at 10 East 40th Street, 44th Floor, New York, NY 10016 or by telephone at (212) 448-0702. The SEC maintains a website at



**FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the "Exchange Act," which involve substantial risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements predict or describe our future operations, business plans, business and investment strategies and portfolio management and the performance of our investments and our investment management business. These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about our industry, our beliefs, and our assumptions. Words such as "intends," "intend," "intended," "goal," "estimate," "estimates," "expects," "expect," "expected," "project," "projected," "projections," "plans," "seeks," "anticipates," "anticipated," "should," "could," "may," "will," "designed to," "foreseeable future," "believe," "believes" and "scheduled" and variations of these words and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Our actual results or outcomes may differ materially from those anticipated. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward looking statements, which speak only as of the date the statement was made. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control and difficult to predict and could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or forecasted in the forward-looking statements, including without limitation:

our future operating results,

our business prospects and the prospects of our portfolio companies,

the impact of investments that we expect to make,

our contractual arrangements and relationships with third parties,

the dependence of our future success on the general economy and its impact on the industries in which we invest,

the ability of our portfolio companies to achieve their objectives,

difficulty in obtaining financing or raising capital, especially in the current credit and equity environment,

the level and volatility of prevailing interest rates and credit spreads, magnified by the current turmoil in the credit markets,

adverse developments in the availability of desirable loan and investment opportunities whether they are due to competition, regulation or otherwise,

a compression of the yield on our investments and the cost of our liabilities, as well as the level of leverage available to us,

our regulatory structure and tax treatment, including our ability to operate as a business development company and a regulated investment company,

the adequacy of our cash resources and working capital,

the timing of cash flows, if any, from the operations of our portfolio companies,

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the ability of our investment adviser to locate suitable investments for us and to monitor and administer our investments,

authoritative generally accepted accounting principles or policy changes from such standard-setting bodies as the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the SEC, Internal Revenue Service,

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the NASDAQ Global Select Market, and other authorities that we are subject to, as well as their counterparts in any foreign jurisdictions where we might do business, and

the risks, uncertainties and other factors we identify in "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and in our filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the assumptions on which these forward-looking statements are based are reasonable, any of those assumptions could prove to be inaccurate, and as a result, the forward-looking statements based on those assumptions also could be inaccurate. Important assumptions include our ability to originate new loans and investments, ability to obtain certain margins and levels of profitability and the availability of additional capital. In light of these and other uncertainties, the inclusion of a projection or forward-looking statement in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, respectively, should not be regarded as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved. These risks and uncertainties include those described or identified in "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, respectively. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which apply only as of the date of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, as applicable. These forward-looking statements do not meet the safe harbor for forward-looking statements pursuant to Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the "Securities Act."

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with information that is different from that contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of their respective dates and we assume no obligation to update any such information. Our business, financial condition and results of operations may have changed since those dates. Although we undertake no obligation to revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, you are advised to consult any additional disclosures that we any make directly to you or through reports that we have filed with the SEC, including annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and current reports on Form 8-K.

This prospectus supplement supersedes the accompanying prospectus to the extent it contains information that is different from or in addition to the information in that prospectus.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS  
PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT**

Prospectus Summary	S-1
Use of Proceeds	S-7
Capitalization	S-8
Distributions and Price Range of Common Stock	S-10
Underwriting	S-13
Legal Matters	S-19
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	S-19
Available Information	S-19

**PROSPECTUS**

About This Prospectus	1
Prospectus Summary	2
Selected Condensed Financial Data	10
Risk Factors	11
Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	36
Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	74
Report of Management on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting	75
Use of Proceeds	75
Forward-Looking Statements	76
Distributions	77
Senior Securities	80
Price Range of Common Stock	82
Business	84
Certain Relationships and Transactions	110
Control Persons and Principal Stockholders	111
Portfolio Companies	113
Determination of Net Asset Value	120
Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value	121
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	125
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	127
Description of Our Capital Stock	134
Description of Our Preferred Stock	141
Description of Our Debt Securities	141
Description of Our Subscription Rights	155
Description of Our Warrants	156
Description of Our Units	157
Regulation	158
Custodian, Transfer and Dividend Paying Agent and Registrar	163
Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices	164
Plan of Distribution	164
Legal Matters	166
Independent Registered Accounting Firm	166
Available Information	166
Index to Financial Statements	F-1

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*This summary highlights some of the information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. It is not complete and may not contain all of the information that you may want to consider. You should read carefully the more detailed information set forth under "Risk Factors" in the accompanying prospectus and the other information included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.*

*The terms "we," "us," "our" and "Company" refer to Prospect Capital Corporation; "Prospect Capital Management," "Investment Advisor" and "PCM" refer to Prospect Capital Management LLC; and "Prospect Administration" and the "Administrator" refer to Prospect Administration LLC.*

### The Company

Prospect Capital Corporation is a financial services company that primarily lends to and invests in middle market privately-held companies. In this prospectus, we use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$2 billion. We are a closed-end investment company that has filed an election to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, or the 1940 Act. We invest primarily in senior and subordinated debt and equity of companies in need of capital for acquisitions, divestitures, growth, development and recapitalization. We work with the management teams or financial sponsors to seek investments with historical cash flows, asset collateral or contracted pro-forma cash flows.

We invest primarily in first and second lien senior loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. First and second lien senior loans generally are senior debt instruments that rank ahead of subordinated debt of a given portfolio company. These loans also have the benefit of security interests on the assets of the portfolio company, which may rank ahead of or be junior to other security interests. Mezzanine debt is subordinated to senior loans and is generally unsecured. Our investments have generally ranged between \$5 million and \$75 million each, although the investment size may be more or less than this range. Our investment sizes are expected to grow as our capital base expands.

We also acquire controlling interests in companies in conjunction with making secured debt investments in such companies. In most cases, companies in which we invest are privately held at the time we invest in them. We refer to these companies as "target" or "middle market" companies and these investments as "middle market investments."

We seek to maximize total returns to our investors, including both current yield and equity upside, by applying rigorous credit analysis and asset-based and cash-flow based lending techniques to make and monitor our investments. Many of our investments to date have been in energy-related industries, which consist of companies in the discovery, production, transportation, storage and use of energy resources as well as companies that sell products and services to, or acquire products and services from, these companies. We have made no direct investments to date in the real estate or mortgage industries, and we do not intend currently to focus on such investments.

We are currently pursuing multiple investment opportunities, including purchases of portfolios from private and public companies, as well as originations and secondary purchases of particular securities. There can be no assurance that we will successfully consummate any investment opportunity we are currently pursuing. Motivated sellers, including commercial finance companies, hedge funds, other business development companies, total return swap counterparties, banks, collateralized loan obligation funds, and other entities, are suffering from excess leverage, and we believe we are well positioned to capitalize as potential buyers of such assets at attractive prices. If any of these opportunities are consummated, there can be no assurance that investors will share our view of

valuation or that any assets acquired will not be subject to future write downs, each of which could have an adverse effect on our stock price.

As of June 30, 2012, we held investments in 82 portfolio companies. The aggregate fair value as of June 30, 2012 of investments in these portfolio companies held on that date is approximately \$2.1 billion. Our portfolio across all our long-term debt had an annualized current yield of 13.6% as of June 30, 2012. The yield includes interest as well as dividends.

#### **Recent Developments**

On October 31, 2012, Shearer's Foods, Inc. repaid the \$38.0 million loan receivable to us.

On November 1, 2012, the Company announced that its estimate of net investment income per share for the first fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2012 is \$0.46 per share. The Company further announced that it expects to report net asset value of \$10.88 per share. This estimated financial information is preliminary and based on information available to the management team as of November 1, 2012, remains subject to the completion of the quarter end closing process and has not been reviewed by the Company's audit committee or independent registered accounting firm. Actual financial results may differ from these estimates.

**The Offering**

Common stock offered by us, excluding the underwriter option to purchase additional shares	35,000,000 shares.
Common stock outstanding prior to this offering	174,480,573 shares.
Common stock outstanding after this offering, excluding the underwriter option to purchase additional shares	209,480,573 shares.
Use of proceeds	We expect to use the net proceeds from this offering initially to maintain balance sheet liquidity, involving repayment of debt under our credit facility, if any, investments in high quality short-term debt instruments or a combination thereof, and thereafter to make long-term investments in accordance with our investment objective. See "Use of Proceeds" in this prospectus supplement.
The NASDAQ Global Select Market symbol	PSEC
Risk factors	See "Risk Factors" in the accompanying prospectus and other information in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before you decide whether to make an investment in shares of our common stock.
Current distribution rate	On August 21, 2012, we announced the declaration of monthly dividends in the following amounts and with the following dates:

\$0.101625 per share for September 2012 to holders of record on September 28, 2012 with a payment date of October 24, 2012; and

\$0.101650 per share for October 2012 to holders of record on October 31, 2012 with a payment date of November 22, 2012, representing an annualized yield (based on the October 2012 distribution) of approximately 10.3% based on our last reported closing stock price on October 31, 2012 of \$11.84 per share. Such distributions are expected to be payable out of earnings. Our distribution levels are subject to change or discontinuance at any time in the discretion of our Board of Directors. Our future earnings and operating cash flow may not be sufficient to support a dividend.

**Fees and Expenses**

The following tables are intended to assist you in understanding the costs and expenses that an investor in this offering will bear directly or indirectly. We caution you that some of the percentages indicated in the table below are estimates and may vary. In these tables, we assume that we have borrowed \$1.351 billion. Except where the context suggests otherwise, whenever this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus contain a reference to fees or expenses paid by "you" or "us" or that "we" will pay fees or expenses, the Company will pay such fees and expenses out of our net assets and, consequently, you will indirectly bear such fees or expenses as an investor in the Company. However, you will not be required to deliver any money or otherwise bear personal liability or responsibility for such fees or expenses.

<b>Stockholder transaction expenses:</b>	
Sales load (as a percentage of offering price)(1)	%
Offering expenses borne by us (as a percentage of offering price)(2)	%
Dividend reinvestment plan expenses(3)	None
Total stockholder transaction expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	%
<b>Annual expenses (as a percentage of net assets attributable to common stock)(4):</b>	
Management Fees(5)	3.63%
Incentive fees payable under Investment Advisory Agreement (20% of realized capital gains and 20% of pre-incentive fee net investment income)(6)	3.09%
Total advisory fees	6.72%
Total interest expense(7)	4.30%
Acquired Fund Fees and Expenses(8)	0.01%
Other expenses(9)	1.43%
Total annual expenses(6)(9)	12.46%

**Example**

The following table demonstrates the projected dollar amount of cumulative expenses we would pay out of net assets and that you would indirectly bear over various periods with respect to a hypothetical investment in our common stock. In calculating the following expense amounts, we have assumed we would have borrowed \$1.351 billion and that our annual operating expenses would remain at the levels set forth in the table above and that we would pay the costs shown in the table above.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
You would pay the following expenses on a \$1,000 investment, assuming a 5% annual return	\$	\$	\$	\$

While the example assumes, as required by the SEC, a 5% annual return, our performance will vary and may result in a return greater or less than 5%. The income incentive fee under our Investment Advisory Agreement with Prospect Capital Management is unlikely to be material assuming a 5% annual return and is not included in the example. If we achieve sufficient returns on our investments, including through the realization of capital gains, to trigger an incentive fee of a material amount, our distributions to our common stockholders and our expenses would likely be higher. In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and other distributions at net asset value, or NAV, participants in our dividend reinvestment plan will receive a number of shares of our common stock determined by dividing the total dollar amount of the distribution payable to a participant by the market price per share of our common stock at the close of trading on the valuation date for the distribution. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan" for additional information regarding our dividend reinvestment plan.

**This example and the expenses in the table above should not be considered a representation of our future expenses. Actual expenses (including the cost of debt, if any, and other expenses) may be greater or less than those shown.**

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- (1) The sales load (underwriting discounts and commissions) with respect to our common stock sold in this offering, which is a one time fee, is the only sales load paid in connection with this offering.
- (2) The offering expenses of this offering are estimated to be approximately \$350,000.
- (3) The expenses of the dividend reinvestment plan are included in "other expenses."
- (4) Net assets attributable to our common stock equal net assets (i.e., total assets less total liabilities including liabilities for money borrowed for investment purposes) at June 30, 2012. See "Capitalization" in this prospectus supplement.
- (5) Our base management fee is 2% of our gross assets (which include any amount borrowed, i.e., total assets without deduction for any liabilities, including any borrowed amounts for non-investment purposes, for which purpose we have not and have no intention of borrowing). Although no plans are in place to borrow the full amount under our line of credit, assuming that we borrowed \$1.351 billion, the 2% management fee of gross assets equals approximately 3.63% of net assets. See "Business Management Services Investment Advisory Agreement" in the accompanying prospectus and footnote 6 below.
- (6) Based on the incentive fee paid during our most recently completed fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, all of which consisted of an income incentive fee. For a more detailed discussion of the calculation of the two-part incentive fee, see "Management Services Investment Advisory Agreement" in the accompanying prospectus.
- (7) On December 21, 2010, the Company issued \$150 million in aggregate principal amount of 6.25% Convertible Senior Notes due 2015, which we refer to as the 2015 Notes. On February 18, 2011, the Company issued \$172.5 million in aggregate principal amount of 5.5% Convertible Senior Notes due 2016, which we refer to as the 2016 Notes. Between January 30, 2012 and February 2, 2012, we repurchased \$5.0 million of our 2016 Notes at a price of 97.5% of par, including commissions. The transactions resulted in us recognizing \$10,000 of loss in the quarter ended March 31, 2012. On April 16, 2012, the Company issued \$130 million in aggregate principal amount of 5.375% Convertible Senior Notes due 2017, which we refer to as the 2017 Notes. On August 14, 2012, the Company issued \$200 million aggregate principal amount of 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes due 2018, which we refer to as the 2018 Notes. The 2015 Notes, 2016 Notes, 2017 Notes and 2018 Notes are referred to collectively as the Senior Convertible Notes. On May 1, 2012 the Company issued \$100 million in aggregate principal amount of 6.95% Senior Notes due 2022, which we refer to as the 2022 Notes. Since February 2012, the Company issued \$95.7 million in aggregate principal amount of our Prospect Capital InterNotes®. The Senior Convertible Notes, the 2022 Notes and the Prospect Capital InterNotes® are referred to collectively as the Notes. See "Business General" and "Risk Factors Risks Related to our Business" in the accompanying prospectus for more detail on the Notes.
- (8) The Company's stockholders indirectly bear the expenses of underlying investment companies in which the Company invests. This amount includes the fees and expenses of investment companies in which the Company is invested in as of June 30, 2012. When applicable, fees and expenses are based on historic fees and expenses for the investment companies and for those investment companies with little or no operating history, fees and expenses are based on expected fees and expenses stated in the investment companies' prospectus or other similar communication without giving effect to any performance. Future fees and expenses for certain investment companies may be substantially higher or lower because certain fees and expenses are based on the performance of the investment

companies, which may fluctuate over time. The amount of the Company's average net assets used in calculating this percentage was based on net assets of approximately \$1,512 million as of June 30, 2012.

(9)

"Other expenses" are based on estimated amounts for the current fiscal year. The amount shown above represents annualized expenses during our three months ended June 30, 2012 representing all of our estimated recurring operating expenses (except fees and expenses reported in other items of this table) that are deducted from our operating income and reflected as expenses in our Statement of Operations. The estimate of our overhead expenses, including payments under an administration agreement with Prospect Administration, or the Administration Agreement, based on our projected allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by Prospect Administration in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement. "Other expenses" does not include non-recurring expenses. See "Business Management Services Administration Agreement" in the accompanying prospectus.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds from the sale of 35,000,000 shares of our common stock in this offering will be \$ (or \$ if the option to purchase additional shares is exercised in full) after deducting offering expenses of approximately \$350,000 payable by us.

We expect to use the net proceeds from this offering initially to maintain balance sheet liquidity, involving repayment of debt under our credit facility, if any, investments in high quality short-term debt instruments or a combination thereof, and thereafter to make long-term investments in accordance with our investment objective. The management fee payable by us will not be reduced while our assets are invested in any high quality short-term debt instruments which may generate a loss to the Company. We anticipate that substantially all of the net proceeds from this offering will be used for the above purposes within six months, depending on the availability of appropriate investment opportunities consistent with our investment objective and market conditions.

As of October 31, 2012, we have drawn \$10.0 million on our credit facility and, based on the assets currently pledged as collateral on the facility, approximately \$381.1 million was available to us for borrowing under our credit facility based on the assets currently pledged to secure the facility. Affiliates of the underwriters that are lenders under our credit facility may receive a portion of the net proceeds from offerings made pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus through the repayment of any borrowings. Interest on borrowings under the credit facility is one-month LIBOR plus 275 basis points with no minimum LIBOR Floor. Additionally, the lenders charge a fee on the unused portion of the credit facility equal to either 50 basis points if at least half of the credit facility is used or 100 basis points otherwise.

**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of June 30, 2012:

on an actual basis;

on an as adjusted basis giving effect to our distributions with record dates of July 31, 2012, August 31, 2012, September 28, 2012 and October 31, 2012, the issuance of 205,834, 75,543, 74,494 and 83,200 shares in connection with our dividend reinvestment plan on July 24, 2012, August 24, 2012, September 21, 2012 and October 24, 2012, respectively, the issuance of 21,000,000 shares of common stock on July 16, 2012, the issuance of 3,150,000 shares of common stock on July 27, 2012 in connection with the option granted with the July 16, 2012 offering, the issuance of 10,257,632 shares of common stock during the period from July 2, 2012 through October 9, 2012, the issuance of \$200 million aggregate principal amount of 2018 Notes on August 14, 2012, the issuance of \$75.1 million aggregate principal amount of Prospect Capital InterNotes® since June 30, 2012 and repayment of \$86.0 million under our credit facility; and

on an as further adjusted basis giving effect to the transactions noted above and the assumed sale of 35,000,000 shares of our common stock at a price of \$            per share less commissions and expenses.

S-8

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This table should be read in conjunction with "Use of Proceeds" and our "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our financial statements and notes thereto included in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, as applicable.

	Actual	As of June 30, 2012 As Adjusted for Stock Issuances and Borrowings After June 30, 2012	As further Adjusted for this Offering(2)
	(In thousands, except shares and per share data)		
	(Unaudited)		
<b>Long-term debt, including current maturities:</b>			
Borrowings under senior credit facility(1)	\$ 96,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
2015 Notes	150,000	150,000	150,000
2016 Notes	167,500	167,500	167,500
2017 Notes	130,000	130,000	130,000
2018 Notes		200,000	200,000
2022 Notes	100,000	100,000	100,000
Prospect Capital InterNotes®	20,638	95,689	95,689
Amount owed to affiliates	8,571	8,571	8,571
<b>Total long-term debt</b>	<b>672,709</b>	<b>861,760</b>	<b>861,760</b>
<b>Stockholders' equity:</b>			
Common stock, par value \$0.001 per share (500,000,000 common shares authorized; 139,633,870 shares outstanding actual, 174,480,573 shares outstanding as adjusted and 209,480,573 shares outstanding as further adjusted)	140	174	209
Paid-in capital in excess of par value	1,544,801	1,935,779	
Undistributed (distributions in excess of) net investment income	23,667	(45,448)	(45,448)
Accumulated realized losses on investments	(51,542)	(51,542)	(51,542)
Net unrealized appreciation on investments	(5,092)	(5,092)	(5,092)
<b>Total stockholders' equity</b>	<b>1,511,974</b>	<b>1,833,871</b>	
<b>Total capitalization</b>	<b>\$ 2,184,683</b>	<b>\$ 2,695,631</b>	<b>\$</b>

(1) As of June 30, 2012, we had \$96.0 million of borrowings under our recently completed extended credit facility. As of October 31, 2012, we had \$10.0 million of borrowings under our credit facility, representing an \$86.0 million decrease in borrowing subsequent to June 30, 2012.

(2) The As Further Adjusted for this Offering calculations exclude any exercise of the underwriters' option to purchase additional shares.

**DISTRIBUTIONS AND PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK**

We have paid and intend to continue to distribute monthly distributions to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. Our distributions, if any, will be determined by our Board of Directors. Certain amounts of the monthly distributions may from time to time be paid out of our capital rather than from earnings for the period as a result of our deliberate planning or by accounting reclassifications.

In order to maintain RIC tax treatment, we must distribute at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any, out of the assets legally available for distribution. In order to avoid certain excise taxes imposed on RICs, we are required to distribute with respect to each calendar year by January 31 of the following year an amount at least equal to the sum of

98% of our ordinary income for the calendar year,

98.2% of our capital gains in excess of capital losses for the one-year period ending on October 31 of the calendar year, and

any ordinary income and net capital gains for preceding years that were not distributed during such years.

In addition, although we currently intend to distribute realized net capital gains (which we define as net long-term capital gains in excess of short-term capital losses), if any, at least annually, out of the assets legally available for such distributions, we may decide in the future to retain such capital gains for investment. In such event, the consequences of our retention of net capital gains are as described under "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus. We can offer no assurance that we will achieve results that will permit the payment of any cash distributions and, if we issue senior securities, we will be prohibited from making distributions if doing so causes us to fail to maintain the asset coverage ratios stipulated by the 1940 Act or if distributions are limited by the terms of any of our borrowings.

We maintain an "opt out" dividend reinvestment plan for our common stockholders. As a result, if we declare a dividend, then stockholders' cash dividends will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless they specifically "opt out" of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock are subject to the same U.S. Federal, state and local tax consequences as are stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan" in the accompanying prospectus. The tax consequences of distributions to stockholders are described in the accompanying prospectus under the label "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations". To the extent prudent and practicable, we intend to declare and pay dividends on a monthly basis.

With respect to the distributions paid to stockholders, income from origination, structuring, closing, commitment and other upfront fees associated with investments in portfolio companies were treated as taxable income and accordingly, distributed to stockholders. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009, we recorded total distributions of approximately \$56.1 million. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, we recorded total distributions of approximately \$81.5 million. On June 18, 2010, we announced a change in dividend policy from quarterly to monthly dividends. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, we recorded total distributions of approximately \$106.2 million. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, we recorded total distributions of approximately \$141.4 million.

Tax characteristics of all distributions will be reported to stockholders, as appropriate, on Form 1099-DIV after the end of the year. Our ability to pay distributions could be affected by future business performance, liquidity, capital needs, alternative investment opportunities and loan covenants.

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Our common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "PSEC." The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, our NAV per share of common stock and the high and low closing prices per share of our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. Our common stock historically trades at prices both above and below its NAV per share. There can be no assurance, however, that such premium or discount, as applicable, to NAV per share will be maintained. Common stock of business development companies, like that of closed-end investment companies, frequently trades at a discount to current NAV per share. In the past, our common stock has traded at a discount to our NAV per share. The risk that our common stock may continue to trade at a discount to our NAV per share is separate and distinct from the risk that our NAV per share may decline.

	NAV(1)	Stock Price High(2)	Low(2)	Premium (Discount) of High to NAV	Premium (Discount) of Low to NAV	Dividend Declared
<b>Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2008</b>						
First quarter	\$ 15.08	\$ 18.68	\$ 14.16	23.9%	(6.1)%	\$ 0.3925
Second quarter	14.58	17.17	11.22	17.8%	(23.0)%	0.395
Third quarter	14.15	16.00	13.55	13.1%	(4.2)%	0.400
Fourth quarter	14.55	16.12	13.18	10.8%	(9.4)%	0.40125
<b>Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2009</b>						
First quarter	\$ 14.63	\$ 14.24	\$ 11.12	(2.7)%	(24.0)%	\$ 0.4025
Second quarter	14.43	13.08	6.29	(9.4)%	(56.4)%	0.40375
Third quarter	14.19	12.89	6.38	(9.2)%	(55.0)%	0.405
Fourth quarter	12.40	10.48	7.95	(15.5)%	(35.9)%	0.40625
<b>Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2010</b>						
First quarter	\$ 11.11	\$ 10.99	\$ 8.82	(1.1)%	(20.6)%	\$ 0.4075
Second quarter	10.10	12.31	9.93	21.9%	(1.7)%	0.40875
Third quarter	10.12	13.20	10.45	30.4%	3.3%	0.410
Fourth quarter	10.30	12.20	9.65	18.4%	(6.3)%	0.10
<b>Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2011</b>						
First quarter	\$ 10.24	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.18	(2.3)%	(10.4)%	\$ 0.301375
Second quarter	10.25	10.86	9.69	6.0%	(5.5)%	0.302625
Third quarter	10.33	12.33	10.72	19.4%	3.8%	0.303450
Fourth quarter	10.36	12.18	9.95	17.6%	(4.0)%	0.303675
<b>Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2012</b>						
First quarter	\$ 10.41	\$ 10.18	\$ 7.41	(2.2)%	(28.8)%	\$ 0.303900
Second quarter	10.69	9.88	7.99	(7.6)%	(25.3)%	0.304125
Third quarter	10.82	11.39	9.43	5.3%	(12.8)%	0.304350
Fourth quarter	10.83	11.39	10.55	5.2%	(2.5)%	0.304575
<b>Twelve Months Ending June 30, 2013</b>						
First quarter	\$ (3)(4)	\$ 12.21	\$ 10.83	(4)	(4)	\$ 0.304800(5)
Second quarter (to October 31, 2012)	(3)(4)	\$ 11.98	\$ 11.47	(4)	(4)	(5)

(1) Net asset value per share is determined as of the last day in the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the net asset value per share on the date of the high or low sales price. The NAVs shown are based on outstanding shares of our common stock at the end of each period.

(2) The High/Low Stock Price is calculated as of the closing price on a given day in the applicable quarter.

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(3) Our most recently estimated NAV per share is \$10.83 as determined by us as of June 30, 2012. NAV per share as of September 30, 2012, may be higher or lower than \$10.83 based on potential changes in valuations and earnings for the quarter then ended.

(4) NAV has not yet been finally determined for any day after June 30, 2012.

(5) In June 2010, we changed our distribution policy from a quarterly payment to a monthly payment.

On August 21, 2012, we announced the declaration of monthly dividends in the following amounts and with the following dates:

\$0.101625 per share for September 2012 to holders of record on September 28, 2012 with a payment date of October 24, 2012; and

\$0.101650 per share for October 2012 to holders of record on October 31, 2012 with a payment date of November 22, 2012.

On October 31, 2012, the last reported sales price of our common stock was \$11.84 per share.

As of October 31, 2012, we had approximately 137 stockholders of record.

The below table sets forth each class of our outstanding securities as of October 31, 2012.

<b>Title of Class</b>	<b>Amount Authorized</b>	<b>Amount Held by Registrant or for its Account</b>	<b>Amount Outstanding</b>
Common Stock	500,000,000	0	174,480,573

S-12

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## UNDERWRITING

Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Barclays Capital Inc., Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and UBS Securities LLC are acting as joint book-running managers of the offering and as representatives of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions stated in the underwriting agreement dated the date of this prospectus supplement, each underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and we have agreed to sell to that underwriter, the number of shares set forth opposite the underwriter's name at a price of \$      per share.

Underwriters	Number of Shares
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.	
Barclays Capital Inc.	
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc.	
UBS Securities LLC	
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,000,000</b>

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the shares of common stock in the offering if any are purchased, other than those shares covered by the option described below subject to certain conditions precedent.

The underwriters propose to offer the shares of common stock offered hereby from time to time for sale in one or more transactions on the Nasdaq Global Select Market, in the over-the-counter-market, through negotiated transactions or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices, subject to receipt and acceptance by the underwriters and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part. The underwriters may effect such transactions by selling the shares of common stock to or through dealers and such dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or purchasers of shares of common stock for whom they may act as agents or to whom they may sell as principal. The difference between the price at which the underwriters purchase shares and the price at which the underwriters resell such shares, which may include a commission equivalent of up to \$0.05 per share, may be deemed underwriting compensation.

We have granted to the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to 5,250,000 additional shares at a price of \$      per share. We expect that our expenses for this offering will be approximately \$350,000.

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

We and each of our directors and executive officers have agreed, without the prior written consent of the representatives not to, during the period ending 45 days following the date of the underwriting agreement, (i) offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge, grant any option to purchase, make any short sale or otherwise transfer or dispose of, directly or indirectly, or file with the SEC a registration statement relating to, any securities of the Company that are substantially similar to the common stock offered hereby, including but not limited to any options or warrants to purchase shares of common stock or any securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for, or that represent the right to receive, common stock or any such substantially similar securities, or publicly disclose the intention to make any offer, sale, pledge, disposition or filing or (ii) enter into any swap or other agreement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of the common stock or any such other securities, whether any such transaction described in clause (i) or (ii) above is to be settled by

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delivery of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise (other than shares of common stock to be sold hereunder or pursuant to employee stock option plans existing on, or upon the conversion or exchange of convertible or exchangeable securities outstanding as of, the date of the underwriting agreement).

The representatives, in their sole discretion, may release the common stock and other securities subject to the lock-up agreements described above in whole or in part at any time with or without notice. When determining whether or not to release the common stock and other securities from lock-up agreements, the representatives will consider, among other factors, the holder's reasons for requesting the release, the number of shares of common stock or other securities for which the release is being requested and market conditions at the time.

Notwithstanding the foregoing restricted period, during such period the Company, without the prior written consent of the representatives, may issue up to 5% of its then current outstanding shares of common stock in a private placement or other transaction not involving a public offering in connection with portfolio investments by the Company or its subsidiaries where such shares of common stock will be issued as restricted securities within the meaning of Rule 144 of the Securities Act.

The underwriters do not intend to confirm sales to any account over which they exercise discretionary authority.

Until the distribution of the common stock is completed, rules of the SEC may limit the ability of the underwriters and certain selling group members to bid for and purchase the common stock. As an exception to these rules, the underwriters are permitted to engage in certain transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the common stock.

In connection with this offering, the underwriters may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions, syndicate covering transactions, penalty and market making bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act.

Stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

Over-allotment transactions involve sales by an underwriter of the shares of common stock in excess of the number of shares an underwriter is obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position. The short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of shares over-allotted by the underwriters is not greater than the number of shares that they may purchase in the option. In a naked short position, the number of shares involved is greater than the number of shares in the option. The underwriters may close out any covered short position by either exercising its option and/or purchasing shares in the open market.

Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the shares of common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. In determining the source of shares to close out the short position, the underwriter will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which it may purchase shares through the option. If an underwriter sells more shares than could be covered by the option, a naked short position, the position can only be closed out by buying shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

Penalty bids permit representatives to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the shares of common stock originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

In passive market making, market makers in the common stock who are underwriters or prospective underwriters may, subject to limitations, make bids for or purchases of our common stock until the time, if any, at which a stabilizing bid is made.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock. As a result the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the NASDAQ Global Select Market or otherwise and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

The underwriters will deliver an accompanying prospectus and prospectus supplement to all purchasers of shares of common stock in the short sales. The purchases of shares of common stock in short sales are entitled to the same remedies under the federal securities laws as any other purchaser of shares of common stock covered by this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus.

The underwriters are not obligated to engage in any of the transactions described above. If the underwriters do engage in any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time.

***Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area***

In relation to each member state of the European Economic Area that has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a relevant member state), with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that relevant member state (the relevant implementation date), an offer of shares described in this prospectus supplement may not be made to the public in that relevant member state other than:

to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

to fewer than 100 or, if the relevant member state has implemented the relevant provision of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by us for any such offer; or

in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of shares shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer of securities to the public" in any relevant member state means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the shares to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the shares, as the expression may be varied in that member state by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that member state, and the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the relevant member state) and includes any relevant implementing measure in the relevant member state. The expression 2010 PD Amending Directive means Directive 2010/73/EU.

The sellers of the shares have not authorized and do not authorize the making of any offer of shares through any financial intermediary on their behalf, other than offers made by the underwriter with a view to the final placement of the shares as contemplated in this prospectus supplement.

Accordingly, no purchaser of the shares, other than the underwriter, is authorized to make any further offer of the shares on behalf of the sellers or the underwriter.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are only being distributed to, and is only directed at, persons in the United Kingdom that are qualified investors within the meaning of Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive that are also (i) investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the "Order") or (ii) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (each such person being referred to as a "relevant person"). This prospectus supplement and its contents are confidential and should not be distributed, published or reproduced (in whole or in part) or disclosed by recipients to any other persons in the United Kingdom. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

#### **Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom**

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are only being distributed to, and is only directed at, persons in the United Kingdom that are qualified investors within the meaning of Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive that are also (i) investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (the "Order") or (ii) high net worth entities, and other persons to whom it may lawfully be communicated, falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (each such person being referred to as a "relevant person"). This prospectus supplement and its contents are confidential and should not be distributed, published or reproduced (in whole or in part) or disclosed by recipients to any other persons in the United Kingdom. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

#### **Notice To Prospective Investors in Switzerland**

The Prospectus does not constitute an issue prospectus pursuant to Article 652a or Article 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations ("CO") and the shares will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange. Therefore, the Prospectus may not comply with the disclosure standards of the CO and/or the listing rules (including any prospectus schemes) of the SIX Swiss Exchange. Accordingly, the shares may not be offered to the public in or from Switzerland, but only to a selected and limited circle of investors, which do not subscribe to the shares with a view to distribution.

#### **Notice to Prospective Investors in France**

Neither this prospectus supplement nor any other offering material relating to the shares described in this prospectus supplement has been submitted to the clearance procedures of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers* or of the competent authority of another member state of the European Economic Area and notified to the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*. The shares have not been offered or sold and will not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, to the public in France. Neither this prospectus supplement nor any other offering material relating to the shares has been or will be:

released, issued, distributed or caused to be released, issued or distributed to the public in France; or

used in connection with any offer for subscription or sale of the shares to the public in France.

Such offers, sales and distributions will be made in France only:

to qualified investors (*investisseurs qualifiés*) and/or to a restricted circle of investors (*cercle restreint d'investisseurs*), in each case investing for their own account, all as defined in, and in

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accordance with articles L.411-2, D.411-1, D.411-2, D.734-1, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*;

to investment services providers authorized to engage in portfolio management on behalf of third parties; or

in a transaction that, in accordance with article L.411-2-II-1<sup>o</sup>-or-2<sup>o</sup>-or 3<sup>o</sup> of the French *Code monétaire et financier* and article 211-2 of the General Regulations (*Règlement Général*) of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*, does not constitute a public offer (*appel public à l'épargne*).

The shares may be resold directly or indirectly, only in compliance with articles L.411-1, L.411-2, L.412-1 and L.621-8 through L.621-8-3 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*.

### Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The shares may not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32, Laws of Hong Kong) and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the shares may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to shares which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

### Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the shares may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the shares be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA"), (ii) to a relevant person pursuant to Section 275(1), or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA, in each case subject to compliance with conditions set forth in the SFA.

Where the shares are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is:

a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or

a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an individual who is an accredited investor,

shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferred within six months after that

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corporation or that trust has acquired the shares pursuant to an offer made under Section 275 of the SFA except:

to an institutional investor (for corporations, under Section 274 of the SFA) or to a relevant person defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA, or to any person pursuant to an offer that is made on terms that such shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or such rights and interest in that trust are acquired at a consideration of not less than S\$200,000 (or its equivalent in a foreign currency) for each transaction, whether such amount is to be paid for in cash or by exchange of securities or other assets, and further for corporations, in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the SFA;

where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer; or

where the transfer is by operation of law.

### Notice to Prospective Investors in Australia

No prospectus or other disclosure document (as defined in the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) of Australia ("Corporations Act")) in relation to the common stock has been or will be lodged with the Australian Securities & Investments Commission ("ASIC"). This document has not been lodged with ASIC and is only directed to certain categories of exempt persons. Accordingly, if you receive this document in Australia:

- (a) you confirm and warrant that you are either:
  - (i) a "sophisticated investor" under section 708(8)(a) or (b) of the Corporations Act;
  - (ii) a "sophisticated investor" under section 708(8)(c) or (d) of the Corporations Act and that you have provided an accountant's certificate to us which complies with the requirements of section 708(8)(c)(i) or (ii) of the Corporations Act and related regulations before the offer has been made;
  - (iii) a person associated with the company under section 708(12) of the Corporations Act; or
  - (iv) a "professional investor" within the meaning of section 708(11)(a) or (b) of the Corporations Act, and to the extent that you are unable to confirm or warrant that you are an exempt sophisticated investor, associated person or professional investor under the Corporations Act any offer made to you under this document is void and incapable of acceptance; and
- (b) you warrant and agree that you will not offer any of the common stock for resale in Australia within 12 months of that common stock being issued unless any such resale offer is exempt from the requirement to issue a disclosure document under section 708 of the Corporations Act.

Our common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq Global Select Market under the trading symbol "PSEC."

From time to time, the underwriters and their affiliates may have, directly or indirectly, provided investment banking or financial advisory services to us, for which they have received customary fees and commissions, and may expect to provide these services to us in the future, for which they will expect to receive customary fees and expense reimbursement. Affiliates of the underwriters that are lenders under our credit facility may receive a portion of the net proceeds from offerings made pursuant to this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus through the repayment of any borrowings.

The principal address of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is Brooklyn Army Terminal, 140 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, NY 11220. The principal address of Barclays Capital Inc. is 745 Seventh



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Avenue, New York, NY 10019. The principal address of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. is 60 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005. The principal address of UBS Securities LLC is 299 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10171.

### LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters regarding the common stock offered hereby will be passed upon for the Company by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP ("Skadden, Arps"), New York, New York, and Venable LLP, as special Maryland counsel, Baltimore, Maryland. Troutman Sanders LLP will pass on certain matters for the underwriters. Skadden, Arps and Venable LLP each have from time to time acted as counsel for us and our subsidiaries and may do so in the future.

### INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

BDO USA, LLP is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Company.

### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form N-2, together with all amendments and related exhibits, under the Securities Act, with respect to the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. The registration statement contains additional information about us and the shares of common stock being registered by this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus. We file with or submit to the SEC annual, quarterly and current periodic reports, proxy statements and other information meeting the informational requirements of the Exchange Act. This information and the information specifically regarding how we voted proxies relating to portfolio securities for the period ended June 30, 2012, are available free of charge by contacting us at 10 East 40th Street, 44th floor, New York, NY 10016 or by telephone at toll-free (888) 748-0702. You may inspect and copy these reports, proxy statements and other information, as well as the registration statement and related exhibits and schedules, at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information filed electronically by us with the SEC which are available on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Copies of these reports, proxy and information statements and other information may be obtained, after paying a duplicating fee, by electronic request at the following E-mail address: [publicinfo@sec.gov](mailto:publicinfo@sec.gov), or by writing the SEC's Public Reference Section, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

No dealer, salesperson or other individual has been authorized to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus and, if given or made, such information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by us or the underwriters or any agent. This prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus do not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities in any jurisdiction in which such an offer or solicitation is not authorized or in which the person making such offer or solicitation is not qualified to do so, or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation. Neither the delivery of this prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus nor any sale made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in our affairs or that information contained herein is correct as of any time subsequent to the date hereof.

**\$3,000,000,000**

## **PROSPECT CAPITAL CORPORATION**

**Common Stock  
Preferred Stock  
Debt Securities  
Subscription Rights  
Warrants  
Units**

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, together or separately, up to \$3,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, subscription rights to purchase our securities, warrants representing rights to purchase our securities or separately tradeable units combining two or more of our securities, collectively, the Securities, to provide us with additional capital. Securities may be offered at prices and on terms to be disclosed in one or more supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our Securities.

We may offer shares of common stock, subscription rights, units, warrants, options or rights to acquire shares of common stock, at a discount to net asset value per share in certain circumstances. Sales of common stock at prices below net asset value per share dilute the interests of existing stockholders, have the effect of reducing our net asset value per share and may reduce our market price per share. At our 2011 annual meeting, held on December 8, 2011, subject to the condition that the maximum number of shares salable below net asset value pursuant to this authority in any particular offering that could result in such dilution is limited to 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at any level of discount from net asset value per share for a twelve month period expiring on the anniversary of the date of stockholder approval. We are currently seeking stockholder approval at our 2012 annual meeting, to be held on December 7, 2012, to continue for an additional year our ability to issue shares of common stock below net asset value, subject to the condition that the maximum number of shares salable below net asset value pursuant to this authority in any particular offering that could result in such dilution is limited to 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering.

Our Securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, or through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the sale of our Securities, and will disclose any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents, underwriters or dealers, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See "Plan of Distribution." We may not sell any of our Securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of the prospectus and a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such Securities. Our common stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "PSEC." As of October 25, 2012, the last reported sales price for our common stock was \$11.93.

Prospect Capital Corporation, or the Company, is a company that lends to and invests in middle market privately-held companies. Prospect Capital Corporation, a Maryland corporation, has been organized as a closed-end investment company since April 13, 2004 and has filed an election to be treated as a business development company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, or the 1940 Act, and is a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act.

Prospect Capital Management LLC, our investment adviser, manages our investments and Prospect Administration LLC, our administrator, provides the administrative services necessary for us to operate.

**Investing in our Securities involves a heightened risk of total loss of investment. Before buying any Securities, you should read the discussion of the material risks of investing in our Securities in "Risk Factors" beginning on page 11 of this prospectus.**

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This prospectus contains important information about us that you should know before investing in our Securities. Please read it before making an investment decision and keep it for future reference. We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information about us with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. You may make inquiries or obtain this information free of charge by writing to Prospect Capital Corporation at 10 East 40th Street, 44th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or by calling 212-448-0702. Our Internet address is <http://www.prospectstreet.com>. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus and you should not consider information contained on our website to be a part of this prospectus. You may also obtain information about us from our website and the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>).

**The SEC has not approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.**

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

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The date of this Prospectus is October 29, 2012.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
About This Prospectus	1
Prospectus Summary	2
Selected Condensed Financial Data	10
Risk Factors	11
Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	36
Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk	74
Report of Management on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting	75
Use of Proceeds	75
Forward-Looking Statements	76
Distributions	77
Senior Securities	80
Price Range of Common Stock	82
Business	84
Certain Relationships and Transactions	110
Control Persons and Principal Stockholders	111
Portfolio Companies	113
Determination of Net Asset Value	120
Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value	121
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	125
Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations	127
Description of Our Capital Stock	134
Description of Our Preferred Stock	141
Description of Our Debt Securities	141
Description of Our Subscription Rights	155
Description of Our Warrants	156
Description of Our Units	157
Regulation	158
Custodian, Transfer and Dividend Paying Agent and Registrar	163
Brokerage Allocation and Other Practices	164
Plan of Distribution	164

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Legal Matters	166
Independent Registered Accounting Firm	166
Available Information	166
Index to Financial Statements	F-1

**ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the SEC, using the "shelf" registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer, from time to time on a delayed basis, up to \$3,000,000,000 of our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities, subscription rights to purchase shares of our securities, warrants representing rights to purchase our securities or separately tradeable units combining two or more of our securities, on the terms to be determined at the time of the offering. The Securities may be offered at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this prospectus. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the Securities that we may offer. Each time we use this prospectus to offer Securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Please carefully read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with any exhibits and the additional information described under the heading "Available Information" and the section under the heading "Risk Factors" before you make an investment decision.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

*The following summary contains basic information about this offering. It does not contain all the information that may be important to an investor. For a more complete understanding of this offering, we encourage you to read this entire document and the documents to which we have referred.*

*Information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus may contain "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which are statements about the future that may be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "expect," "intend," "plans," "anticipate," "estimate" or "continue" or the negative thereof or other variations thereon or comparable terminology. These forward-looking statements do not meet the safe harbor for forward-looking statements pursuant to Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. The matters described in "Risk Factors" and certain other factors noted throughout this prospectus and in any exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, constitute cautionary statements identifying important factors with respect to any such forward-looking statements, including certain risks and uncertainties, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements. The Company reminds all investors that no forward-looking statement can be relied upon as an accurate or even mostly accurate forecast because humans cannot forecast the future.*

*The terms "we," "us," "our," "Prospect," and "Company" refer to Prospect Capital Corporation; "Prospect Capital Management" or the "Investment Adviser" refers to Prospect Capital Management LLC, our investment adviser; and "Prospect Administration" or the "Administrator" refers to Prospect Administration LLC, our administrator.*

### **The Company**

We are a financial services company that lends to and invests in middle market privately-held companies. In this prospectus, we use the term "middle-market" to refer to companies typically with annual revenues between \$50 million and \$2 billion.

From our inception to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007, we invested primarily in industries related to the industrial/energy economy, which consists of companies in the discovery, production, transportation, storage and use of energy resources as well as companies that sell products and services to, or acquire products and services from, these companies. Since then, we have widened our strategy to focus on other sectors of the economy and continue to broaden our portfolio holdings.

We have been organized as a closed-end investment company since April 13, 2004 and have filed an election to be treated as a business development company under the 1940 Act. We are a non-diversified company within the meaning of the 1940 Act. Our headquarters are located at 10 East 40th Street, 44th Floor, New York, NY 10016, and our telephone number is (212) 448-0702.

### **The Investment Adviser**

Prospect Capital Management, an affiliate of the Company, manages our investment activities. Prospect Capital Management is an investment adviser that has been registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, or the Advisers Act, since March 31, 2004. Under an investment advisory and management agreement between us and Prospect Capital Management, or the Investment Advisory Agreement, we have agreed to pay Prospect Capital Management investment advisory fees, which will consist of an annual base management fee based on our gross assets, which we define as total assets without deduction for any liabilities (and, accordingly, includes the value of assets acquired with proceeds from borrowings), as well as a two-part incentive fee based on our performance.

### **Our Investment Objective and Policies**

Our investment objective is to generate both current income and long-term capital appreciation through debt and equity investments. We focus on making investments in private companies. We are a non-diversified company within the meaning of the 1940 Act.

We invest primarily in first and second lien senior loans and mezzanine debt, which in some cases includes an equity component. First and second lien senior loans generally are senior debt instruments that rank ahead of subordinated debt of a given portfolio company. These loans also have the benefit of security interests on the assets of the portfolio company, which may rank ahead of or be junior to other security interests. Mezzanine debt is subordinated to senior loans and is generally unsecured. Our investments have generally ranged between \$5 million and \$75 million each, although the investment size may be more or less than this range. Our investment sizes are expected to grow as our capital base expands.

We also acquire controlling interests in companies in conjunction with making secured debt investments in such companies. In most cases, companies in which we invest are privately held at the time we invest in them. We refer to these companies as "target" or "middle market" companies and these investments as "middle market investments."

### **The Offering**

We may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings or series, together or separately, up to \$3,000,000,000 of our Securities, which we expect to use initially to maintain balance sheet liquidity, involving repayment of debt under our credit facility, investment in high quality short-term debt instruments or a combination thereof, and thereafter to make long-term investments in accordance with our investment objectives.

Our Securities may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to a particular offering will disclose the terms of that offering, including the name or names of any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the sale of our Securities by us, the purchase price, and any fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and our agents, underwriters or dealers, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See "Plan of Distribution." We may not sell any of our Securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our Securities.

We may sell our common stock, subscription rights, units, warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock, at a price below the current net asset value of our common stock upon approval of our directors, including a majority of our independent directors, in certain circumstances. Our stockholders approved our ability to issue warrants, options or rights to acquire our common stock at our 2008 annual meeting of stockholders for an unlimited time period and in accordance with the 1940 Act which provides that the conversion or exercise price of such warrants, options or rights may be less than net asset value per share at the date such securities are issued or at the date such securities are converted into or exercised for shares of our common stock. At our 2011 annual meeting, held on December 8, 2011, subject to the condition that the maximum number of shares salable below net asset value pursuant to this authority in any particular offering that could result in such dilution is limited to 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering, our stockholders approved our ability to sell or otherwise issue shares of our common stock at any level of discount from net asset value per share for a twelve month period expiring on the anniversary of the date of the stockholder approval. We are currently seeking stockholder approval at our 2012 annual meeting, to be held on December 7, 2012, to continue for an additional year our ability to issue shares of common stock below net asset value, subject to the condition that the maximum number of shares salable below net asset value pursuant to this authority in any particular offering that could result in such dilution is

limited to 25% of our then outstanding common stock immediately prior to each such offering. See "Sales of Common Stock Below Net Asset Value" in this prospectus and in the prospectus supplement, if applicable. Sales of common stock at prices below net asset value per share dilute the interests of existing stockholders, have the effect of reducing our net asset value per share and may reduce our market price per share. We have no current intention of engaging in a rights offering, although we reserve the right to do so in the future.

Set forth below is additional information regarding the offering of our Securities:

**Use of proceeds**

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from selling Securities pursuant to this prospectus initially to maintain balance sheet liquidity, involving repayment of debt under our credit facility, if any, investments in high quality short-term debt instruments or a combination thereof, and thereafter to make long-term investments in accordance with our investment objective. Interest on borrowings under the credit facility is one-month LIBOR plus 275 basis points, with no minimum LIBOR floor. Additionally, the lenders charge a fee on the unused portion of the credit facility equal to either 50 basis points if at least half of the credit facility is drawn or 100 basis points otherwise. See "Use of Proceeds."

**Distributions**

In June 2010, our Board of Directors approved a change in dividend policy from quarterly distributions to monthly distributions. Since that time, we have paid monthly distributions to the holders of our common stock and generally intend to continue to do so. The amount of the monthly distributions is determined by our Board of Directors and is based on our estimate of our investment company taxable income and net short-term capital gains. Certain amounts of the monthly distributions may from time to time be paid out of our capital rather than from earnings for the month as a result of our deliberate planning or accounting reclassifications. Distributions in excess of our current or accumulated earnings or profits constitute a return of capital and will reduce the stockholder's adjusted tax basis in such stockholder's common stock. A return of capital (1) is a return of the original amount invested, (2) does not constitute earnings or profits and (3) while such returns are initially tax free, they will have the effect of reducing the basis such that when a stockholder sells its shares, it may be subject to additional tax even if the shares are sold for less than the original purchase price. After the adjusted basis is reduced to zero, these distributions will constitute capital gains to such stockholders. Certain additional amounts may be deemed as distributed to stockholders for income tax purposes. Other types of Securities will likely pay distributions in accordance with their terms. See "Price Range of Common Stock," "Distributions" and "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

**Taxation**

We have qualified and elected to be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as a regulated investment company, or a RIC, under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the Code. As a RIC, we generally do not have to pay corporate-level U.S. federal income taxes on any ordinary income or capital gains that we distribute to our stockholders as dividends. To maintain our qualification as a RIC and obtain RIC tax treatment, we must satisfy certain source-of-income and asset diversification requirements and distribute annually at least 90% of our ordinary income and realized net short-term capital gains in excess of realized net long-term capital losses, if any. See "Distributions" and "Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations."

**Dividend reinvestment plan**

We have a dividend reinvestment plan for our stockholders. This is an "opt out" dividend reinvestment plan. As a result, when we declare a dividend, the dividends are automatically reinvested in additional shares of our common stock, unless a stockholder specifically "opts out" of the dividend reinvestment plan so as to receive cash dividends. Stockholders who receive distributions in the form of stock are subject to the same U.S. federal, state and local tax consequences as stockholders who elect to receive their distributions in cash. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

**The NASDAQ Global Select Market  
Symbol**

PSEC

**Anti-takeover provisions**

Our charter and bylaws, as well as certain statutory and regulatory requirements, contain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us. These anti-takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price of our common stock. See "Description Of Our Capital Stock."

**Management arrangements**

Prospect Capital Management serves as our investment adviser. Prospect Administration serves as our administrator. For a description of Prospect Capital Management, Prospect Administration and our contractual arrangements with these companies, see "Business Management Services Investment Advisory Agreement," and "Business Management Services Administration Agreement."

**Risk factors**

Investment in our Securities involves certain risks relating to our structure and investment objective that should be considered by prospective purchasers of our Securities. In addition, as a business development company, our portfolio primarily includes securities issued by privately-held companies. These investments generally involve a high degree of business and financial risk, and are less liquid than public securities. We are required to mark the carrying value of our investments to fair value on a quarterly basis, and economic events, market conditions and events affecting individual portfolio companies can result in quarter-to-quarter mark-downs and mark-ups of the value of individual investments that collectively can materially affect our net asset value, or NAV. Also, our determinations of fair value of privately-held securities may differ materially from the values that would exist if there was a ready market for these investments. A large number of entities compete for the same kind of investment opportunities as we do. Moreover, our business requires a substantial amount of capital to operate and to grow and we seek additional capital from external sources. In addition, the failure to qualify as a RIC eligible for pass-through tax treatment under the Code on income distributed to stockholders could have a materially adverse effect on the total return, if any, obtainable from an investment in our Securities. See "Risk Factors" and the other information included in this prospectus for a discussion of factors you should carefully consider before deciding to invest in our Securities.