

BIOGEN INC.
Form 424B2
September 10, 2015
Table of Contents

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities, and we are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2)
Registration No. 333-206799**

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

Prospectus Supplement

(To Prospectus Dated September 8, 2015)

\$ % Senior Notes due 20
\$ % Senior Notes due 20
\$ % Senior Notes due 20
\$ % Senior Notes due 20

We are offering an aggregate of \$ of our % Senior Notes due , 20 , which we refer to as the notes due 20 , an aggregate of \$ of our % Senior Notes due , 20 , which we refer to as the notes due 20 , an aggregate of \$ of our % Senior Notes due , 20 , which we refer to as the notes due 20 and an aggregate of \$ of our % Senior Notes due , 20 , which we refer to as the notes due 20 . We refer to the notes due 20 , the notes due 20 , the notes due 20 and the notes due 20 collectively as the notes. Interest on the notes is payable on and of each year, beginning on , 2016.

The notes will be senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with our other existing and future senior unsecured obligations that are not, by their terms, expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes, and senior in right of payment to any of our future subordinated indebtedness. The notes will be issued only in registered form in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

We may redeem the notes of any series in whole or in part at any time at the applicable redemption price set forth under Description of Notes Optional Redemption. If a Change of Control Triggering Event occurs, we may be required to offer to purchase the notes from the holders as described in this prospectus supplement. See Description of Notes Change of Control.

We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange. Currently, there is no public market for the notes.

Investing in the notes involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-11 of this prospectus supplement and under Risk Factors in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

	Notes Due 20		Notes Due 20		Notes Due 20		Notes Due 20	
	Per Note	Total	Per Note	Total	Per Note	Total	Per Note	Total
Public offering price (1)	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$
Underwriting discounts	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$
Proceeds, before offering expenses, to Biogen Inc. (1)	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from _____, 2015 to the date of delivery.

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

The notes will be ready for delivery in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, and its participants, including Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme* and Euroclear Bank, S.A./N.V., on or about September _____, 2015.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

BofA Merrill Lynch

Prospectus Supplement dated _____, 2015

Table of Contents

You should assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front of the respective document. Our business, properties, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

We have not authorized anyone to provide any information other than that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or in any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us or to which we have referred you. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>About This Prospectus Supplement</u>	S-2
<u>Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-3
<u>Prospectus Supplement Summary</u>	S-5
<u>Risk Factors</u>	S-11
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-14
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-15
<u>Description of Notes</u>	S-16
<u>Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	S-34
<u>Underwriting</u>	S-39
<u>Validity of the Notes</u>	S-44
<u>Experts</u>	S-45

Prospectus

<u>About This Prospectus</u>	1
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	1
<u>The Company</u>	2
<u>Risk Factors</u>	3
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	3
<u>Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges</u>	3
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	3
<u>Legal Matters</u>	5
<u>Experts</u>	5

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first part is this prospectus supplement, which contains the terms of this offering of notes. The second part is the prospectus dated September 8, 2015, which is part of our Registration Statement on Form S-3.

This prospectus supplement may add to, update or change the information in the accompanying prospectus. If information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with information in the accompanying prospectus, this prospectus supplement will apply and will supersede that information in the accompanying prospectus.

It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information incorporated by reference in the documents to which we have referred you in [Where You Can Find More Information](#) in the accompanying prospectus.

The distribution of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and the offering of the notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer of these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. See [Underwriting](#).

In this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, unless otherwise stated or the context otherwise requires, references to [Biogen](#), [we](#), [us](#) and [our](#) refer to [Biogen Inc. \(formerly Biogen Idec Inc.\)](#) and its consolidated subsidiaries.

Table of Contents

CAUTIONARY NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus contain or incorporate by reference forward-looking statements about our financial condition, results of operation and business that are being made pursuant to the provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 with the intention of obtaining the benefits of the Safe Harbor of such statute. These forward-looking statements may be accompanied by such words as anticipate, believe, could, estimate, expect, forecast, intend, may, plan, potential, project, target, will a of similar meaning. Reference is made in particular to forward-looking statements regarding:

the anticipated amount, timing and accounting of revenues, contingent payments, milestone, royalty and other payments under licensing, collaboration or acquisition agreements, tax positions and contingencies, collectability of receivables, pre-approval inventory, cost of sales, research and development costs, compensation and other expenses, amortization of intangible assets, foreign currency exchange risk, estimated fair value of assets and liabilities, and impairment assessments;

expectations and plans relating to sales, growth, pricing, and prospects of our marketed and pipeline products;

the potential impact of increased product competition in the markets in which we compete;

the timing, outcome and impact of administrative, regulatory, legal and other proceedings related to patents and other proprietary and intellectual property rights, tax audits, assessments and settlements, pricing matters, sales and promotional practices, product liability and other matters;

patent terms, patent term extensions, patent office actions and expected availability and period of regulatory exclusivity;

the costs and timing of potential trials, filing and approvals, and the potential therapeutic scope of the development and commercialization of our and our collaborators pipeline products;

our intent to commit resources for research and development opportunities, and expectations relating to selling, general and administrative expense;

the impact of the continued uncertainty of the credit and economic conditions in certain countries in Europe and our collection of accounts receivable in such countries;

our manufacturing capacity and use of third party contract manufacturing organization to provide manufacturing services;

the drivers for growing our business, including our plans to pursue business development and research opportunities;

the potential impact of healthcare reform in the U.S., implementation of provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (also known as the Affordable Care Act or PPACA), and measures being taken worldwide designed to reduce healthcare costs to constrain the overall level of government expenditures, including the impact of pricing actions in Europe and elsewhere, and reduced reimbursement for our products;

lease commitments, purchase obligations and the timing and satisfaction of other contractual obligations;

expectations relating to the timing and execution of our stock repurchase programs;

plans and timing relating to the expansion of our manufacturing capabilities, including anticipated investments in Solothurn, Switzerland and Research Triangle Park, North Carolina;

our ability to finance our operations and business initiatives and obtain funding for such activities; and

the impact of new laws and accounting standards.

S-3

Table of Contents

These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, including those that are described in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus supplement and under Risk Factors in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected in such statements. The risks and uncertainties include our dependence on sales from our principal products; failure to compete effectively due to significant product competition in the markets for our products; failure to protect and enforce our data, intellectual property and other proprietary rights and the risks and uncertainties relating to intellectual property claims; uncertainty of long-term success in developing, licensing or acquiring other product candidates or additional indications for existing products; risks associated with clinical trials, including our ability to adequately manage clinical activities, unexpected concerns that may arise from additional data or analysis obtained during clinical trials, regulatory authorities may require additional information or further studies or may fail to approve or may delay approval of our drug candidates; the risk that positive results in a clinical trial may not be replicated in subsequent or confirmatory trials or success in early stage clinical trials may not be predictive of results in later stage or large scale clinical trials or trials in other potential indications; the occurrence of adverse safety events, restrictions on use with our products or product liability claims; difficulties in obtaining adequate coverage or changes in pricing or the availability of reimbursement for our products; any adverse effects of current and potential future healthcare reforms; our dependence on collaborators and other third parties for the development and commercialization of products and other aspects of our business, which are outside of our control; problems with our manufacturing processes; failure to manage our growth and execute our growth initiatives; failure to comply with legal and regulatory requirements; risks relating to a breakdown or breach of our technology systems; the risks of doing business internationally, including currency exchange rate fluctuations; fluctuations in our effective tax rate; the risk of fluctuations in our operating results; risks relating to investment in and expansion of manufacturing capacity for future clinical and commercial requirements; charges and other costs relating to our properties; the market, interest and credit risks associated with our portfolio of marketable securities; risks relating to our ability to repurchase stock, including at favorable prices; risks relating to access to capital and credit markets; environmental risks; risks of illegal distribution and sale by third parties of counterfeit versions of our products; risks relating to the use of social media; and risks relating to change in control provisions in certain of our collaboration agreements.

We caution investors not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Each statement speaks only as of the date of this prospectus supplement or, in the case of the prospectus, the date of the prospectus, and in the case of the documents incorporated by reference, the date of the applicable documents (or any earlier date indicated in the statement), and, unless required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any of these statements, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus and may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should read carefully this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in their entirety, including the documents incorporated by reference, especially the risks discussed under Risk Factors beginning on page S-11 of this prospectus supplement and in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015.

Biogen Inc.

We are a global biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering, developing, manufacturing and delivering therapies for neurological, autoimmune and hematologic disorders. Our marketed products include AVONEX[®], PLEGRIDY[®], TECFIDERA[®], TYSABRI[®], and FAMPYRA for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (MS), ALPROLIX[®] for the treatment of hemophilia B and ELOCTATE[®] for the treatment of hemophilia A, and FUMADERM for the treatment of severe plaque psoriasis. We also generate revenue from our collaboration with Genentech, Inc., a wholly-owned member of the Roche Group, with respect to RITUXAN[®] for the treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, chronic lymphocytic leukemia and other conditions, and share profits and losses with Genentech for GAZYVA[®], which is approved for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

We are focused on discovering and developing new therapies that improve the lives of patients having diseases with high unmet medical needs. We support our mission through the commitment of significant resources to research and development programs and business development opportunities, particularly within areas of our scientific, manufacturing and technical expertise neurology, immunology and hematology, and scientific adjacencies.

Corporate Information

We were formed as a corporation in the State of California in 1985 under the name IDEC Pharmaceuticals Corporation and reincorporated as a Delaware corporation in 1997. In 2003, we acquired Biogen, Inc. and changed our corporate name to Biogen Idec Inc. In March 2015, we changed our corporate name to Biogen Inc. Our principal executive offices are located at 225 Binney Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142 and our telephone number at our principal executive offices is (617) 679-2000. You may visit us at our website located at <http://www.biogen.com>. The contents of our website have not been, and shall not be deemed to be, incorporated by reference into, and do not form a part of, this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus.

ALPROLIX[®], AVONEX[®], ELOCTATE[®], FUMADERM, PLEGRIDY[®], RITUXAN[®], TECFIDERA[®] and TYSABRI[®] are trademarks of Biogen. FAMPYRA is a trademark of Acorda Therapeutics, Inc. and GAZYVA[®] is a registered trademark of Genentech, Inc.

Recent Developments

Credit Facility

On August 28, 2015, we entered into a Credit Agreement with Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, Swing Line Lender and an L/C Issuer, and the lenders party thereto (the Credit Agreement). The Credit Agreement provides for a \$1.0 billion five year unsecured, revolving credit facility (the Revolving Credit Facility). Borrowings under the Revolving Credit Facility are available for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other lawful corporate purposes. No proceeds from the Revolving Credit Facility were drawn down as of the date of this prospectus supplement.

S-5

Table of Contents

Securities Litigation

On August 18, 2015, Nicole Tehrani filed an action in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts against Biogen, our Chief Executive Officer, George A. Scangos, and our Chief Financial Officer, Paul J. Clancy, alleging violations of 15 U.S.C. §78j(b) and §78t(a) and 17 C.F.R. §240.10b-5. The plaintiff seeks declaration of the action as a class action, certification of the plaintiff as a representative of the class and her counsel as class counsel, and an award to the plaintiff and the class of damages, interest, and attorneys' fees. We have not formed an opinion that an unfavorable outcome is either probable or remote and are unable to estimate the magnitude or range of any potential loss.

Agreement with Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation

On September 9, 2015, we announced an agreement with Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma Corporation (MTPC) to exclusively license MT-1303, a late stage experimental medicine with potential in multiple autoimmune indications. MT-1303 is an oral compound that targets the sphingosine 1-phosphate (S1P) receptor. Under the terms of the agreement, we will receive worldwide rights to MT-1303, excluding Asia. We will be responsible for global commercialization and development costs outside of Asian territories. We will pay MTPC an upfront payment of \$60 million and may pay up to \$484 million in milestone payments for multiple indications and territories. MTPC has the right to participate in our global clinical trials and has an option to co-promote non-multiple sclerosis indications in the United States. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions, including the expiration of the applicable waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 in the United States, and is expected to close in the fourth calendar quarter of 2015.

Table of Contents**The Offering**

The following is a brief summary of some of the terms of this offering. For a more complete description of the terms of the notes, see Description of Notes in this prospectus supplement. As used in this Prospectus Supplement Summary The Offering, the terms Biogen, we, our, us and other similar references refer only to Biogen Inc. and not to any of its subsidiaries.

Issuer	Biogen Inc.
Securities Offered	<p>\$ aggregate principal amount of % Senior Notes due 20</p> <p>\$ aggregate principal amount of % Senior Notes due 20</p> <p>\$ aggregate principal amount of % Senior Notes due 20</p> <p>\$ aggregate principal amount of % Senior Notes due 20</p>
Maturity	<p>% Senior Notes due 20 : , 20</p> <p>% Senior Notes due 20 : , 20</p> <p>% Senior Notes due 20 : , 20</p> <p>% Senior Notes due 20 : , 20</p>
Interest	Interest on the notes will accrue from the issue date. Interest on the notes will be payable semi-annually in arrears at the rates set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement on and of each year, commencing , 2016.
Optional Redemption	We may redeem some or all of the notes of any series, at any time, at the applicable redemption prices described in this prospectus supplement. For a more detailed description, see Description of Notes Optional Redemption.

Repurchase Upon a Change of Control Upon the occurrence of a Change of Control Triggering Event (as defined in this prospectus supplement), unless we have exercised our option to redeem the notes, we will be required to make an offer to purchase the notes at a price equal to 101% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of repurchase. See Description of Notes Change of Control.

Covenants The indenture governing the notes will contain covenants that, among other things, will limit our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries to:

issue, assume or guarantee secured debt;

enter into certain sale and leaseback transactions; and

consolidate, merge or transfer all or substantially all of our assets and the assets of our subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

These covenants are subject to important exceptions and qualifications, as described in the sections titled Description of Notes Limitation on Liens, Description of Notes Limitation on Sale and Leaseback Transactions and Description of Notes Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets.

Table of Contents

Ranking	The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with our other existing and future senior unsecured obligations that are not, by their terms, expressly subordinated in right of payment to the notes, and senior in right of payment to any of our future subordinated indebtedness. The notes will be effectively subordinated to all of our existing and future secured indebtedness and other secured liabilities to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness and liabilities and to all indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. As of June 30, 2015, we had no secured debt outstanding and our subsidiaries had \$9.4 million of debt outstanding.
Use of Proceeds	The net proceeds of this offering are estimated to be \$ billion (after deducting underwriting discounts and our estimated offering expenses). We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the notes, together with cash on hand, to fund share repurchases of our common stock under our \$5 billion stock repurchase plan and for working capital and other general corporate purposes. See Use of Proceeds.
Further Issuances	We may, without notice to or consent of the holders or beneficial owners of the notes, create and issue in a separate offering additional notes having the same ranking, interest rate, maturity and other terms as the notes. Any additional debt securities having such similar terms, together with that series of notes, could be considered part of the same series of notes under the indenture; provided that if the additional notes are not fungible with the notes of a particular series for United States federal income tax purposes, the additional notes will have a separate CUSIP number.
Denomination and Form	We will issue the notes in the form of one or more fully registered global notes registered in the name of the nominee of The Depository Trust Company, or DTC. Beneficial interests in the notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Clearstream Banking, <i>société anonyme</i> , and Euroclear Bank, S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear System, will hold interests on behalf of their participants through their respective U.S. depositaries, which, in turn, will hold such interests in accounts as participants of DTC. Except in the limited circumstances described in this prospectus supplement, owners of beneficial interests in the notes will not be entitled to have notes registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive notes in definitive form and will not be considered holders of notes under the indenture. The notes will be issued only in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Risk Factors

Investing in the notes involves risks. See **Risk Factors** on page S-11 hereof and in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015 for a description of certain risks you should consider before investing in the notes.

S-8

Table of Contents

Trustee U.S. Bank National Association

Governing Law New York

S-9

Table of Contents**Selected Financial Data**

The following table sets forth our selected consolidated financial statements at the dates and for the periods presented. The financial information for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2014, 2013 and 2012 has been derived from our audited financial statements. The interim financial information for the six months ended June 30, 2015 and 2014 has been derived from our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements. The results for the six-month periods are not necessarily indicative of expected results for the full fiscal year. You should read the following information in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes that we incorporate by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompany prospectus.

(\$ in millions, except per share amounts)	Six Months Ended		Fiscal Year Ended		
	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2014	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013 (1)(2)	December 31, 2012
Results of Operations:					
Product revenues, net	\$ 4,370.9	\$ 3,799.1	\$ 8,203.4	\$ 5,542.3	\$ 4,166.1
Revenues from unconsolidated joint business	668.1	600.2	1,195.4	1,126.0	1,137.9
Other revenues	107.6	151.9	304.5	263.9	212.5
Total revenues	5,146.6	4,551.2	9,703.3	6,932.2	5,516.5
Total cost and expenses	2,795.6	2,898.9	5,747.7	4,441.6	3,707.4
Gain on sale of rights		7.8	16.8	24.9	46.8
Income from operations	2,351.0	1,660.1	3,972.4	2,515.5	1,855.9
Other income (expense), net	(25.9)	(0.7)	(25.8)	(34.9)	(0.7)
Income before income tax expense and equity in loss of investee, net of tax	2,325.1	1,659.3	3,946.6	2,480.6	1,855.1
Income tax expense	574.4	446.9	989.9	601.0	470.6
Equity in loss of investee, net of tax	5.7	9.5	15.1	17.2	4.5
Net income	1,745.0	1,202.9	2,941.5	1,862.3	1,380.0
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of tax	(4.8)	8.4	6.8		
Net income attributable to Biogen Inc.	\$ 1,749.8	\$ 1,194.5	\$ 2,934.8	\$ 1,862.3	\$ 1,380.0
Results of Operations:					
Diluted earnings per share.	\$ 7.42	\$ 5.03	\$ 12.37	\$ 7.81	\$ 5.76
Weighted-average shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share	235.7	237.6	237.2	238.3	239.7
Financial Condition:					
	\$ 4,470.5	\$ 2,583.9	\$ 3,316.0	\$ 1,848.5	\$ 3,742.4

Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities

Total assets	\$ 16,759.2	\$ 12,918.0	\$ 14,316.6	\$ 11,863.3	\$ 10,130.1
Notes payable, line of credit and other financing arrangements, less current portion	\$ 576.2	\$ 586.1	\$ 582.1	\$ 592.4	\$ 687.4
Total Biogen Inc. shareholders' equity	\$ 12,572.6	\$ 9,561.3	\$ 10,809.0	\$ 8,620.2	\$ 6,961.5

- (1) Our share of revenues from unconsolidated joint business reflects charges of \$49.7 million in 2013 for damages and interest awarded to Hoechst in Genentech's arbitration with Hoechst for RITUXAN.
- (2) Commencing in the second quarter of 2013, product and total revenues include 100% of net revenues related to sales of TYSABRI as a result of our acquisition of all remaining rights to TYSABRI from Elan and net revenues related to sales of TECFIDERA. In addition, upon the closing of our acquisition of all remaining rights to TYSABRI, our collaboration agreement was terminated, and we no longer record collaboration profit sharing.

S-10

Table of Contents

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the following risk factors as well as the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including the discussion of risk factors in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, which is incorporated by reference, before making a decision to invest in the notes. Some of these factors relate principally to our business and the industry in which we operate. Other factors relate principally to your investment in the notes. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing us. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also materially adversely affect our business and operations. If any of the matters included in the following risks were to occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations, cash flows or prospects could be materially adversely affected. In such case, you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to the Notes

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our business and limit our ability to plan for or respond to changes in our business.

We have a substantial amount of indebtedness. In addition, we also have significant contingent liabilities, including milestone and royalty payment obligations. We may also incur additional debt in the future. This indebtedness could have important consequences to our business, for example, it could:

increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;

require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of our cash flow for other purposes, including business development efforts, research and development and mergers and acquisitions; and

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the industry in which we operate, thereby placing us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt.

The notes are effectively junior to the existing and future liabilities of our subsidiaries and to any secured debt we may incur to the extent of the assets securing the same.

Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities. Our subsidiaries have no obligation to pay any amounts due on the notes. In addition, any payment of dividends, loans, or advances by our subsidiaries could be subject to statutory or contractual restrictions. Payments to us by our subsidiaries will also be contingent upon the subsidiaries' earnings and business considerations. Our right to receive any assets of any of our subsidiaries upon their bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization, and therefore the right of the holders of the notes to participate in those assets, will be effectively subordinated to the claims of that subsidiary's creditors, including trade creditors. In addition, even if we are a creditor of any of our subsidiaries, our right as a creditor would be subordinate to any security interest in the assets of our subsidiaries and any indebtedness of our subsidiaries senior to that held by us. At June 30, 2015, our subsidiaries had \$9.4 million of debt outstanding.

The notes are our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with our other existing and future senior unsecured obligations that are not, by their terms, expressly subordinated in right of payment to the

notes. The notes are not secured by any of our assets. Claims of secured lenders with respect to assets securing their loans will be prior to any claim of the holders of the notes with respect to those assets. As of June 30, 2015, we had no secured debt outstanding.

S-11

Table of Contents

The indenture does not restrict the amount of additional unsecured debt that we may incur.

The notes and indenture under which the notes will be issued do not place any limitation on the amount of unsecured debt that may be incurred by us. Our incurrence of additional debt may have important consequences for you as a holder of the notes, including making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to the notes, a loss in the market value of your notes and a risk that the credit rating of the notes is lowered or withdrawn.

We may not be able to repurchase the notes upon a change of control.

Upon the occurrence of specific kinds of change of control events, each holder of notes will have the right to require us to repurchase all or any part of such holder's notes at a price equal to 101% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to but not including the date of repurchase. If we experience a Change of Control Triggering Event, there can be no assurance that we would have sufficient financial resources available to satisfy our obligations to repurchase the notes. Our failure to repurchase a series of notes as required under the indenture governing that series of notes would result in a default under the indenture, which could have material adverse consequences for us and the holders of the notes. See Description of Notes Change of Control.

The terms of the indenture and the notes provide only limited protection against significant corporate events that could adversely impact your investment in the notes.

While the indenture and the notes contain terms intended to provide protection to noteholders upon the occurrence of certain events involving significant corporate transactions or our creditworthiness, such terms are limited and may not be sufficient to protect your investment in the notes.

As described under Description of Notes Change of Control, upon the occurrence of a Change of Control Triggering Event, holders are entitled to require us to repurchase their notes at 101% of their principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any. However, the definition of the term Change of Control Triggering Event is limited and does not cover a variety of transactions (such as acquisitions by us or recapitalizations) which could negatively impact the value of your notes. As such, if we were to enter into a significant corporate transaction that would negatively impact the value of the notes, but which would not constitute a Change of Control Triggering Event, you would not have any rights to require us to repurchase the notes prior to their maturity.

Furthermore, the indenture for the notes does not:

require us to maintain any financial ratios or specific levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flow or liquidity;

limit our ability to incur unsecured indebtedness that is equal in right of payment to the notes;

restrict our subsidiaries' ability to issue securities or otherwise incur indebtedness that would be senior to our equity interests in our subsidiaries and therefore rank effectively senior to the notes;

restrict our ability to repurchase or prepay any other of our securities or other indebtedness; or

restrict our ability to make investments or to repurchase or pay dividends or make other payments in respect of our common stock or other securities ranking junior to the notes.

As a result of the foregoing, when evaluating the terms of the notes, you should be aware that the terms of the indenture and the notes do not restrict our ability to engage in, or to otherwise be a party to, a variety of corporate transactions, circumstances and events that could have an adverse impact on your investment in the notes.

S-12

Table of Contents

An active trading market may not develop for the notes.

Each series of notes is a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes of either series on any national securities exchange or for quotation of the notes of either series on any automated dealer quotation system. We have been advised by the underwriters that they presently intend to make a market in the notes after completion of the offering. However, they are under no obligation to do so and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without any notice. We cannot assure the liquidity of the trading market for the notes or that an active public market for the notes will develop. If an active public trading market for the notes does not develop, the market price and liquidity of the notes will be adversely affected. See Underwriting.

Risks Related to Biogen

Our business is subject to uncertainties and risks. You should carefully consider and evaluate all of the information included and incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, including Part II, Item 1A. Risk Factors incorporated by reference from our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, as updated by other SEC filings filed after such quarterly report.

Table of Contents

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds of this offering are estimated to be \$ billion (after deducting underwriting discounts and our estimated offering expenses). We intend to use the net proceeds from the sale of the notes, together with cash on hand, to fund share repurchases of our common stock under our \$5 billion stock repurchase plan and for working capital and other general corporate purposes.

S-14

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our condensed consolidated cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities and capitalization as of June 30, 2015 on an actual basis and as adjusted basis to give effect to the sale of the notes (after deducting underwriting discounts and our estimated offering expenses) and application of those proceeds as described under "Use of Proceeds" in this prospectus supplement. You should read this table in conjunction with our condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto which are incorporated by reference.

	As of June 30, 2015	
	Actual	As Adjusted (1)
	(\$ in millions)	
	(Unaudited)	
Cash, cash equivalents and marketable securities	\$ 4,470.5	\$
Capitalization		
Short-term debt:		
Current portion of notes payable	\$ 3.3	\$
Long-term debt:		
Revolving credit facility (2)	\$	\$
Notes payable to Fumedica	6.1	
2018 Notes	570.1	
Notes offered hereby		
Total long-term debt	576.2	
Total debt	579.5	
Shareholders' equity		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value	\$	\$
Common stock, \$0.0005 par value	0.1	
Additional paid-in capital	4,251.4	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(101.0)	
Retained earnings	11,033.7	
Treasury stock, at cost	(2,611.7)	
Total shareholders' equity	\$ 12,572.6	\$
Total capitalization	\$ 13,152.1	\$

(1) Gives effect to the issuance of the notes offered hereby.

(2) Our Revolving Credit Facility provides for borrowings of up to \$1.0 billion.

Table of Contents

DESCRIPTION OF NOTES

Each of the % Senior Notes due (the notes due), the % Senior Notes due (the notes due), the % Senior Notes due (the notes due) and the % Senior Notes due (the notes due) and, together with the notes due , the notes due and the notes due , the notes) are a separate series of debt securities to be issued under an indenture, to be dated as of September , 2015, between the Company and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee. We refer to this indenture, as supplemented by a supplemental indenture, to be dated as of September , 2015, between the Company and the trustee, as the indenture. The terms of the notes include those stated in the indenture and those made part of the indenture by reference to the Trust Indenture Act of 1939. A copy of the indenture is available for inspection at the office of the trustee.

As used in this Description of Notes, the terms the Company, we, our, us and other similar references refer only to Biogen Inc. and not to any of its subsidiaries.

General

The notes due will be initially limited to \$ aggregate principal amount and will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest thereon, on , .

The notes due will be initially limited to \$ aggregate principal amount and will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest thereon, on , .

The notes due will be initially limited to \$ aggregate principal amount and will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest thereon, on , .

The notes due will be initially limited to \$ aggregate principal amount and will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest thereon, on , .

We may from time to time, without notice to or the consent of the holders or beneficial owners of the notes, create and issue additional notes of any of the series having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms as the notes of the applicable series. Any additional notes and the notes of such series will generally constitute a single series under the indenture, provided that if the additional notes are not fungible with the notes of such series for U.S. federal income tax purposes, the additional notes will have a separate CUSIP number.

Notes of each of the series will bear interest at the applicable annual rate noted on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. Interest will be payable semiannually on and of each year, beginning , 2016. Interest on the notes will be paid to holders of record at the close of business on the or , whether or not a business day, immediately before the applicable interest payment date. The amount of

interest payable on the notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

The notes will be issued only in fully registered form, without coupons, in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

If any interest payment date or the maturity date of the notes is not a business day, then the related payment of interest and/or principal payable on such date will be paid on the next succeeding business day with the same

S-16

Table of Contents

force and effect as if made on such interest payment date or maturity date and no further interest will accrue in respect of the delay. The term "business day" means any day other than a Saturday, a Sunday or any other day on which banking institutions in The City of New York are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close.

Ranking

The notes will be senior unsecured obligations and will rank equal in right of payment with our other existing and future senior unsecured obligations, and senior in right of payment to any of our future subordinated indebtedness.

The notes will be effectively subordinated to any secured obligations of ours to the extent of the value of the assets securing such obligations. The indenture limits the amount of secured indebtedness that we or our Subsidiaries may incur pursuant to the covenant described under the heading "Limitation on Liens." This covenant is subject to important exceptions described under such heading. As of June 30, 2015, we had no secured debt outstanding.

We conduct many of our operations through subsidiaries, which generate a substantial portion of our operating income and cash. As a result, distributions or advances from our subsidiaries are a major source of funds necessary to meet our debt service and other obligations. Contractual provisions, laws or regulations, as well as any subsidiary's financial condition and operating requirements, may limit our ability to obtain cash required to service our debt obligations, including making payments on the notes.

The notes will be structurally subordinated to all existing and future obligations of our subsidiaries, including claims with respect to trade payables. This means that holders of the notes will have a junior position to the claims of creditors of our direct and indirect subsidiaries on the assets and earnings of such subsidiaries. The indenture does not limit the amount of debt that our subsidiaries are permitted to incur. As of June 30, 2015, our subsidiaries had outstanding \$9.4 million of debt (including the current portion thereof).

Optional Redemption

Optional redemption of notes due

At any time and from time to time, the notes due _____ are redeemable, as a whole or in part, at our option, on at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days, prior notice mailed to the registered address of each holder of the notes due _____, at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

100% of principal amount of the notes due _____ to be redeemed, or

the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of interest and principal thereon (exclusive of interest accrued and unpaid to, but not including, 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 Treasury Rate (as defined below) plus _____ basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the date of redemption.

Optional redemption of notes due

Edgar Filing: BIOGEN INC. - Form 424B2

At any time and from time to time, the notes due _____ are redeemable, as a whole or in part, at our option, on at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days, prior notice mailed to the registered address of each holder of the notes due _____, at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

100% of principal amount of the notes due

to be redeemed, or

S-17

Table of Contents

the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of interest and principal thereon (exclusive of interest accrued and unpaid to, but not including, 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 Treasury Rate (as defined below) plus basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the date of redemption.

Optional redemption of notes due

At any time and from time to time prior to , (the date that is three months prior to maturity), the notes due are redeemable, as a whole or in part, at our option, on at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days, prior notice mailed to the registered address of each holder of the notes due , at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

100% of principal amount of the notes due to be redeemed, or

the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of interest and principal thereon (exclusive of interest accrued and unpaid to, but not including, 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 Treasury Rate (as defined below) plus basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the date of redemption.

On or after , (the date that is three months before maturity), the notes due may be redeemed, as a whole or in part, at our option, on at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days, prior notice mailed to the registered address of each holder of the notes due , at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes due to be redeemed on the redemption date plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the date of redemption.

Optional redemption of notes due

At any time and from time to time prior to , (the date that is six months prior to maturity), the notes due are redeemable, as a whole or in part, at our option, on at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days, prior notice mailed to the registered address of each holder of the notes due , at a redemption price equal to the greater of:

100% of principal amount of the notes due to be redeemed, or

the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of interest and principal thereon (exclusive of interest accrued and unpaid to, but not including, 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 Treasury Rate (as defined below) plus basis points, plus, in either case, accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the date of redemption.

On or after _____, (the date that is six months before maturity), the notes due _____ may be redeemed, as a whole or in part, at our option, on at least 30 days, but not more than 60 days, prior notice mailed to the registered address of each holder of the notes due _____, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the notes due _____ to be redeemed on the redemption date plus accrued and unpaid interest to, but not including, the date of redemption.

Comparable Treasury Issue means the United States Treasury security or securities selected by an Independent Investment Banker as having an actual or interpolated maturity comparable to the remaining term of the notes of the applicable series to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance

Table of Contents

with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of a comparable maturity to the remaining term of such notes.

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

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

Reference Treasury Dealer means each of Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated or their respective affiliates, which are primary U.S. Government securities dealers in The City of New York, and their respective successors plus three other primary U.S. Government securities dealers in The City of New York selected by us; provided, however, that if any of the foregoing or their affiliates shall cease to be a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in The City of New York (a **Primary Treasury Dealer**), we will substitute therefor 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 applicable Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the trustee by the Reference Treasury Dealers at 3:30 p.m. New York time on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

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

On and after the redemption date for the notes of the applicable series, interest will cease to accrue on the notes of that series or any portion thereof called for redemption, unless we default in the payment of the redemption price. On or before the redemption date for the notes of that series, we will deposit with a paying agent, or the trustee, funds sufficient to pay the redemption price of and accrued and unpaid interest on such notes to be redeemed on such date. If less than all of the notes of a series are to be redeemed, the notes of that series to be redeemed will be selected by DTC (as such term is defined below) in accordance with its standard procedures. If the notes to be redeemed are not global notes then held by DTC, or DTC prescribes no method of selection, the trustee will select the notes to be redeemed on a pro rata basis, by lot, or by any other method the trustee deems fair and appropriate and subject to and otherwise in accordance with the procedures of DTC.

Change of Control

If a Change of Control Triggering Event occurs with respect to the notes of a series, unless we have exercised our option to redeem the notes of such series as described above, we will be required to make an offer (the **Change of Control Offer**) to each holder of the notes of such series to repurchase all or any part (equal to \$2,000 or an integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess thereof) of that holder's notes of such series on the terms set forth in such notes. In the Change of Control Offer, we will be required to offer payment in cash equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount of notes repurchased, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, on the notes repurchased to but not including the date of repurchase (the **Change of Control Payment**). With respect to the notes of each series, within 30 days following any Change of Control Triggering Event or, at our option, prior to any Change of Control, but after public

announcement of the transaction that constitutes or may constitute the Change of Control, a notice will be mailed to holders of the notes of the applicable series describing the transaction that constitutes or may constitute the Change of Control Triggering Event and offering to repurchase the notes of such series on the date specified in the notice, which date will be no earlier than 30 days and no later

S-19

Table of Contents

than 60 days from the date such notice is mailed or, if the notice is mailed prior to the Change of Control, no earlier than 30 days and no later than 60 days from the date on which the Change of Control Triggering Event occurs (the Change of Control Payment Date). The notice will, if mailed prior to the date of consummation of the Change of Control, state that the offer to purchase is conditioned on the Change of Control Triggering Event occurring on or prior to the Change of Control Payment Date.

On the Change of Control Payment Date, we will, to the extent lawful:

accept for payment all notes or portions of notes properly tendered pursuant to the Change of Control Offer;

deposit with the paying agent an amount equal to the Change of Control Payment in respect of all notes or portions of notes properly tendered; and

deliver or cause to be delivered to the trustee the notes properly accepted together with an officers certificate stating the aggregate principal amount of notes or portions of notes being repurchased.

We will not be required to make a Change of Control Offer upon the occurrence of a Change of Control Triggering Event if a third party makes such an offer in the manner, at the times and otherwise in compliance with the requirements for an offer made by us and the third party repurchases all notes properly tendered and not withdrawn under its offer. In addition, we will not repurchase any notes if there has occurred and is continuing on the Change of Control Payment Date an event of default under the indenture, other than a default in the payment of the Change of Control Payment upon a Change of Control Triggering Event.

We will comply in all material respects with the requirements of Rule 14e-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and any other securities laws and regulations thereunder to the extent those laws and regulations are applicable in connection with the repurchase of the notes as a result of a Change of Control Triggering Event. To the extent that the provisions of any such securities laws or regulations conflict with the Change of Control Offer provisions of the notes, we will comply with those securities laws and regulations and will not be deemed to have breached our obligations under the Change of Control Offer provisions of the notes by virtue of any such conflict.

For purposes of the Change of Control Offer provisions of the notes, the following terms will be applicable:

Change of Control means the occurrence of any of the following: (1) the consummation of any transaction (including, without limitation, any merger or consolidation) the result of which is that any person (as that term is used in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act) (other than us or one of our Subsidiaries) becomes the beneficial owner (as defined in Rules 13d-3 and 13d-5 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of our Voting Stock or other Voting Stock into which our Voting Stock is reclassified, consolidated, exchanged or changed, measured by voting power rather than number of shares; provided, however, that a Person shall not be deemed beneficial owner of, or to own beneficially, (A) any securities tendered pursuant to a tender or exchange offer made by or on behalf of such Person or any of such Person's affiliates until such tendered securities are accepted for purchase or exchange thereunder, or (B) any securities if such beneficial ownership (i) arises solely as a result of a revocable proxy delivered in response to a proxy or consent solicitation made pursuant to the applicable rules and regulations under the Exchange Act, and (ii) is not also then reportable on Schedule 13D (or any successor schedule) under the Exchange Act; (2) the direct or indirect sale, transfer, conveyance or other disposition (other than by way of merger or

consolidation), in one or more series of related transactions, of all or substantially all of our assets and the assets of our Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, to one or more persons (as that term is used in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act) (other than to us or one of our Subsidiaries) (a Transferee), provided, however, that none of the circumstances in this clause (2) will be a Change of Control if the persons that beneficially own our Voting Stock immediately prior to the transaction own, directly or indirectly, shares representing a majority of the total Voting Stock as measured by voting power rather than number of shares of the Transferee; (3) we consolidate with, or merge with or into, any person (as that term is used in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act) or any such Person consolidates with, or merges with or into, us, in

Table of Contents

either case, pursuant to a transaction in which any of our outstanding Voting Stock or the Voting Stock of such other Person is converted into or exchanged for cash, securities or other property, other than pursuant to a transaction in which shares of our Voting Stock outstanding immediately prior to the transaction constitute, or are converted into or exchanged for, a majority of the Voting Stock of the surviving Person immediately after giving effect to such transaction; or (4) the adoption of a plan relating to our liquidation or dissolution.

Change of Control Triggering Event means the occurrence of both a Change of Control and a Rating Event.

Investment Grade Rating means a rating equal to or higher than Baa3 (or the equivalent) by Moody's and BBB- (or the equivalent) by S&P, and the equivalent investment grade credit rating from any additional rating agency or Rating Agencies selected by the Company.

Moody's means Moody's Investors Service, Inc., or any successor thereto.

Rating Agencies means (1) each of Moody's and S&P and (2) if any of Moody's and S&P ceases to rate the notes or fails to make a rating of the notes publicly available for reasons outside of our control, a nationally recognized statistical rating organization within the meaning of Rule 15c3-1(c)(2)(vi)(F) under the Exchange Act selected by us (as certified by a resolution of our board of directors) and which is reasonably acceptable to the trustee as a replacement agency for Moody's or S&P, or both of them, as the case may be.

Rating Event means (A) with respect to the notes due _____, the rating on such notes is lowered by each of the Rating Agencies and such notes are rated below an Investment Grade Rating by each of the Rating Agencies, (B) with respect to the notes due _____, the rating on such notes is lowered by each of the Rating Agencies and such notes are rated below an Investment Grade Rating by each of the Rating Agencies, (C) with respect to the notes due _____, the rating on such notes is lowered by each of the Rating Agencies and such notes are rated below an Investment Grade Rating by each of the Rating Agencies and (D) with respect to the notes due _____, the rating on such notes is lowered by each of the Rating Agencies and such notes are rated below an Investment Grade Rating by each of the Rating Agencies, in each case, on any day during the period commencing on the earlier of the date of the first public notice of the occurrence of a Change of Control or our intention to effect a Change of Control and ending 60 days following consummation of such Change of Control (which period will be extended so long as the rating of the applicable series of notes is under publicly announced consideration for a possible downgrade by any of the Rating Agencies).

S&P means Standard & Poor's Rating Services, a Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC business, or any successor thereto.

Voting Stock means, with respect to any specified person (as that term is used in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act) as of any date, the capital stock of such person that is at the time entitled to vote generally in the election of the board of directors of such person.

The definition of Change of Control includes a phrase relating to the direct or indirect sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of all or substantially all of our assets and the assets of our Subsidiaries, taken as a whole. Although there is a limited body of case law interpreting the phrase substantially all, there is no precise, established definition of the phrase under applicable law. Accordingly, the applicability of the requirement that we offer to repurchase the notes of any series as a result of the sale, lease, transfer, conveyance or other disposition of less than all of our assets and the assets of our Subsidiaries, taken as a whole, to one or more persons (as that term is used in Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act) (other than to us or one of our Subsidiaries) may be uncertain.

Sinking Fund

The notes will not be entitled to the benefit of any sinking fund.

S-21

Table of Contents

Limitation on Liens

Other than as provided under Exempted Liens and Sale and Leaseback Transactions, we will not, and will not permit any Subsidiary of ours to, create or assume any Indebtedness secured by any Lien on any of our or their respective Properties unless the notes are secured by such Lien equally and ratably with, or prior to, the Indebtedness secured by such Lien. This restriction does not apply to Indebtedness that is secured by:

Liens existing on the date of the issuance of the notes;

Liens securing only the notes;

Liens on Property or shares of stock in respect of Indebtedness of a Person existing at the time such Person becomes a Subsidiary of ours or is merged into or consolidated with, or its assets are acquired by, us or any Subsidiary of ours (provided that such Lien was not incurred in anticipation of such transaction and was in existence prior to such transaction) so long as such Lien does not extend to any other Property and the Indebtedness so secured is not increased;

Liens to secure Indebtedness incurred for the purpose of all or any part of a Property's purchase price or cost of construction or additions, repairs, alterations, or other improvements; provided that (1) the principal amount of any Indebtedness secured by such Lien does not exceed 100% of such Property's purchase price or cost, (2) such Lien does not extend to or cover any other Property other than the Property so purchased, constructed or on which such additions, repairs, alterations or other improvements were so made and (3) such Lien is incurred prior to or within 270 days after the acquisition of such Property or the completion of construction or such additions, repairs, alterations or other improvements and the full operation of such Property thereafter;

Liens in favor of the United States or any state thereof, or any instrumentality of either, to secure certain payments pursuant to any contract or statute;

Liens for taxes or assessments or other governmental charges or levies which are not overdue for a period exceeding 60 days unless such Liens are being contested in good faith and for which adequate reserves are being maintained, to the extent required by generally accepted accounting principles;

title exceptions, easements, licenses, leases and other similar Liens that are not consensual and that do not materially impair the use of the Property subject thereto;

Liens to secure obligations under worker's compensation laws, unemployment compensation, old-age pensions and other social security benefits or similar legislation;

Liens arising out of legal proceedings, including Liens arising out of judgments or awards;

warehousemen's, materialmen's, carrier's, landlord's and other similar Liens for sums not overdue for a period exceeding 60 days unless such Liens are being contested in good faith and for which adequate reserves are being maintained, to the extent required by generally accepted accounting principles;

Liens incurred to secure the performance of statutory obligations, surety or appeal bonds, performance or return-of-money bonds, insurance, self-insurance or other obligations of a like nature incurred in the ordinary course of business;

Liens that are rights of set-off relating to the establishment of depository relations with banks not given in connection with the issuance of Indebtedness;

Liens on the assets of a special purpose Subsidiary resulting from securitization transactions with respect to accounts receivable, royalties and similar assets included in such securitization transactions;

Liens upon specific items of inventory or other goods and proceeds of any Person securing such Person's obligations in respect of bankers' acceptances issued or created for the account of such Person to facilitate the purchase, shipment or storage of such inventory or other goods;

Liens securing reimbursement obligations with respect to letters of credit that encumber documents and other Property relating to such letters of credit and the products and proceeds thereof;

Table of Contents

Liens on key-man life insurance policies granted to secure our Indebtedness against the cash surrender value thereof;

Liens encumbering customary initial deposits and margin deposits and other Liens in the ordinary course of business, in each case securing Hedging Obligations and forward contract, option, futures contracts, futures options or similar agreements or arrangements designed to protect us or any of our Subsidiaries from fluctuations in interest rates, currencies or the price of commodities;

Liens arising out of conditional sale, title retention, consignment or similar arrangements for the sale of goods entered into by us or any of our Subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business;

Liens in our favor or the favor of any of our Subsidiaries; or

Liens to secure any extension, renewal, refinancing or refunding (or successive extensions, renewals, refinancings or refundings), in whole or in part, of any Indebtedness secured by Liens referred to in the foregoing bullets or Liens created in connection with any amendment, consent or waiver relating to such Indebtedness, so long as such Lien does not extend to any other Property and the Indebtedness so secured does not exceed the fair market value (as determined by our board of directors) of the assets subject to such Liens at the time of such extension, renewal, refinancing or refunding, or such amendment, consent or waiver, as the case may be.

Limitation on Sale and Leaseback Transactions

Other than as provided under Exempted Liens and Sale and Leaseback Transactions, we will not, and will not permit any of our Subsidiaries to, enter into any Sale and Leaseback Transaction with respect to any of our or their respective Properties, the acquisition or completion of construction and commencement of full operations of which has occurred more than 270 days prior thereto, unless:

such transaction was entered into prior to the first issue date of the notes;

such transaction was for the sale and leasing back to us of any Property by one of our Subsidiaries;

we or such Subsidiary would be entitled to incur Indebtedness secured by a mortgage on the Property to be leased in an amount equal to the Attributable Debt with respect to such Sale and Leaseback Transaction without equally and ratably securing the notes pursuant to the first paragraph of Limitation on Liens above;

the lease is for a period not in excess of five years, including renewal rights; or

we or the Subsidiary, prior to or within 270 days after the sale of such Property in connection with the Sale and Leaseback Transaction is completed, applies the net cash proceeds of the sale of the Property leased to:

- (1) the retirement of the notes or debt of ours ranking equally with the notes or to the retirement of any debt of a Subsidiary of ours, or
- (2) the acquisition of different property, facilities or equipment or the expansion of our existing business, including the acquisition of other businesses.

Exempted Liens and Sale and Leaseback Transactions

Notwithstanding the restrictions described under the headings **Limitation on Liens** or **Limitation on Sale and Leaseback Transactions**, we or any Subsidiary of ours may create or assume any Liens or enter into any Sale and Leaseback Transactions not otherwise permitted as described above, if the sum of the following does not exceed 10% of Consolidated Total Assets:

the outstanding Indebtedness secured by such Liens (not including any Liens permitted under **Limitation on Liens** which amount does not include any Liens permitted under the provisions of this **Exempted Liens and Sale and Leaseback Transactions**); plus

Table of Contents

all Attributable Debt in respect of such Sale and Leaseback Transaction entered into (not including any Sale and Leaseback Transactions permitted under Limitation on Sale and Leaseback Transactions which amount does not include any Sale and Leaseback Transactions permitted under the provisions of this Exempted Liens and Sale and Leaseback Transactions), measured, in each case, at the time such Lien is incurred or any such Sale and Leaseback Transaction is entered into by us or such Subsidiary of ours.

Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets

We may merge or consolidate with another Person and may sell, transfer or lease all or substantially all of our assets to another Person if all the following conditions are met:

the merger, consolidation or sale of assets must not cause an event of default. See Events of Default. An event of default for this purpose would also include any event that would be an event of default if the notice or time requirements were disregarded;

if we are not the surviving entity, the Person we would merge or consolidate with, or sell all or substantially all of our assets to, must be organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

if we are not the surviving entity, the Person we would merge or consolidate with, or sell all or substantially all of our assets to, must expressly assume by supplemental indenture all of our obligations under the notes and the indenture; and

we must deliver specific certification and documents to the trustee.

Events of Default

The term event of default in respect of each series of the notes means any of the following:

we do not pay the principal of or any premium on the notes of that series on its due date;

we do not pay interest on the notes of that series within 30 days of its due date whether at maturity, upon redemption or upon acceleration (unless the entire amount of the payment is deposited by us with the trustee or with a paying agent for application to pay such interest prior to the expiration of the 30-day period);

we remain in breach of a covenant in respect of the notes of that series for 90 days after we receive a written notice of default in accordance with the provisions of the indenture stating we are in breach and requiring that we remedy the breach; or

certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur with respect to us or any significant Subsidiary of ours.

If an event of default (other than due to certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization) with respect to the notes of a series has occurred and has not been cured, the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the notes of that series may, by a notice in writing to us (and to the trustee if given by the holders), declare the entire principal amount (and premium, if any) of, and all the accrued and unpaid interest on the notes of that series to be due and immediately payable. This is called a declaration of acceleration of maturity. If an event of default with respect to the notes of any of the series occurs because of certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization relating to us, the principal amount of the notes of that series will be automatically accelerated, without any action by the trustee or any holder. Holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the notes of a series may also waive certain past defaults under the indenture on behalf of all of the holders of the notes of that series. A declaration of acceleration of maturity with respect to the notes of a series may be canceled, under specific circumstances, by the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the notes of that series.

S-24

Table of Contents

If any securities are outstanding under the indenture, the indenture requires us, within 120 days after the end of each fiscal year, to furnish to the trustee a statement as to our compliance with the indenture. The trustee will generally give the holders of notes notice within 90 days of the occurrence of an event of default known to the trustee.

Except in cases of default, where the trustee has some special duties, the trustee is not required to take any action under the indenture at the request of any of the holders unless the holders offer the trustee indemnity or security satisfactory to it. If indemnity or security satisfactory to the trustee is provided, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the notes of the applicable series may, with respect to the notes of that series, direct the time, method and place of conducting any lawsuit or other formal legal action seeking any remedy available to the trustee. The trustee may refuse to follow those directions in certain circumstances. No delay or omission in exercising any right or remedy will be treated as a waiver of the right, remedy or event of default.

Before you are allowed to bypass the trustee and bring a lawsuit or other formal legal action or take other steps to enforce your rights or protect your interests relating to the notes of the applicable series, the following must occur:

you must give the trustee written notice that an event of default has occurred and remains uncured;

the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of that series must make a written request that the trustee take action because of the default and must offer the trustee indemnity or security satisfactory to it against the cost and other liabilities of taking that action;

the trustee must not have taken action for 60 days after receipt of the above notice and offer of indemnity;
and

holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the notes of that series must not have given the trustee a direction inconsistent with the above notice.

However, you are entitled at any time to bring a lawsuit for the payment of money due on your notes on or after the due date.

Defeasance

Full Defeasance. If the Internal Revenue Service issues a ruling or there is a change in applicable United States federal tax law, as described below, we can legally release ourselves from any payment or other obligations on the notes, called full defeasance, if we put in place the following other arrangements for you to be repaid:

we must deposit in trust for your benefit and the benefit of all other registered holders of the notes, money, U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds or a combination thereof that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the notes on their various due dates including, possibly, their earliest redemption date; and

we must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion confirming that you will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the full defeasance and that you will not be taxed on the notes any differently than if the full defeasance had not occurred.

If we accomplish full defeasance, as described above, you would have to rely solely on the trust deposit for repayment on the notes. You could not look to us for repayment in the unlikely event of any shortfall. Conversely, the trust deposit would most likely be protected from claims of our lenders and other creditors if we ever become bankrupt or insolvent.

Covenant Defeasance. We can be released from the restrictive covenants in the notes if we make the arrangements described below. This is called covenant defeasance. In that event, you would lose the protection

Table of Contents

of those restrictive covenants but would gain the protection of having money and securities set aside in trust to repay the notes. In order to achieve covenant defeasance, we must do the following:

we must deposit in trust for your benefit and the benefit of all other registered holders of the notes, money, U.S. government or U.S. government agency notes or bonds or a combination thereof that will generate enough cash to make interest, principal and any other payments on the notes on their various due dates, including their earliest possible redemption date; and

we must deliver to the trustee a legal opinion confirming that under current United States federal income tax law you will not recognize income, gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes as a result of the covenant defeasance and that you will not be taxed on the notes any differently than if the covenant defeasance had not occurred.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, the following provisions of the indenture and the notes would no longer apply unless otherwise specified:

our promises regarding conduct of our business and other matters and any other covenants applicable to the series of notes; and

the definition of an event of default as a breach of such covenants.

If we accomplish covenant defeasance, you can still look to us for repayment of the notes if there were a shortfall in the trust deposit. In fact, if one of the remaining events of default occurred (such as our bankruptcy) and the notes become immediately due and payable, there may be such a shortfall. Depending on the event causing the default, of course, you may not be able to obtain payment of the shortfall.

In order to exercise either full defeasance or covenant defeasance, we must comply with certain conditions, and no event or condition can exist that would prevent us from making payments of principal, premium, and interest, if any, on the notes of such series on the date the irrevocable deposit is made or at any time during the period ending on the 91st day after the deposit date.

Notices

With respect to the notes, we and the trustee will send notices regarding the notes only to registered holders, using their addresses as listed in the list of registered holders.

Modification or Waiver

We generally may modify and amend the indenture with the consent of the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of the affected series. However, we may not make any modification or amendment without the consent of each holder of the notes of the affected series if such action would:

change the stated maturity of, or the principal of or premium or interest on, the notes;

reduce any amounts due on the notes or payable upon acceleration of the maturity of the notes following a default;

adversely affect any right of repayment at the holder's option;

change the place (except as otherwise described in this prospectus supplement) or currency of payment on the notes;

modify the notes to contractually subordinate the notes in right of payment to other Indebtedness;

reduce the percentage of holders of notes whose consent is needed to modify or amend the indenture;

S-26

Table of Contents

reduce the percentage of holders of notes whose consent is needed to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indenture or to waive certain defaults; and

modify any other aspect of the provisions of the indenture dealing with modification and waiver except to increase the voting requirements.

Except for certain specified provisions, the holders of at least a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of the affected series may, on behalf of the holders of all the notes of that series, waive our compliance with certain provisions of the indenture. The holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of the affected series may, on behalf of the holders of all the notes of such series, waive any past default under the indenture with respect to that series and its consequences, except a default in the payment of the principal of or premium or interest on any notes of that series or in respect of a covenant or provision which cannot be modified or amended without the consent of the holder of each outstanding note of that series; provided however that the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes of the affected series may rescind an acceleration and its consequences, including any payment default that resulted from such acceleration.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, without the consent of any holder of notes of a series, we may amend or supplement the indenture or the notes for among other reasons:

to cure any ambiguity, defect or inconsistency provided such amendment or supplement does not adversely affect the rights of any holder of notes of that series;

to comply with the covenant described under Merger, Consolidation or Sale of Assets;

to appoint a successor trustee with respect to the notes and to add to or change any of the provisions of the indenture necessary to provide for the administration of the trusts in the indenture by more than one trustee;

to comply with the requirements of the SEC in order to maintain the qualification of the indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939;

to make any change that would not adversely affect the rights of any holder of notes of that series;

to provide for the issuance of any additional notes as permitted by the indenture; and

to conform the indenture or the notes to the description thereof set forth in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus.

Satisfaction and Discharge

The indenture will cease to be of further effect, and we will be deemed to have satisfied and discharged the indenture with respect to the notes, when the following conditions have been satisfied:

all notes not previously delivered to the trustee for cancellation have become due and payable or will become due and payable at their stated maturity or on a redemption date within one year;

we deposit with the trustee, in trust, funds sufficient to pay the entire indebtedness on the notes that had not been previously delivered for cancellation, for the principal and interest to the date of the deposit (for notes that have become due and payable) or to the stated maturity or the redemption date, as the case may be (for notes that have not become due and payable);

we have paid or caused to be paid all other sums payable under the indenture; and

we have delivered to the trustee an officers certificate and opinion of counsel, each stating that we have complied with all these conditions.

S-27

Table of Contents

We will remain obligated to provide for registration of transfer and exchange and to provide notices of redemption.

SEC Reports

We will file with the trustee, within 15 days after we are required to file the same with the SEC, copies of the annual reports and of the information, documents and other reports (or copies of such portions of any of the foregoing as the SEC may prescribe) that we may be required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act; *provided* that availability of such reports on a website maintained by the SEC shall be deemed to fulfill this requirement. If we are not required to file information, documents or reports pursuant to either of those sections, then we will file with the trustee and the SEC such reports as may be prescribed by the SEC at such time.

The Trustee

The trustee will be U.S. Bank National Association. U.S. Bank National Association also will be the initial paying agent and registrar for the notes.

The indenture provides that, except during the continuance of an event of default under the indenture, the trustee under the indenture will perform only such duties as are specifically set forth in the indenture. Under the indenture, the holders of a majority in outstanding aggregate principal amount of the notes will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding or exercising any remedy available to the trustee under the indenture, subject to certain exceptions. If an event of default has occurred and is continuing, the trustee under the indenture will exercise such rights and powers vested in it under the indenture and is obligated to use the same degree of care and skill in its exercise as a prudent person would exercise under the circumstances in the conduct of such person's own affairs.

The indenture and provisions of the Trust Indenture Act incorporated by reference in the indenture contain limitations on the rights of the trustee under such indenture, should it become a creditor of our company, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases or to realize on certain Property received by it in respect of any such claims, as security or otherwise. The trustee under the indenture is permitted to engage in other transactions. However, if the trustee under the indenture acquires any prohibited conflicting interest, it must eliminate the conflict or resign.

The trustee may resign or be removed and a successor trustee may be appointed.

Governing Law

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

Definitions

The following definitions are applicable to this Description of Notes:

Attributable Debt means, with respect to a Sale and Leaseback Transaction, an amount equal to the lesser of (1) the fair market value of the Property (as determined in good faith by our board of directors); and (2) the present value of the total net amount of rent payments to be made under the lease during its remaining term, discounted at the rate of interest set forth or implicit in the terms of the lease, compounded semi-annually. The calculation of the present value of the total net amount of rent payments is subject to adjustments specified in the indenture.

Table of Contents

Capitalized Lease means any obligation of a Person to pay rent or other amounts incurred with respect to real property or equipment acquired or leased by such Person and used in its business that is required to be recorded as a capital lease in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Consolidated Total Assets means, with respect to any Person as of any date, the amount of total assets as shown on the consolidated balance sheet of such Person for the most recent fiscal quarter for which financial statements have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Hedging Obligations means, with respect to any specified Person, the obligations of such Person under:

- (1) interest rate swap agreements (whether from fixed to floating or from floating to fixed), interest rate cap agreements and interest rate collar agreements;
- (2) other agreements or arrangements designed to manage interest rates or interest rate risk; and
- (3) other agreements or arrangements designed to protect such Person against fluctuations in currency exchange rates or commodity prices.

Indebtedness of any Person means, without duplication (1) any obligation of such Person for money borrowed, (2) any obligation of such Person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes or other similar instruments, (3) any reimbursement obligation of such Person in respect of letters of credit or other similar instruments which support financial obligations which would otherwise become Indebtedness, and (4) any obligation of such Person under Capitalized Leases; *provided, however,* that Indebtedness of such Person shall not include any obligation of such Person to any Subsidiary of such Person or to any Person with respect to which such Person is a Subsidiary.

Lien means any pledge, mortgage, lien, encumbrance or other security interest.

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

Property means any property or asset, whether real, personal or mixed, or tangible or intangible.

Sale and Leaseback Transaction means any arrangement with any Person providing for the leasing by us or any Subsidiary of ours of any Property that has been or is to be sold or transferred by us or such Subsidiary, as the case may be, to such Person.

Subsidiary of any Person means (1) a corporation, a majority of the outstanding Voting Stock of which is, at the time, directly or indirectly, owned by such Person by one or more Subsidiaries of such Person, or by such Person and one or more Subsidiaries thereof or (2) any other Person (other than a corporation), including, without limitation, a partnership or joint venture, in which such Person, one or more Subsidiaries thereof or such Person and one or more Subsidiaries thereof, directly or indirectly, at the date of determination thereof, has at least majority ownership interest entitled to vote in the election of directors, managers or trustees thereof (or other Person performing similar functions).

Global Notes: Book-Entry System

The Global Notes

The notes of each series will be represented by one or more fully registered global notes, without interest coupons, will be deposited upon issuance with the trustee as custodian for The Depository Trust Company (DTC), and registered in the name of Cede & Co. or its nominee, in each case, for credit to an account of a direct or indirect participant as described below.

S-29

Table of Contents

Except as set forth below, the global notes may be transferred, in whole and not in part, only to another nominee of DTC or to a successor of DTC or its nominee. Beneficial interests in the global notes may not be exchanged for definitive notes in registered certificated form (certificated notes) except in the limited circumstances described below. See Certain Book Entry Procedures for the Global Notes.

Transfers of beneficial interests in the global notes are subject to the applicable rules and procedures of DTC and its direct or indirect participants, which may change.

The notes may be presented for registration of transfer and exchange at the offices of the trustee as set forth in the indenture.

Certain Book Entry Procedures for the Global Notes

All interests in the global notes will be subject to the operations and procedures of DTC, Euroclear Bank, S.A./N.V. (Euroclear) and Clearstream Luxembourg, *société anonyme* (Clearstream Luxembourg). The descriptions of the operations and procedures of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream Banking set forth below are provided solely as a matter of convenience. These operations and procedures are solely within the control of the respective settlement systems and are subject to change by them from time to time. We obtained the information in this section and elsewhere in this prospectus supplement concerning DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg and their respective book-entry systems from sources that we believe are reliable, but we take no responsibility for the accuracy of any of this information, and investors are urged to contact the relevant system or its participants directly to discuss these matters.

DTC. DTC has advised us that it is:

a limited-purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York;

a banking organization within the meaning of the New York State Banking Law;

a member of the Federal Reserve System;

a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, as amended; and

a clearing agency registered pursuant to Section 17A of the Exchange Act.

DTC was created to hold securities for its participants (collectively, the participants) and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between its participants through electronic book-entry changes to the accounts of its participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical transfer and delivery of certificates. DTC's participants include securities brokers and dealers (including some or all of the underwriters), banks and trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Indirect access to DTC's system is also available to other entities such as Clearstream Luxembourg, Euroclear, banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies (collectively, the indirect participants) that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a participant, either directly or indirectly. Investors who are not participants may beneficially own securities held by or on behalf of DTC only through participants or indirect participants in DTC.

Clearstream Luxembourg. Clearstream Luxembourg is incorporated under the laws of Luxembourg as a professional depository. Clearstream Luxembourg holds securities for its participating organizations (Clearstream Luxembourg Participants) and facilitates the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between Clearstream Luxembourg Participants through electronic book-entry changes in accounts of Clearstream Luxembourg Participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. Transactions may be settled in Clearstream Luxembourg in any of various currencies, including U.S. dollars. Clearstream Luxembourg provides Clearstream Luxembourg Participants with, among other things, services for safekeeping, administration, clearance and establishment of internationally-traded securities and securities lending and

S-30

Table of Contents

borrowing. Clearstream Luxembourg interfaces with domestic markets in several countries. As a professional depository, Clearstream Luxembourg is subject to regulation by the Luxembourg Monetary Institute. Clearstream Luxembourg Participants are recognized financial institutions around the world, including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations, and may include the underwriters. Indirect access to Clearstream Luxembourg is also available to others, such as banks, brokers, dealers and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Clearstream Luxembourg Participant either directly or indirectly.

Distributions with respect to notes held beneficially through Clearstream Luxembourg will be credited to cash accounts of Clearstream Luxembourg Participants in accordance with its rules and procedures to the extent received by the U.S. depository for Clearstream Luxembourg.

Euroclear. Euroclear was created in 1968 to hold securities for participants of Euroclear (Euroclear Participants) and to clear and settle transactions between Euroclear Participants through simultaneous electronic book-entry delivery against payment, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates and any risk from lack of simultaneous transfers of securities and cash. Transactions may be settled in any of various currencies, including U.S. dollars. Euroclear includes various other services, including securities lending and borrowing, and interfaces with domestic markets in several markets in several countries. Euroclear is operated by Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (the Euroclear Operator). All operations are conducted by the Euroclear Operator, and all Euroclear securities clearance accounts and Euroclear cash accounts are accounts with the Euroclear Operator. 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 is regulated and examined by the Belgian Banking Commission. Distributions of principal and interest with respect to notes held through Euroclear will be credited to the cash accounts of Euroclear Participants in accordance with the relevant system's rules and procedures, to the extent received by such system's depository.

Links have been established among DTC, Clearstream Luxembourg and Euroclear to facilitate the initial issuance of the notes and cross-market transfers of the notes associated with secondary market trading. DTC will be linked indirectly to Clearstream Luxembourg and Euroclear through the DTC accounts of their respective U.S. depositories.

Book-Entry Procedures. We expect that, pursuant to procedures established by DTC:

upon deposit of each global note, DTC will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the accounts of participants designated by the underwriters with an interest in that global note; and

ownership of beneficial interests in the global notes will be shown on, and the transfer of ownership interests in the global notes will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC (with respect to the interests of participants) and by participants and indirect participants (with respect to the interests of persons other than participants).

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that some purchasers of notes take physical delivery of those notes in definitive form. Accordingly, the ability to transfer beneficial interests in notes represented by a global note to those persons may be limited. In addition, because DTC can act only on behalf of its participants, who in turn act on behalf

of persons who hold interests through participants, the ability of a Person holding a beneficial interest in a global note to pledge or transfer that interest to persons or entities that do not participate in DTC's system, or to otherwise take actions in respect of that interest, may be affected by the lack of a physical note in respect of that interest.

S-31

Table of Contents

So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of a global note, DTC or that nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole legal owner or holder of the notes represented by that global note for all purposes of the notes and the indenture. Except as provided below, owners of beneficial interests in a global note:

will not be entitled to have the notes represented by that global note registered in their names;

will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of certificated notes; and

will not be considered the owners or holders of the notes represented by that beneficial interest under the indenture for any purpose, including with respect to the giving of any direction, instruction or approval to the trustee.

Accordingly, each holder owning a beneficial interest in a global note must rely on the procedures of DTC and, if that holder is not a participant or an indirect participant, on the procedures of the participant through which that holder owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder of notes under the indenture or that global note. We understand that under existing industry practice, in the event that we request any action of holders of notes, or a holder that is an owner of a beneficial interest in a global note desires to take any action that DTC, as the holder of that global note, is entitled to take, DTC would authorize the participants to take that action and the participants would authorize holders owning through those participants to take that action or would otherwise act upon the instruction of those holders. Neither we nor the trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of notes by DTC, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records of DTC relating to the notes.

Beneficial interests in the global notes may not be exchanged for certificated notes. However, if DTC notifies us that it is unwilling to be a depository for the global notes or ceases to be a clearing agency or if we so elect or if there is an event of default under the notes, DTC will exchange the global notes for certificated notes which it will distribute to its participants.

Payments with respect to the principal of and interest on a global note will be payable by the trustee to or at the direction of DTC or its nominee in its capacity as the registered holder of the global note under the indenture. Under the terms of the indenture, we and the trustee will treat the persons in whose names the notes, including the global notes, are registered as the owners thereof for the purpose of receiving payment thereon and for any and all other purposes whatsoever. Accordingly, neither we nor the trustee has or will have any responsibility or liability for the payment of those amounts to owners of beneficial interests in a global note.

Payments by the participants and the indirect participants to the owners of beneficial interests in a global note will be governed by standing instructions and customary industry practice and will be the responsibility of the participants and indirect participants and not of DTC.

Transfers between participants in DTC will be effected in accordance with DTC's procedures, and will be settled in same-day funds. Transfers between participants in Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg will be effected in the ordinary way in accordance with their respective rules and operating procedures.

Cross-market transfers between the participants in DTC, on the one hand, and Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg Participants, on the other hand, will be effected through DTC in accordance with DTC's rules on behalf of Euroclear or

Clearstream Luxembourg, as the case may be, by its respective depository. However, those cross-market transactions will require delivery of instructions to Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg, as the case may be, by the counterparty in that system in accordance with the rules and procedures and within the established deadlines (Brussels time) of that system. If the transaction meets its settlement requirements, Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg, as the case may be, will deliver instructions to its respective depository to take action to effect final settlement on its behalf by delivering or receiving interests in the relevant global notes in DTC, and making or receiving payment in accordance with normal procedures for same-day funds settlement applicable to DTC. Euroclear Participants and Clearstream Luxembourg Participants may not deliver instructions directly to the depositories for Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg.

S-32

Table of Contents

Because of time zone differences, the securities account of a Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg Participant that purchases an interest in a global note from a participant will be credited on the business day for Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg immediately following the DTC settlement date. Cash received in Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg from the sale of an interest in a global note to a DTC participant will be received with value on the DTC settlement date but will be available in the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg cash account as of the business day for Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg following the DTC settlement date.

Although we understand that DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg have agreed to the foregoing procedures to facilitate transfers of interests in the global notes among participants in DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream Luxembourg, they are under no obligation to perform or to continue to perform those procedures, and those procedures may be discontinued at any time. Neither we nor the trustee will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream Luxembourg or their respective participants or indirect participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

S-33

Table of Contents**MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS****General**

Below is a discussion of material United States federal income tax considerations for U.S. Holders and Non-U.S. Holders (each as defined below) who purchase the notes in the initial offering at their issue price. The term issue price as used in this discussion is the first price at which a substantial amount of the relevant class of notes is sold to investors (excluding bond houses, brokers, or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents and wholesalers). This discussion is based upon current provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), Treasury regulations thereunder, current administrative rulings, judicial decisions and other applicable authorities, all of which may be repealed, revoked or modified so as to result in United States federal income tax consequences different from those discussed below. No ruling from the Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) has been or will be sought on any of the issues discussed below, and there can be no assurance that the IRS will concur with the conclusions reached herein.

This discussion assumes that the notes are held as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Code. It does not purport to deal with all aspects of United States federal income taxation that may be relevant to holders of notes in light of their personal investment circumstances, nor does it purport to deal with United States federal income tax considerations applicable to certain types of holders subject to special treatment under United States federal income tax law (e.g., banks, financial institutions, partnerships or other pass-through entities, expatriates or former long-term residents of the United States, holders subject to the alternative minimum tax, individual retirement accounts or other tax-deferred accounts, broker-dealers, traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for their securities holdings, insurance companies, real estate investment trusts, regulated investment companies, persons that hold the notes as a position in a straddle, or as part of a synthetic security or hedge, conversion transaction, constructive sale or other integrated investment, United States persons that have a functional currency other than the U.S. dollar, Non-U.S. Holders, except as described below, and tax-exempt organizations). In addition, this summary does not discuss any aspect of state, local or foreign tax law that may be applicable to any beneficial owner of Notes, or any United States tax considerations (e.g. the estate and gift tax or the 3.8% Medicare tax on net investment income) other than United States federal income tax considerations.

If an entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes holds notes, the tax treatment of the partnership and a partner in such partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. **Such partner or partnership should consult its own tax advisor as to its consequences.**

For purposes of this discussion, the term U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of a note that is for United States federal income tax purposes: (i) an individual citizen or resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation or other entity taxable as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (iii) an estate, the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (iv) a trust if either (A) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary jurisdiction over the administration of such trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of such trust or (B) the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person. As used herein, the term Non-U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of a note that is for United States federal income tax purposes an individual, corporation, estate or trust and is not a U.S. Holder.

PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF THE NOTES,

INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY OF ANY UNITED STATES FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, FOREIGN OR OTHER TAX LAWS AND POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THE TAX LAWS OR INTERPRETATIONS THEREUNDER.

S-34

Table of Contents**Taxation of U.S. Holders*****Payments of Interest***

It is expected (and this discussion assumes) that the principal amount of the notes will not exceed the issue price by at least a specified *de minimis* amount, as determined under applicable Treasury regulations, and will therefore not be treated as bearing original issue discount (OID) for United States federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, stated interest on a note generally will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time such amounts are accrued or received, in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes.

Additional Payments

We may be required to pay additional amounts in excess of stated interest or principal on the notes to a U.S. Holder (and/or to pre-pay all or a portion of the notes) in certain circumstances. Because we believe the likelihood that we will be obligated to make any such additional payments on the notes is remote and/or that these amounts are incidental, we intend to take the position (and this discussion assumes) that the notes will not be treated as contingent payment debt instruments. Our determination that these contingencies will not result in the notes being treated as contingent payment debt instruments is binding on a U.S. Holder, unless the holder discloses a contrary position in the manner required by applicable Treasury regulations. If, contrary to our expectations, we make additional payments on the notes, U.S. Holders will be required to recognize such amounts as income at the time it is paid or accrued in accordance with the U.S. Holder's method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes. In the event we make additional payments on the notes, or if the IRS takes the position that the likelihood of certain of the payments described above was not remote and/or that the amounts of any such payments were not incidental, this would affect the amount, timing and character of the income recognized by a U.S. Holder.

In addition, if we exercise our option to repurchase the notes prior to the maturity date, the yield on such notes may be greater than it would otherwise be. Under special rules governing this type of unconditional option, we will be deemed not to exercise this option, and the possibility of this increased yield will not affect the amount and timing of interest income you recognize in advance of such events.

The remainder of this discussion assumes our determinations described above are correct. **U.S. Holders should consult with their tax advisors as to the tax considerations relating to the contingent payments and optional redemption rights described above.**

Sale, Exchange, Retirement or Other Taxable Disposition of the Notes

Upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note, a U.S. Holder will recognize gain or loss equal to the difference between the sum of the cash plus the fair market value of any property received (other than any amount received attributable to accrued but unpaid stated interest on the notes not previously included in income, which, in each case, will be taxable as ordinary income) and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in such note. A U.S. Holder's initial tax basis in the note will generally be the cost of such note to the U.S. Holder, decreased by payments from us other than stated interest. Such gain or loss will be capital gain or loss and generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if, at the time of such sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition, the note has been held by the U.S. Holder for more than one year. Long-term capital gains of non-corporate taxpayers are generally eligible for reduced rates of taxation. The deductibility of any net capital loss realized by a U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note is subject to limitations.

S-35

Table of Contents***Information Reporting and Backup Withholding***

In general, information reporting requirements will apply to certain payments of principal of, and interest on, a note, and the proceeds of disposition of a note before maturity, to U.S. Holders other than certain exempt recipients such as corporations. Backup withholding at the then applicable rate (currently 28%) will generally apply to a U.S. Holder (other than an exempt recipient, such as a corporation) if such U.S. Holder: (i) fails to provide a correct taxpayer identification number (which, for an individual, would generally be his or her social security number) in the manner required, (ii) fails to report interest and dividend income in full or (iii) fails to certify that it is exempt from withholding.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld from payments to a U.S. Holder under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a credit against such holder's United States federal income tax liability and may entitle the holder to a refund; *provided* that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS. **U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the application of backup withholding in their particular situation, the availability of an exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining such an exemption, if available.**

Taxation of Non-U.S. Holders

The rules governing United States federal income taxation of Non-U.S. Holders are complex. **Non-U.S. Holders should consult with their own tax advisors to determine the effect of United States federal, state, local and foreign income tax laws, as well as treaties, with regard to an investment in the notes, including any reporting requirements.**

Payments of Interest

Subject to the discussions below concerning backup withholding and FATCA (as defined below), payments of principal and interest on the notes (including any amounts received attributable to accrued but unpaid stated interest on the notes not previously included in income) to any Non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to United States federal income or withholding tax; *provided* that, in the case of interest, (i) the interest is not effectively connected with such Non-U.S. Holder's conduct of a trade or business in the United States, (ii) such Non-U.S. Holder does not own, actually or constructively, 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our stock that are entitled to vote within the meaning of Section 871(h)(3)(B) of the Code, and (iii) such Non-U.S. Holder is not a controlled foreign corporation related, directly or indirectly, to us within the meaning of Section 881(c)(3)(C) of the Code; *provided* that, in all cases, the certification requirement described in the next sentence has been fulfilled with respect to the beneficial owner. The certification requirement referred to above will be fulfilled if either (A) the Non-U.S. Holder provides to us or the paying agent an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E, as applicable (or successor form), signed under penalties of perjury, that includes such holder's name and address and a certification as to its non-U.S. status or (B) a securities clearing organization, bank or other financial institution that holds customers securities in the ordinary course of its trade or business holds the notes on behalf of the beneficial owner and provides a statement to us or the paying agent, signed under penalties of perjury, in which the organization, bank or financial institution certifies that it has received an IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E, as applicable (or successor form) from the Non-U.S. Holder or from another financial institution acting on behalf of such holder and furnishes us or the paying agent with a copy thereof and otherwise complies with the applicable IRS requirements. Other methods may be available to satisfy the certification requirements described above, depending on the circumstances applicable to the Non-U.S. Holder.

The gross amount of payments of interest that do not qualify for the exception from withholding described above (the portfolio interest exemption) will be subject to United States income tax withholding at a rate of 30% unless (i) the Non-U.S. Holder provides a properly completed IRS Form W-8BEN or W-8BEN-E, as applicable (or successor form) claiming an exemption from or reduction in withholding under an applicable tax

S-36

Table of Contents

treaty or (ii) such interest is effectively connected with the conduct of a United States trade or business by such Non-U.S. Holder (unless an applicable treaty provides otherwise) and the holder provides a properly completed IRS Form W-8ECI (or successor form).

If interest or other income received with respect to a note is effectively connected with a United States trade or business conducted by a Non-U.S. Holder, the Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to United States federal income tax on such interest or other income in the same manner as if it were a U.S. Holder, unless an applicable treaty provides otherwise. In addition, if the Non-U.S. Holder is a foreign corporation, it may be subject to a branch profits tax equal to 30% of its effectively connected earnings and profits for the taxable year, subject to certain adjustments, unless reduced or eliminated by an applicable tax treaty. Even though such effectively connected income is subject to income tax, and may be subject to the branch profits tax, it is not subject to withholding tax if the Non-U.S. Holder satisfies the certification requirements described above.

Under certain circumstances, we may be required to make additional payments to holders of such notes. Such payments may be treated as interest, subject to the rules described above, or as gain realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note. **Non-U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax considerations relating to debt instruments that provide for one or more contingent payments, in particular as to the availability of the portfolio interest exemption, and the ability of Non-U.S. Holders to claim the benefits of income tax treaty exemptions from United States withholding tax in respect of any such additional payments.**

Sale, Exchange, Retirement or Other Taxable Disposition of the Notes

Subject to the discussions below concerning backup withholding and FATCA (as defined below), a Non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to United States federal income tax on gain realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note, unless (i) such Non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of disposition, and certain other conditions are met or (ii) such gain is effectively connected with the conduct by such Non-U.S. Holder of a trade or business in the United States and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment or fixed base maintained by such Non-U.S. Holder. If the first exception applies, the non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to United States federal income tax at a rate of 30% (unless an applicable treaty provides otherwise) on the amount by which such non-U.S. Holder's capital gains allocable to U.S. sources exceed capital losses allocable to U.S. sources during the taxable year of the disposition. If the second exception applies, the Non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to United States federal income tax with respect to such gain in the same manner as a U.S. Holder, unless otherwise provided in an applicable income tax treaty, and a Non-U.S. Holder that is a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes may also be subject to a branch profits tax with respect to such gain at a rate of 30% (or at a reduced rate under an applicable income tax treaty). Any amounts received in connection with such sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition attributable to accrued but unpaid interest not previously included in income will be taxed as interest, as described above.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Generally, we must report annually to the IRS and to Non-U.S. Holders the amount of interest paid to such holders and the amount of tax, if any, withheld with respect to those payments. Copies of the information returns reporting such interest and withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which a Non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty.

Under current United States federal income tax law, backup withholding generally will not apply to payments of interest that we make if the certifications described under Taxation of Non-U.S. Holders Payments of Interest are received; provided that we or the paying agent, as the case may be, do not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the payee is a U.S. Holder.

S-37

Table of Contents

Payments on the sale, exchange, retirement or other taxable disposition of a note made within the United States or through certain United States related financial intermediaries will be subject to information reporting to the IRS, unless the Non-U.S. Holder certifies under penalties of perjury that such holder is a Non-U.S. Holder or otherwise establishes an exemption. Backup withholding may apply to any payment that a foreign broker is required to report if the broker has actual knowledge that the payee is a U.S. person. Payments to or through the U.S. office of a broker will be subject to backup withholding and information reporting unless the holder certifies, under penalties of perjury, that it is not a U.S. person (and the broker does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the payee is a U.S. person), or the payee otherwise establishes an exemption.

Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld from a payment to a Non-U.S. Holder under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a credit against such holder's United States federal income tax liability and may entitle such holder to a refund; provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the application of information reporting and backup withholding in their particular situations, the availability of an exemption from backup withholding and the procedure for obtaining such an exemption, if available.

FATCA

Pursuant to Sections 1471 through 1474 of the Code, Treasury regulations and other Treasury Department or IRS guidance issued thereunder, and intergovernmental agreements, legislation, rules and other official guidance adopted pursuant to such intergovernmental agreements (including any regulations, guidance, agreements and amendments issued after the date hereof) (collectively, "FATCA"), issuers of certain debt instruments and their agents are required to withhold 30% of any U.S.-source interest paid with respect to such instruments, and, on or after January 1, 2017, 30% of the gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition (including redemption) of those instruments, in each case paid to a holder (including a holder acting as an intermediary) if such holder fails to provide the issuer or its agents with the information, certifications or documentation required under FATCA, including information, certifications or documentation necessary for the issuer or its agents to (i) determine whether the holder is a non-U.S. person or a U.S. person and, if it is a non-U.S. person, whether the non-U.S. person has substantial United States owners and/or is in compliance with (or meets an exception from) FATCA requirements and (ii) comply with the reporting and withholding requirements of FATCA. Such withholding generally will apply without regard to whether the holder would otherwise be entitled to an exemption from the imposition of withholding tax pursuant to an applicable tax treaty with the United States or U.S. domestic law. An intergovernmental agreement between the United States and a foreign country where a holder or intermediary is located may further modify these requirements. **Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the possible implications of FATCA on their investment in the notes.**

Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated are acting as representatives of each of the underwriters named below. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in a firm commitment underwriting agreement among us and the underwriters, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters, and each of the underwriters has agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase from us, the principal amount of notes set forth opposite its name below.

<u>Underwriter</u>	Principal Amount of Notes Due 20	Principal Amount of Notes Due 20	Principal Amount of Notes Due 20	Principal Amount of Notes Due 20
Goldman, Sachs & Co	\$	\$	\$	\$
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated				
Total	\$	\$	\$	\$

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement, the underwriters have agreed, severally and not jointly, to purchase all of the notes sold under the underwriting agreement if any of these notes are purchased. If an underwriter defaults, the underwriting agreement provides that the purchase commitments of the nondefaulting underwriters may be increased or the underwriting agreement may be terminated.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters and their controlling persons against certain liabilities in connection with this offering, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribute to payments the underwriters may be required to make in respect of those liabilities.

The underwriters are offering the notes, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, subject to approval of legal matters by their counsel, including the validity of the notes, and other conditions contained in the underwriting agreement, such as the receipt by the underwriters of officer's certificates and legal opinions. The underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify offers to the public and to reject orders in whole or in part.

Commissions and Discounts

The representatives of each of the underwriters have advised us that the underwriters propose initially to offer the notes to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement and to certain dealers at such price less (i) a selling concession not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20 and reallowances not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20, (ii) a selling concession not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20 and reallowances not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20, (iii) a selling concession not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20 and reallowances not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20 and (iv) a selling concession not in excess of % of the principal amount of the notes due 20 and reallowances not in excess of %

of the principal amount of the notes due 20 . After the initial offering, the public offering price, selling concession or any other term of the offering may be changed.

The expenses of the offering, not including underwriting discounts, are estimated at and are payable by us.

S-39

Table of Contents

New Issue of Securities

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any national securities exchange or for inclusion of the notes on any automated dealer quotation system. We have been advised by the underwriters that they presently intend to make a market in the notes after completion of the offering. However, they are under no obligation to do so and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without any notice. We cannot assure the liquidity of the trading market for the notes or that an active public market for the notes will develop. If an active public trading market for the notes does not develop, the market price and liquidity of the notes may be adversely affected. If the notes are traded, they may trade at a discount from their initial offering price, depending on prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, our operating performance and financial condition, general economic conditions and other factors.

Short Positions

In connection with the offering, the underwriters may purchase and sell the notes in the open market. These transactions may include short sales and purchases on the open market to cover positions created by short sales. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriters of a greater principal amount of notes than they are required to purchase in the offering. The underwriters must close out any short position by purchasing notes in the open market. A short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the notes in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.

Similar to other purchase transactions, the underwriters' purchases to cover the syndicate short sales may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the notes or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the notes. As a result, the price of the notes may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market.

Neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the notes. In addition, neither we nor any of the underwriters make any representation that the representatives will engage in these transactions or that these transactions, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

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 issuer and to persons and entities with relationships with the issuer, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses. In addition, affiliates of certain of the underwriters are agents and lenders under our Credit Agreement.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities (or related derivative securities) and financial instruments (including bank loans) for their own account and for the accounts of their customers. Such investments and securities activities may involve securities and/or instruments of ours or our affiliates. Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates that have a lending relationship with us routinely hedge their credit exposure to us 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 our securities, including potentially the notes

offered hereby. Any such short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the notes offered hereby. The underwriters and their affiliates may also make investment

S-40

Table of Contents

recommendations and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such securities or financial instruments and may hold, or recommend to clients that they acquire, long and/or short positions in such securities and instruments.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the 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 has been, or will be made to the public in that Member State, other than under the following exemptions under the Prospectus Directive:

- A. to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- B. to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive), subject to obtaining the prior consent of the Representatives for any such offer; or
- C. in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive, provided that no such offer of notes referred to in (a) to (c) above shall result in a requirement for the Company or any Representative to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

This prospectus has 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 may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Company or any of the Representatives to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive in relation to such offer. Neither the Company nor the Representatives have authorized, nor do they authorize, the making of any offer of notes in circumstances in which an obligation arises for the Company or the Representatives to publish a prospectus for such offer.

For the purpose of this provision, 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 the notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State and the expression Prospectus Directive means Directive 2003/71/EC (as amended) and includes any relevant implementing measure in the each Member State.

Notice to Prospective Investors in 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 supplement (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.

S-41

Table of Contents

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.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

In addition, in the United Kingdom, this document 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) (i) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments falling within Article 19 (5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005, as amended (the Order) and/or (ii) who are high net worth companies (or persons to whom it may otherwise be lawfully communicated) falling within Article 49(2)(a) to (d) of the Order (all such persons together being referred to as relevant persons). This document 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 document relates is only available to, and will be engaged in with, relevant persons.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Switzerland

This prospectus supplement does not constitute an issue prospectus pursuant to Article 652a or Article 1156 of the Swiss Code of Obligations and the notes will not be listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange. Therefore, this prospectus supplement may not comply with the disclosure standards of the listing rules (including any additional listing rules or prospectus schemes) of the SIX Swiss Exchange. Accordingly, the notes may not be offered to the public in or from Switzerland, but only to a selected and limited circle of investors who do not subscribe to the notes with a view to distribution. Any such investors will be individually approached by the underwriters from time to time.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the Dubai International Financial Centre

This prospectus supplement relates to an Exempt Offer in accordance with the Offered Securities Rules of the Dubai Financial Services Authority (DFSA). This prospectus supplement is intended for distribution only to persons of a type specified in the Offered Securities Rules of the DFSA. It must not be delivered to, or relied on by, any other person. The DFSA has no responsibility for reviewing or verifying any documents in connection with Exempt Offers. The DFSA has not approved this prospectus supplement nor taken steps to verify the information set forth herein and has no responsibility for the prospectus supplement. The notes to which this prospectus supplement relates may be illiquid and/or subject to restrictions on their resale. Prospective purchasers of the notes offered should conduct their own due diligence on the notes. If you do not understand the contents of this prospectus supplement you should consult an authorized financial advisor.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The notes may not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32 of the Laws of Hong Kong) (Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance) or which do not constitute an invitation to the public within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) (Securities and Futures Ordinance), or (ii) to professional investors as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a prospectus as defined in the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, 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 securities

S-42

Table of Contents

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 in Hong Kong as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made thereunder.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus supplement has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus supplement and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the 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 (as defined in Section 4A of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the SFA)) under Section 274 of the SFA, (ii) to a relevant person (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA) pursuant to Section 275(1) of the SFA, 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, in each case subject to conditions set forth in the SFA.

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is a corporation (which is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor, the securities (as defined in Section 239(1) of the SFA) of that corporation shall not be transferable for six months after that corporation 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 (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA), (2) where such transfer arises from an offer in that corporation's securities pursuant to Section 275(1A) of the SFA, (3) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer, (4) where the transfer is by operation of law, (5) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA, or (6) as specified in Regulation 32 of the Securities and Futures (Offers of Investments) (Shares and Debentures) Regulations 2005 of Singapore (Regulation 32).

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the SFA by a relevant person which is a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor (as defined in Section 4A of the SFA)) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an accredited investor, the beneficiaries' rights and interest (howsoever described) in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after 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 (as defined in Section 275(2) of the SFA), (2) where such transfer arises from an offer that is made on terms that such rights or interest are acquired at a consideration of not less than S\$200,000 (or its equivalent in a foreign currency) for each transaction (whether such amount is to be paid for in cash or by exchange of securities or other assets), (3) where no consideration is or will be given for the transfer, (4) where the transfer is by operation of law, (5) as specified in Section 276(7) of the SFA, or (6) as specified in Regulation 32.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act of Japan (Act No. 25 of 1948, as amended), or the FIEA. The notes may not be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the benefit of any resident of Japan (including any person resident in Japan or any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan) or to others for reoffering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to or for the benefit of any resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of the FIEA and otherwise in compliance with any relevant laws and regulations of Japan.

Table of Contents

VALIDITY OF THE NOTES

Certain legal matters relating to the notes will be passed upon for us by Ropes & Gray LLP and for the underwriters by Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP.

S-44

Table of Contents

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

S-45

Table of Contents

PROSPECTUS

Debt Securities

Biogen Inc. may offer to sell debt securities from time to time, in one or more offerings. The terms of the debt securities will be described in supplements to this prospectus, together with other terms and matters related to the offering. The prospectus supplements may also add, update or change information contained or incorporated by reference in this document. This prospectus may be used to offer and sell securities only if accompanied by a prospectus supplement. You should read carefully both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, along with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**, before making an investment decision.

We may offer and sell the debt securities on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis directly to investors or through underwriters, dealers or agents, or through a combination of these methods.

Our common stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol **BIIB**.

Investing in these securities involves certain risks. Please carefully read the information under the heading Risk Factors beginning on page 3 of this prospectus before you invest in our securities. We may include additional risk factors in any supplement, any related free writing prospectus and/or any other future filings we make with the Securities and Exchange Commission that are incorporated by reference into this prospectus.

The address of our principal executive offices is 225 Binney Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142 and our telephone number at our principal executive offices is (617) 679-2000.

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.

The date of this prospectus is September 8, 2015.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

<u>ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS</u>	1
<u>WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION</u>	1
<u>THE COMPANY</u>	2
<u>RISK FACTORS</u>	3
<u>USE OF PROCEEDS</u>	3
<u>RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES</u>	3
<u>PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION</u>	3
<u>LEGAL MATTERS</u>	5
<u>EXPERTS</u>	5

Table of Contents

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

Each time we offer debt securities using this prospectus, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The prospectus supplements also may add, update or change the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and also will describe the specific manner in which we will offer these securities. You should read carefully both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the heading **Where You Can Find More Information**.

We have not authorized anyone to provide any information other than that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus, in any accompanying prospectus supplement or in any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us or to which we have referred you. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. We are not making an offer to sell these debt securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus or incorporated by reference herein is accurate only as of the date on the front of this prospectus or the respective dates of filing of the incorporated documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this prospectus to **Company**, **Biogen**, **we**, **us** and **our** refer to Biogen Inc. (formerly Biogen Idec Inc.).

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. You may read and copy any materials that we file with the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may call the SEC at 1-800-732-0330 for further information. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

The SEC's rules allow us to incorporate by reference the information we have filed with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is a part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede the information included and/or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference into this prospectus the documents listed below and any future filings made by us with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the **Exchange Act**) (excluding those portions of any Form 8-K that are deemed furnished and not filed in accordance with SEC rules):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 (including the portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed with the SEC on April 30, 2015 incorporated by reference therein), filed with the SEC on February 4, 2015;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2015 and June 30, 2015, filed with the SEC on April 24, 2015 and July 24, 2015, respectively; and

our Current Reports on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on March 27, 2015, June 11, 2015 and September 1, 2015.

Table of Contents

You may obtain documents incorporated by reference into this prospectus at no cost by requesting them in writing or telephoning us at the following address:

Biogen Inc.
Attn: Investor Relations
225 Binney Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142
(617) 464-2442

Copies of these filings are also available, without charge, on our website at <http://www.biogen.com>. The contents of our website have not been, and shall not be deemed to be, incorporated by reference into, and do not form a part of, this prospectus.

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

This prospectus constitutes a part of a registration statement on Form S-3 (referred to herein, including all amendments and exhibits, as the Registration Statement) that we have filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). This prospectus does not contain all of the information contained in the Registration Statement, certain parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. We refer you to the Registration Statement and related exhibits for further information regarding us and our debt securities. The Registration Statement may be inspected at the SEC at the address set forth above or from the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. Statements contained in this prospectus or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein concerning the provisions of any document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement are not necessarily complete and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or otherwise filed with the SEC. Each such statement is qualified in its entirety by such reference.

THE COMPANY

We are a global biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering, developing, manufacturing and delivering therapies for neurological, autoimmune and hematologic disorders. Our marketed products include AVONEX[®], PLEGRIDY[®], TECFIDERA[®], TYSABRI[®], and FAMPYRA for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (MS), ALPROLIX[®] for the treatment of hemophilia B and ELOCTATE[®] for the treatment of hemophilia A, and FUMADERM for the treatment of severe plaque psoriasis. We also generate revenue from our collaboration with Genentech, Inc., a wholly-owned member of the Roche Group, with respect to RITUXAN[®] for the treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, chronic lymphocytic leukemia and other conditions, and share profits and losses with Genentech for GAZYVA[®], which is approved for the treatment of chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

We are focused on discovering and developing new therapies that improve the lives of patients having diseases with high unmet medical needs. We support our mission through the commitment of significant resources to research and

development programs and business development opportunities, particularly within areas of our scientific, manufacturing and technical expertise neurology, immunology and hematology, and scientific adjacencies.

ALPROLIX[®], AVONEX[®], ELOCTATE[®], FUMADERM, PLEGRIDY[®], RITUXAN[®], TECFIDERA[®] and TYSABRI[®] are trademarks of Biogen. FAMPYRA is a trademark of Acorda Therapeutics, Inc. and GAZYVA is a registered trademark of Genentech, Inc.

Table of Contents**RISK FACTORS**

Investing in our debt securities involves certain risks. For a discussion of the factors you should carefully consider before deciding to purchase any of these debt securities, see Part I, Item 1A Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 and Part II, Item 1A Risk Factors of our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2015 and June 30, 2015, which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and subsequent filings containing updated disclosures of such factors, together with all of the other information included in this prospectus and in the Risk Factors section of any applicable prospectus supplement and the other information that we have incorporated by reference.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, we will use all or a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of our debt securities offered by this prospectus and an accompanying prospectus supplement for general corporate and working capital purposes. General corporate and working capital purposes may include repayment of debt, capital expenditures, possible acquisitions, share repurchases of our common stock and any other purposes that may be stated in any prospectus supplement. The net proceeds may be invested temporarily or applied to repay short-term or revolving debt until they are used for their stated purpose.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

Our consolidated ratios of earnings to fixed charges for each of the periods indicated are as follows:

	Six Months						
	Ended		Years Ended December 31,				
	June 30,		2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
	2015						
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (1)	129.2		103.0	59.8	29.6	25.4	20.6

- (1) We have computed the ratios of earnings to fixed charges by dividing pre-tax income from continuing operations before adjustment for loss from equity investees, plus fixed charges, less capitalized interest and net income or loss attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of tax, by fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest costs, whether expensed or capitalized, the interest component of rental expense and amortization of debt discounts and issuance costs. Interest expense does not include interest related to uncertain tax positions.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION**General**

The debt securities may be sold:

to or through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters;

to or through one or more underwriters without a syndicate;

through dealers or agents; or

to investors directly in negotiated sales or in competitive bid transactions.

The prospectus supplement for each series of debt securities we sell will describe, to the extent required, information with respect to that offering, including:

the name or names of any underwriters and the respective amounts underwritten;

the purchase price and the proceeds to us from that sale;

Table of Contents

any underwriting discounts and other items constituting underwriters' compensation;

any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers;

any securities exchanges on which the securities may be listed; and

any material relationships with the underwriters.

Underwriters

If underwriters are used in the sale, we will execute an underwriting agreement with those underwriters relating to the debt securities that we will offer. Unless otherwise set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the obligations of the underwriters to purchase these debt securities will be subject to conditions and the underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of these debt securities if any are purchased.

The debt securities subject to the underwriting agreement will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold by them from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. Underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from the purchasers of these debt securities for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may sell these debt securities to or through dealers. These dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

Agents

We may also sell any of the debt securities through agents designated by us from time to time. We will name any agent involved in the offer or sale of these debt securities and will list commissions payable by us to these agents in the applicable prospectus supplement. These agents will be acting on a best efforts basis to solicit purchases for the period of its appointment, unless we state otherwise in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Direct sales

We may sell any of the debt securities directly to purchasers. In this case, we will not engage underwriters or agents in the offer and sale of the applicable debt securities.

Indemnification

We may indemnify underwriters, dealers or agents who participate in the distribution of debt securities against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and agree to contribute to payments which these underwriters, dealers or agents may be required to make.

No assurance of liquidity

The debt securities registered hereby may be a new issue of debt securities with no established trading market. Any underwriters that purchase debt securities from us may make a market in these debt securities. The underwriters will not be obligated, however, to make a market and may discontinue market-making at any time without notice to holders of the debt securities. We cannot assure you that there will be liquidity in the trading market for any debt securities of any series.

Table of Contents

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless the applicable prospectus supplement indicates otherwise, the validity of the debt securities offered by this prospectus and any prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Ropes & Gray LLP, Boston, Massachusetts.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting (which is included in Management's Annual Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting) incorporated in this prospectus by reference to the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Biogen Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2014, have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

Table of Contents

\$ % Senior Notes due 20

\$ % Senior Notes due 20

\$ % Senior Notes due 20

\$ % Senior Notes due 20

Prospectus Supplement

Joint Book-Running Managers

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

BofA Merrill Lynch

, 2015