

MARSH & MCLENNAN COMPANIES, INC.

Form 424B2

January 10, 2017

[Table of Contents](#)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered | Maximum Aggregate Offering Price | Amount of Registration Fee(1) |
|---|---|--|
| 2.750% Senior Notes due 2022 | \$500,000,000 | \$57,950.00 |
| 4.350% Senior Notes due 2047 | \$500,000,000 | \$57,950.00 |

(1) Calculated in accordance with Rule 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Table of Contents

Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
 Registration No. 333-206217

Prospectus Supplement

January 9, 2017

(To Prospectus Dated August 7, 2015)

Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.

\$500,000,000 2.750% Senior Notes due 2022

\$500,000,000 4.350% Senior Notes due 2047

We will pay interest on the 2.750% Senior Notes due 2022 (the 2022 Notes) on January 30 and July 30 of each year, beginning on July 30, 2017. The 2022 Notes will mature on January 30, 2022. We will pay interest on the 4.350% Senior Notes due 2047 (the 2047 Notes and, together with the 2022 Notes, the notes) on January 30 and July 30 of each year, beginning on July 30, 2017. The 2047 Notes will mature on January 30, 2047. At our option, we may redeem notes of either or both series offered hereby, in whole or in part at any time and from time to time, before their respective maturities at the redemption prices described herein under Description of Notes Optional Redemption.

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

Investing in the notes involves risks. See the section entitled Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2015, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

| | Per 2022 Notes | Total | Per 2047 Notes | Total |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Public offering price(1) | 99.863% | \$ 499,315,000 | 99.366% | \$ 496,830,000 |
| Underwriting discount | 0.600% | \$ 3,000,000 | 0.875% | \$ 4,375,000 |
| Proceeds to the Company (before expenses) | 99.263% | \$ 496,315,000 | 98.491% | \$ 492,455,000 |

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from January 12, 2017, if settlement occurs after that date.

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

The underwriters expect to deliver the notes through the book-entry delivery system of The Depository Trust Company for the accounts of its participants, including Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme, on or about January 12, 2017.

Joint Book Running Managers

**BofA Merrill Lynch
J.P. Morgan
ANZ Securities**

**Deutsche Bank Securities
Morgan Stanley
US Bancorp**

Co-Managers

BNP PARIBAS

GC Securities

BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC

MUFG

Scotiabank

TD Securities

The Williams Capital Group, L.P.

Wells Fargo Securities

Table of Contents

This document consists of two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which describes the terms of this offering of notes. The second part, the accompanying prospectus dated August 7, 2015, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. You should carefully read both this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, together with the information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information" in the accompanying prospectus.

We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with different or additional information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus or in any free writing prospectuses we have authorized for use with respect to this offering. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you or any representation that others may make to you. This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are an offer to sell only the notes, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus, as well as information previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and incorporated by reference, is current only as of the date of such information. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

References in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to we, us, our, and the Company are to Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and not its subsidiaries, except where the context otherwise requires.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| <u>Incorporation of Certain Documents by Reference</u> | S-i |
| <u>Summary</u> | S-1 |
| <u>Information Concerning Forward-Looking Statements</u> | S-4 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | S-5 |
| <u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | S-5 |
| <u>Description of Notes</u> | S-6 |
| <u>Material U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences</u> | S-13 |
| <u>Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest)</u> | S-17 |
| <u>Legal Matters</u> | S-23 |
| <u>Experts</u> | S-23 |

Prospectus

| | |
|---|----|
| <u>About This Prospectus</u> | 3 |
| <u>Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.</u> | 3 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | 3 |
| <u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | 3 |
| <u>Description of Securities</u> | 4 |
| <u>Description of Capital Stock</u> | 4 |
| <u>Depository Shares Representing Preferred Stock</u> | 7 |
| <u>Description of Debt Securities</u> | 7 |
| <u>Description of Warrants</u> | 17 |
| <u>Description of Purchase Contracts</u> | 17 |
| <u>Description of Units</u> | 17 |
| <u>Plan of Distribution</u> | 18 |
| <u>Where You Can Find More Information</u> | 19 |

Information Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

20

Legal Opinions

21

Experts

21

Table of Contents**INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE**

The SEC allows the Company to incorporate by reference the information it files with the SEC. This permits us to disclose important information to you by referencing these filed documents, which are considered part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information.

We incorporate by reference the documents set forth below that the Company previously filed with the SEC and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act until the offering of the notes has been completed; provided that, unless otherwise stated, we will not incorporate by reference any filing that is furnished or deemed furnished to the SEC. These documents contain important information about the Company.

We will provide without charge, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Requests should be directed to Investor Relations, Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., 1166 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036-2774 (telephone number (212) 345-5000). The information found on our website and the websites of our operating companies is not a part of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

| SEC Filings | Date Filed with the SEC |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2015 | February 24, 2016 |
| Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended March 31, 2016 | May 2, 2016 |
| Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended June 30, 2016 | August 1, 2016 |
| Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the Quarter ended September 30, 2016 | October 28, 2016 |
| Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A (solely to the extent incorporated by reference into the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2015) | April 1, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 7, 2016 | March 7, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 9, 2016 | March 14, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 19, 2016 | May 23, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2016 | June 8, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 21, 2016 | September 21, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 19, 2016 | October 20, 2016 |
| Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 14, 2016 | December 14, 2016 |

Table of Contents

SUMMARY

The Company

Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. is a global professional services firm offering clients advice and solutions in the areas of risk, strategy and people. It is the parent company of a number of leading risk experts and specialty consultants, including: Marsh, the insurance broker, intermediary and risk advisor; Guy Carpenter, the risk and reinsurance specialist; Mercer, the provider of HR and related financial advice and services; and Oliver Wyman Group, the management, economic and brand consultancy. With 2015 consolidated revenue of approximately \$13 billion and approximately 60,000 colleagues worldwide, the Company provides analysis, advice and transactional capabilities to clients in more than 130 countries. The Company's executive offices are located at 1166 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036-2774, and our telephone number is (212) 345- 5000.

S-1

Table of Contents

The Offering

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Issuer | Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. |
| Notes Offered | <p>\$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 2.750% Senior Notes due 2022.</p> <p>\$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of 4.350% Senior Notes due 2047.</p> |
| Maturity | <p>The 2022 Notes will mature on January 30, 2022, unless earlier redeemed or repurchased.</p> <p>The 2047 Notes will mature on January 30, 2047, unless earlier redeemed or repurchased.</p> |
| Interest | <p>The 2022 Notes will bear interest at 2.750% per year. Interest will be payable semi-annually in arrears on January 30 and July 30 of each year, beginning July 30, 2017.</p> <p>The 2047 Notes will bear interest at 4.350% per year. Interest will be payable semi-annually in arrears on January 30 and July 30 of each year, beginning July 30, 2017.</p> |
| Ranking | <p>Each series of notes will be senior unsecured obligations of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured indebtedness from time to time outstanding.</p> <p>As of September 30, 2016, we had approximately \$4.4 billion of outstanding senior unsecured indebtedness, not including the debt of our subsidiaries. As of September 30, 2016, debt of our subsidiaries, to which the notes will be structurally subordinated, was approximately \$384 million.</p> |
| Optional Redemption | We may, at our option, redeem each series of notes in whole at any time, or in part from time to time, as described under Description of Notes Optional Redemption . |
| Additional Notes | <p>We may, without the consent of the noteholders, issue additional notes of either series having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms (other than the issue date, the public offering price, the payment of interest accruing prior to the issue date of such additional notes and the first payment of interest following such issue date) as the notes of such series offered by this prospectus supplement.</p> <p>Any such additional notes will be a part of the applicable series having the same terms as such series of notes, provided that, if any additional notes subsequently issued are not fungible for U.S. federal income tax purposes with any notes previously issued, such additional notes shall trade under a separate CUSIP number.</p> |

Sinking Fund

None as to either series.

S-2

Table of Contents

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Use of Proceeds | We will receive net proceeds from the offering of the notes of approximately \$988.8 million after deducting the underwriting discounts and commissions but before offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes. See Use of Proceeds. |
| Conflicts of Interest | GC Securities, a division of MMC Securities Corp. and an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) and as a result of GC Securities' participation as an underwriter in this offering it is deemed to have a conflict of interest within the meaning of Rule 5121 of FINRA (Rule 5121). Therefore, this offering will be conducted in accordance with Rule 5121, which requires that GC Securities not make sales to discretionary accounts without the prior written consent of the account holder. A qualified independent underwriter is not necessary for this offering pursuant to Rule 5121(a)(1)(C). See Underwriting (Conflicts of Interest) Conflicts of Interest. |
| Listing | We do not intend to list either series of notes on any national securities exchange. Each series of notes will be new securities for which there is currently no public market. |
| Governing Law | The indenture and the notes will be governed by the laws of the State of New York. |
| Trustee | The Bank of New York Mellon. |
| Risk Factors | Investing in the notes involves risks. See the section entitled Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the Year ended December 31, 2015, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, for a discussion of factors you should consider carefully before deciding to invest in the notes. |

Table of Contents

INFORMATION CONCERNING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain forward-looking statements, as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements, which express management's current views concerning future events or results, use words like anticipate, assume, believe, continue, estimate, expect, intend, plan, project and similar terms, and future or conditional tense verbs like could, should, will and would. Forward-looking statements are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements.

Factors that could materially affect our future results include, among other things: our ability to maintain adequate safeguards to protect the security of our information systems and confidential, personal or proprietary information; our ability to successfully recover if we experience a business continuity problem due to cyberattack, natural disaster or otherwise; our exposure to potential losses and liabilities, including reputational impact, arising from errors and omissions, breach of fiduciary duty and similar claims against us; our ability to compete effectively and adapt to changes in the competitive environment, including to pricing pressures and technological and other types of innovation; the impact of macroeconomic conditions, political events and market conditions on us, our clients and the industries in which we operate, including the effects of the vote in the U.K. to exit the E.U. and rising protectionist laws and business practices; the impact of changes in applicable tax laws and regulations, particularly in the United States and Europe; the effect of our global pension obligations on our financial position, earnings and cash flows and the impact of low interest rates on those obligations; the financial and operational impact of complying with laws and regulations where we operate; our exposure to potential civil remedies or criminal penalties if we fail to comply with applicable U.S. and non-U.S. laws and regulations; the impact of fluctuations in foreign exchange, interest rates and securities markets on our results; the impact on our competitive position of our tax rate relative to our competitors; our ability to incentivize and retain key employees; and the impact of changes in accounting rules or in our accounting estimates or assumptions.

The factors identified above are not exhaustive. We caution readers not to place reliance on any forward-looking statements, which are based only on information currently available to us and speak only as of the dates on which they are made. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances arising after the date on which it is made.

Further information concerning the Company and its businesses, including information about factors that could materially affect our results of operations and financial condition, is contained in the Company's filings with the SEC, including the Risk Factors section and the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section of our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will receive net proceeds from the offering of the notes of approximately \$988.8 million after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions but before offering expenses. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering for general corporate purposes.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated:

| Nine Months Ended September 30, | | Year Ended December 31, | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2016 | 2015 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 |
| 8.6 | 8.7 | 9.0 | 7.9 | 7.6 | 6.3 | 5.1 |

S-5

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF NOTES

The notes will be senior debt issued under an indenture dated as of July 15, 2011 between Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, as previously supplemented and as to be further supplemented by a ninth supplemental indenture to be dated as of January 12, 2017 (collectively, the indenture). The 2022 Notes and the 2047 Notes will each be a separate series under the indenture.

General Terms of Notes

Interest and principal will be payable in U.S. dollars. The notes of each series will be issued only in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. There will be no sinking fund payments for either series of notes.

The security registrar and transfer agent for the notes will be The Bank of New York Mellon until such time as a successor security registrar or transfer agent is appointed.

The 2022 Notes will initially be limited to \$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount. The 2047 Notes will initially be limited to \$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount.

We may, without the consent of the noteholders of either series of notes offered by this prospectus supplement, issue additional notes having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms as such series of notes (except for the issue date, the public offering price, the payment of interest accruing prior to the issue date of such additional notes and the first payment of interest following such issue date). Any such additional notes will be a part of the applicable series having the same terms as such series of notes, provided that, if any additional notes subsequently issued are not fungible for U.S. federal income tax purposes with any notes previously issued, such additional notes shall trade under a separate CUSIP number.

Interest

The 2022 Notes will bear interest at 2.750% per year. Interest on the 2022 Notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on January 30 and July 30 of each year, beginning July 30, 2017. Interest on the 2022 Notes will accrue from January 12, 2017, or from the most recent date to which interest has been paid or provided for. Interest on the 2022 Notes will be paid to holders of record on the record date immediately preceding the interest payment date. The 2047 Notes will bear interest at 4.350% per year. Interest on the 2047 Notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears on January 30 and July 30 of each year, beginning July 30, 2017. Interest on the 2047 Notes will accrue from January 12, 2017, or from the most recent date to which interest has been paid or provided for. Interest on the 2047 Notes will be paid to holders of record on the record date immediately preceding the interest payment date.

Interest on the notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. If an interest payment date for the notes of either series falls on a day that is not a business day, the interest payment for such series shall be postponed to the next succeeding business day, and no interest on such payment shall accrue for the period from and after such interest payment date. It will be an event of default under the indenture if we fail to pay interest when due and such failure continues for 30 days.

The 2022 Notes will mature on January 30, 2022. The 2047 Notes will mature on January 30, 2047. If the maturity date for the notes of either series falls on a day that is not a business day, the principal of and interest on the notes of such series shall be due on the next succeeding business day, and no interest on such payment shall accrue for the period from and after the maturity date of such series of notes.

Ranking

The notes will be senior unsecured obligations of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and will rank equally with all of our other senior unsecured indebtedness from time to time outstanding. As of September 30,

Table of Contents

2016, we had approximately \$4.4 billion of outstanding senior unsecured indebtedness, not including the debt of our subsidiaries. As of September 30, 2016, debt of our subsidiaries, to which the notes will be structurally subordinated, was approximately \$384 million.

Optional Redemption

Each series of notes will be redeemable, in whole at any time or in part from time to time, at our option.

If the 2022 Notes are redeemed prior to December 30, 2021 (the date that is one month prior to the stated maturity date for the 2022 Notes), the redemption price for the 2022 Notes to be redeemed will equal the greater of the following amounts, plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest thereon to but excluding the redemption date:

- (1) 100% of the principal amount of the 2022 Notes to be redeemed; or
- (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal of and interest on the 2022 Notes to be redeemed that would be due if the 2022 Notes matured on December 30, 2021 (exclusive of interest accrued to the date of redemption) discounted to the date of redemption on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the then current Treasury Rate plus 15 basis points (any excess of this (2) over (1) being referred to as the 2022 Make-Whole Premium).

If the 2022 Notes are redeemed on or after December 30, 2021 (the date that is one month prior to the stated maturity date for the 2022 Notes), the redemption price for the 2022 Notes to be redeemed will equal 100% of the principal amount of such notes plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon to but excluding the redemption date.

If the 2047 Notes are redeemed prior to July 30, 2046 (the date that is six months prior to the stated maturity date for the 2047 Notes), the redemption price for the 2047 Notes to be redeemed will equal the greater of the following amounts, plus, in each case, accrued and unpaid interest thereon to but excluding the redemption date:

- (1) 100% of the principal amount of the 2047 Notes to be redeemed; or
- (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal of and interest on the 2047 Notes to be redeemed that would be due if the 2047 Notes matured on July 30, 2046 (exclusive of interest accrued to the date of redemption) discounted to the date of redemption on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the then current Treasury Rate plus 25 basis points (any excess of this (2) over (1) being referred to as the 2047 Make-Whole Premium and, together with the 2022 Make-Whole Premium, the Make-Whole Premium).

If the 2047 Notes are redeemed on or after July 30, 2046 (the date that is six months prior to the stated maturity date for the 2047 Notes), the redemption price for the 2047 Notes to be redeemed will equal 100% of the principal amount of such notes plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon to but excluding the redemption date.

Comparable Treasury Issue means the United States Treasury security selected by the Independent Investment Banker as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the series of notes to be redeemed (assuming for this purpose, that the 2022 Notes matured on December 30, 2021 and that the 2047 Notes matured on July 30, 2046) that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of such notes.

Comparable Treasury Price means, with respect to any redemption date, (i) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (ii) if the Independent Investment Banker is provided with fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

Table of Contents

Independent Investment Banker means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by the Company.

Reference Treasury Dealer means (i) Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and its successors, (ii) Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and its successors, (iii) J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and its successors and (iv) Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and its successors, who are primary U.S. Government securities dealers for the City of New York (each a Primary Treasury Dealer), and one or more Primary Treasury Dealers as we may specify from time to time; provided, however, that if any of them ceases to be a Primary Treasury Dealer, we will substitute another Primary Treasury Dealer.

Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

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

The Treasury Rate shall be calculated on the third business day preceding the redemption date. As used in the immediately preceding sentence and in the definition of Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations above, the term business day means any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which commercial banks in New York City are authorized or required by law to remain closed.

Notice of any redemption will be transmitted at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of the applicable series of notes to be redeemed. The notice of redemption for such series of notes will state, among other things, the series and the amount of notes to be redeemed, the redemption date, the manner in which the applicable redemption price will be calculated and the place or places where payment will be made upon presentation and surrender of notes to be redeemed. If less than all of the notes of a series are to be redeemed at our option, the notes of such series, or portions of the notes of such series, to be redeemed will be selected in accordance with the procedures of DTC. Unless we default in the payment of the redemption price, interest will cease to accrue on any such notes that have been called for redemption at the redemption date.

The Company shall not be required (i) to issue, register the transfer of or exchange any notes of the applicable series during the period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of the delivery of a notice of redemption of notes of such series selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of such delivery, or (ii) to register the transfer or exchange of any of the applicable series of notes so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any such notes being redeemed in part.

For the avoidance of doubt, the requirement to pay any Make-Whole Premium shall only arise in connection with our voluntary election, if any, to redeem a series of notes pursuant to the applicable optional redemption provisions described in this section, and not in connection with any other payment, distribution, recovery or satisfaction of such series of notes.

Global Clearance and Settlement Procedures

Investors in the global securities representing each series of notes (the Global Notes) may hold a beneficial interest in such Global Notes through The Depository Trust Company (DTC), Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (Clearstream) or the Euroclear System (Euroclear) or through participants. The notes may be traded as home market instruments in both the European and U.S. domestic markets. Initial settlement and all secondary trades will settle as set forth below.

Table of Contents

Clearstream has advised that it is incorporated under the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as a professional depository. Clearstream holds securities for its participating organizations (Clearstream Participants). Clearstream facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between Clearstream Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of Clearstream Participants, eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. Clearstream provides to Clearstream Participants, among other things, services for safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Clearstream interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. As a professional depository, Clearstream is subject to regulation by the Luxembourg Commission for the Supervision of the Financial Sector (CSSF). Clearstream Participants are recognized financial institutions around the world, including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Indirect access to Clearstream is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Clearstream Participant, either directly or indirectly.

Distributions, to the extent received by the U.S. Depository (as defined below) for Clearstream, with respect to the notes held beneficially through Clearstream will be credited to cash accounts of Clearstream Participants in accordance with its rules and procedures.

Euroclear has advised that it was created in 1968 to hold securities for its participants (Euroclear Participants) and to clear and settle transactions between Euroclear Participants through simultaneous electronic book-entry delivery against payment, eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates and eliminating any risk from lack of simultaneous transfers of securities and cash. Euroclear provides various other services, including securities lending and borrowing and interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. Euroclear is operated by Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (the Euroclear Operator), under contract with Euroclear Clearance Systems S.C., a Belgian cooperative corporation (the Cooperative). All operations are conducted by the Euroclear Operator, and all Euroclear securities clearance accounts and Euroclear cash accounts are accounts with the Euroclear Operator not the Cooperative. The Cooperative establishes policy for Euroclear on behalf of Euroclear Participants. Euroclear Participants include banks (including central banks), securities brokers and dealers and other professional financial intermediaries and may include the underwriters. Indirect access to Euroclear is also available to other firms that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Euroclear Participant, either directly or indirectly.

The Euroclear Operator has advised us that it is licensed by the Belgian Banking and Finance Commission to carry out banking activities on a global basis. As a Belgian bank, it is regulated and examined by the Belgian Banking and Finance Commission.

Securities clearance accounts and cash accounts with the Euroclear Operator are governed by the Terms and Conditions Governing Use of Euroclear and the related Operating Procedures of the Euroclear System, and applicable Belgian law (collectively, the Terms and Conditions). The Terms and Conditions govern transfers of securities and cash within Euroclear, withdrawals of securities and cash from Euroclear, and receipts of payments with respect to securities in Euroclear. All securities in Euroclear are held on a fungible basis without attribution of specific certificates to specific securities clearance accounts. The Euroclear Operator acts under the Terms and Conditions only on behalf of Euroclear Participants and has no record of or relationship with persons holding through Euroclear Participants.

Distributions, to the extent received by the U.S. Depository for Euroclear, with respect to notes held beneficially through Euroclear will be credited to the cash accounts of Euroclear Participants in accordance with the Terms and Conditions.

Individual certificates in respect of notes will not be issued in exchange for the Global Notes, except in very limited circumstances, including those instances that follow: If DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as a clearing system in connection with a Global Note or DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered

Table of Contents

under the Exchange Act, and in each case we do not appoint a successor clearing system within 90 days after receiving such notice from Euroclear, Clearstream or DTC or on becoming aware that DTC is no longer so registered, we will issue or cause to be issued individual certificates in registered form on registration of transfer of or in exchange for book-entry interests in the notes represented by such Global Note upon delivery of such Global Note for cancellation.

Title to book-entry interests in the notes will pass by book-entry registration of the transfer within the records of Euroclear, Clearstream or DTC, as the case may be, in accordance with their respective procedures. Book-entry interests in the notes may be transferred within Euroclear and within Clearstream and between Euroclear and Clearstream in accordance with procedures established for these purposes by Euroclear and Clearstream. Book-entry interests in the notes may be transferred within DTC in accordance with procedures established for this purpose by DTC. Transfers of book-entry interests in the notes between Euroclear and Clearstream and DTC may be effected in accordance with procedures established for this purpose by Euroclear, Clearstream and DTC.

Initial Settlement

All Global Notes will be registered in the name of Cede & Co. as nominee of DTC. Investors' interests in the Global Notes will be represented through financial institutions acting on their behalf as direct and indirect participants in DTC. As a result, Clearstream and Euroclear will hold positions on behalf of their participants through their respective U.S. depositories (each, a U.S. Depository), which in turn will hold such positions in accounts as participants of DTC.

Notes held through DTC will be settled in immediately available funds. Investor securities custody accounts will be credited with their holdings against payment on the settlement date. Notes held through Clearstream or Euroclear accounts will follow the settlement procedures applicable to conventional eurobonds, except that there will be no temporary global security and no lock-up or restricted period. Notes will be credited to the securities custody accounts on the settlement date against payment.

Secondary Market Trading

Since the purchaser determines the place of delivery, it is important to establish at the time of the trade where both the purchaser's and seller's accounts are located to ensure that settlement can be made on the desired value date.

Trading between DTC Participants. Secondary market trading between DTC participants will be settled in immediately available funds.

Trading between Clearstream and/or Euroclear Participants. Secondary market trading between Clearstream participants and/or Euroclear participants will be settled using the procedures applicable to conventional eurobonds.

Trading between DTC Seller and Clearstream or Euroclear Purchaser. When beneficial interests in the Global Notes are to be transferred from the account of a DTC participant to the account of a Clearstream participant or a Euroclear participant, the purchaser will send instructions to Clearstream or Euroclear through a participant at least one business day prior to settlement. Clearstream or Euroclear will instruct the U.S. Depository, as the case may be, to receive a beneficial interest in the Global Notes against payment. Unless otherwise set forth in this prospectus supplement, payment will include interest accrued on the beneficial interest in the Global Notes of a series so transferred from and including the last interest payment date to and excluding the settlement date, on the basis on which interest is calculated on the notes of such series. For transactions settling on the 31st of the month, payment will include interest accrued to and excluding the first day of the

Table of Contents

following month. Payment will then be made by the U.S. Depository to the DTC participant's account against delivery of the beneficial interest in the Global Notes. After settlement has been completed, the beneficial interest in the Global Notes will be credited to the respective clearing system and by the clearing system, in accordance with its usual procedures, to the Clearstream or Euroclear participant's account. The securities credit will appear the next day (European time) and the cash debit will be back-valued to, and interest on the beneficial interest in the Global Notes will accrue from, the value date (which would be the preceding day when settlement occurred in New York). If settlement is not completed on the intended value date (that is, the trade fails), the Clearstream or Euroclear cash debit will be valued instead as of the actual settlement date.

Clearstream participants and Euroclear participants will need to make available to the respective clearing systems the funds necessary to process same-day funds settlement. The most direct means of doing so is to preposition funds for settlement, either from cash on hand or existing lines of credit, as they would for any settlement occurring within Clearstream or Euroclear. Under this approach, they may take on credit exposure to Clearstream or Euroclear until the beneficial interests in the Global Notes are credited to their accounts one day later.

As an alternative, if Clearstream or Euroclear has extended a line of credit to them, participants can elect not to preposition funds and allow that credit line to be drawn upon to finance settlement. Under this procedure, Clearstream participants or Euroclear participants purchasing a beneficial interest in the Global Notes would incur overdraft charges for one day, assuming they cleared the overdraft when the beneficial interests in the Global Notes were credited to their accounts. However, interest on the beneficial interests in the Global Notes would accrue from the value date. Therefore, in many cases the investment income on the Global Notes earned during that one-day period may substantially reduce or offset the amount of such overdraft charges, although this result will depend on each participant's particular cost of funds.

Since the settlement is taking place during New York business hours, DTC participants can employ their usual procedures for sending a beneficial interest in the Global Notes to the U.S. Depository for the benefit of Clearstream participants or Euroclear participants. The sale proceeds will be available to the DTC seller on the settlement date. Thus, to the DTC participant a cross-market transaction will settle no differently than a trade between two DTC participants.

Trading between Clearstream or Euroclear Seller and DTC Purchaser. Due to time zone differences in their favor, Clearstream and Euroclear participants may employ their customary procedures in transactions in which a beneficial interest in the Global Notes is to be transferred by the respective clearing system, through the U.S. Depository, to a DTC participant. The seller will send instructions to Clearstream or Euroclear through a participant at least one business day prior to settlement. In these cases, Clearstream or Euroclear will instruct the U.S. Depository, as appropriate, to deliver the beneficial interest in the Global Notes to the DTC participant's account against payment. Payment will include interest accrued on the beneficial interest in the Global Notes from and including the last coupon payment date to and excluding the settlement date on the basis on which interest is calculated on the Global Notes. For transactions settling on the 31st of the month, payment will include interest accrued to and excluding the first day of the following month. The payment will then be reflected in the account of the Clearstream or Euroclear participant the following day, and receipt of the cash proceeds in the Clearstream or Euroclear participant's account would be back-valued to the value date (which would be the preceding day, when settlement occurred in New York). Should the Clearstream or Euroclear participant have a line of credit with its respective clearing system and elect to be in debit in anticipation of receipt of the sale proceeds in its account, the back-valuation will extinguish any overdraft charges incurred over that one-day period. If settlement is not completed on the intended value date (that is, the trade fails), receipt of the cash proceeds in the Clearstream or Euroclear participant's account would instead be valued as of the actual settlement date.

Finally, day traders that use Clearstream or Euroclear and that purchase beneficial interests in the Global Notes from DTC participants for credit to Clearstream participants or Euroclear participants should note that

Table of Contents

these trades would automatically fail on the sale side unless affirmative action is taken. At least three techniques should be readily available to eliminate this potential problem:

borrowing through Clearstream or Euroclear for one day (until the purchase side of the day trade is reflected in their Clearstream or Euroclear accounts) in accordance with the clearing system's customary procedures;

borrowing beneficial interests in the Global Notes in the United States from a DTC participant no later than one day prior to settlement, which would give beneficial interests in the Global Notes sufficient time to be reflected in the appropriate Clearstream or Euroclear account in order to settle the sale side of the trade; or

staggering the value dates for the buy and sell sides of the trade so that the value date for the purchase from the DTC participant is at least one day prior to the value date for the sale to the Clearstream participant or Euroclear participant.

Although DTC, Clearstream, and Euroclear have agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of beneficial interests in the Global Notes among participants of DTC, Clearstream, and Euroclear, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures and such procedures may be discontinued at any time.

Applicable Law

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

Additional Terms

For additional important information about the notes, see "Description of Debt Securities" in the accompanying prospectus. That information includes:

additional information on the terms of the notes;

general information on the indenture and the trustee; and

a description of events of default under the indenture.

To the extent any information about the notes varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in this prospectus supplement.

Table of Contents

MATERIAL U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following are the material U.S. federal income tax consequences of ownership and disposition of the notes. This discussion applies only to notes that meet both of the following conditions:

they are purchased by those initial holders who purchase notes at the issue price, which will equal the first price to the public (not including bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers) at which a substantial amount of the notes is sold for money; and

they are held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code). This discussion does not describe all aspects of U.S. federal income taxes and does not deal with all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to holders in light of their particular circumstances or to holders subject to special rules such as:

financial institutions;

insurance companies;

dealers or traders using a mark-to-market method of tax accounting for the notes;

persons holding notes as part of an integrated transaction;

U.S. Holders (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar;

regulated investment companies or real estate investment trusts;

partnerships or other entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes;

tax-exempt organizations; or

persons subject to the alternative minimum tax or the Medicare contribution tax.

If an entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds notes, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partners of partnerships holding notes are urged to consult their tax advisors as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences to them of holding and disposing of the notes.

This summary is based on the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed U.S. Treasury Regulations in effect as of the date hereof, changes to any of which subsequent to the date of this prospectus supplement may affect the tax consequences described herein, possibly with retroactive effect.

PERSONS CONSIDERING THE PURCHASE OF NOTES ARE URGED TO CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS WITH REGARD TO THE APPLICATION OF THE U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS TO THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATIONS AS WELL AS ANY TAX CONSEQUENCES ARISING UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY STATE, LOCAL OR NON-U.S. TAXING JURISDICTION.

Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders

As used herein, the term **U.S. Holder** means a beneficial owner of a note that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a citizen or individual resident of the United States;

a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia; or

an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

Table of Contents

Payments of Interest

Interest paid on a note will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time it accrues or is received in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Sale, Exchange or Retirement of the Notes

Upon the sale, exchange or retirement of a note, a U.S. Holder will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange or retirement and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the note, which will generally equal the cost of the note. For these purposes, the amount realized does not include any amount attributable to accrued interest. Amounts attributable to accrued interest are treated as interest as described under "Payments of Interest" above.

Gain or loss realized on the sale, exchange or retirement of a note will generally be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if at the time of sale, exchange or retirement the note has been held for more than one year. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Information returns generally will be filed with the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") in connection with payments on the notes and the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes. A U.S. Holder will be subject to backup withholding on these payments if the U.S. Holder fails to provide its correct taxpayer identification number to the applicable withholding agent and comply with certain certification procedures or otherwise establish an exemption from backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a U.S. Holder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the U.S. Holder to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Tax Consequences to Non-U.S. Holders

As used herein, the term "Non-U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of a note that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes:

a nonresident alien individual;

a foreign corporation; or

a foreign estate or trust.

The term "Non-U.S. Holder" does not include a beneficial owner who is an individual present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition or who is (or may become while holding notes) a former citizen or resident of the United States. Such a beneficial owner is urged to consult his or her own tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the sale, exchange or other disposition of a note.

Payments on the Notes

Subject to the discussions below concerning backup withholding and FATCA (as defined below), payments of principal, interest and premium on the notes to a Non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax, provided that, in the case of interest,

the Non-U.S. Holder does not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company entitled to vote and is not a controlled foreign corporation related, directly or indirectly, to the Company through stock ownership; and

Table of Contents

the Non-U.S. Holder certifies on a properly executed IRS Form W-8 appropriate to the Non-U.S. Holder's circumstances, under penalties of perjury, that it is not a United States person. Special certification rules apply to notes that are held through non-U.S. intermediaries.

Subject to the discussion below concerning income of a Non-U.S. Holder that is effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, if a Non-U.S. Holder cannot satisfy the requirements described above, payments of interest on the notes to such Non-U.S. Holder will generally be subject to a 30% U.S. federal withholding tax, unless the Non-U.S. Holder provides the applicable withholding agent with a properly executed IRS Form W-8 appropriate to the Non-U.S. Holder's circumstances claiming an exemption from or reduction in withholding under an applicable income tax treaty and complies with any other applicable procedures. See the discussion below under "FATCA" regarding withholding on interest under the FATCA (as defined below) rules.

Sale, Exchange or Retirement of the Notes

A Non-U.S. Holder of a note will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on gain realized on the sale, exchange or retirement of such note, unless the gain is effectively connected with the conduct by the Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business in the United States, subject to an applicable income tax treaty providing otherwise, although any amounts attributable to accrued interest will be treated as described above under "Payments on the Notes." See the discussion below under "FATCA" regarding withholding under the FATCA (as defined below) rules on gross proceeds of the sale, exchange or retirement of the notes.

Non-U.S. Holder Engaged in a U.S. Trade or Business

If a Non-U.S. Holder of a note is engaged in a trade or business in the United States, and if income or gain on the note is effectively connected with the conduct of this trade or business (and if required by an applicable income tax treaty, the income or gain is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base maintained by the Non-U.S. Holder in the United States), the Non-U.S. Holder, although exempt from the withholding tax on interest discussed above, will generally be taxed in the same manner as a U.S. Holder (see "Tax Consequences to U.S. Holders" above), except that the Non-U.S. Holder will be required to provide to the applicable withholding agent a properly executed IRS Form W-8ECI in order to claim an exemption from withholding tax on interest. These Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors with respect to other U.S. tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of notes, including, in the case of a corporation, the possible imposition of a branch profits tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower rate under an applicable income tax treaty).

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

Information returns generally will be filed with the IRS in connection with interest payments on the notes. Copies of the information returns reporting such interest payments and any withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the Non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty. Unless the Non-U.S. Holder complies with certification procedures to establish that it is not a United States person, information returns may be filed with the IRS in connection with the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes, and the Non-U.S. Holder may be subject to backup withholding on payments on the notes or on the proceeds from a sale or other disposition of the notes. Compliance with the certification procedures required to claim the exemption from withholding tax on interest described above will satisfy the certification requirements necessary to avoid backup withholding as well. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to a Non-U.S. Holder will be allowed as a credit against the Non-U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the Non-U.S. Holder to a refund, provided that the required information is furnished to the IRS.

Table of Contents

FATCA

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act provisions of the Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act and the U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder, commonly referred to as FATCA, generally impose a withholding tax of 30% on payments to certain non-U.S. entities (including financial intermediaries) with respect to certain financial instruments, unless various U.S. information reporting and due diligence requirements have been satisfied. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and the non-U.S. entity's jurisdiction may modify these requirements. Withholding under these rules (if applicable) applies to payments of interest on the notes and, after December 31, 2018, to payments of gross proceeds of the sale, exchange or retirement of the notes. Non-U.S. Holders, and U.S. Holders holding notes through a non-U.S. intermediary, should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential application of FATCA to the notes.

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)**

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. are acting as joint book-running managers of the offering and are acting as representatives of the several underwriters named below.

Subject to the terms and conditions contained 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 principal amount of notes set forth opposite such underwriter's name.

| <u>Underwriter</u> | Principal Amount of 2022 Notes | Principal Amount of 2047 Notes |
|---|---|---|
| Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated | \$ 100,000,000 | \$ 100,000,000 |
| Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. | \$ 100,000,000 | \$ 100,000,000 |
| J.P. Morgan Securities LLC | | \$ 100,000,000 |
| Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC | | \$ 100,000,000 |
| ANZ Securities, Inc. | \$ 100,000,000 | |
| U.S. Bancorp Investments, Inc. | \$ 100,000,000 | |
| BNP Paribas Securities Corp. | \$ 25,000,000 | |
| BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC | \$ 25,000,000 | |
| Scotia Capital (USA) Inc. | \$ 25,000,000 | |
| The Williams Capital Group, L.P. | \$ 25,000,000 | |
| GC Securities, a division of MMC Securities LLC | | \$ 25,000,000 |
| MUFG Securities Americas Inc. | | \$ 25,000,000 |
| TD Securities (USA) LLC | | \$ 25,000,000 |
| Wells Fargo Securities, LLC | | \$ 25,000,000 |
| Total | \$ 500,000,000 | \$ 500,000,000 |

The underwriting agreement is subject to a number of terms and conditions and provides that the obligations of the underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the notes offered hereby are subject to approval of legal matters by counsel and to other conditions. The underwriters are obligated to purchase all the notes offered hereby if they purchase any of the notes.

The underwriters have advised us that they propose initially to offer each series of the notes directly to the public at the public offering prices set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and may offer the notes to certain dealers at such respective public offering prices less a concession not to exceed 0.35% of the principal amount of the 2022 Notes and 0.50% of the principal amount of the 2047 Notes. The underwriters may allow, and dealers may reallow, a concession not to exceed 0.25% of the principal amount of the 2022 Notes and 0.35% of the principal amount of the 2047 Notes on sales to other dealers. After the initial offering of the notes to the public, the representatives may change the public offering prices and concessions. The offering of the notes by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

We estimate that our total expenses for this offering will be approximately \$1.6 million.

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

Each series of notes is a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to list either series of notes on any securities exchange. If a trading market does not develop or is not maintained with respect to a series of notes, holders of notes of such series may find it difficult or impossible to resell their notes.

Table of Contents

If a trading market were to develop with respect to a series of notes, the notes of such series may trade at prices that are higher or lower than their initial offering price, depending on many factors, including prevailing interest rates, our operating results and financial condition, and the market for similar securities. We have been advised by the underwriters that they intend to make a market in each series of notes. However, the underwriters are not obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. Accordingly, there can be no assurance regarding any future development of a trading market for either series of notes or the ability of holders of such series of notes to sell their notes at all or the price at which such holders may be able to sell their notes.

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell either series of notes in the open market. These transactions may include overallotment, syndicate covering transactions and stabilizing transactions.

Overallotment involves syndicate sales of notes in excess of the principal amount of notes to be purchased by the underwriters in the offering, which creates a syndicate short position. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases of notes made for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the notes while the offering is in progress.

The underwriters also may impose a penalty bid. Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the underwriters, in covering syndicate short positions or making stabilizing purchases, repurchase notes originally sold by that syndicate member.

Any of these activities with respect to a series of notes may have the effect of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the notes of such series. They may also cause the price of the notes of such series to be higher than the price that otherwise would exist in the open market in the absence of these transactions. The underwriters may conduct these transactions in the over-the-counter market or otherwise. If the underwriters commence any of these transactions, they may discontinue them at any time without notice.

Conflicts of Interest

GC Securities, a division of MMC Securities Corp. and an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., is a member of FINRA and as a result of GC Securities' participation as an underwriter in this offering it is deemed to have a conflict of interest within the meaning of Rule 5121. Therefore, this offering will be conducted in accordance with Rule 5121, which requires that GC Securities not make sales to discretionary accounts without the prior written consent of the account holder. A qualified independent underwriter is not necessary for this offering pursuant to Rule 5121(a)(1)(C).

Other Relationships

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include sales and trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage and other financial and non-financial activities and services. Certain of the underwriters and their respective affiliates have provided, and may in the future provide, a variety of these services to the Company and to persons and entities with relationships with the Company, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, sell or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps and other financial instruments for their own account and for the accounts of their customers, and such investment and trading activities may involve or relate to assets, securities and/or instruments of the Company (directly, as collateral securing other obligations or otherwise) and/or persons and entities with relationships with the Company. If any of the underwriters or their affiliates has a lending relationship with the Company, certain of those underwriters or their affiliates routinely hedge, and certain of those underwriters or their affiliates may hedge, their credit exposure to the Company.

Table of Contents

consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such underwriters and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in the Company's securities, including potentially the notes offered hereby. Any such credit default swaps or short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the notes offered hereby. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/ or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

Selling Restrictions

European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area (each, a Member State), no offer of notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus has been or will be made to the public in that Member State other than under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Directive:

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

to fewer than 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 representatives for any such offer; or

in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of notes shall require the Company or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, (i) the expression an offer of notes to the public in relation to any notes in any Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe for the notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State, (ii) the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member States.

Each person located in a Member State to whom any offer of notes is made or who receives any communication in respect of any offer of notes, or who initially acquires any notes will be deemed to have represented, warranted, acknowledged and agreed to and with each representative and the Company that (1) it is a qualified investor within the meaning of the law in that Member State implementing Article 2(1)(e) of the Prospectus Directive; and (2) in the case of any notes acquired by it as a financial intermediary as that term is used in Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, the notes acquired by it in the offer have not been acquired on behalf of, nor have they been acquired with a view to their offer or resale to, persons in any Member State other than qualified investors, as that term is defined in the Prospectus Directive, or in circumstances in which the prior consent of the representatives has been given to the offer or resale; or where ordinary shares have been acquired by it on behalf of persons in any Member State other than qualified investors, the offer of those ordinary shares to it is not treated under the Prospectus Directive as having been made to such persons.

The Company, the representatives and their respective affiliates will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing representations, acknowledgments and agreements.

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus have been prepared on the basis that any offer of notes in any Member State will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of notes. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Member State of notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated in this prospectus

Table of Contents

supplement and the accompanying prospectus may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive in relation to such offer. Neither Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. nor any underwriter have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of notes in circumstances in which an obligation arises for Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. or any underwriter to publish a prospectus for such offer.

United Kingdom

Each underwriter has represented and agreed that:

it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Company; and

it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

In the United Kingdom, this prospectus supplement is being distributed only to, and is directed only at, and any offer subsequently made may only be directed at persons who are qualified investors (as defined in the Prospectus Directive) and (i) investment professionals falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order) or (ii) high net worth companies or other persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order or (iii) other persons to whom it may be lawfully communicated in accordance with the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). This prospectus supplement must not be acted on or relied on in the United Kingdom by persons who are not relevant persons. In the United Kingdom, any investment or investment activity to which this prospectus supplement relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons. Any person in the United Kingdom that is not a relevant person must not act on or rely on this prospectus supplement or any of its contents. This prospectus supplement is not a prospectus which has been approved by the Financial Conduct Authority or any other United Kingdom regulatory authority for the purposes of Section 85 of the FSMA.

Canada

The notes may be sold only to purchasers purchasing, or deemed to be purchasing, as principal that are accredited investors, as defined in National Instrument 45-106 Prospectus Exemptions or subsection 73.3(1) of the Securities Act (Ontario), and are permitted clients, as defined in National Instrument 31-103 Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. Any resale of the notes must be made in accordance with an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the prospectus requirements of applicable securities laws.

Securities legislation in certain provinces or territories of Canada may provide a purchaser with remedies for rescission or damages if this prospectus (including any amendment thereto) contains a misrepresentation, provided that the remedies for rescission or damages are exercised by the purchaser within the time limit prescribed by the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory. The purchaser should refer to any applicable provisions of the securities legislation of the purchaser's province or territory for particulars of these rights or consult with a legal advisor.

Pursuant to section 3A.3 (or, in the case of securities issued or guaranteed by the government of a non-Canadian jurisdiction, section 3A.4) of National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts (NI 33-105), the underwriters are not required to comply with the disclosure requirements of NI 33-105 regarding underwriter conflicts of interest in connection with this offering.

Table of Contents

Hong Kong

The notes may not be offered or sold 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 notes 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 notes 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.

Japan

The notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law) and each underwriter has agreed that it will not offer or sell any notes, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

Korea

The notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Investment Services and Capital Markets Act of Korea and none of the notes may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Korea or to any resident of Korea, or to any persons for reoffering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Korea or to, or for the account or benefit of, any resident of Korea (as such term is defined in the Foreign Exchange Transaction Law of Korea and rules and regulations promulgated thereunder), except as otherwise permitted under applicable laws and regulations.

Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the notes may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the notes 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, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, 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.

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) 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 (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the notes under Section 275 of the SFA except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (2) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (3) by operation of law.

Table of Contents

Taiwan

The notes have not been and will not be registered with the Financial Supervisory Commission of Taiwan, the Republic of China (Taiwan), pursuant to relevant securities laws and regulations and may not be offered or sold in Taiwan through a public offering or in any manner which would constitute an offer within the meaning of the Securities and Exchange Act of Taiwan or would otherwise require registration with or the approval of the Financial Supervisory Commission of Taiwan. No person or entity in Taiwan has been authorized to offer or sell the notes in Taiwan.

S-22

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain matters pertaining to the notes will be passed upon for the Company by Carey Roberts, Esq., vice president, deputy general counsel, chief compliance officer and corporate secretary of the Company. The validity of the notes and certain matters pertaining to the notes will be passed upon for the Company by Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, New York, and for the underwriters by Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2015, incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, and the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2015, have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement. Such financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.

Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares, Debt Securities,

Warrants, Purchase Contracts and Units

We may offer from time to time common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares representing preferred stock, debt securities, warrants, purchase contracts or units. In addition, certain selling securityholders may offer and sell these securities from time to time, in amounts, at prices and on terms that will be determined at the time the securities are offered. We urge you to read this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement, which will describe the specific terms of the securities being offered, carefully before you make your investment decision.

Our common stock is listed on the New York and Chicago Stock Exchanges under the trading symbol **MMC** and on the London Stock Exchange under the trading symbol **MHM**.

Investing in these securities involves certain risks. See **Risk Factors beginning on page 11 of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, which is incorporated by reference herein, as well as in any other recently filed quarterly or current reports. The prospectus supplement applicable to each type or series of securities we offer may contain a discussion of additional risks applicable to an investment in us and the particular type of securities we are offering under that prospectus supplement.**

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has 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 sell securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

The date of this prospectus is August 7, 2015

Table of Contents

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state or other jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this prospectus. The terms the Company, we, us, and our refer to Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| <u>About This Prospectus</u> | 3 |
| <u>Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.</u> | 3 |
| <u>Use of Proceeds</u> | 3 |
| <u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u> | 3 |
| <u>Description of Securities</u> | 4 |
| <u>Description of Capital Stock</u> | 4 |
| <u>Depository Shares Representing Preferred Stock</u> | 7 |
| <u>Description of Debt Securities</u> | 7 |
| <u>Description of Warrants</u> | 17 |
| <u>Description of Purchase Contracts</u> | 17 |
| <u>Description of Units</u> | 17 |
| <u>Plan of Distribution</u> | 18 |
| <u>Where You Can Find More Information</u> | 19 |
| <u>Information Concerning Forward-Looking Statements</u> | 20 |
| <u>Legal Opinions</u> | 21 |
| <u>Experts</u> | 21 |

Table of Contents

About This Prospectus

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we or any selling securityholders sell securities pursuant to the registration statement, 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 or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information** before deciding to invest in any of the securities being offered.

We have filed or incorporated by reference exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part. You should read the exhibits carefully for provisions that may be important to you.

Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.

The Company is a global professional services firm offering clients advice and solutions in risk, strategy and people. The Company's subsidiaries include Marsh, the insurance broker, intermediary and risk advisor; Guy Carpenter, the risk and reinsurance specialist; Mercer, the provider of HR and related financial advice and services; and Oliver Wyman Group, the management, economic and brand consultancy. The Company's approximately 57,000 employees worldwide provide analysis, advice and transactional capabilities to clients in over 130 countries.

Our principal offices are located at 1166 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036, and our telephone number is (212) 345-5000. We maintain a website at <http://www.mmc.com>, where general information about us is available. We are not incorporating the contents of our website into this prospectus.

Use of Proceeds

Except as otherwise disclosed in a prospectus supplement, the net proceeds from the sale of the securities by us will be used for general corporate purposes. In the case of a sale by a selling securityholder, we will not receive any of the proceeds from such sale.

Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated.

| | Fiscal Year Ended December 31, | | | | | Six Months Ended June 30, | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|---------------------------|------|
| | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2015 | 2014 |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges | 7.9 | 7.6 | 6.3 | 5.1 | 3.1 | 9.7 | 9.0 |

Table of Contents

Description of Securities

This prospectus contains a summary of the securities that the Company or certain selling securityholders may sell. These summaries are not meant to be a complete description of each security. However, this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement contain the material terms of the securities being offered.

Description of Capital Stock

The following description is based upon our restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated by-laws and applicable provisions of law. We have summarized certain portions of the restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws below. The summary is not complete. The restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws are incorporated by reference into this prospectus in their entirety. You should read the restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated by-laws for the provisions that are important to you.

The Company's authorized capital stock consists of 1,600,000,000 shares of common stock and 6,000,000 shares of preferred stock. As of July 24, 2015, there were 529,992,560 shares of common stock issued and outstanding. No shares of preferred stock were issued or outstanding as of July 24, 2015.

Common Stock

Voting Rights. Each holder of common stock is entitled to one vote for each share held on all matters to be voted upon by stockholders.

Dividends. The holders of common stock, after any preferences of holders of any preferred stock, are entitled to receive dividends when and if declared by the board of directors out of legally available funds.

Liquidation and Dissolution. If the Company is liquidated or dissolved, the holders of the common stock will be entitled to share in the assets of the Company available for distribution to stockholders in proportion to the amount of common stock they own. The amount available for common stockholders is calculated after payment of liabilities. Holders of any preferred stock will receive their preferential share of the assets of the Company before the holders of the common stock receive any assets.

Other rights. Holders of the common stock have no right to:

convert the stock into any other security;

have the stock redeemed; or

purchase additional stock or to maintain their proportionate ownership interest

The common stock does not have cumulative voting rights. Holders of shares of the common stock are not required to make additional capital contributions.

Directors Liability

Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that a member of the board of directors will not be personally liable to the Company or its stockholders for monetary damages for breaches of their legal duties to the Company or its stockholders as a director, except for liability:

for any breach of the director's legal duty to act in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders;

for acts or omissions by the director with dishonest intentions or which involve intentional misconduct or an intentional violation of the law;

for declaring dividends or authorizing the purchase or redemption of shares in violation of Delaware law; or

Table of Contents

for transactions where the director derived an improper personal benefit. Our restated certificate of incorporation also allows us to indemnify directors and officers to the fullest extent authorized by Delaware law.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association is transfer agent and registrar for the common stock.

Provisions of the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amended and Restated By-laws and Delaware Law That May Have Anti-Takeover Effects

Stockholder Nomination of Directors. The Company's amended and restated by-laws provide that a stockholder must notify the Company in writing of any stockholder nomination of a director not earlier than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the 120th day and not later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the 90th day prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting; provided, that if the date of the annual meeting is advanced or delayed by more than 30 days from such anniversary date, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be so delivered not earlier than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the 120th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and not later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the later of (x) the 90th day prior to the date of such annual meeting and (y) the 10th day following the day on which public announcement of the date of such annual meeting is first made by the Company.

No Action By Written Consent. Our restated certificate of incorporation provides that stockholders of the Company may not act by written consent and may only act at duly called meetings of stockholders.

10% Stockholder Provision. Article Eighth of our restated certificate of incorporation changes the voting requirements for stockholders to approve certain transactions involving, or proposed by or on behalf of, a 10% stockholder or an affiliate or associate of a 10% stockholder. Business combinations are an example of the type of transaction addressed. These transactions must be approved by the holders of a majority of the Company's outstanding voting power, voting together as a single class. Any voting stock owned by a 10% stockholder is not counted in the vote. These transactions, however, can also be approved by a majority of unbiased directors. In that case, the voting requirements of Delaware law, our restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated by-laws that otherwise apply would govern the vote. Article Eighth does not affect the voting requirements of holders of preferred stock, if any, which arise under Delaware law and the restated certificate of incorporation.

Transactions covered by Article Eighth include:

mergers of the Company or any of its subsidiaries with a 10% stockholder,
sales of all or any substantial part of the assets of the Company and its subsidiaries to a 10% stockholder,
sales of all or any substantial part of the assets of a 10% stockholder to the Company,
the issuance or delivery of securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries to a 10% stockholder, or of securities of a 10% stockholder to the Company,
any substantial loan, advance or guarantee, pledge or other financial assistance provided by the Company or any of its subsidiaries to a 10% stockholder,
the adoption of a plan for the voluntary dissolution or liquidation of the Company or amendment to the Company's amended and restated by-laws,
any reclassification of securities or recapitalization of the Company or other transaction which increases a 10% stockholder's proportionate share of any class of the Company's capital stock, or

any agreement or other arrangement to do any of the foregoing.

A 10% stockholder is described in Article Eighth as an Interested Stockholder. A 10% stockholder is generally considered to be any other corporation, person or entity which:

Table of Contents

beneficially owns or controls, directly or indirectly, 10% or more of the voting stock of the Company or has announced a plan or intention to acquire such securities, or is an affiliate or associate of the Company and at any time within two years prior to the date in question was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting stock of the Company.

The following are not considered to be 10% stockholders:

the Company and any of its subsidiaries, and any profit-sharing, employee stock ownership or other employee benefit plan of the Company or any subsidiary, or trustees or fiduciaries for these plans.

An unbiased director is described in Article Eighth as a Disinterested Director. An unbiased director is generally considered to be a director who:

is not related to a 10% stockholder, and was a member of the board of directors prior to the time that the relevant 10% stockholder became a 10% stockholder, or is a successor to an unbiased director, who is not related to a 10% stockholder and was nominated by a majority of unbiased directors.

A director is considered related to a 10% stockholder if he is an affiliate, associate, representative, agent or employee of the 10% stockholder.

Any proposal by a 10% stockholder, or by an affiliate or associate of a 10% stockholder, to change or repeal all or any part of Article Eighth requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Company's outstanding voting power, voting together as a single class. Any voting stock owned by a 10% stockholder will not be counted in the vote. However, if a majority of unbiased directors recommends a change in Article Eighth, the standard voting requirements of Delaware law, our restated certificate of incorporation and our amended and restated by-laws that otherwise apply will govern the vote.

Delaware Business Combination Statute. Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the DGCL), is applicable to the Company. Section 203 of the DGCL restricts some types of transactions and business combinations between a corporation and a 15% stockholder. A 15% stockholder is generally considered by Section 203 to be a person owning 15% or more of the corporation's outstanding voting stock. Section 203 refers to a 15% stockholder as an interested stockholder. Section 203 restricts these transactions for a period of three years from the date the stockholder acquires 15% or more of the Company's outstanding voting stock. With some exceptions, unless the transaction is approved by the board of directors and the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation, Section 203 prohibits significant business transactions such as:

a merger with, disposition of significant assets to or receipt of disproportionate financial benefits by the interested stockholder, and any other transaction that would increase the interested stockholder's proportionate ownership of any class or series of the Company's capital stock.

The shares held by the interested stockholder are not counted as outstanding when calculating the two-thirds of the outstanding voting stock needed for approval.

The prohibition against these transactions does not apply if:

prior to the time that any stockholder became an interested stockholder, the board of directors approved either the business combination or the transaction in which such stockholder acquired 15% or more of the Company's outstanding voting stock, or
the interested stockholder owns at least 85% of the outstanding voting stock of the Company as a result of the transaction in which such stockholder acquired 15% or more of the Company's outstanding voting

Table of Contents

stock. Shares held by persons who are both directors and officers or by some types of employee stock plans are not counted as outstanding when making this calculation.

Listing. Our common stock is listed on the New York and Chicago Stock Exchanges under the trading symbol MMC and on the London Stock Exchange under the trading symbol MHM.

Preferred Stock

General. The Company is authorized to issue 6,000,000 shares of preferred stock. No shares of preferred stock are currently issued or outstanding. The board of directors of the Company may, without stockholder approval, issue shares of preferred stock. The board of directors can issue more than one series of preferred stock. The board of directors has the right to fix the number of shares, dividend rights, conversion rights, voting rights, redemption rights, sinking fund provisions, liquidation preferences and any other rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions applicable to the preferred stock it decides to issue.

Voting Rights. The DGCL provides that the holders of preferred stock will have the right to vote separately as a class on any proposal involving fundamental changes in the rights of holders of such preferred stock.

Conversion or Exchange. If we offer preferred stock, the applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms, if any, on which the preferred stock may be convertible into or exchangeable for common stock, debt securities or other preferred stock of the Company. These terms will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at the option of the Company. These provisions may allow or require the number of shares of common stock or other securities of the Company to be received by the holders of preferred stock to be adjusted.

Depository Shares Representing Preferred Stock

The applicable prospectus supplement will include a description of the material terms of any depository shares representing preferred stock offered hereby.

Description of Debt Securities

The debt securities will be our direct unsecured general obligations. The debt securities will be either senior debt securities or subordinated debt securities. The debt securities will be issued under one or more separate indentures between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. Senior debt securities will be issued under a senior indenture between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, which we refer to as the senior indenture. Subordinated debt securities will be issued under a subordinated indenture to be executed between us and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee, which we refer to as the subordinated indenture. Together the senior indenture and the subordinated indenture are called the indentures.

We have summarized all of the material provisions of the indentures below. The senior indenture and subordinated indenture have been filed as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and you should read the indentures for provisions that may be important to you. In the summary below, we have included references to section numbers of the indentures so that you can easily locate these provisions.

Table of Contents

General

The debt securities will be our direct unsecured general obligations. The senior debt securities will rank equally with all of our other senior and unsubordinated debt. The subordinated debt securities will have a junior position to all of our senior debt.

Because we are a holding company that conducts all of its operations through subsidiaries, holders of the debt securities will have a junior position to claims of creditors of our subsidiaries, including trade creditors, debt holders, secured creditors, taxing authorities, guarantee holders and any preferred stockholders.

The provisions of each indenture allow us to reopen a previous issue of a series of debt securities and issue additional debt securities of that series.

A prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities being offered will include specific terms relating to the offering. The terms will be established in an officers' certificate or a supplemental indenture. The officers' certificate or supplemental indenture will be signed at the time of issuance and will contain important information. The officers' certificate or supplemental indenture will be filed as an exhibit to a Current Report on Form 8-K of the Company, which will be publicly available. The officers' certificate or supplemental indenture will include some or all of the following terms for a particular series of debt securities:

- the title of the securities;
- any limit on the amount that may be issued;
- whether or not the debt securities will be issued in global form and who the depositary will be;
- the maturity date(s);
- the interest rate or the method of computing the interest rate;
- the date or dates from which interest will accrue, or how such date or dates will be determined, and the interest payment date or dates and any related record dates;
- the place(s) where payments will be made;
- the Company's right, if any, to defer payment of interest and the maximum length of any deferral period;
- the terms and conditions on which the debt securities may be redeemed at the option of the Company;
- the date(s), if any, on which, and the price(s) at which the Company is obligated to redeem, or at the holder's option to purchase, such series of debt securities and other related terms and provisions;
- any provisions granting special rights to holders when a specified event occurs;
- any changes to or additional events of default or covenants;
- any special tax implications of the debt securities;
- the denominations in which the debt securities will be issued, if other than denominations of \$1,000 and whole multiples of \$1,000;
- the subordination terms of any subordinated debt securities; and
- any other terms that are not inconsistent with the indenture. (section 2.01)

Fixed Rate Debt Securities

Each fixed rate debt security will mature on the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Each fixed rate debt security will bear interest from the date of issuance at the annual rate stated on its face until the principal is paid or made available for payment. Interest on fixed rate debt securities will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. Interest on fixed rate debt securities will accrue from and including the most

recent interest payment date in respect of which interest has been paid or duly provided for, or, if no interest has been paid or duly provided for, from and including the issue date or any other date specified in a prospectus supplement on which interest begins to accrue. Interest will accrue to but excluding the next interest payment date, or, if earlier, the date of maturity or earlier redemption or repayment, as the case may be.

Table of Contents

Payments of interest on fixed rate debt securities will be made on the interest payment dates specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. However, if the first interest payment date is less than 15 days after the date of issuance, interest will not be paid on the first interest payment date, but will be paid on the second interest payment date.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, if any scheduled interest payment date, maturity date or date of redemption or repayment is not a business day, then we may pay the applicable interest, principal and premium, if any, on the next succeeding business day, and no additional interest will accrue during the period from and after the scheduled interest payment date, maturity date or date of redemption or repayment. (section 13.07)

A fixed rate debt security may pay a level amount in respect of both interest and principal amortized over the life of the debt security. Payments of principal and interest on amortizing debt securities will be made on the interest payment dates specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, and at maturity or upon any earlier redemption or repayment. Payments on amortizing debt securities will be applied first to interest due and payable and then to the reduction of the unpaid principal amount. We will provide to the original purchaser, and will furnish to subsequent holders upon request to us, a table setting forth repayment information for each amortizing debt security.

Floating Rate Debt Securities

Each floating rate debt security will mature on the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each floating rate debt security will bear interest at LIBOR plus a margin to be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. A floating rate debt security may also have either or both of the following limitations on the interest rate:

- a maximum limitation, or ceiling, on the rate of interest which may accrue during any interest period, which we refer to as the maximum interest rate ; and/or
- a minimum limitation, or floor, on the rate of interest that may accrue during any interest period, which we refer to as the minimum interest rate.

Any applicable maximum interest rate or minimum interest rate will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Interest on floating rate debt securities will accrue from and including the most recent interest payment date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, or, if no interest has been paid or duly provided for, from and including the issue date or any other date specified in a prospectus supplement on which interest begins to accrue. Interest will accrue to but excluding the next interest payment date, or, if earlier, the date on which the principal has been paid or duly made available for payment, except as described below.

The interest rate in effect from the date of issue to the first interest reset date for a floating rate debt security will be the initial interest rate specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. We refer to this rate as the initial interest rate. The interest rate on each floating rate debt security may be reset daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually. This period is the interest reset period and the first day of each interest reset period is the interest reset date. The interest determination date for any interest reset date is the day the calculation agent will refer to when determining the new interest rate at which a floating rate will reset.

LIBOR for each interest reset date, other than for the initial interest rate, will be determined by the calculation agent as follows:

Table of Contents

- i. LIBOR will be the offered rate for deposits in U.S. dollars for the three month period which appears on Telerate Page 3750 at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, two London banking days prior to the applicable interest reset date.
- ii. If this rate does not appear on the Telerate Page 3750, the calculation agent will determine the rate on the basis of the rates at which deposits in U.S. dollars are offered by four major banks in the London interbank market (selected by the calculation agent after consulting with us) at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, two London banking days prior to the applicable interest reset date to prime banks in the London interbank market for a period of three months commencing on that interest reset date and in principal amount equal to an amount not less than \$1,000,000 that is representative for a single transaction in such market at such time. In such case, the calculation agent will request the principal London office of each of the aforesaid major banks to provide a quotation of such rate. If at least two such quotations are provided, LIBOR for that interest reset date will be the average of the quotations. If fewer than two quotations are provided as requested, LIBOR for that interest reset date will be the average of the rates quoted by three major banks in New York, New York (selected by the calculation agent after consulting with us) at approximately 11:00 a.m., New York time, two London banking days prior to the applicable interest reset date for loans in U.S. dollars to leading banks for a period of three months commencing on that interest reset date and in a principal amount equal to an amount not less than \$1,000,000 that is representative for a single transaction in such market at such time; provided that if fewer than three quotations are provided as requested, for the period until the next interest reset date, LIBOR will be the same as the rate determined on the immediately preceding interest reset date.

The interest reset dates will be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. If an interest reset date for any floating rate debt security falls on a day that is not a business day, it will be postponed to the following business day, except that, if that business day is in the next calendar month, the interest reset date will be the immediately preceding business day.

A London banking day is any day in which dealings in U.S. dollar deposits are transacted in the London interbank market. Telerate Page 3750 means the display page so designated on the Telerate Service for the purpose of displaying London interbank offered rates of major banks (or any successor page).

The applicable prospectus supplement will specify a calculation agent for any issue of floating rate debt securities. The calculation agent will, upon the request of the holder of any floating rate debt security, provide the interest rate then in effect. All calculations made by the calculation agent in the absence of willful misconduct, bad faith or manifest error shall be conclusive for all purposes and binding on us and the holders of the floating rate debt securities. We may appoint a successor calculation agent at any time at our discretion and without notice.

All percentages resulting from any calculation of the interest rate with respect to the floating rate debt securities will be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one-hundred thousandth of a percentage point, with five one-millionths of a percentage point rounded upward (e.g., 9.876545% (or .09876545) would be rounded to 9.87655% (or .0987655) and 9.876544% (or .09876544) would be rounded to 9.87654% (or .0987654)), and all dollar amounts in or resulting from any such calculation will be rounded to the nearest cent (with one-half cent being rounded upward).

Interest on the floating rate debt securities will be computed and paid on the basis of a 360-day year and the actual number of days in each interest payment period. The interest rate on the floating rate debt securities will in no event be higher than the maximum rate permitted by New York law, as the same may be modified by United States law of general application.

We will pay interest on floating rate debt securities on the interest payment dates specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. However, if the first interest payment date is less than 15 days after the date of issuance, interest will not be paid on the first interest payment date, but will be paid on the second interest payment date. If

Table of Contents

any scheduled interest payment date, other than the maturity date or any earlier redemption or repayment date, for any floating rate debt security falls on a day that is not a business day, it will be postponed to the following business day, except that if that business day would fall in the next calendar month, the interest payment date will be the immediately preceding business day. If the scheduled maturity date or any earlier redemption or repayment date of a floating rate debt security falls on a day that is not a business day, the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest, if any, will be made on the next succeeding business day, but interest on that payment will not accrue during the period from and after the maturity, redemption or repayment date.

Conversion or Exchange Rights

The prospectus supplement will describe the terms, if any, on which a series of debt securities may be convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock, preferred stock, debt securities or other securities, or securities of third parties. These terms will include provisions as to whether conversion or exchange is mandatory, at the option of the holder or at the option of the Company. These provisions may allow or require adjustment of the number of shares of common stock or other securities of the Company to be received by the holders of such series of debt securities. (section 2.01)

Optional Redemption

Unless the prospectus supplement relating to any series of debt securities provides otherwise with respect to such series, each series of debt securities will be redeemable in whole at any time or in part from time to time, at our option, at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

100% of the principal amount of the series of debt securities to be redeemed; or
the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest on the series of debt securities to be redeemed (exclusive of interest accrued to the date of redemption) discounted to the date of redemption on a semiannual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the then current Treasury Rate plus a spread as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.

In each case we will pay accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount to be redeemed to the date of redemption.

Comparable Treasury Issue means the United States Treasury security selected by the Independent Investment Banker as having a maturity comparable to the remaining term (**Remaining Life**) of the series of debt securities to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of such series of debt securities.

Comparable Treasury Price means, with respect to any redemption date, (1) the average of the Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Independent Investment Banker obtains fewer than four such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

Independent Investment Banker means the investment banking institution or institutions specified in the applicable prospectus supplement and their respective successors, or, if such firms or the successors, if any, to such firm or firms, as the case may be, are unwilling or unable to select the Comparable Treasury Issue, an independent investment banking institution of national standing appointed by us.

Reference Treasury Dealer means the investment banking institutions specified as such in the applicable prospectus supplement; provided, however, that if any of them ceases to be a primary U.S. Government securities dealers (each a Primary Treasury Dealer), we will substitute another Primary Treasury Dealer.

Table of Contents

Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker by such Reference Treasury Dealer at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

Treasury Rate means, with respect to any redemption date, the rate per year equal to:

- i. the yield, under the heading which represents the average for the immediately preceding week, appearing in the most recently published statistical release designated H.15(519) or any successor publication which is published weekly by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and which establishes yields on actively traded United States Treasury securities adjusted to constant maturity under the caption Treasury Constant Maturities, for the maturity corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue; provided that, if no maturity is within three months before or after the remaining life of the series of debt securities to be redeemed, yields for the two published maturities most closely corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue shall be determined and the Treasury Rate shall be interpolated or extrapolated from those yields on a straight line basis, rounding to the nearest month; or
- ii. if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per year equal to the semiannual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date.

The Treasury Rate will be calculated on the third business day preceding the redemption date. As used in the immediately preceding sentence and in the definition of Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations above, the term business day means any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which commercial banks in New York City are authorized or required by law to remain closed.

Notice of any redemption will be mailed at least 30 but not more than 90 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of the series of debt securities to be redeemed at its registered address. The notice of redemption will state, among other things, the amount of the series of debt securities to be redeemed, the redemption date, the manner in which the redemption price will be calculated and the place or places that payment will be made upon presentation and surrender of the series of debt securities to be redeemed. If less than all of a series of debt securities are to be redeemed at our option, the trustee will select, in a manner it deems fair and appropriate, the debt securities of that series, or portions of the debt securities of that series, to be redeemed. Unless we default in the payment of the redemption price with respect to any debt securities called for redemption, interest will cease to accrue on such debt securities at the redemption date. (sections 3.02 and 3.03)

The Company will not be required (i) to issue, register the transfer of or exchange any series of debt securities during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing, or (ii) to register the transfer of or exchange any debt securities of any series so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of any such series of debt securities being redeemed in part. (section 2.05)

Covenants

Under the indentures, the Company agrees to pay the interest, principal and any premium on the debt securities when due (section 4.01), and to maintain a place of payment (section 4.02). In addition, we must comply with the covenants described below:

Limitation on Liens on Stock of our Significant Subsidiaries. The indentures prohibit us and our subsidiaries from directly or indirectly creating, assuming, incurring or permitting to exist any Indebtedness secured by any lien

Table of Contents

on the voting stock or voting equity interest of Marsh Inc. or Mercer Inc. (each a Significant Subsidiary) unless the debt securities then outstanding (and, if we so elect, any other Indebtedness of the Company that is not subordinate to such debt securities and with respect to which we are obligated to provide such security) are secured equally and ratably with such Indebtedness for so long as such Indebtedness is so secured. Indebtedness is defined as the principal of and any premium and interest due on indebtedness of a person (as defined in the indentures), whether outstanding on the original date of issuance of a series of debt securities or thereafter created, incurred or assumed, which is (a) indebtedness for money borrowed, and (b) any amendments, renewals, extensions, modifications and refundings of any such indebtedness. For the purposes of this definition, indebtedness for money borrowed means (1) any obligation of, or any obligation guaranteed by, such person for the repayment of borrowed money, whether or not evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other written instruments, (2) any obligation of, or any obligation guaranteed by, such person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or similar written instruments, including obligations assumed or incurred in connection with the acquisition of property, assets or businesses (provided, however, that the deferred purchase price of any business or property or assets shall not be considered Indebtedness if the purchase price thereof is payable in full within 90 days from the date on which such indebtedness was created), and (3) any obligations of such person as lessee under leases required to be capitalized on the balance sheet of the lessee under generally accepted accounting principles and leases of property or assets made as part of any sale and lease-back transaction to which such person is a party. For purposes of this covenant only, Indebtedness also includes any obligation of, or any obligation guaranteed by, any person for the payment of amounts due under a swap agreement or similar instrument or agreement, or under a foreign currency hedge or similar instrument or agreement. If we are required to secure outstanding debt securities equally and ratably with other Indebtedness under this covenant, we will be required to document our compliance with the covenant and thereafter the trustee will be authorized to enter into a supplemental agreement or indenture and to take such action as it may deem advisable to enable it to enforce the rights of the holders of the outstanding debt securities so secured. (section 4.06)

Provision of Compliance Certificate. We are required under the indentures to deliver to the trustee within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year an officer's certificate certifying as to our compliance with all conditions and covenants under the relevant indenture, or if we are not in compliance, identifying and describing the nature and status of such non-compliance. (section 4.08)

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

The indentures do not restrict the ability of the Company to merge or consolidate, or sell, convey, transfer or lease all or substantially all of its assets as long as certain conditions are met. We may only merge or consolidate with, or convey, transfer or lease all of our assets to, any person, if doing so will not result in an event of default. Any such successor, acquiror or lessor of such assets must expressly assume all of the obligations of the Company under the indentures and the debt securities and will succeed to every right and power of the Company under the indentures. Thereafter, except in the case of a lease, the predecessor or transferor of such assets will be relieved of all obligations and covenants under the relevant indenture and debt securities. (sections 10.01 and 10.02)

Events of Default Under the Indentures

The following are events of default under the indentures with respect to any series of debt securities issued:

we fail to pay interest when due and such failure continues for 90 days, unless the time for payment has been properly extended or deferred in accordance with the terms of the particular series;

we fail to pay the principal or any premium when due, unless the maturity has been properly extended in accordance with the terms of the particular series;

we fail to observe or perform any other covenant or agreement contained in the debt securities or the indentures, other than a covenant or agreement specifically relating to another series of debt securities, and such failure continues for 90 days after we receive a notice of default from the trustee or from the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all of the affected series;

Table of Contents

certain events of bankruptcy or insolvency, whether voluntary or not; and
any additional events of default that may be established with respect to a particular series of debt securities under the indentures, as may be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. (section 6.01)

If, with regard to any series, an event of default resulting from a failure to pay principal, any premium or interest occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of that series may declare the principal of all debt securities of that series immediately due and payable. (section 6.01)

If an event of default other than a failure to pay principal, any premium or interest occurs and is continuing, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all affected series (all such series voting together as a single class) may declare the principal of all debt securities of such affected series immediately due and payable. (section 6.01)

The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all affected series (voting together as a single class) may waive any past default with respect to such series and its consequences, except a default or events of default regarding payment of principal, any premium or interest, in which case the holders of the outstanding debt securities of each affected series shall vote to waive such default or event of default as a separate class. Such a waiver will eliminate the default. (section 6.06)

Unless otherwise specified in the indentures, if an event of default occurs and is continuing, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the relevant indenture unless the holders of the debt securities have offered the trustee reasonable indemnity satisfactory to the trustee against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur. The holders of a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series affected by an event of default, voting together as a single class, or, in the event of a default in the payment of principal, any premium or interest, the holders of a majority of the principal amount outstanding of each affected series voting as a separate class, will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee with respect to the debt securities of such series, provided that:

such direction is not in conflict with any law or the applicable indenture or unduly prejudicial to the rights of holders of any other series of debt securities outstanding under the applicable indenture; and
unless otherwise provided under the Trust Indenture Act, the trustee need not take any action that might involve it in personal liability. (section 6.06)

A holder of the debt securities of a particular series will only have the right to institute a proceeding under the indentures or to appoint a receiver or trustee, or to seek other remedies, in each case with respect to such series of debt securities, if:

the holder has given written notice to the trustee of a continuing event of default;
in the case of an event of default relating to the payment of principal, any premium or interest, the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of the particular series have made written request to the trustee to institute proceedings as trustee;
in the case of an event of default not relating to payment of principal, any premium or interest, the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series affected by such event of default (voting together as a single class) have made written request to the trustee to institute

proceedings as trustee;
such holders have offered the trustee such reasonable indemnity as the trustee may require to cover the cost of the proceedings; and
the trustee does not institute a proceeding, and does not receive conflicting directions from a majority in principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of (i) the particular series, in the case of an event of default relating to the payment of principal, any premium or interest or (ii) all affected series, in the case of

Table of Contents

an event of default not relating to the payment of principal, any premium or interest, in each case, within 60 days of receiving the written notice of an event of default. (section 6.04)

Modification of Indenture; Waiver

Without the consent of any holders of debt securities, the Company and the trustee may change an indenture:

- to fix any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency in the indenture;
- to effect the assumption of a successor corporation of our obligations under such indenture and the outstanding debt securities;
- to add to our covenants for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities under such indenture or surrender any right or power we have under such indenture;
- to change anything that does not materially adversely affect the interests of any holder of debt securities of any series; and
- to effect certain other limited purposes described in the indenture. (section 9.01)

The rights of holders of a series of debt securities may be changed by the Company and the trustee with the written consent of the holders of a majority of the principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of all series then outstanding under the relevant indenture (all such series voting together as a single class). However, the following changes may only be made with the consent of each holder of debt securities of each series affected by the change:

- extending the fixed maturity;
- reducing the principal amount;
- reducing the rate of or extending the time of payment of interest;
- reducing any premium payable upon redemption;
- reducing the percentage of debt securities referred to above, the holders of which are required to consent to any amendment; or
- in respect of the subordinated indenture, making any change to the subordination terms of any debt security that would adversely affect the holders of the debt securities of that series. (section 9.02)

Form, Exchange, and Transfer

The debt securities of each series will be issued only in fully registered form without coupons in denominations of \$1,000 and whole multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof. The indentures provide that debt securities of a series may be issued in temporary or permanent global form and may be issued as book-entry securities that will be deposited with The Depository Trust Company or another depository named by the Company and identified in a prospectus supplement with respect to such series. (sections 2.03, 2.06 and 2.11)

A holder of debt securities of any series can exchange such debt securities for other debt securities of the same series, in any authorized denomination and with the same terms and aggregate principal amount. A holder may present debt securities for exchange or for registration of transfer at the office of the security registrar or at the office of any transfer agent designated by the Company for such purpose. Unless otherwise provided in the debt securities to be transferred or exchanged, no service charge will be made for any registration of transfer or exchange, but the Company may require payment of any related taxes or other governmental charges. The prospectus supplement will name the security registrar and any transfer agent initially designated for any series of debt securities. The Company may at any time change the transfer agent by written notice delivered to the trustee. (section 2.05)

Table of Contents

If the debt securities of any series are to be redeemed, the Company will not be required to:

issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any debt securities of that series during a period beginning 15 days before the day of mailing of a notice of redemption and ending at the close of business on the day of mailing;
or
register the transfer of or exchange any debt securities of a series, or a portion of a series, that has been called for redemption. (section 2.05)

Rights and Duties of the Trustee

The trustee, except when there is an event of default, will perform only those duties as are specifically stated in the indentures. If an event of default has occurred with respect to any series of debt securities, the trustee must exercise with respect to such debt securities the rights and powers it has under the indenture and use the same degree of care and skill as a prudent person would exercise or use in the conduct of his or her own affairs. Except as provided in the preceding sentence, the trustee is not required to exercise any of the powers given it by the indentures at the request of any holder of debt securities unless it is offered reasonable security or indemnity satisfactory to it against the costs, expenses and liabilities that it might incur. The trustee is not required to spend or risk its own money or otherwise become financially liable while performing its duties or exercising its rights or powers unless it reasonably believes that it will be repaid or receive adequate indemnity. The trustee will not be deemed to have any notice of any default or event of default unless a responsible officer of the trustee has actual knowledge of or receives written notice of the default which specifies the affected securities and the relevant indenture. Furthermore, the rights and protections of the trustee, including its right of indemnification under the indentures, extend to the trustee's officers, directors, agents and employees, and will survive the trustee's resignation and removal. (sections 7.01 and 7.02)

Payment and Paying Agents

We will pay interest on any debt securities to the person in whose name the debt securities are registered on the regular record date for the applicable interest payment date. (section 2.03)

We will pay principal, any premium and interest on the debt securities of a particular series at the office of one or more paying agents that we designate for that series. Unless otherwise stated in the applicable supplemental indenture and prospectus supplement, we will initially designate the corporate trust office of the trustee in the City of New York as our sole paying agent. We will be required to maintain a paying agent in each place of payment for the debt securities. (sections 4.01, 4.02 and 4.03)

All money we pay to a paying agent or the trustee for the payment of principal, any premium or interest on any debt security which remains unclaimed for a period of two years after the principal, premium or interest has become due and payable will, upon our request, be repaid to us, and the holder of the debt security may then look only to us for payment of those amounts. (section 11.05)

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of New York. (section 13.05)

Subordination of Subordinated Debt Securities

The subordinated debt securities will be unsecured and will be subordinate and junior in priority of payment to our other indebtedness on the terms described in the prospectus supplement relating to such securities. The

Table of Contents

subordinated indenture does not limit the amount of subordinated debt securities which we may issue, nor does it limit our ability to issue any other secured or unsecured debt. (sections 6.03 and 14.01)

The prospectus supplement relating to any series of subordinated debt securities will disclose the amount of debt of the Company that will be senior to those subordinated debt securities.

Description of Warrants

The applicable prospectus supplement will include a description of the material terms of any warrants offered hereby.

Description of Purchase Contracts

The applicable prospectus supplement will include a description of the material terms of any purchase contracts offered hereby.

Description of Units

The applicable prospectus supplement will include a description of the material terms of any units offered hereby.

Table of Contents

Plan of Distribution

The Company and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, may sell the securities in one or more of the following ways (or in any combination) from time to time:

- through underwriters or dealers;
- directly to a limited number of purchasers or to a single purchaser;
- through agents;
- through a combination of any such methods; or
- through any other methods described in a prospectus supplement.

The applicable prospectus supplement will state the terms of the offering of the securities, including:

- the name or names of any underwriters, dealers or agents;
- the purchase price of such securities and the proceeds to be received by the Company, if any;
- any initial public offering price;
- any underwriting discounts or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation;
- any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers; and
- any securities exchanges on which the securities may be listed.

Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

If we and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, use underwriters in the sale, the securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including:

- negotiated transactions;
- at a fixed public offering price or prices, which may be changed;
- at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;
- at prices related to prevailing market prices; or
- at negotiated prices.

Unless otherwise stated in a prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase any securities will be conditioned on customary closing conditions and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all securities of a series, if any are purchased.

We and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, may sell the securities through agents from time to time. The prospectus supplement will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of the securities and any commissions we pay to them. Generally, any agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

We and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, may authorize underwriters, dealers or agents to solicit offers by certain purchasers to purchase the securities from the Company and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, at the public offering price set forth in the prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on a specified date in the future. The contracts will be subject only to those conditions set forth in the prospectus supplement, and the prospectus supplement will set forth any commissions paid for solicitation of

these contracts.

Underwriters and agents may be entitled under agreements entered into with the Company and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, to indemnification by the Company and/or the selling securityholders, if applicable, against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or to contribution with respect to payments which the underwriters or agents may be required to make. Underwriters and agents may

Table of Contents

be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for the Company and its affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

Each series of securities will be a new issue of securities and will have no established trading market other than the common stock, which is listed on the New York, Chicago and London Stock Exchanges. Any underwriters to whom securities are sold for public offering and sale may make a market in the securities, but such underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market making at any time without notice. The securities, other than the common stock, may or may not be listed on a national securities exchange.

Where You Can Find More Information

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any document that we file at the Public Reference Room of the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, the SEC maintains an Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>, from which interested persons can electronically access our SEC filings, including the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part and the exhibits and schedules thereto.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference in this prospectus certain documents we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is an important part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below, which are all filings we have made pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), as of the date of the filing of the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, including information specifically incorporated by reference therein from our Proxy Statement for the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders;

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarterly periods ended March 31, 2015 and June 30, 2015; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on March 6, 2015, March 19, 2015, May 7, 2015 and May 26, 2015.

With respect to each offering of securities under this prospectus, we also incorporate by reference all documents subsequently filed with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act prior to the termination of the offerings of all of the securities covered by this prospectus.

The Company will provide without charge, upon written or oral request, a copy of any or all of the documents which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus. Requests should be directed to Investor Relations, Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., 1166 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036-2774 (telephone number (212) 345-5000).

Table of Contents

Information Concerning Forward-Looking Statements

This prospectus and documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus contain forward-looking statements, as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements, which express management's current views concerning future events or results, use words like anticipate, assume, believe, continue, estimate, expect, future, intend, plan, project and similar terms, and future or conditional tense verbs like could, may, should, will and would. For example, we may use forward-looking statements when addressing topics such as: the outcome of contingencies; the expected impact of acquisitions and dispositions; the impact of competition; pension obligations; the impact of foreign currency exchange rates; our effective tax rates; changes in our business strategies and methods of generating revenue; the development and performance of our services and products; changes in the composition or level of our revenues; our cost structure, dividend policy, cash flow and liquidity; future actions by regulators; and the impact of changes in accounting rules.

Forward-looking statements are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in our forward-looking statements include, among other things:

- our ability to maintain adequate safeguards to protect the security of confidential, personal or proprietary information, and the potential for the improper disclosure or use of such information, whether due to human error, improper action by employees, vendors or third parties, or as a result of a cyberattack;
- the impact of competition on our business, including the impact of our corporate tax rate, which is higher than the tax rate of our international competitors;
- the impact of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, particularly in light of the recent strengthening of the U.S. dollar against most other currencies worldwide;
- the impact on our global pension obligations of changes in discount rates and asset returns, as well as projected salary increases, mortality rates, demographics, and inflation, and the impact of cash contributions required to be made to our global defined benefit pension plans due to changes in the funded status of those plans;
- our exposure to potential liabilities arising from errors and omissions claims against us;
- our exposure to potential civil remedies or criminal penalties if we fail to comply with foreign and U.S. laws that are applicable in the domestic and international jurisdictions in which we operate;
- the extent to which we are able to retain existing clients and attract new business, and our ability to effectively incentivize and retain key employees;
- our ability to make acquisitions and dispositions and to integrate, and realize expected synergies, savings or benefits from, the businesses we acquire;
- our ability to successfully recover should we experience a disaster or other business continuity problem;
- the impact of changes in interest rates and deterioration of counterparty credit quality on our cash balances and the performance of our investment portfolios;
- the impact of potential rating agency actions on our cost of financing and ability to borrow, as well as on our operating costs and competitive position;
- changes in applicable tax or accounting requirements; and
- potential income statement effects from the application of FASB's ASC Topic No. 740 (Income Taxes) regarding accounting treatment of uncertain tax benefits and valuation allowances, including the effect of any subsequent adjustments to the estimates we use in applying this accounting standard.

The factors identified above are not exhaustive. The Company and its subsidiaries operate in a dynamic business environment in which new risks may emerge frequently. Accordingly, we caution readers not to place undue reliance

Table of Contents

on any forward-looking statements, which are based only on information currently available to us and speak only as of the dates on which they are made. The Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances arising after the date on which it is made. Further information concerning the Company and its businesses, including information about factors that could materially affect our results of operations and financial condition, is contained in the Company's filings with the SEC, including the Risk Factors section and the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section of our most recently filed Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Legal Opinions

The validity of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered will be passed on for us by Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, New York, New York.

Experts

The consolidated financial statements, incorporated in this Prospectus by reference from the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, and the effectiveness of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

Table of Contents

Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.

\$500,000,000 2.750% Senior Notes due 2022

\$500,000,000 4.350% Senior Notes due 2047

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

January 9, 2017

Joint Book-Running Managers

**BofA Merrill Lynch
J.P. Morgan
ANZ Securities**

**Deutsche Bank Securities
Morgan Stanley
US Bancorp**

Co-Managers

**BNP PARIBAS
GC Securities**

**BNY Mellon Capital Markets, LLC
MUFG**

**Scotiabank
TD Securities**

**The Williams Capital Group, L.P.
Wells Fargo Securities**

